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Multi-country programme document

English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean countries

Summary

The multi-country programme document (MCPD) for 12 English- and Dutch-speaking countries in the Caribbean is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The MCPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of \$50,240,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$39,101,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2027 to 2031.

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

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

Programme rationale

1. Twelve English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean countries¹ are home to over 7 million people, with children comprising roughly one to two fifths of the national populations (ranging from 23 per cent in Barbados to 37 per cent in Guyana).² Despite declining fertility and outmigration in the region overall,³ at least three countries still present opportunities to harness a demographic dividend if investments in children and adolescents are sustained and expanded.⁴ As rights holders, agents of social transformation, ambassadors of their rich and diverse Caribbean cultures and stewards of increasingly fragile ecosystems, children are recognized as the region's greatest asset.

2. Although diverse in geography, demographics and culture, the 12 countries share characteristics of small island developing States (SIDS), including their size, geographic isolation, limited economic diversification and high exposure to climate-related and economic shocks. These constraints, coupled with fiscal pressures, inequality and youth unemployment, shape their development trajectories. The Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS) 2024–2034, which covers all 12 countries within the global framework, provides a 10-year road map to accelerate sustainable, inclusive and resilient development. Regional integration, advanced through the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, also furthers political coordination, economic integration and human mobility.

3. Progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals is mixed and uneven. Ten Goals are either on track or improving for at least one country but seven show no indication of being on track or achievable for any country. Stagnation or regression of progress is also noted for every country across multiple targets.⁵ Despite high social expenditure in some countries, financing for children is often inequitable, unsustainable or undercut by debt servicing. Lack of effective budget tracking and gaps in the availability and quality of disaggregated data make it difficult to assess outcomes for children and adjust policies effectively. Weak targeting further limits impact, as investments often fail to reach those most in need, including children in remote, rural or underserved communities; indigenous children; refugees and migrants; and children with disabilities. The social sector workforce suffers from high vacancy rates linked to high outmigration of skilled professionals and a need to update technical capacities.⁶

4. The 12 countries have made gains in improving child survival, with the rate of reduction for under-5 mortality between 2015 and 2023 ranging from -2.5 to -5.8 per cent.⁷ Among the seven countries with data, the proportion of children aged 24 to 59 months who are developmentally off track in terms of health, learning and psychosocial well-being ranges from 3 to 23 per cent.⁸ For children under the age of 5 years, moderate and severe rates of stunting exceed 5 per cent in six countries; wasting exceeds 5 per cent in four countries and overweight exceeds 5 per cent in five

¹ Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

² United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2024 Revision*, New York, 2024.

³ Bristol, Marlon A., *The Caribbean Multi-Country Assessment 2025* (unpublished), p.18.

⁴ Ibid, p. 30 – referring to Belize, Guyana and Suriname.

⁵ Ibid, p.15.

⁶ Ibid, p.18.

⁷ United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), *The State of the World's Children 2025 – Ending Child Poverty: Our shared imperative*, Statistical Compendium, New York, 2025.

⁸ UNICEF, *The State of the World's Children 2025*, Statistical Compendium.

countries, with the rate in two countries over 10 per cent, signalling a serious public health concern. The situation worsens with age, as the proportion of children aged 5–19 years that are overweight or obese ranges from 27 to 45 per cent.⁹ Evidence from CARICOM shows that 56 per cent of youth in the Caribbean region experience constant worry or anxiety but of those, 68 per cent did not seek a counsellor or mental health professional for support.¹⁰ Out of five countries with data, between 11.2 and 18.5 per cent of adolescents aged 13–17 years attempted suicide one or more times within the previous 12 months.¹¹

5. These trends are linked, in part, to inequitable access to, and quality of, primary healthcare services that integrate early childhood development through nurturing care; immunization to address zero-dose clusters; prevention of malnutrition with systematic growth monitoring; and age-appropriate services for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). The integration of these priorities into routine services is constrained by limited technical resources; weak intersectoral coordination and gaps in the resilience of health infrastructure. Malnutrition is linked to food insecurity and poor food environments, less than optimal infant and young child feeding practices, consumption of processed, energy-dense food and sugary drinks, and sedentary lifestyles. The serious shortage of skilled mental health professionals impedes delivery of MHPSS.

6. Participation in early childhood education ranges from 90 per cent in Barbados to less than 60 per cent in at least four countries, signalling deep equity gaps in school readiness.¹² Furthermore, just one quarter of children aged 7–14 years in Suriname demonstrate foundational numeracy, compared with half in Jamaica and roughly two thirds in Trinidad and Tobago.¹³ Boys are consistently less likely than girls to achieve expected literacy levels.¹⁴ Rates of youth not in employment, education or training range from 9 per cent to 39 per cent for boys and 10 per cent to 48 per cent for girls.¹⁵ Completion rates at upper-secondary level vary widely across countries – from 33 per cent to 96 per cent.¹⁶

7. Physical access barriers (e.g. sparse infrastructure and limited teachers) constrain education for children in indigenous and remote communities. Affordability is another barrier, with one quarter of households in Belize spending over 25 per cent of their income on their children's education.¹⁷ Children with disabilities also face inaccessible schools, weak early identification of their disability, limited assistive devices and low teacher capacities. The continuity of education is frequently interrupted due to natural disasters, highlighting gaps in the safety of school infrastructure, coverage of water and sanitation and risk management. As the pace of technological change outstrips labour market readiness, Governments also recognize the need for further education system reform, to address skills gaps in the education workforce and to close the digital divide.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ CARICOM Secretariat and UNICEF Office for the Eastern Caribbean Area, *Caribbean Child and Youth Mental Health Research Study Report*, October 2025, pp. 3 and 14.

¹¹ Global School-based Student Health Survey reports, 2009–2024, available at: <https://www.paho.org/en/enlace/global-school-based-student-health-survey-results-tool>, accessed on 15 May 2026.

¹² UNICEF, *The State of the World's Children 2025*, Statistical Compendium.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ UNICEF Belize, Household Out-of-Pocket spending on Education and Health in Belize, Survey Data Analysis Report, 2024, p. 31.

8. Violence is widespread and persistent in the Caribbean. It is estimated that more than two thirds of children aged 1–14 years have experienced some form of violent discipline at home. Rates are highest in Suriname (87 per cent), Jamaica (76 per cent) and Barbados (75 per cent), revealing support gaps for children and caregivers.¹⁸ The normalization of violent discipline mirrors broader gender norms that legitimize violence against women. Studies conducted in five countries suggest that one in three women may experience intimate partner violence in their lifetime.¹⁹ Children also internalize violent norms: out of four countries with data, the rates of adolescent boys justifying wife-beating vary between 8 and 28 per cent.²⁰ Dependence on institutions rather than family-based care alternatives is also high, with rates of children in residential care ranging from 38 to 487 per 100,000.²¹

9. Children are also exposed to violence in their communities linked to gangs and transboundary criminal organizations. Adult homicide rates for the 12 countries are nearly five times the global average and rates for children and youth aged 10–24 years are as high as 43.3 per 100,000 in Trinidad and Tobago, 39.4 per 100,000 in Jamaica and 29.2 per 100,000 in Belize.²² Men and boys constitute the majority of homicide victims and perpetrators while women and girls face elevated risks of sexual and gender-based violence.²³ Incarceration remains a default response for children in conflict with the law, with rates of minors in detention ranging from 6.4 per 100,000 in Antigua and Barbuda to 73 per 100,000 in Grenada.²⁴ Schools are also unsafe: between 13.3 per cent and 34.8 per cent of students aged 13–15 years report being bullied during the last 30 days and up to 38.4 per cent of girls and 55.5 per cent of boys reported engaging in physical fights one or more times in the last year.²⁵ Although data are lacking, digital spaces are also recognized as new frontiers of violence, abuse and exploitation.

10. Inequality, poverty and vulnerability interact to constrain opportunity and resilience. The proportion of children living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions ranges from 10 per cent in Antigua and Barbuda to 74 per cent in Guyana.²⁶ Rates of social protection coverage are low and variable, with challenges faced in securing sustainable financing, reaching vulnerable children, linking to other social services and adapting to shocks. Rural, indigenous, hinterland/interior and female-headed households are disproportionately affected by poverty, while migrant and asylum-seeking families can be excluded from social assistance.

11. Caribbean nations are among the most disaster-prone in the world. Climate-related hazards (including sea level rise, hurricanes, floods, heatwaves and drought) have increased 85 per cent since the 1980s. Over the past decade (2014–2023), 25.6 million people in the larger Caribbean region were affected by a climate-related hazard, with annual losses averaging 2.13 per cent of regional gross domestic product (GDP).²⁷ Hurricane Melissa in 2025 resulted in economic losses equivalent to 56.7 per cent of the 2024 GDP of Jamaica.²⁸ Shocks frequently lead to breaks in the

¹⁸ UNICEF, *The State of the World's Children 2025*, Statistical Compendium.

¹⁹ Bristol, Marlon A., Caribbean Multi-Country Assessment 2025 (unpublished), p. 25.

²⁰ UNICEF, *The State of the World's Children 2025*, Statistical Compendium.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Pan American Health Organization, 'Homicide mortality', level by country data tool. <https://www.paho.org/en/enlace/homicide-mortality>, accessed 5 June 2026.

²³ Caribbean Multi-Country Assessment 2025 (unpublished), p.53.

²⁴ UNICEF, *The State of the World's Children 2025*, Statistical Compendium.

²⁵ World Health Organization, Global School-based Student Health Survey Tool, 2008–2024.

²⁶ UNICEF, 'Child Poverty: For a child, poverty can last a lifetime', May 2025, <https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-poverty/overview>

²⁷ Bristol, Marlon, A., Caribbean Multi-Country Assessment 2025 (unpublished), p.15.

²⁸ Jamaica Information Service, 'Shelter Recovery Programme: Post-Hurricane Melissa response', JIS TV, 15 January 2026.

continuity of essential services, internal displacement, intra-regional migration, humanitarian needs and deepening deprivation. Influxes of asylum-seekers place considerable pressure on the public services (e.g. in Belize, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago), while raising vulnerability and risks for migrant children.

Programme priorities and partnerships

12. This multi-country programme is derived from the United Nations Caribbean Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF) 2027–2031. It aligns to key regional frameworks, including the ABAS for SIDS 2024–2034, the national development plans of all 12 countries and the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029.

13. Since December 2025, the Caribbean Reference Group, comprising the Governments of the 12 countries and UNICEF, has served as a platform to co-create a shared vision for the multi-country programme. Building on evidence, United Nations human rights treaty body observations and extensive consultations, the group has identified priorities considered most critical for children, most closely aligned with national plans and most likely to deliver results at scale. The group has also provided valuable guidance to UNICEF on proposed strategic shifts, including the transition from four separate country programmes to a single multi-country programme. Cognizant of the findings of four country and multi-country programme evaluations, UNICEF learned that it must shift from project-based implementation to scaling up evidence-based system-strengthening solutions, elevating country leadership through stronger partnerships and focusing resources where needs and potential impact are greatest.

14. The theory of change envisions children and adolescents thriving in the Caribbean with healthy bodies and minds (being developmentally on track, well-nourished, with good mental health and well-being) having access to essential learning, knowledge and skills; protection from all forms of violence; equitable access to opportunities and social protection; and enhanced capacity to manage shocks, including those associated with the changing climate. This vision is possible with regional organizations that leverage greater political commitment and resources for children; coalitions of stakeholders from the public and private sectors and civil society that are committed to child rights realization; evidence-based, child-sensitive legislative, policy and financing frameworks; more sustainable and innovative financing; enhanced institutional capacity to design, deliver and regulate equitable, shock-responsive and digitally enabled social services; and children, adolescents and caregivers that are empowered and engaged in decision-making.

15. The multi-country programme has three programmatic outcomes that align to the three expressed priorities of the Reference Group and apply to all 12 countries:

(a) The triple crises of mental health, malnutrition and learning affecting children, to be addressed by boosting equitable access to more integrated and resilient social services;

(b) Widespread, gendered and intergenerational violence against children, to be addressed by strengthening child protection systems and community-based collective action;

(c) The double burden of child poverty and vulnerability, to be addressed by strengthening the integration and shock responsiveness of social protection and other social services.

16. Key interventions and implementation strategies will address specific constraints; they represent areas of comparative advantage for UNICEF, are

appropriate to the region and will be adapted to individual country contexts. They include:

- (a) Generating, institutionalizing and using evidence more strategically, moving from data collection to timely and purposeful data intelligence for decision-making;
- (b) High-level advocacy to shape the collective priorities of Governments, the principles that underpin multilateral cooperation for children and the focus on the most vulnerable communities;
- (c) Becoming a partnership powerhouse, building and leveraging strategic multi-stakeholder coalitions to galvanize political will and regional solidarity;
- (d) Providing technical assistance to further policy and programme design, review and adjustment, enabling countries to model, share, adopt and scale up good practices and innovation in child rights programming;
- (e) Boosting and safeguarding strategic investments in children, ensuring they are efficiently and equitably spent through effective public finance management;
- (f) Strengthening institutions and systems to promote more integrated, well-coordinated, inclusive, gender- and shock-responsive social services that reach the most vulnerable children at scale, before, during and after emergencies;
- (g) Harnessing the power of programme innovation and digital transformation to strengthen the quality, reach and continuity of social services;
- (h) Elevating the voices of children and adolescents, while enhancing national capacities for social and behaviour change communication.

17. In addition to achieving results within countries, each programme component furthers regional solutions. This includes work with Governments, regional organizations, international financial institutions (IFIs) and other major development partners to galvanize political will; develop and harmonize frameworks for children; leverage resources and support access to financing mechanisms; share knowledge and broker mutual capacity development between countries; extend disaster risk management mechanisms and update the standards, protocols and evidence systems that further collective goals for children.

Equitable and resilient services to boost mental health, nutrition, learning and skills

18. This programme component aims to enhance the reach, integration, quality and resilience of the systems that deliver competency-based education, early childhood development, nutrition and MHPSS, aligning with outcome 3 of the MSDCF. UNICEF will collaborate with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to support Governments to enhance human development policies and financing frameworks, leverage investments, strengthen data collection and improve inter-ministerial coordination for more integrated services.

19. The programme will strengthen national capacities to expand and modernize primary healthcare systems and to close equity gaps in access to essential services that can identify developmental delays early; promote maternal, newborn and child health; expand immunization (including new vaccine introduction) and improve the accessibility, safety and resilience of health infrastructure. This will include support for modelling and scaling up digital innovations in patient tracking, telemedicine and mobile mental health, boosting access and continuity of services before, during and

after emergencies. UNICEF will also partner with training institutes to enhance the technical capacities of the health sector workforce and empower community health workers.

20. Most critically, UNICEF will support national and local authorities to expand and integrate MHPSS into routine primary healthcare services, strengthening early identification, case management and referral. UNICEF will also strengthen the integration of services to prevent and treat malnutrition, enhancing provider and caregiver capacity to promote early childhood development through nurturing care. Beyond the primary healthcare system, UNICEF will promote a comprehensive approach to improving food environments – promoting affordable, nutritious foods, regulation of marketing for breast-milk substitutes and unhealthy foods and beverages, and healthier diets, lifestyles and practices.

21. In education, the programme aims to enhance the reach and quality of early, foundational and socio-emotional learning, as well as the integration of twenty-first century skills development in education. This will necessitate the reform of curricula, pedagogy and methods for learning assessment, as well as strengthening the technical capacities of the education workforce to boost literacy, numeracy, problem-solving and digital, transferable and entrepreneurial skills. UNICEF will support Governments to address accessibility gaps for children with disabilities, expand alternative pathways to education for out-of-school children, boost integration of migrant, refugee and other vulnerable children, scale up innovations in distance learning and increase connectivity. The programme will support education authorities to enhance the learning environment by preventing and addressing violence in schools, expanding MHPSS and peer support mechanisms, fostering a healthier school food environment, closing gaps in infrastructure, safety and disaster management and adapting curricula to promote resilience education. It will also empower local authorities to better engage students, parents and communities, supporting their demand for, and contribution to, equitable and inclusive education.

Protecting children from all forms of violence

22. This programme component recognizes the widespread, persistent, gendered and generational nature of violence against children in the Caribbean and will promote greater equity, inclusion and integration of child protection services for a seamless continuum of care, from prevention to recovery from harm. It aligns primarily with MSDCF outcome 4 and envisions close collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the United Nations Population Fund.

23. The programme will further the legislative and policy reforms necessary to align with international commitments (e.g. those aligned with the First Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children held in Bogotá in November 2024), leverage more sustainable and innovative financing to address chronic underfunding and close persistent data gaps. UNICEF will lend technical assistance to enhance the design, administration and delivery of integrated, digitally enabled services, including case management systems, referral pathways and survivor-centred services enhancing the technical capacities of the social sector and justice workforces and strengthening links to the social welfare, education, health and justice systems.

24. The programme will also support Governments to address intimate partner violence and to expand the positive parenting and caregiver support programmes that promote life skills, emotional well-being, non-violent conflict resolution and referrals. It will also advance the alternative care reforms that promote

deinstitutionalization of children through foster care, kinship and adoption systems and boost access to violence prevention in schools.

25. Protecting children from violence in communities requires addressing the specific risk factors that allow gangs and organized criminal networks to flourish, including weak state presence, limited safe opportunities for adolescents (particularly boys) and easy access to firearms. UNICEF supports Governments, multi-stakeholder networks, faith-based organizations, private sector entities, tourism boards and youth-led groups to raise awareness of the impact of crime and violence, challenge the social and gender norms driving them and connect vulnerable children and youth to services. UNICEF will also foster community dialogue, initiate collective action strategies to prevent gender-based violence and gang recruitment and promote restorative approaches for disengagement and reintegration of children – including child-friendly justice systems that prevent unnecessary detention, ensure access to legal aid, and promote diversion and rehabilitation options for children in conflict with the law.

26. Recognizing that online threats are evolving faster than the capacity of Governments to address them, UNICEF aims to share good practice in legislative reform and enforcement, broker strategic partnerships with information technology companies, introduce codes of conduct and innovations that safeguard children online and enhance the capacity of children and caregivers to navigate digital spaces safely.

Child poverty reduction and resilience strengthening

27. This programme component will address the double burden of poverty and vulnerability, aligning to MSDCF outcomes 2 and 3. It will support Governments to unlock more innovative and flexible disaster risk and climate adaptation financing, enhance public finance management for greater equity and efficiency of budgets and model policy options for measurement and reduction of multidimensional child poverty. UNICEF will also support national institutions to engage and empower children and youth, boosting their participation in social policy and climate action.

28. The programme will advance shock-responsive social protection in coordination with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). At the country level, UNICEF will provide technical assistance to strengthen beneficiary identification, payment systems, grievance mechanisms, social registries and data management. It will also support the integration of social protection in social services through scalable models (e.g. Cash Plus programmes), better integration of vulnerable children – including migrants and asylum-seekers – and linkages to early warning, disaster risk management and humanitarian responses to enhance shock-responsiveness.

29. The programme will also ensure that the differentiated needs and capacities of children are featured in climate and disaster risk management frameworks, in coordination with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, WFP and UNDP. UNICEF will support Governments to enhance the shock-responsive nature of social services, child-centred humanitarian responses, risk communication and community engagement and accountability to affected populations. The programme will also prioritize climate-resilient WASH interventions in high-risk, underserved communities and institutions.

Programme effectiveness

30. This component will foster strategic partnerships and promote programme excellence through results-based planning, monitoring, evaluation and knowledge management, strategic child rights advocacy, external relations and communications

and the coordination of multisectoral programmes before, during and after emergencies. UNICEF will also strengthen child rights monitoring and support timely submission of State party reports to human rights treaty bodies. Effective cross-sectoral coordination will ensure that gender, disability and other determinants of inequity are addressed systematically.

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>
Equitable and resilient services to boost mental health, nutrition, learning and skills	17 597	13 690	31 287
Protecting children from all forms of violence	11 069	8 600	19 669
Child poverty reduction and resilience strengthening	12 507	9 770	22 277
Programme effectiveness	9 067	7 041	16 108
Total	50 240	39 101	89 341

* Other resources (emergency) funding may be mobilized, as required, through humanitarian appeals processes.

Programme and risk management

31. This multi-country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to the MSDCF 2027–2031 and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for the achievement of results and resources assigned to the programme. Accountabilities of managers at country, regional and headquarters levels for programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures. Implementation at the country level is guided by multi-year workplans signed with respective Governments.

32. As part of the United Nations country teams, UNICEF will drive MSDCF implementation and will lead one results group. In line with United Nations business operations strategies, UNICEF implements the harmonized approach to cash transfers, accountability to affected populations, child safeguarding, zero-tolerance measures to protect from sexual exploitation and abuse and operational commitments to environmental sustainability. UNICEF is also committed to ensuring minimum standards for preparedness and delivering the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action.

Monitoring, evaluation and learning

33. Programme monitoring will be based on the results and resources framework. Joint field monitoring, annual reviews and programme evaluations will be conducted in collaboration with the respective Governments and other United Nations entities to assess progress, ensure programme adjustments and further institutional learning. UNICEF will endeavour to have all relevant indicators disaggregated by country and by sex and age wherever possible, and will strengthen and modernize data management systems with National Statistics Offices, supporting internationally comparable surveys, such as the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), where

feasible. UNICEF will also aggregate and analyse data across countries, support topical research and strengthen the evaluation function with Governments and regional organizations.

Annex

Results and resources framework

English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean countries – UNICEF multi-country programme of cooperation, 2027–2031

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 4–7, 11–13, 16–17, 24, 27–29 and 39. National priorities: Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2–4, 10 and 16
MSDCF outcomes involving UNICEF: By 2031: 2. People and communities in the Caribbean are more resilient to climate change, environmental, disaster and economic shocks, while protecting ecosystems and reducing vulnerability. 3. People in the Caribbean are supported by inclusive and shock-responsive health, education, social protection systems and related social service institutions that ensure continuity and quality services for all. 4. People and communities across the Caribbean – especially those most at risk – experience greater safety, resilience, and trust, with reduced exposure to crime and all forms of violence.
Related Impact Results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029: 1–5

<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>
3	1. By 2031, children and adolescents have more equitable access to high-quality, inclusive and resilient primary healthcare and education systems, enabling them to be both physically and mentally healthy, learning and	1.1 Percentage of children aged 24–59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being Antigua and Barbuda B: Data not available (DNA) T: Not applicable (N/A)	MICS	1.1 Governments have greater capacity to prioritize mental health, nutrition, learning and skills through their policies, plans and budgets. 1.2 National and local authorities have greater capacity to deliver	Regional organizations, governments, United Nations, IFIs, academic institutions, civil society and private sector.	17 597	13 690	31 287

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
	acquiring the skills they need for the future.	Barbados B: 97 (2012) T: 99 Belize B: 83 (2024) T: 90 Dominica B: DNA T: N/A Grenada B: DNA T: N/A Guyana B: 87 (2020) T: 90 Jamaica B: 93.8 (2022) T: 95 Saint Kitts and Nevis B: DNA T: N/A Saint Lucia B: 91 (2012) T: 95 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines B: DNA T: N/A Suriname B: 77 (2018) T: 80 Trinidad and Tobago B: 93 (2022) T: 95		high-quality, integrated and inclusive primary healthcare services that improve physical and mental health of children and adolescents. 1.3 Education authorities have greater capacity to deliver quality, inclusive and resilient education that strengthens early learning, foundational learning and skills acquisition for all children.				

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 Percentage of students aged 13–15 years who attempted suicide one or more times during the past 12 months Antigua and Barbuda B: 12.3 (2009) T: <10.5 Barbados B: DNA T: N/A Belize B: 9.52 / 100 000 (2023) T: <7 Dominica B: 15.3 (2009) T: <12.5 Grenada B: DNA T: N/A Guyana B: 24 (2010) T: 20 Jamaica B: 24.3 (2017) T: 20 Saint Kitts and Nevis B: 13.9 (2011) T: <11.5 Saint Lucia B: 17 (2018) T: 14	Global school-based student health survey and Health Management Information Systems					

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
		Saint Vincent and the Grenadines B: 19 (2018) T: <15.5 Suriname B: 9.6 (2016) T: 9 Trinidad and Tobago B: 14.2 (2017) T: <12						
		1.3 Percentage of children under 5 years of age that are overweight Antigua and Barbuda B: DNA T: N/A Barbados B: 12.2 (2012) T: 11 Belize B: 8.9 (2024) T: <7 Dominica B: DNA T: N/A Grenada B: DNA T: N/A Guyana B: 6.5 (2019) T: 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
		Jamaica B: 5.9 (2018) T: 5 Saint Kitts and Nevis B: DNA T: N/A Saint Lucia B: 6.3 (2012) T: 6 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines B: DNA T: N/A Suriname B: 3.5 (2018) T: TBD Trinidad and Tobago B: 11.4 (2011) T: 11						
		1.4 Percentage of children (aged 7–14 years) who successfully completed: (a) three foundational reading tasks and (b) four foundational number tasks Antigua and Barbuda B: DNA T: N/A						

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
		Barbados B: DNA T: N/A Belize B: (a) 42.61; (b) 50.37 (2024) T: (a) 50; (b) 58 Dominica B: DNA T: N/A Grenada B: DNA T: N/A Guyana B: (a) 61 (2019); (b) 66 (2019) T: (a) 65; (b) 70 Jamaica B: (a) 62.4; (b) 50.1 (2022) T: (a) 65; (b) 65 Saint Kitts and Nevis B: DNA T: N/A Saint Lucia B: (a) 58 (2012) T: (b) 60 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines B: DNA T: N/A						

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
		Suriname B: (a) 47 (2022); (b) 25 (2018) T: (a) 50; (b) 30 Trinidad and Tobago B: (a) 80.2; (b) 65.8 (2022) T: (a) 85; (b) 72						
4	2. By 2031, children and adolescents benefit from more inclusive, equitable and integrated child protection systems that are more effective at preventing and responding to all forms of violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices.	2.1 Percentage of children (1–14 years) who experienced any violent punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past one month Antigua and Barbuda B: DNA T: N/A Barbados B: 75.1 (2012) T: 70 Belize B: 62.3 (2024) T: 60 Dominica B: DNA T: N/A Grenada B: DNA T: N/A Guyana B: 72.5 (2020) T: 70	MICS data	2.1 Governments have greater capacity to reform legal and policy frameworks, enhance accountability and adherence to international standards and mobilize commitments to prevent and respond to violence against children. 2.2 Social sector workforce and front-line service providers have greater capacity to coordinate, integrate and deliver child protection programmes. 2.3 Key duty-bearers have greater capacity to challenge the social and gender norms	Regional organizations, governments, United Nations entities, IFIs, academic institutions, civil society and private sector.	11 069	8 600	19 669

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
		Jamaica B: 76 (2022) T: 70 Saint Kitts and Nevis B: DNA T: N/A Saint Lucia B: 67.5 (2012) T: 60 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines B: DNA T: N/A Suriname B: 87.3 (2018) T: 80 Trinidad and Tobago B: 67.2 (2022) T: 60		that perpetuate violence.				
		2.2 Child and adolescent homicide rate (homicides among age 0–19 years per 100,000 population) Antigua and Barbuda B: 2.4 (2021) T: 2 Barbados B: 3.7 (2021) T: 3 Belize B: 6.4 (2021) T: 5	PAHO ENLACE Data Portal MSDCF indicator					

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
		Dominica B: 3.3 (2021) T: 2 Grenada B: 2.1 (2021) T: 1 Guyana B: 3.1 (2021) T: 2.5 Jamaica B: 11.1 (2021) T: 9 Saint Kitts and Nevis B: 6.2 (2021) T: 5 Saint Lucia B: 6.8 (2021) T: 5 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines B: 6.6 (2021) T: 5 Suriname B: 2 (2021) T: 1 Trinidad and Tobago B: 10.4 (2021) T: 9						
		2.3 Percentage of students (aged 13–15 years) reporting being bullied in past 30 days	Global school- based student health survey reports					

<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>
		Antigua and Barbuda B: 24.9 (2009) T: 20 Barbados B: 13.3 (2011) T: 10 Belize B: 30.7 (2011) T: 25 Dominica B: 27.4 (2009) T: 25 Grenada B: 27 (2008) T: 20 Guyana B: 38.4 (2010) T: 30 Jamaica B: 25.5 (2017) T: 20 Saint Kitts and Nevis B: 22.7 (2011) T: 18 Saint Lucia B: 26.5 (2018) T: 20 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines B: 26.9 (2018) T: 20						

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
		Suriname B: 25.3 (2016) T: 20 Trinidad and Tobago B: 15.7 (2017) T: 12						
2, 3	3. By 2031, children and adolescents, particularly the most vulnerable, benefit from stronger, more inclusive and shock-responsive social policies, systems and public investments.	3.1 Monetary child poverty rate Antigua and Barbuda B: 24.3 (2022) T: 20 Barbados B: 35.6 (2016/17) T: 30 Belize B: 60 (2018) T: 40 Dominica B: 33 (2020) T: 30 Grenada B: 50.9 (2019) T: 45 Guyana B: 47 (2019) T: 40 Jamaica B: 22.1 (2021) T: 18 Saint Kitts and Nevis B: 31.2 (2018)	National Statistics Offices; surveys of living conditions, World Bank data	3.1 Social protection frameworks, policies and financing mechanisms for children are increasingly equitable, inclusive and shock-responsive. 3.2 Governments have strengthened capacity to deliver evidence-based, inclusive and shock-responsive social protection programmes. 3.3 Governments have strengthened capacities to design and implement child-sensitive climate adaptation and comprehensive disaster risk management programmes.	Regional organizations, governments, United Nations entities, academic institutions, civil society, IFIs, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and private sector.	12 507	9 770	22 277

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: 30 Saint Lucia B: 34.5 (2015) T: 30 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines B: 37.6 (2018–19) T: 30 Suriname B: 47 (2022) T: 40 Trinidad and Tobago B: 22 (2017) T: 20						
		3.2 Proportion of the population covered by social protection floors/ systems Antigua and Barbuda B: 12.3 (2018) T: 20 Barbados B: 24.2 (2020) T: 30 Belize B: 32 (2023) T: 50 Dominica B: 31.7 (2020) T: 40	ILO Statistics Database (ILOSTAT) (MSDCF indicator)					

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
		Grenada B: 16.5 (2022) T: 20 Guyana B: 100 (2020) T: 100 Jamaica B: 36.2 (2020) T: 35 Saint Kitts and Nevis B: 100(2020) T: 100 Saint Lucia B: 5.8 (2020) T: 10 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines B: DNA T: N/A Suriname B: 33.6 (2021) T: 40 Trinidad and Tobago B: 69 (2021) T: 75						
		3.3 Average country capacity score for adopting and implementing national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for	United Nations Sendai Framework Monitoring Database					

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
		Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 Antigua and Barbuda B: 0.60 (2019) T: 75 Barbados B: 1 (2019) T: 1 Belize B: DNA T: N/A Dominica B: 0.65 T: 0.80 Grenada B: 0.55 – 0.60 (2025) T: 0.80 Guyana B: 0.6 (2019) T: TBD Jamaica B: 0.75 (2023) T: 0.85 Saint Kitts and Nevis B: DNA T: N/A Saint Lucia B: 0.83 (2019) T: 0.95						

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
		Saint Vincent and the Grenadines B: 0.53 (2019) T: 0.65 Suriname B: DNA T: N/A Trinidad and Tobago B: 0.75 (2020) T: 0.85						
-	4. The country programme is efficiently and effectively coordinated and managed to achieve results for children.	Percentage of management and programme indicators on track B: N/A T: 100%	UNICEF internal reports	4.1 Effective coordination of multisectoral programmes, strategies and enablers. 4.2 Child rights monitoring through national data collection, analysis and strategic use. 4.3 Child rights advocacy, communications and external relations. 4.4 Strategic partnerships to leverage resources, further innovation and digital transformation.	United Nations system	9 067	7 041	16 108
Total resources						50 240	39 101	89 341