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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Viet Nam

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Viet Nam 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 \$12,410,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$72,590,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2027 to 2031.

* [E/ICEF/2026/25](#).



Programme rationale

1. Viet Nam has achieved sustained economic growth and significant social development progress over recent decades, including major poverty reduction, showcasing a remarkable development trajectory (45 per cent of the population living under the extreme poverty line in 1992 to less than 1 per cent in 2022).¹ The country is entering a new phase, advancing towards upper-middle-income status, accelerating digital transformation – including artificial intelligence – while addressing persistent disparities, demographic change and heightened climate vulnerability. The Government has embarked on an ambitious governance reform to improve the effectiveness of public administration, including through greater decentralization. Vision 2045 sets an ambitious goal for Viet Nam to attain high-income status by accelerating inclusive, green growth to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. As a staunch supporter of multilateralism, including the United Nations and regional intergovernmental bodies, Viet Nam actively engages in global governance and contributes to global public goods, including knowledge transfer.

2. Realizing this ambitious vision requires that socio-economic progress translates into equitable and sustainable gains for society, which includes 28 million children, through an inclusive development model that systematically addresses persistent disparities related to ethnicity, geography, disability and gender. Over the past decade, multidimensional child poverty in Viet Nam has declined significantly, from 21 per cent in 2014 to 8.4 per cent in 2024.² However, disparities remain pronounced. Ethnic minority children experience a poverty rate of 33 per cent compared with 3.7 per cent among children of the ethnic majority (Kinh and Hoa).³ Regional disparities are pronounced, with the northern mountains and Central Highlands region recording poverty rates of 26 per cent and 19.5 per cent, respectively – and with higher rates in some provinces and communes.⁴ Fiscal and administrative decentralization offers new opportunities for closing equity gaps at the subnational level – but weak institutional capacities and limited cross-sectoral coordination risk reinforcing existing disparities.

3. While Viet Nam has established a broad social protection system, only 1.5 per cent of children under 16 years of age receive regular cash assistance.⁵ Key bottlenecks include a fragmented legal and policy framework, limited budgets (social assistance for children or families represents 0.4 per cent of the country's gross domestic product),⁶ low benefit levels and complex targeting mechanisms that often exclude multidimensionally poor households and children. The lack of integrated beneficiary registries and weak information systems constrain the reach and effectiveness of social assistance, particularly during shocks. Gaps in documentation and accessibility for migrant children, ethnic minority children and children with disabilities limit uptake, while traditional gender norms restrict women's access to contributory schemes, together reinforcing low coverage and persistent exclusion.

¹ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), 'OECD Economic Surveys: Viet Nam 2025', vol. 2025/16, June 2025.

² National Statistics Office of Viet Nam (NSO), *Multidimensional Child Poverty Analysis 2002–2024*, Hanoi, 2025.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ UNICEF, Socio-Economic Outlook and Social Spending: Overview for Viet Nam, Hanoi (unpublished).

⁶ International Labour Organization, UNICEF and Save the Children, Child Benefits Tracker. <https://www.childbenefitstracker.org/countries/VNM>, accessed on 11 May 2026.

4. Child health and nutrition outcomes have improved in recent years, although persistent disparities particularly affect ethnic minority and remote communities in Viet Nam. While maternal and under-5 mortality have declined significantly since 2000, progress in reducing under-5 mortality has slowed since 2015,⁷ and preventable neonatal deaths now account for more than half of all under-5 deaths.⁸ Immunization coverage declined drastically in 2023 to 77 per cent due to procurement and supply chain disruptions, contributing to a large-scale measles outbreak. Coverage has since recovered, with 96.3 per cent of children nationally fully immunized.⁹ Overall, child health outcomes and access to quality primary healthcare remain uneven. Ongoing health sector reforms focusing on expanding preventive care, digital health and social health insurance coverage present opportunities to address persistent inequities. Key bottlenecks include uneven distribution of skilled health workers, financing constraints, fragmented policy implementation and weak intersectoral coordination.

5. The prevalence of chronic malnutrition among children under 5 years of age has declined substantially over time, reaching 18 per cent in 2023.¹⁰ Yet it remains high among ethnic minority children (32 per cent).¹¹ Viet Nam also faces rapidly increasing rates of overweight and obesity, in 2020 affecting 19 per cent of children aged 5–19 years, particularly in urban areas.¹² Only 52 per cent of children aged 6–23 months receive a minimum diverse diet, while continued breastfeeding among children aged 12–23 months remains low (26 per cent).¹³ Commercially produced foods (often with added sugar and high sodium) are widely consumed by adolescents. Incomplete regulation and weak enforcement contribute to suboptimal feeding practices.

6. Mental health is a growing concern among adolescents, with 22 per cent of children aged 10–17 years experiencing mental health problems.¹⁴ Suicidal ideation affects 1.4 per cent of adolescents, with girls more likely to report suicidal ideation and emotional distress, particularly among ethnic minority groups.¹⁵ Awareness of mental health among parents and adolescents remains low and access to counselling and services is limited. Insufficient integration of mental health into primary healthcare and schools and weak cross-sector coordination limit timely identification and support.

7. Education is a national priority and is central to the country's development progress. Enrolment rates at the primary and lower secondary levels are high but significant disparities persist. Early childhood education attendance among three-year-old Khmer ethnic minority children is 37.5 per cent compared with 80.2 per cent among Kinh and Hoa children.¹⁶ At the lower secondary level, completion rates for ethnic minority children (82.8 per cent) remain below their Kinh and Hoa majority peers (94.5 per cent). Children with disabilities face barriers due to inaccessible infrastructure and limited inclusive pedagogy. Girls complete upper secondary school

⁷ United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation, *Levels and Trends in Child Mortality: Report 2024*, UNICEF, New York, 2025.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ NSO Viet Nam, 2025.

¹⁰ NSO Viet Nam, 2025.

¹¹ “Stunting rate among Vietnamese children is still high: health experts”, *Dan Tri News*, 6 November 2024.

¹² UNICEF, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), 2020–2021.

¹³ Consortium for Improving Complementary Foods in Southeast Asia (COMMIT), *Viet Nam COMMIT Synthesis Report*, UNICEF, Bangkok, 2023.

¹⁴ Institute of Sociology, University of Queensland and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, *Viet Nam Adolescent Mental Health Survey (V-NAMHS): Report on Main Findings*, Institute of Sociology, Hanoi, 2022.

¹⁵ Ibid. and Samuels, F. and T. Gupta, , ‘The role of gendered norms in driving suicidal behaviour in Vietnam: Why are girls more vulnerable?’, No. 75, *Humanitarian Exchange*, June 2019.

¹⁶ UNICEF, MICS, 2020–2021.

at higher rates (65 per cent) than boys (51 per cent) reflecting that boys, particularly those from rural and ethnic minority backgrounds, face higher risks of dropout. Learning outcome assessments indicate declining proficiency levels and disparities linked to gender stereotypes, ethnicity, socio-economic status and language.¹⁷ Early childhood development indicators reveal substantial inequities. The early childhood development index is 78.1 per cent but drops to 45.9 per cent for Hmong children and 17.5 per cent for children with disabilities.¹⁸ Key bottlenecks include limited teacher capacity, particularly for inclusive education, fragmented governance and societal norms that disadvantage children from vulnerable groups.

8. At 9 per cent, youth unemployment remains relatively low by international standards.¹⁹ However, adolescents face growing barriers to transitioning from school to employment; 10 per cent of young people aged 15 to 24 years are not in employment, education and training (12.1 per cent girls; 8.3 per cent boys). Only 11 per cent of the workforce is classified as highly skilled, indicating a gap between education outcomes and labour market demands. Digital transformation is reshaping access to learning, employment and public services, yet significant disparities persist. Only 36 per cent of youth aged 15–24 years possess basic digital skills, with a stark digital divide between urban and remote areas. One third of Kinh and Hoa (majority) youth report having information and communications technology skills, compared with only 8 per cent of ethnic minority youth.²⁰

9. Viet Nam is highly susceptible to the intensifying impacts of climate-related shocks and of water and environmental degradation. Climate-related losses have increased significantly due to the higher frequency and intensity of hazards, including typhoons, floods, droughts and heatwaves. Children are particularly vulnerable, with 99.5 per cent (26.2 million) exposed to three or more types of climate hazards, compared to 89 per cent regionally.²¹ Environmental risks further compound these vulnerabilities. Limited access to safely managed water and sanitation, inadequate wastewater treatment and frequent climate shocks (associated with water scarcity, contamination and service interruptions) increase children's exposure to waterborne diseases and environmental contamination. High levels of air pollution and toxic exposure pose significant threats to children's health. It is estimated that more than 3 million children have elevated blood lead levels.²² Children in ethnic minorities, rural and remote communities, with disabilities and in low-income households are disproportionately affected by climate and environmental risks. Despite solid policies, gaps remain in integrating child-centred risk analysis into climate, disaster and environmental governance, and in ensuring resilient, risk-informed social services.

10. Violence against children remains widespread and is socially normalized. Violent discipline at home is experienced by 72.4 per cent of children aged 1–14 years.²³ Children are increasingly exposed to digital risks, including cyberbullying, online grooming and sexual exploitation. An estimated 94,000 children are affected by online sexual exploitation, while only 36 per cent of adolescents report having

¹⁷ OECD, *PISA 2022 Results, Factsheets: Viet Nam*, 2023; United Nations Development Coordination Office, 'Viet Nam Closes Learning Gaps towards Education for All', 23 January 2025.

¹⁸ UNICEF, MICS, 2020–2021.

¹⁹ NSO, 'Press release on the situation of population, labor and employment in the fourth quarter and 2025', 1 May 2026,

²⁰ United Nations in Viet Nam, Country Analysis, unpublished.

²¹ UNICEF, *Children at the Heart of Viet Nam's New Era: Technical report on the comprehensive development of children to inform Viet Nam 2045 report*, Hanoi, 2025.

²² United Nations in Viet Nam, Country Analysis, unpublished.

²³ UNICEF, MICS, 2020–2021.

received online safety training.²⁴ The Law on Justice for Minors (2024) prioritizes diversion and community-based rehabilitation and is an important step towards more child-sensitive justice. Implementation challenges persist, with custodial sentences frequently applied and child victims facing barriers to accessing justice and gender-sensitive child-friendly procedures and support services, revealing weaknesses in social work.

11. A key lesson from the 2022–2026 country programme evaluation is that while legislative and policy reforms have advanced, constrained implementation at the national and local level, due to limited capacities and cross-sectoral coordination as well as persistent harmful social norms, limit their effectiveness, particularly for vulnerable children. New challenges such as mental health, obesity, digital threats, climate risks and declining development and humanitarian funds call for innovative, integrated responses to close equity gaps and protect the progress that has been made.

Programme priorities and partnerships

12. Building on the country's strong record in and commitment to advancing child rights over the past 50 years, this country programme aims to advance efforts that ensure inclusive child-focused human development; good governance for children and child protection; and child-centred climate, disaster and environmental action. This vision is aligned with national priorities in the Socio-Economic Development Plan for 2026–2030 and Vision 2045, including equitable socio-economic development, civil service modernization, digital transformation and climate resilience, and contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in Viet Nam. The programme will contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). Priorities are grounded in the commitments made by Viet Nam under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the 2022 concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, which highlight persistent equity and protection gaps and emerging risks.

13. Sustained economic growth and structural reforms in Viet Nam have created significant opportunities to strengthen inclusive, participatory and climate-resilient systems to advance the realization of child rights. The country programme aims to support government efforts that address inequities and emerging threats by strengthening policies, laws, institutions and public and private sector financing, prioritizing the most disadvantaged groups and ensuring that socio-economic progress translates into equitable, sustainable outcomes for all children.

14. UNICEF will act as a strategic and technical partner to national and subnational institutions, providing evidence, policy advice and capacity support to enhance the effectiveness and resilience of the social sectors in reaching the most vulnerable children. The programme will strengthen inclusive, child-focused and gender-sensitive social sector systems; reinforce governance and accountability mechanisms as well as child protection; and promote child-sensitive climate and environmental action. Integrated programming will be used, particularly at the subnational level, in areas with high multidimensional child poverty, vulnerability and climate risks, and where local capacity enables innovative approaches with high potential to reach scale. Cross-cutting programme priorities will include digital transformation (harnessing opportunities and addressing risks), gender equality, social and behaviour change through community engagement, and meaningful participation of children and adolescents.

15. Partnerships, advocacy and communications will be central strategies for programme delivery – to mobilize and leverage action and resources for UNICEF

²⁴ INTERPOL, ECPAT, UNICEF, *Disrupting Harm in Viet Nam [SNAPSHOT]: Evidence on online child sexual exploitation and abuse*, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, 2022.

programmes to support child rights and development in country and globally. UNICEF will work closely with national and subnational authorities, mass organizations, civil society organizations, United Nations entities, development partners and the private sector, including corporations, foundations and individuals, to achieve impact for children at scale. The programme will place an increasing emphasis on working with catalytic, large-scale partnerships where UNICEF acts as a convenor to promote systemic change through technical assistance, policy dialogue, evidence generation and capacity development. Collaboration with the public and private sector will be strengthened to harness innovation, technology, financing and responsible business practices that expand equitable and sustainable outcomes for children. Engagement with academia will support evidence generation and use on children's rights and social and behaviour change. Cooperation with civil society and youth-led organizations will remain essential, including to strengthen community engagement and service reach. Within the United Nations system, UNICEF will contribute to coordinated policy dialogue and joint programming in support of national priorities. Finally, thought leadership, public advocacy and communications will be used to raise awareness, mobilize action for child rights and strengthen dialogue with policymakers, professionals and the public, including children and youth.

Inclusive, child-focused human development

16. This programme component will support national priorities (including National Target Programs) to strengthen integrated systems for child and adolescent health and nutrition, mental health, education and skills, and social protection. It will advance universal access to preventive and responsive quality services in line with national priorities and will contribute to UNSDCF outcomes 1 and 2.

17. UNICEF will provide evidence-based technical assistance and advocacy to strengthen sectoral policies and financing, focusing on vulnerable children and their caregivers. Support will prioritize integrated primary healthcare and preventive services, including nutrition services, informed by economic analysis of essential service packages, vaccine introduction and expansion of social health insurance benefits to improve access to services for families with children at risk. In partnership with the Ministry of Health and relevant public and private actors, UNICEF will support the scale-up and integration of digital maternal and child health and immunization systems and community-based platforms. Efforts will focus on interoperability, data quality and real-time use of data.

18. The programme will strengthen capacities of the health and nutrition workforce at the national and subnational levels, especially front-line workers, through updated training approaches and improved performance monitoring, with particular attention to primary healthcare delivery in underserved areas. Preventive nutrition interventions will be prioritized through strengthened school food and complementary food standards, and marketing restrictions to prevent inappropriate promotion of breast-milk substitutes and unhealthy food, complemented by social and behaviour change strategies promoting healthy diets.

19. UNICEF will support multisectoral approaches to child and adolescent mental health. This includes strengthening national leadership and financing frameworks and expanding integrated mental health and psychosocial support services across health, education and community platforms. Preventive interventions, including socio-emotional learning and parenting programmes, will be reinforced alongside referral pathways and services for children affected by violence and trauma.

20. UNICEF will strengthen the capacity of the education system to deliver inclusive, quality learning and equip children and adolescents with the skills required

to contribute to and participate in the country's socio-economic development. The work of UNICEF aligns with national education reforms, including the expansion of early childhood education, curriculum modernization, digital transformation and teacher workforce development.

21. This programme component will support policy and institutional reforms to advance universal access to quality early childhood education and strengthen foundational learning. A key priority will be improving school readiness, retention, transition and completion, particularly for children from ethnic minorities, rural and remote communities, with disabilities and out of school. The programme will contribute to strengthening student assessment systems and the education data ecosystem to improve evidence-based planning and quality assurance. It will also support national frameworks for inclusive education and safe, child-centred learning environments.

22. Continued priorities will be the integration of transferable, digital and green skills across general education, technical and vocational education and training. This includes strengthening the curriculum, teacher professional standards and development systems; integrating digital, artificial intelligence and transferable competencies, including science, technology, engineering and mathematics education; supporting national career guidance and student well-being systems; and promoting school-to-work transitions and improving the relevance of learning outcomes for a rapidly evolving labour market. Private sector partnerships will promote skills development and facilitate learning-to-earning transitions and improved livelihoods.

23. UNICEF will support government efforts to strengthen an inclusive, child-sensitive and shock-responsive social protection system that reduces multidimensional child poverty, advances equitable child outcomes and improves livelihoods, with synergies in other sectors. The programme will contribute to national social protection reforms to strengthen implementation of legal and policy frameworks, including the Law on Social Insurance (2024) and the National Action Program for Children for the 2021–2030 period. Advocacy and policy dialogue will focus on promoting the design and financing of universal child benefits and leveraging targeted schemes for ethnic minority children and children with disabilities.

24. UNICEF will support modernization, digitization and interoperability of management information systems; and will strengthen the linkages between cash transfer programmes and complementary services and shock-responsive features. Through strategic partnerships with the Government, development partners, United Nations system, civil society and the private sector, UNICEF will leverage its normative mandate and technical expertise to support sustainable system reform.

25. This component will strengthen digital governance and infrastructure standards in relevant social sectors; reinforce equitable and child-responsive financing; and support parents and meaningful child and adolescent participation in decision-making. Through policy advice, technical assistance and evidence generation, UNICEF will assist national and subnational authorities to effectively implement reforms and to scale up inclusive, quality social systems.

Good governance for children and child protection

26. This programme component will support national efforts to strengthen child-responsive governance, accountability, child protection and justice systems, and meaningful participation mechanisms that enable full realization of children's rights. It will contribute to related national priorities and link with UNSDCF outcome 4.

27. UNICEF will support national and subnational authorities to strengthen governance mechanisms for coordination, planning, implementation and accountability for children's rights across sectors, and support monitoring and evaluation of the Sustainable Development Goal targets related to children. This includes strengthening child-sensitive planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation; improving the availability and use of child-focused, disaggregated data; and promoting evidence-based decision-making to address disparities affecting disadvantaged children.

28. This component will strengthen the child protection system to better prevent and respond to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation (offline and online) and harmful practices, such as child marriage – focusing on children in vulnerable situations. UNICEF will support the implementation of legal and policy frameworks, strengthening coordination, access and quality of child protection services. Strengthening capacities for professional social work delivery, including through gender-sensitive and disability inclusive approaches, will be a key priority.

29. UNICEF will support efforts to strengthen child- and gender-sensitive justice systems so that child victims, witnesses or alleged offenders are treated in accordance with international standards. This includes strengthening child-friendly procedures, implementation of diversion measures and access to legal aid and other support services for children involved in justice processes.

30. The programme will support social and behaviour change interventions that promote positive social norms, including gender equality and disability inclusion, parental skills and life skills for children and adolescents. It will also promote meaningful participation mechanisms to enable children and adolescents to express their views and contribute to decisions that affect their lives, both at the national and subnational levels.

31. Partnerships with civil society, mass organizations, academia, media and community networks will help to expand accountability and community engagement. UNICEF will engage with private sector partners to promote responsible business practices and support innovation, including safe digital solutions that strengthen governance and protection systems.

Child-centred climate, disaster, water and environmental action

32. This component aims to strengthen child-centred climate, disaster and environmental action so that all children, particularly the most vulnerable, are better protected from climate- and disaster-related risks and benefit from resilient social services and healthier environments and can participate in related decision-making. The programme will contribute to national climate change and disaster risk reduction (DRR) priorities and to UNSCDF outcome 3.

33. UNICEF will support national and subnational institutions to integrate child-centred climate risk analysis, equity considerations and evidence into climate change, DRR and environmental policies, plans and financing frameworks. This will include strengthening data systems and vulnerability mapping for risk-informed, child- and gender-sensitive planning, budgeting and anticipatory action for children and communities. UNICEF will also support strengthened coordination and institutional

capacities to embed climate resilience and environmental sustainability across social sectors. By strengthening child-centred DRR and response systems, UNICEF will align with government priorities to prevent, reduce and manage disasters – including by investing in disaster preparedness, financing, anticipatory action and early warning systems, risk communication and cross-sectoral coordination.

34. UNICEF will support national and subnational institutions to strengthen climate-resilient, digitally-driven social services so that they remain accessible, inclusive and responsive before, during and after climate- and disaster-related shocks. This includes promoting innovative, digital-driven and risk-informed planning, climate-resilient infrastructure and service-delivery models and strengthening adaptive social protection approaches.

35. This component will support prevention and mitigation of priority environmental health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)-related risks affecting children and pregnant women, including ambient and indoor air pollution, lead exposure, water security and waterborne diseases. UNICEF will promote strengthened policies, institutional arrangements, standards and guidance, digital transformation, risk communication and capacity development, alongside protective behaviours, to reduce adverse health, developmental and learning impacts on children in high-risk settings.

36. Partnerships with the private sector will be expanded to leverage innovative financing and green technologies, supporting climate-smart and accessible social sector facilities and systems. Partnerships with global financing entities, including the Green Climate Fund, and with international financial institutions, will enable blended finance models for low-carbon infrastructure and disaster preparedness.

Programme effectiveness

37. This component will provide cross-cutting support, ensuring that country programme planning, monitoring, knowledge management, evaluation, financing and management meet high quality programming standards. Digital transformation, including artificial intelligence, will be used as an accelerator for child-centred outcomes and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of UNICEF operations, partnerships and communications. An integrated approach will be used for partnerships, advocacy and communication to mobilize and leverage action and resources.

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>
Inclusive, child-focused human development	2 730	24 681	27 411
Good governance for children and child protection	4 095	15 970	20 065
Child-centred climate, disaster, water and environmental action	1 117	26 132	27 249
Programme effectiveness	4 468	5 807	10 275
Total	12 410	72 590	85 000

Programme and risk management

38. The country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for the alignment of results and resources assigned to the programme at the country level.

39. To manage the risks of declining official development assistance and humanitarian assistance, UNICEF will mobilize and leverage resources through diversified funding and financing approaches, including blended finance models that combine public funds, concessional loans and private capital. Priority will be given to leveraging resources and solutions from businesses, foundations, individuals, international financial institutions and global and regional funds to co-invest in child outcomes.

40. UNICEF will strengthen risk management across programmes, operations, partnerships and communications, including enhanced oversight, compliance with environmental and social governance standards and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. To mitigate risks related to limited coordination and management capacity, particularly at the local level, the programme will focus on integrated, child-responsive governance, digital-driven system strengthening and capacity-building.

Monitoring, learning and evaluation

41. UNICEF will work with the national statistical system, line ministries and other partners to strengthen national and subnational capacities for data collection and use for policymaking, monitoring and evaluation. Technical support will aim to improve national surveys, administrative data and research, including to enhance digitalization of public services, interoperability of data systems and use of innovative data-collection methods.

42. UNICEF will act as a convenor of policy dialogue on child rights through generation and dissemination of high-quality evidence on children. Analytical work, evaluations, research and knowledge products will guide technical assistance, support evidence use in decision-making and inform national policy dialogue.

43. UNICEF will monitor its interventions through assurance activities, field visits, partner reporting and programme data. Progress towards programme results will be assessed through regular programme monitoring and periodic reviews conducted independently or jointly with government and development partners. UNICEF will follow evaluation standards and priorities for learning and scaling up.

44. UNICEF will support national partners in fulfilling international reporting obligations related to children's rights, including reporting to the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Viet Nam – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2027–2031

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 2–4; 6, 12, 15, 17–19, 23–24, 26–28, 30 and 32.

National priorities: Socio-Economic Development Plan for the 2026–2030 period; National Target Programme on Healthcare, Population, and Development for the 2026–2035 period; National Action Program for Children for the 2021–2030 period; Programme for the Protection and Support of Children’s Development in the Digital Environment 2026–2030; National Action Plan on Education and Training to implement Resolution 71-NQ/TW; Resolution 57-NQ/TW on breakthroughs in the development of science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation; National Programme on Children’s Mental Health Care and Care for Orphans 2023–2030; National Action Plan on Pollution Remediation and Air Quality Management for 2026–2030; National Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the 2021–2030 period, with a vision to 2050; the Law on Artificial Intelligence 2025.

Sustainable Development Goals: 1–6, 10–11, 13, 16

UNSDCF outcomes involving UNICEF: 1, 2, 3 and 4.

1. By 2031, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, are healthier, better educated and skilled, and protected through their life course through improved access to inclusive, equitable, quality and gender-responsive social services and systems.
2. By 2031, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, are empowered to shape and benefit from a more inclusive, sustainable and gender-responsive economy driven by green and digital transformation, industrialization, innovation, productivity and decent work.
3. By 2031, people in Viet Nam, especially those most at risk of being left behind, are better protected from environmental degradation and climate-related risks, and benefit from healthier environment through strengthened, participatory natural resources management, disaster risk reduction, climate-resilient systems including food, and expanded clean and renewable energy.
4. By 2031, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, benefit from and contribute to a more just, safe, and inclusive society based on good governance, more responsive and data-driven institutions, strengthened rule of law, and the protection of and respect for human rights, gender equality, and freedom from all forms of violence and discrimination, in line with Viet Nam’s international commitments.

Related Impact Results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029: 1–5.

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
1, 2	1. By 2031, more children in Viet Nam, especially the most	Proportion of children under 5 years not receiving any medical services in the last 12 months	Multi-dimensional child poverty report	1.1. Health and nutrition systems, policies and institutional capacities	Ministry of Health (MOH), provincial Departments of Health (DOHs), Ministry of	2 730	24 681	27 411

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
	vulnerable, increasingly benefit from inclusive, quality health, including mental health; nutrition; education and skills-building for the future; and stronger social protection.	B (2024): 68.0% Male: 67.8% Female: 68.2% Kinh ethnic group: 65.8% Other ethnic groups: 78.2% Poorest: 76.3% Richest: 58.4% T (2030): Reduction by at least 1.5 percentage points per year		strengthened to deliver equitable, quality services for vulnerable women, pregnant women and children, particularly in underserved and outbreak-affected areas.	Education and Training (MOET), provincial Departments of Education and Training (DOETs), youth-led organizations, social innovation hubs, private sector, academia, civil society organizations (CSOs).			
		Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age* B (2024): 18.1% Male: 19.2% Female: 17.0% Cao Bang Province: 28.0% Gia Lai Province: 27.6% T (2030): less than 15%	Report by the National Institute of Nutrition	1.2. Children, caregivers, communities and service institutions strengthen capacities to prevent, identify and respond to child and adolescent mental health and psychosocial support needs.				
		Proportion of children and adolescents reporting access to mental health and psychosocial support services B (2025): 8% T (2030): 25%	National Survey on Mental Health	1.3. The education system strengthens capacity to deliver inclusive, quality learning and skills development for children and adolescents, especially girls and those in vulnerable situations.				
		Proportion of children who achieve at least a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics at the end of primary education B (2024): Reading: 86% Mathematics: 95% T (2031): Reading: 93%	South-East Asia Primary Learning Metrics reports	1.4. Social protection systems are strengthened to provide integrated social protection				

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
		Mathematics: 98%		benefits and complementary services for children and families living in, or at risk of, multidimensional poverty.				
		Proportion of young people aged 15–24 years not in employment, education or training* B (2025): 10.3% (NSO) Male: 8.3% Female: 12.1% Urban: 8.0% Rural: 11.7% T (2030): less than 7%	Annual Labor Force Survey					
		Percentage of children covered by child benefits B (2024): 1.38% T (2031): 3.4%	MOH report					
2, 4	2. By 2031, more children in Viet Nam, especially girls and those from disadvantaged groups, benefit from an inclusive and participatory, child-centred governance system, with adequate public financing and a well- functioning child protection system and child-friendly and gender- sensitive justice systems.	National multidimensional child poverty rate* B (2024): 8.4% Male: 8.5% Female: 8.2% Urban: 3.0% Rural: 11.2% Kinh ethnic group: 3.7% Other ethnic groups: 33.1% T (2031): reduction of 1.5 to 2 percentage points per year.	Multi- dimensional Child Poverty Report	2.1. National and subnational governance and public finance systems strengthen capacity, coordination and data to prioritize and monitor resources for children through transparent and participatory mechanisms. 2.2. National and subnational child protection systems have strengthened capacity, integration and resources to prevent and respond to all	Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics, NSO, MOF, MOH, MOET, Viet Nam Women's Union, Ministry of Justice, Supreme People's Court (SPC), SPP, Ministry of Public Security, Viet Nam Lawyers Association, MOH, SPC, central and provincial youth unions, youth-led and CSOs, private sector and academia.	4 095	15 970	20 065

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
		B (2025): Level 1 – Child-sensitive budgeting is limited and is not monitored. T (2031): Level 3 – Child-responsive budgeting guidance and procedures are in place and applied regularly in selected sectors and/or provinces, with periodic tracking and analysis of expenditure for children used in planning and budget review discussions	reviews; official reports on child-responsive budgeting or child-related budget tracking	forms of violence against children. 2.3. Justice and law enforcement institutions have strengthened capacities to deliver accessible, child and gender-responsive justice for child victims, witnesses or alleged offenders.				
		Percentage of children in conflict with the law subject to a diversion order or non-custodial measure B (2024): 28.8% T (2031): 32%	Report of the Supreme People's Procuracy (SPP)	2.4. National and subnational institutions establish and operationalize inclusive, safe, accessible and digitally-enabled mechanisms for meaningful participation of children and adolescents, particularly those from marginalized groups.				
		Proportion of children who are victims of violence B (2025): 4.5% T (2030): less than 4%	Government reports					
1, 3	3. By 2031, children, particularly those most exposed and marginalized, are better protected through disaster preparedness and response	Extent to which national climate policies, plans or strategies are child-responsive (Levels 1–4) B (2024): Level 1 - Limited child-responsiveness in national climate policies and strategies T (2031): Level 3 - Key national climate policies	Official government policy and planning documents, technical reports, consultation records	3.1. Climate, environmental and DRR policies and plans increasingly integrate child-centred risk analysis and equity considerations, informed by robust evidence.	MOH, MAE, MOF, Viet Nam Women's Union, MOET, selected provinces, global financing entities such as the Green Climate Fund, CSOs, academia and private sector.	1 117	26 132	27 249

<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>
	mechanisms, and have more equitable access to climate-resilient essential services, clean air and water, and information; and participate in related decision-making	and plans incorporate child-responsive measures, including child-specific measures and opportunities for child and youth participation		3.2. DRR systems strengthened to be child-centred and to prevent, reduce and manage disaster risks, including through improved preparedness, anticipatory action, and emergency response. 3.3. National and subnational institutions have strengthened capacity to integrate climate resilience and risk-informed planning into essential social services. 3.4. National authorities and relevant stakeholders strengthen capacity and enabling environments to prevent and mitigate environmental health and WASH-related risks affecting children, particularly in the most impacted areas.				
		Number of children under 18 years old breathing air at above 35 mg/m ³ (milligrams per cubic metre) B (2024): 957,000 T (2030): Reduction of 10 percentage points	Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAE) reports, MOH report, UNICEF and World Health Organization reports, Health Effects Institute					
		Percentage of rural population reached with climate-resilient drinking water B: (2025): 60% T: (2031): 66%	MAE annual report					

<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>
-	4. The country programme is effectively and efficiently coordinated, managed and well-resourced through partnerships with public and private sector, and enhanced advocacy and communication	Percentage of key performance indicators meeting scorecard benchmarks. B (2025): 100% T (2031): 100%	UNICEF country office reports	4.1 Country programme coordination and implementation systems strengthen multisectoral planning, delivery and adaptive management, including through digital transformation. 4.2 Planning, monitoring, evaluation and knowledge management systems are strengthened to improve data quality, evidence use and timely reporting on results for children. 4.3 Partnerships with public and private sector stakeholders are strengthened to advance advocacy, communication and resource mobilization in support of results for children.	-	4 468	5 807	10 275
Total resources						12 410	72 590	85 000