**Responses to comments on the CPD for Papua New Guinea**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Asia Pacific Country** | **Comment by Member State** | **CO remarks** |
| **Papua New Guinea (PNG)** | **Australia-**  Australia appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback and input into the UNDP Draft Country Programme for PNG (2018-22).  **Overall comments:**  Australia (via PNG post) has been consulted in the course of the preparations of this document over the past 24 months, including several meetings with Government of PNG representatives. Australia is broadly positive about its focus and priorities, notably capturing the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and has no particular concerns to highlight.  Australia welcomes progress with the new Document given the current Document has already been extended by 12 months (2012-2017), and the proposed framework will enable Australia to negotiate a new UN-DFAT Standard Administrative Arrangement for future contributions under the UN's Delivering as One (DaO) approach. Through this approach, donor contributions are made to the PNG UN Country Fund, which is administered by the Multi-Partners Trust Fund (MPTF) Office (hosted by UNDP) in New York, resulting in significant administrative efficiencies to Australia.  We note that the new Country Program aligns with the Government of PNG's priority areas under its Medium Term Development Plan and National Strategic Development Plan.  It also addresses core priority areas of the Australian Aid Policy and PNG-Australia Partnership for Development, for example: improving governance, gender equality, building an effective law and justice system and addressing health and HIV/AIDS. The One UN itself is an innovative approach that the UNRCO in PNG has been administering since its commencement in 2010.  The Multi-Partners Trust Fund Office has been providing the necessary support to the UN Country Office. For instance, the MPTF Office releases funding on a timely basis to UN agencies in country. Details of funding are posted on the PNG One UN Country Fund website with real-time transactions and are available to the public.  Nonetheless, as reflected in the recent partner performance assessment (PPA), Australia reiterates the need for UN agencies to improve outcomes. Overall, performance of respective UN agencies remains highly variable in PNG. Discussions about future collaboration between Australia and the UN beyond 2017 will be held once the final Country Program is adopted. Issues that Australia will raise include improving reporting between annual reporting requirements and increasing the visibility of Australia's support. | We would like to thank Australia for thoroughly reviewing the draft UNDP Country Programme Document for PNG  (2018-2020). We appreciate the positive comments that Australia has shared, in regard to the alignment of the CPD with national development priorities of PNG under its Medium Term Development Plan and National Strategic Development Plan. It is also encouraging to note that the CPD addresses the core priority areas of Australian Aid Policy and PNG-Australia Partnership for Development, for example improving Governance, Gender Equality, building an effective Law and Justice System and addressing health and HIV/AIDs and the functional “one UN fund” and its transparent mechanism.  We have taken note of the feedback provided from the recent partner performance assessment (PPA), and the need for UN agencies to improve outcomes as the performance of respective UN agencies remains highly variable in PNG.  The current reporting arrangements with Australia entails the issuance of a UN report, once a year - all UN agencies in one report. However, UNDP agrees to review existing reporting practices with a view to find mutually agreed reporting arrangements at the start of the CPD in 2018. UNDP commits to ensuring better visibility of Australia’s support and will share a visibility strategy at the start of the next CPD. |