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Country programme document

Guatemala

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Guatemala is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of \$4,096,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$34,596,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2027 to 2030.

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

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

Programme rationale

1. Guatemala is an upper-middle income country with a population of 18.3 million people in 2026, of whom 35.9 per cent (6.6 million) are children and adolescents.¹ The country is undergoing a sustained demographic transition characterized by a significant decline in the total fertility rate,² a key demographic indicator for planning and adequately financing social services. This has resulted in a limited window of opportunity to benefit from the demographic dividend.

2. Despite relative macroeconomic stability, Guatemala continues to experience structural inequality. Some 64.8 per cent of children and adolescents live in poverty, compared to 56 per cent of the general population, while poverty among Indigenous children is as high as 80.8 per cent.³ This inequality reflects patterns of historical exclusion and geographic isolation, reinforcing intergenerational cycles of deprivation.

3. Over the years, the Government has implemented a series of initiatives aimed at tackling chronic child malnutrition. However, 42.1 per cent of children under 5 years of age are affected by stunting,⁴ with a higher prevalence in Indigenous and rural communities. The United Nations Common Country Analysis highlights inadequate access to quality health services, safe water, sanitation, adequate diets and care support as the main bottlenecks related to this deprivation.

4. The neonatal mortality rate is 18 per 1,000 live births,⁵ and the maternal mortality rate is 99 per 100,000 live births.⁶ There are significant subnational disparities, with mortality rates of more than double the national average in some departments.⁷ Relevant bottlenecks include the shortage of adequately trained health professionals, weak referral systems, and limited access to antenatal and specialized care.

5. In Guatemala, 5.2 million children and adolescents do not have access to sanitation services, and 4.6 million do not have access to safe water. Some 30 per cent of households in Guatemala experience water shortages at least once a month, and 52 per cent of Guatemalan children consume water infected with *E. coli*.⁸

6. Although primary education coverage is almost universal, 90 per cent of children aged 36–59 months do not attend an early education programme.⁹ Only 55.2 per cent of adolescents are enrolled in lower secondary and 27.5 per cent in upper secondary school.¹⁰ These gaps negatively affect children's educational pathways and

¹ Guatemala, National Institute of Statistics (INE), "Estimaciones y proyecciones de población 2020" [2020 population estimates and projections] [in Spanish], available at <https://www.ine.gob.gt/proyecciones/>.

² Guatemala, INE, "Estadísticas vitales: 2023" [Vital statistics: 2023] [in Spanish], available at <https://www.ine.gob.gt/publicaciones3.php?c=82>.

³ Guatemala, INE, *Encuesta nacional de condiciones de vida: ENCOVI 2023. Principales resultados de pobreza y desigualdad* [National Living Conditions Survey 2023: Main Results on Poverty and Inequality] (Ciudad de Guatemala, 2023) [in Spanish], available at <https://www.ine.gob.gt/publicaciones3.php>.

⁴ Guatemala, INE, *Encuesta nacional de desarrollo en salud* [National Health Development Survey] (Ciudad de Guatemala, 2025) [in Spanish], available at <https://www.ine.gob.gt/endesa/>.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Guatemala, Ministry of Health, *Situación de la mortalidad materna: Años 2020 y 2021* [Maternal Mortality Situation Report: Years 2020 and 2021] (Ciudad de Guatemala, 2020) [in Spanish], available at <https://guatemala.unfpa.org/es/publications/situaci%C3%B3n-de-mortalidad-materna-en-guatemala-a%C3%B1os-2020-y-2021>.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Guatemala, INE, *Encuesta nacional de desarrollo en salud*.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Guatemala, Ministry of Education, *Anuario estadístico* [Statistical Yearbook] (Guatemala, 2025) [in Spanish], available at <https://estadistica.mineduc.gob.gt/anuario/home.html>.

constrain the development of human capital and long-term economic opportunities, disproportionately affecting children and adolescents living in rural, Indigenous and poor areas.

7. Adolescent girls are at higher risk of dropping out of school due to several factors including early unions, unwanted pregnancies, domestic responsibilities and different forms of violence. Inadequate menstrual hygiene facilities and unsafe school environments further limit their educational development, participation and retention, especially in rural areas.

8. Less than 50 per cent of primary school pupils achieve the expected level of learning in reading and mathematics.¹¹ The significantly higher proportion of students from the highest wealth quintiles compared with those from the lowest quintiles is indicative of marked socioeconomic disparities. The United Nations Common Country Analysis identifies limited public investment, inadequate infrastructure, teacher shortages and social barriers as key factors contributing to low learning outcomes.

9. Violence against children and adolescents continues to be widespread. Administrative records registered more than 27,000 child victims of violence in 2024, with sexual violence disproportionately affecting adolescent girls, especially Indigenous girls.¹² Child well-being continues to be undermined by harmful social norms, including widespread acceptance of physical punishment, silence and cover-up, stigmatization of victims, and discriminatory attitudes towards children with disabilities.

10. Guatemala is a country of origin, transit and return for children and adolescents in situations of human mobility. Between 2020 and 2025, more than 63,000 accompanied and unaccompanied children and adolescents returned to the country¹³ after having been exposed to multiple risk factors along the migration route, affecting their physical, emotional and social integrity.

11. State capacity to tackle child deprivation is severely constrained by low public social spending of approximately 7.9 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2023, compared with a regional average of 11.5 per cent.¹⁴ Public investment in children represents around 3.5 per cent of GDP.

12. Public finance challenges are compounded by an annual budget process characterized by rigid allocations, limited multi-year planning and weak execution at the subnational level.

13. Guatemala is one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change and natural hazards in the world.¹⁵ Climate shocks exacerbate existing deprivation by disrupting education and health services, undermining food security, increasing the disease burden and driving displacement and migration. Available models indicate that

¹¹ Guatemala, Ministry of Education, *Resultados de la evaluación de primaria* [Primary School Assessment Results] (Ciudad de Guatemala, 2025) [in Spanish], available at <https://edu.mineduc.gob.gt/digeduca/>.

¹² Statistics from Guatemala, Public Prosecution Office, 2024.

¹³ Guatemalan Institute of Migration, “Informes Estadísticos” [Statistical reports] [in Spanish], available at <https://igm.gob.gt/informes-estadisticos/>.

¹⁴ United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, “Total annual gross domestic product (GDP) at current prices in dollars”, CEPALSTAT, available at <https://statistics.cepal.org/portal/cepalstat/dashboard.html?theme=2&lang=en>.

¹⁵ Inter-Agency Standing Committee and European Commission, *INFORM Report 2024: 10 years of INFORM. Shared Evidence for Managing Crises and Disasters* (Luxembourg, Publications Office of the European Union, 2024), available at <https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/Portals/0/InfoRM/2024/INFORM%20Annual%20Report%202024.pdf>.

climate change could slow progress on reducing child stunting by 9.1–13.3 per cent between 2030 and 2050.¹⁶

14. These interconnected challenges underscore the need for systemic, multisectoral and equity-focused responses that strengthen institutions, improve governance, mobilize public resources and build resilience in the social sectors.

15. Important lessons were learned from the implementation of the 2022–2026 country programme, which inform the strategic direction of the new cycle. When programmatic interventions were not integrated into public systems or supported by national financing, they showed limited potential for sustainability and scale. Interventions that influenced policy frameworks, institutional capacity-building and increased public budget allocations achieved greater impact and sustainability.

Programme priorities and partnerships

16. The country programme vision prioritizes early childhood development. It aims to see Guatemalan children, particularly those living in territories and populations with higher levels of exclusion, survive, grow and develop to their full potential, with the support of strong, equitable and resilient public systems. Multisectoral interventions for early childhood, anchored in adequately funded public systems, will achieve results at scale, to the extent that they generate significant and lasting impacts on human development, equity and the reduction of existing social gaps.

17. The country programme is aligned with the National Development Priorities, the National Development Plan K'atun: Nuestra Guatemala 2032, the General Government Policy 2024–2028, and the Public Policy for Comprehensive Early Childhood Development 2024–2044. It contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by strengthening public systems that promote equity, human development and resilience. Programme implementation will also seek to align with the long-term vision of the updated National Development Plan K'atun for 2052.

18. The country programme priorities were identified through consultations with key stakeholders from the Government, civil society, international cooperation, adolescents and young people as part of the process of developing the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Guatemala 2026–2030. The country programme is aligned with this framework, in particular strategic priorities 1 (Strengthening democratic governance and the rule of law), 2 (Contributing to human development: Reducing poverty and creating prosperity) and 4 (Addressing human mobility and migration).

19. The programme is aligned with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and takes as its reference the most recent observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on Guatemala. They include the need to reduce chronic child malnutrition; strengthen access to maternal and child health services and address the social determinants of health; guarantee universal access to education from early childhood through adolescence; increase public social spending on children and strengthen social protection programmes for families with children living in extreme poverty;

¹⁶ Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama, *Cambio climático y nutrición* [Climate Change and Nutrition] (Ciudad de Guatemala, 2017) [in Spanish], available at https://www.incap.int/incap5/files/docman-files/publicaciones-incap/informes/calidad-nutricional-de-la-dieta-y-analisis-de-san/incap%202017_cambio%20climatico%20y%20nutricion%20incap_a.pdf.

and consolidate a special protection system for child victims of violence that can steer response and prevention services.¹⁷

20. UNICEF will support the Government's strategic priorities at the national, departmental, municipal and community levels through sustainable, scalable and high-impact interventions that enable the formulation, funding and implementation of public policies, institutional capacity-building for the lead institutions at the four levels and cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms.

21. Domestic public financing, including innovative financing arrangements, is recognized as the main driver of scale and sustainability. The programme will prioritize technical assistance to strengthen child-sensitive budgets at national and local levels. It will focus on building municipal capacity for planning, financial management, service supervision and accountability, especially in territories with high levels of exclusion, including rural areas, the Dry Corridor and areas where the four peoples of Guatemala¹⁸ and other population groups coexist, in coordination with the Development Council System and subnational planning instruments.

Health and nutrition

22. This component seeks to ensure that children and pregnant women, especially those in the most vulnerable territories and populations, have timely and ongoing access to essential and adequate health, nutrition, water and sanitation services, and safe hygiene practices, focusing on the first 1,000 days of life.

23. Strengthening primary healthcare platforms will help to reduce maternal and infant mortality and chronic malnutrition. It will foster early childhood development and promote safe environments and the provision of resilient basic services, focusing on territories with a higher concentration of Indigenous people.

24. The priorities under this component include:

(a) Strengthening cross-sectoral governance, institutional and territorial capacity, and community participation to implement essential health and nutrition interventions for children and pregnant women, focusing on the first 1,000 days of life.

(b) Strengthening institutional, territorial and community capacity to expand access to safe and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in health facilities, communities and households, contributing to disease prevention and improved health and nutrition outcomes.

25. UNICEF will undertake advocacy and capacity-development activities aimed at shaping and advancing a systemic transformation of approaches to health and nutrition. It will contribute to strengthening governance, the design of comprehensive, contextualized and culturally relevant national, departmental, municipal and community policies and programmes, and improving essential environments and services, prioritizing the scaling up of high-impact interventions, transformative partnerships and the promotion of healthy norms and practices.

26. The focus on the double burden of malnutrition will make it possible, on the one hand, to strengthen national capacity in primary care to treat chronic and acute malnutrition and provide maternal and child health and immunization services. On the other, it will help curb the accelerating rates of overweight and obese children through evidence generation, continuous monitoring, building strategic partnerships,

¹⁷ Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding observations on the seventh periodic report of Guatemala*, CRC/C/GTM/CO/7, 21 June 2024, available at <https://docs.un.org/en/CRC/C/GTM/CO/7>.

¹⁸ Maya, Garifuna, Xinka and Ladino.

and supporting regulatory policies and programmes that promote healthy food environments and services.

27. WASH interventions will serve as key enablers to improve early childhood health and nutrition outcomes and help reduce child morbidity and malnutrition, especially in rural areas of the country.

28. UNICEF will work in coordination with national and subnational authorities responsible for health, nutrition, water and sanitation, planning and public finances, as well as with local service providers and community bodies. The programme will support stronger coordination across government levels, and greater departmental and municipal planning and management capacity. It will coordinate territorial priorities with the Development Council System and subnational planning instruments, and channel the coordination of implementation through departmental governments, drawing on the examples of relevant territorial experiences, such as those of Alta Verapaz and San Marcos.

29. This component is aligned with UNICEF Strategic Plan 2026–2029 impact result 1 (10 million child lives saved and at least 500 million children healthy, well-nourished and developmentally on-track), and with strategic priority 2 of the UNSDCF for Guatemala 2026–2030 (Contributing to human development: Reducing poverty and creating prosperity).

Education, learning and skills development

30. This component seeks to help more children, especially those living in rural areas and Indigenous children, to access early childhood and pre-primary education, while developing foundational learning and life skills through formal and non-formal educational programmes.

31. The priorities under this component include:

(a) Expanding access to early childhood and pre-primary education by expanding the coverage of formal and non-formal education programmes.

(b) Contributing to better foundational learning and life skills by strengthening teaching capacity, pedagogical practices, and safe and enabling school environments.

32. UNICEF will provide technical assistance to the Government to design and fund the expansion of educational coverage at the levels with the largest gaps, focusing on populations in the most vulnerable situations. It will support culturally and linguistically relevant educational inclusion programmes, incorporating digital technologies and promoting equitable budget allocation. In addition, it will provide support to strengthen comprehensive risk management and response across the education sector, focusing on resilience in the face of extreme hydrometeorological events and multiple threats, strengthening the approach to children and climate change, the development of resilient schools, and integrated disaster risk management.

33. UNICEF will support the Government to design and implement evidence-based, digital transformation-assisted strategies to promote foundational learning, including remedial learning. It will also advocate for increased investment in teacher training and professionalization and educational quality, and will support curriculum reform processes for the teaching of socioemotional, digital, scientific and job skills. It will also promote components aimed at capacity-building for adolescents in coordination with the competent national institutions, including the transition from school to work, and strengthening the development of transferable and life skills. Interventions will

include activities aimed at helping to demystify traditional models of masculinity among young men, and at promoting women's entry into the labour market.

34. UNICEF will work in close coordination with national and subnational education authorities, prioritizing interventions in territories with the largest access gaps and weakest learning outcomes. Actively seeking partnerships with the private sector will be key to achieving results at scale.

35. This component is aligned with UNICEF Strategic Plan 2026–2029 impact result 2 (350 million more children and young people learning and skilled), and with strategic priority 2 of the UNSDCF for Guatemala 2026–2030 (Contributing to human development: Reducing poverty and creating prosperity).

Social protection and public financing for children

36. This component aims to ensure that children in Guatemala have access, together with their families, to a basic set of social protection and early childhood development services, financed by increased public resources and supported by strengthened institutional capacity at the national and municipal levels.

37. The priorities under this component include:

(a) Increasing the coverage of inclusive and adaptive social protection programmes aimed at children.

(b) Improving the allocation, equity and effectiveness of public social investment in children at the central, departmental and local levels.

38. UNICEF will support policy dialogue, technical assistance, evidence generation and advocacy to address structural constraints affecting public financing, strengthen information systems, and improve alignment between public spending and measurable results for children. It will seek to mainstream child-focused investments across national and decentralized financing systems, using child poverty and equity analyses to inform resource allocation and track distributional impacts.

39. UNICEF will support the Government's efforts to reduce child poverty by providing technical assistance to guide cross-sectoral strategies and actions that prioritize early childhood, focusing on rural areas and areas with larger Indigenous and Afrodescendant populations. Technical assistance will aim at improving coordination and increasing the scope of multisectoral efforts to reduce poverty and facilitate interoperability between information systems, to link cash transfer programmes with the provision of complementary services connected with the health, nutrition, education and protection sectors.

40. The programme will focus on increasing national, departmental and municipal capacity in results-based management and public financing for children. It will advocate for greater fiscal sustainability of interventions aimed at children in the medium and long term, and will provide technical assistance to ensure that children and adolescents are prioritized in the process of preparing, allocating and executing the national budget. Poverty and chronic child malnutrition rates will inform geographic prioritization.

41. This component is aligned with UNICEF Strategic Plan 2026–2029 impact result 3 (100 million fewer children in multidimensional poverty) and with strategic priority 2 of the UNSDCF for Guatemala 2026–2030 (Contributing to human development: Reducing poverty and creating prosperity).

Child protection

42. This component seeks to ensure that more children, including those in situations of human mobility, live free from violence, abuse and exploitation by strengthening a decentralized, comprehensive child protection system that is financially sustainable and based on international standards.

43. The priorities under this component include:

(a) Preventing violence against children by creating and strengthening protective environments, changing social norms and ensuring coordinated multisectoral action.

(b) Increasing access to integrated special protection and justice services for child and adolescent victims of violence and adolescents in conflict with the law, and expanding birth registration and legal identity.

44. UNICEF will advocate for the implementation of legal instruments and public policies to prevent and respond to violence against children at the national, departmental and municipal levels. It will provide technical assistance to central and local governments to design and implement action plans that promote protective environments based on the socioecological approach, helping to change social norms to favour positive parenting and respect for children's rights. It will prioritize the strengthening of municipal child protection offices to support prevention, case management and timely referral. In this context, UNICEF will drive a rigorous analysis of the current public policy framework to generate synergies and avoid duplication of efforts, especially in relation to efforts to prevent violence, exploitation, human trafficking and sexual violence. It will coordinate on an ongoing basis with the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance, as the lead agency for early childhood policy.

45. In addition, UNICEF will provide technical assistance to national and local institutions to scale up the coverage of specialized programmes and services that respond to violence and provide access to justice, promoting access to psychosocial care and specialized services, including family-based alternative care. UNICEF will support the coordination of specialized response services for child and adolescent victims of violence with sectoral health, education and social protection programmes, and will assist the judicial system to strengthen specialized justice models for children.

46. UNICEF will support government efforts to protect children in situations of human mobility and enable their reintegration with their family and community. It will do this through the development of care protocols and capacity-building for public servants, technical assistance for the institutions responsible for differentiated care for accompanied and unaccompanied returnee children and adolescents, and the promotion of cross-sectoral coordination for reintegration into school.

47. This component is aligned with UNICEF Strategic Plan 2026–2029 impact result 4 (350 million children protected from violence) and strategic priorities 1 (Strengthening democratic governance and the rule of law) and 4 (Addressing human mobility and migration) of the UNSDCF for Guatemala 2026–2030.

Programme effectiveness

48. This component will guarantee the integrated management of the programme's various focus areas, thus promoting a comprehensive, territorially relevant and results-based approach to early childhood development. This will involve strengthening planning, monitoring, evaluation and results-based management

mechanisms in coordination with the governing public bodies, ensuring they take the lead with regard to the implementation and sustainability of interventions.

49. UNICEF will mobilize financial resources and prioritize cost-effective multisectoral interventions that focus on adolescent girls, as a key accelerator to achieve results at scale. Investing in adolescent girls' development, leadership and agency will have a multiplier effect on health and nutrition, education, and protection from violence, abuse and exploitation, and will directly benefit children, communities and the economy.

50. The programme will systematically apply the social and behaviour change approach to foster community ownership and participation, especially among the most underserved populations. This will also help strengthen links to and demand for high-quality culturally relevant services, and address norms and practices that negatively affect child well-being in all programme areas, emphasizing the promotion of nurturing and sensitive early childhood care.

51. Innovation and digital transformation will be mainstreamed across all programme components to increase the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of outcomes for children. Priority will be given to innovations that strengthen long-term institutional capacity, improve the efficiency of public investment, and facilitate sustainable access to services for the most excluded groups. Innovative initiatives will seek to integrate into national and local systems, thus ensuring institutional ownership and lasting impact on a large scale.

52. The programme will help to strengthen the National Statistical System, sectoral information systems at the national and subnational levels, and the interoperability of these systems to improve the accuracy of resource allocation, service delivery and results-monitoring. To this end, UNICEF will facilitate the periodic generation of data on the living conditions of children and adolescents, including through internationally comparable surveys. In addition, it will support national efforts to improve the planning, monitoring and evaluation of public policies, such as the National Monitoring and Evaluation System initiative, and its linkage with budget formulation, allocation and execution on child-sensitive issues.

53. It will also coordinate key actions such as advocacy and the promotion of evidence-based policies and legislation founded on international children's rights standards. The programme will integrate approaches that are culturally and territorially relevant, and based on human rights, equity and citizen participation in a cross-cutting manner. It will likewise promote activities to encourage the participation of adolescents and young people, strengthening their capacity for active and conscious citizen participation, and their influence on the public agenda and in other civic spaces. In addition, external communication and social mobilization strategies will be deployed to place children's rights on the national public agenda.

54. Partnerships with the private sector will be key to the achievement of programmatic results for children at scale, broadening the scope of interventions, incorporating innovative financing mechanisms and supporting the scaling up of locally validated solutions for integration into national public policies and systems. The programme will also promote greater private sector involvement and stronger public-private partnerships to support holistic child development, fostering closer links between humanitarian response and long-term development processes.

55. Climate resilience and risk management will be addressed as cross-cutting issues throughout the programme. This will involve strengthening public health, education and social protection systems to anticipate and adapt to these issues, guaranteeing the provision of essential services and active collaboration with the private sector. There will be a particular focus on promoting integrated disaster risk

management and more resilient educational infrastructure, including resilient schools, recognizing the direct impact of these factors on the protection, learning and well-being of children.

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>
Health and nutrition	715	14 114	14 829
Education, learning and skills development	715	8 269	8 984
Social protection and public financing for children	1 451	2 429	3 880
Child protection	715	8 584	9 299
Programme effectiveness	500	1 200	1 700
Total	4 096	34 596	38 692

Programme and risk management

56. This country programme document summarizes the planned contributions of UNICEF to national priorities, and is the principal mechanism for accountability to the Executive Board concerning the expected outcomes and the resources assigned to the programme at the country level. The responsibilities and accountability of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels are set out in the organization's programme and operational policies and procedures.

57. UNICEF will monitor key programme indicators throughout implementation and will identify opportunities to maximize results, especially in response to reforms, changes in national priorities and crises.

58. The management of the programme will incorporate a UNICEF-led risk management approach to inform decision-making. The main risks include macroeconomic and political instability, increased exposure to climate events and violence-related insecurity. Risk assessments will be conducted regularly, and mitigation measures implemented to prevent any negative effects on communities and the environment, especially in emergency contexts.

59. UNICEF will continue to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of its operations through governance, financial management and programmatic risk control systems, including the United Nations Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers. All actions will be guided by the "do no harm" principle, including measures to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse, and ensure safe environments for children.

Monitoring and evaluation

60. Programme monitoring and evaluation will be coordinated with government entities, and will be based on the results and resources framework and the evaluation plan, in addition to UNICEF and United Nations standards and national priorities. UNICEF will continuously monitor the situation of children using data disaggregated

by age, sex, geographic location and other relevant variables, which will guide programme activities. The capacity of state institutions will also be strengthened to improve the availability, quality and use of information about children.

61. Programme monitoring will include periodic reviews, follow-up visits and joint supervision with implementing partners to identify corrective measures or strategic adjustments during implementation. Information on the progress of the country programme will be publicly accessible.

62. UNICEF, together with government entities, will develop and implement an evaluation plan to provide evidence and recommendations to strengthen public policies and the UNICEF programme. It will also support government entities to improve their capacity for evaluation and will support regional and global evaluations that promote organizational learning and accountability.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Guatemala – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2027–2031

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 34, 35, 36, 39 National priorities: National Development Plan K'atun: Nuestra Guatemala 2032; National Development Priorities; General Government Policy 2024–2028; Public Policy for Comprehensive Early Childhood Development 2024–2044
United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) outcomes involving UNICEF: 1, 2, 4
Related impact results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029: 1, 2, 3, 4

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
Strategic priority 2: Contributing to human development: Reducing poverty and creating prosperity	1. By 2030, the number of healthy, well-nourished children who are developmentally on-track in early childhood has increased.	Percentage of children aged 2–4 years who are developmentally on-track in the areas of health, learning and psychosocial well-being B: 59.4% T: 63%	National Health and Development Survey (NHDS)/Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)	1.1. Cross-sectoral governance, institutional and territorial capacity, and community participation are strengthened to implement essential health and nutrition interventions for children and pregnant women, focusing on the first 1,000 days of life.	Ministry of Health, Secretariat for Food and Nutrition Security, Ministry of Education, municipalities, academia	715	14 114	14 829
		Prevalence of chronic malnutrition in children under 5 years of age B: 42.1% T: 39.0%	NHDS/MICS	1.2. Institutional, territorial and community capacity are strengthened to guarantee safe and sustainable WASH services in health facilities, educational institutions and communities, contributing to disease prevention and better health and nutrition outcomes.				
		Percentage of household members with at least basic WASH services B: 57.2% T: 62%	NHDS/MICS					

<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>
Strategic priority 2: Contributing to human development: Reducing poverty and creating prosperity	2. By 2030, the number of children accessing educational opportunities, acquiring relevant learning and developing life skills has increased.	Percentage of children aged 36–59 months attending an early childhood education programme B: 8.9% T: 12%	NHDS/MICS	2.1. Coverage is increased and equitable access of children and adolescents to the formal and non-formal education system is guaranteed, with a focus on early childhood and pre-primary education opportunities and prioritizing out-of-school children, ensuring they access and stay in education. 2.2. Basic skills are developed, pedagogical practices improved, and inclusive and stimulating educational environments created to promote learning, participation and the development of life skills.	Ministry of Education, academia, private sector	715	8 269	8 984
		Proportion of children in primary grades 2 and 3 who achieve the minimum level in: (a) reading B: 27.3% T: 30% (b) mathematics B: 26.1% T: 30%	NHDS/MICS					
Strategic priority 2: Contributing to human development: Reducing poverty and creating prosperity	3. By 2030, the number of children living free from poverty has increased.	Percentage of children under 18 years of age living in households in monetary poverty B: 64.8% T: 60%	National Living Conditions Survey	3.1. Children and their families in poor and vulnerable households in the prioritized municipalities benefit from social protection programmes with an impact on children that take a life cycle approach, prioritize early childhood, and have an interoperable information system for monitoring. 3.2. Sectoral ministries and local governments of prioritized municipalities	Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Public Finance, municipalities, academia	1 451	2 429	3 880
		Percentage of children under 18 years of age who live in households that received some kind of social transfer in the last three months B: 35.5% T: 40%	NHDS/MICS					

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
		Public investment in children and adolescents as a percentage of GDP B: 3.4% T: 3.9%	Ministry of Public Finance information system	have strengthened capacity to plan, budget and manage public resources for early childhood, so that they can prioritize investment in children and improve their living conditions.				
Strategic priority 1: Strengthening democratic governance and the rule of law Strategic priority 4: Addressing human mobility and migration	4. By 2030, the number of children, including those in situations of human mobility, living free from violence, abuse and exploitation has increased and they have access to an effective comprehensive protection system.	Percentage of children aged 1–14 years who have experienced some form of physical punishment or psychological aggression inflicted by a member of their household in the last month B: 42.7% T: 40%	NHDS/MICS	4.1. Public policies and laws for the prevention of violence against children have been implemented at the local and departmental levels, accompanied by action plans that strengthen protective environments and change social norms to favour more positive parenting and greater respect for children's rights.	Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Secretariat of Social Welfare, judiciary, academia, municipalities	715	8 584	9 299
		Percentage of children under 1 year of age whose birth was registered B: 91.5% T: 93%	NHDS/MICS	4.2. The government response to violence against children, adolescents in conflict with the law and children in situations of human mobility is strengthened, following human rights standards.				
	5. The programme is efficiently managed and monitored, and partnerships are fostered to ensure its focus, reach and impact for children in the most vulnerable situations.			5.1. Programme coordination 5.2. Planning, monitoring, evaluation and data 5.3. Communication, advocacy and partnerships 5.4. Cross-sectoral approaches 5.5. Private fundraising and partnerships 5.6. Operations		500	1 200	1 700
Total resources						4 096	34 596	38 692