

COMMENTS ON THE UNFPA DRAFT COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Second regular session 2025

| Comments by Germany | UNFPA country/regional office response to comments |
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| <p>We welcome UNFPA's country programmes and the discussions held at the country level. UNFPA's mandate is core in protecting women's rights, ensuring a gender-sensitive and transformational approach and safeguarding women's and girls' access to safe and affordable reproductive health.</p> | <p>UNFPA welcomes Germany for its positive comments on the document of the new cooperation programme. UNFPA also greatly appreciates the attention and support given to the protection of women's rights, including their right to access sexual and reproductive health services.</p> |
| <p>The analyses in the CPD show that while Côte d'Ivoire is actively engaged in fostering gender equality and women's participation, there are still numerous challenges. UNFPA's interventions are vital in order to achieve the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs.</p> | <p>UNFPA agrees that the Government of Côte d'Ivoire is still facing challenges in terms of gender equality and women's empowerment; promoting gender equality and women's participation remains a central pillar of achieving the SDGs. For this reason, UNFPA places these issues at the heart of its new programme and continues to provide support to the government and collaborates with partners to broaden alliances and strengthen strategic interventions around this thematic area.</p> |
| <p>We welcome the focus on those left furthest behind and on prioritizing regions with significant disparities while also working nationwide on important interventions.</p> | <p>UNFPA works to ensure that the principle of 'leaving no one behind' becomes a reality in Côte d'Ivoire. To this end, UNFPA has worked with the entire United Nations system to identify vulnerable groups. Specific interventions have been developed to ensure their access to sexual and reproductive health services. A complementary study will be conducted at the start of the new programme to determine the specific geographical location of vulnerable groups, with the aim of better targeting and addressing their needs.</p> <p>In addition to these specific interventions, UNFPA will work with its partners to implement this programme at the national level by: providing reproductive health products; monitoring</p> |

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| | <p>maternal and neonatal deaths and combating obstetric fistula; promoting the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people, including comprehensive sexuality education; strengthening the leadership and participation of young people and women in peace and social cohesion; preventing and combating gender-based violence; and ending harmful practices.</p> <p>To achieve this, UNFPA will work with national and local authorities, women's and youth organizations at the grassroots level. It will also strengthen synergies for action within the framework of the 'One UN' initiative.</p> |
| <p>We encourage UNFPA to work and coordinate closely with other development partners at country level and foster synergies while avoiding duplications.</p> | <p>UNFPA welcomes Germany for this important recommendation. UNFPA will continue broadening the scope of partnerships to include non-traditional partners, including the private sector, local communities and decentralized authorities within the country. It will emphasize the pooling of resources and the development of joint projects/programmes involving several United Nations agencies.</p> <p>UNFPA actively collaborates and coordinates with other development partners at the country level through existing coordination frameworks, such as the UN Country Team and relevant sectoral working groups, including those led by the Government.</p> <p>We also engage in joint planning and implementation efforts, particularly in areas such as gender equality, reproductive health, and youth empowerment. These mechanisms also include clear communication, which helps foster synergies, ensure complementarity and avoid duplication of efforts on the ground.</p> |

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| <p>In principle, the objectives of the UNFPA programme and German financial cooperation projects are going in the same direction.</p> <p>We see similarities in particular in the areas of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) improved access to family planning services/social marketing (various educational and communication activities for behavioural change as well as access to high-quality, modern contraceptives) and related to the strengthening of self-determination/sexual and reproductive health and rights of women; b) training of health personnel in the area of mother-child health (midwives); c) partnership with the national government regarding resource mobilisation in the area of SRHR and better integration of state and non-state actors in this area. <p>Outputs 1 and 2 of the UNFPA programme</p> <p>Coordination by the implementing organisations (implementing NGOs) can help to achieve greater coverage</p> | <p>UNFPA welcomes Germany for highlighting the strong convergence of the objectives of the UNFPA programme and German financial cooperation projects.</p> <p>We fully share your view that there are clear synergies with the German cooperation efforts, particularly in the areas of family planning and reproductive health, midwifery training and resource mobilization for SRHR. In this regard, UNFPA is committed to fostering a strong and strategic partnership with the German development cooperation programmes by aligning our interventions and leveraging complementarities.</p> <p>Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Outputs 1 and 2 of the new country programme are directly aligned with German priorities, particularly in promoting access to high-quality contraceptives, advancing sexual and reproductive rights, and strengthening the health workforce (including midwives). ● UNFPA engages actively with the national authorities, including with decentralized bodies at the regional level, to support resource mobilization strategies and foster multisectoral partnerships, involving both State and non-State actors. ● UNFPA also collaborates with implementing NGOs through coordinated planning and monitoring to ensure efficiency, avoid duplication and expand the geographic and programmatic reach of our interventions. <p>Moving forward, UNFPA welcomes the opportunity to deepen this collaboration by identifying concrete entry points for joint action and enhancing dialogue between our teams at both technical and strategic levels.</p> |
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