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### United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

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Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

### Country programme document

#### Bosnia and Herzegovina

#### *Summary*

The country programme document (CPD) for Bosnia and Herzegovina 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 \$4,260,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$26,740,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2021 to 2025.

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

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



## Programme rationale <sup>1</sup>

1. Bosnia and Herzegovina is an upper-middle-income country committed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and become a member of the European Union. While the country progressed significantly over the last 25 years in emerging from a fragile post-war situation, the overall prospects for citizens remain constrained, given prominent socioeconomic inequalities and inadequate reconciliation efforts. Bosnia and Herzegovina is highly decentralized, with complex governance structures and constitutional provisions, which complicates strategic planning and decision-making processes. Overall, significant barriers remain for the equitable realization of the rights of all children.

2. The population of Bosnia and Herzegovina is among the most rapidly shrinking and ageing in the world. The almost 620,000 children (0–18 years of age) living in the country represent about 18 per cent of the total population; adolescents (10–19 years of age) are about 11 per cent. Many families and well-educated young people are emigrating in search of better opportunities for themselves and their children. The continuous brain drain has significant implications for the functioning of social protection systems, education and health care, including their fiscal sustainability. The recent increase in the influx of refugees, migrants and asylum-seekers trying to enter the European Union has further exacerbated the situation, stressing jurisdictions and services unprepared to face this emergency. In addition, since March 2020 the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has had significant negative socioeconomic effects across the country, especially for the most vulnerable groups. The medium-term impact is likely to be substantial.

3. Over 170,000 households — 17 per cent of the total population — live below the national relative poverty line. Children are disproportionately affected by poverty and deprivation: the child poverty rate was 30.6 per cent in 2011 compared to 23.4 per cent of the total population.<sup>2</sup> Despite the comparatively high budget allocation to the social sectors,<sup>3</sup> the fragmented spending results in unequal access to quality services, in particular for children and families. The most recent study on multidimensional poverty and deprivation conducted by UNICEF reveals that 74 per cent of children 5 to 15 years of age are deprived in at least one dimension, while 23 per cent are deprived in three or more dimensions.<sup>4</sup> The relatively high Human Development Index rank (0.768 in 2017) of Bosnia and Herzegovina does not reflect the disparities among various groups of the population, and the persistent multiple forms of exclusion. Causes of exclusion, especially for children, include belonging to a minority ethnic group, especially Roma, in any given administrative area, disability status, gender and living in poverty. Limited realization of social rights, political and social disenfranchisement, and rising nationalism all adversely affect the future of children and young people.

4. Unemployment rates have encouragingly fallen below 20 per cent since 2015; however, only one third of the working-age population, and one fourth of working-

<sup>1</sup> This section's analysis is derived from: UNICEF, Situation analysis of children in Bosnia and Herzegovina; United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Common country analysis; Bosnia and Herzegovina and the United Nations, Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021–2025, draft.

<sup>2</sup> Household budget survey in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2011. The latest survey, from 2015, did not provide data on child poverty.

<sup>3</sup> This recently amounted to 9.3 per cent of gross domestic product for health and nutrition (2016); 4.2 per cent for education (2017); and 4 per cent for social assistance (2017).

<sup>4</sup> UNICEF Office of Research-Innocenti, *Child poverty and deprivation in Bosnia Herzegovina: National Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis* (N-MODA), *Innocenti Working Paper* No. 2015-02 (2015).

age women, are formally employed. Unemployment reaches 47 per cent of young people (15–24 years of age) and 51 per cent of women.<sup>5</sup> The Gender Inequality Index (0.166 in 2017) ranks Bosnia and Herzegovina thirty-seventh out of 160 countries. Nevertheless, gender discrimination and gender-based violence, fuelled by persistent patriarchal norms, remain critical concerns.

5. Since early 2018, Bosnia and Herzegovina has experienced a rapid influx of refugees, migrants and asylum-seekers. Of the 8,600 refugees and migrants stranded in the country at the end of 2019, approximately 8 per cent were families with children, and 12 per cent were unaccompanied and separated children, who still lack the essential social services, care and protection that their situation demands.

6. Different standards and inconsistent quality of health services lead to inequities in access at various administrative levels and among different wealth quintiles. This results in structural discrepancies in ensuring the right to health for all, including children. The ongoing emigration of health workers strains the health system. Bosnia and Herzegovina is among the countries in the region with the lowest vaccination coverage,<sup>6</sup> and one of the three countries at high risk for polio. A strong anti-vaccine movement, the lack of targeted interventions for communities with low coverage (such as Roma) and inadequate health promotion increase the risk of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks. Integrated early childhood development (IECD) services, including early intervention, are not fully available to all children across the country, and adopted legislative frameworks in most cases are not translated into strong local-level policies and practices. Low awareness among parents and service providers on nutrition principles is evident in increasing obesity among kindergarten and school-age children. High levels of air pollution are not being addressed adequately and represent a major threat to the health of children.

7. The substantial public resources allocated to education are dissipated through fragmentation and high administrative costs, with insufficient funding for school infrastructure and uneven teacher salaries. The preschool enrolment rate for children 3 to 6 years of age is the lowest in Europe (25 per cent), with a big gap between urban and rural areas and employed and unemployed parents. Children from urban areas with two working parents represent 76 per cent of all children in preschool institutions, while two thirds of children live in rural areas. The findings of the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), conducted for the first time in 2018, show that students 15 years of age in Bosnia and Herzegovina are on average three school years behind their peers in countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. The results show a concerning equity gap: socioeconomically advantaged students outperform disadvantaged students in reading by 58 score points. The Bosnia and Herzegovina Framework Law on Primary and Secondary Education clearly promotes equity principles; however, ethnically homogeneous schools — including the “two schools under one roof” — still promote a pattern of division and segregation among children in several municipalities. Although the concept of inclusive education has been widely introduced, every third Roma child or child with a disability has experienced some form of discrimination during their education; these children are also the ones more at risk of dropping out of secondary school. Furthermore, technical vocational education and training does not seem to equip young people with the skills required to enter the labour market.

8. In recent years, Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken important steps towards reforming its child protection system, most notably with the adoption and implementation of specialized laws on the protection of children involved in criminal

<sup>5</sup> 2018 World Bank data.

<sup>6</sup> The multiple indicator cluster survey data from 2011–2012 show a full immunization rate (BCG, DTP and MMR) of 68 per cent for all children, and only 4 per cent for Roma children.

justice proceedings. Yet, child protection issues remain very concerning. Studies conducted in the past decade show that violent methods of discipline, physical and sexual violence, neglect, child online sexual abuse, and violence against women and girls are highly prevalent in Bosnia and Herzegovina.<sup>7</sup> According to the 2011–2012 multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS), 55 per cent of children 2 to 14 years of age had experienced a violent method of discipline, with 40 per cent subjected to physical punishment and 42 per cent to psychological aggression. Child marriage remains a problem primarily for Roma girls: MICS data show that 48 per cent of Roma women aged 20 to 49 were married before 18 years of age. Roma children, children with disabilities and children on the move are disproportionately affected by violence and institutionalization. Despite the progress in establishing a sound system of foster care, 2018 official statistics report 1,818 children still in institutional care.

9. Of the 4 per cent of gross domestic product allocated to social assistance, one fourth goes to the poor and socially excluded; the rest is allocated to war-related benefits, mainly for veterans. The poorest quintile of the population receives only 17 per cent of the total amount of cash benefits, which is much lower than their real needs.<sup>8</sup> Social protection systems remain largely inefficient. There is no strategic vision on social protection, and the specific legislation does not provide for the sufficient coverage and adequacy of cash benefits and social care services for children and families.

10. Throughout the 2015–2020 programme cycle, UNICEF firmly positioned itself as a primary technical advisor to the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina at the State, entity, canton and municipality levels, supporting the development of policies, strategies, laws and regulations paving the way for services provided to children to align with international best practices. This was done, in particular, in IECD, immunization, breastfeeding, education assessments, preschool and inclusive education, justice for children and childcare, disaster risk reduction (DRR), social protection and the application of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health. Extensive awareness-raising and capacity development programmes for service providers, knowledge-brokering and support provided to exemplary service-delivery projects contributed to the improvement of the response to the needs of children. The use of U-Report and other consultative platforms steadily increased the engagement of young people, influencers and local communities in promoting children's rights.

11. Specific efforts made during the previous programme cycle to convene multisectoral partners and sustain interdisciplinary cooperation allowed an acceleration in achieving concrete outcomes in IECD interventions, the social inclusion of children with disabilities, DRR and the humanitarian response to refugees and migrants. The success of this cross-sectoral approach is among the key lessons learned that will inform the strategic approach of the 2021–2025 country programme. Likewise, compelling new evidence, such as the findings of the PISA test and the recommendations from programme evaluations,<sup>9</sup> has proven to be an effective tool for leveraging public attention and the policymakers' commitment in enhancing the equitable provision of social services to children.

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<sup>7</sup> Multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS) 2011–2012; 2012 Balkan epidemiological study on child abuse and neglect (BECAN); and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, OSCE-led survey on violence against women – Bosnia and Herzegovina results report, 2019.

<sup>8</sup> World Bank ASPIRE database (2015), quoted in Bosnia and Herzegovina and United Nations, Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021–2025, draft, p. 10.

<sup>9</sup> Child Frontiers, Final Evaluation: Transformation of care institutions and prevention of family separation, Bosnia and Herzegovina (2016–2018), March 2019; Coram International, Final Evaluation of the Justice for Every Child Project: December 2013 — November 2017, May 2018.

12. To further enhance the protection and promotion of children’s rights in the 2021–2025 programme cycle, results will be achieved in the following priority areas: (a) every child survives and thrives; (b) every child learns; (c) every child is protected from violence and exploitation; and (d) every child has an equitable chance in life. The Country Office will pursue the strategies identified in the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, tailoring these to the programme goals defined for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## **Programme priorities and partnerships**

13. The country programme results and strategies for 2021–2025 are fully aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as outlined in the emerging SDG Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021–2025. The country programme will also contribute to the achievement of priorities expressed in: (a) the Action Plan for the Implementation of Priorities from the European Commission Opinion and Analytical Report; (b) the Joint Socioeconomic Reforms for the period 2019–2022; and (c) the human rights commitments of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the related treaty obligations, in particular the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.<sup>10</sup> Consultations with government counterparts, civil society, academia, the private sector and young people informed the scope of the country programme.

14. The vision of the proposed country programme is that all children in Bosnia and Herzegovina will benefit from an equitable realization of their rights to health, education, protection, and participation, overcoming the existing bottlenecks and in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. The theory of change is that children will have more chances to survive, thrive and develop to their full potential if more children, from birth through adolescence, enjoy greater access to and use of strengthened service-delivery systems in health, nutrition, early childhood development, inclusive education, social protection, care and justice systems, and if parents and communities are enabled to fulfil children’s rights through positive social norms and practices.

15. Guided by the imperative to “leave no one behind”, embedded in the 2030 Agenda, UNICEF will continue to support Bosnia and Herzegovina in eliminating the multidimensional causes of poverty, discrimination and exclusion for the most vulnerable children, with particular attention given to those living in poverty, those belonging to ethnic minorities (in particular Roma), children with disabilities, children deprived of parental care, refugee, migrant and asylum-seeking children and marginalized young people and women.

16. UNICEF will ensure a continuous partnership with statistical institutes for the progressive harmonization of routine and ad hoc data-collection exercises, such as MICS, especially in view of the commitment towards the 2030 Agenda and the priorities to be addressed before the country can open accession negotiations with the European Union.

### **Every child survives and thrives**

17. This programme component will focus on the enhancement of quality, evidence-based and integrated immunization, nutrition and early childhood development systems. The expansion of immunization services will be sustained through these

<sup>10</sup> Bosnia and Herzegovina and the United Nations, p.1; Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding observations on the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Bosnia and Herzegovina, GE.19-20941, 2019.

measures: the development of strategies and response and communication plans; advocacy for increased budget allocations for the replacement of cold-chain equipment and the promotion of social mobilization campaigns; pre- and in-service trainings; and campaigns to engage and empower parents.

18. The capacity of multisectoral partners on IECD will be strengthened through the formulation of enabling frameworks, the promotion of models of multisectoral cooperation and referrals, pre- and in-service training, the empowerment of parents, and improved data collection on all aspects of IECD, including the effects of air pollution on child development.

19. With the involvement of health and education partners, child and adolescent malnutrition, including obesity, will be prevented through the following measures: sustaining healthy nutrition regulations for schools and kindergartens; the promotion of laws on marketing breast-milk substitutes and unhealthy food for children; and nutrition-related behavioural-change campaigns for parents and adolescents.

20. The programme goals will be achieved through various means: the implementation of strategies aimed at winning the support of decision makers and the public to universal health coverage and the well-being of children; promoting equitable, responsive and resilient service delivery; leveraging resources and partnerships for health; and producing and promoting evidence as a driver of change.

#### **Every child learns**

21. Under this programme component, children and youth will benefit from quality and inclusive education, and skills development. The capacity of education institutions and dedicated financial resources will be enhanced to provide inclusive early childhood education and care through: the development of feasibility studies; supporting the establishment of legislative frameworks for preschool programmes in the cantons where they still do not exist; the promotion of model preschools fostering the inclusion of Roma children; and the application of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health principles for services dedicated to children with disabilities. Inclusive education will be promoted through: sustained participation in international assessments of education quality and children's learning; the provision of technical support for regular data collection and analysis; pre-service training for education professionals; the development of policy guidelines on the inclusion of children with disabilities; the inclusion of children on the move in local schools; and the implementation of the Comprehensive School Safety Framework.

22. Adolescents and youth will have the opportunity to develop their twenty-first century skills and productively participate in society as a result of the following: life skills education programmes; advocacy to introduce relevant changes in primary and secondary school curricula; social entrepreneurship and young people-led initiatives; the increased participation of girls and women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and information technology education; and support to the improved monitoring and evaluation of measures taken to advance adolescents' education.

23. The programme goals will be sustained by strategic advocacy with government counterparts on evidence-based planning and budgeting and the reform of curricula and learning assessments along the provisions of the European Union Framework on Key Competencies for Lifelong Learning. Advocacy will also target schools for the establishment of models of intersectoral cooperation and child participation, and parents and civil society on the importance of learning, the appreciation of diversity and social inclusion.

### **Every child is protected from violence and exploitation**

24. A holistic approach will be applied for the improvement of structures, functions, capacities, continuum of care, process of care and the accountability of the child protection system across the social welfare, care and justice sectors. Ending violence against children, de-institutionalization and ensuring equitable access to justice for all children will be at the core of the child protection programme.

25. Child protection systems will be enhanced through the development of strategies, including monitoring and financing frameworks, and strengthening the capacity of child protection professionals to collect and report data, for both case management and statistical purposes. Improved outreach and more effective preventive and supportive services for children and their families, including alternative care, will be obtained through long-term strategic support to the social service workforce. At the same time, the school-based secondary prevention programme, targeting children at risk, will be expanded. The quality of child-friendly services for victims and witnesses of crimes will be further strengthened through specialized training programmes for judiciary professionals. The protection of children in civil proceedings will focus on judiciary practices related to relevant legislation, particularly in cases of divorce and family separation.

26. Several strategic approaches will sustain the achievement of the programme goals: leveraging the authorities' commitment to allocate adequate resources to child protection; promoting more data-driven decision-making; supporting interministerial dialogue and coordination at every administrative level; capitalizing on the new opportunities arising from the 2030 Agenda and European Union accession; and creating a better humanitarian-development nexus in child protection.

### **Every child has an equitable chance in life**

27. This component will enable children and their families to benefit from the following: enhanced child rights monitoring, including evidence generation, analysis and policy advocacy on child poverty; strengthened child-sensitive social protection and inclusion systems; and improved local governance for children and youth.

28. Government institutions will be supported to systematically collect, analyse and use disaggregated data to inform policy development and report on the situation of children. This data will be obtained through several means: the measurement of child deprivations, such as multidimensional child poverty; the production of evidence on child-related Sustainable Development Goals, including on child poverty, vulnerability and social exclusion; strategic advocacy promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of public spending for children; and leveraging partnerships to generate more robust data, including on child poverty and deprivations.

29. Social protection systems in selected areas will be improved through several measures: enhanced institutional capacities and financial resources to address child poverty and social exclusion through high-level advocacy on child-sensitive social protection as well South-South exchanges; technical support on social inclusion policies, strategies and legislation at all administrative levels; capacity development of social service providers, including in DRR; evidence generation on child benefits and other selected social protection schemes, budget briefs and costing of social services; support to shock-responsive social protection; and contributions to the United Nations joint programme on DRR.

30. A local governance model responsive to children and youth will be institutionalized in selected locations for further scaling up. This will be achieved through several means: fostering cross-sectoral cooperation; engaging with local communities to sustain the demand for quality social services; generating and

promoting the use of evidence on child well-being; contributing to the United Nations joint programming at the local level, including through linking economic and social development; enhancing the use of new technologies for citizen engagement; and the direct participation of children and young people in decision-making processes. The Child and Youth Friendly Cities Initiative will strongly position the needs of children and youth at the forefront of local planning, budgeting and community participation.

31. Intersectoral in nature, the programme will maintain a leading role in promoting policy advocacy and public campaigns on the protection and promotion of child rights, as well as the social inclusion of the most vulnerable children: children with disabilities and Roma. High-level partnerships and advocacy initiatives, especially with the Ministry of Finance, on adequate fiscal allocations for inclusive service delivery and local governance will be promoted in support to all programmes. Addressing the 2019 Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF will support the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees to systematically monitor the implementation of the Committee's recommendations and the development of entity-level Action Plans for Children. Likewise, technical assistance will be provided to facilitate the cross-sectoral work on aligning disability-assessment procedures and referrals with the social model of disability.

32. In addition, all the programmes will contribute to UNICEF support of the country's humanitarian response to the influx of refugees and migrants, which will continue to combine humanitarian aid with longer-term support to the systems of services involved in the response.

### 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>
Every child survives and thrives	730	4 410	5 140
Every child learns	730	8 230	8 960
Every child is protected from violence and exploitation	1 025	7 300	8 325
Every child has an equitable chance in life	1 100	5 450	6 550
Programme effectiveness	675	1 350	2 025
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 260</b>	<b>26 740</b>	<b>31 000</b>

### Programme and risk management

33. This country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to country-wide 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.

34. The country programme is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021–2025 and implemented in collaboration with the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as with development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector, research institutions, universities and United Nations agencies.



35. On the basis of the common country analysis conducted by the United Nations country team and the UNICEF situation analysis of children, the following risks to cooperation and sustained progress towards the achievement of results have been identified:

- (a) Emigration of youth and skilled workers negatively impacting the provision of social services for children (health, child protection and social protection);
- (b) A lack of political commitment for a common vision on the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina due to social polarization and ethnic nationalism, and constraints in decision-making and financing for country-wide frameworks and policies;
- (c) Potential changes in the process, criteria, and requirements for European Union accession, providing additional hurdles for the candidacy of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- (d) Unfavourable economic and trade trends, including global recessionary fears, that could negatively affect the Government's capacity to allocate resources to social services, especially for children;
- (e) Further deterioration of citizens' trust in institutions and systems;
- (f) High risk of natural hazards and insufficient response preparedness, affecting children disproportionately.

36. The risk-management strategy involves:

- (a) Stronger cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination. This will help to sustain links between the planned results and the policies and plans of the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to ensure that data and evidence are being used to influence programme implementation;
- (b) Efforts to operationalize existing policies, strategies and service delivery frameworks and to build new capacities for effective, cross-sectoral approaches at all levels, with a focus on vulnerable groups;
- (c) Consistent advocacy and policy dialogue, based on the Sustainable Development Goals, to promote reforms and develop cost-effective models and options to enhance the quality and coverage of essential services;
- (d) Ongoing review and updating of the contingency plans of the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the United Nations system to respond to natural disasters, emergencies and climate change.

37. A business operations strategy of the United Nations funds and programmes will harmonize and reduce operating costs in the context of the United Nations development system reform.

38. UNICEF will continue to consolidate strategic partnerships involving joint advocacy and funding with the European Union, bilateral donors, international financial institutions, foundations and the private sector. Fundraising opportunities for regional programmes will also be explored. UNICEF will mobilize resources for joint United Nations programmes by strengthening partnerships with multi-donor trust funds and bilateral and other potential donors.

39. UNICEF will also continue to invest in the effectiveness of internal governance and management systems, the stewardship of financial resources and the management of human resources. The harmonized approach to cash transfers will be strengthened to mitigate risks associated with programme implementation.

## **Monitoring and evaluation**

40. UNICEF will monitor the achievement of results with a clear focus on barriers and bottlenecks faced by the most disadvantaged children and families. Technical assistance to strengthen real-time monitoring systems and reporting will be provided to responsible institutions. Periodic reviews with government counterparts and implementing partners will be conducted to assess progress, identify key strategic, programmatic, operational and financial risks, and define appropriate mitigation measures.

41. A new MICS is planned for the new programme cycle. Additional assessments will relate to child poverty and marginalized groups and monitoring disparity trends, including in gender. A fully costed evaluation plan will be available on the UNICEF Executive Board website.

42. Programme outcomes and outputs will be measured through indicators set out in the results structure. At regular intervals, training sessions on procedures for the harmonized approach to cash transfers will be delivered for UNICEF staff and partners. Programmatic visits will be conducted to monitor progress, identify constraints and determine measures to overcome these, and make any necessary adjustments in workplans. UNICEF will work with partners to strengthen national monitoring and evaluation capacities by institutionalizing results-based management, the use of real-time monitoring and the greater use of evaluation results. The emphasis will be on implementing subnational planning processes, improving programme performance monitoring and enhancing feedback mechanisms.

43. During emergencies, humanitarian performance monitoring will help to ensure a clear alignment of results with the UNICEF Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action and to track the number of people reached with interventions and programme quality.

## Annex

### Results and resources framework

#### Bosnia and Herzegovina – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2021–2025

**Convention on the Rights of the Child:** 2, 4, 5, 9, 12, 18–21, 23, 26–29, 39 and 40

**Sustainable Development Goals:** 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 16, 17

**National priorities:**

Sustainable Development Goals Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina (draft): 1. Good governance: (ii) Rule of Law; 2. Smart growth: (i) Entrepreneurship and innovation, (ii) Green growth, (iii) Smart natural resource management, and (iv) Environmental protection; 4. Human capital for the twenty-first century: (i) Increased research and development, innovation

European Commission Opinion on the European Union membership application of Bosnia and Herzegovina, May 2019

Joint Socioeconomic Reforms for the Period 2019–2022, October 2019

**UNSDCF outcomes involving UNICEF:**

**Outcome 1.** By 2025, people benefit from resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth ensured by the convergence of economic development and management of environment and cultural resources

**Outcome 2.** By 2025, people benefit from more inclusive and higher quality educational programmes focused on 21st century skills for enhanced employability, well-being and active participation in society

**Outcome 3.** By 2025, people have access to better quality and inclusive health and social protection systems

**Outcome 4.** By 2025, people contribute to, and benefit from, more accountable and transparent governance systems that deliver quality public services, and ensure rule of law

**Outcome 5.** By 2025, there is stronger mutual understanding, respect and trust among individuals and communities

**Outcome indicators measuring change that reflect UNICEF contribution**

**1.j** Percentage of local authorities with local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030

**2.a** Gross early childhood education enrolment ratio in pre-primary education (children 3–6 years), disaggregated by sex

**2.b** Share of 15-year-old girls and boys who perform at Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) Level 2 or above in reading, mathematics, and science

**2.c** Percentage of young people (15–24 years) not in education, employment or training, disaggregated by sex

**3.c** Percentage of districts or equivalent administrative units with at least 80 per cent coverage of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP)-containing vaccine for children under 1 year of age

**3.g** Percentage of children covered by child allowances**3.h** Percentage of children aged 2 to 14 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month**Related UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018–2021 Goal Areas: 1 to 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, children benefit from quality, evidence-based and integrated health, nutrition and early childhood development systems.	Percentage of districts or equivalent administrative units with at least 80 per cent coverage of DTP-containing vaccine for children under 1 year of age B: 67% (2018) T: 100%	World Health Organization/ UNICEF Joint Reporting Form	Health and government institutions at different levels have enhanced capacities and financial resources to effectively implement evidence-based immunization services.  Government institutions at different levels have evidence, capacities and financial resources to provide quality integrated early childhood development services to support nurturing care, with a focus on the early detection of developmental delays and early interventions.	Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ministry of Health of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of Republika Srpska, Department for Health and Other Services of Brcko District, entity and cantonal public health institutes	730	4 410	5 140
	Percentage of children under 5 years of age who are overweight B: 17% urban: 21%; rural: 16% (2011–2012) T: urban 14%; rural 14%	Multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS), Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative					
	Percentage of children 36–59 months of age engaged in four or more activities to provide early stimulation and responsive care in the past three days with (a) an adult household member and (b) father B: (a) 95% (2011–2012); (b) 76% (2011–2012)	MICS	Health and school systems have enhanced capacities to prevent child and adolescent malnutrition, including obesity.				

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
	T: (a) 98%; (b) 85%						
2. By 2025, children and youth benefit from quality and inclusive education and skills development.	Gross early childhood education enrolment ratio in pre-primary education  B: 25% (24% girls, 26% boys) (2018–2019) T: 60% (equal for girls and boys)	Annual official statistics and reports from Government and education government institutions	Government and education institutions have enhanced capacities and financial resources to effectively provide quality and inclusive early childhood education and care.  Education institutions have evidence and enhanced capacities to effectively provide quality and inclusive education.	Ministries responsible for education at State, entity, Brcko District and cantonal level, statistical institutes	730	8 230	8 960
	Participation rate in organized learning (one year before official school entry)  B: 78% (equal for girls and boys) (2018–2019) T: 100% (equal for girls and boys)	Annual reports from education institutions	Adolescents and youth are provided with the opportunities to develop their twenty-first century skills to actively and productively participate in society.				
	Share of 15-year-old girls and boys who perform at Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) Level 2 or above in reading, mathematics and science  B: Reading: 46% (55% girls, 38% boys) Mathematics: 42% (43% girls, 42% boys) Science: 43% (44% girls, 43% boys) (2018) T: Reading: 55%	PISA test in 2018, 2021 and 2024					

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
	(equal for girls and boys) Mathematics: 55% (equal) Science: 55% (equal)						
3. By 2025, children, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from enhanced access to social welfare, care and justice systems to ensure their right to protection from violence, abuse and exploitation.	Percentage of girls and boys who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers B: 60% boys, 49% girls (2011–2012) T: 30% boys, 30% girls	MICS	Child protection systems and structures have adequate human and financial resources and institutional capacity to deliver preventive and responsive child protection services.  Children, parents and communities have adequate access to information, justice and support services to prevent and respond to violence, abuse and exploitation of children.  Policymakers, professionals, community members, caregivers and children have greater awareness of and enhanced skills to prevent violence against children as a human-rights and public-health issue.	Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, Council for Children, Ministries/Departments responsible for social welfare at State, entity, Brcko District and cantonal level, High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council, legal aid organizations, civil society	1 025	7 300	8 325
	Proportion of children (0–17 years of age) in residential care B: 294 per 100,000 (2018) T: 150 per 100,000	Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina					
	Percentage of girls and boys in contact with justice bodies who benefit from interventions to improve children's access to justice B: 70% T: 85%	High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council					
4. By 2025, children and their families benefit from improved and adequately funded social protection and inclusion systems	Percentage of children covered by child allowances B: 14% (2018) T: 25%	Administrative data – entity, district and cantonal level	Government institutions have enhanced capacities to systematically collect, analyse and use disaggregated data to inform policy development and report on the situation of children, with a special	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of Republika Srpska, Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports	1 100	5 450	6 550
	Percentage of municipalities with	Local action plans,					

<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>
and enhanced child-rights monitoring.	<p>implemented plans and budgets that reflect local child priorities, including priorities of the most vulnerable children (decentralization and local governance)</p> <p>B: 34% of municipalities previously covered by the Social Protection and Inclusion model (2020) T: 60%</p>	<p>municipal annual reports, municipal budgets</p>	<p>focus on vulnerable children and their families.</p> <p>Selected government institutions at different levels have enhanced capacities to improve and budget inclusive, equitable and resilient social protection systems to address child poverty and social exclusion.</p> <p>A child- and youth-responsive local governance model is institutionalized in selected locations.</p>	<p>of Republika Srpska, relevant cantonal Ministries, Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, ombudsmen institutions, local authorities in selected municipalities, Associations of Cities and Municipalities of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska, statistical institutes, civil society</p>			
Programme effectiveness					675	1 350	2 025
<b>Total resources</b>					<b>4 260</b>	<b>26 740</b>	<b>31 000</b>