



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
11 July 2022

Original: English
English, French, and Spanish only

United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

Second regular session 2022

6–9 September 2022

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Romania

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Romania 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 \$4,250,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$20,515,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2023 to 2027.

* E/ICEF/2022/22.



Programme rationale

1. Romania is an upper-middle-income country with a population of about 19 million, including 3.64 million children. Since Romania joined the European Union in 2007, the economy has grown significantly, reaching an annual average growth rate of 7 per cent before the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, resulting in improved living conditions, including for children. Romania has been proactive in supporting and incorporating international legal commitments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other global and European Union legal frameworks, into its national legal and policy frameworks.

2. Joining the European Union has brought diverse opportunities, including access to significant levels of European Structural Funds. The economic growth has led to a vibrant private sector with an expanding services industry. Unemployment rates were half of the European Union average in 2020, and tax revenues have increased. Investments in children have also increased over the years, including the child allowance, disability allowance and food allowance, as well as subsidies for heating and other essentials. Opportunities to travel, study and work in the European Union have strengthened cohesion between Romania and the rest of the Union.

3. Romania is one of the few European Union countries with a draft Strategy on the Protection and Promotion of Children's Rights 2021–2027 aligned with European Union programming and responding to European Union country-specific recommendations. The previous strategy for 2017–2020 was rigorously evaluated, and, following the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan, the new National Strategy on Child Rights for 2021–2027 addresses the evaluation recommendations and is aligned to the European Union Child Rights Strategy and the European Child Guarantee. It prioritizes actions and investments in child rights based on a holistic and integrated approach at the national and local levels, driving the shift from a reactive to a preventive system.

4. Despite many positive developments, Romania continues to face multiple demographic and social challenges: its overall population is decreasing fast, and the rural population, more vulnerable to poverty and social exclusion than urban dwellers, remains at around 50 per cent. Mobility within the European Union is responsible for young people and all sections of the labour force moving to other countries. As a result, the Government and businesses experience significant labour shortages. The COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately affected vulnerable households, especially children. School closures caused massive learning losses.

5. While Romania is mostly a transit country, the war in Ukraine has led to a sharply increased number of refugees entering the country, including unaccompanied and separated children, placing an additional strain on alternative care services suited for their specific needs. The Government has taken significant steps to ensure an adequate package of protection for Ukrainian refugees, including children, to set up the strategic domestic framework of the humanitarian response and to facilitate inter-agency cooperation among national, European and international partners. However, growing equity concerns before the war, particularly for children with disabilities, Roma children and those from poor households, combined with the additional pressure added by the Ukraine refugees, highlight the need to find solutions to ensure that all children are protected from violence and have equal access to health, education and protection systems and services.

6. The Romanian legal and policy framework on child rights is robust, but challenges remain at the implementation level, including the financing and monitoring of national strategies and programmes. Structures to deliver systematic

reforms of social systems are weak and compromised by human resources shortages and capacity gaps.¹ A lack of demand for disaggregated data and evidence hampers systematic reforms and prioritization of programmes and budgets. Across sectors, the focus remains on responding to problems rather than preventing them.

7. Despite earlier advances in children's well-being, recent years saw a slowing of the improvements in children's outcomes. Following the pandemic, the number of children at risk of poverty or social exclusion increased. Eurostat figures² show that 41.5 per cent of all children were at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2020, compared with 40 per cent in 2019, the highest level in Europe and much higher than the European Union average (24.2 per cent). Poverty levels are higher among Roma children, rural children, adolescents, and children living in single-parent and large families. In 2019, Romania ranked 67th on the World Bank's Human Capital Index (HCI), with a rating of 0.60 (HCI was 0.63 in 2012), and 49th place on the Human Development Index, with 0.828 in 2019, compared with 50th place, with 0.788, in 2007.

8. Despite prevailing deprivations, recent investments in children have not increased significantly. Annual budgets allocated to education, health and social protection are among the lowest in Europe. Investment in education is 3.2 per cent of gross domestic product, half of what Romanian law dictates. Investing in children requires systematic coordination and cooperation between ministries and departments and national and local administration. However, coordination within the Government remains weak due to the fragmented distribution of responsibilities in the social sector.³ Central government transfers and equalization transfers dominate local administration revenues. The local administration budgets' low and unpredictable levels have contributed to the lack of services or low-quality service delivery in some areas.

9. Over the past five years, health investments increased but have not significantly impacted child health and well-being. They continue to favour the tertiary sector, with little strengthening in public health services or health promotion. Years of low investment in public health contribute to a relatively high infant mortality rate and low vaccination coverage, as well as high vaccine hesitancy, which further increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. Before the pandemic there was a slight increase in the number of children benefiting from preventative community-based services; during the pandemic, this dropped by 20 per cent.⁴

10. The gross enrolment rate in primary education increased from 66 per cent in 2001 to 90 per cent in 2015, but has since stagnated. Only 82.3 per cent of children are enrolled in early childhood education, considerably below the European average of 95.1 per cent. Enrolment of Roma children and children with disabilities is significantly lower. Learning achievement has seen a decline based on the 2018 Programme for International Student Assessment results, with over 40 per cent of students lacking basic competency in maths, reading and science at age 15. Today, a child in Romania can expect to complete just 11.8 years of pre-primary, primary and secondary school by age 18, compared with 12.6 years in 2010. When years of schooling are adjusted for the quality of learning, the World Bank estimates that a child in Romania only benefits from 8.4 years of schooling, creating a 3.4 years learning gap. Poor learning outcomes also affect the performance of the public sector and limit the growth of the private sector. The focus on socio-emotional skills and other twenty-first century skills is severely compromised because many of these

¹ "Situation analysis of children and adolescents in Romania", 2021.

² Eurostat, "Persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion by age and sex".

³ "Situation analysis of children and adolescents in Romania", 2021.

⁴ UNICEF Rapid Assessment, 2020.

subjects are optional, depending on the teachers' competencies and weak demands from society.

11. Although there are no apparent differences between education achievement and health outcomes between boys and girls, Romania continues to score low on the Gender Equality Index (54 per cent in 2020), with gaps between women and men that can be seen in all index areas. The teenage pregnancy rate remains among the highest in Europe, with about 10 per cent of females aged 15–19 years becoming pregnant. Overall inequalities remain, violence is still seen as an acceptable disciplinary measure, children with disabilities and Roma face discrimination and stigma, and child participation is mainly tokenistic.

12. Since the work done on the European Union Declaration on Child Participation during Romania's presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2019, some progress has been made in strengthening children's participation in decision-making processes. With a vibrant National Students' Council and other child-led organizations, including the UNICEF-supported Romanian Children's Board, adolescents and youth have a growing positive movement to impact their country. The draft National Strategy on Child Rights demands more child participation.

13. The level of digital skills in Romania is one of the lowest in the European Union – only 31 per cent of Romanians have basic or above-average digital skills, and 15 per cent of all households do not have access to the Internet. Education and health services make very little use of new technologies and digital solutions. As a result, 32 per cent of schoolchildren could not access online schooling during the COVID-19 school closures in 2020, resulting in significant learning losses.

14. While the number of institutionalized children continues to drop and family-type alternatives have increased, the number of children entering public care continues to be high (around 9,000 children – one third with disabilities), mainly due to poverty, violence against children, and disability, in a context in which lack of access to adequate (preventative) services creates equity gaps.

15. There is a need to accelerate reforms in social services to link vulnerable households with the minimum package of services provided by law. Until now, these services have either not been available in most of rural Romania; not accessible in the case of particularly vulnerable groups such as Roma children; not adequate in the case of children with disabilities; or – almost everywhere – lack a proactive and preventive focus. Social transfers are the primary strategy but have not been shown to reduce poverty significantly. Better targeting and linking social transfers with social services are needed, as confirmed by the UNICEF "Investment Case for Cash & Care" (2021), which concluded that investments Romania can make today to reduce child poverty could yield over ten times the economic return within a few years.

16. The independent evaluations of the UNICEF-supported models, the minimum package of services and quality inclusive education, showed significant results in addressing deprivations, including reduced child poverty, school dropout rates and abandonment risks, and improved the health and protection of children. The proven strategies have now been incorporated into several national strategies and programmes, including the Educated Romania project of the Romanian presidential administration and the Ministry of Education. When implemented systematically, these two programmes alone could achieve significant progress in the situation of children – addressing the critical root causes of many of the persistent child rights deprivations and inequities and building resilience for future shocks.

17. Based on the above situation of children in Romania and lessons learned from the cooperation between the Government and UNICEF, the new country programme

for 2023–2027 will continue to focus on prioritizing child rights and, especially, on addressing exclusion. This will include making systems and services accessible to all children and families. Empowering adolescents, gender-transformative reforms, and building resilience of the population and institutions against shocks and emergencies will be the main cross-cutting areas. In support of government strategies and programmes, UNICEF will balance modelling, piloting and testing new and innovative approaches with an increasing focus on supporting the scaling of proven solutions, technical assistance and evidence-based advocacy.

Programme priorities and partnerships

18. The overall goal of the country programme is the social inclusion of all children living in Romania, supported by accessible, equitable, coordinated and quality health, education and child protection systems – services that are in demand from children and parents – and protective social norms. In line with the European Union and national child rights strategies, and the European Child Guarantee, the core focus lies on the most vulnerable children, those living with disabilities, from poor households, Roma children and child refugees in Romania.

19. To realize this, evidence-based advocacy and partnerships, including with children, will open doors and increase the number of people and organizations advocating for child rights. Implementing the European Child Guarantee and increased systematic investment in child rights, coupled with knowledge and technical assistance, will support the implementation of national strategies and lead to stronger institutions, capacities and systems and services for children, ultimately leading to a more inclusive society and quality human resources.

20. The Government and UNICEF will continue their partnership for children beyond the country's borders to ensure that Romania increasingly contributes with experience and expertise to European Union, regional and global efforts to advance child rights, by further identifying, documenting and sharing good practices. All critical issues and priorities for advancing child rights identified in the country programme are included in the 2021–2027 national strategies, ensuring alignment with national priorities and budgets, and contributing to the achievement of several Sustainable Development Goals, especially 1–5, 10, 16 and 17, and the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025.

21. Gender-transformative programming will be a cross-cutting priority in line with the UNICEF Gender Action Plan, 2022–2025. This will focus on empowering adolescent girls through skills development and supporting the efforts of the Government and civil society, as well as other United Nations agencies, to address harmful gender norms and gender-based violence at all levels.

22. UNICEF is recognized as a credible convener with a strong track record of bringing together diverse and multiple stakeholders, including government, civil society, private sector, academia and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes around policy advocacy on child rights, sharing good practices and innovations, climate and environment action, resource mobilization and leveraging for achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

23. Regarding the Ukraine refugee crisis, UNICEF will continue to support the Government of Romania in its response, aiming to extend and strengthen national systems and programmes in support and protection of refugees and their inclusion in national child protection, education, health and social protection systems, focusing on the most vulnerable. Active collaboration with United Nations partner agencies, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and non-governmental organizations, particularly local entities, is a pillar of the response plan.

Strengthen policies, programmes and budget allocations in support of children's rights

24. The long-term vision for change in this area is that by 2027, the equity gap that affects the most vulnerable children is reduced through increased investments in evidence-based policies, programmes and budgets created in partnership with children, communities, and the private and public sectors.

25. UNICEF will partner with national and local authorities to plan, budget, implement and evaluate adequate policies and programmes to reduce child poverty and child deprivation. This includes (i) the development, planning, implementation and evaluation of national cross-sectoral strategies such as the Child Rights Strategy and the European Child Guarantee; core partners will be the Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities, the Ministry of Investments and European Projects, the Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity, and the parliament; (ii) with the Prime Minister's office, the introduction and functioning of a parliamentary periodic review and reporting mechanism of the situation of all children in Romania; (iii) joint efforts with the business community to drive reforms, innovations and investments for all children; (iv) using the convening role of UNICEF to initiate, support and assist national advocacy platforms that promote solutions fostering equity and social inclusion; this will also include close partnerships with local administration, child-led organizations, civil society organizations, academia, media and the private sector; and (v) collaborating with political parties to ensure that platforms, electoral agendas and government programmes prioritize child rights and participation.

26. Besides Romanian organizations, UNICEF will also engage with relevant regional and global organizations, such as European Union institutions, the Council of Europe, the World Bank, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and other United Nations agencies, to establish networks and partnerships to exchange knowledge and experiences.

27. UNICEF will partner with the National Institute of Statistics, independent child rights monitoring mechanisms, and other relevant stakeholders to increase capacity to generate, analyse and use relevant disaggregated data and knowledge on child rights to inform evidence-based policies and monitor child rights and budgets. This includes key interventions and technical assistance for (i) dissemination of quality data with an equity and inclusion lens through research, surveys and studies; (ii) strengthening the national capacity to generate improved and harmonized administrative data for child rights monitoring; (iii) strengthening the capacity of the independent child rights monitoring mechanisms; (iv) using the Child Friendly Cities Initiative to build the capacity of local authorities to monitor child rights and promote participatory local governance and planning; and (v) providing data to the monitoring bodies of international conventions such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Istanbul Convention, including inputs from civil society and children.

28. UNICEF will engage children at national and local levels as part of efforts to build, showcase and leverage mechanisms ensuring their meaningful participation in the design, monitoring, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes that influence their life and development. This includes (i) the systemic inclusion of child participation into local and national processes using evidence such as that from the Child Friendly Cities Initiative; (ii) the development of digital tools for child participation, engagement, peer-to-peer learning focused on twenty-first century skills involving children at all stages from design to implementation; (iii) capacity-building of formal and informal child-led groups, such as the UNICEF-supported

Children's Board and the National Students' Council (CNE); (iv) advocate with government, parliament and local authorities to set up mechanisms for adolescents' participation; and (v) build a pool of child advocates, including from the most vulnerable groups, with leadership skills and capacity to drive the child rights agenda.

29. UNICEF will continue to grow its domestic fundraising efforts to mobilize flexible resources from both individual and private sector partners to continuously sustain and expand programmes for the most vulnerable children in Romania and internationally.

Improve access to quality child health, early childhood development and education

30. The social inclusion of all children, especially children with disabilities and Roma children, will need to be supported by quality, equitable and coordinated health and education services and protective social norms.

31. To complement the capacities of the Government and other stakeholders, UNICEF will continue to support national strategies and programmes for 2021–2027, aiming to improve the health, education and protection of all children in Romania, including the national Child Rights Strategy and the related action plan for the European Child Guarantee, the Educated Romania Project and the National Health Strategy, and relevant COVID-19 recovery and other national programmes, and ensure that they are well financed, implemented, monitored and evaluated – and, above all, ensure that they are genuinely child- and equity-focused. A priority will be accessing the most vulnerable children, including refugee children. This links well with the European Child Guarantee and requires the availability of technical capacities, knowledge, tested innovations and approaches and, finally, local and global best practices.

32. UNICEF will collaborate with national and subnational systems and partners, especially the Ministry of Health and the National Institute of Health, to increase the capacity to provide quality health services and information and ensure equitable access for all children of all ages, especially the most vulnerable. This includes providing technical assistance for (i) strengthening primary health care, including the capacity of the health workforce, through scaling up of the minimum package of services and the European Child Guarantee; (ii) the national immunization programme governance; (iii) supporting the updating of immunization policies, standards and protocols; (iv) upgrading the health management information system for immunization, and mother and child care; (v) strengthening the interpersonal communication skills of health-care workers, including community health workers, on vaccination and early intervention; (vi) generating increased demand for immunization and early year services and challenging social norms; (vii) digital health governance and support in designing digital health interventions; and (viii) health financing allocation for health prevention and primary care services.

33. UNICEF will partner with the Ministry of Education, the Romanian presidential administration and relevant institutions, including the National Students' Council, to strengthen education systems and create more equitable access and participation in quality pre-university education for Roma children and those living with disabilities. This work will include providing technical assistance for (i) strengthening systems to provide access to and participation in quality and inclusive education for all children in pre-university education; (ii) developing instruments and methodologies to reduce and prevent segregation in the education system; (iii) developing policies and services for early childhood education and care; (iv) reviewing and developing the curriculum to strengthen competence in twenty-first century skills; (v) developing policies and services for parenting education and counselling to support positive parenting and

gender socialization; (vi) strengthening equitable, adequate and efficient financing of pre-university education; and (vii) ensuring gender equality in transition from lower secondary to higher levels of education.

34. UNICEF and partners will improve the availability and quality of evidence through (1) expanding horizontal cooperation and knowledge management and (2) by supporting local evidence generation through piloting and modelling of innovations and new approaches. Emphasis will be on strengthening integrated services for children and families, especially the most vulnerable, including (i) modelling to document and generate contextual evidence in support of advocacy for policy change; (ii) development of tools, methodologies and guidelines to support implementation of national policies and promote an integrated approach in close collaboration with professional associations representing family doctors, teachers, parents, school counsellors and social workers; (iii) identification and piloting of innovative solutions through local partnerships, including with women and girl-led organizations; (iv) strengthen the capacity of the local authorities and administrative structures to realize child rights; (v) build capacity, including training of community professionals in integrated community services for vulnerable children and families; and (vi) communication for social change in support of demand creation, with a focus on vaccination.

Prevent and protect children from separation, violence, discrimination and neglect

35. The long-term vision for change in this area is that, by 2027, a protective environment for children, free of violence in all settings (offline and online) that prevents child separation from their parents, is supported by child protection services and systems and protective social norms. This component includes a strong focus on addressing discrimination across the multiple layers of society, particularly Roma children and children with disabilities.

36. UNICEF will support national institutions, including building the capacity of parents, caregivers and social workforce professionals, to strengthen the prevention of all forms of separation, violence, abuse, discrimination and neglect, which will be the result of (i) the continued national scale-up of the minimum package of services, and (ii) planning, financing and implementing the European Child Guarantee for all children in Romania, including Roma children, children in residential care, children living with disabilities and refugee children.

37. To build a more protective environment and a stronger child and social protection system and services, UNICEF and partners will (i) strengthen the conceptual, normative, budgeting and operational parts of the system and strengthen the social workforce; (ii) provide policy advocacy, communication and leveraging resources to strengthen the social services workforce; (iii) deliver technical assistance and knowledge management, prioritizing children with disabilities and children leaving care in the childcare system reform; and (iv) promote social change strategies and knowledge-sharing to prevent all forms of violence and protect children, and assist Romania as a Pathfinder Country in the campaign to end violence against children.

38. Key partners in these endeavours will be the Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities, especially the National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption, the National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the National Agency for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men, and the National Agency for Roma, as well as professional associations representing social workers, Roma mediators, and child protection

professionals. Associations of local and regional public administrations, county child protection and health authorities, mayoralties, and national and international organizations such as the Federation of NGOs for Children and the National College of Social Workers will be close allies.

39. UNICEF programme effectiveness efforts will provide cross-cutting support to all programme areas. Both policy advocacy and programming will be closely supported by coordination, planning and monitoring, the sound management of external relations, application of cross-sectoral approaches and operational support to programme delivery, including supply, procurement and logistics – all accompanied by rigorous funds management and emergency preparedness and response, as Romania continues to be vulnerable to external shocks, including climate change, floods and earthquakes, and the Ukraine refugee crisis.

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>
Policies and budgets	1 150	1 750	2 900
Early years and education	1 250	15 000	16 250
Child protection	750	2 000	2 750
Programme effectiveness	1 100	1 765	2 865
Total	4 250	20 515	24 765

Programme and risk management

40. This country programme outlines the planned contributions of UNICEF to national results for children and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels concerning country programmes and partnerships are prescribed in the organization's policies and procedures. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities, most notably the National Authority for Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption, will have overall responsibility for coordinating this partnership.

41. 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 as per UNICEF rules and regulations. Annual workplans will be developed. UNICEF and the Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities will jointly monitor progress in programme implementation and review achievements, analyse constraints and identify initiatives to improve programme effectiveness.

42. Other resources will be mobilized through continuing investments in private sector fundraising, with a strong focus on individual giving and corporate contributions, and through increasing European Union-based financing channels, such as but not limited to the Technical Support Instrument and Norway Grants Facility. Besides this, UNICEF will continue to explore strategic partnerships with relevant national and international development partners and corporations and individuals to secure the needed funding to implement the country programme.

43. The war in Ukraine and ensuing refugee crisis, and the COVID-19 pandemic have aggravated other risks to successful programme implementation, including (a) limited public expenditure on children and families to support social sector reforms; (b) fragmentation and insufficient human resource capacity affecting the quality and sustainability of results; and (c) frequent changes in leadership and technical staff in line ministries, which may delay or impede implementation. UNICEF and partners will mitigate risks by promoting risk-informed programming, emergency preparedness and response, and through ongoing monitoring of the situation of children, advocating for change, and building national capacities in evidence-based planning and policy design and intersectoral coordination.

Monitoring, learning and evaluation

44. The country programme will monitor programmes and policies and use the evidence to gauge whether the equity approach reaches the most marginalized. UNICEF will use field-monitoring visits, annual and midterm reviews, research and evaluations to monitor progress against results. All programmes and models implemented will be evaluated independently to inform policy and scale-up and horizontal cooperation. The views of children and adolescents will be gathered regularly to assess progress and priorities.

45. UNICEF aims to increase national monitoring and evaluation capacity, with many country programme indicators integrated into the monitoring and evaluation frameworks of relevant national strategies and the annual reports of the Government. In addition, UNICEF will support the Government to conduct independent evaluations of key national strategies, especially the National Strategy on Child Rights, which covers relevant health, education and child protection areas. Lastly, an analysis of the effects of COVID-19 and the Ukrainian refugee response and other crises on children and their families will be included in the scope of evaluations to inform adaptive national programming.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Romania – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2023–2027

Convention on the Rights of the Child
2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 Goal Areas: 1, 2
Strategy on the Protection and Promotion of Children’s Rights 2021–2027 (and relevant sectoral strategies)
“Educated Romania” governmental order
European Union Child Guarantee

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. By 2027, advocacy and strategic partnerships with children, public and private sector and civil society result in increased political and fiscal space, including increased investments in evidence-based policies, programmes and budgets for child rights and social inclusion.	Percentage of children at risk of poverty or social exclusion B (2020): 41.5% T (2027): 35%	Eurostat	Output 1.1: By 2027, strategic partnerships and advocacy with public and private sector stakeholders, academia and civil society resulted in the leveraging of national strategies and programmes and increased financing for children, especially for the most vulnerable.	Prime minister’s office, Ministries: Foreign Affairs; Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities; Labour and Social Solidarity, Health; Education; Investments and European Projects; Development, Public Works and Administration; National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of	1 150	1 750	2 900
	Number of advocacy actions that triggered policy change, including UNICEF global advocacy priorities B (2021): 5 T (2027): 10	Internal monitoring, particularly regarding legislative advocacy proposals					
	Number of adolescent girls and boys who participate in or lead civic engagement initiatives through UNICEF-supported programmes B (2021): 30 T (2027): 60	Internal monitoring					

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Number of high-profile individuals (Goodwill Ambassadors, influencers, political/community/religious leaders, etc.) who publicly support/amplify UNICEF advocacy messages and initiatives B (2021): 110 T (2027): 160	Internal and media monitoring	Output 1.2: By 2027, national authorities can generate, analyse and use relevant disaggregated quality data, knowledge and evidence for realizing child-related Sustainable Development Goal targets and national priorities and for monitoring the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.	the Child and Adoptions; parliament; associations of local and regional public administration; business associations, National Institute of Administration; National Roma Agency; formal and informal child-led groups; corporate sector, private individual donors			
	Number of joint programmes and initiatives with public and private sectors that scale up key results for children B (2021): 0 T (2027): 2	Internal monitoring	Output 1.3: By 2027, children are empowered, and mechanisms are in place at national and local levels to ensure their meaningful and inclusive participation in the design, monitoring, implementation and evaluation of policies and				
	Local governments (including municipalities) implemented plans and budgets that reflect local child priorities, including priorities of the most vulnerable children B (2021): 0 T (2027): 20	Action Plans defined as part of Child Friendly Cities Initiative implemented. Independent evaluation of the implementation of the action plans.					

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
			programmes that influence their lives and development.				
2. By 2027, all boys and girls have access to quality integrated health, early childhood and education services, and families are resilient and empowered to demand quality services in an inclusive care environment.	The share of newly detected pregnant women in the first trimester of pregnancy in total pregnant women B (2018): 65.18% T (2027): 85%	Health Information System database, National Institute of Public Health (NIPH), Ministry of Health (MoH), *Health Barometer NIPH county profiles	Output 2.1: By 2027, Romania's health-care system has increased capacity to deliver integrated quality maternal and child health and immunization services, including early detection and interventions for children with disabilities, positive gender socialization, and empowering families to demand quality care services. Output 2.2: By 2027, UNICEF expertise informs key conceptual, normative, budgeting and operational parts of Romania's education	Ministries: Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities; Labour and Social Solidarity; Health; Education; Investments and European Projects; National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights and Adoptions; National Roma Agency; National Agency for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men; county authorities, local authorities, academic institutions, Professional Association of Nurses, Association of Family Practitioners, relevant non-	1 250	15 000	16 250
	District or equivalent administrative unit with at least 80% coverage of measles-containing vaccine for children < 1 year B (2020): 89.9% T (2027): 95%	NIPH – national electronic vaccination registry					
	Number (and rate) of lower secondary school-age out-of-school children. B (2019): 93 966 T (2027): 50 000	UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) database (just number available, not the rate)					
	Number (and rate) of primary school-age out-of-school children B (2019): 135 003 T (2027): 70 000	UIS database (just number available, not the rate)					

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
			<p>system to offer quality and inclusive early childhood education and primary and secondary education services.</p> <p>Output 2.3: By 2027, evidence collected through testing and modelling of quality integrated services delivery for children and families, especially the most vulnerable, and innovations are available to inform child-centred reforms to scaling up solutions nationally and beyond.</p>	governmental organizations.			
3. By 2027, all children, especially the most vulnerable (with disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds, with disabilities, from Roma communities), are safe and better protected from separation, violence, abuse, discrimination and neglect.	<p>Children 0–17 years living in residential care, disaggregated by age and children with disabilities B (2021): 11 097 0–3 years: 287 3–6 years: 376 7–9 years: 1 139 10–13 years: 3 340 14–17 years: 5 955 T (2027): 2 500</p>	<p>National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights and Adoptions public database and the National Information System for Adoptions</p>	Output 3.1: By 2027, all children, especially the most vulnerable, have guaranteed access to the minimum package of	Ministries: Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities; Health; Education; Investments and European Projects; National Authority for	750	2 000	2 750

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<p>0–3 years: 0 3–6 years: 0 7–17 years: 2 500</p> <p>Number of girls and boys who have experienced violence reached by health, social work or justice/law enforcement services. B (June 2020): 14 170 girls and boys T (2027): 20 000 girls and boys</p>	National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights and Adoptions public database	<p>services and social protection programmes to strengthen prevention of and response to all forms of separation, violence, abuse, discrimination, and neglect.</p> <p>Output 3.2: By 2027, UNICEF expertise informs key conceptual, normative, budgeting, and operational parts to strengthen equitable access to a quality child and social protection system, focusing on strengthening the social workforce.</p>	Persons with Disabilities, National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights and Adoptions; National Roma Agency; National Agency for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men; county authorities, local authorities, academic institutions, National College of Social Workers, Professional Association of Nurses, Association of Family Practitioners, academia, relevant non-governmental organizations.			
4. The Government of Romania–UNICEF country partnership meets quality standards in achieving results for children.	The programme of cooperation is effectively designed, coordinated, managed and supported.	Relevant reviews and reporting of the programme of cooperation	Guidance, tools and resources to effectively and efficiently design and manage the programme.	Government counterparts, civil society partners	1 100	1 765	2 865

<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
					<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total resources ^a					4 250	20 515	24 765

^a. Includes the planned budget for the programme effectiveness outcome.