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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Mongolia

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Mongolia 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 \$4,500,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$52,900,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2023 to 2027.

* [E/ICEF/2022/22](#).

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



Programme rationale

1. With a population of 3.3 million,¹ Mongolia is home to 1.15 million children, 780,000 youth and adolescents and more than 100,000 people with disabilities.² Over the past three decades, the country has progressively improved its social indicators, while substantially strengthening democratic institutions and tripling the value of its economy. The national Human Development Index rating has also improved, reaching 0.74 (2019) and placing the country in the high human development category. Mongolia has ratified major human and labour rights instruments and cooperates with human rights mechanisms.

2. Economic growth has been substantial but volatile due to fluctuations in the mining sector: since 2009, the annual gross domestic product (GDP) has fluctuated between a contraction of 1.3 per cent and a growth of 17 per cent. In 2020, GDP contracted 4.5 per cent due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, although it rebounded in 2021.³ Social protection spending marked an upward trend, reaching 11.83 per cent in 2021, but spending on health and education remains below global averages (3.55 per cent and 3.05 per cent, respectively).

3. More than one in four people (27.8 per cent) were living below the national poverty line in 2020.⁴ The prevalence of poverty was higher in rural areas (30.5 per cent) compared with urban areas (26.5 per cent)⁵ and higher in provinces without major extractive industries. Monetary poverty has been modestly dropping by 1.8 percentage points from the value recorded in 2016 (29.6 per cent). While the onset of COVID-19 has slowed the pace of poverty reduction, the Government has maintained its high level of spending in the social sector, and a large domestic relief package, including increased transfers for the child money and food stamp programmes, has helped to mitigate the impact of the pandemic in terms of poverty levels. Social protection programmes have high coverage, although their effectiveness is constrained by limitations in system coordination and coherence, shock-responsiveness, data on system performance and capacity to reach those most in need.

4. Mongolia has made approximately 63.8 per cent of the progress necessary to achieve all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. This is below the East and South Asia regional average (65.7 per cent).⁶ The country has made progress on many targets, including poverty reduction and education, while moderately improving in gender equality, health, decent work and clean energy, and lagging behind in zero hunger, sustainable cities, infrastructure, climate action, life on land, and peace and institutions. The Mongolia Vision 2050 policy, approved by the Parliament in May 2020, sets the strategic direction for the country to make further progress in these areas.

5. Over the past two decades, Mongolia has made significant progress in maternal and child health. Between 2000 and 2019, the under-5 mortality rate decreased from 42 to 16 per 1,000 live births, while the infant mortality rate dropped from 33 to 13 per 1,000 live births. Maternal mortality also decreased, from 155 per 100,000 live births in 2000 to 45 in 2017. Immunization coverage is close to universal (95 per cent). However, there are large geographical disparities in available equipment and qualified doctors between urban and rural areas. There is an increased

¹ United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), *The State of the World's Children 2021*, October 2021.

² Mongolia National Statistics Office [website](#).

³ World Bank, Global dataset queried in March 2022.

⁴ National Statistics Office of Mongolia and the World Bank, 2020 Household Socio-Economic Survey.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ [Sustainable Development Report 2021 \(sdgindex.org\)](#).

risk of non-communicable diseases, injuries and environmental risks, especially from air pollution.

6. Mental health is a public health concern: suicide accounts for more than one in five deaths (21 per cent) among adolescents, with 72 per cent of suicides committed by boys.⁷ Knowledge and skills for supporting mental health are limited among both young people and parents.

7. One in three children with a disability have never received an official assessment, and more than 70 per cent of their parents indicate that they are not aware of such an assessment.⁸

8. The prevalence of chronic malnutrition among children under the age of 5 years declined from 25 per cent to 9.4 per cent between 2000 and 2017, but obesity has dramatically increased, especially among poorer, urban children. More than one quarter (29 per cent) of all school-age children (6–11 years) are overweight or obese, compared with 4.3 per cent in 2004.⁹ Micronutrient deficiency is particularly high among children under the age of 5 years: 27 per cent of them are anaemic, 70 per cent have a vitamin A deficiency and 90 per cent are deficient in vitamin D.¹⁰

9. The Government is in the process of finalizing a new national early childhood development (ECD) strategy. Key bottlenecks in ECD include low quality of service, limited enactment of national policies related to nurturing care, insufficient ECD services for children with disabilities, and limited knowledge of key ECD issues among parents and caregivers.

10. The completion rate for primary education is high, at 93 per cent (91 per cent for girls);¹¹ however, disparities in access persist. Children living in nomadic and pastoral communities are often deprived of quality educational opportunities due to social, cultural and economic reasons; some 4,200 out of 11,300 children with disabilities are out of school or not in preschool.¹² About 26 per cent of children aged 2–5 years do not have access to early childhood education (ECE) and disparities are high, with 52 per cent of children from the poorest quintile and 53 per cent of children with disabilities not enrolled in ECE.¹³

11. Learning outcomes suggest limitations in the quality of education, with just 35 per cent of students in Grade 2 having basic reading skills, which further drops 14–17 percentage points among Kazakh students.¹⁴ Learning is hampered by several factors, including the health and nutritional status of pupils and bullying. Poor-quality infrastructure is also a factor, with 59 out of 548 dormitories in the country failing to meet infrastructure requirements.¹⁵ Shifting to remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the digital divide among marginalized children and adolescents due to poor Internet connectivity: 44 per cent of households in rural areas have no Internet access.¹⁶

12. The unemployment rate among youth is high, at 18 per cent, compared with 7 per cent for adults.¹⁷ School curricula provide limited transferrable and job-related

⁷ Health statistics, 2020.

⁸ People with Disabilities Living Conditions Survey, 2018.

⁹ National Center for Public Health and UNICEF, Fourth and Fifth national nutrition survey report, 2004 and 2018.

¹⁰ National Center for Public Health and UNICEF, Fifth national nutrition survey report, 2018.

¹¹ Ministry of Education and Science (MoES), 2021.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Mongolia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), 2018.

¹⁴ MICS, 2018.

¹⁵ MoES, 2021.

¹⁶ MICS, 2018.

¹⁷ World Bank [database](#).

skills; life skills education is not well developed. In 2021, just 3 per cent of adolescents were involved in extracurricular activities or child-led initiatives.

13. Young people have few opportunities for participation and influencing decisions in their families and communities. Social norms related to young people's roles are a constraining factor.

14. Despite progress, violence against women and children, trafficking in persons, violations of child rights when dealing with children in contact with the law, and negative social norms and attitudes related to minority groups are areas of concern. Social norms and poverty contribute to high levels of institutionalization. Gender-based violence, which was exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as human trafficking and the sexual exploitation of women and girls, are significant concerns. Online sexual exploitation and abuse is rapidly increasing. Detection and referral rates of online and offline child protection cases remain low. Child protection bottlenecks include limited human and financial resources, high tolerance of domestic violence and corporal punishment, low reporting, and weak operational coordination on case management, which undermines the quality and accessibility of child protection services. Strategic planning and budgeting is hampered by limited data related to child protection.

15. Persistently low coverage of safely managed drinking water (30 per cent) and sanitation services (56 per cent)¹⁸ is exacerbated by geographic and income disparities. Water quality remains a concern due to the vulnerability of existing systems to contamination and poor wastewater treatment practices. Considering that the water demand may triple in the next two decades, these trends require urgent actions to reverse them.

16. Mongolia is highly vulnerable to climate change, with a score of 4.2 on the Children's Climate Risk Index.¹⁹ Increased occurrence and severity of natural disasters, including Dzud, droughts, floods, windstorms and forest fires, disproportionately affect the most vulnerable communities. Air pollution is a major threat to child survival and development. Despite measures taken by the authorities to improve air quality, the monthly average of air pollution levels during the winters of 2020 and 2021 were far above World Health Organization standards.²⁰ This country programme benefits from lessons learned from the evaluations conducted during the previous programme cycle, and from the United Nations Development Assistance Framework evaluation, including: the need to target the most vulnerable communities and strengthen partnerships with provincial authorities and the private sector to systematically address deprivations to children's rights, and the need to improve cross-sectorality and focus on demonstrating change at the district level through the integrated "Soum [District] Model Approach".

17. The rationale for the selection of the programme priorities derives from consultations with national counterparts, United Nations agencies and major development partners based on the development challenges in Mongolia. The consultations emphasized the need to focus on: areas in which action is needed to achieve child-related national priorities contributing to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goal targets; reducing equity gaps; and the comparative advantage of UNICEF and opportunities for synergies within the context of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and with development

¹⁸ WASH Joint monitoring programme [website](#).

¹⁹ UNICEF, *The Climate Crisis is a Child Rights Crisis*, 2021.

²⁰ National Agency of Meteorology and Environmental Monitoring, "State of Air Quality in Mongolia: Annual air pollution observation reports", 2020 and 2021.

partners. The country programme will have a nationwide focus aimed at promoting funding, policies and programmes that tackle geographic disparities on the ground.

18. The country programme will have the following programme components:

- (a) Health, nutrition and development
- (b) Education
- (c) Child protection
- (d) Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and climate change
- (e) Social inclusion and evidence
- (f) Programme effectiveness.

Programme priorities and partnerships

19. The country programme supports the Mongolia Vision 2050 policy in meeting its commitment to respect, protect and fulfil children's rights in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and other national and international obligations. It is fully aligned with the priorities articulated in the relevant national policies and plans.

20. The country programme is guided by the principles of equity, gender equality, resilience and sustainability, and contributes to the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 and the UNSDCF (2022–2027). The country programme is based on the following theory of change in both development and humanitarian settings:

(a) If children benefit from early stimulation, nurturing care and diets, and if children and young people increasingly access climate-resilient and environmentally sensitive, high-impact health interventions, are better protected from undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity

(b) If from early childhood to adolescence, children, including the most marginalized, have equal quality learning and participation opportunities and acquire foundational and transferable skills in a safe, digitally integrated and resilient environment

(c) If children and adolescents living with and outside of family care are empowered and protected from online and offline violence and exploitation, including in homes, schools, communities and institutions, and benefit from quality child protection services in an environment that promotes positive social norms

(d) If children and adolescents, particularly the most disadvantaged, increasingly gain sustainable access to and use of safe WASH services and practices, and benefit from reduced environmental pollution, climate and natural disaster risks

(e) If children benefit from evidence-driven and child-sensitive anti-poverty policies and programmes, including effective, shock-responsive social protection

(f) Then children and adolescents in Mongolia, especially the most marginalized, will have their rights respected, protected and fulfilled, and develop to their full potential in an inclusive and healthy society.

21. UNICEF main cross-cutting strategies to overcome the identified barriers include: generating data and evidence for advocacy to achieve positive changes in policy, practices and legislation and gain support for UNICEF and the child rights agenda; supporting national systems strengthening for the provision of quality services, particularly for the most vulnerable; strengthening and expanding strategic partnerships, including engaging young people; harnessing and leveraging the power

of the private sector; furthering technology for development and digital transformation through investments and innovations to reduce the digital divide; implementing gender-sensitive interventions and social and behaviour change to promote positive norms, strategic communication, applied behavioural science, service improvements, systems strengthening and supportive public policies; and promoting active citizen engagement in decisions, including the state budget. Employing these strategies, the programme will gradually shift from a geographically focused approach to a nationwide one.

Health, nutrition and development

22. This component contributes to UNSDCF outcome 1 and supports the Government in efforts to achieve the health, nutrition and early development targets in the Mongolia Vision 2050 policy. Jointly with the Ministry of Health, United Nations agencies, young people, women and people with disabilities, associations and other partners, UNICEF will support increased access to quality and inclusive health-care services through strengthening policies, programmes and services, institutional capacity and resourcing. The focus will be on primary health care at scale and on high-impact interventions to attain universal coverage and deliver integrated, prevention-focused services and support, including climate-sensitive disease prevention and air and environmental pollution-related health-care interventions. Maternal and child health will be holistically addressed, including limiting the impacts of environmental pollution and promoting adolescent mental health and well-being. Innovative health technologies and data for health services will be supported.

23. UNICEF will support government efforts to protect children, adolescent boys and girls, and women from undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies and overweight and obesity. The focus will be on improving policies and financing, standards and regulations for the prevention of childhood overweight and enforcement of the food fortification law. UNICEF will support the scaling up of child feeding counselling, early detection and management of acute malnutrition, improved quality and coverage of micronutrient supplementation; nutrition surveillance through innovative technologies; and school food environments and delivery of essential nutrition interventions. UNICEF will partner with the private sector to strengthen national capacities to systematically make nutritious food available and affordable. UNICEF will also work on wheat flour fortification, salt iodization and sugar taxation.

24. UNICEF will engage in integrated interventions to meet children's early development needs, ensuring that girls and boys are safe and supported with equitable access to quality childcare, health, nutrition, protection, and early screening services. Integrated multisectoral policies and programmes will be promoted, including the first 1,000 days, early learning and protection, within the Nurturing Care Framework.

25. Jointly with the Government and partners, UNICEF will promote positive behaviours and social norms related to health, nutrition and early development, including empowering caregivers to meet children's needs through nurturing care, healthy diets and optimal feeding and physical activities. Different channels will be used, including social networks, young parliamentarians and peer groups. As the lead agency for the nutrition cluster, UNICEF will continue to build resilience through nutrition emergency preparedness and climate and disaster risk management.

Education

26. UNICEF will support the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) to meet national commitments in the Education Sector Medium-Term Development Plan 2030 and ensure that children from early childhood to adolescence, including the most excluded, have equal opportunities to access quality education and acquire

foundational, digital and transferable skills in a safe, digitally integrated and resilient learning environment. As the education cluster co-lead and a member of the local education group and the inclusive education group, UNICEF will continue to strengthen its partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other United Nations partners, contributing to UNSDCF outcomes 1 and 2.

27. UNICEF will strengthen the capacity of MoES and ECE service providers to plan and implement gender-transformative policies that accelerate access to quality ECE, including for children with disabilities, from herder and poor families. UNICEF will support curriculum reform, ECE teachers' capacity development, infrastructure improvements and integration of resources and services at facility level to ensure early learning and development of young children within the Nurturing Care Framework. UNICEF will also enhance parents' knowledge and skills on early stimulation, care, protection and learning.

28. UNICEF will strengthen the capacities of actors in the education system to provide equal learning opportunities to all children and improve foundational literacy and numeracy. UNICEF will: strengthen the policy environment to ensure that the needs of children from minority groups and children with disabilities are met; support infrastructural improvements for adherence to national standards for safety, resilience and accessibility for children with disabilities; and foster cross-sectoral collaboration for a safer and healthier school environment that addresses children's physical, mental health and protection concerns. UNICEF will also strengthen the gender-responsiveness of the curriculum, pedagogy and assessments, addressing specific gender disparities, particularly for boys in secondary schools.

29. UNICEF will collaborate with partners, including the private sector, to ensure that children aged 6–17 years increasingly obtain adequate transferrable skills that support learning, mental well-being, employability and active citizenship in formal and non-formal education for vulnerable children and accelerate adolescent and youth engagement in school decision-making, administration and community life.

30. UNICEF will work with MoES and the business community to further digital transformation in the education sector through supporting policy development and budgeting for reducing the digital divide with affordable Internet connectivity and innovations to strengthen real-time data collection and its use, particularly to monitor the impact of humanitarian crises on education.

Child protection

31. This component contributes to UNSDCF outcomes 1 and 4. It will support the Government and other national stakeholders in strengthening a child protection system that is inclusive and effective in preventing and responding to child protection violations, including in humanitarian contexts. The focus will be on boys and girls at greatest risk of child protection violations, including children with disabilities, without parental care and in contact with the law.

32. UNICEF will prioritize policy dialogue and reforms towards the full alignment of national frameworks with international norms and standards; expansion of child protection services; roll-out of case management, information management and referral systems; and support a continuum of services across social welfare, justice, health and education. Child protection and social service workforces will be strengthened, including an expanded quality assurance framework. To respond to the increasing risks of online sexual exploitation, abuse and bullying, jointly with relevant authorities and with information and communication technology companies, UNICEF will pursue a holistic approach from the policy level to capacity-building on

digital literacy among boys, girls, adolescents, caregivers, professionals and policymakers.

33. UNICEF will work with national authorities to increase children's access to justice with a remedy when a violation has occurred. This includes alleged offenders, victims of and witnesses to child protection violations, or in proceedings for care, custody and protection in criminal, civil and administrative proceedings.

34. UNICEF will promote behaviour change among stakeholders regarding online and offline violence against children, increase knowledge on child survivors of violence, existing services and reporting mechanisms, and support gender-responsive positive parenting. UNICEF will build the capacities of teachers to apply positive discipline and promote zero tolerance against any form of corporal punishment.

Water, sanitation, hygiene and climate change

35. This component contributes to the achievement of UNSDCF outcome 1 by supporting the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism to ensure that the most disadvantaged children benefit from increased access and utilization of WASH services and reduced environmental pollution and natural disaster risks.

36. UNICEF will support increased access to and use of safely managed WASH services for children and adolescents, particularly the most disadvantaged, including people with disabilities, through the support of local communities and institutions. To this end, UNICEF will innovate in sanitation design, support circular economy, management solutions and women entrepreneurship. Jointly with the Government, UNICEF will promote positive behaviours and social norms, including promotion of the Oky app for women and adolescent girls to meet their menstrual hygiene management needs.

37. UNICEF will strengthen the national WASH system for gender-equal, inclusive, affordable and sustainable services with its partners. To this end, UNICEF will support the development and implementation of a costed and inclusive WASH financing strategy; advocate for adequate funding allocations from different sources; and strengthen the national WASH service monitoring systems, particularly regarding drinking water quality.

38. UNICEF will contribute to UNSDCF outcomes 2 and 3, supporting national authorities in efforts addressing air pollution, climate change, disaster risk reduction, and environmental degradation to protect the rights of children and adolescents in all contexts. UNICEF will generate evidence to inform child-sensitive policies and budgets for community resilience and low-carbon development and environmental sustainability promotion; and will support the government frameworks update for disaster risk reduction. In line with national energy and climate transformation goals, UNICEF will support innovative climate financing projects and piloting and scale up existing low-carbon technologies in institutions and households. UNICEF will advocate and support environmental, disaster risks reduction and climate education, as well as youth and children-led community actions and their meaningful engagement in decision-making processes. UNICEF will increase awareness among parliamentarians and the public at large regarding air pollution and climate change, including disaster risks.

Social inclusion and evidence

39. This component will contribute to UNSDCF outcome 1 and support government efforts to reduce poverty and social exclusion. In partnership with the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization and others, UNICEF

will continue supporting the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection in strengthening knowledge and evidence on the social protection system to inform the development of a holistic, child-sensitive national policy framework as a basis to enhance the coherence of social protection interventions as well as their effectiveness and shock-responsiveness. UNICEF will work directly with beneficiaries to increase their knowledge of the social protection system and its available benefits.

40. UNICEF will work with national authorities and partners to ensure that state budget allocations and expenditures are adequate for the progressive realization of child and adolescent rights and generate evidence that is instrumental to leveraging resources from the state budget and the private sector. Capacity of social sector ministries will be strengthened in public finance management to support the state transition to results-based budgeting. UNICEF will engage youth in the budget process for child/adolescent-responsive budget allocations.

41. In partnership with the National Statistical Office, UNICEF will increase national capacities to produce and use quality data and evidence for policy decisions related to child multidimensional poverty at the national and subnational levels. UNICEF will foster the demand for evidence among relevant stakeholders, including children and young people, transforming data and evidence into knowledge.

Programme effectiveness

42. This component will provide cross-cutting support to all programme areas and ensure that the country programme planning, monitoring and evaluation, financing and management meet quality programming standards. This component will also include external communication and advocacy, social and behaviour change, and technologies for development through which UNICEF will promote the implementation of child rights recommendations in the national agenda and drive knowledge management, fundraising, private sector alliances and public support.

43. UNICEF will seek to maximize contributions from businesses to achieve results for children and young people. To this end, partnerships will be expanded and strengthened to include the business-for-results portfolio, with an assessment conducted to determine the potential of private sector fundraising.

Summary budget table^a

<i>Programme component</i>	<i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other resources</i>	<i>Total</i>
Health, nutrition and development	250	14 000	14 250
Education	0	12 000	12 000
Child protection	250	3 900	4 150
WASH and climate change	250	20 000	20 250
Social inclusion and evidence	250	3 000	3 250
Programme effectiveness	3 500	0	3 500
Total	4 500	52 900	57 400

^(a) Funds raised for humanitarian situations that may arise are not included in this table.

Programme and risk management

44. 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 country programme. Accountabilities of managers for country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures. UNICEF will work closely with the United Nations Country Team on UNSDCF implementation and monitoring.

45. The country programme is developed with the assumption that Mongolia will remain stable after the 2024 election, that the national economy will recover and that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the fiscal space will be reduced.

46. UNICEF will identify and mitigate additional critical risks to achieving programme outcomes. This includes security and business continuity management, the harmonized approach to cash transfers and emergency preparedness, as well as prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse in coordination with other United Nations agencies. Risk mitigation will build on analyses of risks and vulnerabilities, such as the recently conducted climate change landscape analysis, whose evidence informed the risk management response. Fiduciary risks will be managed and mitigated according to the principles of the harmonized approach to cash transfers. Risks related to the underresourcing of the programme will be addressed through a resource mobilization strategy and in coordination with other United Nations agencies.

Monitoring, learning and evaluation

47. UNICEF will work with the National Statistics Office and various line ministries to support the Government in strengthening national and subnational data-collection systems and capacity for monitoring, evaluation and analysis, including the big data initiative and the digitalization of services for traditional data systems such as administrative information systems and national surveys. Additional efforts will focus on strengthening the level of integration among different data sources, resulting in a substantial increase in the evidence produced by the national monitoring and evaluation system.

48. Monitoring of UNICEF-supported interventions will be conducted through field visits and data analysis by UNICEF staff and partners. Progress towards programme results will be assessed through annual reviews jointly with the Government and partners and in coordination with UNSDCF partners. Thematic and multisectoral evaluations will be conducted, focusing on specific sets of interventions, as detailed in the annexed costed evaluation plan.

49. In 2023, UNICEF will support the Government and non-governmental partners in the process of preparing the report for the Committee on the Rights of the Child. During the country programme cycle, UNICEF will support the United Nations Country Team reports to the Committee on Civil and Political Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Committee against Torture, and the reporting for the universal periodic review.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Mongolia – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2023–2027

<p>Convention on the Rights of the Child: 1–5, 7, 9–10, 12–13, 15, 20, 23–24, 26–29, 31, 34, 36–37, 39–40</p> <p>National priorities: Mongolia Vision 2050 policy: 2, 3, 5, 6</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goals: 1–6, 10, 13, 16</p>
<p>United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) outcomes involving UNICEF:</p> <p>1. By 2027, people in urban and rural areas, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, equally realize their full human potential and benefit from inclusive, rights-based, gender- and shock-responsive health and nutrition, education, social protection, WASH [water, sanitation and hygiene] and other services.</p> <p>2. By 2027, the Mongolian economy is more diversified, innovative, productive, inclusive, green and geographically balanced, enabling decent livelihoods, especially for women and youth, building 21st century skills, and promoting low-carbon development.</p> <p>3. By 2027, communities and ecosystems in Mongolia are more resilient to climate change, with improved capacity for evidence-informed and gender-responsive sustainable natural resource and environmental management and disaster risk reduction.</p> <p>4. By 2027, policymaking and implementation in Mongolia is more gender-responsive, participatory, coherent, evidence-informed and SDG [Sustainable Development Goal]-aligned; governance institutions at all levels are transparent and accountable; and people, especially the marginalized groups, have access to justice and rule of law for full realization of human rights.</p>
<p>Related UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 Goal Areas: 1–5</p>

UNSDCF outcomes	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
Outcome 1	1: By 2027, children and adolescents realize their right to survive and thrive in a healthy, safe and supportive environment.	Under-5 mortality rate Baseline: 15/1 000 Target: 12/1 000	United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation	1. The health system has strengthened capacities to deliver quality primary health care that is gender- and age-responsive, accessible and climate-smart, as well as high-impact interventions, including related to mental health.	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Science, World Health Organization other United Nations agencies, non-governmental	250	14 000	14 250
		Mortality rate 5–14 years Baseline: 53/100 000 Target: 48/100 000	Global Health Estimate					

<i>UNSDCF outcomes</i>	<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>
		<p>Percentage of children aged 6–23 months fed a minimum number of food groups</p> <p>Baseline: 39.2% Target: 42%</p>	National survey	<p>2. National and subnational governments, their agencies and the private sector promote nutritious, affordable and sustainable diets and healthy lifestyles to protect children, adolescents and women against the triple burden of malnutrition.</p> <p>3. National and subnational governments and their agencies have increased capacities to provide quality and affordable integrated early childhood development services and promote the engagement of parents and other key stakeholders for early stimulation and nurturing care, as well as promote positive behaviours and social norms.</p>	organizations, and Youth Advisory Panel			
Outcomes 1 and 2	2: By 2027, children, from early childhood to adolescence, including the	<p>Percentage of children aged 3–5 years meeting age-appropriate development index</p> <p>Baseline: 75.7% Target: 80%</p>	Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)	1. National and subnational governments have enhanced capacities and resources to plan, implement and monitor effective early childhood education strategies and	Same as above	0	12 000	12 000

<i>UNSDCF outcomes</i>	<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>
	most excluded, have equal quality learning opportunities to acquire foundational and twenty-first-century skills in a digitally integrated and resilient environment.	<p>Proportion of children at the end of primary education achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading/language and (ii) mathematics</p> <p>Baseline: 67%/61% Target: 70%/63%</p>	National Quality Monitoring Surveys	<p>services, especially for children with disabilities and children from herders and poor families.</p> <p>2. National and subnational governments and their agencies have improved capacities and resources to provide equal opportunities for quality and continuous learning to all children, particularly children with disabilities and children from herder and poor families in climate and disaster hazard-prone areas, in an inclusive, healthy and safe learning environment.</p> <p>3. National and subnational governments and their agencies have strengthened their capacities to create a safe and healthy environment for adolescents to acquire transferrable skills for mental well-being, employability and active citizenship.</p> <p>4. National government, their agencies and the private sector demonstrate commitment and strengthened capacities to plan and implement digital transformation to realize an inclusive, safe and equitable digital learning environment.</p>				

UNSDCF outcomes	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
Outcomes 1 and 4	3: By 2027, children and adolescents, including with families and outside of family care, are empowered and protected from violence and exploitation in their homes, schools, communities, institutions and online, including in humanitarian settings.	Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month Baseline: 44% Target: 40%	MICS Plus	1. Child protection legal and administrative framework is strengthened for age-appropriate and gender-responsive prevention and response to child rights violations. 2. Social service workforce for child protection has improved capacities, tools and resources to deliver child-centred, gender-responsive and coherent child protection and justice services. 3. Children, adolescents and duty bearers have improved knowledge, skills and attitudes to jointly create a safer environment to prevent violence against children and claim the rights of children in all settings, including online.	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Authority for Family, Child and Youth Development, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and Youth Advisory Panel	250	3 900	4 150
		Percentage of students aged 13–15 years who reported being bullied on 1 or more days in the past 30 days Baseline: 41.5% Target: 30%	Global School-based Health Survey					
Outcomes 1, 2 and 3	4: By 2027, children and adolescents increasingly realize their rights to safe and climate-resilient WASH services and a healthy and sustainable environment.	Proportion of population using: (a) Basic drinking water services Baseline: 82% Target: 90% (b) Basic sanitation services Baseline: 69% Target: 80% (c) Basic hygiene services Baseline: 82% Target: 90%	National survey	1. National and subnational governments have enhanced capacities to increase access to equity-focused quality water and gender-sensitive sanitation and hygiene services and practices. 2. WASH systems are strengthened to plan, implement and monitor a costed long-term and sustainable plan ensuring climate-resilient, gender-	Ministry of Construction and Urban Development, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, National Emergency Management Agency	250	20 000	20 250

UNSDCF outcomes	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
		<p>Greenhouse gas reduction (tons) at household and institutional levels as a result of UNICEF interventions</p> <p>Baseline: 636 tons carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) Target: 10 000 tons CO₂e</p>	Studies/assessment	<p>sensitive, affordable and sustainable services at the national and subnational levels.</p> <p>3. National and subnational governments, their agencies and the private sector have improved capacities to reduce air pollution and incorporate child sensitivity in national policies and disaster risk reduction programmes to address climate change and environmental pollution and degradation.</p>				
		<p>Evidence of developing, financing and implementing child-sensitive climate, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies, programmes, strategies and plans at the national, subnational and/or sectoral levels</p> <p>Baseline: 1 (National Determined Contribution action plan) Target: 3 (Disaster risk reduction and midterm environmental policy)</p>	Evaluation					
Outcome 1	5: By 2027, children benefit from evidence-driven and child-sensitive anti-poverty policies and programmes,	<p>Multidimensional child poverty (children deprived in three or more dimensions)</p> <p>Baseline: 68% Target: 65%</p>	National survey	<p>1. National social protection system with a strengthened cash transfer programme is effectively functioning in development and humanitarian contexts.</p> <p>2. National and subnational governments demonstrated</p>	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Economic Development, international financial institutions, agencies,	250	3 000	3 250

<i>UNSDCF outcomes</i>	<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>
	including shock-responsive social protection.	Percentage of the state budget allocated to the social sector. Baseline: 52.97% Target: to be determined	State budget	increased political commitments towards equity-focused, child-rights-related budget allocation. 3. National and subnational governments have increased capacity to make policy decisions related to child multidimensional poverty based on quality up-to-date data and evidence.	local governments, National Statistics Office, academia, research institutions and think tanks			
	6: The country programme is efficiently designed, coordinated, managed and supported to meet quality programming standards in achieving results for children.	Performance scorecards meet organizational benchmarks	InSight	1. Programme coordination, communication, advocacy, partnerships, social behaviour change, technology for development and operations support.		3 500	0	3 500
Total resources						4 500	52 900	57 400