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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Ghana

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Ghana 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 \$38,390,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$100,000,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2023 to 2027.

* [E/ICEF/2022/22](#).

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



Programme rationale

1. Ghana is a lower-middle-income country that became the first country to ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Under successive Governments, the country has achieved significant gains for children since 1990, including halving monetary poverty rates, reducing child mortality by 60 per cent, boosting immunization coverage, achieving universal primary enrolment with gender parity and extending free education to upper secondary level. Since the start of the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the Government has maintained low fatality rates while taking measures to ensure the continuity of access to essential health and nutrition services for the most vulnerable children.¹

2. Nevertheless, progress for children has stagnated over the last decade. The COVID-19 pandemic and other shocks have further slowed socioeconomic progress,² impacting the country's 13 million children (51 per cent male, 49 per cent female).³ Almost three out of four children in Ghana live in multidimensional poverty, and one in three live in monetary poverty.⁴

3. Social sector budget allocations decreased from 27.1 per cent in 2019 to 22.6 per cent in 2021,⁵ exacerbating vulnerabilities for children. In 2019, Ghana spent less than 1 per cent of its gross domestic product on social protection.⁶ A cash transfer system is in place, yet the payments are insufficient to lift families out of extreme poverty, and not all eligible persons are covered.⁷

4. In 2017, northern Ghana, with 18.9 per cent of the population, accounted for 44 per cent of the population below the poverty line.⁸ Northern Ghana is prone to natural disasters such as floods, epidemics such as yellow fever and polio, and exposure to climate change. Escalating insecurity arising from the central Sahel crisis poses an emerging threat to the well-being of communities in northern Ghana, as does inter-communal violence. Strengthened national emergency preparedness and shock-responsive and resilience programming remain priorities.

5. With stagnation in the reduction of neonatal and under-5 mortality rates (at 23 and 45 per 1,000 live births, respectively),⁹ the Sustainable Development Goal targets 3.1 and 3.2 are unlikely to be met by 2030. The maternal mortality ratio, at 308 per 100,000 live births, remains very high.¹⁰ Coverage of essential health services in urban slums and hard-to-reach communities is limited. While the overall coverage of routine immunization is high, only 64 per cent of districts have achieved pentavalent vaccination coverage equal to or above the national rate of 95 per cent, with most

¹ World Bank, "Saving lives and protecting people in Ghana and boosting the COVID-19 response", World Bank, Washington DC, 2021.

² National Development Planning Commission, *Medium-term National Development Policy Framework 2022–2025*, NDPC, Accra, 2021.

³ Ghana Statistical Service, *2021 Population and Housing Census*, GSS, Accra, 2021.

⁴ National Development Planning Commission, *Multidimensional Child Poverty Report in Ghana*, NDPC, Accra, 2019.

⁵ UNICEF estimation based on the Ministry of Finance, *The Budget Statement and Economic Policy, 2022*.

⁶ United Nations Children's Fund, *Social Protection Budget Brief, 2020*, UNICEF, New York, 2021.

⁷ United Nations Children's Fund, *Ghana LEAP 1000 Programme: Endline evaluation report*, UNICEF, New York, 2018.

⁸ Ghana Statistical Service, "The Ghana living standards survey (GLSS 7) 2017", GSS, Accra, 2018.

⁹ United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation, *Mortality rates, 2021*.

¹⁰ United Nations Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-agency Group, *Trends in Maternal Mortality 2000 to 2017*, WHO, Geneva, 2019.

under-immunized children found in the underserved urban areas of Accra, Kumasi and Takoradi.¹¹

6. Less than 40 per cent of children living with HIV are on antiretroviral therapy, and only 73 per cent of the HIV-exposed infants were screened for HIV. Early infant diagnosis faces challenges related to the quality of care and service integration.¹²

7. Over 12 per cent of the population are food-insecure, the majority in the Ashanti, Greater Accra and Northern Regions.¹³ There has been a reduction in the rate of stunting among children under 5 years of age nationally. However, children in rural areas are more likely to be stunted, with the Northern Region (29 per cent) most affected. A low rate of exclusive breastfeeding among children under 6 months of age, which declined from 45.7 per cent in 2011 to 42.9 per cent in 2017,¹⁴ and inadequate infant and child feeding practices contribute to stunting and wasting. There are also high levels of anaemia among children under 5 years of age (67.5 per cent) and adolescent girls aged 15–19 years (48 per cent).

8. In 2020, only 16.1 per cent of the rural population had access to safely managed water, against 60 per cent in urban areas.¹⁵ Contamination levels of water sources were high at 48 per cent in 2017.¹⁶ Open defecation is practised by 18 per cent of households, rising to 45 per cent in the five northern regions of Ghana, while 24 per cent of households have access to basic sanitation.¹⁷

9. One in four schools lacks a water supply, and one in five lacks sanitation facilities within the school yard.¹⁸ Of those with sanitation facilities, one in four schools lack gender-separated toilets, with negative consequences for adolescent girls, who often miss school during menstruation.¹⁹ Greater investment, enhanced monitoring and data, and scalable solutions for operations and maintenance arrangements remain priorities.

10. Enrolment of girls and boys in primary and secondary school increased from 78 per cent in 2010 to 89 per cent in 2020.²⁰ Gender parity has been achieved in relation to enrolment at kindergarten, primary and lower secondary levels, although the completion rate in upper secondary schools is higher for boys than girls with more girls than boys dropping out or repeating at secondary level.²¹ Overage enrolment remains a challenge at all levels of education, particularly in lower secondary school.²² Before the COVID-19 pandemic, approximately 11 per cent of children aged 6–17 years were out of school.²³ Child labour (especially for boys), child marriage, adolescent pregnancy and limited opportunities for children with special educational needs contribute to children not being in school.

¹¹ Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, *2021 Progress Report, Ghana*, Gavi, Geneva, forthcoming in 2022.

¹² National AIDS/STI Control Programme of Ghana Health Service, *2019 Annual Report*, NACP, Accra, 2020.

¹³ World Food Programme, *Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis Ghana*, WFP, Rome, 2021.

¹⁴ United Nations Children's Fund, Ghana multiple indicator cluster surveys 2011 and 2017–2018.

¹⁵ WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation, 2020.

¹⁶ United Nations Children's Fund, Ghana multiple indicator cluster survey 2017–2018.

¹⁷ Ghana Statistical Service, 2021.

¹⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, Education Management Information System, 2020.

¹⁹ National Development Planning Commission, *Sustainability Check Report*, NDPC, Accra, 2021.

²⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, Education Management Information System, 2016–2020.

²¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, Education Management Information System, 2020.

²² *Ibid.*

²³ *Ibid.*

11. Approximately 275,000 children aged 5–17 years are classified as persons with a disability,²⁴ of whom less than 10 per cent attended mainstream schools in 2019.²⁵ Stigma, discrimination and limited access to quality social services impede the inclusion of children with disabilities.

12. In 2016, only 2 per cent of primary Grade 2 students read at the appropriate level. Half do not recognize any word, and three quarters do not meet the minimum proficiency in mathematics.²⁶ Almost half of Grade 6 students scored below the minimum competency level in English, while one third scored below it in mathematics.²⁷ Access to teaching and learning materials, teacher absenteeism and school-level monitoring remain challenges.

13. Despite educational reforms, including those involving the strengthening of national and subnational planning, capacity and coordination, further efforts are required to improve the quality and relevance of skills development programmes in relation to labour market demands, such as expanded technical and vocational education and training, entrepreneurship, and transferable and digital skills.

14. The prevalence of physical, emotional and sexual violence against children²⁸ has remained persistently high.²⁹ The level of formal reporting of violence is low, and social welfare and criminal justice services are limited.³⁰ Online child sexual exploitation and abuse is on the rise, with over 19,700 reported instances in 2021, up from 750 in 2016.³¹ One in five girls is married or in union before the age of 18 years, while progress in reducing child marriage among girls under 15 years of age (1 in 20 girls) has stagnated over the past decade.³² Child marriage is more common in rural areas, among poor households and those with limited education.³³ At 18 per cent, adolescent pregnancy is an important driver of child marriage, school dropout and negative maternal and child health outcomes.³⁴

15. Over 3,600 children live in 129 residential care homes, representing a reduction of only 9.1 per cent since 2007 when the Care Reform Initiative was launched by the Government to promote integrated family and community-based care services.³⁵ New residential care homes continue to open, with less than half operating with a valid licence in 2021.³⁶ Birth registration among children under 1 year of age reached 80 per cent in 2019 but dropped to 70 per cent in 2021 owing to the effects of the pandemic.³⁷ Establishing a birth notification system linked to the health system and closing gaps in decentralized registration services remain priorities.

²⁴ Ghana Statistical Service, 2021.

²⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, Education Management Information System, 2019.

²⁶ Ghana Education Service, *Early Grade Reading Assessment and Early Grade Mathematics Assessment: Report of findings*, 2016.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Institute of Development Studies, Ghana Statistical Service, *Domestic Violence in Ghana: Incidence, attitudes, determinants and consequences*, IDS, Brighton, 2016.

²⁹ United Nations Children's Fund, Ghana multiple indicator cluster survey 2017–2018.

³⁰ Judicial Service of Ghana, *Report of Assessment of Sexual Abuse Cases Before the Gender Based Violence Courts in Ghana*, 2021.

³¹ National Centre for Missing and Exploitation Children, *2021 CyberTipline Reports by Country*, NCMEC, Alexandria, Va., USA, 2021.

³² United Nations Children's Fund, Ghana multiple indicator cluster survey 2017–2018.

³³ United Nations Children's Fund, *Ending Child Marriage in Ghana: A profile of progress*, UNICEF, New York, 2020.

³⁴ United Nations Children's Fund, Ghana multiple indicator cluster survey 2017–2018.

³⁵ Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, 2021.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Births and Deaths Registry, Ghana, 2021.

16. Lessons learned from evaluations and research during the previous country programme show that evidence-based systems-strengthening, integrated programming across sectors and digitized information management had a positive impact on children. For example, the country's roll-out of the Integrated Social Services initiative and case management systems has effectively enhanced intersectoral collaboration among social welfare, social protection and health actors.³⁸ In addition, effective public financial management, innovative development financing and investment in social sectors is critical to support the country's efforts to achieve national development priorities in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Programme priorities and partnerships

17. The country programme is derived from the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), 2022–2025. It responds to the vision of the Government of Ghana for achieving socioeconomic transformation and meeting its development objectives independently, as articulated in the Medium-term National Development Policy Framework, 2022–2025. The programme aims to catalyse and accelerate progress towards the relevant objectives under chapter 3 of the Medium-term National Development Policy Framework, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union Agenda 2063. It is also aligned with the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 and the UNICEF Gender Action Plan, 2022–2025.

18. The country programme will leverage the comparative advantages of UNICEF: (a) to convene and mobilize stakeholders across multiple sectors, leveraging partnerships and multi-stakeholder platforms, involving the Government, the civil society, traditional and religious leaders, the private sector, academia, the media and United Nations agencies; (b) to leverage and strengthen national systems to scale up transformative multisectoral innovations demonstrated at the subnational level, while promoting innovation and digitization as key accelerators for Ghana; (c) to promote transparent and accountable governance, including effective and efficient public financial management for children and social sector financing; (d) to scale up social and behaviour-change approaches at the community level to promote the adoption of positive behaviours and practices towards children, including adolescents; (e) to promote gender-transformative and risk-informed approaches to enhance the resilience of systems and communities, particularly in fragile contexts; (f) to generate and use evidence to highlight and address socioeconomic disparities affecting children; and (g) to advocate for equity, inclusion and the protection of children's rights. These change strategies reflect the main strategic shifts of the programme.

19. Reflecting the shared priorities of the Government and UNICEF, and considering the achievements and lessons learned during the previous country programme, the overarching theory of change for the programme is as follows: (a) if the fiscal space for social spending is expanded, and diverse resource streams, including innovative financing, are leveraged; (b) if government systems are strengthened to deliver child-centred, evidence-based, equitable and gender-responsive policies, budgets and social services; (c) if empowered communities, parents and other caregivers use evidence in decision-making and adopt positive social and gender norms and practices; (d) if the population's demand and use of quality social services are increased and sustained and the accountability of service providers is augmented at all levels; (e) if children, including adolescents, and young people meaningfully participate in decision-making and as agents of change; (f) if innovations are developed and scaled up to address systemic problems and digital

³⁸ United Nations Children's Fund, *Baseline Report for Ghana LEAP Services Integrated Evaluation*, UNICEF, New York, 2022.

transformation is supported; and (g) if the resilience of systems and communities to shocks and stresses is strengthened and emergency response is more effectively planned and executed; then more children, including adolescents, particularly the most disadvantaged, marginalized and excluded, will benefit from equitable, sustainable and inclusive opportunities to fulfil their potential, lead healthy lives, live in a safe and sustainable environment, access quality and relevant learning and skills, be protected from violence, participate meaningfully in society and increase their resilience. The underlying assumptions are that the Government will prioritize and dedicate the required resources to social sectors and will sustain the implementation of transformative reforms.

Every child survives and thrives

20. In contribution to UNSDCF outcomes 1 and 2, aligned with the National Health Policy 2020, and in partnership with the Ministry of Health, the Ghana Health Service, civil society organizations (CSOs), development partners and United Nations agencies, UNICEF will support health and nutrition systems-strengthening to deliver equitable, evidence-based and quality services for women and children, including adolescents.

21. The country programme will strengthen the health system, including by enhancing its resilience to shocks and emergencies, to accelerate the reduction of neonatal, under-5 and maternal mortality, wasting, stunting and anaemia, to improve adolescent health and to attain universal health coverage, particularly in hard-to reach and underserved communities.

22. To increase equitable access to quality health care and ensure an adequate evidence base for decision-making, the country programme will build on past achievements to support: (a) sustained efforts by the Government to procure, safely transport and store vaccines, and implement effective, integrated, equity-focused immunization programmes, including in urban and peri-urban settings; (b) the scale-up of evidence-based, high-impact maternal, child and newborn care interventions; (c) contributions to the United Nations joint programme on adolescent sexual and reproductive health; (d) pre-service and induction training for health-care providers; (e) the scale-up of innovative platforms for demand creation and social accountability at the community level; (f) improved data management, including the introduction of denominator-based planning in health service delivery; and (g) evidence generation and policy development in environmental health, focusing on lead poisoning and air pollution.

23. To improve nutrition outcomes among mothers and children, including adolescents, the country programme will support: (a) improved systems and practices for optimal growth and development; (b) age-appropriate food and nutrition education in schools; (c) social and behaviour change for improved nutrition-related practices, including promoting exclusive breastfeeding and raising to 80 per cent the percentage of newborns put to breast within one hour of birth; (d) the generation of evidence to finance nutrition interventions; (e) the development and updating of food regulations and policies for improved diets and food environment; and (f) the scale-up of evidence-based nutrition interventions, including the Girls' Iron Folate Tablet Supplementation Programme to address anaemia in adolescent girls, infant and young child feeding, community-based management of acute malnutrition and micronutrient powders supplementation.

Every child learns

24. In line with the country's Education Strategic Plan, 2018–2030 and UNSDCF outcome 2, UNICEF, together with the Ministry of Education, United Nations agencies, the Global Partnership for Education, the World Bank, development

partners and foundations, will contribute to increasing access to education and completion of the full cycle of secondary education, with improved learning outcomes and skills acquisition for all children, especially for children with disabilities, girls, out-of-school children and in underserved communities, including in northern Ghana.

25. The country programme will contribute to reducing the rate of out-of-school children by half, achieving gender parity in upper secondary education, increasing the completion rate for upper secondary to 68 per cent, and more than doubling the percentage of children in Grades 5 and 6 achieving minimum proficiency levels in reading and mathematics.

26. UNICEF will apply the following strategies: (a) providing technical support to scale up proven interventions aimed at improving inclusivity and learning outcomes for in-school children; (b) supporting the design and implementation of alternative learning and digital platforms for children in and out of school, and adolescent skills and employability; (c) enhancing gender-responsiveness in teaching and through increased participation of girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and increased retention and re-entry of adolescent mothers in school; (d) equipping stakeholders in communities and schools with the skills and capabilities to promote a protective learning environment, including on digital platforms; (e) strengthening cross-sectoral coordination for improved school readiness, provision of basic hygiene and menstrual hygiene facilities in schools and improved health and nutrition of learners; and (f) engaging in policy dialogue and advocacy, evidence generation, resource leveraging and sector coordination to improve school management and governance systems, the resilience of institutions and communities, and enhanced accountability.

Every child is protected from violence and exploitation

27. In line with UNSDCF outcomes 2 and 3, the programme component will promote an equitable and integrated child protection and social welfare system, capable of delivering improved prevention and response services, including in emergencies. With the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, the Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations, the United Nations Population Fund, CSOs, traditional and religious leaders and the private sector, UNICEF will contribute to strengthened systems to better prevent and respond to child protection issues, including child marriage, gender-based violence and child exploitation, to lower the proportion of children who experience sexual violence by one fifth.

28. UNICEF will support increased capacity of national and subnational authorities to develop and implement laws, policies, plans and budgets and to strengthen information management, data collection and analysis.

29. Systems will be strengthened for child protection, social welfare, criminal justice and birth registration. The Integrated Social Services initiative will be scaled up nationwide, including in northern Ghana, enabling improved case management and referrals, and reaching the most vulnerable communities. Support to eliminating the worst forms of child labour and implementing the Care Reform Initiative will facilitate the reintegration of children into families and communities.

30. UNICEF will support children, including adolescents, parents, teachers and communities to gain knowledge and increasingly adopt positive attitudes and practices for the prevention and response to violence, exploitation, abuse and child marriage. UNICEF will work with key actors, including CSOs and traditional and religious leaders, to increase the scale and reach of social and behaviour change initiatives, such as the Ghanaians Against Child Abuse campaign and the Community Engagement Toolkit on Child Protection. The programme will continue to foster

opportunities for the empowerment of adolescent girls through the provision of life skills.

Every child lives in a safe and sustainable environment

31. In partnership with the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources and subnational authorities and in line with the National Water Policy, the National Environmental Sanitation Policy and UNSDCF outcomes 1 and 2, UNICEF will support enhanced coordination and financing of the sector to enable and promote accountability for equitable access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.

32. Working with the Coalition of Non-Governmental Organizations in Water and Sanitation, the Community Water and Sanitation Agency, the World Bank, the Ghana Water Company Limited, the Ghana Enterprises Agency and other partners, the country programme will accelerate the reduction of open defecation prevalence from 18 to 7 per cent of the population and increase access to and use of basic sanitation services, particularly in northern Ghana and underserved urban areas.

33. The country programme will: (a) advocate for increased national investment in sanitation; (b) leverage domestic and climate financing and promote innovative blended financing from external sources; (c) strengthen institutional readiness for partnerships with the private sector; (d) scale up household water and sanitation financing solutions; and (e) implement effective social and behaviour change strategies, including by engaging women, girls, and youth aged 15–24 years in promoting demand and accountability for WASH services.

34. UNICEF will foster partnerships for the development and roll-out of gender-transformative, cost-effective, sustainable and climate-resilient service delivery models and scale up water safety planning and social and behaviour change interventions to reduce water contamination.

35. To expand the availability of quality WASH facilities and menstrual health and hygiene in schools, UNICEF will support the development of a costed national strategy for WASH in schools and will facilitate private sector partnerships and investment to bridge gaps. The country programme will also support the increased availability of basic WASH services in public health facilities, especially in rural areas.

Every child lives free from poverty

36. In line with UNSDCF outcomes 1–3, UNICEF will work with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, the Ministry of Finance, the World Bank, the Foreign Commonwealth Development Office, the World Food Programme and other actors to strengthen the coverage, adequacy, inclusivity and gender- and shock-responsiveness of social protection programmes. Building on a rights-based legal and policy framework for social protection, it will also promote improved financing and linkages across sectors at all levels. The programme will strengthen systems and demand for integrated social services and, acknowledging emergencies and risks, especially in northern Ghana related to the central Sahel crisis, improve coordination, preparedness and the resilience of institutions for deploying cash transfers.

37. With the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, the National Development Planning Commission and United Nations agencies, UNICEF will support strengthened public financial management by enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in programme-based planning and budgeting at the national and subnational levels. It will also support adequate and effective resource allocation and budget execution and engage the Auditor-General and

relevant CSOs to enhance public participation, particularly among young people, in budget transparency and social accountability initiatives.

38. UNICEF will work with the National Development Planning Commission, the Ghana Statistics Service and national human rights institutions to monitor child rights and generate, analyse and use high quality, disaggregated data and evidence for national and subnational policy formulation, decision-making and implementation. This will include support to improve and digitize national data systems and undertake large-scale studies and surveys to integrate child rights indicators into national plans. It will also include supporting the ratification by Ghana of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

Programme effectiveness

39. This component will support effective management of the country programme and ensure that integrated, gender-transformative, inclusive and risk-informed programming is incorporated.

40. Synergies will be fostered across programme components to advance integrated approaches involving early childhood development, adolescence and young people. Through the Generation Unlimited platform, UNICEF and partners will support a national investment agenda for young people, focusing on digital skills development, school-to-work transition and civic engagement, including on climate action. With the Ministry of Communications and Digitalisation, digital public goods will be developed, tested and scaled up by young entrepreneurs with support from the UNICEF StartUp Lab, and public–private partnerships will be leveraged to connect all schools in Ghana to the Internet.

41. Cross-cutting social and behaviour change approaches and research will enhance national capacity to promote inclusive social and gender norms and care practices among communities. Evidence-based advocacy, partnerships and communications will galvanize actors in the public and private sectors to invest in results for children.

Summary budget table

<i>Programme component</i>	<i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other resources</i>	<i>Total</i>
Every child survives and thrives	6 500	18 800	25 300
Every child learns	5 515	17 000	22 515
Every child is protected from violence and exploitation	5 500	17 000	22 500
Every child lives in a safe and sustainable environment	5 500	21 250	26 750
Every child lives free from poverty	4 875	12 750	17 625
Programme effectiveness	10 500	13 200	23 700
Total	38 390	100 000	138 390

Programme and risk management

42. The constrained fiscal space and reprioritization of public resources to address macroeconomic vulnerability are key risks to the achievement of programme results. To mitigate these, UNICEF will increase targeted budget advocacy for key social sectors and leverage public-private sector partnerships. Through the Inter-agency Working Group on Emergencies, with relevant United Nations agencies and other development partners, UNICEF will support the National Disaster Management Organization and local authorities to strengthen coordination, contingency planning, emergency preparedness and response at the national and subnational levels, focused on children, including adolescents.

43. UNICEF will maintain adequate systems for the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and to meet the UNICEF Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action.

44. This country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to national results 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 are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

Monitoring, evaluation and learning

45. The Ministry of Finance will coordinate programme implementation and monitoring. UNICEF will support participatory monitoring, evaluation and learning through U-Report, RapidPro, the interactive mobile platform Agoo and other digital tools, as well as national routine monitoring systems. Partnerships will be enhanced with universities, CSOs and the private sector to strengthen evidence generation and knowledge management on child rights.

46. Joint monitoring activities and annual reviews will be organized with the Government to examine progress in the implementation of the country programme, identify lessons learned and provide strategic direction. UNICEF will participate in inter-agency mechanisms to monitor respective agencies' contributions to UNSDCF results.

47. UNICEF will carry out independent evaluations of programmes, including joint evaluations with other United Nations agencies, to support learning, strengthen accountability and inform national policies and programmes.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Ghana – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2023–2027

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 1–40, 45

National priorities: Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework, 2022–2025: Chapter 3, social development.

United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) outcomes involving UNICEF: 1–3

Related UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 Goal Areas: 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
Outcomes 1 and 2	1. By 2027, children, including newborns and adolescents, and women in Ghana increasingly survive and thrive through increased access to nutritious diets, quality primary health care, nurturing practices and essential supplies.	Proportion of deliveries attended by skilled providers ^a B: 79% (2020) T: 85%	District Health Information Management System (DHIMS)	Increased capacity of the Government to expand access to gender-responsive and quality health and nutrition services, including for adolescent girls. Improved capacity of national and subnational authorities to ensure adequate health and nutrition financing, governance and partnerships for effective service delivery. Strengthened and resilient health systems for emergency, pandemic and epidemic preparedness.	Ministry of Health Ministry of Food and Agriculture Ghana Health Service National Health Insurance Agency Food and Drug Authority World Health Organization World Bank Development partners	6 500	18 800	25 300
		Percentage of districts that have at least 80% of children aged 0–11 months vaccinated with 3 doses of pentavalent vaccine B: 79% (2021) T: 90%	DHIMS					
		Percentage of newborns put to breast within 1 hour of birth B: 52% (2020) T: 80%	DHIMS					

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
				Increased capacity of government institutions to augment data quality and evidence generation for policy and decision-making and effective service delivery.				
Outcome 2	2. By 2027, girls and boys in Ghana enjoy increased access and complete quality, inclusive and relevant pre-primary, primary and secondary education and have improved learning outcomes and skills acquisition.	<p>Proportion of children out of school</p> <p>Total B: 11.1% (2019/20) (boys 10.5%, girls 11.1%) T: 5.4% (boys 5.1%, girls 6.4%)</p> <p>Disaggregation: Pre-primary B: 12% (boys 14%, girls 10%)</p> <p>Primary B: 7% (boys 7%, girls 6%)</p> <p>Lower secondary B: 7% (boys 7%, girls 6%)</p> <p>Upper secondary B: 25% (boys 21%, girls 29%) T: Baselines values reduced by at least 50%</p>	<p>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics</p>	<p>Increased capacity of the Ministry of Education (MoE) to promote access and inclusion in pre-primary, primary and secondary education.</p> <p>Strengthened capacity of teachers in teaching, monitoring and learning measurement in pre-primary, primary and secondary education.</p> <p>Increased relevance of pre-primary, primary and secondary education and skills delivery.</p> <p>Stronger policy, coordination mechanisms, data, evidence generation and accountability.</p>	<p>MoE</p> <p>Ghana Education Service</p> <p>UNESCO</p> <p>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</p> <p>World Bank</p> <p>Global Partnership for Education</p>	5 515	17 000	22 515
		Upper secondary education completion rate (by sex) ^a	Education Management Information System					

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
		B: 64.1% (girls 62.9%) (2019/20) T: 68% (girls 68%)						
		Percentage of children in Grades 5 and 6 achieving minimum proficiency levels in reading and mathematics B: 31% (2017) T: 64%	Ghana Education Service					
Outcomes 1–3	3. By 2027, girls and boys in Ghana increasingly benefit from violence and exploitation prevention and response and civil registry services through an equitable, responsive, resilient and integrated child protection and social welfare systems.	Percentage of young women and men aged 18–29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18 years ^a B: 10% (2016) T: 8%	Demographic and health survey	National and subnational authorities have increased and strengthened capacities to develop and enact evidence-informed laws, policies, plans, budgets and institutional reforms.	Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) Ministry of Interior Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations Judicial service Ghana Police Service Office of the Head of Local Government Services Births and Deaths Registry National Development Planning Commission (NDPC)	5 500	17 000	22 500
		Percentage of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in union before age 18 years B: 19.3% (2017–2018) T: 13%	Multiple indicator cluster survey	National and decentralized service delivery systems are strengthened to improve access, responsiveness, resilience and quality of social welfare, criminal justice and birth registration services to prevent and respond to violence against children, including online child sexual exploitation and abuse and child marriage. Increased capacity of key stakeholders to				
		Percentage of children under 1 year of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority B: 70% (2021) T: 85%	Births and Deaths Registry					

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
				foster the adoption of positive practices and attitudes among communities and households to identify, prevent and respond to violence, exploitation, abuse and child marriage.	Municipal, metropolitan and district assemblies United Nations Population Fund International Organization for Migration Development partners			
Outcomes 1 and 2	4. By 2027, children, including adolescents, enjoy more equitable access to and use of safe, climate-resilient and shock-responsive water, sanitation and hygiene services.	Percentage of people practicing open defecation ^a B: 18% (urban: 7%, rural 32%) (2020) T: 7% (urban 3%, rural 14%)	WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), Basic Sanitation Information System (BaSIS)	Improved financing and accountability systems for equitable, inclusive, climate-resilient, shock-responsive and sustainable WASH services, with a focus on ending open defecation.	Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources World Bank Civil society organizations Academia Private sector	5 500	21 250	26 750
		Percentage of households using at least basic sanitation services ^a B: 24% (urban 28%, rural 17%) (2020) T: 45% (urban 52%, rural 37%)	JMP, BaSIS	Enhanced national and subnational capacity and strengthened systems to increase access to safely managed WASH services.				

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>Percentage of households using at least basic water services^a</p> <p>B: 86% (urban 96%, rural 72%) (2020) T: 92% (urban 98%, rural 83%)</p>	JMP	Increased coverage of WASH in schools and health facilities.				
		<p>Percentage of schools with basic hygiene services^a</p> <p>B: 54% (urban 65%, rural 45%) (2020) T: 85% (urban 95%, rural 80%)</p>	JMP					
Outcomes 1–3	5. By 2027, children, including adolescents, especially the most vulnerable, increasingly benefit from inclusive, integrated and responsive social protection systems and have improved access to social services through more equitable and adequate budget allocations, and more efficient and transparent execution of public policies and financing.	<p>Number and proportion of children living in: (a) monetary poverty and (b) multidimensional poverty^a</p> <p>B: (a) 3 136 696, 28.2%, (b) 8 135 806, 73.4% T: (a) 2 603 457, 23.4%, (b) 6 719 816, 60.6%</p> <p>Per annum public sector expenditure as proportion of gross domestic product in: (a) education, (b) health and (c) social protection</p> <p>B: (a) 6.3%, (b) 10.2%, (c) 0.65% (2020)</p>	<p>Ghana Statistical Service</p> <p>Ministry of Finance (MoF)</p>	<p>Increased capacity of national authorities to expand access to inclusive, integrated, gender- and shock-responsive social protection programmes and services.</p> <p>Strengthened capacity of national authorities to: (a) increase public and private financing; (b) improve equitable, adequate budget allocation and efficient execution; and (c) strengthen accountability and participation related to public financial management.</p>	<p>MoGCSP</p> <p>MoF</p> <p>Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development</p> <p>Municipal, metropolitan and district assemblies</p> <p>Parliament</p> <p>NDPC</p> <p>Ghana Statistical Service</p> <p>National human rights institutions</p>	4 875	12 750	17 625

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
		T: (a) 6.3%, (b) 10.2%, (c) 0.65%		Strengthened capacity among public institutions, academia and civil society organizations to generate, analyse and use high-quality and disaggregated data for effective planning, monitoring, reporting and advocacy.				
		Budget transparency score B: 54/100 (2019) T: 61/100	International Budget Partnership, Open Budget Survey					
Outcomes 1–3	6. By 2027, the country programme is efficiently designed, coordinated, managed and supported to meet quality programming standards in achieving results for children.	Number of active multi-stakeholder initiatives (including public sector, civil society, academia and business sector) supporting children and young people, per year ^a B: 3 (2022) T: 5	Programme reports	UNICEF staff and partners are provided guidance, tools and resources to effectively design, plan and manage programmes and for effective advocacy, partnerships and communication on child rights issues with stakeholders. Strategies to address cross-cutting issues related to child rights are developed and applied.	MoF National Disaster Management Organization Civil society organizations Academia Private sector Development partners United Nations agencies	10 500	13 200	23 700
		Number of people reached through social and behaviour change interventions, per year B: 200 000 (2021) T: 400 000	Programme reports					
		Annual percentage of expenditure on programming with a focus on gender equality B: 18.9 (2021) T: 20	Insight					

<i>UNSDCF outcomes</i>	<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)</i>	<i>Means of verification</i>	<i>Indicative country programme outputs</i>	<i>Major partners, partnership frameworks</i>	<i>Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
						<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Total resources					38 390	100 000	138 390

^a Outcome indicator aligned with the UNSDCF indicator.