



**Executive Board of the
United Nations Development
Programme and of the
United Nations Population Fund**

Distr.: General
18 July 2011
English
Original: French

Second regular session, 2011
6-9 September 2011, New York
Item 3 of the provisional agenda
Country programmes and related matters

Draft country programme document for Algeria (2012-2014)

Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
I. Situation analysis.	1-4	2
II. Past cooperation and lessons learned.	5	3
III. Proposed programme.	6-9	3
IV. Programme management, monitoring and evaluation.	10	5
Annex		
Results and resource allocation		7



I. Situation analysis

1. After a decade of recovery, Algeria is faced with a number of political, social, demographic and economic transitions.¹ How they are managed will be critical to the country's medium and long-term development. Algeria pursued its goal of consolidating the rule of law as a fundamental element of governance and development, in particular by reforming the justice system, adopting legislation to combat corruption and implementing measures to modernize the civil service system. Recently adopted reforms include the lifting of the state of emergency and abolition of prison sentences for press offences. Additional constitutional reforms on the electoral system, political parties and the inclusion of women in elected assemblies, proposed by the President and adopted by the Council of Ministers, will soon be submitted to Parliament and ultimately for approval by the citizens. As a State party to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Algeria will also be subject, in June 2012, to a review mechanism that will entail the full involvement of its recently formed national organs for preventing and combating corruption. The recommendations contained in various country analyses highlight the need to continue national debates and dialogue; strengthen acquired social, economic and cultural rights; promote employment and provide a social safety net to protect the most vulnerable groups; and scale up existing measures to reduce disparities in the rural areas as well as problems related to the rural exodus. Recommendations on gender equality call for a review of legislation to better align certain provisions with those of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the pursuit of national reconciliation.

2. Algeria is in the category of countries with a high human development index — 0.667 in 2010 — (ranking 84 out of 169 countries). It is among the world's top 10 countries in terms of the increase in its human development index between 1970 and 2010. Its second national report on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) details significant progress in many areas and indicates that a number of those goals have already been achieved or will be before 2015.* It seems, however, that certain goals will be difficult to achieve by that date.²

3. Owing to its geographical situation, Algeria is a major stakeholder in the development of the Maghreb. Algeria occupies a strategic position in the area of counter-terrorism.

* See reference documents.

¹ Country analysis, Strategic Cooperation Framework, 2011.

² According to the country analysis, Algeria achieved major progress in the areas of poverty eradication, access to water and infant mortality reduction. As with a number of other countries, however, additional efforts were still necessary in order to move closer to achieving Millennium Development Goal 3. According to the country analysis, there were 1,076,000 job applicants in the fourth quarter of 2010 (figure provided by the International Labour Office), equivalent to an unemployment rate of 10 per cent. Disparities also remain in the areas of: (a) education, including a persistently high drop out rate; (b) illiteracy, which is still widespread, particularly among the female population; and (c) health, with high infant and maternal mortality rates in relation to the country's level of development. There is no significant HIV/AIDS epidemic in Algeria according to data provided by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); smaller-scale epidemics are concentrated in the most at-risk groups and vulnerable populations.

4. Its fragile ecosystems (predominance of arid and semi-arid zones) have made Algeria a vulnerable country. Major environmental degradation has been caused by urban pollution, the erosion of biological resources, increasingly scarce water resources, urban and semi-urban expansion, and insufficient awareness of the natural genetic pool. After ratifying all the multilateral environmental conventions, Algeria overhauled its legislative and institutional frameworks. Capacity-building in national environmental management at the technical, financial and institutional levels is still lacking. A strategy for the development of renewable energy has been formulated to increase installed capacity tenfold by 2030 and to make this sector a hub of multisectoral innovation and cooperation.

II. Past cooperation and lessons learned

5. The previous country programme took into account the various elements of the Strategic Plan for 2008-2011, one of whose goals was to align institutional practices with United Nations reform priorities in order to enhance the effectiveness and relevance of actions undertaken. The midterm review took place two years after the terrorist attack of 11 December 2007 on United Nations offices in Algiers. The challenge for the country office is to catch up with implementation of the current Programme while embarking on new areas of sustainable development. The publication of three national human development reports gave the National Economic and Social Council, which was responsible for drafting it, a chance to define the components of the human development index and propose a specific method of territorial disaggregation for better analysis of inequalities. With regard to biodiversity, UNDP made a sound contribution to innovative methods of sustainable development and the integration of biodiversity into a regulatory and operational framework likely to ensure progress.³ Support for the reform of the justice system and improvement of the justice and penitentiary system provided an opportunity to test and adapt pilot mechanisms drawn from best international practices, in particular with regard to receiving and briefing detainees and placing police records and court files online. UNDP support enabled Parliament to propose a plan encompassing training in, and modernization of, information technologies. Support for the implementation of the Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction was cited as an example of coordination among a multilateral regulatory framework, the application of sound international practices and a cross-cutting partnership (cf. midterm review of the country programme).

III. Proposed programme

6. The priorities and strategies proposed for the country programme 2012-2014 are fully consistent with the five expected outcomes of the Strategic Cooperation Framework (2012-2014). Emphasis will be placed on providing assistance to priority policies and strategies outlined in the Five-year Development Programme

³ Midterm review of 2007-2011 programme and final evaluation of the first phase of the project entitled "Conservation and Sustainable Use of Significant Biodiversity in the Tassili and Ahaggar National Parks".

2010-2014⁴ and in the new programme for political and institutional reforms, in the spirit of the United Nations Millennium Declaration in general and with a particular focus on accelerating the achievement of Millennium Development Goals 1, 3, 7 and 8. New partnerships will be systematically sought. Moreover, as an emerging country that is strategically positioned within the African Union, the League of Arab States and the Arab Maghreb Union, Algeria has a great deal of development experience to share with a view to effectively reducing vulnerabilities and stimulating sustained economic growth.

A. Governance and human rights

7. In response to the proposed analysis⁵ and in view of the goals set by the State, UNDP will support efforts to protect the exercise of rights and freedoms through the development of a warning and surveillance system for more rapid and effective identification of human rights violations, based on the participation of civil society. Thematic analyses⁶ can generate measures to support accelerated implementation of national plans. UNDP will continue to support reforms to improve citizen access to justice and the popular perception of the social role of justice as a public service. In the fight against corruption, UNDP will help in building the capacities of public stakeholders and train civil society organizations participating in the mechanisms for implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, developing a national indicator on the perception of corruption, establishing an ad hoc forum for parliamentarians and expanding international cooperation. UNDP will draw on its vast international experience to promote citizen participation in public life by expanding forums and creating conditions to foster the participation of civil society and media capacity-building. This experience will be channelled, as necessary, into support for the reforms described above. UNDP support in the area of economic governance will focus on diversification of the Algerian economy, in particular through strategy advice and analytical studies on the legal and economic climate and the role of small and medium-sized enterprises. Under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and consistent with women's right to participate in social and political life and to live free from discrimination and violence, UNDP will continue its initiatives to promote the effective participation of women in political decision-making at the national and local levels. It will support advocacy measures for strengthening the implementation of policies, laws and regulations aimed at reducing violence against women. UNDP will contribute by ensuring that men and women in vulnerable groups (for example, older persons, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS and migrant workers) have access to social services on an equal footing.

⁴ Under the Five-year Development Programme 2010-2014, investments of \$286 billion will be channelled into two main areas, each accounting for 40 per cent of the total, covering (a) acceleration of human development and (b) the development of basic infrastructures and improvement of public service. Support was provided for rural and agricultural development, the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises and employment, and the development of a knowledge-based economy.

⁵ United Nations system in Algeria. 2011 analysis of key development issues in Algeria.

⁶ On, inter alia, combating violence against women, the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and decent housing.

B. Economic and social development

8. In view of the foregoing and in light of the situation analysis, it is clear that UNDP will participate in the Government's efforts to take into account youth concerns about employment and culture. The programme will focus on building national capacity for analysis and elaboration of integrated policies, in order to create a climate more favourable to business, investment and the creation of jobs, especially for young women, and to improving the provision of services in the most backward areas. Emphasis will also be placed on social policies, the sustainability of forums for dialogue with youth associations, and actions to encourage youth initiatives. In cooperation with the United Nations system, UNDP will emphasize access to decent and productive work and the promotion of entrepreneurship. It will, in particular, address geographical (or "spatial") disparities and social inequalities. UNDP will provide the necessary expertise to ensure that tools are adopted and owned by the competent institutions (National Economic and Social Council, Ministry of Forecasting and Statistics) and are placed in the service of development with a view to better understanding disparities and inequalities.

C. Environment and sustainable development

9. Given the importance of the environment and the steps that must be taken in order to deal with climate change and promote a green economy, Algeria has undertaken to promote low-carbon growth and to abide by multilateral environmental agreements. UNDP will build the capacities of local communities to implement action plans on combating the effects of climate change and promoting sustainable development. It will also cooperate in reducing the vulnerability of fragile communities and in protecting ecosystems. This approach will necessitate the strengthening and introduction of policies and legal and institutional frameworks for the sustainable use of land and water and the conservation of biodiversity and other natural resources in fragile ecosystems. UNDP will support initiatives incorporating vulnerability assessments and the reduction of disaster risks related to climate change. It will also support the strengthening of Algeria's strategic position on the international scene and in the region, in particular with regard to climate change and combating desertification.

IV. Programme management, monitoring and evaluation

10. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the preferred UNDP partner in Algeria and, as such, will assume responsibility for the coordination and follow-up of the country programme with all partners. The goal of such coordination will be to guarantee the coherence of the entire programme, analyse progress, identify constraints and obstacles and draw the necessary lessons for planning, systematic use of results-based management principles and tools and commitment of resources through the mechanisms and processes provided for in chapter 6⁷ of the United Nations Strategic Cooperation Framework in Algeria. Follow-up activities will use existing national systems, particularly those set up by the Ministry of Forecasting and Statistics, to analyse progress achieved towards the realization of the Millennium

⁷ See annex, governance framework.

Development Goals. The programme will be implemented largely according to the national execution modality but with greater involvement of project teams and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Finally, UNDP will apply the accelerated procedure as needed. The Government and UNDP will work together to mobilize supplementary external resources. Effective monitoring of measures and national capacity-building for the management of official development assistance (ODA) will also be emphasized in collaboration with existing coordination mechanisms.

Annex

Results and resource allocation

National priority or objective: *Build trust between the governed and those governing through good governance and pursue modernization and consolidation of the rule of law*

UNDAF outcome 1: *Improvements in transparency and effective functioning of economic and political life, participation of civil society, modernization of the administration of justice, human rights mechanisms and civil service capacities in the service of the citizens*

Focus area under the Strategic Plan: *Democratic governance*

<i>Contribution of Government partner</i>	<i>Contribution of other partners</i>	<i>UNDP contribution</i>	<i>Indicators, ⁸ baselines and targets for UNDP contributions</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outcomes</i>	<i>Indicative resources in United States dollars</i>
By 2014, national institutions will have implemented reforms and strategies in partnership with civil society, in particular with regard to protecting human rights, combating corruption and ensuring the effectiveness of public service	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights/Human Rights Council: monitoring the status of the National Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights; United Nations system: support for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption; European Union: projects in support of the justice system and civil society	Strategy advice to ministries; comparative analyses; focused expertise in each of the seven areas and better international practices; awareness-raising campaigns	Indicator: gauging how citizens (and the international community) perceive progress in moving towards the rule of law Baseline: few surveys available; Perception survey	Surveillance and warning systems to detect human rights violations by a number of stakeholders; building capacities to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the recommendations emanating from its review mechanisms	Core resources: 1 725 000 Other resources: 1 725 000 Total outcome 1: 3 450 000

⁸ These are output indicators and are therefore mainly about perceptions.

National priority or objective: *Improve infrastructures, quality, effectiveness and competence of social services (health, education, protection), in particular for the most vulnerable groups*

UNDAF outcome 2: *Improved access to health services, education, training and social protection, enhancement of their quality and reduction in existing spatial disparities and social discrimination, particularly with regard to women, children, persons with disabilities and persons living with HIV/AIDS*

Focus areas under the Strategic Plan: *Poverty reduction and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*

By 2014, national institutions will have completed the implementation of reforms, strategies and conventions relating to HIV/AIDS, gender and the promotion of women's rights, in partnership with civil society. Contributions in kind for the operationalization of actions	United Nations system: Gender-sensitive budgeting; building the capacities of civil society organizations and institutions to implement the National Strategy to Combat Violence against Women	Support for capacity-building in statistical analysis at the individual and institutional levels. Communication and gender advocacy capacities of national institutions, civil society organizations and the media will be strengthened	Indicator: gauging how national and foreign entrepreneurs perceive improvements in the economic climate Baseline: few surveys available	Institutional capacity-building in the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of sectoral policies for the promotion of gender equality and for the most vulnerable groups	Core resources: 171 000 Other resources: 502 000 Total outcome 2: 673 000
---	--	---	--	--	--

National priority or objective: *Greater diversification of the economy by upgrading industry, agriculture, encouraging a competitive private sector and reducing inequalities as well as institutionalizing an integrated, coherent and participatory political framework*

UNDAF outcome 3: *Greater awareness of social and economic processes and more effective capacity to evaluate and monitor public policies, greater competitiveness, better business climate and fewer regional and social inequalities, particularly with regard to youth participation in economic life*

Focus areas under the Strategic Plan: *Poverty reduction and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*

By 2014, the Government will have implemented a process aimed at fine-tuning public policies on industrial and rural development, ensuring greater competitiveness of enterprises and supporting small and	United Nations system: Assistance in upgrading small and medium-sized enterprises and bringing them into line with the standards of the International Standards Organization (ISO);	UNDP will support the analytical approach at the strategic level through studies and expertise in line with the highest international standards, and, at the operational level, through training and technical support	Indicator: gauging the perception of national and foreign entrepreneurs regarding the improvement of the economic climate Baselines: few surveys available	Technical and administrative capacities necessary for the establishment and upgrading of microenterprises; services and training; socio-economic studies	Core resources: 662 000 Other resources: 662 000 Total outcome 3: 1 324 000
--	---	--	---	--	--

medium-sized enterprises/industry	development of agricultural land and rural development; support for the promotion of employment	for the Ministry of Industry, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and the Promotion of Investment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
-----------------------------------	---	--

National priority or objective: *Improve the protection of natural resources, sustainable environmental management, pollution control and protection against the consequences of natural disaster*

UNDAF outcome 4: *Better protection of natural resources; more sustainable management of the environment and rational use of energy; enhanced pollution control and protection against the effects of climate change and natural disaster*

Focus areas under the Strategic Plan: *Environment and sustainable development*

By 2014, national institutions, through an intersectoral approach and in partnership with civil society, will have improved the implementation of national plans and development strategies on environmental sustainability	United Nations system: coordination for better synergy of interventions by donors and international organizations	Support for the implementation of national programmes, ⁹ in particular by building management and monitoring/evaluation capacities and mobilizing international specialized expertise	Indicator: gauging citizen perceptions about whether the state of the natural environment is protected and improved Baseline: Few surveys available; Surveys, national communication	Building risk prevention/disaster management capacities; specialized training in renewable energy and energy efficiency; institutional support for climate change adaptation measures	Core resources: 492 000 Other resources: 6 632 000 Total outcome 4: 7 124 000
---	---	--	---	---	--

⁹ National programmes: National Land Development Scheme (SNAT), National Plan for Environmental Action and Sustainable Development (PNAEDD), National Climate Plan, Household Waste Management Plan, National Strategy for Combating Desertification.