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Country programme document

Georgia

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Georgia 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 \$4,340,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$24,670,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2021 to 2025.

* E/ICEF/2021/1.



Programme rationale

1. Since 2016, Georgia has carried out ambitious reforms in governance and economic management that moved the country from a lower-middle-income to an upper-middle-income country classification and reduced poverty from 26.2 per cent in 2013 to 19.5 per cent in 2019.
2. The Parliament of Georgia adopted the Code on the Rights of the Child in 2019, a landmark achievement to ensure the welfare and protection of every child. The Government continues to demonstrate its commitment to further improving the situation of children and adolescents through adoption of a range of progressive legislation and policies in such areas as child protection, justice for children, early and preschool education, inclusive education, social protection reform and health policy.
3. Even with the progress achieved, much more needs to be done to realize the rights of all children (420,000 girls and 460,000 boys) living in Georgia, especially those who belong to ethnic minorities (6.3 per cent of the population are Azerbaijani and 4.5 per cent are Armenian), those living in remote communities, children with disabilities and those living in poverty.¹
4. An estimated 7 per cent of children live below the national extreme poverty line (US\$1.25/day) and 28 per cent of children live below the national general poverty line (US\$2.50/day).² However, targeted assistance reaches only 16 per cent of all children. Losses in jobs and income due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic are projected to increase the child poverty rate by 5–11 percentage points.³
5. Children in conflict-affected areas in Georgia have limited access to quality basic social services. In addition to high rates of poverty, health and education and social protection services scarcely cover basic needs.
6. Relative to the other countries in the region, the inflow of migrants and refugees is low and existing systems can support them. However, approximately 19 per cent of children in Georgia have been left behind by at least one migrating parent.⁴ Data are not available on the effect this has on the education, health and well-being of children.
7. Despite recent improvements, the infant mortality rate in Georgia is twice the European Union average and is primarily attributed to neonatal mortality. Maternal mortality rates remain high. Barriers to maternal and child survival include inadequate organization of perinatal services, weak management information systems and the absence of quality assurance/improvement mechanisms. Statutory mechanisms are required to monitor the quality of perinatal care and improve effectiveness and efficiency of policies and programmes. Gaps persist in preventive health services, particularly healthy-baby visits and postnatal check-ups for mothers. Meanwhile, parents have low awareness about child development, immunization,

¹ National Statistics Office of Georgia, *Statistical Yearbook of Georgia: 2018* (2018).

² United Nations Children's Fund, *The Welfare Monitoring Survey* (Tbilisi, 2017).

³ United Nations Children's Fund and Development Analytics, *Microsimulation Model for Estimating the Impact of COVID-19 on Child Poverty in Georgia* (Tbilisi, 2020).

⁴ Vanore, Michaela, *The Psychosocial Health of Children 'Left Behind' by Migrant Kin in Moldova and Georgia*, PhD dissertation Maastricht University/United Nations University (2015).

nutrition and child and adolescent health and well-being. Mental health problems are increasing among youth.^{5,6,7}

8. In Georgia, 44 per cent of households lack safely managed drinking water sources, and 25 per cent of the households use water sources contaminated with *E. coli*.⁸ Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in schools and kindergartens are especially lacking in rural areas, where 1.1 per cent of preschools have no water supply and 4.6 per cent lack access to improved water sources. Standards for WASH are outdated, many WASH facilities do not meet national minimum standards and funding for WASH programmes is limited.

9. Environmental health is a concern: 41 per cent of children aged 2–7 years experience elevated blood lead levels, and in the country’s western regions up to 85 per cent of children are affected.⁹ Elevated blood lead levels is a serious public health problem, damaging children’s well-being and their future potential.

10. Infant and young child feeding practices remain poor, with only 20 per cent of children aged 0–5 months exclusively breastfed. Six per cent of children under 5 years of age are overweight and a similar proportion are stunted.¹⁰ Behind this, large disparities exist for minority groups: 12 per cent of Armenian children are overweight and 13 per cent of Azerbaijani children are stunted. Stunting is highest (15 per cent) among children whose mothers have primary or lower educational attainment. More than 50 per cent of children 10–17 years old do not consume enough protein, vitamins and iron-rich products. Limited awareness, coupled with poverty, prevents parents from providing adequate nutrition.

11. Public preschool enrolment for children aged 2–5 years is 70 per cent.¹¹ Wealth and geographic disparities in enrolment are large: only 61 per cent of children from the lowest wealth quintile attend preschool compared with 87 per cent from the highest wealth quintile.¹² Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti regions have much lower preschool enrolment (with 41 and 59 per cent, respectively) than Tbilisi (at 88 per cent).¹³ Despite national legislation and standards, preschool managers in municipalities lack awareness and understanding to improve sector governance and services. Funding remains unequal between municipalities. Parental understanding of and demand for better-quality early childhood education is low, and disadvantaged children often lack access to educational resources at home.

12. Despite some improvements, results for Georgia in the 2018 Programme for International Student Assessment were among the lowest of participating countries and territories. Girls had better learning results than boys in literacy, numeracy and science. Minority educational outcomes remained below average. The data reported for upper secondary school children who are out of school (13 per cent) mask regional, wealth and gender differences. For example, in Kvemo Kartli, 23 per cent

⁵ National Center for Disease Control and Public Health and United Nations Children’s Fund, *Immunization KAP Survey in the Country of Georgia, 2016: Final Report* (Tbilisi, 2016).

⁶ United Nations Children’s Fund, *Parenting Adolescents: A National Study on Parenting Adolescents and Parenting Support Programmes in Georgia – Summary 2018* (Tbilisi, 2018).

⁷ National Center for Disease Control and Public Health and World Health Organization, *Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children, Georgia, 2018* (Tbilisi, 2020).

⁸ National Statistics Office of Georgia, *Georgia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: survey findings report*, Tbilisi, Georgia, 2019 (hereafter MICS 2019).

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ National Assessment and Examination Center (NAEC) and United Nations Children’s Fund, *Study on Quality of Early Childhood Education and Care in Georgia: Primary Analysis Technical Report* (Tbilisi, 2018).

¹² MICS 2019.

¹³ Ibid.

of all children are out of school, and boys are more likely to be out of school than girls. Yet the highest school dropout rate there is among girls in the poorest wealth quintile.¹⁴

13. There is violence against and among children in preschools, with widespread child punishment, maltreatment and physical and emotional abuse.¹⁵ Extrapolating from this, a similar situation is expected in schools. Almost 30 per cent of primary and secondary school teachers have not received any initial teacher preparation.¹⁶ Ineffective teaching techniques, limited analysis of school dropout and underdeveloped strategy and programmes on safe schools restrict educational progress.

14. An estimated 8 per cent of children aged 2–17 years have some form of functional difficulty.¹⁷ While services for children with disabilities are available, they are insufficient. Cash transfers and other social entitlements are not based on need, and stigma remains widespread. Teachers lack systematic knowledge about disabilities and find it difficult to conduct lessons and manage the behaviour of children with disabilities.

15. Deinstitutionalization reform reduced the number of children in state institutions from 4,100 in 2005 to 82 in 2019. In 2019, 1,555 children lived in foster care and 319 in small group homes.¹⁸ Despite progress, concerns remain regarding use of residential institutions (including private institutions), especially for children with disabilities. The quality of all types of alternative care is concerning. State funds for alternative care are insufficient, which contributes to high staff turnover, inadequate training and poor-quality services.

16. Social norms support violent methods for child-rearing, and 69 per cent of children experience violent discipline.¹⁹ Girls aged 15–19 years are more likely than boys to have experienced discrimination and harassment during the previous 12 months (7 per cent compared with 4 per cent); and 1 out of 33 girls has felt discriminated against or harassed based on gender. Acceptance and use of corporal punishment are associated with lower levels of education, having experienced violence as a child and ethnicity. Online violence and abuse are emerging concerns. Georgia has one of the highest rates of child marriage in the region (14 per cent of women aged 20–44 years report having married before age 18).²⁰ Georgia is a pathfinding country for the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children. While corporal punishment was banned in 2019, and there is increased reporting of violence (from 755 cases in 2016 to 1,225 cases in 2018²¹), national capacities for identification, referral and response related to violence against children remain insufficient.

17. Georgia adopted a new social work law in 2018. It regulates the profession and sets the basis for better planning, development and support of social workers as key professionals for reducing vulnerabilities at individual, family and community levels. However, many government-employed social workers lack skills and competencies to work directly with children, families and communities, which limits identifying needs and providing comprehensive support, especially in rural communities.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Public Defender's Office of Georgia and United Nations Children's Fund, *Special Report: Results of the Monitoring of Preschool Institutions* (Tbilisi, 2020).

¹⁶ *Study on Quality of Early Childhood Education and Care in Georgia*.

¹⁷ MICS 2019.

¹⁸ Georgia, Social Services Agency, administrative data.

¹⁹ MICS 2019.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Georgia, Social Services Agency, administrative data.

Moreover, there are no institutional supervision, training and quality assurance systems to support capacity-building of social workers and improve case management.

18. Since 2009, significant progress has been made in reforming the juvenile justice system. The number of children deprived of their liberty has decreased, and the number of children diverted from the justice system to alternative mechanisms has increased, with very low recidivism rates (9 per cent).²² Nevertheless, crime prevention mechanisms and services for children in conflict with the law, child victims, child witnesses and children in civil and administrative proceedings need further enhancement. There is a need to institutionalize a child-friendly approach throughout the entire justice system to guarantee all children access to prompt and age-appropriate justice proceedings.

19. The Office of the Public Defender monitors children's rights. However, a lack of financial and human resources limits identification and follow-up of child rights violations. Data collection and evaluation systems have limited data disaggregation, making it difficult to identify the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children. Even with high budgetary transparency, public finances assigned for children cannot be disaggregated.

20. UNICEF learned several lessons from reviewing the country programme, 2016–2020. The programme demonstrated that:

(a) Expanding partnerships to municipalities, religious and community leaders and academia brought greater opportunities to promote and protect child rights;

(b) While greater capacity is needed to implement programmes, small-scale training was not able to generate meaningful outcomes; thus, focus should be on developing strong, sustainable and efficient training systems, which can improve child-related programming for years to come;

(c) Evidence and data can drive positive change, as demonstrated by changes in social assistance programming and the political momentum generated to address elevated blood lead levels in children;

(d) Identifying the most vulnerable children and providing these children with an integrated package of services remains critical to ensuring that no one is left behind.²³

Programme priorities and partnerships

21. The overarching goal of the country programme, in line with the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, is that all children in Georgia, particularly the most disadvantaged, have their rights fulfilled and have improved chances, opportunities and support to develop to their full potential in an increasingly inclusive and protective society that is respectful of their voice.

22. The country programme aligns with national development priorities, namely the Social-economic Development Strategy of Georgia ('Georgia 2020'), the national human rights strategy and accompanying action plan, the Code on the Rights of the Child and government sectoral policies and strategic plans in health, education, nutrition, childcare, justice and social protection. The programme supports the Association Agreement between the Government and the European Union. It contributes to implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the

²² General Prosecutor's Office, *Re-Offending in Diversion Cases of Juveniles* (Tbilisi, 2019) (in Georgian).

²³ United Nations Children's Fund Georgia, Country Office Annual Report 2019.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and supports achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

23. The programme derives directly from the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), 2021–2025 and will be implemented in close collaboration with the United Nations country team. The World Bank and UNICEF support a shared vision and principles for a social protection system that better addresses the needs of the most vulnerable groups through protecting the poorest, especially children, preventing families from falling into poverty and providing opportunities for better livelihoods.

24. The country programme will be implemented in close collaboration and partnership with the Prime Minister's Office, line ministries, Parliament and municipalities, the Public Defender's Office, the judiciary and civil society. It will make greater efforts to engage non-traditional but crucial partners, including the private sector, religious leaders and academia.

25. As an important voice for children's rights in Georgia, UNICEF can bring together various stakeholders, including children themselves, around issues of critical importance to realizing the rights of all children. By employing an integrated approach and capitalizing on its comparative advantages, UNICEF is positioned to support tangible change for the rights of children in Georgia.

26. Critical enablers for programme implementation include communication, advocacy and expansion of partnerships to improve opportunities to promote and protect child rights; and enhancing programme coordination and cross-sectoral work (including emergency preparedness and response, innovation and the application of gender- and adolescent-centred approaches in all programme components). UNICEF will broaden its resource mobilization strategy to explore opportunities with emerging donors and the private sector, as well as for South-South cooperation.

Health and nutrition

27. This programme component seeks to ensure that all pregnant women, newborns, children and adolescents equitably benefit from evidence-based policies and coordinated, quality health, well-being and nutrition services. This component focuses on improving capacities for (a) informed decision-making to address mother and child health, development and environmental health needs; (b) the rural primary health care system; (c) implementing sustainable communication for health outcomes; and (d) modelling interventions for adolescent mental health and school-based nutrition that can be scaled up.

28. UNICEF will work with relevant national authorities to strengthen capacities to collect and translate data into information to better address mother and child needs by strengthening health information systems. This includes evidence generation related to maternal and child exposure to environmental hazards including lead, water and sanitation to be used to advocate for improved policies and programmes.

29. UNICEF will support the Government to strengthen the health system to provide equitable access to quality health-care services especially for women, girls and boys. Primary health care reform, including improvement of the rural primary health care system's capacity to mainstream well-baby check-ups and deliver quality health and child developmental services, is a key focus area to enhance coverage of essential services. In conflict-affected areas, UNICEF will expand the immunization programme and maternal and child health-care initiatives, including preventive care for mothers, children and families. UNICEF will support medical colleges to update their training curricula for nurses and midwives.

30. UNICEF will improve the health system's capacity to increase public awareness on immunization, nutrition, hygiene practices, adolescent mental health, early childhood development and positive parenting. The focus is on targeted messaging for marginalized communities to increase demand for health, WASH and nutrition services. UNICEF will build the Government's capacity for health communications and engage community leaders, parents and young people in awareness-raising activities.

31. UNICEF will support the piloting, evaluation and costing of adolescent mental health and school-based nutrition services and advocate for further replication nationwide. Efforts include advocacy for an adolescent mental health surveillance system and strengthening government capacity to respond.

Education

32. This programme component will support the Government to ensure that children, especially those most vulnerable, at risk or with disabilities, participate in educational programmes that meet national quality and inclusiveness standards. It focuses on improving capacity for (a) implementing national preschool standards and legislation in preschool institutions; (b) developing and implementing inclusive, student-centred and skills/competency-based general education policies and national curricula; and (c) rolling out nationally a set of successful piloted models for violence-free schools.

33. UNICEF will assist the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport, municipalities and state universities to improve information management systems for inclusive preschool education, strengthen policies and standards, diversify service delivery (especially during and after the COVID-19 pandemic) and improve the quality of pre-service training. Efforts will improve the capacity of preschool institutions to strengthen inclusivity, quality of learning, curriculum, teaching methodologies, parenting programmes and coordination to better implement national standards and legislation in these institutions.

34. UNICEF will support this Ministry to develop and implement inclusive, student-centred and skills/competency-based general education policies and national curricula, including for out-of-school children. Initiatives include scaling up programmes to train teachers, including those from national minorities, and strengthening information systems and analytical capacity. In conflict-affected areas, UNICEF will continue promoting contemporary teaching methodologies, equal access to quality mother tongue education, initiatives to improve education services. UNICEF will also address the lack of data and support improved programming.

35. UNICEF will also support this Ministry to develop and pilot a gender-sensitive model programme of violence-free schools to offer prevention and response mechanisms in children's best interests, with the expectation that this model could be rolled out countrywide.

Social policy and child rights monitoring

36. This programme component supports the Government to ensure that children and adolescents, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, equitably benefit from inclusive social policies and programmes that focus specifically on enhanced realization of the rights of all girls and boys and are monitored through a robust child rights mechanism. The component focuses on building capacities for (a) developing child- and gender-sensitive evidence-based social policies and budgets; (b) planning, public finance for children and implementing and monitoring the effectiveness of social protection programmes; (c) identifying and granting disability status;

(d) fostering partnerships for promoting and protecting child rights; and (e) reinforcing child rights monitoring mechanisms and data.

37. UNICEF will work with national authorities to develop inclusive, child-sensitive evidence-based strategies, policies and budgets in social areas including health care, education, child protection and social protection. National agencies and municipalities will receive capacity building in planning and public finance, to facilitate equity-based, gender-sensitive programme budgeting for children. Efforts include strengthening capacity to implement and monitor the effectiveness of social protection programmes to ensure social inclusion and addressing structural economic inequalities to reach underserved populations and strengthen social safety nets.

38. UNICEF will work with national authorities to strengthen the capacity of health and social service structures in selected regions to identify and grant disability status based on a social model of disability. Accordingly, UNICEF will use communication for social change interventions to overcome stigma towards children with disabilities. In conflict-affected areas, UNICEF will continue supporting service delivery for children with disabilities.

39. UNICEF will strengthen strategic partnerships with national and local authorities, religious leaders, academia, private sector, media, community-based organizations, children and adolescents to help promote and protect child rights. UNICEF programming will include (a) enhancing partnerships to better address child rights and equip partners with skills and knowledge to encourage child rights dialogue; (b) leveraging the power of business and markets to benefit children, especially the most vulnerable; (c) promoting child rights within the business sector; and (d) strengthening partnerships with civil society coalitions and professional associations to jointly advocate for child rights.

40. UNICEF will reinforce national human rights monitoring mechanisms to monitor child rights, including individual complaints. UNICEF will support the effective and timely collection and analysis of data and evidence on children and adolescents; and work to enhance the skills of right-holders to claim their rights.

Child protection

41. UNICEF will support the Government to enhance the legal protection and implementation capacities to provide for a more protective and caring family environment. The aim is to enable families and children to demand and benefit from enhanced access to and use of community-based child and family services, quality alternative care, child-friendly justice systems and protection systems against violence in all environments. This component focuses on building capacity for (a) delivering evidence-based programmes that provide a more protective environment for children; (b) implementing social work legislation; (c) developing and delivering evidence-based programmes that provide access to justice for children in contact with the law; and (d) addressing harmful traditional practices.

42. UNICEF will partner with national authorities to develop and revise legislation and policies in line with the requirements of the Code on the Rights of the Child and supporting its implementation. UNICEF will enhance the capacities of the child protection system at the central and municipal levels and support social services to develop, deliver and assess protection programmes for children, especially girls. Focus is on minimizing family separation, responding to any form of violence against children and ensuring that quality alternative care is available when needed. UNICEF will support the Government in strengthening the channels for children to report violence and seek help.

43. UNICEF will partner with the national authorities to implement social work legislation, expand and improve academic programmes and develop and institutionalize in-service training for social workers. In conflict-affected areas, UNICEF will continue building social work capacity; strengthening monitoring and generating evidence on issues related to child protection to better inform stakeholders and strengthen social services supporting children.

44. UNICEF will partner with the Ministry of Justice to develop and deliver evidence-based programmes to provide access to justice for children in contact with the law, in line with the Code on the Rights of the Child. UNICEF will help the Ministry to improve the reliability of data on justice for children and support the establishment of an effective crime prevention mechanism. Efforts will strengthen alternatives to detention and deprivation of liberty for children in contact with the law.

45. UNICEF will work with children, parents and community leaders in selected regions of Georgia to end or minimize harmful traditional practices involving violence against children. UNICEF will engage in risk communication and community engagement to enhance knowledge of positive parenting; address negative attitudes, misconceptions, traditional gender stereotypes and roles; and improve understanding of the consequences of violence against children. A goal of this programme component is transforming social norms through improved community platforms, collective action, community dialogue and distribution of information.

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	900	5 600	6 500
Education	640	7 180	7 820
Social policy and child rights monitoring	850	3 620	4 470
Child protection	950	6 870	7 820
Programme effectiveness	1 000	1 400	2 400
Total	4 340	24 670	29 010

Programme and risk management

46. This document outlines the UNICEF contributions to national results for children. It serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at the country level. Accountabilities 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.

47. The country programme is aligned to the UNSDCF, 2021–2025 and will be carried out in collaboration with line ministries, development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector, religious leaders, academia, the United Nations Resident Coordinator and United Nations agencies.

48. The Government's ongoing commitment to reform the health, education and social and child protection sectors offers an important opportunity for UNICEF to support systemic change in favour of the most vulnerable children and families. It is

assumed that the Government will continue to prioritize child rights, politically and financially. The main risks to achieving expected results are:

(a) Political instability. Mitigation measures include working with all parliamentary groups to influence prioritization of child-related issues.

(b) Economic contraction and increased limitations on fiscal space, along with limited donor interest and fund availability. UNICEF will develop and implement a robust resource mobilization strategy using innovations to reach children in need.

(c) COVID-19 is reducing the capacity of health and other essential services, creating a digital divide in education and reducing fiscal capacity. UNICEF will continue supporting hybrid models of service delivery, advocating to ensure continuity of services and focusing on reaching the most vulnerable children.

(d) Natural, man-made and/or biological disasters redirecting capacities and resources. UNICEF will enhance disaster risk reduction and strengthen emergency preparedness to ensure child rights are upheld.

(e) In conflict-affected areas, the main risk is limited access. UNICEF will continue its advocacy to reach the most vulnerable children with essential services.

49. UNICEF Georgia will continue to invest in its governance and management systems, stewardship of financial resources and management of human resources, as well as strengthening the management of the harmonized approach to cash transfers to mitigate risks associated with programme implementation.

Monitoring and evaluation

50. UNICEF will monitor results through annual reviews, in collaboration with the Government, to assess progress, identify key strategic, programmatic, operational and financial risks and define appropriate mitigation measures. These in turn will inform work planning.

51. The results and resources framework and workplans will guide monitoring of results for children. Progress will be measured by tracking annual milestones, information and data generated by sector-specific information management systems, and by regular field visits. Programmes will make substantial investments in data management systems and in innovative technology for routine data collection, mapping and real-time monitoring.

52. Within the UNSDCF, UNICEF will contribute to enhancing Government capacity to monitor progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. UNICEF will work closely with the independent National Statistics Office of Georgia (GeoStat), to collect data on children, including data disaggregated by sex, disability and geographical location. This will be shared in such regional initiatives as Transformative Monitoring for Enhanced Equity. UNICEF will work with partners to strengthen national monitoring and evaluation capacity by institutionalizing results-based management. An emphasis will be placed on implementing subnational planning processes, improving programme performance monitoring and enhancing feedback mechanisms.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Georgia – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2021–2025

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 1–40

National priorities: Social-economic Development Strategy of Georgia ('Georgia 2020'), national human rights strategy and action plan, Code on the Rights of the Child

Sustainable Development Goals: 1–6, 10–11, 13, 16–17

United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework outcomes involving UNICEF:

1. By 2025, all people in Georgia enjoy improved good governance, more open, resilient and accountable institutions, rule of law, equal access to justice, human rights, and increased representation and participation of women in decision-making.
2. By 2025, all people in Georgia have equitable and inclusive access to quality, resilient and gender-sensitive services delivered in accordance with international human rights standards.
3. By 2025, all people without discrimination benefit from a sustainable, inclusive and resilient economy in Georgia.
4. By 2025, conflict affected communities enjoy human rights, enhanced human security and resilience.
5. By 2025, all people, without discrimination, enjoy enhanced resilience through improved environmental governance, climate action and sustainable management and use of natural resources in Georgia.

Related UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021 Goal Areas: 1–5

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. By 2025, pregnant women, newborns, children and adolescents equitably benefit from evidence-based policies and coordinated quality	Percentage of districts or equivalent administrative units with at least 80% coverage of measles-containing vaccine for children <1 B: 92.8% T:100%	WHO/UNICEF Joint Reports	1.1. Designated government agencies have increased capacity to collect, analyse and use data to inform decision-making, and have strengthened capacity to address mother and child health, development and environmental health needs.	Government ministries and affiliated agencies (Government); Parliament; Public Defender's Office (PDO); health professional	900	5 600	6 500

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
health, well-being and nutrition services.	Percentage of children under 5 who are stunted or overweight [Sustainable Development Goals indicator] stunted B: 6% T: 3% overweight B: 6% T: 4%	National Center for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC&PH)	1.2. The rural primary health care system has increased capacity to mainstream well-baby check-ups within its portfolio and deliver quality health and developmental services with enhanced coverage. 1.3. The health system has improved capacity to implement sustainable communication interventions to increase public awareness about immunization, healthy nutrition, hygiene practices, mental health and early childhood development.	associations; National Statistics Office of Georgia (GeoStat); United Nations agencies; non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and donors			
	Percentage of women attended at least four times during their pregnancy by any provider (skilled or unskilled) for reasons related to the pregnancy [UNSDCF indicator] B: 42% T: 70%	NCDC&PH	1.4. Appropriate models of adolescents' mental health and school-based nutrition services are piloted, evaluated and costed for further replication at the national level.				
2. By 2025, children, especially those who are vulnerable, at risk and/or with disabilities, participate in educational programmes that meet national quality and inclusiveness standards.	Participation rate in organized learning one year before the official school entry age (by sex and ethnicity) [Sustainable Development Goals/UNSDCF indicator] B: Total 89.6%; boys - 87.5%; girls - 92.2% Georgian - 93.5%, Azerbaijani - 48%, Armenians - 76.1% T: 95%	Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport (MoESCS), municipalities, GeoStat	2.1. Municipalities, relevant ministries and state universities offering pre-service training for prospective preschool educators have improved capacity and coordination mechanisms in place to implement national preschool standards and legislation in preschools. 2.2. The Government has the capacity to develop and implement inclusive, student-centred and skills/competency-based general education policies	Government; National Center for Teacher Professional Development; National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement; universities; schools and preschools	640	7 180	7 820

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
	<p>Number of registered out-of-school children (primary and secondary age)</p> <p>[UNSDCF indicator]</p> <p>B: 15,000 T: 2,000</p>	MoESCS	and national curricula, and to scale up successful programmes, including for out-of-school children and children with disabilities, and train teachers and school administrators, including those belonging to national minorities.				
	<p>Percentage of public schools with safe environment and established positive discipline</p> <p>B: 0 T: 25%</p>	MoESCS	2.3. The Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport has enhanced technical capacity, organizational ability and willingness to roll out nationally successful piloted models for violence-free schools, based on a costed plan.				
3. By 2025, children and adolescents, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, have increased access to inclusive social protection, policies and programmes that focus specifically on enhanced realization of the rights of all children and which are monitored through a robust child rights mechanism.	<p>Number of children covered by social protection systems</p> <p>B: 140,800 T: 246,400</p>	Social Service Agency	<p>3.1. National authorities have the capacity to develop child- and gender-sensitive evidence-based social policies and budgets.</p> <p>3.2. Selected national agencies and municipalities have improved capacities for planning and public finance for children, and for implementing and monitoring the effectiveness of social protection programmes.</p>	Government, State Care Agency, NGOs, social service providers, religious institutions, private businesses, children, Interreligious Council, PDO, media, academia	850	3 620	4 470
	<p>Number of children living in poverty according to national monetary poverty lines (disaggregated by sex, geographic location, disability status and ethnicity)</p> <p>[Sustainable Development Goals indicator]</p> <p>B: 0–17 - 24.2%</p>	GeoStat	<p>3.3. Relevant health and social service structures in selected regions of Georgia have the capacity to identify and grant disability status and to provide assistance (cash and services) in line with adapted entitlement</p>				

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: Reduce by 20%		scheme based on a social model of disability. 3.4 Strategic partnerships are strengthened with national and local authorities, religious leaders, academia, private businesses, media, community-based organizations, children and adolescents to contribute to promoting and protecting child rights. 3.5. Human rights mechanisms are reinforced to monitor child rights through effective and timely collection and analysis of data and evidence on children and adolescents.				
	National human rights institutions supported by UNICEF do quality monitoring on child rights B: PDO with insufficient internal capacity for regular thematic monitoring of child rights T: PDO conducts regular thematic monitoring of child rights and responds to individual complaints	National Human Rights Strategy and Action Plan					
4. By 2025, national legislative and implementation systems increasingly provide for a protective and caring family environment that enables families and children to demand and benefit from enhanced access to and use of community-based child and family services, quality alternative care, the justice system and protection systems against violence in all environments.	Rate of children in residential care B: 152 per 100,000 T: 106 per 100,000	Social Service Agency	4.1. The child protection system and social services have improved capacities to develop and deliver evidence-based programmes that provide a more protective environment for children.	Parliament, Government, State Care Agency, Penitentiary Service, PDO, municipalities, General Prosecutor's Office, Judiciary, Legal Aid Service, Georgian Bar Association, NGOs, academia, media	950	6 870	7 820
	Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month [Sustainable Development Goals indicator] B: 69% T: 58%	Surveys	4.2. Relevant institutions have increased capacity to implement legislation on social work, including strengthening pre- and in-service training and ongoing support to social service workforce staff.				
	Number of girls and boys who have experienced violence who are reached	Social Service Agency	4.3. The justice system has improved capacity to develop and deliver evidence-based programmes that provide access				

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
	<p>by social service and justice/law enforcement services supported by UNICEF</p> <p>B: 2,156 T: 4,800</p>		<p>to justice for children in contact with the law.</p> <p>4.4. Children, parents and community leaders in selected regions of Georgia are able to end/minimize harmful traditional practices, based on enhanced knowledge of positive parenting methods, evidence and better understanding of the consequences of violence against children.</p>				
	<p>Percentage of girls and boys in contact with justice and administrative bodies who: (a) benefit from interventions to improve children's access to justice; and (b) are subject to diversion order or alternative measure as opposed to custodial sentences</p> <p>[UNSDCF indicator]</p> <p>B: (a) criminal justice - 100%, civil and administrative justice - 5% (b) 59% T: (a) criminal justice - 100%, civil and administrative justice - 50%; (b) 70%</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Prosecutor's Office, Legal Aid Service</p>					
5. Programme effectiveness					1 000	1 400	2 400
Total resources					4 340	24 670	29 010