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Country programme document

Turkmenistan

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Turkmenistan is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of \$4,520,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$2,981,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2021 to 2025.

* [E/ICEF/2020/17](#).

Note: The present document was processed in its entirety by UNICEF.



Programme rationale

1. Turkmenistan is an upper-middle-income country that adopted a gradual approach to reforms after its independence. A considerable wealth of hydrocarbon resources laid the foundation for socioeconomic development and supported the progressive realization of the rights of children, who account for a third of the country's population.

2. Turkmenistan is earthquake-prone. Climate-induced risks are posed by droughts, soil salination, desertification, water contamination and air pollution, associated with the country's location and proximity to the Aral Sea. The Dashoguz velayat (province) is particularly vulnerable.¹

3. The vision for the country's progress is set out in the Programme for Socio-Economic Development (PSD) of Turkmenistan for 2019–2025, embodying important elements for the well-being of children and families. The National Plan of Action on Realization of Child Rights for 2018–2022 (NPAC) covers a broad spectrum of child rights and addresses the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2015).

4. Turkmenistan was one of the first countries to nationalize the Sustainable Development Goals and establish a mechanism for monitoring their implementation. The country adopted 148 targets and 175 indicators, 30 per cent of which directly concern children.² The 2019 Voluntary National Review provided a strategic opportunity to take stock of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Ensuring that economic gains are accompanied by additional investments in health and education will be key³ for the achievement of child-related Sustainable Development Goals and continuing progress in the realization of child rights. The Government has started taking measures to mitigate the socioeconomic impact of the global economic crisis related to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

5. Health services for children are widely available. Almost all deliveries (99.9 per cent) take place in maternity facilities.⁴ The immunization programme — fully financed by the Government and supported by UNICEF procurement — covers 95 per cent of young children⁵ and is in full compliance with World Health Organization recommendations. Since independence, Turkmenistan has reduced the under-five mortality rate almost twofold, with recent estimates varying from 38⁶ deaths per 1,000 live births to 46 deaths per 1,000 live births.⁷ The neonatal mortality rate is 22 deaths per 1,000 live births.⁸ The main causes are perinatal conditions, congenital malformations and respiratory infections.⁹ Further improvement of the knowledge and skills of medical staff and the quality of maternal care and childcare in health facilities, as well as awareness of parents about important childcare practices, are required to reduce the mortality rates to the levels of leading middle-income countries.

¹ UNICEF, Climate landscape analysis for children in Turkmenistan, 2017.

² UNICEF, Baseline assessment for child-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators in Turkmenistan, 2018.

³ International Monetary Fund, "IMF staff concludes staff visit to Turkmenistan", press release, 14 November 2019.

⁴ State Statistics Committee (SSC) and UNICEF, 2019 Turkmenistan multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS), survey findings report.

⁵ MICS 2015–2016.

⁶ MICS 2019.

⁷ United Nations Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation.

⁸ MICS 2019.

⁹ Ministry of Health and Medical Industry, 2017.

The systems for human-resources capacity development and health budgeting need to evolve, with additional focus on primary health care.

6. Exclusive breastfeeding is high, at 57 per cent,¹⁰ mostly due to high rates in the first few months. Nevertheless, malnutrition continues to represent a public health challenge. The country has been fortifying flour since 2011. A nutrition survey is planned to assess how the fortification programme has impacted the prevalence of anaemia, which was high at the beginning of the programme: 57 per cent and 44 per cent among women and young children, respectively.¹¹ Stunting is declining, and is currently at 7 per cent.¹² Overweight prevalence is 3 per cent among children under 5 years of age¹³ and 12 per cent among children 7 years of age, reaching 19 per cent in Ashgabat.¹⁴

7. The development of universal early childhood development (ECD) services is under way in both health and education sectors but requires increased investments to go to scale. The newly adopted National Strategy on Early Childhood Development for 2020–2025 emphasizes the need for human resources capacity development across all sectors, cross-sectoral coordination, data and monitoring systems, and targeted support to the most vulnerable children, families and communities.

8. Half of children of pre-primary school age participate in organized learning, the lowest proportion occurring in Dashoguz.¹⁵ In addition, there are Saturday parent schools to cover children who do not attend. For further operationalization of progressive teaching techniques, additional human and financial resources are required. The physical, cognitive and socioemotional development of 95 per cent (91 per cent in 2015) of children 3 to 4 years of age complied with the established ECD benchmarks, while 20 per cent could demonstrate literacy and numeracy skills. For 90 per cent of young children 2 to 4 years of age, an adult is regularly engaged in four or more activities promoting early stimulation and responsive care. Fathers' engagement reaches 13 per cent on average. The percentage is less than 5 per cent in the velayats of Balkan, Mary and Lebap.¹⁶

9. Turkmenistan transitioned to a 12-year compulsory (fee-free) education system in 2013 and is building a comprehensive mechanism to measure the quality of teaching and boost learning outcomes. Among children in grades 2 and 3, some 71 per cent have foundational reading and 53 per cent have numeracy skills.¹⁷ Teachers need additional skills and knowledge on child and adolescent development and on interactive, inclusive and child-centred teaching methodologies. Existing curricula and teaching methods should be further improved to support the development of foundational and transferable skills essential for life and responsive to the demands of a modern economy. Teaching in the languages of ethnic minorities requires additional attention and support. Climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) are gradually being integrated into the school curricula.

¹⁰ MICS 2019.

¹¹ UNICEF, National nutrition study in Turkmenistan, 2012.

¹² MICS 2019.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ministry of Health and Medical Industry and World Health Organization, Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative, 2016.

¹⁵ MICS 2019.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

10. Although 99.6 per cent of young women are literate,¹⁸ significantly fewer girls than boys continue their education into universities, with the Gender Parity Index dropping to 0.6 at this level from 0.96 for previous education levels.¹⁹

11. Social inclusion of children with developmental delays remains a challenge. Many of about 4,000 children with disabilities in institutions²⁰ could be assisted to stay with their families and attend regular schools. There is a need to address the stigmatization of disability, especially concerning girls, and to replace the “medical” model with the “social” one.²¹

12. Social-protection schemes include universal birth grants and universal cash benefits for children under 3 years of age, orphaned children and children with disabilities. The coverage of the universal child benefit is high, at 97 per cent, but at 93 per cent among children in the poorest households.²² The adequacy and effectiveness of benefits need to be studied in light of vulnerability. Vulnerability also extends to children left behind due to a parent’s economic migration. Ten per cent of children (16 per cent in Lebap) have at least one parent living elsewhere.²³ To complement the cash-based assistance, service-based support needs to be provided and cross-sectoral links and referral mechanisms between social protection, education and health services reinforced. Concrete steps are being taken to introduce social work as a professional field.

13. A systemic approach is needed for addressing child-protection issues. Protecting children from the use of psychological pressure or physical punishment as disciplining methods at home remains necessary.²⁴ The NPAC stipulates increasing the effectiveness of measures to prevent discrimination, violence and child abuse.

14. The 2018 assessment of the Programme on the Development of the Juvenile Justice System for 2012–2016 noted good progress in the reduction of the number of children deprived of liberty, but recommended further development of community-based services for diversion, rehabilitation and reintegration as well as the expansion of the child-friendly justice concept to include child victims and witnesses of crime. The Commissions on Minors need recalibration, with their capacity strengthened, to cater to broader child-protection issues. Consultations with partners also indicate that it is critical to engage more directly on these issues at the subnational level.

15. There is a need to considerably strengthen the statistics and evidence base for policymaking and development programming.²⁵ The country needs to actively foster a culture of systematic use of data and viable monitoring mechanisms in the process of decision-making. Digitalization is a national priority and can be a catalyst for the introduction of both sector-specific monitoring systems and new technologies in education and health.

16. In addition, further strengthening of the public- finance management systems is required to establish a firm link between national resources and equitable and sustained outcomes for children.²⁶ The NPAC calls for the practical implementation of adopted legal and policy provisions while maximizing the use of available

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ VNR, 2019.

²⁰ Estimate based on Transformative Monitoring for Enhance Equity data for 2017.

²¹ UNICEF, Analysis of Situation of Children’s and Women’s Rights in Turkmenistan, 2019.

²² MICS 2019.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ UNICEF Strategic Moment of Reflection 2018, Evaluation of the Partnership for Development Programme between the Government and the United Nations (2019) and video news release (2019).

²⁶ Ibid.

resources for children and increasing the supply of and access to disaggregated data, especially those related to Sustainable Development Goals.

17. UNICEF is identified as the partner of choice for implementation of the NPAC and is well positioned to act on the demands of this role and lessons learned. In this work, UNICEF benefits from its comparative advantage of working cross-sectorally with all the stakeholders, supporting evidence-based policy solutions and advocacy, and playing a convening and catalytic role, particularly in social protection and education, as well as in strengthening data on the 2030 Agenda, social vulnerabilities and children.

Programme priorities and partnerships

18. The overall goal of the country programme is to support the Government of Turkmenistan in meeting its commitments to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of children, as stipulated by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and further reaffirmed in the NPAC. The shared vision of the NPAC and this country programme is that all girls and boys in Turkmenistan are able to reach their full potential and equitably enjoy their right to survive, thrive, learn, participate and be protected. The key assumption is that the Government will safeguard and increasingly allocate more financial and human resources for the successful realization of the NPAC, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and supporting the scaling up of joint initiatives.

19. The country programme will respond to all three strategic priorities of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and contribute to four out of five UNSDCF outcomes. The logic and structure of the country programme are aligned with the NPAC. All programme components will feed into the UNSDCF outcome on CCA and DRR.

20. The programme will monitor the socioeconomic impact of the coronavirus-related global economic crisis in line with the United Nations Secretary-General's 2020 report "Shared responsibility, global solidarity: Responding to the socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19" and support the Government's response. Gender-responsive programming will be a cross-cutting priority, starting from thorough data analysis. Long-term collaboration with centres of excellence in the region and the exchange of good practices will continue while the national research and evaluation capacity will be strengthened.

Governance for children

21. The long-term vision of change in this programme component is that by 2025, in line with Goals 1 and 6 of the NPAC, the child-focused commitments in the national development and planning frameworks are translated into measurable targets and evidence-based implementation plans for all children, including those at risk of being left behind, and supported with appropriate financial resources and governance structures established or reinforced.

22. In close cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and Economy and United Nations agencies, UNICEF will provide policy advice to line ministries in introducing a system of results-based strategic planning and integrated and programme-based budgeting and financing. Further adjustments of development planning in social sectors relating to Sustainable Development Goals will be supported. This will enhance national capacity to undertake the costing of policy scenarios and analysing the impacts of various investment choices, with the ultimate aim of improving the effectiveness of domestic financial governance for sustainable results for children, women and families.

23. The programme will support further the improvement of legal and normative acts in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, with particular attention given to the operationalization of the “best interests of the child” principle and preparatory work for accession to the Convention’s Optional Protocol on a communications procedure (Turkmenistan has already acceded to the other two optional protocols). In close partnership with the Parliament, the Institute of State, Law and Democracy and other partners, this component will strengthen the cross-sectoral and vertical coordination mechanisms at the national, velayat and etrap (district) levels for the effective implementation and monitoring of the national policies concerning child rights. Building on the positive partnership with the Office of the Ombudsman, the component will establish sustainable institutional capacities in child-rights protection, monitoring and awareness. UNICEF will continue to advocate for the meaningful participation of civil society as well as for the inclusion of children and young people in making decisions and monitoring policies affecting their lives, including the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.

24. UNICEF will maintain its holistic approach to the development of the capacity of the national statistical system in the collection, analysis and communication of accurate and timely data. The component will support the State Statistics Committee in its next multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS), support the line ministries in the development of sectoral management information systems, and support all the stakeholders, particularly the Ministry of Finance and Economy, in using disaggregated data to guide well-targeted policy interventions and investments to address socioeconomic vulnerabilities. The cooperation with the Government established during the previous programme in evaluating major development policies will expand.

Child health, nutrition and early development

25. The long-term vision of change in this component is that by 2025, in line with Goal 2 of the NPAC, child mortality from preventable causes in the first year of life is reduced, and children have healthy mothers and receive optimal age-appropriate nutrition, strengthening their growth and resistance to illnesses, and develop to their full potential in early childhood.

26. UNICEF will work with the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry to strengthen its capabilities, normative base and the tools necessary to plan, cost, implement, monitor and assure the quality of services for newborns, young children and mothers, particularly in disadvantaged regions. UNICEF and its partners will cooperate in enhancing the knowledge, skills and practices of managers and care providers in maternity and primary health-care facilities in the integrated management of newborn and childhood illnesses. This will be supported by the nationwide application of the “supportive supervision” practice introduced during the previous cycle. UNICEF will support preventive measures, including immunization and infection prevention and control, encompassing the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. UNICEF technical expertise will also be invested in revising and costing the free-of-charge basic benefit package to reduce the burden of health expenditures on families with children.

27. The component will support the implementation of the National Nutrition Programme for 2020–2025 and strengthen intersectoral coordination, implementation and monitoring mechanisms to reduce all forms of malnutrition among children and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls and pregnant and lactating women. The flour fortification formula will be revised and new supplementation schemes introduced. The nutrition-related counselling capacities of health-care professionals will be strengthened, while behaviour-change communication interventions will

promote healthy nutrition and hygiene practices. New knowledge generated will shed light on malnutrition causes. The programme will further strengthen the system for the promotion and monitoring of infant and young child feeding. Building on the role of Turkmenistan as the secretariat for the subregional Nutrition Partnership Platform, UNICEF will facilitate the exchange of ideas and information with other countries and the documentation of the good practices of Turkmenistan.

28. The component will promote nurturing care as a prerequisite for optimal child development. UNICEF will support the reform of home-visiting services as an important platform to reach households, developing the skills of front-line workers in ECD, child health and counselling. The application of international monitoring instruments for child growth and development will be expanded, with clear referral mechanisms established for children with developmental delays in early years. Families will be offered gender-sensitive information empowering them as effective providers of comprehensive care for young children.

Social and child protection

29. The long-term vision of change in this component is that by 2025, in line with Goals 4 and 5 of the NPAC, the reform of the Turkmenistan social and child protection systems continues to provide increasingly effective services to the children and families in need of protection.

30. In continuation of the Joint Programme on Strengthening Community-based Social Services for 2020–2021, which UNICEF leads, the programme will support the further development and expansion of social work and the establishment of linkages with the broader social-protection system. Advocacy and technical support for the inclusion of the new social work cadre into the government system and budget, as well as social work education, will continue. The programme will analyse the effectiveness of the existing cash-based social-protection instruments in alleviating vulnerabilities, including among children affected by migration. Cross-sectoral collaboration between the social protection, health and education authorities, at both the national and subnational levels, will be nurtured. This will aim to ensure consistent multidisciplinary support to all children, transitioning to the “social” model of disability and reducing children’s placement into residential care. The social-protection system will be made more shock-responsive.

31. The programme component will enhance the prevention and response mechanisms for addressing violence against children. Strategies pursuing behaviour change will be essential to promote positive parenting and non-violent disciplining, using various service-delivery platforms and communication channels. The programme will also support interventions to upgrade the normative base and professional capacities in law enforcement and social protection entities, covering a broader group of children in contact with the law and improving procedures and services for their protection. The roles of local-level commissions will be revisited, and their capacities strengthened to serve as effective child-protection mechanisms.

Quality and inclusive education

32. The long-term vision of change in this component is that by 2025, in line with Goal 3 of the NPAC, all boys and girls in Turkmenistan, including those with disabilities, enjoy quality inclusive education and learning opportunities that develop their competencies and foster their well-being, resilience and integration, enabling them to fully participate in and contribute to a modern economy.

33. The programme aims at increasing policy advice and technical support to the Ministry of Education in rolling out a universal one-year pre-primary preparation programme with domestic financing. It will also be critical to scale up pre- and in-

service training of professionals, build quality assurance and monitoring mechanisms for early learning and pre-primary education services and expand the support to children with developmental delays for their integration into mainstream kindergartens.

34. The component will also aim at raising the quality of learning at the primary and secondary levels, starting with the revision and upgrading of curricula and the introduction of more interactive, child-centred classroom practices that support the development of both foundational and transferable life skills and competencies. The further development and application of credible learning-assessment systems will be supported and aligned with the education management information system. A framework for inclusive education will be developed. The integration of DRR and CCA into school curricula, with the active participation of children and communities, will continue while the “Green School” concept will be prototyped.

Programme effectiveness

35. The component will provide cross-cutting support to the country programme, making sure that it is efficiently coordinated, managed and adapted to meet quality programming standards in achieving results for children. It will ensure the coordinated mainstreaming of gender, disability, youth participation and risk-related dimensions while supporting evidence-based advocacy and communication.

36. UNICEF will review its advocacy and partnership strategies to effectively support the priorities in this country programme and attune its capacities accordingly. Multi-stakeholder partnerships, including with civil society and the private sector, will be fostered.

37. UNICEF procurement services will continue to support the national immunization and fortification programmes, as stipulated in the PSD, and will be further adapted to the country’s needs, including in emergencies.

Summary budget table

<i>Programme component</i>	<i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other resources</i>	<i>Total</i>
Governance for children	800	600	1 400
Child health, nutrition and early development	1 200	900	2 100
Social and child protection	1 000	700	1 700
Quality and inclusive education	1 000	600	1 600
Programme effectiveness	520	181	701
Total	4 520	2 981	7 501

Programme and risk management

38. This country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at the country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization’s programme and operations policies and procedures.

39. Like the UNSDCF, the country programme will be executed under the overall coordination of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In addition to participating in the joint UNSDCF governance structures, UNICEF will hold annual reviews with partners and conduct regular programmatic visits to assess progress, identify key strategic, programmatic, operational and financial risks and define appropriate mitigation measures. Training sessions for UNICEF staff and partners will be delivered on the harmonized approach to cash transfers.

40. Major risks to the successful implementation of the country programme include: (a) a lack of financial resources to support the reforms of the social sectors and take the joint initiatives to scale; (b) insufficient policy implementation and monitoring capacity, particularly for multisectoral approaches; and (c) a lack of quality, disaggregated data to inform policymaking.

41. To mitigate the risks, UNICEF will: (a) advocate and provide technical assistance for increasing the adequacy, effectiveness and efficiency of resources for children and women, while actively leveraging domestic, regional and global resources, including through cost-sharing with the Government; (b) explore innovative ways to build national capacities, prioritizing support to the long-term planning of human resources, in line with national strategies; and (c) use the joint United Nations approach for high-level advocacy for better data availability.

42. UNICEF will mainstream risk-informed programming into all areas of cooperation with the Government and will improve its emergency preparedness work with the State Commission on Emergency Situations within the framework of the memorandum of understanding signed between Turkmenistan and the United Nations.

Monitoring and evaluation

43. The results framework, already aligned with the 2030 Agenda monitoring frameworks, UNSDCF, NPAC and UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, will be used to monitor progress. Disaggregated data for all the indicators, when possible, were reviewed and targets set for reducing disparity, including by gender or velayat, to fast-track progress for the most vulnerable.

44. UNICEF will work with partners to strengthen the national monitoring and evaluation capacity by institutionalizing results-based management and introducing context-specific feedback and real-time monitoring tools. The next MICS will be supported as the main source of data at the national and disaggregated levels. The first-ever evaluation of the Turkmenistan-UNICEF country programme will be conducted, also linked to the evaluation of the NPAC.

45. During emergencies, humanitarian performance-monitoring will be used to ensure a clear alignment of results with the UNICEF Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Turkmenistan – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2021–2025

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 2–6, 9, 12–21, 23–32, 34, 36, 37, 39, 40

National priorities: Sustainable Development Goals targets 1.1, 1.3, 1.a, 2.2, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.8, 3.b, 3.c, 3.d, 4.1, 4.2, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.a, 4.c, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.c, 10.3, 12.8, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 16.1, 16.2, 16.3, 16.7, 16.9, 16.b, 17.14, 17.18; Programme for Socio-Economic Development of Turkmenistan (2019–2025); National Plan of Action on Realization of Children’s Rights (2018–2022); Early Childhood Development (ECD) Strategy (2020–2025); Nutrition Strategy (2020–2025); Climate Change Strategy

United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework outcomes involving UNICEF:

1. By 2025, people have access to more effective, innovative, and transparent public administration based upon the rule of law, human rights, gender equality, labour rights, and quality data.
3. By 2025, there is effective design and implementation of disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation and mitigation measures, enabling a more rational use of resources, increased resilience, and a “green” economy transition.
4. By 2025, the population of Turkmenistan enjoys higher quality and inclusive health and social protection services.
5. By 2025, the education and skilling system offers all people the skills and knowledge for employment success in a diversifying economy and enhanced social integration and resilience.

Outcome indicators measuring change that reflect UNICEF contribution:

- 1.2 Percentage of citizens’ complaints addressed by the Ombudsman Office on annual basis
- 1.3 Percentage of nationalized Sustainable Development Goal indicators that have disaggregated data (where relevant) available to report
- 3.3 Extent to which knowledge products for sustainable development (including climate change education) are included in national education curricula, teacher education, and student assessment as well as media and other public information dissemination tools
- 3.5 Number of velayats and communities implementing programmes to strengthen disaster risk reduction, preparedness and response to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which are gender sensitive and have sex disaggregated data
- 4.1 Number of people covered by social protection systems (including community-based social services)
- 4.2 Budget spending on education, health and social protection programmes as percentage of GDP
- 4.4 Percentage of children under five years of age who are stunted
- 4.5 Extent to which primary health care facilities and children’s hospitals have integrated the Integrated Management of Newborn and Childhood Illnesses [IMNCI] approach to provide comprehensive clinical care for children under five

- 4.8 Share of etrapas providing early intervention services to under-5 children
- 5.1 Percentage of children and young people achieving minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics
- 5.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age)

Related UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021 Goal Areas: 1–5

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. By 2025, Turkmenistan makes considerable progress in implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Sustainable Development Goals, Sendai Framework and other international and national commitments for children, with the maximum, effective and efficient use of available resources.	Budget spending on education, health and social protection as percentage of State budget and gross domestic product B: Education: 21% and 3.8% (2017); Health: 9% and 1.6% (2017); Social protection: 21% and 3.8% (2017) T: Education: 22% and 5%; Health: 13% and 5%; Social protection: 23% and 5%	Statistical yearbooks	1.1 Sectoral ministries and other State entities introduce a system of results-based strategic planning, budgeting and financing, taking into account Sustainable Development Goal implementation plans and the interests of children, women, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. 1.2 State institutions develop evidence-based and risk-informed policies, action plans and programmes in the field of child rights and gender equality on the basis of recommendations from the United Nations treaty bodies and feedback from civil society and relevant population groups, including children and young people, and build mechanisms for their coordination, implementation and monitoring. 1.3 Sectoral ministries and other State entities strengthen systems for collecting,	Institute of State, Law and Democracy (ISLD), Parliament, Ombudsman, Ministry of Finance and Economy (MoFE), Ministry of Health and Medical Industry (MoHMI), State Statistics Committee (SSC), Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, (MoLSP), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Sports and Youth Policy (MoSYP),	800	600	1 400
	Introduction of a functional mechanism at the Office of the Ombudsman (OO) for handling child rights-related complaints B: OO accepts all complaints, but no child-specific mechanisms yet (2020) T: OO has established resources and procedures	Ombudsman reports					

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
	to handle child rights-related complaints		analysing and disseminating disaggregated data, taking into account the Sustainable Development Goals and other priorities of public policies on children, women and families.	Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Ministry of Defence, Civil Service Academy, Hakimliks, National Red Crescent Society, (NRCS), Women's Union, Youth Organization, Union of Economists, other civil society organizations (CSOs), United Nations agencies			
	Proportion of nationalized child-relevant Sustainable Development Goal indicators for which data are available at the national and disaggregated levels B: 73% and 35% (2018) T: 90% and 80%	Joint assessment					
	Availability of local-level risk-reduction and emergency preparedness and response plans that are child-sensitive B: Plans are not child-sensitive (2019) T: Available and child-sensitive	Ministry of Defence					
2. By 2025, every newborn, child, adolescent and woman of reproductive age in Turkmenistan, especially those most vulnerable, increasingly benefit from equitable access to high-impact and quality health, nutrition and early childhood development (ECD) services.	Extent to which health-care policy and services have integrated the Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI) approach (five elements) to provide comprehensive clinical care for children under 5 years of age B: Score 1 (out of 4) - Policy is partially in place, but not other elements (2020) T: Score 3 - At least 3 elements are functional;	Ministry of Health and Medical Industry	2.1 The Ministry of Health and Medical Industry strengthens capabilities, the normative base and the tools for planning, costing, implementing, quality-assuring and monitoring services for newborns, young children and mothers, particularly in regions disadvantaged in terms of health outcomes and effects of climate change. 2.2 National partners strengthen their intersectoral coordination, implementation and monitoring mechanisms to	MoHMI, MoLSP, MoE, MoFE, SSC, ISLD, Parliament, Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection (MoAEP), State Committee for Television, Radio Broadcasting and Cinematography, Women's Union,	1 200	900	2 100

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
	about 15% of primary health care facilities and 20% of hospitals start IMNCI implementation		(a) reduce all forms of malnutrition among children; and (b) address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls and pregnant and lactating women. 2.3 The health system, including home visiting services and the newly established early identification workforce, strengthens gender-sensitive, equitable and quality support to parents and families to promote nurturing care as a prerequisite for optimal ECD.	Youth Organization, other CSOs, United Nations agencies			
	Percentage of children under 5 years of age stunted B: 7 %; severe – 2% (2019) T: 5%; severe – less than 1%	Multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS)					
	Share of etrapas providing early intervention services to children under 5 years of age B: 14% (2019) T: 40%	Ministry of Health and Medical Industry					
	Percentage of children 3 to 4 years of age with whom adult household members engage in at least four early stimulation activities B: 90%; mothers: 75%; fathers: 13% (2019) T: 97%; mothers: 90%; fathers: 20%	MICS					
	Prevalence of anaemia in women aged 15 to 49 years B: 57% (2020) T: 47%	Nutrition Survey					
3. By 2025, children of Turkmenistan,	Number of children living in residential care	State Statistics Committee	3.1 State authorities at all levels further improve the	MoLSP, MoHMI, MoE,	1 000	700	1 700

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
particularly girls and boys in vulnerable families, residential care institutions and in contact with the law, are increasingly protected from all forms of violence, ill-treatment and socioeconomic vulnerabilities, benefitting from quality social and child-protection services.	B: 4,781; 86% are children with disabilities; no other disaggregation (2017) T: 50% reduction; disaggregated data available		social-protection system and introduce a community-based social-service workforce to address factors of socioeconomic vulnerabilities of children and their families, with a particular focus on girls and boys with disabilities.	MoFE, Parliament, MoJ SSC, Ministry of Internal Affairs, ISLD, Supreme Court, General Prosecutor's Office, Hakimliks, Women's Union, Youth Organization, other CSOs, United Nations agencies			
	Status of implementation of the United Nations Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children (three elements) B: (a) Social work practice does not exist (2020); (b) quality alternative care not systematic or scaled up (2020); (c) local-level commissions exist that make decisions on entry and exit from care and monitor the situation, but require modernization and support (2020) T: (a) Social work services and case management are introduced and funded from the State budget; (b) a range of community-based alternative care options to meet the needs of children without parental care are introduced and ready for scale-up; (c) a cross-sectoral monitoring, review and inspection mechanism in place	Joint assessment	3.2 State entities, including law enforcement and child-protection bodies, strengthen prevention and response mechanisms for addressing violence against children as well as procedures and services for children in contact with the law.				

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Proportion of children 1 to 14 years of age who experienced any violence by caregivers in the past month B: 67% any violence; 49% physical (53% male and 45% female) (2019) T: Reduce by half all types of violence	MICS					
	Percentage of children under 3 years of age covered by universal child grants B: 97%; poorest: 93% (2019) T: 99% for all groups	MICS					
	Extent to which the United Nations Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime are adopted and applied B: Score 1 (out of 4) - Last State programme for 2012–2016 focused on juvenile justice (2020) T: Score 2: A new programme in the spirit of the Guidelines is adopted, and implementation started	Joint assessment					
4. By 2025, all boys and girls in Turkmenistan, especially those with disabilities, equitably	Percentage of children 3 to 4 years of age who are on track in at least three of four development domains	MICS	4.1 The Ministry of Education, its subnational structures and local authorities have the necessary institutional, human-resource, technical and	MoE, MoLSP, MoHMI, MoFE, SSC, ISLD, Parliament, Ombudsman,	1000	600	1 600

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
enjoy quality inclusive education and learning opportunities that develop their competencies and foster their well-being.	B: 95%; literacy-numeracy (LN) domain: 20% (2019) T: 97%; literacy-numeracy domain: 25%		material capacities to increase equity in the access of all boys and girls, especially those with disabilities, to quality early-childhood learning opportunities and affordable pre-primary education. 4.2 The education system further improves the quality of learning at the primary and secondary levels, based on an upgraded curriculum and the introduction of more interactive and child-centred classroom practices that support the development of both functional and transferable life skills and competencies, the inclusion of children with disabilities, the effective socialization of both girls and boys and their future adaptation to socioeconomic and climate-change risks.	MoAEP, Women's Union, Youth Organization, NRCS, Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, other CSOs, United Nations agencies			
	Participation rate in organized learning one year before the official primary entry age B: 50%; Ahal: 32% Dashoguz: 16% (2019) T: 80% nationally and 50% in all velayats	MICS					
	Percentage of children 7 to 14 years of age achieving a minimum proficiency in reading and numeracy B: Reading: 82%, Numeracy: 70%; Grades 2/3 - reading: 71%, numeracy: 53% (2019) T: Reading: 87% Numeracy: 75% Grades 2/3- reading: 76%, numeracy: 58%	MICS					
	Extent to which sustainable development and competency-based framework are included in the education system B: Score 2 - Climate-change education is being integrated but not yet rolled out. Competency-based framework is not	Qualitative assessment					

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
	integrated into curricula (2019) T: Score 4 – The formal education system institutionalizes climate-change education nation-wide and introduces competency-based learning in curricula, teacher training and student assessment.						
5. Enhanced programme effectiveness	Standard performance indicators	UNICEF Results Assessment Module	Programme coordination; communication, advocacy, partnerships; evaluation		520	181	701
Total resources:					4 520	2 981	7 501