United Nations Children’s Fund
Executive Board
Second regular session 2021
7–10 September 2021
Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda*

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 $4,632,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $51,410,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2022 to 2025.

* E/ICEF/2021/23.

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

1. The 2019 common country analysis for Guatemala outlines the major social and economic challenges the country faces, and the UNICEF situation analysis (forthcoming in 2021) details trends in the progressive realization of child rights. These documents, along with the 2018 concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Childs and more recent data sets and studies, have informed the country programme document.

2. Guatemala is currently in a demographic transition and has the largest generation of children and adolescents it has ever had. This demographic dividend provides a unique historic opportunity to catalyse equitable economic growth.

3. Despite the country’s classification as an upper-middle-income country, Guatemalan children face dire social indicators and stark inequalities that have improved only slightly over the past two decades. This slow progress can be explained by limitations in the quantity, quality and equity of public investments, continuing governance challenges, and recurrent exposure to natural and man-made hazards. All these factors keep Guatemala in a vicious cycle, where inadequate investments and policies hamper individual child development, thus impeding the emergence of a prosperous and inclusive society and wasting the opportunity of the demographic dividend.

4. Gender disparities remain a critical issue in Guatemala, with most social and economic indicators significantly worse for girls and women than for boys and men.

5. According to the latest census, children and adolescents constitute 38 per cent of the country’s 17.1 million inhabitants in 2021, with 1.9 million children under age 5. Some 46 per cent of the population lives in rural areas and 44 per cent are indigenous peoples and persons of African descent (42 per cent Maya, 1.8 per cent Xinca and 0.2 per cent persons of African descent, including 0.1 per cent Garifuna). Indigenous children face substantially worse indicators than their peers.

6. Guatemala is considered to be the Latin American country that is most vulnerable to climate hazards, and among the top 10 most-vulnerable countries in the world. Approximately 40 per cent of the population is vulnerable to three or more types of natural hazards. In 2020, considerable damage from tropical storms Eta and Iota exacerbated the impacts of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, especially on family health, income, food security and access to education and health services.

7. In 2019, Guatemala had a gross domestic product (GDP) per capita of $4,620. According to the 2014 National Survey of Living Conditions, 68 per cent of children were living in poverty, a significant increase from 2006. Wealth is highly concentrated, with the poorest 60 per cent of the population having access to only 26 per cent of income. Poverty and inequality are exacerbated by limited and unequal access to basic services resulting from low tax revenue and an inadequate prioritization of the national budget.

8. The International Monetary Fund reports that Guatemala has the lowest tax revenue collection in Latin America (10.4 per cent of GDP from 2009 to 2019, compared to 24 per cent for all of Latin America). However, tax reform is a contentious issue in Guatemala. The World Bank reports that public spending is regressive, with spending on education, for example, benefiting the richest quintile more than the poorest.
9. In 2018, Guatemala spent only 1.3 per cent of GDP on social protection programmes. Despite recent significant improvements in developing and implementing social protection schemes (e.g., the UNICEF-supported COVID-19-related Bono Familia cash transfer scheme), capacity gaps remain in designing, registering, managing and monitoring social protection programmes. Municipal governments have an important role in public spending affecting children, but have limited capacity.

10. In 2019, there were reports of 40,679 crimes against children and 1,909 child deaths. The Social Welfare Secretariat of the Office of the President has no municipal presence, and only 30 per cent of child victims of violence receive psychosocial support. A 2019 UNICEF study showed that 56 per cent of adults believe that girls provoke sexual violence against themselves.

11. Limited investigative capacity means that many crimes against children go unpunished. In addition, 96 per cent of adults do not know how or where to report violence against children. Despite recent improvements, Guatemala continues to rely on institutionalization of child victims.

12. The national police report that 2,175 adolescents aged 13–17 years (85 per cent male) were detained for infractions in 2019, with only 4 per cent of these cases ending in acquittal.

13. Census data show that migration of young people increased five-fold from 2002 to 2018, and 185,233 accompanied and 30,329 unaccompanied children were detained in 2019 at the southern border of the United States of America. In 2019 and 2020, 8,000 children from other Central American countries transited Guatemalan territory in the so-called “migrant caravans”. The Guatemalan Migration Institute, created in May 2017, is still in its nascent stage.

14. According to the 2015 National Survey on Maternal and Child Health, stunting affects 47 per cent of children under age 5, and 61 per cent of indigenous children. This extremely high level of stunting is due to:

(a) Limited access to health services in rural areas: (60 per cent of women in the poorest quintile cite physical distance as a major impediment to accessing health centres);

(b) Low rates of exclusive breastfeeding (53 per cent), and low coverage of vitamin A supplementation (50 per cent of children aged 6 to 59 months);

(c) Only 43 per cent of children aged 6 to 23 months consume a minimum acceptable diet; only 26 per cent of mothers have adequate knowledge of complementary feeding;

(d) Chronic maternal malnutrition (25 per cent of women are shorter than 145 cm);

(e) The impact of consecutive food security crises associated with recurring natural disasters and high levels of vulnerability. In this context, in 2019 a total of 15,395 children under age 5 with acute malnutrition were detected; this figure increased to 27,913 in 2020.

15. In addition to undernutrition, Guatemalan children also suffer overweight (4.9 per cent) and micronutrient deficiencies, e.g., 32 per cent of children aged 6 to 59 months are anaemic.

16. Only 59 per cent of Guatemalan households get piped water and 15 per cent of water for consumption is treated. In rural areas, only 51 per cent of households have basic sanitation, and 8 per cent still practice open defecation. These poor indicators
are due to poverty, traditional beliefs and practices and low municipal investments in water and sanitation.

17. While under-five mortality declined significantly between 1987 and 2015 (from 109 per 1,000 live births to 35 per 1,000 live births) the neonatal mortality rate remained at 18 per 1,000 live births. Fifty per cent of indigenous women give birth without qualified assistance.

18. Although early childhood and adolescence are recognized as the two most critical windows of opportunity for brain development, only 12.6 per cent of children aged 36–59 months attend an official early childhood education programme, and 40 per cent do not attend any preschool. Among adolescents, net enrolment for lower secondary school is 49 per cent, and only 26 per cent for higher secondary. Most secondary schools are private (81 per cent in upper secondary), leaving poor students and communities excluded.

19. In primary education, learning achievement overall in 2014 was 40 per cent in reading, and only 23 per cent for Mayan children due to insufficient teacher training, outdated curricula and limited support capacities among poor parents. Limited availability of culturally relevant teaching was also a factor, with only 34 per cent of indigenous children receiving mother-tongue instruction in 2019.

20. For the 2015–2021 programme cycle, lessons learned include the need to enhance: (i) country office capacity for emergency preparedness and climate change mitigation; (ii) systems approaches with a perspective of multisectoral coordination, (iii) field presence to secure coordination for sustained impact at municipal and community levels, and (iv) collaborative approaches using the comparative advantages of United Nations actors in the country.

21. Based on the above analysis, and an analysis of the comparative advantages of UNICEF within the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, 2020–2025 (UNSDCF), the country programme will be organized according to the five Goal Areas of the UNICEF Strategic Plan.

Programme priorities and partnerships

22. The country programme will position Guatemala to reap the demographic dividend over the next generation. Strategies will include: advocating for increased and improved public investment for children, transforming gender and other social norms, enhancing policies and governance at national and local levels, and strengthening shock-responsive systems. UNICEF, based on the official census, surveys and administrative registers, will focus on eight provinces\(^1\) where the following key factors overlap and converge: elevated levels of child rights deprivation, high concentration of indigenous population, low access to basic services; high exposure to natural disasters; and high rates of migration.

23. The country programme is aligned with the general government policy for the period 2020–2024, the K’atun “Our Guatemala 2032” National Development Plan, and the UNSDCF, 2020–2025. UNICEF is participating in the five pillars of the UNSDCF: economic development; social development; peace, security and justice; solid institutions; and the environment; and will lead the social development result group.

24. All programme components respond to UNICEF global sector strategies and will include cross-cutting priorities by incorporating specific actions across components.

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1 Alta Verapaz, Chiquimula, Huehuetenango, Quetzaltenango, Quiché, San Marcos, Sololá and Totonicapán.
25. For early childhood development (ECD), interventions will include prevention of malnutrition, parenting skills, improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), initial and preschool education, maternal and child health, violence prevention for young children and social protection. UNICEF will support the development and implementation of a national ECD policy.

26. For adolescents, interventions will include formal and vocational education options, adolescent nutrition and health interventions, prevention and response to violence against adolescents, especially girls, and opportunities for participation in education, environment and other spheres.

27. Violence prevention will be pursued through preventive and responsive interventions of the child protection, justice, education and health systems. While the root causes of migration will be addressed by each component, specific interventions focused on protection and the humanitarian needs of migrant children will be implemented through the child protection, education, nutrition and WASH components.

28. To redress entrenched inequities affecting indigenous children, three cross-cutting principles will be applied: prioritizing regions and communities with large indigenous populations; integrating culturally pertinent approaches; and ensuring appropriate participation of indigenous children and communities in the design of interventions.

29. To promote gender equality and the empowerment of girls and women, throughout the programme, UNICEF will continue to integrate gender-sensitive and transformative approaches, drawing on the Gender Action Plans, the United Nations country team gender scorecard and progressive donor policies.

30. To promote the inclusion of children with disabilities, an inclusion lens will be applied in all interventions and specific actions included in the child protection, education, WASH, health and nutrition components.

31. To respond to the country’s vulnerability to natural disasters, a programme area on WASH and climate resilience will be established, with dedicated staff and resources to strengthen the national and local institutions accountable for preparedness and response. System strengthening interventions in each sector will include a shock-responsive lens.

32. Addressing social norms that prevent the full realization of children’s rights will be a cross-cutting strategy that will support the achievement of programme results, and is aimed at, among others, de-normalizing violence against children, addressing traditional beliefs that affect the hygiene, nutrition and health of children and women, and convincing parents to take their children to preschool at an early age.

33. All sectors will support recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic by safeguarding essential health and nutrition services; advocating for safe return to schools and offering accelerated digital learning options; improving WASH services in schools, health facilities and households; supporting affected children through onsite and remote counselling and psychosocial support and protection, when required; and engaging in high-level dialogue with the Government on recovery strategies.

34. Strengthening municipal governance will be a cross-cutting aim through coordinated support to -child protection offices, WASH offices, food and nutrition commissions and planning and budgeting offices.

35. UNICEF partners will include: the United Nations system; the National Planning Secretariat and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Finance as top-level entities for political dialogue and coordination; line ministries (Agriculture, Education,
Environment and Natural Resources, Health, Justice and Social Development); local
governments and multisectoral coordination entities. The private sector, faith-based
organizations and academia will also be engaged to help to accelerate results across
the five programme components.

Health and nutrition

36. This component will aim to reduce malnutrition in all its forms, including
stunting, wasting, overweight, obesity and micronutrient deficiencies, among
children, adolescents and women of reproductive age. This component is linked to the
Workstreams under this component will support the national structure and planning
frameworks:

(a) The health workstream will focus on improving capacities of the sector to
provide a basic package of preventive and curative health services for children,
adolescents, pregnant women and lactating mothers. Interventions will include: (i)
supporting prenatal and postnatal care, including elimination of mother-to-child
transmission of HIV and delivery care; (ii) strengthening health services for children
and adolescents (including immunizations); (iii) promoting adequate health practices;
(iv) fostering engagement of adolescents in community health; (v) supporting actions
to prevent adolescent pregnancy; (vi) strengthening the regulatory framework,
governance, inter-institutional coordination platforms, information systems, and
planning and financing for health.

(b) The nutrition workstream will focus on: (i) improving the quality and
coverage of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive, culturally appropriate services;
(ii) improving the environment to prevent disease and promote good diets, child
stimulation and physical activity; and (iii) enhancing caretaker and community
knowledge and skills regarding care and nutrition practices. This will be achieved
through: malnutrition prevention programmes, with a particular focus on early
childhood and adolescence; an integrated management of acute malnutrition
programme, with particular emphasis on responding to humanitarian situations,
including those related to migration; programmes to promote, protect and support
infant and young child feeding (including the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative);
support in the prevention of overweight and obesity in adolescents; a national
communication strategy; improved information systems, public financing, inter-
institutional coordination and legal frameworks for nutrition (including the marketing
of breastmilk substitutes).

Education

37. This component will seek to ensure that more children and adolescents complete
the school cycle, including secondary level, obtain better learning outcomes,
participate in safe community forums, and make informed decisions about their lives,
families and communities. This component will support the Social Development pillar
of the General Policy of the Government of Guatemala. Four workstreams will be
pursued:

(a) Improving coverage, resilience and access to ECD and pre-primary
education by: (i) supporting expansion of community-based, inclusive and culturally
pertinent modalities for ECD; (ii) community engagement programmes to foster local
participation; and (iii) strengthening the technical capacities of Ministry of Education.

(b) Improving reading outcomes in primary education by developing
culturally pertinent programmes that promote reading and establishing collaboration
platforms among teachers for sharing good practices.
(c) Increasing opportunities for adolescents to access secondary education, life skills and vocational skills programmes by: (i) strengthening early warning systems to prevent dropout (e.g., due to migration), especially of girls; (ii) promoting flexible and inclusive education modalities for adolescents and youth, especially girls; (iii) expanding vocational training programmes and employment pathways for out-of-school adolescents; (iv) establishing digital training platforms for students and teachers; and (v) promoting programmes for parental participation.

(d) Enhancing participation platforms for children and adolescents at family, community and school levels by: (i) supporting safe and protective spaces and activities to prevent violence, and to empower communities and schools to prevent and respond violence against children; (ii) providing psychosocial support for students living in violent contexts; and (iii) designing active civic participation programmes for adolescents.

**Child protection**

38. This component will aim to ensure that children and adolescents are better protected from violence and to reduce the prevalence of violence against children. This component is linked to the Governance and Security pillar of the general policy of the Government of Guatemala. Four complementary workstreams will be pursued:

(a) Supporting protective environments at family, community, local and national level by increasing the knowledge and agency of children and adolescents about their own rights; supporting positive child-rearing models and violence prevention protocols for parents and community organizations – especially for early childhood and adolescence; promoting discussion and transformation of social norms to prevent violence, child marriage and other harmful practices, especially for girls; establishing municipal child protection systems; and promoting public health multisectoral approaches to prevent violence and to reduce early union.

(b) Strengthening the coverage and quality of child protection services by promoting the development of a national, multisectoral framework to reduce violence against children; consolidating a child protection system that spans all administrative levels (central, departmental and municipal) and involves communities; enhancing public knowledge of the causes and impact of violence against children; supporting decentralized programmes and protocols for child victims – especially adolescent girls – in line with international standards; and advocating for the passage of a comprehensive new child protection law.

(c) Enhancing the specialized justice system for children, focusing on training justice sector staff; advocacy and technical assistance to ensure that institutionalization of child victims of violence is used only as a last resort; implementing programmes and protocols to protect children and adolescents in contact or conflict with the justice system.

(d) Deepening institutional capacities and policies to meet the needs of children in migration contexts by supporting programmes and services based on respect for and protection of child rights.

39. As this is a regional flagship priority for the organization, UNICEF will contribute to strategic research and lessons learned on approaches that are effective in reducing violence against children.

**WASH and climate resilience**

40. This component will aim to strengthen WASH services and improve climate resilience for children; it will support to the Social Development pillar of the general policy of the Government of Guatemala.
41. The WASH workstream will focus on strengthening the capacities of Government, communities and other key stakeholders – including the private sector – to improve access to and management of safe water and sanitation and to promote adequate hygiene and sanitation practices in households, communities, health facilities and schools.

42. Interventions will include: (i) promoting climate-resilient and culturally sensitive household WASH practices; (ii) developing local models and technologies for safe, culturally sensitive and resilient water management; (iii) strengthening municipal capacities to provide water services, and the capacity of the Ministry of Health to monitor water quality; (iv) scaling up climate-resilient sanitation and hygiene community and market-based sanitation models; (v) implementing a national communication for development strategy for adequate hygiene practices, including for menstrual hygiene; (vi) improving the quality and resilience of girl-friendly, safe and inclusive WASH services in health facilities and schools; (vii) strengthening the WASH regulatory framework, data collection and sectoral coordination; and (viii) preventing gender-based violence through provision of safe, well-lit water collection points and gender-sensitive sanitation facilities in emergencies.

43. The climate workstream will focus on strengthening the capacity of the Government, communities and other key stakeholders, including the private sector, to implement and scale up risk-informed and child-sensitive policies and programmes to promote sustainable development and enhance the resilience of children, communities and services. This will include strengthening the resilience and adaptive capacity of sectoral systems and services essential, including education, to reducing children’s vulnerability to climate, environment and disaster risks.

44. Interventions include: (i) developing evidence-based and child-sensitive climate policies that include mitigation and adaptation measures; (ii) strengthening the capacities of government at national and local levels, private sector and communities (e.g., business and community resilience) to implement and scale up child-sensitive sectoral programmes to enhance resilience, using innovative approaches such as climate smart schools and ECD centres; (iii) strengthening capacities and coordination mechanisms and tools (such as the Index for Risk Management for disaster risk identification and analysis); and (iv) supporting child, adolescent and youth participation mechanisms in decision-making on climate, environment and disaster risk.

Social protection

45. This component will aim to ensure that children, adolescents and their families have increased access to an essential package of social services, in support of the Social Development pillar of the general policy of the Government of Guatemala. Three convergent workstreams will be pursued:

(a) Developing a national child-focused and shock-responsive social protection strategy and system, and strengthening national social protection programmes relevant for children, especially in early childhood and adolescence (e.g., cash transfers, basic social services, access to ECD programmes, humanitarian support) together with management information and monitoring systems.

(b) Strengthening the capacity and efficiency of municipal governments to generate data and evidence, and to effectively manage their budgets in favour of children.

(c) Mobilizing allies to advocate for increased fiscal space, higher priority for programmes benefiting children and adolescents, and a more targeted impact of public social investment.
46. Strategies within this component will focus on:

(a) Unified beneficiary databases and management information systems, including data disaggregated by sex, ethnicity and disability status.

(b) Support to selected municipal governments for local planning and budgeting of services that benefit children and their families.

(c) Cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and key line ministries to ensure that essential child services are adequately reflected in both budgets and expenditures.

(d) Support to the update and roll-out of the national ECD policy.

(e) Promotion of the agency of women in social protection programmes, using communication for development methodologies.

**Programme effectiveness**

47. The country programme will include a programme effectiveness component covering cross-sectoral workstreams that serve to enhance overall country programme results and the positioning of children’s issues at the highest level of the academic, media and political discourse.

48. UNICEF will continue social communication efforts that have proven to be a strategic lever for agenda-setting over the previous country programme cycle, and will leverage its influence through a multisectoral consultative group.

49. South-South cooperation on good practices will be pursued when deemed relevant and strategic, e.g., with Mexico and other countries in Central America in relation to children in the context of migration, and with Colombia regarding ECD.

50. The generation and use of evidence will be fundamental to achieve change, chart the course for scalable interventions and inform advocacy efforts for equitable, child-centred laws, policies and budgets.

51. UNICEF will use strategic levers such as technology to develop solutions and innovations to accelerate scale-up of service delivery.

52. Business for results and innovation initiatives were launched in 2019, and UNICEF will continue collaboration with the private sector to accelerate specific programme results, e.g., vocational training and school-to-work transition, digital learning, and advocacy and technical assistance for high-impact transformations for children.
Summary budget table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme component</th>
<th>Regular resources</th>
<th>Other resources</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health and nutrition</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>10 200</td>
<td>10 895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>20 000</td>
<td>20 695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protection</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>12 000</td>
<td>12 695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH and climate resilience</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>5 800</td>
<td>6 495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social policy and protection</td>
<td>1 389</td>
<td>2 000</td>
<td>3 389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme effectiveness</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>1 410</td>
<td>1 873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4 632</strong></td>
<td><strong>51 410</strong></td>
<td><strong>56 042</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Programme and risk management**

53. This country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to national priorities and results for children and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme. Accountability of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization’s programme and operations policies and procedures.

54. UNICEF will contribute to national development results through UNSDCF result groups, and participate in all relevant national policy forums, including donor coordination groups.

55. UNICEF will use corporate tools to analyse and mitigate critical risks to programme and operational continuity. A resource mobilization strategy will be developed and monitored. To manage risk, optimize efficiency and maximize synergies among programme components, as well as to prevent potential fraud, waste and abuse, programming instruments will be diversified.

56. UNICEF will support early warning mechanisms to allow timely detection and intervention regarding threats from climate change, social unrest and economic crises. Real-time monitoring will support risk management, especially in underserved communities with high burdens of acute malnutrition and outbreaks of violence.

57. To address the specific challenges to programme implementation presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF will make effective use of digital platforms (online training, virtual meetings and electronic signatures) and further decentralize its operations.

**Monitoring and evaluation**

58. Monitoring and evaluation will be based on the results and resources framework as well as the costed evaluation plan. Programme and humanitarian performance monitoring frameworks will be based on annual management plans and workplans for which indicators will, in turn, be aligned to regional and global priority indicators. In addition, mechanisms will be implemented to capture suggestions to provide feedback.
and improve programming. Equity-focused monitoring of barriers and bottlenecks will be used to assess progress and adjust approaches where needed. Progress against UNSDCF results will be monitored through inter-agency result groups and reported on the UN INFO platform.

59. An integrated monitoring, evaluation and research plan will guide evidence generation to inform programming at scale. Through regular progress reviews, UNICEF will keep track of key milestones. Programme staff will undertake field visits to monitor implementation and give visibility to programmes.

60. UNICEF will continue to support national and subnational data collection, as well as research and evaluation capacity on child rights. With United Nations partners, UNICEF will advocate to undertake critical surveys for children on health, nutrition, education and violence, as well as data collection on Sustainable Development Goal indicators for children. Further, UNICEF will support national reporting to the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the voluntary national review of the Sustainable Development Goals with a child-sensitive perspective.
## Annex

### Results and resources framework

**Guatemala – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2022–2025**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention on the Rights of the Child:</th>
<th>Articles 1–42</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>National priorities:</strong></td>
<td>K’atun “Our Guatemala 2032” National Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty reduction and social protection; access to health services; access to water and management of natural resources; education; food and nutritional security; institutional strengthening; security and justice</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework pillars and outcomes involving UNICEF and Sustainable Development Goal outcome indicators measuring change that reflect UNICEF contribution:

#### Social Development

1. By 2025, prioritized population groups have increased access to decent, adequate housing and basic services in a framework of land use planning and integrated rural and urban improvements, with special emphasis on informal settlements and marginalized communities, contributing to social cohesion.
   1.4.1
2. By 2025, state institutions advance in the design and implementation of a contributory and non-contributory social protection system with greater coverage, quality, and equity.
   1.a.2 / 1.3.1
3. By 2025, prioritized population groups have increased access to education that is inclusive, equitable, pertinent, sustainable and of high quality.
   4.6.1 / 4.a.1 / 4.1.1 / 3.1.1 / 4.1.1
4. By 2025, prioritized population groups, in all stages of life, have greater coverage and access to essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions, such as reproductive health, maternal, neonatal and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, and the capacity and access to services by the general population and prioritized groups. Health services should be integrated, integral, pertinent and of high quality.
   3.1.1 / 3.1.2 / 3.2.2 / 3.7.2
5. By 2015, prioritized population groups improve their food and nutritional security.
   2.2.1 / 2.2.2

#### Peace, Security and Justice

1. By 2025, strengthened state institutions increase citizen security, access to justice, and conflict transformation, in pursuit of better national and local coordination.
   16.1.1
2. By 2025, state institutions improve access to justice, dignified and transformational reparations, integral protection, and prevention of violence against women, youth, adolescents, and children.
   5.2.1 / 16.2.1 / 16.2.3
### Solid Institutions
2. By 2025, state institutions improve assistance and protection for people who return, transit, or get forcibly displaced within or outside the country, including those in need of international protection.

### Environment
1. By 2025, the state of Guatemala strengthens policies, strategies and programs that promote climate change mitigation and adaptation, management of land, natural resources and ecosystems, improving integral management of environmental, climate, health, hydrological and geo-dynamic risks, with emphasis on most vulnerable population groups and territories.

### Related UNICEF Strategic Plan Goal Areas: 1-5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNICEF outcomes</th>
<th>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</th>
<th>Means of verification</th>
<th>Indicative country programme outputs</th>
<th>Major partners, partnership frameworks</th>
<th>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Health and nutrition</strong></td>
<td>Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age in 22 prioritized municipalities. B: TBD&lt;br&gt;T: 6 percentage point decrease</td>
<td>European Union project ‘Integrated Strategy to combat chronic malnutrition’; Maternal and Child Health Survey. Institute of Nutrition of Central American and Panama (INCAP)</td>
<td>1.1 Infants, children and adolescents benefit from increased demand for, and improved offer of, nutrition services, including in emergencies. 1.2 Infants, children and adolescents benefit from increased demand for, and improved offer of, climate risk informed primary health services, including in emergencies.</td>
<td>Ministry of Health; Secretariat for Food and Nutritional Security</td>
<td>695 10 200 10 895</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Percentage of children 6–23 months old with a minimum dietary diversity, in 22 prioritized municipalities. B: TBD&lt;br&gt;T: 5 percentage point increase</td>
<td>European Union project; Maternal and Child Health Survey. INCAP</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Education</td>
<td>The percentage of women attended by any provider (skilled or unskilled) at least four times for antenatal care for reasons related to their pregnancy, in 22 prioritized municipalities. B: TBDa T: 8 percentage point increase</td>
<td>European Union project Maternal and Child Health Survey. INCAP</td>
<td>Percentage of children aged 36–59 months attending an official early childhood education programme. B: 12.6 (2020) T: 20 (2025)</td>
<td>Ministry of Education Information System</td>
<td>2.1 Children under age 7 have access to integrated early childhood programmes. 2.2 Children of primary school age have access to supportive, resilient and healthy school environments that are conducive to developing reading and writing skills. 2.3 Adolescents and young people have access to secondary education learning opportunities, including life skills and vocational skills training. 2.4 Adolescents benefit from opportunities for participation free of all types of violence in family, community and school settings. Ministry of Education, Global Partnership for Education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 3. Child protection

By 2025, children and adolescents have access to improved, shock-responsive and emergency-sensitive protection services.

<table>
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<th>Indicative country programme outputs</th>
<th>Major partners, partnership frameworks</th>
<th>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of safe and protective spaces for functional learning for adolescents supported by UNICEF.</td>
<td>B: 25 (2020) T: 71 (2025)</td>
<td>Sector review</td>
<td>3.1 Municipalities of Guatemala have acquired capacities to develop municipal systems for the protection of children, family, community and municipal environments that are protective and free of violence against children.</td>
<td>Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare; Secretariat of the Presidency, Attorney/General, Ministry of Justice; the Courts; the Judiciary; Ministry of the Interior</td>
<td>695 12 000 12 695</td>
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<td>Percentage of adults who consider their parenting practices reasonable</td>
<td>B: 61.4 (2020) T: .75 (2025)</td>
<td>Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Survey</td>
<td>3.2 Child protection services increase their capacities to provide care for children who are victims of violence, and their families, according to international standards.</td>
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<td>Municipalities that implement local protocols for the protection of children from violence, abuse and neglect.</td>
<td>B: 135 (2020) T: 205 (2025)</td>
<td>Social Welfare Secretariat of the Office of the President</td>
<td>3.3 The Guatemalan justice system has acquired skills and competencies to provide a specialized service to children and adolescents, according to international standards.</td>
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<td>Number of children (0–17 years) living in residential care.</td>
<td>B: 3,741 (2020) T: 2,000 (2025)</td>
<td>Judiciary</td>
<td>3.4 The authorities in charge of the protection of children in situations of migration have acquired capacities and competencies to assist them, in accordance with international standards.</td>
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<td>Number of girls and boys who have experienced violence reached by justice/law enforcement services.</td>
<td>B: 15,891 (2020) T: 30,000 (2025)</td>
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<td>UNICEF outcomes</td>
<td>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</td>
<td>Means of verification</td>
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<td>Percentage of children on the move (returned) who receive protective services (according to child rights standards) through UNICEF-supported programmes. B: 15% (2020) T: 60% (2025)</td>
<td>Guatemalan Migration Institute; UNICEF</td>
<td>4.1 Infants, children and adolescents benefit from increased demand for and access to improved, climate resilient WASH services, including in emergencies. 4.2 Government and stakeholders, including businesses, define and implement risk-informed and child-sensitive policies and programmes that promote sustainable development and enhance resilience and participation of children and communities, including in emergency contexts.</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources; National Planning Secretariat; CONRED</td>
<td>695 5 800 6 495</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. WASH and climate resilience</td>
<td>Number of children living in communities that remain certified free from (human) faecal contamination one year after the initial certification, as a result of UNICEF and partner support (22 focus municipalities). B: 0 T: 72 000</td>
<td>UNICEF implementing partner (quarterly report)</td>
<td>Number of municipalities having a functional WASH office/unit as a result of UNICEF and partner support by 2025 (22 focus municipalities) B: 0 T: 17</td>
<td>Municipal rankings done by (Presidential Commission on Municipal Affairs (COPRESAM); Planning and Programming Secretariat of the Presidency (SEGEPLAN)</td>
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<td>Number of municipalities that implement a child-</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, National Information System on Climate Change, UNICEF implementing partner</td>
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<td>RR</td>
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<td>sensitive climate programme based on the national</td>
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<td>climate change policy, with support from UNICEF or</td>
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<td></td>
<td>partners. B: 0 T: 10</td>
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<td>Existence of a mechanism that systematically</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, National Information System on Climate Change, UNICEF implementing partner</td>
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<td>enables children and adolescents to participate and</td>
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<td>act as agents of change in climate change, disaster</td>
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<td>risk reduction and environmental policies and actions.</td>
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<td>B: No T: Yes</td>
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<td>5. Social policy and protection</td>
<td>Number of children covered by social protection programmes (social protection and child poverty) B: 265,000 (2020) T: 450,000 (2025)</td>
<td>Ministry of Social Development Information System</td>
<td>5.1 Social protection programmes with an impact on children and adolescents strengthened in their design and implementation that have information management systems for monitoring and a Social Registry of Households for the inclusion of children and adolescents.</td>
<td>Social Development Cabinet, Ministry of Social Development; Ministry of Finance</td>
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<td>Social protection data management system developed</td>
<td>Sector evaluation</td>
<td>5.2 Local governments of prioritized areas are</td>
<td>National Secretariat for Nutrition; Scaling Up Nutrition</td>
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<td>(management information systems, management</td>
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<td>evaluation system)</td>
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</table>
| programmes and social services. | social and beneficiary registries, monitoring and evaluation systems)  
B: Score: 0 (2021)  
T: Score: 1 (2025)  
Number of local governments supported with budget allocated to child priorities in 22 prioritized municipalities.  
B: 0 (2021)  
T: 22 (2025) | Ministry of Public Finance Information System; Municipal Administrative and Financial System | strengthened in their competencies for efficient public management, data generation, management of municipal public finances and community participation, so that investment in children and adolescents can be prioritized to improve their living conditions.  
5.3 Generation of evidence through costing tools and specialized studies of distributional impact, allowing partnerships to promote, and social demand to advocate for, increased fiscal resources and prioritization of child and adolescent programmes in national public finances. | | |
| 6. Programme effectiveness | Public investment in children and adolescents as a percentage of GDP.  
B: 3.5 (2020)  
T: 4.0 (2025) | Ministry of Public Finance Information System | | | |
| Total resources | | | 463 1 410 1 827 | |

Total resources 4 632 51 410 56 042

*The baseline for these indicators will be obtained from a household survey in 22 prioritized municipalities, with the sample including approximately 5,000 households. Field work will begin in May 2021 and results will be available by December 2021.*