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## United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

**First regular session 2022**

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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

### Country programme document

#### Greece

#### *Summary*

The country programme document (CPD) for Greece 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 \$0 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$126,820,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period from March 2022 to December 2026.

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\* [E/ICEF/2022/1](#).



## Programme rationale

1. A high-income country and member of the European Union, Greece achieved notable progress in improving the well-being of its population in the period following the Second World War. However, socioeconomic gains were undermined by the financial crisis of 2008, which was followed by a decade of austerity. In 2017, Greece invested €1,623 per capita in health care – more than one-third less than the European Union average. Current expenditure on education, amounting to 4.2 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP), is one of the lowest levels in the European Union.<sup>1</sup> The value for money, adequacy and equitability of spending, especially, through a child-focused lens, are difficult to assess, as there has been limited budget performance evaluation and parliamentary and citizens' engagement in the budget process is low.<sup>2</sup> The pandemic-induced 8.2 per cent GDP contraction in 2020<sup>3</sup> is likely to further exacerbate economic hardship.

2. Since 2015, Greece has received more than 1 million refugees and migrants from Africa, Asia and the Middle East. By the end of 2020, the refugee and migrant population hosted by Greece was estimated at 121,000, including 44,500 children; about 4,000 of them (93 per cent boys) were registered as unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC).<sup>4</sup> UNICEF has been providing humanitarian support to families and children on the move in Greece since early 2016 through an outposted team from the Regional Office of Europe and Central Asia. This experience, together with years of engagement with national stakeholders, collaboration with other United Nations agencies in the country (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Organization for Migration (IOM), World Health Organization (WHO)) and the European Union, led to an agreement to establish a country office in 2020 and, in part, informed the programme of cooperation for 2022–2026. The present inaugural CPD represents the continuum of many years of collaboration.

3. The ambition of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is encapsulated in the National Strategy for Sustainable and Fair Growth 2018–2030 of Greece and reflected in the voluntary national review of 2018. The ongoing discussions on the European Union Strategy on the Rights of the Child and the national reporting on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child provide powerful momentum to further advance the child rights, equity and inclusion agenda, opening space for innovative partnerships as well as policy and budgeting solutions for the benefit of the 2 million children in Greece.

4. As a prerequisite for equity-sensitive policies, the Committee on the Rights of the Child has encouraged Greece to improve the availability of disaggregated data on children (i.e., living in poverty or with disabilities; from refugee or migrant families; from Roma communities; living in residential care; victims of violence; in conflict with the law; out of school; Stateless).<sup>5</sup> Filling such gaps in data will enable the establishment of social inclusion targets to guide national action for children.

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<sup>1</sup> UNICEF, Situation analysis of children and youth in Greece (2020); Ministry of Finance, Draft budgetary plan 2021, (2020).

<sup>2</sup> Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Budgetary Governance in Practice: Greece, (2019).

<sup>3</sup> Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) statistics on gross domestic product. Available from <https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SEL84/->.

<sup>4</sup> Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and UNICEF.

<sup>5</sup> Committee on the Rights of the Child, List of issues in relation to the combined fourth to sixth periodic reports of Greece (CRC/C/GRC/Q/4-6).

5. Greece remains one of the three Member States of the European Union with the highest risk of children of living in poverty or experiencing social exclusion,<sup>6</sup> despite a sizeable decrease in the rate of such children, from 37.8 per cent to 30.5 per cent between 2015 and 2019 (still behind the European Union target of 18 per cent for 2020).<sup>7</sup> Meanwhile, only 7 per cent of the country's social protection budget (absorbing more than 40 percent of public budget expenditure)<sup>8</sup> was allocated to benefits for families with children in 2018, compared with 55 per cent spent on old-age pensions.<sup>9</sup> While ongoing reforms are aimed at better targeting those in need of cash-based support, the availability of social services remains limited.

6. Children from Roma communities (estimated at 104,210 people across 76 settlements)<sup>10</sup> are disproportionately vulnerable to poverty and other forms of deprivation as well as multiple forms of violence. The ongoing European Union multi-country Roma survey will inform the new strategic framework of Greece for Roma equality, inclusion and participation, in alignment with the corresponding European Union Roma strategic framework for 2020–2030.

7. The education system of Greece accommodates about 1.2 million children. The 11 years of compulsory schooling include two years of preschool/kindergarten, with the current enrolment of children aged 4 to 6 years at 75 per cent, well behind the 2020 European Union target of 95 per cent. Both primary and secondary education lack teaching capacity; schools in areas difficult to access, remain under-resourced. Learning outcomes need strengthening, with over 30 per cent of children aged 15 years underachieving in mathematics, reading and science; in the latter two subjects, student performance has been declining since 2005.<sup>11</sup> Children with low socioeconomic status or from migrant communities and rural areas demonstrate weaker performance.<sup>12</sup> Despite being cost-free, the education system does not ensure equity of opportunity, as out-of-pocket payments for additional tutoring may reach up to one-third of a family's total education expenditure. Such supplementary tutoring is often necessary to compensate for insufficient education measures as well as problems with the quality of education, and also increases the chances of securing a place at a high-ranked university.<sup>13</sup> School curricula and teaching methods insufficiently promote practical and adaptive skills and competencies that match labour-market needs. Gender stereotypes appear to influence the choice of areas of study by students in both vocational and university education.

8. Estimated school enrolment data for Roma and refugee or migrant children (at 57 per cent and 42 per cent, respectively) show the need for a greater focus on inclusive education. In the period 2017–2018, approximately 80,000 students with disabilities and/or special education needs attended mainstream schools, while 11,000 were in special schools.<sup>14</sup> However, the monitoring of inclusive education policies is hindered by the absence of comprehensive data. Non-inclusive practices are perpetuated by school regulations, as well as the attitudes of education professionals, parents and communities. The limited availability of formal childcare

<sup>6</sup> Eurostat, Children at risk of poverty or social exclusion (2020).

<sup>7</sup> European Commission, Investing in Children: Greece (2014).

<sup>8</sup> OECD, Budgetary Governance in Practice: Greece (2019).

<sup>9</sup> ELSTAT, European system of integrated social protection statistics: social protection expenditures (2018).

<sup>10</sup> Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Operational plan for the social integration of Roma people (2017).

<sup>11</sup> OECD, Programme for International Student Assessment results (2018); Education policy outlook: Greece (2020).

<sup>12</sup> OECD, Education Policy Outlook: Greece (2020).

<sup>13</sup> OECD, Education for a Bright Future in Greece (2018).

<sup>14</sup> Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs.

prior to entrance into school (involving about 14 per cent of children aged 0 to 3 years)<sup>15</sup> also blocks inclusion pathways, especially for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

9. While certain progress has been made under the European Union-wide Youth Guarantee initiative and the national Youth '17–'27: Strategic Framework for the Empowerment of Youth, educational, professional and social inclusion outcomes for young people in Greece still lag behind the ambition of existing plans. In 2019, 35.2 per cent of young people aged 15 to 24 years (37.1 per cent females) were unemployed, more than twice the European Union average of 15 per cent; those not in employment, education or training (NEET) at this age accounted for 12.5 per cent,<sup>16</sup> with both sexes almost equally affected,<sup>17</sup> which is also above the European Union average of 10.1 per cent. The attractiveness of vocational education and training (VET) remains low (15 per cent of males and 11 per cent of females aged 15 to 24 years are enrolled).<sup>18</sup> Overall, further analysis of factors impeding the empowerment of girls and young women is needed (Sustainable Development Goal 5), considering the country's Gender Equality Index score (52.2 out of 100), the lowest in the European Union.<sup>19</sup>

10. The potential of young girls and boys is still largely untapped; at least half of young Greeks are not engaged in any form of civic participation.<sup>20</sup> At the same time their psychoemotional well-being raises concerns, as the proportion of adolescents aged 11 to 15 years with feelings possibly associated with clinical depression is estimated at 28 per cent; teenage girls appear to be considerably more affected than boys.<sup>21</sup> Greece has the highest prevalence of child obesity in the European Union, at 37 per cent of children and adolescents aged 5 to 19 years.<sup>22</sup>

11. In 2020, residential care facilities accommodated about 1,700 children without parental care;<sup>23</sup> girls tend to be placed in private facilities and boys in public ones. At the end of 2020, 34 adolescent boys and 3 girls were in detention, with no data available on children in contact with the legal system as witnesses or subjects of crime. The incidence of abuse and violence against children (VAC) in closed institutions is supported by anecdotal evidence. Domestic violence and discrimination were reported by nearly 4,900 women in 2019 and 817 complaints of VAC were registered by helplines in the first quarter of 2020, however, the availability of data on VAC is poor.<sup>24</sup> Various forms of gender-based violence (GBV) are of concern, including child marriage (especially within Roma communities) and child trafficking, as well as cyberbullying, all of which disproportionately affect girls. Child protection services are fragmented, lack unified quality standards and rely on projects rather than systems.

12. An evaluation of the UNICEF contribution to the migrant and refugee crisis response in Greece in the period 2016–2019 produced the recommendation for the establishment of a UNICEF country programme for all children in Greece. The evaluation emphasized the importance of (a) gender-responsive and equity-based

<sup>15</sup> ELSTAT.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> UNICEF, Situation analysis of children and youth in Greece (2020).

<sup>19</sup> European Institute for Gender Equality.

<sup>20</sup> European Union Directorate-General for Communication, Flash Eurobarometer 455, European youth (2017).

<sup>21</sup> University Mental Health, Neurosciences and Precision Medicine Research Institute "Costas Stefanis" (2019).

<sup>22</sup> UNICEF, Situation analysis of children and youth in Greece (2020).

<sup>23</sup> Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

<sup>24</sup> UNICEF, Situation analysis of children and youth in Greece (2020).

national planning, budgeting and statistics; (b) inclusiveness in education policies and practices; (c) the protection of all children from violence, institutionalization and social exclusion; (d) a focus on marginalized youth; (e) the promotion of joint United Nations and integrated/multisectoral programming; and (f) the articulation of the role of UNICEF in the high-income-country context of Greece.

13. The comparative advantage of UNICEF lies in its normative power in child-centred agenda-setting. This is supported by its organizational experience in equity-focused data collection, policy design and service delivery modalities. In Greece, UNICEF has proved itself to be a trusted partner, capable of cooperating with a broad range of government and non-governmental actors. It is for these reasons that the Government of Greece has requested UNICEF to establish a formal presence in the country.

## **Programme priorities and partnerships**

14. While UNICEF was carrying out humanitarian work related to the refugee response in Greece, gaps in the child protection system, affecting all children in the country, were identified. The first fully fledged programme of cooperation between UNICEF and the Government of Greece embodies a transition from humanitarian to development programming, enabling the parties to start addressing systemic barriers to the full realization of child rights in Greece, with the aim of leaving no child behind.

15. The Government and UNICEF share an overall vision of change in which, by 2026, all children and young people in Greece fully realize their rights for protection, quality education and empowerment and are increasingly capable of contributing as active citizens to the equity, inclusion, social cohesion and sustainable development agenda. This result can be achieved if there are stronger national capacities for strategic policy planning and implementation in the areas of (a) social policy and child-rights monitoring; (b) quality and inclusive education for all; (c) child protection; and (e) youth empowerment.

16. The proposed country programme reflects the main thrusts of the National Strategy for Sustainable and Fair Growth 2018–2030 and informs the National Action Plan for Children’s Rights. It is in alignment with the proposed European Union strategies on the Rights of the Child and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021–2030 and the Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation for 2020–2030, as well as the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 and Gender Action Plan, 2022–2025 and related programmatic and institutional standards. In keeping with the recent progress update shared with the Executive Board on UNICEF experience in high-income countries and in countries transitioning from upper-middle-income to high-income status within the framework of the UNICEF universal agenda for child rights ([E/ICEF/2021/26](#)), UNICEF will further its collaboration with other United Nations agencies present in country, namely WHO, UNHCR and IOM, to build on the child-rights agenda.

### **Social policy and child-rights monitoring**

17. The long-term vision of change is that, by 2026, children and young people, particularly the most marginalized, progressively benefit from equity-focused and inclusive social protection policies and innovative financing for children informed by strong data and implemented at the national and subnational levels. This programme component will be focused on (a) strengthening national and local capacities for planning and implementing child-sensitive social protection policies

and services; (b) leveraging public and private investments for children; and (c) enhancing national child-rights monitoring systems.

18. In cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, UNICEF will support the collection of evidence and develop in-depth analysis of the social and economic vulnerabilities of children and families, including women-led households, to inform the country's upcoming National Action Plan against Poverty, with explicit targets and resources linked to combatting child poverty (Sustainable Development Goal 1). A participatory process will ensure that the voices of families, young people and children are reflected in social protection policies.

19. UNICEF will partner with the Ministry of Finance to quantify the level and composition of child-specific expenditure, identify gaps and explore innovative financing tools to rebalance fiscal stimulus towards child-sensitive spending to reach national targets. Analyses of the effectiveness and efficiency of child-focused public spending will be prioritized across all areas of UNICEF programmatic work. At the local level, the UNICEF-supported Child-Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI) offers an entry point for cooperation on child-focused and gender-responsive budgeting covering all regions of Greece.

20. UNICEF will partner with the Ministry of Justice to support planning for child rights, aiming for alignment with national and European Union priorities. UNICEF will collaborate with the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) to improve the availability of disaggregated data. UNICEF will support evidence generation through targeted research and facilitate the formulation and monitoring of measurable targets for children, including for vulnerable groups, in national development plans. A more effective child-results monitoring system will be paired with a coordination mechanism to ensure that the country's pledges under the Convention on the Rights of the Child translate into sector-specific commitments, budgets, implementation and reporting.

### **Quality and inclusive education for all**

21. The long-term vision of change is that, by 2026, all children in Greece, especially the most vulnerable (with disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds, with disabilities, from refugee and migrant families, from Roma communities), both boys and girls, enjoy equitable access to inclusive quality education (Sustainable Development Goal 4). This programme component is focused on strengthening national capacities in (a) developing and implementing a coherent, equity-focused and evidence-based education policy; (b) applying solutions that ensure access to well-resourced and quality education for all children; and (c) addressing social attitudes that prevent equitable, inclusive approaches.

22. In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, UNICEF will support the design of forward-looking education investments to overcome fragmentation while ensuring the system's adaptability to contexts that change over time. Improvement in the availability of high-quality disaggregated data will support the efficient planning and allocation of resources while addressing systemic bottlenecks. A review of school curricula, administrative regulations and existing compensatory education schemes through an inclusivity lens will ensure that vulnerable children can access and adapt to mainstream education facilities. UNICEF will emphasize the role of communities through its CFCI framework, establishing partnerships with schools, municipalities, civil society organizations (CSOs) and businesses to unlock the potential of local initiatives and ensure equitable access to continuous education. Multi-stakeholder synergies and investments will be used to leverage resources to equip schools with learning materials and improved infrastructure. UNICEF will promote extra-curricular and

blended forms of learning focused on the development of twenty-first-century skills and empowering children and adolescents as future active citizens. UNICEF will also support the implementation of “Kypseli”, the early childhood education policy of Greece.

23. UNICEF will support communication for development (C4D) and social and behaviour change (SBC) initiatives to address social perceptions that reject multiculturalism, perpetuate exclusion and segregation and/or promote gender stereotypes. Related messaging will capture the potential of girls as well as vulnerabilities based on gender, status or disability. New child rights education models will enhance children’s engagement and amplify their voices.

### **Child protection**

24. The long-term vision of change is that, by 2026, all boys and girls in Greece are better protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation and benefit from improved access to equitable, gender-responsive, well-resourced and sustainable child protection services, equitable alternative care and a child-friendly justice system. This programme component is focused on strengthening national capacities to (a) implement childcare system reforms; (b) design and implement child-centred and child-friendly policies as part of national justice system reform; and (c) develop integrated child protection systems.

25. Leveraging the European Union’s European Child Guarantee initiative, UNICEF will partner with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to develop a comprehensive legal and normative framework for family- and community-based forms of care, including foster care and small residential facilities. UNICEF will promote national strategies and programmes to accelerate deinstitutionalization, including the conversion of large-scale residential institutions into community care models. Building the capacity of the social service workforce and case management system will be essential for delivering high-quality community-based support to children and their caregivers. UNICEF will support the Ministry of Justice in assessing the system’s child friendliness, with a focus on boys and girls in contact with the law, to inform policy responses (Sustainable Development Goal 16). In parallel, UNICEF will support capacity-building in child-friendly justice methods for all sectors that interact with children and families in the context of judicial procedures.

26. UNICEF will work with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to promote an effective and integrated child protection system and further theme-specific legislative initiatives. Building on the successful collaboration with the General Secretariat for Demographic and Family Policy and Gender Equality, comprehensive evidence on violence, neglect and/or discrimination affecting children will be generated, steering public debate and facilitating consensus on urgent child protection priorities. UNICEF C4D/SBC initiatives will be focused on promoting the non-tolerance of violence, including GBV against children and women.

27. Leveraging its experience in humanitarian response in Greece, UNICEF will continue to tackle the child protection risks faced by refugee and migrant children (with particular attention to UASC) and Roma boys and girls by incrementally strengthening links with the national child protection system.

28. Up-to-date evidence and analysis and the improvement of community-based social services will assist UNICEF and its partners to define entry points for addressing risks relevant to child online protection and mental health disorders.

**Youth empowerment**

29. The long-term vision of change is that, by 2026, young people, particularly the most vulnerable, have increased access to quality learning, skills development and employment opportunities and are able to participate in all aspects of society and reach their full potential. This programme component is focused on strengthening national capacities to (a) plan, implement and monitor inclusive and gender-responsive policies for young people; (b) empower them to be engaged as active citizens in their communities and as members of society; and (c) expand their opportunities to develop and apply their competencies.

30. In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs and its General Secretariat for Vocational Education, Training, Lifelong Learning and Youth, UNICEF will contribute to updating the National Strategic Framework for the Empowerment of Youth (2017–2027) by communicating the perspectives of young people on existing barriers, including gender-related ones, to social inclusion, equity and active citizenship and reflecting the vision laid out in the European Union Youth Strategy 2019–2027. UNICEF will advocate for a corresponding action plan and monitoring framework to influence the formulation of youth-specific commitments in sectoral policies accompanied by an allocation of funding. In collaboration with such youth organizations as the Hellenic National Youth Council, UNICEF will promote public dialogue on youth issues, including equity, inclusion and gender.

31. UNICEF will engage with young citizens of different socioeconomic backgrounds through such communication platforms as Voices of Youth and U-Report. Drawing on lessons learned from its CFCI experience, UNICEF will facilitate the establishment of youth councils in municipalities under existing local governance provisions to institutionalize the role of girls and boys as change agents. UNICEF will establish a youth advisory board to channel suggestions of young people regarding the organization's programming. Partnerships with youth-led organizations and networks will be strengthened to promote young people's engagement with issues of growing social importance, including climate change, natural and human-caused hazards, sexual and reproductive health, internet addiction and online GBV.

32. In collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and its General Secretariat for Social Solidarity and the Fight against Poverty, the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs and its General Secretariat for Vocational Education, Training, Lifelong Learning and Youth and the Greek Manpower Employment Organization, UNICEF will contribute to the development of gender-responsive upskilling and job readiness programmes, including those tailored for NEET (Sustainable Development Goals 8). Green and digital skills will be emphasized in line with the European Skills Agenda (2020–2025) and adolescent girls' empowerment will be promoted through a focus on science, technology, engineering and math, information and communications technology and social entrepreneurship, in line with the UNICEF Gender Action Plan, 2022–2025. Innovative funding schemes for VET, lifelong and second-chance learning will be explored. In close engagement with the private sector, education and entrepreneurship orientation schemes will be tested and job placement opportunities for young people expanded, in alignment with with Generation Unlimited and the European Union Child Guarantee and Youth Guarantee initiative.



## 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>
Social policy and child-rights monitoring	0	8 433	8 433
Quality and inclusive education for all	0	39 355	39 355
Child protection	0	32 327	32 327
Youth empowerment	0	35 138	35 138
Programme effectiveness	0	11 567	11 567
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>126 820</b>	<b>126 820</b>

## Programme and risk management

33. The present country programme outlines the UNICEF planned contributions to national results for children and 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 and partnerships are prescribed in the organization's policies and procedures.

34. UNICEF assumes that the commitment of Greece to child rights will be further solidified in light of the adoption of the various European Union child- and youth-related strategies and the latest recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. UNICEF will work towards strengthening the programme implementation capacities of the Government and non-governmental partners and will continue to apply the harmonized approach to cash transfers. Annual programme reviews co-chaired by UNICEF and the Ministry of Justice will monitor progress in programme delivery and resource mobilization to verify achievements, analyse constraints and identify actions to improve programme effectiveness.

35. Programme fundraising efforts will target (a) private sector, philanthropic and individual contributions; (b) European Union-based financing channels; and (c) blended finance options, social-impact investments and borrowing guarantees that expand on the global environmental, social and governance market. Such resource mobilization, which foresees a gradual increase on an annual basis, will focus on leveraging financing through broad partnerships as well as new financing mechanisms aimed at strengthening national systems that serve children. UNICEF will work closely with the Ministry of Finance to monitor the leveraging of resources and to bridge financial gaps.

36. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has aggravated other risks to successful programme implementation, including (a) limited public expenditure on children and families to support social sector reforms and bring innovations to scale; (b) fragmentation of efforts and insufficient policy planning capacity, which undermine the quality and sustainability of results; (c) changes in leadership and technical staff in line ministries, which may delay or impede implementation; (d) inadequate capacity to respond to increased migratory flows and regional humanitarian developments; and (e) the poor performance of Greece in gender equality, particularly in the areas of work and time spent in care and social activities.

37. These risks will be mitigated by (a) monitoring the impact of expenditures on children and families, while leveraging resources from the private sector and innovative channels; (b) building national capacities in long-term planning, policy design and intersectoral coordination; (c) prioritizing the development of institutional mechanisms as a basis for continuity of action; and (d) working with national partners on risk-informed programming, emergency preparedness and response planning.

## **Monitoring and evaluation**

38. Based on the memorandum of understanding with ELSTAT, UNICEF will support efforts to strengthen the collection, accessibility and use of data on children, disaggregated to pinpoint inequalities, including by use of a gender lens to analyse barriers and inform gender-responsive programmes. A data alliance will be established with government authorities as well as with civil society, academia, ELSTAT, the Deputy Ombudsperson for Children's Rights, other United Nations agencies, European Union entities and the private sector to boost data generation and the exchange of good practices.

39. Country programme performance will be monitored through national and UNICEF standard indicators, with the monitoring of components built into partnership cooperation agreements, joint programmatic visits and other established corporate mechanisms. Monitoring will include data disaggregated by sex and age as well as by issues specific to girls and women.

40. Together with the ministries of Justice and of Labour and Social Affairs, UNICEF, as a new member of the National Mechanism for Child Rights, will conduct evaluations of the National Action Plan for Child Rights implementation and of deinstitutionalization reform as well as of the entire country cooperation programme, March 2022–December 2026 to document lessons learned and inform policies and programming. Analysis of the effects of COVID-19 and other crises on children and their families will be included in the scope of evaluations to inform adaptive programming.

## Annex

### Results and resources framework

#### Greece – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, March 2022–December 2026

<b>Convention on the Rights of the Child:</b> Articles 1–4, 7–10, 12–31, 34–37, 40–42 <b>National priorities:</b> National Strategy for Sustainable and Fair Growth 2030, National Action Plan on the Rights of the Children <b>Sustainable Development Goals:</b> 1, 4, 5, 8, 16								
<b>Related UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 Goal Areas:</b> 1–5								
UNSDCF outcomes	UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
						RR	OR	Total
Not applicable (NA)	1. By 2026, children and young people, particularly the most marginalized, progressively benefit from equity-focused and inclusive social protection policies and innovative financing for children informed by strong data and implemented at the national and subnational levels.	<p>Children at risk of poverty or social exclusion, disaggregated by sex (Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1.2.2 and UNICEF Europe and Central Asia Region (ECAR) Flagship Result Indicator IND0000505)</p> <p>B: 30.5% (2019) T: 17% (2026)</p> <p>Integration of measurable commitments on child rights in national planning documents</p> <p>B: Partially (2021) T: Fully (2025)</p> <p>Level of establishment of permanent national child rights coordinating mechanism (UNICEF Standard Indicator IND0000513)</p> <p>B: Weak (Score 1) (2020) T: Established (Score 3)</p>	National statistics, legislation, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice (MoJ) reports, subnational authorities	<p>1.1. National and local capacities for planning and implementing child-sensitive social protection policies that explicitly target child poverty and exclusion are strengthened.</p> <p>1.2. National and local capacities to leverage public and private investments for children are strengthened.</p> <p>1.3. The national child-rights monitoring</p>	MoJ, MoLSA, ministries of Finance (MoF), the Interior (MoI), Migration and Asylum (MoMA) and Health (MoH), Ombudsperson's Office, Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT), civil society organizations (CSOs), regional and municipal authorities	0	8 433	8 433

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
		<p>(2026)</p> <p>A child-rights approach to budgeting and budgetary allocations for children, in particular those in vulnerable situations, is developed, including a plan that ensures the sustainability of services funded from external sources</p> <p>B: No (2020) T: Yes (2026)</p> <p>Prevalence of obesity or overweight among children aged 2 to 14 years</p> <p>B: 37.5% (2019) T: 24.5% (2024)</p>		system is enhanced to inform equity-focused policies and monitor progress towards the Convention on the Rights of the Child commitments and Sustainable Development Goals.				
NA	2. By 2026, all children in Greece, especially the most vulnerable (with disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds, with disabilities, from refugee and migrant families, from Roma communities), both boys and girls, enjoy equitable access to inclusive	<p>National Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) scores for 15-year-olds (SDG 4.1.1)</p> <p>B: 453.3 (2018) T: 525.6 (2025)</p> <p>Percentage of students in the bottom quarter of the PISA index of economic, social and cultural status in Greece and perform in the top quarter of students among all countries, after accounting for socioeconomic status, disaggregated by sex (SDG 4.5.1)</p> <p>B: 19.53 (2018) T: 46.6 (2025)</p>	Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs (MoERA), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) PISA database	2.1 National capacities are strengthened to develop coherent, equity-focused and evidence-based education policies, supported by effective implementation, monitoring and quality assurance mechanisms. 2.2 In target areas, the capacities of schools, preschools/	MoERA, Institute for Education Policy, National Confederation of Persons with Disabilities, local government authorities, school administrators	0	39 355	39 355

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
	quality education to achieve strong learning outcomes and fully develop their skills and competencies.	<p>Percentage of refugee and migrant children enrolled in formal education, disaggregated by sex (SDG 4.5.1 and UNICEF ECAR Flagship Result Indicators IND0000323, IND0000322 and IND0019904)</p> <p>B: 42 (2020) T: 100 (2026)</p> <p>Percentage of children from the Roma community enrolled in formal education, disaggregated by sex (SDG 4.5.1 and UNICEF ECAR Flagship Indicators IND0000323, IND0000322 and IND0019904)</p> <p>B: 57 (2011) T: 100 (2026)</p>		<p>kindergartens, municipalities and other stakeholders are enhanced, to apply and scale up customized solutions that ensure access to well-resourced and quality education for all children.</p> <p>2.3 Communication initiatives are developed and implemented to address social attitudes at the family, community and institutional levels that prevent the adoption of equitable and inclusive approaches in education.</p>				
NA	3. By 2026, all boys and girls in Greece, including refugees and migrants, are better protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and	<p>Children (0–17 years) living in residential care, disaggregated by sex (UNICEF ECAR Flagship Result indicator IND0019310)</p> <p>B: 1,700 (2020) T: 0 (2026)</p> <p>National deinstitutionalization</p>	National statistics, MoLSA, MoJ, UNICEF reports	3.1 National capacities are strengthened to implement childcare system reforms that promote family- and community-based forms of care, enhance	MoLSA, MoJ, MoERA, MoH, MoMA, Special Secretariat for the Protection of Unaccompanied Minors, local government authorities, Ombudsperson's Office, CSOs	0	32 327	32 327

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
	exploitation and benefit from improved access to equitable, well-resourced and sustainable child protection services, alternative care and a child-friendly justice system.	<p>strategy and transition mechanism adopted and implemented</p> <p>B: Partially (2020) T: Fully (2026)</p> <p>Supported independent living is integrated as a standard alternative care modality for third-country unaccompanied children and Greek-born children without parental care</p> <p>B: Partially (2020) T: Fully (2026)</p> <p>Percentage of State professionals in the justice system in contact with children applying child-friendly approaches and practices through continuous training</p> <p>B: 0 (2020) T: 100 (2026)</p> <p>Past-year prevalence of children's exposure to violent behaviours is reduced</p> <p>B: 69% (psychological), 46% (physical) (2018)<sup>a</sup> T: 35% (psychological), 23% (physical) (2026)<sup>b</sup></p> <p>Under-reporting of cases</p>		<p>gatekeeping to prevent institutionalization and strengthen social support services for children and families.</p> <p>3.2 Professional capacities are strengthened to design and implement child-friendly justice policies that effectively protect the rights of all children in contact with the law.</p> <p>3.3 UNICEF expertise informs key conceptual, legal, normative, budgeting and operational elements of the future comprehensive child protection system of</p>				

<sup>a</sup> George Nikolaidis and others, "Lifetime and past-year prevalence of children's exposure to violence in 9 Balkan countries: the BECAN study", *Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health* (2017). This survey covered the school-going population of children aged 11,13 and 16 years in nine countries, including Greece. A nationwide survey may be planned for Greece, which would include the measurement of violence among a broader age group to update the baseline.

<sup>b</sup> The prevalence of violence may be affected by various factors over time, namely efforts and initiatives undertaken by UNICEF, civil society organizations (CSOs) and the Government.

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
		of violence against children is reduced through increased capacity of professionals, accessibility to services and awareness-raising  B: 10% cases reported (2020) T: 50% cases reported (2026) <sup>c</sup>		Greece that will ensure the prevention of and response to all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect, deliver quality gender-responsive protection interventions and respond swiftly to refugee and migration flows or other humanitarian emergencies.				
NA	4. By 2026, young people, particularly the most vulnerable, have increased access to quality learning, skills development and employment opportunities and are able to apply their competencies and participate in all aspects of society to	Percentage of NEET (15–29 years) (SDG 8.6.1 & UNICEF Standard Indicator IND0000422)  B: 17.7 (2019) T: 10.0 (2026)  Existence of a strengthened system, including dialogue platforms, for youth participation in decision-making at the local, regional and national levels (UNICEF ECAR Flagship Result Indicator IND0001606)  B: Partial (2020) T: Full (2026)	National statistics, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs (MoERA), General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning and Youth	4.1 National and local government capacities are strengthened to plan, implement and monitor inclusive youth policies that explicitly address equity gaps affecting the most marginalized.  4.2 Established and new platforms provide	MoE, General Secretariat for LLL and Youth, MoLSA, General Secretariat for Social Solidarity, Manpower Employment Organization, local government authorities, CSOs, youth organizations	0	35 138	35 138

<sup>c</sup> The incidence of violence is widely underreported; increasing the number of reported cases correlates with increased trust in the justice system and in due process.

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
	realize their rights.			increased opportunities to amplify the voices of young people and empower them to be connected and engaged as active participants in their communities and society.  4.3 National capacities are strengthened to design and deliver education and training programmes that promote vocational, digital, green and entrepreneurial skills and competencies in young people, in line with modern labour market requirements.				
NA	5. Enhanced programme effectiveness					0	11 567	11 567
<b>Total resources</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>126 820</b>	<b>126 820</b>