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Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Belize

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Belize 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 \$4,125,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$4,375,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2017 to 2021.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD that was shared 12 weeks before the second regular session of 2016.

* [E/ICEF/2016/13](#).



Programme rationale

1. The preparation of the country programme of cooperation between UNICEF and the Government of Belize comes at an opportune time. The launch of the Sustainable Development Goals provided a global framework within which the country programme has been aligned with the national goals and priorities. Similarly, at the regional level, the country programme draws from such development initiatives as the Caribbean Community Strategic Plan 2015-2019 and the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway. Furthermore, Belize has adopted an ambitious national development agenda, expressed in the National Development Framework for Belize: Horizon 2030, and the Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019, which guided the preparation of this country programme.

2. For the first time, the country programme has been prepared as part of a regional effort to identify joint priorities affecting 17 English- and Dutch-speaking countries of the Caribbean. The key regional priority areas were identified in the United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework, which is aimed at enhancing development results and impact by combining the comparative advantages of the United Nations system within a single strategic framework. Similarly, UNICEF identified common regional priority areas to be addressed by the respective country programmes in the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean. This alignment is aimed to achieve a greater coherence of interventions, creating an environment for expedited knowledge exchange, enhanced programmatic visibility and impact and increased opportunity for regional resource mobilization initiatives.

3. The country is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and the effects of climate change, realities that were central in the formulation of the programme. Belize, incurs around 4 per cent loss of gross domestic product (GDP) due to natural disasters. Almost two in five Belizeans live in coastal areas including the islands (*cayes*), where the risk of flooding is higher due to rising sea levels, changing rainfall patterns and storm intensity. Furthermore, the negative effect of climate change on the stability of food and commodity prices was considered, given the prevalence of poverty and vulnerability in the country.

4. Belize is an open economy, with growth that ranged from 3 to 6 per cent between 2000 and 2013, and is highly dependent on fiscal spending and global economic trends.¹ Social and economic inequalities persist despite the country's upper-middle-income status. Poverty, which affects children disproportionately in terms of their growth and development, is high in Belize. There are significant disparities between urban and rural populations in a number of domains, including poverty, with the poorest 40 per cent of the population living mostly in rural areas. Poverty levels in the rural areas are twice the levels in urban areas (43 compared with 21 per cent) as a result of the lower education levels of the heads of households, the lower participation of women in the paid labour market and the larger proportion of ethnic minorities. Households with more children suffer higher deprivation rates; a child living in a household of four children is twice as likely to live in extreme poverty as a child in a household with one or two children.²

5. Data on poverty is not collected regularly, creating a barrier to the implementation of anti-poverty measures. The Government, in line with the language of the Sustainable

¹ World Bank Group, Systematic Country Diagnostics, January 2016.

² Country Poverty Assessment, 2009.

Development Goals, has been working towards improving the availability of data on multidimensional poverty with the aim of achieving and measuring progress towards reducing poverty. Such information could assist in the targeting and enhancing of social-protection measures, including the implementation of conditional cash transfer programmes.³

6. In recent years, considerable progress has been made in the area of early childhood development (ECD). In 2011, only 32 per cent of children between the ages of 36 and 59 months attended an early childhood education (ECE) programme, but 55 per cent attended by 2015. Disparities persist, however, as only one in five of the poorest children attend ECE; the Cayo district has the lowest ECE attendance rate, at 36 per cent. Further success is contingent upon the removal of barriers to the supply of services, such as a sufficient number of qualified professionals and the greater integration of the different ECD components. The recent adoption of a national ECD policy demonstrates the Government's commitment to strengthening ECD services.

7. An increased focus on secondary education resulted in an increase in the transition rate to secondary school to nearly 100 per cent, and attendance rates increased from 55 per cent in 2011 to 60 per cent in 2015. The secondary school dropout rate is 8 per cent, but disproportionately affects boys as compared with girls (10.3 versus 6.5 per cent). Only 60 per cent and 50 per cent of rural students have satisfactory levels of performance in English and mathematics, respectively, almost 20 per cent less than urban students, who sit the Caribbean Secondary Examinations for both subjects.

8. The lack of significant progress in increasing primary-school completion is of concern, with the completion rate remaining at around 75 per cent for the past five years. Violence in and around schools remains an issue, while repetition and dropouts also increased, with boys disproportionately affected. In the period 2013-2014, repetition rates in primary education stood at 7.4 per cent for boys and 5.4 per cent for girls,⁴ resulting in nearly 20 per cent of students taking two additional years to complete primary school. Gains previously made in ensuring child-friendly schools and providing quality education need to be reaffirmed through equity-focused interventions.

9. Children with disabilities are among the most vulnerable. Thirty-six per cent of children aged 2 to 9 years were at risk of having one or more disabilities, whether physical, auditory, visual or learning. The Constitution prohibits discrimination on the grounds of disability, but this prohibition is not reflected in legislation. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports maintains an educational unit that offers limited special-education programs within the regular school system. There are two schools and four special education centres for children with disabilities. The social-protection schemes lack a disability focus, leaving this vulnerable population uncovered. A mapping of services conducted by the Ministry of Human Development, Social Transformation and Poverty Alleviation is aimed addressing this gap, and the implementation of relevant recommendations will be supported by the country programme.

10. Significant progress has been achieved in reducing child mortality over the past years. The under-five mortality rate decreased to 19.3 per 1,000 live births in 2015 and the

³ Data from the Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean, "Social Panorama of Latin America" briefing paper, 2012 and 2015, based on multiple-indicator cluster surveys (MICS) conducted in 2006 and 2011, respectively.

⁴ Abstract of education statistics, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, 2015.

number of children that die before the age of 1 year has been reduced by 56 per cent since 1990. The progress in this area is a reflection of the considerable investment of resources and a commitment by a variety of stakeholders to address child mortality. Stunting, which is closely related to poverty and inequity, remains high in Belize, though improvements over the past five years have been noted, with the prevalence decreasing from 19.3 to 15 per cent. However, the stunting prevalence in rural areas is higher (17.5 per cent compared with 10.5 per cent) and extremely high in the southernmost district of Toledo (33 per cent).

11. In Belize, the non-registration of births of children is more pronounced in communities with limited access to birth registration facilities. Improvements in the system have been made in recent years, and in 2013, UNICEF and Vital Statistics embarked on a birth registration campaign, which registered previously unregistered children. However, 4 per cent of children remain unregistered. Children from poor families and those in rural areas are less likely to be registered, pointing at significant bottlenecks in terms of access and cost. Without birth certificates, children are deprived of access to certain essential services, jeopardizing their growth and development.

12. The prevalence of HIV among the population aged 15 to 49 years is estimated at 1.4 per cent. According to the Ministry of Health, in 2013, approximately 17 per cent of new HIV infections were to youth aged 15 to 24 years. The number of infected men is 50 per cent higher than that of infected women. The prevalence rate among pregnant women decreased from 0.81 per cent in 2009 to 0.31 per cent in 2012. Comprehensive knowledge among adolescents about HIV/AIDS has not increased, hovering at around 45 per cent. The newly adopted National Prevention Strategy for Adolescents and Youth 2015-2020 contains a series of recommendations to reach at-risk populations and inform the public about HIV/AIDS, strengthen adolescent health services and improve the capacities of service providers.

13. Crime and violence are major challenges, placing Belize among countries in the world with the highest homicide rates, with an average of 40 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants. Belize City recorded consistently rising homicide rates during the period 2007-2012, from 65.1 to 105.1 per 100,000 inhabitants. Children and young people are directly targeted and recruited by gangs, and many children get involved in violence at an early age. The National Women's Commission identifies the presence of gender-based violence in Belize encompassing child abuse, domestic violence, the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, commercial sex work, human trafficking, rape and sexual assault. Addressing violence in all its forms is high on the government agenda, with UNICEF playing a key role in ensuring the effective protection of children's rights in all anti-violence initiatives.

14. A number of initiatives, including a public campaign and programmes implemented by civil society and Government, with UNICEF support, have been aimed at changing social norms regarding the acceptance of violence as an appropriate discipline method. These have contributed towards a slight reduction in the number of children who have experienced any form of violent discipline method, from 70.5 per cent in 2011 to 65 per cent in 2015. However, the number of children experiencing severe physical punishment has increased to 6.5 per cent, providing valuable lessons that indicate the need to focus future efforts to ensure knowledge and the application of positive disciplinary practices.

15. Closely related to the issue of violence is access to justice. To date, specialized child justice facilities remain limited, leaving the majority of children without adequate access to the justice system. There is a widespread perception that adolescents, especially boys, are perpetrators of crime, in spite of evidence to the contrary (only 9 per cent of crimes in 2014

were committed by minors). The police recently instituted a curfew for all children in Belize City between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., a controversial measure that garnered significant public support.

16. Currently, the Family Court lacks sufficient human and financial resources, equipment and child-friendly spaces to guarantee full respect for children's rights. This has led to the re-victimization of children by their having to repeat their testimony on multiple occasions and in intimidating environments, without the necessary support from parents, social workers and legal representatives. The lack of resources also contributes to high levels of impunity in Belize. The country has established the first child-friendly family court, with plans to build one more in 2016 and additional ones in each district in the medium term. This has created conditions for children to provide testimony in a protective environment and it is expected to lead to the reduction of crime and levels of impunity and the prevention of the re-victimization of children. The success of this measure will depend on the continued commitment and investment of all stakeholders.

17. The need for more quality, disaggregated, regularly collected data has been mentioned in all national strategic planning documents. Data is key to effective child rights monitoring as well as for monitoring progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The latest report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child was submitted in 2004, and several initiatives to present a new country report since then have been unsuccessful. Support will be required in order to meet the country's reporting obligations and obtain guidance from the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women for further improvement in the situation of girls, boys and adolescents.

Programme priorities and partnerships

18. On the basis of the principles of equity and human rights, the country programme will support Belize in meeting the highest international standards of respect, protection and the fulfilment of children's rights. The programme is aimed at complementing the country's efforts in progressing to the fulfilment of the child-related Sustainable Development Goals and related regional and national development goals affecting children and their families. The proposed actions in this programme are strictly aligned with the regional United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework goals, contributing to the implementation of all four outcome areas: An inclusive, equitable and prosperous Caribbean; A sustainable and resilient Caribbean; A cohesive, safe and just Caribbean; and A healthy Caribbean.

19. The programme will contribute directly towards the achievement of the goals under the following strategic priorities, as outlined in the Horizon 2030 development framework: (a) Democratic governance for effective public administration and sustainable development; (b) Education for Development – Education for Life and Lifelong Learning; and (c) Economic resilience: Generating resources for long-term development. Finally, the programme is in line with the critical success factors of the Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy, namely, enhanced social cohesion and resilience and enhanced governance and citizen security.

20. Establishing effective partnerships will be essential to the achievement of these strategic objectives with, as the main partner, the Government of Belize through its line ministries and agencies responsible for the priority areas. In the context of the Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework, partnerships with regional organizations

will be established to facilitate knowledge exchange and South-South collaboration, avoid the duplication of efforts and ensure that common objectives are achieved effectively and efficiently. Lastly, a key strategy of this programme is to establish and nurture partnerships with the civil society organizations (CSOs) that continue to play a key role in many child rights-focused activities.

21. UNICEF will closely partner with selected private-sector entities that share and embody child-rights principles. In the context of a middle-income country, collaboration with the private sector is paramount, as it provides access to alternative financing for child-related programmes, new and innovative ways to ensure that children's rights are realized through the promotion of corporate social responsibility, and the implementation of actions in line with the Child Rights and Business Principles.⁵

22. In line with the National Gender Policy and the UNICEF Gender Action Plan, 2014-2017, the programme will contribute to the prevention and elimination of gender-based violence, implement gender responsive ECD and education programmes, promote gender-responsive adolescent health and support gender-responsive legislation and policies relating to social protection, child budgeting and child-rights monitoring.

Child rights monitoring and reducing multidimensional poverty

23. Through this component, UNICEF aims to support the country in addressing issues of poverty affecting children and their families in all of its dimensions and strengthening data management and evidence generation for the purpose of child-rights monitoring and reporting, as well as for monitoring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. This approach underlines the importance of the non-monetary poverty measurements that can reveal additional inequities and help develop more effective anti-poverty programmes. These non-monetary aspects are nationally defined and typically include, but are not limited to: access to quality housing, water and sanitation, education, health or participation. Belize is developing and adopting a national multi-dimensional poverty index based on the data collected from multiple indicator cluster surveys (MICS) in 2015, in view of meeting the Sustainable Development Goal targets and for practical implementation in identifying and targeting social programmes addressing multidimensional poverty.

24. The information and evidence generated from the data collection and research activities will be used to provide support for the development of an integrated social protection system to address multiple deprivations and gender inequalities faced by children and their families across the life cycle. Since the system will be cross-sectoral, the programme will establish multi-sector partnerships to build coherence and provide a coordinated response to the needs of the most vulnerable children, including those affected by the impact of climate change.

25. The programme will also contribute towards removing identified bottlenecks and barriers to increase and improve investments in children. The ongoing assessment of the public expenditure destined to children will result in an agreed methodology for identifying, measuring and reporting on gender-sensitive child-focused public investments. This will facilitate the efforts of the Ministry of Finance to improve allocative efficiency and the effectiveness of investing for children.

⁵ The Child Rights and Business Principles were developed jointly by UNICEF, Save the Children and the United Nations Global Compact in 2012.

26. The programme will also contribute towards enhancing the national capacity for data collection, management and dissemination, as well as for data use and the regular generation of evidence-based analyses of the situation of children. The programme will provide technical and financial support to government and non-government partners, through partnerships with centres of excellence in the region, and by facilitating South-South collaboration to stimulate knowledge exchange on the implementation of enhanced disaggregated data collection and dissemination mechanisms.

Lifelong learning

27. This programme component takes a gender-perspective and human rights-based approach to inclusive, integrated social services across the life cycle, from maternal and child health interventions and quality ECD to relevant pre-schooling and primary and secondary education and for lifelong learning skills. With a focus on the reduction of disparities and the elimination of inequities, the national frameworks, policies and standards will be strengthened for the effective implementation of inclusive child and adolescent development strategies, with improved planning, monitoring and disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness.

28. The programme will address the gaps in services for children with disabilities as well as in parenting support to quality early learning experiences for all children. Uneven public expenditure without a clear rationale as to unit costs and rates of return to different levels of schooling, the efficiency of budget allocation and disproportionate spending on teacher salaries remain pressing issues. UNICEF will continue to provide support to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports to enhance the quality of investment in public education in order to achieve improved educational outcomes.

29. UNICEF will also support the Ministry and other key stakeholders to strengthen the organizational capacity to deliver equitable, inclusive and relevant education services, emphasizing (a) child-friendly school principles; (b) improved connectedness to schools (parental engagement, stakeholder buy-in); and (c) national standards for quality and inclusive learning.

30. The programme will also support and monitor the implementation of national standards to increase access to and retention in quality secondary education, including student support services, curriculum revision and the improvement of teaching practices. On the basis of the findings of an ongoing national study on out-of-school children, UNICEF will support the Government to implement a set of recommendations to strengthen the tracking system to monitor students' attendance in primary and secondary schools. This will entail the use of strategies to foster sustained changes in the behaviour of children and a focus on the effective participation of adolescents and the gender barriers constraining their access to and completion of secondary education.

Safety and justice for children

31. The third programme component will focus on three priority areas: (a) reducing violence against children; (b) strengthening the child justice system; and (c) enhancing the child protection system.

32. The programme will work towards the comprehensive reform of the child justice system. It will ensure that institutions responsible for the delivery of equitable justice are strengthened and that child-friendly justice spaces are functional. The planned interventions

will respond directly to the recommendations made in the “Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Belize 2016”, including the staffing of juvenile courts with trained social workers in each district, the expansion of family courts into the districts and the development of protocols and procedures to take statements from children who are witnesses, victims and perpetrators.

33. The programme will also focus on preventing violence against children by reducing the many factors that make children of all ages vulnerable to violence, particularly gender-based violence. Efforts will primarily target adolescents (aged 10-17 years) with positive alternatives to violence through community-based programmes that include life and livelihood skills, sports for development and after-school support.

34. Additionally, because children under the age of 3 years are at the greatest risk for neglect, unresponsive care, severe injury and death from abuse, the programme will have a particular focus on this age group by empowering key actors across multiple sectors to provide services targeting these children and their families. This programme will provide substantive support for Care for Child Development initiatives and the development of key prevention messages.

35. The programme will continue efforts around the ongoing Campaign to End Violence against Children, aimed at changing public perceptions about violence against children and reducing its acceptance, by addressing social and cultural norms conducive to violence.

36. The programme will continue to strengthen a human rights-based child protection system that promotes children’s development throughout the lifecycle. It will also support the inter-sectorial Child Protection Taskforce, whose mandate is to develop strategies to work with lawmakers and opinion-shapers at the national level, while promoting positive social norms and behaviours at the community level.

37. Additionally, a key component within this priority area will be the reduction of the number of children in institutions by the provision of support to the Government to strengthen laws and policies to fully integrate the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children. This will assist in the development of social-protection services to support and strengthen families to prevent separation and support family reintegration.

38. Lastly, UNICEF will work with main stakeholders to eliminate the bottlenecks preventing universal birth registration. Around 4 per cent of children remain unregistered, signalling the need to focus on increasing awareness about the importance of birth registration as well as removing administrative and financial barriers to birth registration. The programme will also support the implementation of the recommendations based on the findings of the ongoing bottleneck analysis.

Programme effectiveness

39. This component will support all activities relating to programme implementation and management, including technical and strategic assistance. It covers the cost of programme coordination and cross-cutting issues, such as programme performance monitoring, fundraising, advocacy and communication, gender mainstreaming and disaster risk reduction and resilience.

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> |
| Child rights monitoring and reducing multidimensional poverty | 1 600 | 575 | 2 175 |
| Lifelong learning | 1 025 | 1 875 | 2 900 |
| Safety and justice for children | 1 150 | 1 775 | 2 925 |
| Programme effectiveness | 350 | 150 | 500 |
| Total | 4 125 | 4 375 | 8 500 |

Programme and risk management

40. 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.

41. The programme is informed by data and evidence and aims to address child-rights priorities throughout the country. Programme interventions will be aimed at addressing disparities and inequities at all levels. Specific interventions will be supported subnationally, with the aim of influencing government policies and providing evidence for programme interventions that can be scaled up and replicated nationally. Taking into account the nature of results of the programme, UNICEF will encourage information exchange on supported programmes across the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean and identify priorities for multi-country activities, programmes and evaluations.

42. The programme will continue to address child rights at the central, regional and local levels. Effective management of the programme necessitates frequent travel and monitoring of the interventions implemented by partners out of the districts. The harmonized approach to cash transfers policy will be fully implemented.

43. The programme is aligned with the Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework and the priority areas form a part of the country implementation plans developed jointly with the Government and other United Nations agencies in the country and implemented by joint programme management teams and operation management teams. UNICEF programme and operational management will be provided through regular reviews. UNICEF will enhance the quality of programming, effectiveness and efficiency by means of the regular monitoring of the progress, together with Government and other partners, aimed at the early detection of potential implementation bottlenecks and the definition of effective mitigation measures.

44. A common risk for the programme is presented by the potential deterioration of the global economic situation, which might divert attention and resources away from achieving the goals of the country programme. Traditionally, funding for primarily policy-level

activities in the area of social protection, social inclusion and child-rights monitoring has been lower than for other areas. Therefore, the country office will allocate a greater portion of its regular resources towards these areas, while directing the other resources towards child protection and education, areas that traditionally receive more external funding.

45. Another potential risk arises from the country's limited capacity for results-based management and reporting. In response, significant efforts will be directed towards the identification of international expertise, capacity-building, South-South cooperation and technical assistance, which will be used in the implementation of all activities, while ensuring that national capacities for results-based management and reporting are in place.

46. A significant external risk to the implementation of the programme is posed by the high likelihood of natural disasters and the impact of climate change. The valuable lessons learned during the flood emergencies and the UNICEF-supported response in 2015 as well as in previous emergencies were taken into account in the programme, which will ensure that emergency actions and contingencies are embedded in the workplans and agreements with national stakeholders.

Monitoring and evaluation

47. The results and resources framework will form the basis for monitoring and evaluation. Programmatic workplans, annual management plan indicators and the online Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, along with the accompanying costed evaluation plan, define all priority monitoring, research and evaluation activities.

48. UNICEF mid-year and annual reviews will be used to assess progress and make programmatic adjustments. Regular UNICEF-specific programme visits, as well as joint programme monitoring field visits with other United Nations organizations and government partners, will be conducted to verify and discuss progress on achieved results. Quarterly inter-agency programmatic meetings will be used to consolidate inputs for Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework monitoring and reporting.

49. The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals reinforce the need to monitor closely the situation of boys and girls, including the development of disaggregated information on the most disadvantaged and excluded, to inform decision-making on the investments needed and the implementation of policies and programmes to improve their wellbeing. Underpinning all programme areas will be support for data collection and information on the status of women and children to inform strategic decision-making and support the Government to establish baselines for the set of new Sustainable Development Goal indicators and measure progress toward the country's targets.

50. Multiple disaggregation of data across all poverty dimensions will give visibility to existing disparities, multidimensional poverty and gaps in equity faced by children, so that specific pro-child policies and programmes can be implemented, reviewed and adjusted.

51. With partners, UNICEF will establish knowledge-management systems that facilitate access to data on children and women and support quality, timely national reporting on international human rights conventions (Convention on the Rights of the Child, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, universal periodic review) and follow up their recommendations. The systematic management and dissemination of the information will be supported to end the invisibility of children whose rights are systematically violated. Guided by a monitoring strategy, UNICEF will support the continuous use of information from administrative sources, surveys, evaluations and

research as well as from new sources, such as big data or data from crowdsourcing or U-Report, by decision-makers at all levels to generate consensus on the need for strengthened policies, enhanced resource allocations, gender equality and sustained investments in children and women.

52. The formulation of the National Plan of Action for Children 2016-2030 will support the establishment of an interministerial monitoring and evaluation committee which will oversee and coordinate the multi-sector implementation of pro-child policies and monitoring and evaluation.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Belize - UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2017-2021

| |
|---|
| <p>Convention on the Rights of the Child: articles 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26-29, 30-38 and 40-54</p> <p>National priorities: (related Sustainable Development Goals; other internationally recognized goals; and/or national goals)</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goals: 1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 16 and 17</p> <p>Horizon 2030 strategy: Democratic governance for effective public administration and sustainable development; Education for Development– Education for Life; Economic resilience: generating resources for long-term development; The Bricks and the Mortar: Healthy Citizens and a Healthy Environment</p> <p>National Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy: Critical Success Factor 2: enhance social cohesion and resilience; Critical Success Factor 3: sustained or improved health of natural, environmental historical and cultural assets; Critical Success Factor 4: enhance governance and citizen security</p> |
| <p>UNDAF outcomes involving UNICEF:</p> <p>Priority area 1: An inclusive, equitable and prosperous Caribbean Access to quality education and lifelong learning increased, for enhanced employability and decent and sustainable work opportunities Access to equitable social protection systems, quality services improved</p> <p>Priority area 2: A sustainable and resilient Caribbean Policies and programmes for climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and universal access to clean and sustainable energy in place Inclusive and sustainable solutions adopted for the conservation, restoration and use of ecosystems and natural resources</p> <p>Priority area 3: A cohesive, safe and just Caribbean Capacities of public policy and rule of law institutions and civil society organizations strengthened Equitable access to justice, protection, citizen security and safety reinforced</p> <p>Priority area 4: A healthy Caribbean Access to quality healthcare services and systems strengthened Laws, policies and systems introduced to support healthy lifestyles among all segments of the population</p> |
| <p>Related UNICEF Strategic Plan outcome(s):</p> <p>Outcome 1: Health; Outcome 2: HIV/AIDS; Outcome 3: Water, sanitation and hygiene; Outcome 4: Nutrition; Outcome 5: Education; Outcome 6: Child protection; Outcome 7: Social inclusion</p> |

| UNICEF outcomes | Key progress indicators, baselines and targets | 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 |
| 1. By 2021, national systems and policies effectively address multiple deprivations affecting the most vulnerable boys and girls across the lifecycle and build their resilience, through adequately funded social investments and rights-based quality social policies based on adequately disaggregated data on children. | <p>Proportion of children covered by social protection systems of the total children targeted by social protection systems</p> <p>Baseline (2015): 52% (estimated coverage of indigent poor children) Target (2021): 90%</p> | <p>Independent evaluation reports, national government and non-governmental organization reports</p> | <p>1.1 Strengthened national and subnational human and institutional capacities to develop and deliver inclusive and equitable social-protection systems to strengthen the resilience of and protect boys and girls from all forms of poverty and social exclusion</p> <p>1.2 Improved national and subnational capacities to systematically collect, analyse and use disaggregated data and other forms of information to monitor, inform policy decisions and report on the situation of children and child poverty in all of its dimensions, using an equity-based approach</p> <p>1.3 Enhanced national systems that govern the volume, efficiency and impact of invested resources towards building the resilience of the most vulnerable boys, girls and adolescents</p> | <p>Ministry of Human Development Social Transformation and Poverty Alleviation , United Nations agencies, Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, World Bank, Statistical Institute of Belize, Ministry of Labour Local Government and Rural Development</p> | 1 600 | 575 | 2 175 |
| | <p>Social expenditure for the sectors: social protection, health, education and ECD, as a percentage of GDP and budget</p> <p>Baselines (2015): Education: 7.03% of GDP; 20.1% of budget Health: 3.39% of GDP, 9.69% of budget ECD and social protection baselines to be established in August 2016</p> | <p>National budget execution data</p> | | | | | |

| UNICEF outcomes | Key progress indicators, baselines and targets | 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 |
| | Targets (2021): 20% increase in each sector | | | | | | |
| | Number of children, by sex, covered by the social protection system Baseline (2015): 3,000 (households) Target (2021): 6,000 (households) | Collected annually by the Ministry of Human Development Social Transformation and Poverty Alleviation using the FamCare Beneficiaries database | | | | | |
| 2. By 2021, national legislation is implemented to prevent, mitigate and address violence and other childhood abuses and the justice, education, public health, security and other sectors observe children's rights to this protection. | Girls (15-17 years) who have ever experienced sexual violence Baseline (2015): 401 (2015) Target (2021): 20% reduction | Ministry of Human Development Social Transformation and Poverty Alleviation | 2.1 Increased country capacity to promote and ensure justice and systems that enable the prevention and treatment of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect 2.2. Strengthened political commitment to legislate and budget for strengthening interventions that prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect 2.3.Increased capacity of rights holders and duty bearers to foster positive practices and norms to protect children from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect | Supreme Court, Family Court, Legal Aid Department, RESTORE Belize, Department of Human Services, Department of Police, Child Development Foundation, Vital Statistics Unit, Belize Cane Farmers Association, Labour Department | 1 150 | 1 775 | 2 925 |
| | Children in detention per 1,000 child population child population Baseline (2015): 100 (2015) Target: (2021) 20% reduction | Calculated annually from population estimates and administrative records, Ministry of Human Development Social Transformation and | | | | | |

| UNICEF outcomes | Key progress indicators, baselines and targets | 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 |
| | | Poverty Alleviation, FamCare | | | | | |
| | Children (0-17 years) living in residential care, with disaggregated target ages and a specific target for children 0 to 3 years Baseline (2015): 75 boys and 105 girls (2015) Target (2021): 20% reduction | Child activity survey, Labour Department database | | | | | |
| | Children (1-14 years) who experience violent disciplinary practices Baseline (2015): 65% Target (2021): 30% reduction | MICS | | | | | |
| 3. By 2021, the most disadvantaged boys, girls and adolescents have improved their education and developmental outcomes and access equitable and inclusive learning environments across the life cycle, including in emergencies. | Percentage of students who are overage for grade in primary education, by gender Baseline (2015): 7.5% (6.2% girls; 8.6% boys;) Target (2021): 4% | Administrative data | 3.1. Strengthened national frameworks, policies, plans and standards to increase access to high-quality, equitable, inclusive and holistic ECD, learning and care environments for girls and boys (0-8 years) and their families by 2021, including in emergencies. | Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Human Development Social Transformation and Poverty Alleviation National Committee for Families and Children | 1 025 | 1 875 | 2 900 |
| | Percentage of children (36-59 months) who are on track in at least three of four development domains, total and disaggregated (as relevant) by gender, poorest quintile, urban/rural Baseline (2015): 82.5% (to be disaggregated in June 2016) Target: (2021): 90% | MICS; administrative data | 3.2 Enhanced capacity of national and subnational entities in education planning, collection and use of data, system monitoring and budgeting to provide equitable, inclusive and relevant education for all children and adolescents by 2021 | | | | |

| UNICEF outcomes | Key progress indicators, baselines and targets | 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 |
| | Gross enrolment ratio in pre-primary education, by gender Baseline (2015): 43.5% (43.8% girls; 43.2% boys) Target (2021): 60% (boys and girls) | Administrative data | 3.3. Strengthened organizational capacity of key stakeholders to design and deliver equitable, inclusive and relevant education services, transitioning strategies and protective learning environments, including in emergencies, for all children and adolescents, within rights-based educational frameworks and principles by 2021 | | | | |
| | Percentage of students experience bullying, corporal punishment, harassment, violence, sexual discrimination and abuse Baseline (2015): To be established in 2016 Target (2021): reduction of 50% | Administrative data; specialized surveys | | | | | |
| | Lower-secondary-education completion rate by gender Baseline (2015): 63.5% (69.1% girls; 58.1% boys) Target (2021): 40% | Administrative data | | | | | |
| 4. Programme effectiveness | Number of participatory annual reviews conducted during the programme cycle Baseline: 1 per year Target: 1 per year | UNICEF monitoring | 4.1 Key children's and women's issues are brought to the attention of target audiences for advocacy and resource mobilization. | Line ministries, United Nations agencies, regional/international organizations, CSOs | 350 | 150 | 500 |
| Total resources | | | | | 4 125 | 4 375 | 8 500 |