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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Tajikistan

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Tajikistan 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 \$11,436,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$54,209,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2023 to 2026.

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



Programme rationale

1. The Republic of Tajikistan celebrated its thirtieth anniversary of independence in 2021. The anniversary provided an excellent opportunity to reflect on past achievements in protection and promotion of children's rights and strategically consider what can be done better to reimagine and deliver a future for every child in Tajikistan.
2. To address prevailing socioeconomic issues, the Government of Tajikistan began implementing the Midterm Development Programme (MTDP) 2021–2025 with support from the United Nations, including UNICEF. It is a nationally owned, results-oriented, multisectoral strategic document operationalizing the National Development Strategy (NDS) 2030 and outlining the Government's commitment towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The MTDP reflects a number of key child-related priorities in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and lays a solid groundwork to monitor national results for children.
3. Tajikistan has a young population, with 60.9 per cent under 30 years and 39.6 per cent under age 18. Around 74 per cent of the population lives in rural areas. The Government is committed to the development of young people and views youth entrepreneurship as an important accelerator of economic growth and job creation, as articulated in the NDS 2030.
4. In 2021, the World Bank changed the country classification of Tajikistan from low income to lower-middle income.¹ Per capita gross domestic product (GDP) increased significantly, from \$138.40 in 2000 to \$859.14 in 2020 (\$3,858 purchasing power parity).² However economic growth, which is mainly driven by remittances,³ has not increased incomes or improved job opportunities. Migrant remittances account for one third of GDP. In 2019, 90 per cent of Tajik labour migrants were from rural areas.⁴ The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic revealed the precariousness of jobs and negatively affected GDP growth in 2020.⁵
5. The proportion of people living below the national poverty line reduced sharply, from 80 per cent in 2003 to 26 per cent in 2019.⁶ Poverty is more common in rural areas and in households with six or more children.⁷ In 2020, Tajikistan had a score of 0.668 on the Human Development Index and was ranked 125th of 189 countries.⁸ Employment disparities are linked to sex, age and skills.
6. In 2020, Tajikistan ranked 137th of 153 countries on the Global Gender Gap Index, compared with 123rd in 2018.⁹ In 2019, less than three tenths of working-age women were in the labour force, compared with over 50 per cent of men.¹⁰

¹ Although the COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted household consumption and investment, increased exports of gold increased GDP and Atlas GNI per capita.

² Calculations based on available data from 2020, World Bank database.

³ From 2007 to 2014, Tajikistan had the world's highest remittances to GDP ratio. In 2019, remittances accounted for 28.6 per cent of GDP; see <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/BX.TRF.PWKR.DT.GD.ZS?locations=TJ>.

⁴ Ministry of Labour, "Migration and Employment of Population", August 2020.

⁵ Tajstat, "Social-Economic Situation in Tajikistan for January–September 2020", September 2020.

⁶ World Bank, "Poverty headcount ratio at national poverty lines (% of population) – Tajikistan".

⁷ "Child Poverty in Tajikistan" (in Russian), p. 7,

http://stat.wt.tj/pages/Child_Poverty_Tajikistan_Rus_Aug2018.pdf.

⁸ United Nations Development Programme, "Latest Human Development Index Ranking", 2020.

⁹ World Economic Forum, "Global Gender Gap Report 2020", pp. 329, 365,

http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2020.pdf.

¹⁰ International Labour Organization, ILOSTAT, Tajikistan, Modelled Estimate for 2019, <https://ilostat.ilo.org/data/country-profiles/>.

7. Vaccine coverage is consistently high in Tajikistan, reaching 520,000 children annually. Nonetheless, several challenges remain, with 1 in 4 women beginning childbearing before age 19 years and 1 in 30 children dying before age 5 – more than 8 in 10 of those deaths occur in infancy. The health system is often overwhelmed and underresourced. Other challenges are the availability of critical commodities in maternity and neonatal departments, compliance with protocols and standards, infection prevention and control, awareness among parents of adequate newborn care, disease prevention, and early recognition of childhood illnesses.

8. The prevalence of iodine deficiency disorder among children and women was tackled through the universal salt iodization programme by strengthening the capacity of inspection agencies and salt producers on internal quality control and assurance systems. This led to a 35 per cent increase in the availability of adequately iodized salt in markets between 2018 and 2020. Nonetheless, inadequate diets and rampant infections continue to lead to stunting (18 per cent nationally, rising to 32 per cent in Gorno-Badakhshan) and wasting (6 per cent, down from 10 per cent in 2012).¹¹ While mothers generally breastfeed (though only 36 per cent of children under 6 months old are exclusively breastfed), only half of all infants are introduced to complementary foods at appropriate ages, and only 9 per cent of children aged 6–23 months receive optimal infant and young child feeding.¹² Anaemia is prevalent among under-fives (42 per cent) and women of reproductive age (41 per cent).¹³ Bottlenecks include limited institutional capacity in evidence-based nutrition programming, lack of nutrition commodities, and poor knowledge and awareness of healthy eating behaviours and feeding and care practices among parents and caregivers.

9. The Government has made progress on Sustainable Development Goal 6, with 55 per cent of the population having access to safely managed water compared with 38 per cent in 2016 (81 per cent have access to basic water). The water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector is financed at 0.67 per cent of GDP (\$54.5 million); however, the required financing to achieve Sustainable Development Goals 6.1 and 6.2 is \$213 million (2 per cent of GDP). The sector has taken initiatives on water sector reforms but stronger leadership is needed. One in four households lacks access to sufficient water. Rural areas often have weak waste disposal systems, dysfunctional sewage systems and inadequate supply of clean, piped water, forcing residents to use potentially contaminated river water. Bottlenecks include the lack of a WASH framework, a fragmented governance system, outdated policy and strategies, limited institutional capacities and outdated WASH standards for health and education facilities; degraded water supply and sewage system infrastructure; and limited surveillance and treatment capacity.

10. Investment in education reached 5.7 per cent of GDP in 2019, the highest in Central Asia. Universal enrolment was achieved in primary and lower secondary levels. Nonetheless, access and transition to upper secondary level remains unequal for girls and children with disabilities, especially in rural areas. In 2020/21, 30.6 per cent of children with disabilities were enrolled in education, with one third of them in residential care institutions.¹⁴ Girls are twice as likely as boys to not complete secondary education, and only 35 per cent of higher education students are female.¹⁵ The curriculum focus on inclusive education requires further strengthening, particularly in the approach to teaching and evaluating students with disabilities. In

¹¹ Tajstat, Ministry of Health (MoH) and ICF, Tajikistan Demographic and Health Survey 2017, 2018, <http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR341/FR341.pdf>.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ministry of Education and Science (MoES), Education Management Information System (EMIS), 2021.

¹⁵ Republic of Tajikistan, National Strategy for Education Development, 2021–2030.

addition, the projected increase of half a million primary and secondary school students by 2030 will continue putting pressure on the education infrastructure. In 2020–2021, 28.1 per cent of all schools in Tajikistan required major repairs, 9.4 per cent required emergency rehabilitation (including 28.1 per cent of schools in Gorno-Badakhshan), and only 55 per cent of schools had access to safe water.¹⁶

11. While coverage for preschool-age children grew from 12.4 per cent in 2016, only 15.3 per cent of 3–6-year-old children attended early childhood education programmes in 2020/21 – the lowest figure in Central Asia.¹⁷ Regional figures range from 45 per cent in Dushanbe to 7 per cent in Districts of Republican Subordination. About 45 per cent of preschool pupils in 2019 were girls, slightly up from 43 per cent in 2011.¹⁸ The national education development strategy has a clear target for enrolment in early childhood programmes by 2030, which will require the government to triple the current number of children aged 3–6 years.

12. In 2016, the Government launched the national programme on “Development of adolescents and their social participation”, with a focus on improving adolescents’ mental health by improving the system for providing psychological support to adolescent girls and boys in educational and health-care settings. While progress is being made, medical care and psychological support for children, adolescents and youth only meets one third of the national demand.¹⁹ Meanwhile, 36 per cent of adolescent girls and 32 per cent of adolescent boys have depression, while 27.5 per cent of adolescents do not know where to seek help for emotional disorders.²⁰ The official suicide rate is low, but many suicides remain unregistered due to stigma. Tajikistan faces insufficient coordination between providers of adolescent services, lack of clear definitions of roles and responsibilities, insufficient tailoring of health care to adolescent needs, and limited awareness among adolescents of adolescent-friendly health services or of mental health.

13. The Government is leading efforts to deliver digital learning²¹ and provide twenty-first century skills for young people to improve employability and active participation in society.²² This is a major step in increasing the quality and relevance of education and addressing the challenge of having one in three 15–24-year-olds not in employment, education or training (NEET).²³ The NEET rate among females is nine times higher than for males; in total, the labour potential of one in five young people is underutilized.

14. In 2016/17, 1.14 million students (62 per cent) were members of school student councils, usually activated for mass public events and celebrations. However, only 16 per cent of adolescents attend community meetings and 6 per cent participate in discussions or express their views. Systemic engagement with youth has the potential to inform policies and programmes and generate opportunities for building the skills and competencies required for full participation.

¹⁶ MoES, EMIS, 2021.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Republic of Tajikistan, National Strategy for Education Development, 2021–2030.

¹⁹ UNICEF Tajikistan, “Rapid Assessment of the system response to adolescents’ mental health, including prevention of suicidal behaviour, in the Republic of Tajikistan, Key Results; Strategic Research Centre under the President of Tajikistan”, 2018; UNICEF, “Report on findings of the Adolescent Baseline Study”, 2019.

²⁰ UNICEF, “National Study on Adolescents and Youth in Tajikistan”, 2018.

²¹ Internet coverage is low: 48 per cent of urban and 32 per cent of rural adolescents have Internet access. Rates are lower for girls (UNICEF and European Union, “Rapid Education Needs Assessment”, May 2020).

²² European Commission, *21st century transversal skills and deep skills. Skills for Industry Strategy 2030*, 2019; Applied Educational Systems, “What are 21st century skills?”, 2020.

²³ Tajstat, Labour Force Survey, 2016.

15. The Government made significant progress in deinstitutionalization and justice for children. ‘Baby Homes’ (residential childcare institutions) were formally transformed into family and child support centres in 2020. The number of children in residential care decreased by 20 per cent (from 10,061 in 2016 to 8,099 in 2020).²⁴ Most children are in institutions because of poverty and a belief that institutions can provide better shelter and food than what is available at home.²⁵ In addition, institutions are believed to be better equipped to provide for children with disabilities.

16. According to the Demographic and Health Survey 2017, 69 per cent of children aged 1–14 experienced some type of violent discipline,²⁶ and 26 per cent of youth reported at least one incidence of violence, including physical violence, shaming or peer-to-peer violence.²⁷ Boys are slightly more likely to be violently disciplined than girls. Peer-to-peer violence is also widespread, including in schools. In 2021, the Code of Administrative Offences was amended to introduce administrative punishment for parents/caregivers for using or threatening to use violence against children. Despite numerous measures taken by the government, violence against children and women is still frequently considered a behavioural norm, leading to limited reporting.

17. Between 2017 and 2021 the number of children in post-trial detention decreased by 34 per cent (from 175 in 2017 to 116 in 2021).²⁸ Despite a number of legislative reforms, juvenile justice policies still need to comply with international best practices.²⁹ In 2021, the Government introduced amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code to reduce the period of initial detention of children from 72 hours to 48 and also reduce the duration of questioning of child victims and witnesses. However, budget resources are required to institutionalize and scale up these important achievements nationwide.

18. In 2021, social protection systems supported 2.1 million vulnerable people, mainly through government support to cope with the socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Total social protection spending was 4.3 per cent of GDP in 2021, compared with 5.4 per cent in 2015.³⁰ There is a lack of qualified social protection professionals of all types,³¹ as well as a lack of awareness about rights and access to services; challenges in obtaining the disability certificate; and low and insufficient financial support, affecting access to disability support.

19. With recent efforts to integrate measurable child rights commitments in strategic planning documents, where only a small part of these commitments is adequately costed, demand for good data and innovative financing mechanisms is growing. Public finance reform is ongoing, but evidence-based planning and budgeting at all levels to operationalize strategic priorities is not fully in place. Insufficient resources and capacity mean the supply of quality disaggregated data on children is still weak, while resource allocation and national priorities are barely linked. The data used in decision-making may not be relevant or timely, and the culture of evidence-based decision-making is not yet fully in place. Thus, there is space for strengthening

²⁴ Tajstat, MoH and ICF, Tajikistan Demographic and Health Survey 2017.

²⁵ Schmidt, V., “Institutional Violence Against Children: How to Cope with the Inevitable and the Unconquerable”, 2017.

²⁶ Tajstat, MoH and ICF, Tajikistan Demographic and Health Survey 2017.

²⁷ UNICEF, “National Study on Adolescents and Youth in Tajikistan”, 2018.

²⁸ Supreme Court of the Republic of Tajikistan, Administrative statistics, 2021.

²⁹ UNICEF, “Keeping our Promise to Children: an agenda for action”, 2013.

³⁰ International Labour Organization, “Public Expenditure and Institutional Review of the Social Protection Sector in Tajikistan”, 2021.

³¹ Only one university trains bachelor’s- and master’s-level social workers; vocational education is lacking.

evidence-based planning, budgeting and monitoring of child rights commitments, especially through child-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators.

20. The country programme evaluation found that making progress in realizing children's rights requires strengthening evidence-based systems and data analysis with additional disaggregation to highlight underlying vulnerabilities, and ensuring that the government and development partners use this analysis to formulate medium- to long-term response. This requires stronger national monitoring capacity and supporting the development of national-level systems. Another lesson learned is the importance of using theories of change at outcome level, and detailed analyses of risks and assumptions to modify implementation as the context and needs change.

21. UNICEF has comparative advantage as a credible actor with the ability to convene key stakeholders. Having a good reputation in the country, UNICEF is considered a trusted partner of the Government, civil society and development partners, with a clear mandate for monitoring the implementation of the CRC.

Programme priorities and partnerships

22. The overarching goal of the 2023–2026 country programme is that children and young people, especially the most vulnerable and excluded, are born and grow up in a healthy and protective environment, can develop to their full potential and realize their rights. The country programme aligns with the NDS 2030 and the MTDP 2021–2025, as well as government sectoral policies and strategies. The programme will contribute to implementation of the CRC and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

23. Strategic partnerships will continue to play a central role in advancing equitable results for children. The country programme derives from the 2023–2026 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). UNICEF will continue to engage in joint programming in common areas of interest with several United Nations agencies.

24. As an important voice for children's rights in Tajikistan, UNICEF brings together various stakeholders on issues of critical importance to realizing the rights of children and young people through employing an integrated approach encompassing communications, advocacy, partnership building and programmatic engagement.

25. Core change strategies will be applied at national and subnational levels to address barriers to child rights, including system strengthening to leave no one behind, digital transformation and fostering innovation, and gender transformative programming. UNICEF will broaden its public and private partnerships to leverage financing for children, support child rights-based policies and legislation, promote equitable access to essential services, invest more on data analysis and use, and influence social behaviours and norms.

Surviving and thriving

26. The long-term vision for change is that, by 2026, children, young people and their caregivers, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from quality and equitable health, nutrition, child development and WASH services, and adopt appropriate care practices. This area of work directly contributes to achieving UNSDCF outcomes 1 and 3.

27. To achieve this, UNICEF will focus on (1) improving the enabling environment for surviving and thriving by focusing on national policies, protocols, institutional capacities and evidence-based budgets and financing strategies to reduce gaps. Efforts

will include developing capacity to analyse and use data for decision-making and supporting action plans to improve the allocation and efficiency of spending in the nutrition and WASH sectors.

28. UNICEF will support the Government to improve the supply of national and subnational health, nutrition and WASH services. This will involve improving health-care waste management and the provision of essential medical equipment in targeted districts. At the same time, the WASH programme will leverage existing resources to improve access to WASH at the household level. The programme will adhere to climate change adaptation approaches in WASH. Key capacity gaps of health-care personnel will be addressed through capacity development interventions and programmes.

29. To boost demand for quality services, UNICEF will enhance the knowledge and skills of children, young people and their caregivers to practise positive health-seeking and caring behaviours. UNICEF and the Government will generate evidence on parenting practices, support expanded engagement of parents/caregivers with their children and promote key child and adolescent care practices and positive behaviours. UNICEF will collaborate with the Government and engage with civil society and the private sector to develop blended financial models for WASH, nutrition and mental health.

Learning and skills

30. The long-term vision for change is that, by 2026, children and young people benefit from quality and inclusive learning opportunities that help them acquire skills for a meaningful and productive life. This area of work directly contributes to achieving UNSDCF outcomes 1, 2 and 3.

31. To achieve this, UNICEF will focus on improving the enabling environment for learning and skills by enhancing the Government's ability to strengthen national systems at central and district levels. UNICEF will continue to lead the education sector coordination forum and support the establishment of data management systems, building key stakeholders' capacity to collect, analyse and use disaggregated data on issues pertaining to children and young people. UNICEF will support in the implementation, funding and monitoring of the Youth Strategy, as well as a regulatory framework for early childhood education.

32. At the supply level, UNICEF will ensure that children and young people, especially girls, enjoy quality, inclusive and transformative competency-based learning, enabling them to gain market-aligned skills and the capacity to facilitate transition to working lives. Innovative platforms and mechanisms will be created to make ICT available to children and young people. UNICEF will work with the Government to foster innovative programming approaches, in particular using new technologies, social media and volunteerism to promote the civic engagement of adolescents as agents of change for their communities. Online and student councils will be supported to provide opportunities and safe spaces for meaningful participation. The capacity of Centres for Additional Education will be developed to build young people's transferable skills. Gender-sensitive career guidance and counselling will be developed and scaled up.

33. UNICEF will boost demand for quality and inclusive learning, skills development at institutional and community levels, and the empowerment of children and young people to voice their concerns and participate meaningfully in decision-making that affects them. UNICEF will support young people and communities to increase their knowledge and understanding of peacebuilding, social cohesion and resilience to disasters and climate change. UNICEF will promote parental support

guidance and community feedback mechanisms focusing on early learning, school readiness, and safeguarding in formal and additional education. Media campaigns and community mobilization will focus on girls' education and transition to work life.

Child protection

34. The long-term vision for change is that, by 2026, the most vulnerable and excluded children and adolescents benefit from gender-responsive and operational child protection systems that promote inclusion, and prevent and respond to separation, deprivation, violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect. This area of work directly contributes to achieving UNSDCF outcome 4.

35. To achieve this, UNICEF will seek to ensure that the enabling environment for a protective environment is in place. Child protection institutions will acquire capacity to generate and use relevant evidence, strengthen coordination and put in place functioning monitoring mechanisms for gender- and child-sensitive protection systems. UNICEF will support revision and amendment of normative frameworks and implementation practices on justice for children and legal aid to align with international standards on social workforce, alternative care, children with disabilities, child labour, gender-based violence and online safety. UNICEF will also support research on optimizing financing for child protection.

36. At the supply level, UNICEF will support the strengthening of the social service workforce to provide services to children in a gender-responsive manner to prevent and respond to separation, deprivation, violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect. Support will also be provided for the provision of minimal services and referral systems for child protection.

37. To boost demand, UNICEF will support vulnerable children, adolescents and caregivers to identify child rights violations, including gender-based violence, and orient them on available services. UNICEF will raise awareness of the rights of children, especially girls, with sensory and mental disabilities to ensure access to rehabilitation and habilitation services, and promote development of their education and employment potential. UNICEF will also promote online safety and positive parenting practices.

Governance and inclusion

38. The vision for change is that, by 2026, children and young people, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from inclusive governance systems ensuring evidence-based planning, budgeting, implementation of social policies and monitoring of child rights in line with CRC and Sustainable Development Goal commitments. This area of work directly contributes to achieving UNSDCF outcomes 1 and 4.

39. To achieve this, UNICEF will focus on cross-cutting issues of child poverty with greater emphasis on multisectoral integration approaches to build shock-responsive social protection systems. It will support national and subnational institutions to increase capacities in generating and using quality disaggregated data to coherently plan and implement inclusive policies for children.

40. As part of the Public Finance for Children agenda, UNICEF will focus on increasing the capacities of national and subnational finance departments and local governments to plan, coordinate and allocate resources to address children's needs. Robust data will underpin efforts to enhance evidence-based decision-making, planning and budgeting in partnership with the Government, development partners, international financial institutions and the private sector.

41. To strengthen the child rights monitoring system, UNICEF will enhance partnerships with national and subnational child rights institutions to enable them to monitor and report progress towards the realization of child rights and Sustainable Development Goal commitments for children. UNICEF will continue its work with the Statistics Agency and line ministries to enhance data availability and interoperability through household surveys and administrative data systems.

Programme effectiveness

42. Programme effectiveness work will enhance efficient programme management and coordination to deliver programme results across sectors. This will include planning, monitoring and evaluation; communications, advocacy and partnerships; and preparedness.

43. Social and behaviour change interventions will be critical to promoting social and behavioural change across all sectors to generate evidence and work with programmes to generate the demand for services among the most vulnerable, while promoting changes in social norms on equity and gender equality.

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>
Surviving and thriving	1 980	28 647	30 627
Learning and skills	2 280	17 738	20 018
Child protection	2 752	3 415	6 167
Governance and inclusion	1 444	909	2 353
Programme effectiveness	2 980	3 500	6 480
Total	11 436	54 209	65 645

Programme and risk management

44. This country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary instrument 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 concerning the country programme are described in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

45. The office will work towards strengthening internal capacities and systems of government and non-government partners, with a particular focus on the use of the harmonized approach to cash transfers. The office performance will be monitored through relevant indicators, while regular reviews will serve to steer any necessary programme adjustments and improvements.

46. UNICEF chairs and co-chairs several Development Coordination Council groups (such as education and public finance), contributes to four UNSDCF outcomes, and actively participates in the National Development Council, established

in 2019 to advance implementation of the NDS 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals in Tajikistan.

47. The risks related to the expected programme outcomes include, but are not limited to:

(a) The ongoing instability in Afghanistan, the escalating conflict in Ukraine, which started in February 2022, and international sanctions against the Russian Federation, which will have major economic and social impacts on Tajikistan, including economic recession, unemployment and a fall in remittances. This could lead to macroeconomic instability, reduce household consumption, and increase poverty, especially for vulnerable groups. Added to this is the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

(b) The impact of climate change.

(c) Continued exodus and high turnover of (already limited) skilled staff in various social sectors.

Monitoring and evaluation

48. The results and resources framework will be used to ensure timely and efficient progress towards the planned results for children. The framework is aligned with the UNSDCF framework. Under the cooperation framework, the main partner for planning and monitoring the country programme is the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade. Tracking of annual milestones, information and data generated by data collection and sector-specific national data systems and field visits will be used to measure progress. UNICEF will work to enhance the generation, analysis and use of data across the national statistical system.

49. Multi-year workplans will be developed to monitor and steer actions in collaboration with the Government. The integrated monitoring and evaluation plan will chart the course of evidence generation to be used to improve the delivery of results and UNICEF strategic positioning. Evaluations, as agreed in the costed evaluation plan, will be designed to assess progress against expected results, validate good practices and establish lessons learned.

50. UNICEF will contribute to monitoring the UNSDCF achievements, providing analyses and making recommendations to steer actions. UNICEF will also support national efforts to monitor the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Tajikistan – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2023–2026

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 2, 5–7, 12, 18–20, 23, 24, 26, 28, 29, 32, 33, 36, 37, 39
National priorities: Sustainable Development Goals: 1–5, 8–11, 13, 17; Tajikistan National Development Strategy 2030
United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) outcomes involving UNICEF: Outcomes 1–4 1. Inclusive human development. By 2026, health, food security and nutrition, education and social protection systems and services are more effective, inclusive, gender-sensitive, and adequately financed. 2. Sustainable, inclusive, and green economic growth. By 2026 public institutions and the private sector collaborate to implement innovative and gender-responsive policy frameworks and actions to green the economy and strengthen inclusion of vulnerable groups. 3. Integrated management of climate and environmental risk. By 2026, natural resources management is inclusive and sustainable with integrated policy frameworks and actions to enhance climate-change adaptation and livelihoods of vulnerable groups. 4. People-centred governance and rule of law. By 2026, governance is more inclusive, transparent and accountable, serving to protect human rights, empower women, and reduce violence and discrimination in alignment with the international commitments of Tajikistan.
Related UNICEF Strategic Plan outcome(s): UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 Goal Areas: 1–5

UNSDCF outcomes	UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T) “*” shows outcome indicators that align to UNSDCF outcome indicators.	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
Outcome 1 Outcome 3	1. By 2026, children, young people and their caregivers, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from quality and equitable health, nutrition, early child development,	% of live births attended by skilled birth attendants* B: 97.3% (2020) T: 100% (2026) District or equivalent administrative unit with at least 80% coverage of diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis-containing vaccine for children < 1 year (21-02-L2-04) B: 100% (2021)	Health Management Information System (HMIS)	1.1. National policies, protocols, institutional capacities and budgets are improved to provide quality, integrated, evidence-based, fiscally sustainable, health, nutrition, child development and WASH services to all mothers, newborns and young children and adolescents. 1.2. National and subnational health and other service providers have improved understanding and skills to	Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population (MoHSPP), World Health Organization, United Nations Population Fund,	1 980	28 647	30 627

UNSDCF outcomes	UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T) “*” shows outcome indicators that align to UNSDCF outcome indicators.	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
	and WASH services and adopt appropriate care practices.	T: 100% (2026)		deliver high-quality integrated health, nutrition, WASH and early child development services and programmes. 1.3. Children, young people and their caregivers have enhanced knowledge and skills to practise positive health-seeking and caring behaviours.	European Union (EU), United States International Agency for Development, German Agency for International Cooperation			
		Proportion of children consuming minimum acceptable diets* B: 9% (2020) T: 25% (2026)	Joint Sector Review					
		Percentage of children aged 24 to 59 months receiving early stimulation and responsive care from their parents or caregivers B: 15% (2021) T: 50% (2026)						
		Proportion of population using basic and safely managed drinking water services* B: 55% (2020) T: 65% (2026)						
Outcome 1 Outcome 2 Outcome 3	2. By 2026, children and young people benefit from quality and inclusive learning	Percentage of youth not in employment, education or training (NEET)* B: 30% (2016) T: 25% (2026)	Education Management Information System (EMIS)	2.1. National systems at central and district levels are strengthened to deliver better financed, evidence-based and coordinated learning and skills development opportunities for school to work transition.	Ministry of Education and Science (MoES), Centre for Additional	2 280	17 738	20 018

UNSDCF outcomes	UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T) “*” shows outcome indicators that align to UNSDCF outcome indicators.	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR)		
						RR	OR	Total
	opportunities that help them acquire skills for a meaningful and productive life.	Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal (additional) education and training (by sex)* B: 25.6% (2020) T: 35.0% (2026)	Ministry of Education and Science (MoES), Committee of Youth and Sports (CYS)	2.2. Children and young people enjoy quality, inclusive and transformative competency-based learning and market-aligned skills to transition to resilient working lives. 2.3. Demand for quality and inclusive learning and skills development is mainstreamed at institutional and community levels, and children and young people are empowered to have a voice and participate meaningfully in decision-making that concerns them.	Education, CYSS, local governments, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT), civil society, Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment (MoLME), Ministry of Industry and New Technology, EU, Global Partnership for Education, international finance institutions (IFIs).			
Net enrolment rate in pre-primary education* B: 15.3% (2020–2021 school year) T: 30.0% (2025)		EMIS						
Number of adolescent girls and boys who participate in or lead civic engagement initiatives through UNICEF-supported programmes B: 23,000 (2021) T: 50,000 (2026)		UNICEF project reports						
Proportion of schools with: (a) basic drinking water services (b) basic sanitation services (c) basic hygiene services B: a) 79% b) 47% c) 26% (2020) T: a) 80% b) 70% c) 70% (2026)		UNICEF project reports, EMIS						

UNSDCF outcomes	UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T) “*” shows outcome indicators that align to UNSDCF outcome indicators.	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
Outcome 4	3. By 2026, the most vulnerable and excluded children and adolescents benefit from a gender-responsive and operational social protection system that promotes inclusion, prevents and responds to separation, deprivation, violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect.	Children 0–17 years living in residential care B: 8,099 (2021) T: 7,000 (2026)	Tajstat	3.1. Child protection institutions have acquired capacity to generate and use relevant evidence, strengthen coordination and put in place functioning monitoring mechanisms for gender- and child-sensitive child protection systems. 3.2. Child protection institutions have capacity to support the expansion of access to and use of gender-responsive social services for vulnerable children, adolescents and families with a focus on prevention through professionalized social workforce and integrated case management information systems. 3.3. Vulnerable children, adolescents and caregivers can identify child rights violations, including gender-based violence, know about available services and have capacity to seek support.	National Committee on Child rights (NCCR), Child Rights Unit (CRU), MoHSPP, MoES Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Ministry of Finance (MoF), MoLME, Parliament, Agency on Statistics, Prosecutor’s Office, Supreme Court, law enforcement	2 752	3 415	6 167
		# of social workers contracted by Social Service Agency per 10,000 population B: 800 (2021) T: 1,250 (2026)	MoHSPP					
		Percentage of girls and boys in conflict with the law who are subject to a diversion order or alternative measure as opposed to a custodial sentence B: 0% (2021) T: 10% (2026)	Supreme Court, Prosecutor’s General Office, Tajstat					
Outcome 1 Outcome 4	4. By 2026, children and young people, especially	Number of children covered by social protection systems B: 172,506 (2021) T: 690,000 (2026)	MoHSPP, Agency on Social Insurance and	4.1 National and subnational institutions have increased capacities to coherently plan and implement evidence-based, integrated and shock-	NCCR, CRU, Agency on Statistics,	1 444	909	2 353

UNSDCF outcomes	UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T) “*” shows outcome indicators that align to UNSDCF outcome indicators.	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR)		
						RR	OR	Total
	the most vulnerable, benefit from inclusive governance systems ensuring evidence-based planning, budgeting, implementation of social policies and monitoring of child rights in line with CRC and nationalized Sustainable Development Goal commitments		Pensions (ASIP)	responsive social protection schemes and mechanisms for vulnerable children and their families.	MoF, MEDT, MoHSPP, MoES, MoJ, MoLME, parliament, academia, civil society, IFIs, United Nations agencies			
		National social protection system is ready to respond to a crisis B: not ready (2021) T: ready (2026)	MoHSPP, Committee of Emergency Situations, ASIP	4.2 National and subnational finance departments and local governments have improved capacities to plan, coordinate and allocate resources in efficient and equitable manner for the most vulnerable children.				
		Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection) (Sustainable Development Goal 1.a.2)* B: Education 19.9%; Health 8.4%; Social Protection 14.8% (2021) T: Education 22.3%, Health 9.8%, Social Protection 15.4% (2026)	MoF	4.3 National and subnational child rights monitoring systems and mechanisms are enhanced to monitor progress towards realization of CRC and Sustainable Development Goal commitments, inform evidence-based policies and ensure accountability for child rights.				
		Percentage of child-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators for which recent data are available B: 68% (2021) T: 75% (2026)	Tajstat					
		Level of establishment of permanent national child rights coordinating mechanism B: Score 2 (2021) T: Score 3 (2026)	NCCR					

UNSDCF outcomes	UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T) “*” shows outcome indicators that align to UNSDCF outcome indicators.	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
	4. Enhanced programme effectiveness	Standard performance indicators	UNICEF Results Assessme nt Module	Programme coordination: public relations; planning, monitoring and evaluation; advocacy and partnerships.		2 980	3 500	6 480
Total resources						11 436	54 209	65 645