

**Draft Programme of Co-operation
between
The Government of Bahrain and UNICEF
2007 – 2009**

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THE FRAMEWORK:

- *Furthering their mutual agreement and co-operation for the fulfilment of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;*
- *Building upon the experience gained and progress made during the implementation of the previous Programme of Co-operation;*
- *Entering into a new period of co-operation from 2007 to 2009;*
- *Declaring that these responsibilities will be fulfilled in a spirit of friendly co-operation;*

Have agreed as follows:

Part I: Basis of Relationship

(Where as to be discussed with government)

Part II: The Situation of Children in Bahrain

Demography. Out of the estimated total *population* of 716,000 in 2004 (66% Bahraini citizens and 34% non-Bahrainis) about 231,000, or 32% are less than 18 years old. 90% of the population live in urban areas including the capital city, Al Manamah. As a consequence of the economic and social development over the last decades, the total *fertility rate* has dropped to 2.4 children per woman in 2004. The *net migration rate* is high and has resulted in a 3.1% population growth rate for the non-Bahraini population compared to 2.5% for Bahraini citizens. This in turn has increased the *population density* in Bahrain to about 1,000 persons per square kilometer, which is the fourth highest in Asia.

Socio-economic Situation. The World Bank estimated the GNI/capita to 12,410 USD in 2003. Two-thirds of GDP comes from the non-oil sector and accounted for two-thirds of the government's revenue in 2001. Facing declining oil-reserves and in order to diversify the economy, Bahrain has developed the largest off-shore banking sector in the region and is also striving to encourage tourism. Human resources contributing to a knowledge-based economy is prioritised. Unemployment among Bahrainis is decreasing but was still around 10% in 2003, with substantially higher rates among young people. Hence, a process of providing the Bahraini workforce more of the job opportunities is ongoing. Bahrain was declared a constitutional monarchy in 2002 and municipal as well as parliamentary elections took place in 2002. The UNDP human development index ranks Bahrain a number 40 of 177 countries and as number 1 of 22 Arab states.

Child legislation and policies. The Government of Bahrain is committed to give a high priority to the rights of children, to their survival, protection and development. Bahrain has made enormous advances in providing social services for children over the last four decades. Upon the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child it has conducted a review of its laws and regulations in light of international human rights standards and the CRC. In parallel, the Committee on the Rights of the Child is concerned about the monitoring system of child rights as well as that the resources allocated to children might be effected by the trend towards privatisation of the health and education sector.

Survival. Bahrain has made outstanding improvements in regard to child health over the last decades. The under-five mortality rate has gone down from 133 per 1,000 live births in 1960 to 11 in 2004. The 2001 reported maternal mortality ratio of 22 per 100,000 live births corresponds to less than 10 maternal deaths per year. *The attendance rate* of pregnant women at maternity care clinics has reached 97%, and *the rate of deliveries administered* in hospitals has reached 98%. *Immunisation coverage* for children in Bahrain has reached 97% coverage for all antigens. These achievements are due to full coverage of quality health services combined with awareness raising campaigns and focussed family planning programs. In regard to causes of death, injuries and disease patterns, Bahrain has undergone an epidemiological transition with an increasing number of deaths and injuries caused by life-style related diseases and accidents. According to the Situation Analysis children under 19 constituted 28.3% of fatalities from traffic accidents and 28% of all injuries. Under-five mortality rates are mainly caused by malnutrition and accidents at home, indicating the need for improved child care practices.

There are no updated malnutrition rates for Bahrain, but the most recent rates are low both in an international comparison and compared to other Gulf countries, with the exception of Qatar. Bahrain together with UAE and Saudi Arabia have somewhat higher exclusive breastfeeding levels than other Gulf countries. Hence, according to the 1997 Gulf Family Health Survey, 34% of the new-born were exclusively breastfed for the first 3 months, just slightly below the average for Arab countries. However, the 2001 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey shows that only 13% of children are receiving exclusive breastfeeding during the first four months of life. The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative was launched in 1993 and a National Breastfeeding Committee was formed to promote breastfeeding.

Although there is a lack of reliable data about sexual and reproductive health, especially among adolescents, there seems to be a very low rate of HIV/AIDS in Bahrain. However, the relatively young age structure of the population, the influx and mobility of migrant workers, increased tourism, as well as increased travelling among Bahraini citizens are all causes of concern. The 2001 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) disclosed that 75% of Bahraini women between 15-45 years knew of only one method of protection against HIV/AIDS, while as few as 7% knew of three methods of protection. However, contraceptive prevalence is high in Bahrain and the age specific fertility rate for adolescent girls aged 15-19 is low, both figures significantly better than in neighbouring countries such as Saudi Arabia and UAE.

Development. Education is free for all children (Bahrainis and non-Bahrainis) between 6 and 17 and compulsory in the early stages. (when is it compulsory?) Pre-school education is not free. The *Gross Enrolment Rate* for primary school is close to 100% while the Net Enrolment Rate is around 90% both for boys and girls. 99% of primary school entrants reach grade 5. The Gross Enrolment Rates for secondary school are around 90% for boys and close to 100% for girls. Almost 100% of primary school entrants reach grade 5. As a result of recommendations from the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Bahrain has started a process of integrating human rights into the curriculum. The Situation Analysis raised the need to review the curricula, to develop the capacity of teachers as well as to monitor learning achievements. According to the 2003 international comparison of learning achievements among eight-graders, Bahrain had the 9th lowest result in mathematics among the 45 participating countries and the 13th lowest result in science.

38% of Bahraini children enrol in kindergartens; 46% of the boys and 29% of the girls according to the MICS. The enrolment rate is 50% among children of educated mothers compared to 22% for children of non-educated women, indicating that vulnerable and marginalised groups of children do not have access to kindergartens. There are no studies explaining the low level of girls' enrolment. The curriculum of the pre-school education does not stand on scientific basis according to the Situation Analysis. The Ministry of Education has therefore created a unit for improving the pre-school education in collaboration with UNICEF and AGFUND. Given the relatively low attendance rates in kindergartens, there is a need to better understand the child care practices at home.

Participation. The Bahraini legislation gives the child the freedom to express their views and the freedom to form peaceful assemblies in a manner consistent with the national law. The Ministry of

Education is also promoting school theatre. A youth parliament was established in 2004 with the aim of providing 16-18 years old with a chance to share their views on key national development matters concerning their lives and future. In parallel, the Bahraini media is trying to involve children in its plans and programs. These programs aim to enhance child interaction as well as raise awareness on issues such as values, health and nutrition, as well as child abuse, child labour and family violence.

Protection. The Bahraini legislation assures the child's right to be protected from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect, maltreatment or exploitation. According to the Situation Analysis however, the Bahraini legislation may need to be strengthened in this area. In parallel, health workers currently do not feel obliged to report cases of child abuse, fearing the legal involvement in these issues. This may be due to the lack of a legal definition for child abuse and neglect, as well as the lack of policies and procedures to be followed in case of a suspected case of child abuse. The Committee on the Rights of the Child has underlined the need to develop a comprehensive approach in addressing child abuse including; studies, legislative measures, public education campaigns, child-sensitive procedures and mechanisms, prosecuting violators and providing care, recovery and reintegration for victims, and training for professionals in identification, reporting and management of ill-treatment cases.

Bahraini legislation also protects children from economic exploitation and child labor is prohibited for children under the age of 14. According to the MICS only 0.5% of Bahraini children between 5-15 years hold paying jobs while 0.5% work without payment for people who are not members of the family. However, the Committee on the Rights of the Child is concerned that the minimum age for admission to employment (14 years) is less than the age for completion of basic education (15 years). In regard to children in conflict with the law, the Committee on the Rights of the Child is concerned that the juvenile justice system does not regard 15-18 years old as children and that there is no minimum age of criminal responsibility.

PART III: Past Co-operation and Lessons Learned

Key Results Achieved

Over the last 25 years UNICEF's partnership with Bahrain has shifted from direct support in delivering basic social services to programme strategies based on policy advocacy, capacity development and child rights monitoring. In parallel, the partnership has broadened to include joint efforts for improving the situation of children outside Bahrain. This shift has taken place as Bahrain has undergone a tremendous transformation in the provision of services for children proven by the current low mortality ratios. Based on this situation, the 2004-2006 Bahrain – UNICEF programme of co-operation centred around three programmes: advocacy and monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of the Child; early childhood care and development; and young people's development and participation.

UNICEF and partners in Bahrain have been instrumental in breaking the silence regarding HIV/AIDS in the Gulf region. Initiated by UNICEF GAO and jointly sponsored by UNICEF's regional office in Amman, UNAIDS, UNDP, WHO, the Executive Board of the Gulf Council of Health Ministers and the Ministry of Health in Bahrain, a landmark multi-sectoral workshop on HIV/AIDS was held in June 2004. Being the first workshop of its kind in the Gulf, the theme (Leadership for an early Response to HIV/AIDS in the Gulf countries) assisted in creating an increased awareness of the urgency to respond to the HIV/AIDS threat. The meeting made recommendations that were later endorsed by the Gulf country Ministers of Health, which then declared the combating of the disease as a priority for the sub-region. Subsequently, benefiting from the momentum gained, a number of events have assisted in breaking the silence regarding HIV/AIDS, both in individual Gulf countries and Gulf-wide.

With the support of UNICEF and the British Council, the National Commission for Childhood set up a youth parliament in 2004. The actual youth parliament, which aimed at providing children 16-18 years

old with a chance to share their views on key national developmental matters concerning their lives and future, was well attended and well covered by the media.

Lessons Learned

Part IV: Proposed Programme

The country programme outcome and strategies

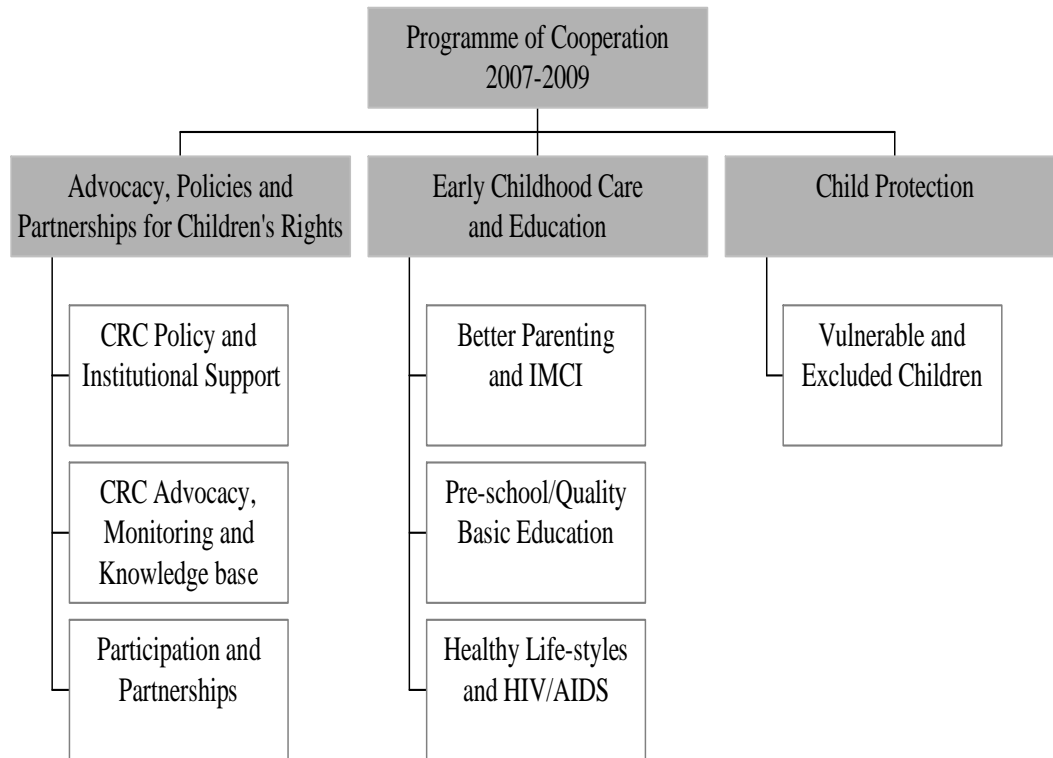
The overall goal of the 2007-2009 programme of co-operation is to support Bahrain in ensuring that children and young people, including the most vulnerable and marginalised, fully enjoy their rights. Strategic results to be achieved by the end of 2009 will include: (a) that children and young people benefit from improved laws and policies based on the CRC and influenced by themselves; (b) that children and young people have access to higher quality care and learning opportunities so that they may develop to their fullest potential, capable of living healthy and active lives; (c) that children, especially the most vulnerable and marginalised, are better protected from violence, exploitation and abuse.

The main strategies of the programme centre on a human rights based approach. Given the achievements of Bahrain over the last decades, the programme will continue to focus on advocacy and capacity building and will be limited to a few key interventions in strategic areas. The programme will make maximum use of UNICEF's unique position for advocacy in order to put key issues on the agenda. UNICEF will primarily support capacity building at a central level with a particular focus on, and partnership with, the Bahraini National Commission for Childhood. A cross-sectoral life cycle approach will ensure a holistic perspective with the child in the centre. Building on lessons learned, timely and innovative interventions in the area of child protection, suitable for large scale replication, will be supported. The sharing of best practices among Gulf countries will be used to illustrate results from such innovative interventions. Monitoring and knowledge generation will be promoted as a means to better understand the nature and magnitude of problems facing children in Bahrain.

UNICEF will continue to build partnerships with the government, development funds, the private sector and with NGOs in order to lever resources for children both in Bahrain and elsewhere. Building on lessons learned, UNICEF will dedicate itself to high quality programmes benefiting Bahraini children as a way of strengthening alliances and raising funds also for vulnerable and marginalised children world-wide.

Programme Structure

The Country Programme consists of three programmes and 7 projects as illustrated below.



The Hierarchy of Programme and Project Objectives

The following table summarises the hierarchy and linkages between programme and project objectives.

Country Program Goal	Program	Program Strategic Results	Project	Project Output Statements
Support the Government of Bahrain in ensuring that children and young people, including the most vulnerable and excluded, fully enjoy their rights	Advocacy, Policies and Partnerships for Children's Rights	Children and young people benefit from laws and policies increasingly based on the CRC and influenced by themselves	CRC Policy and Institutional Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Strengthened capacity of the National Commission for Childhood * Improved legislation, policies and guidelines in a number of key areas consistent with the CRC * Improved monitoring and reporting system for the CRC
			CRC Advocacy, Monitoring and Knowledge base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The establishment of DevInfo supported * A core set of indicators for child rights which are specific for Bahrain established * Stronger advocacy for the implementation of the CRC * Increased percentage of parents and teachers with basic knowledge of child rights * a review of the state budget from a child rights perspective (children's budget) implemented and used for advocacy
			Participation and Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Improved opportunities for adolescent participation * Enhanced consultation with adolescents through existing structures * Increased percentage of parents, teachers, and decision makers that can cite a number of key messages regarding adolescents' rights * increased leverage of resources for children globally
	Early Childhood Care and Education	Children and young people have access to higher quality care and learning opportunities so that they may develop to their fullest potential capable of living healthy lives	Better Parenting and IMCI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The adoption of a strategy for early childhood development (ECD/IMCI) with a particular focus on disabilities and child health safety * guidelines and standards for ECD/IMCI * The adoption of breastfeeding and nutrition policies in line with the latest WHO guidelines
			Pre-school / Quality Basic Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Review of pre-school curriculum * Standards for pre-school education established * Revised basic school curricula including the introduction of life skills / civic education and promoting gender parity
			Healthy Life-styles and HIV/AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * An increased knowledge base in respect to adolescents' situation, attitudes and practices * Increased percentage of adolescents having precise knowledge of a number of key messages on life style issues (HIV/AIDS, drug abuse, accidents, etc)
	Child Protection	Children, especially the most vulnerable and excluded, are better protected from violence, exploitation and abuse	Vulnerable and Excluded Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Strengthened capacity to assess, analyse and address specific violations of child protection rights among key institutions * Improved system for reporting and addressing cases of child abuse * Establish a minimum set of indicators for violations of children's protection rights which are specific to Bahrain

Relationship to National Priorities and the UNDAF

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Relation to International Priorities

The programme will contribute to the Millennium Development Goals in Bahrain by not only focussing on quantitative achievements but also focussing on the qualitative aspects, including sustainability through appropriate legislative, policy and planning measures. These aspects will saturate the programme's contribution to protect the vulnerable, reduce child mortality, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality and empower women, as well as to combat HIV/AIDS. Within this qualitative context the programme will also contribute to the World Fit For Children Plan of Action to promote healthy lives and provide quality education while also combating HIV/AIDS and protecting children against abuse, exploitation and violence.

The programme will contribute to all focus areas of the UNICEF medium term strategic plan for 2006-2009. However, given the great achievements already accomplished by Bahrain in delivering basic social services to children, the focus will be given to policy advocacy and partnerships for children's rights. In parallel, building on the momentum gained already in Bahrain, the programme will continue to focus on protecting children from violence, exploitation and abuse as well as on HIV/AIDS. Key qualitative aspects of young child survival and development as well of basic education and gender equality will also be pursued.

Programme components

Programme 1: Advocacy, Policies and Partnerships for Children's Rights

Executive Summary:

The programme for **advocacy, policies and partnerships for children's rights** will address: (a) institutional aspects, (b) legislation and policies, (c) monitoring systems and knowledge bases, (d) participation of adolescents, the adolescent girl in particular (e) partnerships and advocacy for children in Bahrain and elsewhere. UNICEF support will include technical assistance, training, workshops, knowledge networking, support to local research, policy advocacy as well as resource leveraging.

The **strategic result** of this programme is that children and young people benefit from laws and policies increasingly based on the CRC and influenced by themselves.

Component Projects:

The programme for advocacy, policies and partnerships for children's rights consists of three projects: (1) the policy and institutional support project, (2) the CRC advocacy, monitoring and knowledge base project, and (3) the participation and partnerships project.

Project 1.1: Policy and Institutional Support

Project output statements:

1. Strengthened capacity of the National Commission for Childhood
2. Improved legislation, policies and guidelines in a number of key areas, consistent with the CRC
3. Improved monitoring and reporting system for the CRC

Major activities:

UNICEF will provide technical assistance, training, workshops and knowledge networking in order for the National Commission for Childhood to:

1. monitor trends in child indicators

2. advocate for children
3. complete and implement a National Plan of Action for Children, building on experiences gained during the development of the UNDP-supported national youth strategy (15-30 years old) finalised in April 2005.
4. continue the process of adapting local legislation and policies with the CRC provisions as well as ensuring its implementation
5. prepare reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child
6. plan follow-up of the Committee's recommendations

UNICEF will also provide technical assistance for Bahrain to:

1. the setting up of a separate, permanent and independent mechanism, such as a national human rights institution or an ombudsman, with the mandate to monitor and evaluate the progress of the implementation of the CRC.

Strategy:

Advocacy and capacity building

Main Partners:

1. Ministry of Social Affairs
2. General Organisation for Youth and Sports
3. National Commission for Childhood
4. the Parliament

Project 1.2: CRC Advocacy, Monitoring and Knowledge Base

Project output statements:

1. The establishment of DevInfo supported
2. A core set of indicators for child rights which are specific for Bahrain established
3. Stronger advocacy for the implementation of the CRC
4. Increased percentage of parents and teachers with basic knowledge of child rights
5. A review of the state budget from a child rights perspective (children's budget) implemented and used for advocacy

Major Activities:

UNICEF will provide technical assistance, training, workshops, knowledge networking and policy advocacy in order to:

1. install DevInfo and train operators building on lessons learned from the National Gender Statistics Programme of the Central Statistics Organisation
2. agree upon a core set of country specific indicators for child rights including those needed for reporting to the Committee on the CRC and used in the reporting of MDGs.
3. develop mechanisms for monitoring progress on these indicators,
4. carry out specific studies and surveys will be promoted in order to continuously update the Situation Analysis of Children.
5. review of the state budget from a child perspective
6. raise awareness among policy makers, the private sector and the civil society about child rights and its relevance to Bahrain.
7. disseminating the principles and provisions of the CRC, the reports to the Committee on the CRC, and the concluding observations of the Committee.
8. strengthen the established partnership with media around child rights.

Strategy:

Advocacy and capacity building

Main Partners:

1. Ministry of Social Affairs
2. General Organisation for Youth and Sports
3. National Commission for Childhood
4. the Parliament
5. Central Statistics Organisation
6. the Media

Project 1.3: Participation and Partnerships
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Project output statements:

1. Improved opportunities for adolescent participation
2. Enhanced consultation with adolescents through existing structures
3. Increased percentage of parents, teachers, and decision makers that can cite a number of key messages regarding adolescent's rights
4. leverage of resources for children globally

Major Activities:

UNICEF support will include technical assistance, training, workshops, knowledge networking, support to local research, policy advocacy as well as resource leveraging:

1. advocacy for increased opportunities for both adolescent boys and girls to participate in school and community development. Participation of adolescents in national planning events and regional and sub-regional forums as well as in media will be encouraged.
2. Capture lessons learned from the Bahraini youth parliament while building on regional experiences
3. Media campaigns targeting parents, teachers, decision makers, etc, in order to improve their knowledge, attitudes and practices vis-à-vis adolescents.
4. advocacy for adolescent friendly legislation, policies and guidelines.
5. partnership building with existing and new partners for leveraging knowledge and resources for children within and outside Bahrain.
6. awareness raising about child rights issues nationally and internationally

Strategy:

Advocacy and capacity building

Main Partners:

1. National Commission for Childhood
2. Ministry of Education
3. General Organisation for Youth and Sports
4. Scout organisations
5. Media
6. Private Sector
7. Development funds

Programme 2: Early Childhood Care and Education
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Executive Summary:

The programme for **early childhood care and education** will address the need to improve: (a) key child care practices; (b) access to and quality of pre-school education, especially for vulnerable and excluded children; (c) quality of basic education, (d) the lack of information on the situation of adolescents, and (e) the inadequate life-skills of adolescents. UNICEF's support will include sharing of experiences from similar initiatives within the region, networking, awareness raising campaigns, research, and technical assistance through training and workshops.

The **strategic result** of this programme is that children and young people have access to higher quality care and learning opportunities so that they may develop to their fullest potential capable of living healthy lives.

Component Projects:

The programme for advocacy, policies and partnerships for children’s rights consists of three projects: (1) the better parenting and IMCI project, (2) the pre-school / basic education project, and (3) the healthy life-styles and HIV/AIDS project.

Project 2.1: Better Parenting and IMCI

Project output statements:

1. The adoption of a strategy for early childhood development with a particular focus on disabilities and child health safety (ECD/IMCI)
2. Guidelines and standards for ECD/IMCI
3. The adoption of breastfeeding and nutrition policies in line with the latest WHO guidelines

Major Activities:

UNICEF’s support will include sharing of experiences from similar initiatives within the region, networking, awareness raising campaigns, research, technical assistance through training and workshops, as well as advocacy for:

1. the integrated management of childhood illnesses initiative (IMCI) with a particular focus on exclusive and complementary breastfeeding, nutrition, micro-nutrients, psychosocial development, child abuse, child injury, early detection of disabilities, etc
2. capacity building for a regional institute on early childhood disabilities (AGFUND/private sector)
3. promotion of legislation, policies and guidelines for ECD/IMCI
4. the development of a better parenting/parental education programme
5. the ongoing Bahraini baby friendly hospital initiative (BFHI)
6. the ongoing breastfeeding awareness programme through the National Breastfeeding Committee
7. Awareness raising and media campaigns targeting Bahraini parents as well as other caregivers in order to increase their knowledge, attitudes and behaviour related to child care practices

Strategy:

Advocacy and capacity building

Main Partners:

1. National Commission for Childhood
2. Ministry of Health
3. the Media
4. AGFUND
5. private sector

Project 2.2: Pre-school / Quality Basic Education
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Project output statements:

1. Review of the pre-school curricula
2. standards for pre-school education established
3. Revised basic school curricula including the introduction of life skills / civic education and promoting gender parity

Major Activities:

UNICEF's support will include sharing of experiences from similar initiatives within the region, networking, awareness raising campaigns, research, technical assistance through training and workshops, as well as advocacy for:

1. inclusion of vulnerable and excluded groups of children in pre-school and basic education, especially children with disabilities
2. promotion of school readiness
3. development of curriculum and standards for pre-school education
4. curriculum development for basic education, both in content and methods using experiences such as global quality education, life-skills based education, etc
5. introduction of life skills/civic education (e.g. LSBE) including human rights, child rights, health education, HIV/AIDS, drug abuse, accident and injury avoidance, violence and abuse, etc into the curriculum for adolescents (building on the experiences gained from reviewing the curriculum in order to integrate human rights, as well as building in the ongoing school-based initiative of providing counselling and support to at-risk children)
6. promotion of the child friendly school concept
7. the development of methodologies and standards to ensure and monitor learning achievements
8. Support to improve teacher training will be explored

Strategy:

Advocacy and capacity building

Main Partners:

1. Ministry of Education

Project 2.3: Health Life-styles and HIV/AIDS

Project output statements:

1. Increased knowledge base in respect to adolescents' situation, attitudes and practices
2. Increased percentage of adolescents having precise knowledge of a number of key messages on life style issues (HIV/AIDS, drugs, abuse, accident and injury prevention, etc)

Major Activities:

UNICEF's support will include sharing of experiences from similar initiatives within the region, networking, awareness raising campaigns, research, and technical assistance through training and workshops with a focus on:

1. information, education and communication activities (IEC) for healthy life-styles among adolescents including HIV/AIDS prevention in particular, but also messages on drug abuse, accident and injury avoidance, violence and abuse. Coherence with the teen health programme will be sought.
2. promoting a protective and enabling environment.
3. supporting studies, surveys and research on adolescents building on the findings from the youth survey
4. expand the partnership with media, especially television, in adolescents' participation, and in promoting life skills based attitudes and behaviour of adolescents

Strategy:

Advocacy and capacity building

Main Partners:

1. the National Commission for Childhood
2. General Organisation for Youth and Sports
3. Ministry of Social Affairs
4. Ministry of Education

5. Ministry of Health
6. Media

Programme 3: Child Protection

Executive Summary:

The **child protection** programme will address: violations of child protection rights of the most vulnerable and excluded groups of children. UNICEF support will include international expertise, sharing of experiences from the region and beyond, rapid assessments, technical assistance, training and workshops as well as advocacy.

The **strategic result** of this programme is that children, especially the most vulnerable and excluded, are better protected from violence, exploitation and abuse

Component Projects:

The child protection programme consists of one project: (1) vulnerable and excluded children.

Project 3.1: Vulnerable and Excluded Children

Project output statements:

1. Strengthened capacity to assess, analyse, and address specific violations of child protection rights among key institutions.
2. Improved system for reporting and addressing cases of child abuse.
3. Establish a minimum set of indicators for violations of children's protection rights which are specific to Bahrain.

Major Activities:

UNICEF support will include international expertise, sharing of experiences from the region and beyond, rapid assessments, technical assistance, training and workshops as well as advocacy for:

1. establishing capacity for rapid assessments of specific violations of child protection rights
2. establishing capacity to analyse and respond to specific violations of child protection rights
3. establishing early warning systems in order to prevent specific violations of child protection rights
4. improving of laws, policies and mechanisms to detect and report child abuse building on past achievements in this area.
5. developing referral systems for counselling and rehabilitation of children abused
6. continuous capacity building relevant institutions engaged in the prevention, identification, and protection of children victims of specific violations of child protection rights.
7. enhancing the use of pilot projects as a way of replication of best practices on a national scale
8. awareness raising campaigns aimed both at decision makers and the public about issues such as child abuse, child labour, domestic violence, etc.

Strategy:

advocacy and capacity building as well as service delivery in specific cases

Main Partners:

1. Ministry of Social Affairs
2. the National Commission for Childhood

Summary budget table

	<i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
<i>Programme</i>	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other Resources</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Advocacy, policy and partnerships for children's right	0	300	300
2. Early childhood care and education	0	450	450
3. Child protection	0	450	450
4. Cross-sectoral costs	0	300	300
Total	0	1 500	1 500

Part V: Partnership Strategy

Part VI: Programme Management

The Bahraini National Commission for Childhood will be the national co-ordinating body for the implementation of the programme. Based on this three year country programme action plan, annual work-plans will be developed under the supervision of the Commission and in close co-operation with the relevant line ministries. The work-plans may be revised as a consequence of annual reviews, evaluations and changes in priority needs as well as changes in the funding situation. The second annual review, scheduled for late 2008, will serve as a mid-term review as well as feeding into the preparation of the next programme cycle beginning 2010.

Part VII: Monitoring and Evaluation

A 2007-2009 integrated monitoring and evaluation plan will identify research, studies, surveys and evaluations to be undertaken through the programme. Annual monitoring and evaluation plans will detail such undertakings. Given the importance of developing monitoring and evaluation capacities within Bahrain, the programme will also assist in strengthening the national system for monitoring situation of children. DevInfo will be promoted as a tool for such monitoring.

Part VIII: Commitments of UNICEF

The UNICEF Executive Board has authorised UNICEF to seek funding to support the programmes specified in this Country Programme Action Plan, referred therein as Other Resources, to an amount equivalent to 1.5 million USD. The availability of these funds will be subject to interest in proposed projects by the Government, development funds, the private sector and non-governmental organisations. To this end, UNICEF will undertake to advocate their support within the local and international donor community.

The above funding commitments and proposals are exclusive of funding received in response to emergency appeals, which may be launched by Government or by the United Nations System in response to a Government request.

UNICEF support to the development and implementation of activities within the Country Programme Action Plan may include technical support, cash assistance, supplies and equipment, procurement services, transport, funds for advocacy, research and studies, consultancies, programme development, monitoring and evaluation, training activities and staff support. Part of UNICEF support may be provided to Non Governmental [and Civil Society] Organisations as agreed within the framework of the individual programmes.

UNICEF shall appoint project staff and consultants for programme development, programme support, technical assistance, as well as monitoring and evaluation activities.

Subject to annual reviews and progress in the implementation of the programme, UNICEF funds are distributed by calendar year and in accordance with the Country Programme Action Plan. These budgets will be reviewed and further detailed in the Annual Work Plans. By mutual consent between the Government and UNICEF, if the rate of implementation in any project is substantially below the annual estimates, funds not earmarked by donors to UNICEF for specific projects may be re-allocated to other programmatically equally worthwhile projects that are expected to achieve faster rates of execution.

UNICEF will consult with ministries and agencies concerned on timely requisition of cash assistance, supplies and equipment, or services. UNICEF will keep concerned officials informed of the movement of commodities, in order to facilitate efficient and timely clearing, warehousing and distribution.

In consultation with the Government focal co-operation department, UNICEF maintains the right to request a joint review of the use of commodities supplied but not used for the purposes specified in this Country Programme Action Plan and Annual Work Plans, for the purpose of reprogramming those commodities within the framework of the CPAP.

Where UN agencies other than UNICEF are supporting the same partner, programme monitoring, financial monitoring and auditing will be undertaken jointly or co-ordinated with those UN agencies.

Part IX: Commitments of the Government

[Where Government agrees]: When organising periodic programme review and planning meetings, including annual reviews, annual planning meetings and the Mid-Term Review, Government shall encourage and facilitate the participation of donors, United Nations agencies, members of the UNICEF Executive Board, non-governmental organisation or civil society organisations, as appropriate.

The Government will provide all personnel, premises, supplies, technical assistance and funds, recurring and non-recurring support, necessary for the programme, except as provided by UNICEF and/or other United Nations agencies, international organisations or bilateral agencies, or non-governmental organisations. *[Some countries manage to quantify the Government contributions. Any important expected in-kind contributions should be mentioned.]*

[exact language]: The Government will support UNICEF's efforts to raise funds required to meet the financial needs of the Programme of Co-operation and will co-operate with UNICEF by: encouraging potential donor government to make available to UNICEF the funds needed to implement the unfunded components of the programme; endorsing UNICEF's effort to raise funds for the programme from the private sector both internationally and in Bahrain; and by permitting contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations in Bahrain to support this programme which will be tax exempt. *[where applicable, the text may refer also to Greeting Card and products operations]*

A standard Fund Authorisation and Certificate of Expenditures (FACE) report, reflecting the activity lines of the Annual Work Plan (AWP), will be used by Implementing Partners to request the release of funds, or to secure the agreement that UNICEF will reimburse or directly pay for planned expenditure. The Implementing Partners will use the FACE to report on the utilisation of cash received.

The Implementing Partner shall provide the account details and identify the designated officials authorised to request and receive resources. Cash resources received shall be used in accordance with established national regulations and international standards, in particular ensuring that cash is expended for activities as agreed in the AWP, and ensuring that reports on the full utilisation of all received cash are submitted to UNICEF within six months after receipt of the funds. (Where any of the national regulations are disagreeable to the UN agencies, a modified regulation may be described here).

To facilitate scheduled and special audits, each Implementing Partner planned to receive cash transfers from UNICEF will provide designated auditors, and other individuals authorised by the agencies and partner, timely access to: all financial records which establish the transactional record of the cash transfers provided by UNICEF; all relevant documentation and personnel associated with the functioning of the Implementing Partner's internal control structure through which the cash transfers have passed.

The findings of each audit will be reported to the Implementing Partner and copied to UNICEF. Each Implementing Partner will furthermore: Receive and review the audit report issued by the auditors; Provide a timely statement of the acceptance or rejection of any audit recommendation to UNICEF that provided cash (and where the SAI conducted the audit, add: "and to the SAI"); Undertake timely actions to address the accepted audit recommendations; Report on the actions taken to implement accepted recommendations to the UN agencies (and where the SAI conducted the audit, add: "and to the SAI"), on a quarterly basis" (or as locally agreed).

In accordance with the BCA, the Government will be responsible for the clearance, receipt, warehousing, distribution and accounting of supplies and equipment made available by UNICEF. No taxes, fees, tolls or duties shall be levied on supplies, equipment, or services furnished by UNICEF under this Country Programme Action Plan. [Where appropriate]: UNICEF shall also be exempt from Value Added Tax (VAT) in respect of local procurement of supplies or services procured in support of UNICEF assisted programmes.

Cash assistance for travel, stipends, honoraria and other costs shall be set at rates commensurate with those applied in the country, but not higher than those applicable to the United Nations System (as stated in the ICSC circulars).

The Government will authorise the publication through various national and international media of the results of the Programme of Co-operation, and experiences derived from it.

As per the provision of the BCA, the Government will be responsible for dealing with any claims, which may be brought by third parties against UNICEF and its officials, advisors and agents. UNICEF and its officials, advisors and agents will not be held responsible for any claims and liabilities resulting from operations under this agreement, except where it is mutually agreed by Government and UNICEF that such claims and liabilities arise from gross negligence or misconduct of such advisors, agents or employees.

[If required]: Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Government shall insure or indemnify UNICEF from civil liability under the law of the country in respect of project vehicles under the control of or use by the Government.

Part X: Other Provisions

This Country Programme Action Plan [and the Programme Plans of Operation annexed hereto/which form volume II of this agreement – where applicable] shall supersede any previously signed Master Plan of Operations [or Country Programme Action Plan – as appropriate] and become effective upon signature, but will be understood to cover programme activities to be implemented during the period from 01 January 2007 through 31 December 2009.

The Country Programme Action Plan [and Programme Plans of Operations annexed hereto/which form volume II of this agreement – where applicable] may be modified by mutual consent of the Government and UNICEF, based on the outcome of the annual reviews, the Mid Term Review or compelling circumstances.

Nothing in this Country Programme Action Plan shall in any way be construed to waive the protection of UNICEF accorded by the contents and substance of the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 13 February 1946, to which the Government of Bahrain is a signatory. [if possible, include reference to this ratification, for instance a date]

IN WITNESS THEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised, have signed this Country Programme Action Plan on this [day of month] day of [month, year] in [name of city, name of country].

For the Government of Bahrain

For the United Nations Children’s Fund

(Name, Title)

(Name, Title)