

COMMENTS ON THE UNFPA DRAFT COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

First regular session 2023

Comments by United Kingdom	UNFPA country/regional office response to comments
<p>Data used in the initial programme rationale is insufficient, selective and outdated. In particular, it fails to reflect the wider humanitarian crisis under which the programme would be delivered (in particular to child malnutrition, maternal mortality and access to essential services including health). It notably omits the social and demographic impact of Venezuela’s migration outflows. In addition, it only mentions positive GDP growth in 2022 but does not refer to the erosion of nearly 80% of GDP from previous years. It is unlikely that this year’s GDP growth rate will be sustained. There is also no mention of domestic drivers affecting macro-economic performance.</p> <p>Proposed work includes improving State capacity to generate evidence and data, in partnership with ministries and other Government agencies such as the National Statistics Institute (INE) and the National Nutrition Institute. However, efforts should include increasing transparency and access to reliable data in order to support improved diagnostics and evidence-based policy-making.</p>	<p>UNFPA takes good note of the comments made by the UK. As regards the humanitarian situation in the country, it is analysed and addressed within the Humanitarian Response Plan, in which UNFPA has an important role as leader of the GBV Area of Responsibility and in the Health cluster, assisting women survivors of violence with emphasis on those that are in cross-border mobility processes. In addition, the CPD includes a specific output (output 4) which aims to strengthen the capacity of critical actors and systems in preparedness, early action and provision of life-saving interventions that are timely and integrated, conflict-, climate- and peace-sensitive, as well as gender-transformative.</p> <p>In regard to the reference to migration, that is included as a megatrend to be addressed within output 3.</p> <p>The UNFPA CPD does not contain any reference to positive GDP growth in 2022, neither in the programme rationale nor in any other section of the CPD.</p> <p>UNFPA thanks the UK for its comments. UNFPA is committed to improving access to data and information. The CPD contains a specific output (output 3) on strengthening of data and information systems for the generation of disaggregated and geographically defined data and evidence that would inform policy-making that address the needs of those left furthest behind and enhance follow-up on progress of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, the Montevideo Consensus and the ICPD+25 voluntary national commitments.</p> <p>To achieve this objective, UNFPA will work closely with the Ministry of Planning, the National Institute of Statistics and the</p>

	<p>National Geographic Institute as governing bodies of the national statistical and geographic system. It will also coordinate with research and excellence centres, including CELADE and ECLAC.</p> <p>It is important to clarify that UNFPA does not work with the National Nutrition Institute, which is not one of its Implementing Partners or counterparts.</p>
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