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Area programme document

Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine

Summary

The area programme document (APD) for Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The APD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of \$25,258,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$127,817,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period March 2023 to December 2025.

* [E/ICEF/2023/1](#).



Programme rationale

1. The Palestinian population in the subregion comprising Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine is estimated at 8 million, with more than 40 per cent of the total consisting of children.¹ In the State of Palestine, 3.2 million people live in the West Bank and 2.1 million in the Gaza Strip, accounting for two thirds of the total Palestinian population under the area programme. Across the subregion, 5.7 million Palestinians are registered with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA),² including 438,000 in the Syrian Arab Republic, about 480,000 in Lebanon and more than 2.3 million in Jordan. The lack of perspective for a comprehensive and lasting political solution in support of United Nations Security Council resolutions affects the lives of Palestinian families and their children.

2. The overall situation of children in the State of Palestine³ continues to be deeply impacted by the protracted conflict, occupation, recurrent violence and the closures of the Gaza Strip, with no progress in sight for the future. The conflict impacts children's survival, their learning and their physical, psychosocial and mental well-being.

3. A 2020 World Bank estimate suggested that 29.7 per cent of the population in the State of Palestine experienced monetary poverty, declining slightly to 27.3 per cent in 2021.⁴ Nationally, 32 per cent of children are simultaneously deprived in at least two essential dimensions, including access to health, education, basic infrastructure and adequate nutrition. Only 33.8 per cent of children are reached by one or more social protection programmes, which depend heavily on international financing and short-term humanitarian social safety nets, and more than 38 per cent of households in the two poorest wealth quintiles receive no social benefits. Across the subregion, Palestinian refugees face similar hardships. In Lebanon, an estimated 86 per cent struggle to meet basic needs and approximately 91 per cent of those in the Syrian Arab Republic live in extreme poverty. In Jordan, approximately 159,000 Palestinian refugees originally from Gaza encounter poverty, food insecurity and risks around their legal status.⁵ Palestinians who left the Syrian Arab Republic for a third country face equally grim economic conditions: in Lebanon, this cohort experiences an 89 per cent poverty rate and 9 per cent extreme poverty rate.

4. Violence and physical punishment are common. In the State of Palestine, more than two thirds of children in grades 1 to 10 reported being exposed to school-based emotional and physical violence, 90 per cent experienced violent discipline and more than one in five suffered severe physical punishment.⁶ Across the four countries, Palestinian women and girls are disadvantaged socially, economically and politically due to gender norms and structures. Gender-based violence – including domestic violence, intimate partner violence, sexual harassment, early marriage and honour killing – is widespread in the subregion. In the State of Palestine, 59 per cent of married women aged 15 to 64 years reported at least one exposure to spousal violence. Palestinian girls are at risk for child marriage, increasing the likelihood of violence

¹ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Population Prospects 2019, Volume II*, 2019.

² Unless otherwise indicated, data in the area programme document are drawn from government statistics; government ministry, agency and department reports; United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) surveys and research; and reports and surveys from United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

³ In accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/19, the State of Palestine has been a non-member United Nations observer State since 2012.

⁴ World Bank, *Palestinian Territories' Economic Update*, April 2022.

⁵ UNRWA, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan emergency appeal, 2022.

⁶ Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) data from 2019/2020 survey.

and abuse. The practice is more common among refugees: around 12 per cent of female Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and 25 per cent of those from the Syrian Arab Republic in Lebanon were married before reaching the age of 18.⁷

5. Although under-5 mortality rates have fallen significantly in the State of Palestine, 12 out of every 1,000 children die before reaching 1 year of age. For refugees, the risk is even greater: 17 of 1,000 children born in refugee camps die before reaching their first birthday.

6. Palestinians seeking health care face high out-of-pocket contributions (46 per cent of health expenditures in the State of Palestine) and health staff shortages.⁸ The already limited number of facilities are affected by sporadic violence; 35 health facilities in the State of Palestine were damaged by hostilities in 2021. In the Syrian Arab Republic, damage and insecurity have resulted in the closure of 9 of 23 UNRWA health centres. Stress-related disorders and mental health problems have been exacerbated by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. In 2020, approximately 300,000 children in Gaza were believed to have experienced mental health disorders.⁹

7. In refugee camps in Jordan, the prevalence of stunting among Palestinian children under the age of 5 is 23.8 per cent.¹⁰ According to national surveys, nearly 50 per cent of those studied had very low levels of essential minerals and vitamins¹¹ and 31.9 per cent of women of reproductive age had anaemia.¹² In Lebanon, 26 per cent of Palestinian women and more than 28 per cent of children under the age of 5 are anaemic. In the State of Palestine, the incidence of overweight and obesity among children aged 5 to 15 years is steadily rising.¹³

8. School readiness for Palestinian children is limited throughout the region. The Early Childhood Development Index score is 83.9 in the State of Palestine and 86 among Palestinians in Jordan, while in the Syrian Arab Republic, only 6.4 per cent of three- and four-year-old Palestinian children attend preschool. For children with disabilities or at risk of developmental delays, few early detection interventions are available, and services are sub-standard. More than one third of children with disabilities aged 3 years or older were never enrolled in education, compared with only 6 per cent of non-disabled persons in the State of Palestine. UNRWA estimates that at least 15 per cent of registered refugees have a disability; in Lebanon, 29 per cent of Palestinian children with a disability are not enrolled in school. The State of Palestine has attained almost 95 per cent access to basic education despite widespread security constraints, infrastructure damage and a lack of suitable water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities at schools, which discourages attendance by menstruating girls. Issues of quality remain, reflecting attainment disparities between wealth quintiles, geographical location and gender. Only 52.7 per cent of children aged 7 to 14 years acquire foundational reading skills (57.3 per cent girls, 47.8 per cent boys) and just 45.8 per cent master foundational numeracy.

9. In the State of Palestine, around one in four youth of secondary school age do not attend school – twice as many boys as girls. The rate varies by wealth quintile; non-attendance among youth from the poorest households reaches 38 per cent. Although most children in UNRWA schools across the subregion finish their basic

⁷ Palestine Central Bureau of Statistics survey on violence, 2019.

⁸ World Health Organization, “Health workforce snapshot: Palestine,” 2020.

⁹ S. Jabr, “Assessment of MHPSS interventions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip,” United Nations Population Fund, 2021.

¹⁰ N. Abolish et al., “Under-five malnutrition among Palestine refugee children living in camps in Jordan”, *BMJ Global Health*, 2021.

¹¹ World Food Programme website.

¹² World Health Organization, *Global Anaemia Estimates*, 2021 edition.

¹³ Global Nutrition Report, “State of Palestine”, 2021.

education (97.9 per cent of girls, 96.7 per cent of boys),¹⁴ females face social and economic marginalization and limited participation in the labour market. In the State of Palestine, only 17.5 per cent of women and girls aged 15 years and older participate in the workforce.¹⁵ Youth unemployment is 63 per cent in the Gaza Strip, compared with 23 per cent in the West Bank, and has reached 62 per cent for all age groups in Lebanon. Young people also have few opportunities for constructive engagement in political dialogue, policy processes and governance activities.¹⁶

10. Water scarcity and the frequency and severity of climate change-induced phenomena in countries where Palestinian children live exacerbate their vulnerabilities and hardships. Access to and use of safe water and sanitation is inadequate in the State of Palestine: almost one in five households relies on E.coli-contaminated water sources and 400,000 people (45 per cent children) lack access to safely managed sanitation facilities and services. In Jordan, 25 per cent of refugee camp households lack safe water. In the Syrian Arab Republic, due to the destruction of infrastructure including the energy supply, only about half of such households can access clean water.¹⁷ Women and girls, who are more likely to be burdened with water collection, are especially affected.

11. As the majority of Palestinian children live in fragile contexts, lessons learned from the previous area programme point to the need to further integrate multisectoral humanitarian and development programming and develop strong risk management in programme implementation.

Programme priorities and partnerships

12. This area programme document was developed following consultations with key UNICEF stakeholders in the State of Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic. It is aligned with the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 and the UNICEF Gender Action Plan, 2022–2025, and is derived from the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) of the respective countries, which cover the Palestinian populations.

13. The overall goal of the 2023–2025 area programme is to transform the lives of every Palestinian girl and boy by progressively fulfilling their basic rights to survival, care, child and social protection, and participation, their right to reach their full potential, and their right to live in protective, equitable and inclusive societies.

14. The key change strategies are: (a) evidence generation to inform policies and programmes; (b) capacity development of national and local partners, focusing on policies, coordination and systems strengthening; (c) resilience-building; (d) humanitarian-development-peace nexus; and (e) social and behaviour change to address barriers related to social norms, attitudes and practices.

15. The comparative advantages that UNICEF has include its access to both Palestinian and Israeli authorities and the host Governments of Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic; its partnership with UNRWA and other United Nations agencies; its close cooperation with non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations and local communities, including in refugee camps; its experience in child and youth engagement, participation and building strategic alliances; and its ability to quickly and effectively respond to crises and integrate humanitarian and development strategies in the context of a protracted crisis.

¹⁴ UNRWA, *Annual Operational Report 2020*.

¹⁵ International Labour Organization, ILOSTAT.

¹⁶ United Nations Population Fund, *Youth Vulnerability Assessment*, 2021.

¹⁷ International Committee of the Red Cross, *Syria Water Crisis*, 2021.

15. The area programme will be implemented through the six programmes presented below. Adaptive programming will aim to address inequity in vulnerable areas across the State of Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Health and nutrition

16. The health and nutrition component seeks to strengthen primary and community health care – the provision of and equitable access to quality maternal, child health and nutrition services – and to promote nurturing care and appropriate nutrition practices for Palestinian mothers and children, with a special focus on the most vulnerable (including girls, adolescents, children under 5 years of age and those in humanitarian situations).

17. In the State of Palestine, UNICEF will work with relevant partners on capacity development to strengthen the health system, including improved planning, budgeting and implementation of equitable, inclusive and gender-sensitive policies and services. Malnutrition will be addressed through: better access to quality and affordable diets; improved planning, budgeting and implementation capacities of nutrition services; family engagement in feeding nutritious, diversified diets to vulnerable household members; and links to social protection services to reduce child poverty. UNICEF will support sectoral ministries to ensure the integration and delivery at scale of intervention services focusing on the child's first 1,000 days. UNICEF will also aim to improve caregiver knowledge and practices to support early childhood development (ECD) and work across sectors to integrate mental health and psychosocial services into the primary health-care system. Girls and women will be empowered to participate in the decision-making processes of these services, with adolescents acting as agents of positive change for promoting access to and utilization of health and nutrition services.

18. In Jordan and Lebanon, UNICEF will support preventive, promotive, rehabilitative and supportive health care for children and families, particularly adolescent girls. In Jordan, UNICEF will advocate to improve early identification and appropriate referral of children with disabilities and support evidence-generation. In Lebanon, sustainable healthy practices and care-seeking behaviours will be strengthened in communities. The UNICEF country office in the Syrian Arab Republic will focus on improved access to and quality of maternal, newborn and child health and nutrition care.

Education, adolescents and youth

19. The education component of the programme focuses primarily on disadvantaged girls, boys and adolescents, including those with disabilities or in humanitarian situations, emphasizing safe, equitable and participatory education. Adolescents and youth are reached through promotion of community engagement and transition from school to work.

20. In the State of Palestine, UNICEF will focus on preventing and ending violence against children, including corporal punishment, bullying and harassment, by working with teachers on positive, non-violent discipline and school-based mental health and psychosocial support. Evidence-driven advocacy and communication will promote inclusive education for children with disabilities and ending school-based corporal punishment. The programme will support the Government to: institutionalize science, technology, engineering, mathematics, life skills and citizenship education into teaching and learning; develop national strategies for building teacher capacity in child-friendly approaches and skills development; strengthen systems for monitoring learning assessment; and building national strategies to reduce/manage pupil-teacher ratios. Gender-transformative programming will include interventions

to empower boys and girls to unlock their full potential, as well as improving school infrastructure, WASH facilities and accessibility for children with disabilities.

21. Working with the private sector, UNICEF will emphasize school connectivity, distance-learning platforms and provision of devices, with a focus on marginalized children and non-formal education opportunities for out-of-school adolescents. The education programme will lead the cross-cutting youth participation priority, strengthening life skills and civic engagement to empower adolescents to act on climate change and violence reduction. Social- and behaviour-change activities will be conducted in schools and communities to promote participation by young people in decision-making and provide learning opportunities, as well as to recognize and respond to restrictive gender norms faced by girls in their transition from learning to earning.

22. In Jordan, UNICEF will prioritize working in collaboration with UNRWA to improve children's learning and well-being. This will include continuing to focus on quality and inclusive basic education for vulnerable children. The programme will also support Palestinian adolescents and young people to participate, volunteer and civically engage in their community and enhance livelihood opportunities focused on social innovation, entrepreneurship and demand-driven skills.

23. In Lebanon, UNICEF will prioritize improving early childhood education and sustaining equal access to basic education, inclusive learning opportunities and integrated, community-based ECD programmes. The programme will offer adolescents and youth additional skills training, innovation programmes and cash-for-work opportunities.

24. In the Syrian Arab Republic, UNICEF will focus on improving access to quality and inclusive learning in safe and protected environments. The programme will support adolescent empowerment by increasing opportunities for the most vulnerable to develop and implement social and business entrepreneurship initiatives.

Child protection

25. UNICEF will work with national and regional partners to ensure that more Palestinian children are protected from violence, exploitation and grave violations through sustained reporting and monitoring-informing advocacy, improved case management, helplines and safe-to-learn initiatives by building capacity among partners and service providers and strengthening protection systems. UNICEF will also engage with parents, caregivers and teachers to promote positive discipline.

26. In the State of Palestine, the UNICEF child protection programme comprises two critical areas of intervention: prevention and response to violence, abuse and exploitation of children, and protection of girls and boys in contact with the justice system.

27. With partners, UNICEF will strengthen the overall social protection system and implementation of relevant legislation. Support for child protection services will be focused on children who experience the worst forms of violence and abuse, including gender-based violence. The End Violence component will be mainstreamed across the health, education and WASH sectors, creating a holistic approach to child protection.

28. In Jordan, UNICEF will collaborate with partners to enhance capacity among case workers and social workers to apply national case management standards. In Lebanon, UNICEF will work to strengthen the response to the most vulnerable children, prioritizing children with disabilities, and invest more resources in social/behavioural change programmes. In the Syrian Arab Republic, UNICEF will support community-based child protection interventions, promote increased

protection of children from unexploded ordnance, violence and abuse, and continue to support the establishment of child protection case management and referral mechanisms.

Water, sanitation and hygiene

29. Working with partners, UNICEF will expand access to safe drinking water and sanitation and improve hygiene practices for vulnerable families in the State of Palestine, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic to improve children's health, nutrition and learning. Strategies will include systems strengthening, facility upgrades and advocacy.

30. In the State of Palestine, UNICEF will work with sectoral partners to address data gaps in WASH and adaptation to climate change, generating strategies to leverage resources for the sector. Risk- and climate-informed humanitarian and development programming will be used to ensure the programme's sustainability and increased resilience. Community engagement focusing on social and behaviour change will enable effective participation while addressing inadequate practices around hygiene and menstrual health and fostering engagement by young people.

31. In Jordan, UNICEF will support relevant entities through capacity-building, advocacy and evidence-generation to improve the availability of WASH services in all Palestinian camps. UNICEF will complement government support mechanisms with specific interventions to improve WASH conditions for the most vulnerable households. In the Syrian Arab Republic, UNICEF will focus on rehabilitation and upgrading of WASH services and infrastructure in and around schools operated by UNRWA.

32. UNICEF will also build partner capacity to access new financing opportunities related to climate change adaptation and improved monitoring and coordination systems to increase sustainability and reduce water losses. Gender equality programming will be integrated at each stage of the WASH programme to respond to the specific needs of girls, boys and women in schools and health-care facilities at the community and institutional levels. Advocacy will be undertaken with the private sector to invest in WASH, climate change adaptation, renewable energy and disaster risk reduction.

Social policy and social protection

33. Social policy programmes in the State of Palestine and Jordan aim to support increased access and inclusion to social protection systems for the most vulnerable and work with social sectors to ensure that policies and budgets are sensitive to child poverty and increase the fulfilment of child rights.

34. To reach the most vulnerable households, UNICEF in the State of Palestine will work to make the national social protection system more child-sensitive and shock-resilient, through improved data collection and analysis and better targeting. UNICEF will help deliver integrated, child-focused cash transfers to vulnerable households in alignment with the national system, including case management and referral to child protection services, in synergy with child protection networks. This effort builds on the concept of social protection floors, leverages public finance for children and supports national implementation of the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

35. UNICEF will engage and influence government budgets to protect social sector spending and ensure that resources are used effectively, efficiently and equitably. Working with partners, efforts will also focus on identifying options for innovative financing for social services and social protection. Enhancing the capacity of national

stakeholders will promote effective planning, budgeting and delivery of child-sensitive and gender-responsive social services.

36. In Jordan, UNICEF will provide Palestinian children and youth with access to integrated services through the Makani programme.¹⁸ Makani will also act as the cash plus programme to the Jordanian safety net and the UNICEF-supported child cash programme.

Programme effectiveness

37. This component will ensure that the area programme is effectively managed, coordinated, monitored and evaluated for efficient delivery of results. It will develop synergies and foster intersectoral programme implementation, providing cross-sectoral support including accountability to affected populations, social and behavioural change, advocacy and communication. It will also promote coherence and coordination in emergency preparedness and response, and resilience across sectors.

Summary budget table

<i>Programme component</i>	<i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other resources</i>	<i>Total</i>
Health and nutrition	2 695	30 956	33 651
Jordan	-	150	150
Lebanon	384	494	878
State of Palestine	1 700	30 000	31 700
Syrian Arab Republic	611	312	923
Education, adolescents and youth	6 017	35 048	41 065
Jordan	1 086	450	1 536
Lebanon	2 498	3 214	5 712
State of Palestine	1 700	31 000	32 700
Syrian Arab Republic	733	384	1 117
Child protection	3 134	16 708	19 842
Jordan	167	225	392
Lebanon	961	396	1 357
State of Palestine	1 800	16 000	17 800
Syrian Arab Republic	206	87	293
Water, sanitation and hygiene	3 092	26 237	29 329
Jordan	752	150	902
Lebanon	-	-	-

¹⁸ Makani centres are safe spaces (“my space” in Arabic), a one-stop facility that provides vulnerable children, adolescents and youth with a comprehensive package of integrated services, including early childhood development programmes, learning support services, skills-building programmes and child protection support through a community-based approach.

State of Palestine	1 800	26 000	27 800
Syrian Arab Republic	540	87	627
Social policy and social protection	3 035	3 180	6 215
Jordan	835	180	1 015
Lebanon	-	-	-
State of Palestine	2 200	3 000	5 200
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	-
Programme effectiveness	7 285	15 688	22 973
Jordan	-	150	150
Lebanon	308	396	704
State of Palestine	6 665	15 112	21 777
Syrian Arab Republic	312	30	342
Total	25 258	127 817	153 075

Programme and risk management

38. The area programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to results for Palestinian women and children across the four countries 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 the programme are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

39. Programme priorities have been agreed with national partners in the State of Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, in consultation with United Nations country teams and humanitarian country teams within the UNSDCF and in complementarity with relevant humanitarian response plans. Planning, implementation and monitoring will be undertaken in coordination with relevant national authorities. The annexed results framework reflects this country-by-country alignment between the area programme priorities and outcomes with the specific UNDSFC in each country.

40. Delivering the multi-country programme involves unique challenges and risks, due to the political situation and security implications, which have a bearing on the situation of children, opportunities to sustain or develop partners' capacities, and the ability of UNICEF to access populations in need. Given the complex environment, risk management will remain a key feature in programme implementation.

41. Mitigation measures combine sustained collection of evidence and monitoring of the situation of children; advocacy towards the protection of children's rights, the prevention of grave violations, and the removal of obstacles to humanitarian access by and to populations in need; expansion of partnerships for better preparedness and response; strengthening of partners' capacity in programme and financial monitoring, oversight and corrective actions; and regular review of UNICEF models of programmes of delivery for sustained transparency and accountability.

Monitoring, learning and evaluation

42. The UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional Office will ensure overall coordination and oversight of the area programme, as well as of the regional partnerships needed to achieve results, in particular with UNRWA.

43. Monitoring and evaluation of the area programme will be based on the results and resources framework, integrated monitoring and evaluation plans, costed evaluation plans and harmonized approach to cash transfers plans. Evaluation will facilitate enhanced accountability, learning and informed decision-making. Progress on area programme components will be measured against outcomes and cross-cutting priorities and joint studies, conducted as appropriate.

44. Midterm reviews of the programme will be undertaken at the country level, while midyear and/or annual reviews with counterparts will be conducted and evidence used to assess progress towards the realization of child rights and gender equality and the impact on the most disadvantaged. Feedback and complaint mechanisms enable the incorporation of beneficiary experiences and perspectives into decision-making processes. In the case of credible allegations of violations of child rights or United Nations rules and regulations by staff, inter-agency due diligence will be conducted.

45. To the extent possible, young people and disadvantaged communities will be engaged in the process. Methodologies will include surveys, assessments, partner and third-party monitoring systems, research, evaluation and community feedback. These reviews will inform programme strategies for the remainder of the programme cycle.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, March 2023–December 2025

State of Palestine

<p>Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 2–4, 6, 9, 12–13, 19–20, 22, 24, 26–29, 32, 34, 36–40</p> <p>National priorities: Sustainable Development Goals 1, 3, 4, 6, 10, 16</p>
<p>United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) outcomes involving UNICEF:</p> <p>2: Palestinians, including the most vulnerable, have equal access to sustainable, inclusive, gender-responsive and quality social services, social protection, and affordable utilities.</p> <p>3: Palestinian governance institutions, processes, and mechanisms at all levels are more democratic, rights-based, inclusive, and accountable.</p> <p>4: Palestinians have better access to and management of natural and cultural resources, higher resilience, and adaptation to climate change and more sustainable food systems.</p>
<p>Related UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 Goal Areas: 1–5</p>

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
2	1. Disadvantaged newborns, children and mothers, including those in humanitarian situations, benefit from equitable access to quality,	<p>Proportion of newborns receiving postnatal care within two days of birth B: 10% T: 18%</p> <p>Percentage of children aged 36–59 months who are developmentally on</p>	<p>Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)</p> <p>Ministry of Health (MoH) plans and strategies</p> <p>Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)</p>	<p>1. The Ministry of Health (MoH) has enhanced capacity to deliver sustainable, high-impact health interventions to reduce preventable</p>	MoH, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), United Nations,	1 700	30 000	31 700

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
	inclusive, gender-sensitive and climate-smart health-care services, and caregivers adopt nutritious diets and nurturing practices.	track (Early Childhood Development Index) B: 83.9% T: 88%	MICS	deaths among children aged under 5 years and mothers, including in humanitarian situations	disadvantaged communities			
		Proportion of children aged 6–23 months who are fed a minimum diversified diet B: 45% T: 51%		2. Primary health-care services and staff have sufficient capacity to plan, create demand and deliver equitable, resilient, climate and environmentally smart and gender-responsive essential quality health services, especially for the disadvantaged 3. MoH and key stakeholders have strengthened nutrition-related policies and institutional capacity to deliver quality and gender-				

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
				sensitive essential nutrition services for infants, children and adolescents, including raising awareness on nurturing care at family level				
4	2. Vulnerable families, especially adolescent girls and women, and including people in humanitarian situations, utilize equitable, inclusive, resilient and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services and systems and address the impact of climate change with active involvement of young girls and boys.	<p>Proportion of population using safely managed drinking-water services at community level</p> <p>B: 39% T: 45%</p>	MICS Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)	<p>1. Increased capacity of stakeholders to plan and implement sustainable, inclusive and resilient WASH services at community and institutional levels, including in humanitarian situations</p> <p>2. PWA and service providers have enhanced capacity to implement water and sanitation strategies aligned with the 2014 Water Law</p>	PWA, Ministry of Education (MoE), MoH, Environment Quality Authority, Ministry of Local Government service providers, Water Sector Regulatory Council Coastal Municipality Water Utility, NGOs, World Food Programme (WFP), private sector, education institutions, donors	1 800	26 000	27 800
		<p>Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation</p> <p>B: 67% T: 73%</p>	MICS JMP PWA Project reports					

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
				3. Government authorities have capacity for planning, implementing and raising awareness regarding the impact of climate change and emergency preparedness with participation of vulnerable communities				
2	3. Disadvantaged girls, boys and adolescents, including in humanitarian situations, acquire quality learning outcomes, life skills and employment skills, and participate as agents of change in an environment which is inclusive, safe, protective and free from violence in and around schools.	<p>Percentage of children who demonstrate foundational numeracy skills</p> <p>B: 45.8% T: 54%</p> <p>Proportion of students aged 13–17 years experiencing bullying, corporal punishment, harassment, violence, sexual discrimination or abuse</p> <p>Baseline: Physical violence: Basic schools: 46% B, 56% male, 38.3% female</p> <p>Target: Physical violence: Basic schools: 43% T, 53% male, 35% female</p>	MICS	<p>1. Education system and services are resilient and have capacity to deliver inclusive and gender-responsive quality education and life skills for improved learning at all schooling levels, including in humanitarian situations</p> <p>2. Education system and staff have capacity to ensure safe and inclusive</p>	MoE, Ministry of Social Development (MoSD), Education cluster and sector working group partners, donors, World Bank, United Nations agencies	1 700	31 000	32 700

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>learning environments free from violence in and around schools and provide psychosocial support to students, including in humanitarian situations</p> <p>3. Education and training systems have capacity to develop life and employment skills and prepare adolescents to become agents of change</p>				
2 and 3	4. Vulnerable girls, boys and adolescents in the State of Palestine are protected from violence, including conflict-related violence, and benefit from inclusive, resilient, gender-responsive and child-friendly	<p>Percentage of children younger than 15 years old experiencing domestic physical punishment and/or psychological aggression in past month, by sex</p> <p>B: 90.1% total; 87.9% girls, 92.3% boys T: 87% by 2025</p>	MICS	1. Targeted institutions and communities have enhanced capacity to respond with accessible protection services and prevent all violence against children, and promote social and behavioural change	MoSD, MoE, MoH, Attorney General's Office and Justice partners, civil society organizations, universities, NGOs, United Nations agencies with protection/rule of law mandate	1 800	16 000	17 800
		Capacity of system to document, analyse and use data about grave rights	Humanitarian Needs Overview/Hum					

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
	protection and justice systems	violations for prevention and response B: Low T: Adequate	anitarian Response Plan, Protection Strategy, workplan	2. Justice system in the State of Palestine has increased capacity to deliver inclusive, protective, child-friendly and gender- responsive services in accordance with international standards				
3	5. National social sector policies and budgets are more sensitive to child poverty and increased number of vulnerable children and	National social protection system (NSSP) crisis- ready B: National Cash Transfer Programme (NCTP) not ready to respond to crisis T: NCTP adapted to respond to crises	MoSD/NCTP policy/ procedure updated to include shock- responsive social protection measures	1. NSSP has improved capacities to deliver inclusive, participatory, and gender- and child-sensitive support to vulnerable	MoSD, European Union, World Bank, International Labour Organization, (ILO), WFP, Oxfam	2 200	3 000	5 200

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
	adolescents benefit from a more child-focused and inclusive social protection system which is gender-responsive as well as participatory and shock-responsive	Number of children living in poverty according to national (a) monetary and (b) multidimensional poverty lines B: a) No national child monetary poverty measurement; b) No national child multidimensional poverty T: a) child monetary poverty measurement integrated into Palestinian Expenditure and Consumption Survey (PECS); b) child multidimensional poverty measure defined and applied	a) PECS b) MICS/ Multiple and Overlapping Deprivation Analysis	children in poor households, including in humanitarian situations 2. National stakeholders have capacity to measure child poverty and apply evidence to national social sector policies, including in humanitarian action	Prime Minister's Office, MoSD Palestine Central Bureau of Statistics, ILO, WFP, United Nations Development Programme, World Bank, European Union, United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office			
	6. Programme effectiveness					6 665	15 112	21 777
	Total resources					15 865	121 112	136 977

Lebanon

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 2–4, 6, 9, 12–13, 19–20, 22, 24, 26–29, 32, 34, 36–40
National priorities: Sustainable Development Goals 1–6, 8, 10, 13, 16
UNSDCF outcomes involving UNICEF:
1: Enhanced inclusive, equitable, comprehensive, and sustainable social protection systems and programmes
Related UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 Goal Areas: 1–3

UNSDCF outcomes	UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, B and T	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: RR, OR (In thousands of United States dollars)		
						RR	OR	Total
1	1. Children, women, adolescents and youth living in Palestinian camps will progressively realize their rights and institutions provide equitable and quality related education, health, nutrition, child protection civic engagement, and livelihood services	Percentage of children aged 0–11 months vaccinated with three doses of DTP-containing/Penta vaccine nationally B: TBD T: TBD	Reports: partners, vaccination Attendance lists, distribution lists, pre-/post-tests	The most vulnerable boys, girls and women demand, have access to and can afford integrated high-quality health and nutrition services	UNRWA, Ministry of Public Health, World Health Organization (WHO), partners	384	494	878
		Percentage of girls and boys of primary and lower-secondary school age who are out of school B: Non-Lebanese – Primary: 40% Non-Lebanese – Secondary: 90% T (2025): Non-Lebanese: 30%	MICS 2023 and Information Management System and Ministry of Education and Higher Education School Information Management System data	The most marginalized boys and girls access quality and inclusive learning, including foundational literacy, numeracy and twenty-first-century skills from early childhood to adolescence		2 498	3 214	5 712

<i>UNSDCF outcomes</i>	<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, B and 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: RR, OR (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
						<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
		Percentage of children aged 2–14 years who experience violent disciplinary practices by an adult member of the household B: M: 75%, F: 75% T: M: 65%, F: 65%	UNICEF child protection and gender-based violence information management systems, attendance lists, pre-/post-tests, distribution lists, focus group discussions	The most marginalized boys and girls, including adolescents, benefit from greater access to protection, care, support, justice and services within an overall strengthened child rights governance system		961	396	1 357
	2. Programme effectiveness					308	396	704
Total resources						4 151	4 500	8 651

Jordan

Convention on the Rights of the Child: 2-4, 6, 9, 12, 13, 19, 20, 22–24, 26–29, 32, 34, 36, 40

National priorities: Sustainable Development Goals 1–6, 8–11, 13, 16; Jordan 2025: A National Vision and Strategy; and related national strategies

UNSDCF outcomes involving UNICEF:

2: Enhanced access to quality social services, protection, and self-reliance opportunities for all people living in vulnerable situations in the country

Related UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 Goal Areas: 1–5

UNSDCF outcomes	UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, B and T	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: RR, OR (In thousands of United States dollars)		
						RR	OR	Total
2	1. Palestinian children, adolescents and youth enjoy equitable and quality education, health, nutrition, child protection, WASH, social protection, civic engagement and livelihoods services	Percentage of surviving infants who received first dose of measles-containing vaccine B: 76% T: > 85%	MoH, UNRWA, UNICEF, WHO data	Improved health and nutrition systems and services to better reach and serve children, women and adolescents	UNRWA, WHO, WFP, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWI, UNFPA, partners, Department of Palestinian Affairs		150	150
		Percentage of boys and girls aged 6–59 months with iron deficiency anaemia B: Total: 26.0% Male: 29.4% Female: 22.8% T: < 20%		Institutional capacity of education system is enhanced to ensure uninterrupted, gender-responsive, quality learning opportunities for girls and boys			150	150
		Number of children and young people with access to inclusive social protection services		Case/social workers and teachers have improved capacity in case management standards and violence prevention		167	225	392
				Vulnerable Palestinian adolescents and youth have the education, skills and opportunities		1 086	300	1 386

<i>UNSDCF outcomes</i>	<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, B and 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: RR, OR (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
						<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
		B: 1 600 (annually) T: 1 800 (annually)		to successfully transition from learning to earning				
				Institutional capacity of relevant stakeholders is enhanced to increase equitable access to safe, climate-resilient WASH services focusing on the most vulnerable		752	150	902
				Social protection system strengthened to improve access and utilization of integrated and inclusive services for the most vulnerable children		835	180	1 015
	2. Programme effectiveness						150	150
	Total resources					2 840	1 305	4 145

Syrian Arab Republic

Convention on the Rights of the Child: 2–4, 6, 9, 12, 13, 19, 20, 22–24, 26–29, 32, 34, 36, 40
National priorities: Strategic Plan “Syria 2030”
UNSDCF outcomes involving UNICEF: 1: Improved, equitable, inclusive and safe access to quality basic services
Related UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 Goal Areas: 1–5

UNSDCF outcomes	UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, B and T	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: RR, OR (In thousands of United States dollars)		
						RR	OR	Total
1	1. More Palestinian refugees, specifically newborns, young children and adolescents, benefit from equitable, inclusive and safe basic services	<p>Percentage of children under 5 years of age who are stunted B (2018): 12.6% T (2025): 7.6%</p> <p>Mortality rate for children under 5 years of age B (2018): 23.7 per 1 000 live births T (2025): 21 per 1 000 live births</p> <p>Primary school gross enrolment ratio B (2021): female: 77.11% and male: 77.1% T (2025): female: 95% and male: 95%</p> <p>Number of mothers, fathers and caregivers reached through UNICEF-supported parenting programmes B (2022): 0 T (2025): 120 000</p>	<p>MoH reports</p> <p>Education Management Information System (EMIS)</p> <p>UNICEF and partners' reports</p> <p>Government, UNICEF and partners' reports</p>	Palestine refugees, particularly the most at-risk newborns, young children and adolescents, access equitable, inclusive and safe basic services	<p>Planning and International Coordination Commission; General Administration for Palestine Arab Refugees; UNRWA; Ministries of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Health • Local Administration and Environment • Social Affairs and Labour • Water Resources; Relevant NGOs 	2 090	870	2 960

<i>UNSDCF outcomes</i>	<i>UNICEF outcomes</i>	<i>Key progress indicators, B and 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: RR, OR (In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
						<i>RR</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>Total</i>
		Proportion of the population using basic drinking-water services B (2020): 93% T (2025): 95%						
	2. Programme effectiveness					312	30	342
	Total resources					2 402	900	3 302