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Draft country programme document**

Türkiye

Summary

The draft country programme document (CPD) for Türkiye is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and comment. The draft CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of \$4,310,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$100,000,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2026 to 2030.

* [E/ICEF/2025/27](#).

** In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, country programme documents (CPDs) are considered and approved in one session, on a no-objection basis. This draft CPD, and a costed evaluation plan, will be presented to the Executive Board for review from 12 June 2025 to 2 July 2025. The final CPD will be posted to the Executive Board web page in English six weeks in advance of the 2025 second regular session and in the other designated languages four weeks in advance.

Programme rationale

1. Türkiye has a population of 85.7 million,¹ with 25.5 per cent under the age of 18.² An ageing demographic profile notwithstanding, the child population of Türkiye remained higher than the European Union average of 18 per cent in 2023.³ The country continues to host the second-largest refugee⁴ population globally, with 2.8 million Syrians under temporary protection and 19,017 international protection applicants (as of the end of 2023),⁵ nearly half of whom are children. Prioritizing investments in children's well-being and leveraging this young population's potential is crucial.

2. Türkiye is the world's seventeenth largest economy, with a gross domestic product (GDP) of \$1.024 trillion,⁶ 4.5 per cent growth in 2023 and 3.2 per cent growth in 2024.⁷ Annual inflation surged from 14.6 per cent (2020)⁸ to 44.38 per cent (2024),⁹ the highest inflation rate in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).¹⁰ High inflation has placed strain on low-income families and widened economic inequities. By 2024, 21.2 per cent¹¹ of the population lived below the poverty line,¹² affecting 31.9 per cent¹³ of children, while 30.4 per cent¹⁴ faced material deprivation, and 38.9 per cent were at risk of poverty and social exclusion.¹⁵ While youth unemployment decreased to 16.3 per cent in 2024,¹⁶ this rate was higher among women (22.3 per cent) as compared to men (13.1 per cent).¹⁷

¹ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'The results of address-based population registration system, 2024', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=The-Results-of-Address-Based-Population-Registration-System-2024-53783&dil=2>.

² Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Statistics on child, 2023', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Statistics-on-Child-2023-53679>.

³ Ibid.

⁴ The term "refugee" refers to Syrians under temporary protection as well as international protection applicants and status holders, in accordance with the Turkish Law on Foreigners and International Protection.

⁵ Ministry of Interior Presidency of Migration Management, Türkiye, 'International protection', <https://en.goc.gov.tr/international-protection17>.

⁶ World Bank, 'Turkey Overview: Development news, research, data', <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/turkey/overview>.

⁷ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Quarterly gross domestic product, quarter IV: October-December, 2024', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Quarterly-Gross-Domestic-Product-Quarter-IV:-October-December,-2024-54163>.

⁸ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Consumer price index, December 2022', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=consumer-price-index-december-2022-49651&dil=2>.

⁹ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Consumer price index, December 2024', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Consumer-Price-Index-December-2024-53621&dil=2>.

¹⁰ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 'Consumer price index', Statistics News Release, 4 September 2024.

¹¹ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Poverty and living conditions statistics, 2024', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Poverty-and-Living-Conditions-Statistics-2024-53714&dil=2>.

¹² At-risk-of-poverty rate according to poverty threshold set at 60 per cent of median equivalised household disposable income.

¹³ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Child statistics-poverty', <https://biruni.tuik.gov.tr/medas/?kn=203&locale=en>.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Poverty and living conditions statistics, 2024', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Poverty-and-Living-Conditions-Statistics-2024-53714&dil=2>.

¹⁶ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Labour force statistics, 2024', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Labour-Force-Statistics-2024-54059&dil=2>.

¹⁷ Ibid.

3. Between 2022 and 2023, health spending increased from 4 per cent of GDP to 4.7 per cent,¹⁸ education spending increased from 3.9 per cent to 4.3 per cent,¹⁹ and social protection spending increased from 8.6 per cent to 10.1 per cent.²⁰

4. Türkiye has achieved universal health coverage. However, the 2023 earthquakes were a setback, causing infant mortality rates to rise to 10 per 1,000 live births, up from 9.2 in the previous year.²¹ The natural disaster doubled infant mortality and increased under-5 mortality in earthquake-affected areas such as Adıyaman (from 11.8 in 2022 to 82.8 in 2023), Hatay (from 13 in 2022 to 67.9 in 2023) and Kahramanmaraş (from 11.4 in 2022 to 65.3 in 2023).²²

5. Progress in child nutrition has been notable, with stunting among children under the age of 5 declining from 9.5 per cent (2013) to 6 per cent (2018), though higher among Syrian children (17.4 per cent), with 5.9 per cent severely stunted.²³ Overweight is an emerging issue, affecting 9.3 per cent of boys and 6.8 per cent of girls.²⁴

6. Early childhood development and education remain a priority, with 73.7 per cent of children aged 3–4 years developmentally on track. However, only 14.4 per cent of this age group meet literacy and numeracy milestones,²⁵ with 78 per cent of girls on track compared to 69.8 per cent of boys.²⁶

7. There is government commitment to improving assessment, diagnosis and guidance to address the needs of children with disabilities, while also supporting their access to inclusive services.

8. Addressing violence against children remains a priority for the Government, as demonstrated by its role in the Pathfinding Global Alliance to end violence against children by 2030. Enhancing the international alignment of child protection policies will be important in preventing violence against children.

9. According to the Child Labour Force Survey (2019) of the Turkish Statistical Institute (TURKSTAT), 6 per cent of boys and 2.6 per cent of girls aged 5–17 years are engaged in labour,²⁷ predominantly in the service sector. Combating child labour is a national priority reflected in various policy frameworks.²⁸

10. Türkiye has promoted alternative care for children without parental care: the number of children in foster care has risen to 9,806 (2023), and the number of adopted

¹⁸ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Health expenditure statistics, 2023', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Health-Expenditure-Statistics-2023-53561&dil=2>.

¹⁹ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Education expenditure statistics, 2023', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Education-Expenditure-Statistics-2023-53557&dil=2>.

²⁰ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Social protection statistics, 2023', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Social-Protection-Statistics-2023-53560&dil=2>.

²¹ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Death and causes of death statistics, 2023', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Death-and-Causes-of-Death-Statistics-2023-53709&dil=2>.

²² Ibid.

²³ Hacettepe University, Institute of Population Studies, '2018 Turkey Demographic and Health Survey', https://hips.hacettepe.edu.tr/en/2018_turkey_demographic_and_health_survey-198.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Child labour force survey, 2019', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Child-Labour-Force-Survey-2019-33807&dil=2>.

²⁸ Türkiye, Ministry of Labour and Social Security, *The Pathfinder Country Roadmap of the Republic of Türkiye* (Ankara, 2024). Türkiye became an Alliance 8.7 Pathfinder Country in 2024. Alliance 8.7 is a global partnership taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour, in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal Target 8.7.

children has risen to 19,584.²⁹ However, 14,435³⁰ children remain in institutional care, 19.6 per cent³¹ of them being children with disabilities. The Committee on the Rights of the Child notes improvement in the alternative care system of Türkiye and the continuing systemic reform of childcare and protection systems.

11. The Twelfth Development Plan (2024–2028) emphasizes alternative enforcement, restorative models and prioritizing the best interests of children in contact with the law. In line with the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in its general comment on children’s rights in the child justice system, the minimum age of criminal responsibility in Türkiye, which is currently 12 years, should be increased to 14 years. In 2023, 89,547³² cases involving children pushed into crime were brought to court. Stigmatization and punitive attitudes³³ hinder mainstreaming of restorative diversion from the criminal justice system.

12. Türkiye has achieved universal access to 12 years of compulsory education, closing gaps in enrolment between girls and boys, and integrating children with disabilities into regular schools. Pre-primary enrolment for the five-year-old age group reached 84.26 per cent, while it only reached 51.89 per cent for the 3–5-year-old age group in the 2023/24 education year.³⁴

13. Despite high overall enrolment and improved completion rates, in the 2023/24 education year, 18.8 per cent of students did not complete upper secondary education,³⁵ and 4 per cent of children aged 6–17 remained out of school (2022), particularly those aged 14–17 years.³⁶ Dropout and grade repetition due to health issues and disabilities accounted for 9.8 per cent of out-of-school children.³⁷

14. Türkiye faces challenges in learning quality and youth engagement, with 22.5 per cent of people aged 15–24 years not in education, employment or training in 2023,³⁸ exceeding the OECD average of 16.8 per cent.³⁹ These rates are particularly high for women and girls (29.8 per cent), compared to men and boys (15.6 per cent).⁴⁰ This is linked to a low employment rate of 28.1 per cent for females aged 15–24 years (November 2024),⁴¹ with adolescents aged 14–17 years having the highest non-attendance rate at 9.2 per cent.⁴² While learning outcomes have improved, the 2022

²⁹ Ministry of Family and Social Services, Türkiye, Monthly Statistical Bulletin, October 2024, Ankara, 2024.

³⁰ Turkish Statistical Institute, ‘Statistics on child, 2023’, <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Statistics-on-Child-2023-53679&dil=2>.

³¹ TransMonEE, ‘Number of children with disabilities (0-17 years) in formal residential care at the end of the year’, https://www.transmonee.org/database-explorer?&dq=.PT_CHLD_DISAB_INRESIDENTIAL.....&startPeriod=2015&endPeriod=2025.

³² General Directorate of Criminal Records and Statistics, Türkiye, Justice Statistics 2023, Ankara, 2024.

³³ Ersayan, Ayse Esra, ‘Probation Officers in Türkiye: The Relevance of Attitudes Towards Offenders’, 2022, Doctoral thesis, Maastricht University, p. 135.

³⁴ Ministry of National Education, Türkiye, National Education Statistics, Formal Education 2023/’24, Ankara, 2024.

³⁵ Turkish Statistical Institute, ‘Statistics on child, 2023’, <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Statistics-on-Child-2023-53679&dil=2>.

³⁶ Turkish Statistical Institute, *Türkiye Child Survey 2022*, TURKSTAT, Ankara, 2023.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Turkish Statistical Institute, ‘Youth in statistics, 2023’, <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Youth-in-Statistics-2023-53677&dil=2>.

³⁹ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, ‘Job creation and local economic development 2024 – Türkiye’, *Country Note*, OECD Publishing, Paris, 2024.

⁴⁰ Turkish Statistical Institute, ‘Youth in statistics, 2023’, <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Youth-in-Statistics-2023-53677&dil=2>.

⁴¹ Turkish Statistical Institute, ‘Labour force statistics, November 2024’, <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Isgucu-Istatistikleri-Kasim-2024-53523&dil=2>.

⁴² Turkish Statistical Institute, *Türkiye Child Survey 2022*, TURKSTAT, Ankara, 2023, p. 31.

Programme for International Student Assessment scores are still below OECD averages.⁴³ Barriers to education quality persist, necessitating better adaptability to diverse student needs and engagement mechanisms for adolescents, as highlighted in the Twelfth Development Plan.⁴⁴

15. Türkiye has expanded social policies and reduced poverty over the recent decades. Large-scale cash transfer programmes, along with broadened social security and health coverage, helped to address poverty. However, 31.9 per cent of children experienced monetary poverty,⁴⁵ and 38.9 per cent were at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2024.⁴⁶

16. Türkiye ranked thirty-fifth on the WorldRiskIndex in 2024,⁴⁷ indicating vulnerability to climate-related disasters. The two earthquakes that struck the south-east of Türkiye in 2023 affected 11 provinces. They caused extensive casualties, displacement and infrastructure damage, with recovery and reconstruction still under way. Promoting social cohesion, particularly among the refugee and host populations, (both of whom were affected by the earthquakes) is a continuing effort. Despite a robust legal framework for emergency preparedness, challenges persist in creating sustainable, inclusive systems that address the needs of children and families.

Programme priorities and partnerships

17. This country programme aligns with, and contributes to, the Twelfth Development Plan (2024–2028) of Türkiye, sectoral strategy documents and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2026–2030. The programme priorities were shaped through a consultative process involving the Government, United Nations agencies and local development partners, as well as children and adolescents.

18. The vision for the 2026–2030 country programme is for children and adolescents in Türkiye to improve their access to quality social services and to facilitate benefiting from child-sensitive, inclusive policies that are resilient to natural disasters and climate-related risks. This will be achieved through three outcomes:

- (a) Promoting nurturing care and protection for children and their families;
- (b) enhancing the learning, skills and participation of children, adolescents and young people;
- (c) strengthening the equity and resilience of shock-responsive systems so that they can respond to emergencies and sustain results for children. UNICEF will adopt a multisectoral approach aimed at narrowing inequities, strengthening institutional capacities, and promoting behaviours and practices that protect children, including those with disabilities, and support their full participation.

19. The evaluation of the previous country programme emphasized the need to balance sectoral programming with the fostering of multisectoral collaboration. It

⁴³ Organisation for Economic Co-operation, *PISA 2022 Results (Volume I and II) - Country Notes: Türkiye*, OECD Publishing, Paris, 2023.

⁴⁴ Presidency of Strategy and Budget, Türkiye, Twelfth Development Plan (2024–2028), Ankara, 2023.

⁴⁵ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Child statistics-poverty', <https://biruni.tuik.gov.tr/medas/?kn=203&locale=en>.

⁴⁶ Turkish Statistical Institute, 'Poverty and living condition statistics, 2024', <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Poverty-and-Living-Conditions-Statistics-2024-53714&dil=2>.

⁴⁷ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Worldriskindex-trend', <https://data.humdata.org/dataset/worldriskindex>.

highlighted the comparative advantage of UNICEF in working across sectors, strengthening systems to ensure service delivery remains responsive and adaptive to emerging risks, including humanitarian crises. Lessons learned highlight the role of municipalities in complementing national services, and the need to better leverage partnerships, balancing strategic and technical collaborations with implementing partners, the private sector and municipalities. Expanding and diversifying these engagements will help achieve sustainable outcomes for children.

20. Building on lessons learned from previous humanitarian crises, including the 2023 earthquakes, this country programme is risk-informed. An evaluation of UNICEF contributions to the government-led earthquake response revealed that UNICEF demonstrated emergency response capacity, as well as the continued need to bridge ongoing recovery efforts with longer-term development needs. Consequently, this country programme seeks to strengthen national and local capacities and systems, and their resilience to shocks, to deliver equitable, inclusive and quality services, while investing more in emergency preparedness and disaster management.

21. The CPD will include targeted actions that focus on strengthening empowerment of women and girls, promoting adolescent girls' agency and full participation, and building capacities of caregivers and stakeholders to challenge norms that perpetuate violence against girls, boys and women.

22. UNICEF will continue to advocate for alignment of policies with the Convention on the Rights of the Child standards and adequate resource allocation for their implementation. Efforts will focus on raising awareness of child rights among children, adolescents, parents, media and the private sector, while strengthening national child rights monitoring systems, national human rights institutions and accountability mechanisms.

23. The following cross-cutting change strategies will be used:

- (a) Social and behaviour change, to foster nurturing care environments, increase service demand, and address harmful practices, to reduce violence and enhance inclusivity;
- (b) Participation of children and adolescents to ensure their meaningful engagement in decision-making processes that affect their lives;
- (c) Targeted advocacy to mobilize public and private investments for children's rights, leveraging partnerships with the private sector and municipalities;
- (d) Evidence generation to inform policies and programmes, documenting innovative good practices and using these to deliver results at scale;
- (e) Promotion of efficient financial management at the national and municipal levels, to sustain and increase public and private sector investments in high-impact, equitable interventions for children;
- (f) Leveraging of national capacities and investments to drive policy, legislative and programmatic innovations to enhance impact and change for children;
- (g) Strengthening of systems so that they can deliver integrated and inclusive services while also being resilient to shocks.

24. The country programme includes components on:

- (a) Nurturing care and protection;
- (b) learning and skills;
- (c) equity and resilience.

25. All components are underpinned by the programme effectiveness component.

Nurturing care and protection

26. This programme component will contribute to UNSDCF Pillar 1 on promoting inclusive and equitable social development and will impact Pillar 3 on climate change and resilience and Pillar 4 on justice and refugee protection. It seeks to ensure that children, adolescents, families and caregivers benefit from inclusive, integrated and equitable nurturing care, and protective and prevention services, including in humanitarian situations. The CPD contributes to the Twelfth Development Plan, the Türkiye Child Rights Strategy Document and Action Plan, the Judicial Reform Strategy, National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women, the Strategy Paper and Action Plan on Women's Empowerment (2024–2028), the Civil Society Vision Paper and Action Plan 2025–2027 of the Ministry of Family and Social Services, and the National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour.

27. Nurturing care will be promoted through a holistic and multisectoral early childhood development (ECD) programme. Strengthened partnerships and coordination with and between line ministries will be key to endorsing the ECD strategy and allocating resources to support its implementation at all levels. The programme will support scaling-up of developmental monitoring, early identification and interventions, and improvement of service accessibility, especially for children with disabilities and developmental delays.

28. UNICEF will strengthen the capacity of national and local institutions and service providers to deliver ECD services. This includes sustaining essential health and nutrition services, developing evidence-based standards and mechanisms to foster integrated service delivery, and strengthening workforce capacities to enhance the quality of care at primary healthcare and ECD centres at the community and municipal levels.

29. On the demand side, and in line with Committee on the Rights of the Child recommendations, UNICEF will work on strengthening parenting support programmes, expanding timely access to reliable child development and nutrition information through digital platforms, and building the capacities of front-line workers in counselling. Efforts will also focus on reducing disability stigma.

30. Through its child protection programme, UNICEF will support the development and updating of national strategies, action plans and operational decrees to align with international standards and Committee on the Rights of the Child recommendations. Leveraging existing coordination mechanisms, UNICEF will enhance inter-institutional and cross-sectoral contributions to the work to overcome violence against children and women. UNICEF will provide technical assistance for evidence-based budget analysis to advocate for increased funding for child protection, conduct investment cases for increased government ownership of community-based child protection and prevention approaches, and provide support to the strengthened coordination and synergy between non-governmental organizations and statutory service providers, while strengthening data on children.

31. UNICEF will strengthen the child protection workforce (including social services, and allied workforce and justice professionals) by developing tools and guidelines to enhance their capacity to prevent, identify, respond to and follow up on cases of violence against children. This will include training packages that integrate community engagement and behaviour change, and support multisectoral child protection and violence prevention services. Additionally, the capacity of justice professionals will be strengthened to ensure that children in contact with the law are diverted from the justice system. Efforts will focus on ensuring quality alternative

care by advocating for the scale-up of temporary foster care, and supporting child-friendly channels for reporting, monitoring and addressing violence against children. UNICEF will focus on reducing child labour, especially in hazardous sectors such as seasonal agriculture, street work and small and medium-sized enterprises by strengthening labour inspections, promoting Children's Rights and Business Principles, and addressing child labour cases through protection services.

32. Continued efforts towards the elimination of child/early marriage and forced marriage will include the enforcement of the Turkish Civil Code along with international standards, mobilizing support for ending child/early marriage. To support strengthened child safeguarding processes and ensure clear referral pathways, UNICEF will support improved coordination between the social welfare, education and justice sectors to increase early identification of child victims, with a focus on unaccompanied migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children. This will be reinforced by partnerships with public oversight institutions and civil society organizations (CSOs) that promote access to remedies for rights violations and ensure timely submission of State party reports to human rights treaty bodies.

Learning, skills and participation

33. This component aims to ensure that all children and young people benefit equally from inclusive and uninterrupted learning and participation opportunities, and can develop and apply their skills, and contribute to a cohesive, resilient and productive society. This will contribute to UNSDCF Pillar 1, while also impacting Pillars 2 on green, resilient, inclusive economic development and Pillar 3 on climate change, environment sustainability and resilience. It is aligned with the priorities of the Ministry of National Education Strategic Plan 2024–2028 and the implementation of the Strategy Paper and Action Plan on Women's Empowerment (2024–2028).

34. UNICEF will support children's learning journey by advocating for increased equitable access to quality early childhood education (ECE) as part of compulsory education, providing technical assistance to enhance ECE standards, and expanding flexible service provision models through which children can access ECE. The capacities of ECE and preschool teachers will be enhanced, gaps that hinder access for children will be analysed and addressed, and demand for services will be promoted through social and behaviour change strategies.

35. In line with the Twelfth Development Plan, UNICEF will advocate for improved equity and access to education for all children by addressing barriers to enrolment and attendance through evidence generation and strengthened student monitoring mechanisms. Efforts will focus on quality teaching and learning, innovative technology solutions, prevention of dropout and referral pathways to guide out-of-school children back into education.

36. UNICEF will support the successful transition from learning to earning by strengthening the alignment of technical and vocational education and training with labour-market needs, introducing careers guidance, and promoting accredited non-formal learning and vocational training opportunities for adolescents. Future-ready skills will be enhanced through support for the integration of climate change adaptation, green skills, mental health and well-being, and learning recovery into the curriculum to strengthen the education system. In addition, UNICEF will support skills, livelihood and entrepreneurship opportunities outside the education system, particularly for girls.

37. UNICEF will promote the empowerment and participation of adolescents and youth by advocating for an inclusive legal and policy framework. Opportunities for meaningful participation of adolescents at the national and local levels, including on climate action, will be enhanced through structured participation and volunteering mechanisms that promote inclusive and non-discriminatory attitudes.

38. Additionally, UNICEF will focus on promoting digital safety, while strengthening emergency preparedness in schools to ensure accessible and safe learning environments for all children, including those with disabilities.

Equity and resilience

39. This programme component will contribute primarily to UNSDCF Pillar 1 in relation to inclusive economic development and good governance and aligns with the Twelfth Development Plan. It will seek to ensure that children benefit from equitable and shock-responsive social policies and programmes at the national and municipal levels, supported by solid data and financing that build resilience to risks and emergencies.

40. UNICEF will generate evidence and investment cases to drive advocacy for increased budgets to improve the coverage, child-sensitivity and inclusivity of policies. The national single registry system will be supported to reach families. National efforts on strengthening integrated, shock-responsive social protection programmes and family-friendly policies will be supported.

41. Child-focused planning and budgeting will be supported to secure and leverage resources for children. This includes improving planning and investments at the national and municipal levels to optimize resources, by strengthening capacities to analyse government investments, optimize costing of child services (e.g. early learning, social protection), and advocate for financing to scale up results aligned with national and international targets. UNICEF will also support municipalities in developing child-sensitive, risk-informed plans that are adaptable to shocks, and enhance local service delivery coordination.

42. UNICEF will expand partnerships with the Government (at the national and municipal levels) and CSOs to strengthen collection of data, ensuring their accuracy, reporting and use by stakeholders. This includes strengthening the capacities of stakeholders to analyse and report on child deprivation and vulnerabilities, while advocating for robust data systems to inform planning and policy development at all levels.

43. To improve the quality of data, UNICEF will support the Government to routinely measure and address poverty and deprivation across age, sex, migration, disability and geographies. Technical assistance will be provided to the national statistics system, including TURKSTAT, government ministries and academia, to conduct child-specific surveys, enhance administrative data collection and monitor the impacts of shocks and crises on children.

44. To improve emergency preparedness, closely monitor risks, and integrate mitigation plans at the national and municipal levels,⁴⁸ UNICEF will help to strengthen the resilience of social services and systems in collaboration with the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency and other ministries, CSOs and municipalities. This will include strengthening child-sensitive disaster risk reduction interventions, ensuring a child lens is applied to emergency preparedness, and contributing to United Nations inter-agency preparedness and contingency planning.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

Programme effectiveness

45. This component will support efficient and effective programme delivery and coordinate cross-cutting support through planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting; cross-sectoral approaches such as social and behaviour change; accountability to affected populations; communication and advocacy; resource mobilization and partnerships; and operational support.

46. In relation to partnerships and resource mobilization, UNICEF will diversify its funding sources, focusing on securing sustainable and flexible financial support, and broadening its partnership base, including by leveraging national resources, strengthening engagement with the private sector using existing platforms such as the Business Advisory Board, the Turkish National Committee for UNICEF and partnerships with international financial institutions.

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>
Nurturing care and protection	1 500	38 000	39 500
Learning, skills and participation	1 700	39 000	40 700
Equity and resilience	810	5 000	5 810
Programme effectiveness	300	18 000	18 300
Total	4 310	100 000	104 310

Programme and risk management

47. This CPD summarizes the contributions of UNICEF to national results, the UNSDCF 2026–2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. It is the principal mechanism for accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the country programme. The responsibilities and accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels are defined in the policies and procedures regarding the organization's programmes and operations.

48. The programme will be implemented and monitored in collaboration with the Government of Türkiye, under the overall coordination of the Presidency of Strategy and Budget. The Government's Child Intersectoral Board plays a key role in overseeing the country programme's contribution to the Twelfth Development Plan.⁴⁹

49. The country programme assumes risks from regional and global economic challenges, reduced donor support, and the anticipated transition of Türkiye to high-income status will be managed by leveraging national resources and expanding partnerships with the private sector, the Turkish National Committee, the Business Advisory Board, the European Union, international financial institutions, and bilateral and multilateral donors. United Nations inter-agency synergies will be leveraged for fundraising and joint programming. Political changes in neighbouring countries and ongoing domestic reforms may impact the social and demographic contexts. UNICEF

⁴⁹ Programme and project appraisal mechanisms identified in the UNSDCF will be followed, and relevant programme data will be shared for monitoring purposes through the International Development Cooperation Information System of the Presidency of Strategy and Budget.

will monitor the situation to reassess planning assumptions and adjust the programme accordingly. It will work with the United Nations country team on preparedness and resilience building and leverage the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan and Migration Management 2024–2028 Strategic Plan⁵⁰ to promote social cohesion between refugees, migrants and host communities. With the return of Syrians from Türkiye to Syria, UNICEF will support the Government of Türkiye to ensure that procedures are carried out in a way that will not leave any child unaccompanied.

50. Given the country's vulnerability to natural disasters and climate-related challenges, risk mitigation efforts will focus on regular situation monitoring, meeting minimum preparedness standards and ensuring readiness to deliver the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action. Support will extend to risk reduction and resilience efforts through the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency and other stakeholders.

51. UNICEF will work with the Government and the private sector to promote greater South-South cooperation. This will include leveraging the country's existing development cooperation strategy and investments, including increased availability of high-quality supplies from Türkiye, for the benefit of children beyond Türkiye.

52. UNICEF will use the harmonized approach to cash transfers as the mechanism for managing programme financial resources, implement zero-tolerance measures against sexual exploitation and abuse, and promote environmental sustainability in programmes and operations.

Monitoring, learning and evaluation

53. The results and resources plan will guide workplans and programme performance monitoring, including through annual and midterm reviews and evaluations. UNICEF will collaborate with TURKSTAT, United Nations agencies and partners to improve the coverage and quality of disaggregated data, to address data gaps, inform child rights monitoring, track progress and advocate for evidence-based, child-centred policies. Independent monitoring will be promoted through engaging national human rights institutions, academia, media, children and adolescents to advance child rights advocacy and support policymaking.

54. UNICEF will strengthen monitoring, knowledge management and evaluation to assess progress, identify changes in programming, address risks and identify opportunities for synergies. This includes enhanced beneficiary feedback to ensure accountability to affected populations. UNICEF will also collaborate with other United Nations agencies to leverage joint monitoring and evaluation systems.

⁵⁰ 3RP Syria Crisis, 'Regional Refugee & Resilience Plan', <https://www.3rpsyriacrisis.org/>.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Türkiye – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2026–2030

Convention on the Rights of the Child: (Relevant articles of the Convention) articles 1–7, 9, 12–13, 15, 17–32, 34, 36–37, 40–42

National priorities: (Related Sustainable Development Goals and/or national goals)

3.3. Qualified People, Strong Family, Healthy Society (3.3.1 Education; 3.3.2 Employment and Working Life; 3.3.3 Health; 3.3.4 Family; 3.3.5 Woman; 3.3.6 Child; 3.3.7 Youth; 3.3.8 Services for People with Disability; 3.3.9 Social Services, Social Assistance and Combating Poverty; 3.3.14 International Migration)

3.4. Disaster-Resilient Living Areas, Sustainable Environment (3.4.1 Disaster Management; 3.4.5 Environmental Protection)

3.5. Democratic Good Governance based on Justice (3.5.1 Justice Services; 3.5.3 Civil Society; 3.5.6 Local Administrations; 3.5.10 Sustainable Development Goals)

United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) outcomes involving UNICEF:

Priority 1: Inclusive and equitable social development

Outcome 1.1: By 2030, people benefit more from inclusive quality services, protection and empowerment promoting equity and resilience.

Outcome 1.2: By 2030, women and girls have improved and equal access to resources, opportunities and rights, and enjoy a life without violence and discrimination.

Priority 2: Green, resilient, inclusive economic development

Outcome 2.1: By 2030, Türkiye has an accelerated green, resilient and inclusive economic transformation that provides skills, decent work and livelihood opportunities for all, enhancing human development and welfare in urban and rural settings.

Priority 3: Climate change, environmental sustainability and resilience

Outcome 3.1: By 2030, all people benefit from strengthened policies and collaborative action for climate change mitigation and adaptation, environmental sustainability as well as enhanced disaster preparedness and resilience.

Priority 4: Good governance and quality of judiciary services

Outcome 4.1: By 2030, the governance system in Türkiye is more transparent, accountable, inclusive and rights-based, with active civil society participation, and the quality of judiciary services is improved.

Outcome 4.2: By 2030, the international protection and migration management system is more effective and holistic, upholding rights of People under the Law on Foreigners and International Protection.

UNICEF Strategic Plan 2026–2029 Impact Results: 1–4

<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>
Pillars 1, 2 and 4	1. By 2030, children, adolescents, families and caregivers benefit from inclusive, integrated and equitable nurturing care and protective services, including in humanitarian/emergency situations.	Percentage of children aged 36–59 months old who are on track in at least three of the four development domains B: 74%; (70% male; 78% female) (2018) T: 75%	Türkiye Democratic and Health Survey	1.1 National and local capacities are strengthened to formulate integrated early childhood policies and deliver quality, inclusive services, with support to parents and caregivers in providing nurturing care.	Presidency of Strategy and Budget (PSB), Ministry of Health, Ministry of National Education (MoNE), MoFSS, municipalities, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Human Rights and Equality Institute of Türkiye, Presidency of Migration Management, CSOs	1 500	38 000	39 500
		Percentage of children in family-based care out of the total number of children in all forms of formal alternative care B: 68% (2024) T: 70%	Ministry of Family and Social Services (MoFSS)	1.2 The Government has improved capacity to reform legislative, regulatory and budgetary frameworks, enabling coordinated implementation and monitoring of inclusive child protection systems. 1.3 The Child Protection workforces at the national and local levels have improved capacities to provide quality, inclusive, people-centred and multisectoral services. 1.4 Duty bearers and rights holders are empowered to monitor and claim child rights, demand services, including for violence against women, girls and boys, and adopt non-discriminatory practices.				

<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>
Pillars 1 and 3	2. By 2030, children and young people benefit from equitable, inclusive learning and participation opportunities, acquiring the knowledge and skills to contribute to a cohesive, resilient and productive society, including in emergencies.	Net enrolment rate in pre-primary education (aged 3–5 years) B: National total: 51.9% (51.9% girls, 51.9% boys) Refugee (aged 5 years): 50.1% National: 53% Refugee: 51.5%	National Education Statistics, MoNE	2.1 The Government and stakeholders have improved capacities to provide quality, inclusive ECE services. 2.2 The education system has improved capacity to enhance inclusiveness and quality of basic education for children.	MoNE, Ministry of Youth and Sports	1 700	39 000	40 700
		Upper secondary education net enrolment rate B: National total: 88% (88.7% girls, 87.3% boys) Refugee: 48.3% (2023/24 school year) T: National: 89% Refugee: 50%	National Education Statistics, MoNE	2.3 The education system and stakeholders have improved capacities to provide quality and inclusive flexible learning and skills development opportunities to enable successful transition from school to lifelong learning and work.				
		Proportion of low performers in scores for mathematics, science and reading (15-year-old age group) B: Mathematics: 39% Science: 25% Reading: 29% (2022) T: Mathematics: 33% Science: 22% Reading: 25%	OECD/ Programme for International Student Assessment	2.4 Adolescents and youth, especially girls, have increased opportunities for inclusive skills building, employability development and meaningful participation in key issues affecting their lives.				
		Percentage of youth not in employment, education or training (aged 15–24 years) B: Total: 22.5% Female: 29.8% Male: 15.6% (2023)	TURKSTAT, labour force					

<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>
		T: 20% (National development plan target for 2028 is 20.3%)						
Pillars 1, 3 and 4	3. By 2030, children benefit from accountable and equitable shock-responsive social policies and programmes, supported by equity-focused child rights data and financing, that build resilience to risks and emergencies.	Extent to which measurement, analysis or policy advice has informed policies and programmes to reduce multidimensional child deprivation B: Score 3 (Multidimensional child deprivation measures are being used in ongoing policy discussions and/or advocacy but have not yet led to changes in policies and programmes for children) (2024) T: Score 5 (Multidimensional child deprivation measures have had specific impacts and/or informed policies and strategies)	National development plans, government strategy documents	3.1 The Government has improved capacity to implement child-sensitive social protection policies and programmes that are evidence-informed, integrated, shock-responsive and adequately financed. 3.2 The Government and municipalities have improved capacities for evidence-based, child-sensitive planning, budgeting and financing of social sector policies and services, and are better coordinated with civil society and the private sector, including during emergencies/ shocks. 3.3 National and subnational institutions have improved capacities to generate and utilize quality, sex- and disability-disaggregated data to inform child rights monitoring, policies and programmes. 3.4 Municipalities and other partners have improved capacities	PSB, MoFSS, TURKSTAT, municipalities, Human Rights and Equality Institute of Türkiye	810	5 000	5 810
		Availability of recent data on child-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators B: 80% of child-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators produced; 30% of available child-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators disaggregated for Syrians under temporary protection (2023)	Türkiye Demographic and Health Survey and nationwide surveys					

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
		T: 85% of Sustainable Development Goal child-related indicators produced; 37% of available Sustainable Development Goal child-related indicators disaggregated for Syrians		and systems to provide integrated, equitable and well-coordinated services for all children.				
	4. The country programme is coordinated and managed efficiently and effectively to achieve results for children.	Percentage of management and programme indicators on track B: 100% (2025) T: 100%		4.1 Effective implementation and coordination of multisectoral programmes, change strategies and enablers.		300	18 000	18 300
Total resources						4 310	100 000	104 310

* Outcome indicator aligned with the UNSDCF indicator.