

**COMMENTS ON THE UNDP DRAFT COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR MADAGASCAR (2024-2028)**

*First regular session 2024*

Name of the delegation/ Member State	Comments by Member State on the UNDP draft CPD for Madagascar	Country office response	Action/revision made in the draft CPD
<b>United States</b>	<p>The United States encourages UNDP to reconsider/adjust the baseline for the first indicator on the first outcome, regarding participation rates in elections. The draft CPD proposal sets a baseline relying upon participation rates in 2023, and a target for 2028 of the baseline +10 per cent. It appears that the turnout for 2023 was about 43 per cent, but this was because many candidates and civil society groups called for a boycott of the elections. Accordingly, this does not feel like a reliable baseline.</p>	<p>The country office takes good note and appreciates the comment of the United States on revising the baseline of the indicator regarding the participation of the population to the presidential elections. Furthermore, the country office expresses its appreciation of the fruitful collaboration between UNDP and USAID in Madagascar in the field of good governance.</p> <p><b>Update on the electoral process:</b> On 25 November, the National Independent Electoral Commission (French acronym CENI) released a preliminary report on the Malagasy’s 16 November presidential election. The CENI delivered provisional election results collected from 27,375 polling stations scattered across the country. Of the 11,048,836 registered voters, a total of 5,119,492 votes were counted, representing a low turnout of <b>47.62% (54,23% in 2018)</b>.</p> <p>Candidate #3 (former President Rajoelina) obtained 58.95% of the vote, with a total of 2,856,090 votes. Randrianasoloslaiko Siteny Thierry (candidate #13) followed with 14.40% (697,453 votes), and he was among the three candidates who conducted the election campaign. He was able to place political delegates in most of the polling stations. However, the former president Marc Ravalomanana (candidate #5) obtained 12% (586,273</p>	<p>Data revised in the draft of the CPD as per the CO comments.</p>

votes), third place, despite being among the collective opposition candidates who called for a boycott. This result leaves no room for the second round as the candidate #3 was able to reach more than 50% of the vote.

**Proposed update of the Outcome Indicator 1 of the CPD 2024-2028 Outcome 1**

**Indicator 1: Participation rate in elections.**

**Presidential**

Baseline

(2023): 1st round: 47.2%

(2018): 2nd round: 48.9%

Target (2028): 1st round: 60%

2nd round: 60%

**Comments:**

Baseline

- 1) Clarify the baseline for first round participation rate based on actual provisional data issued on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023 by the Electoral Commission: 47.2 per cent;
- 2) As there is no second round in 2023, and keeping the principle of a two-rounds presidential election in 2028, use the 2018 data as a proxy for the second round participation rate: 48.9 per cent.

Target

As per the target in 2028, the country office proposes to set the goal at 60 per cent, which represents in absolute terms an acceptable participation rate and in relative terms an increase of 12.8 per cent and 11.1 per cent for both rounds. This target reflects the ambition of the programme in the field of

		strengthening and enhancing the social contract in collaboration with sister agencies and development partners, including USAID.	
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