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**United Nations Children's Fund**

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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Country programme document****Turkey***Summary*

The country programme document (CPD) for Turkey is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session on a no-objection basis. The CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of \$4,785,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$50,000,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2016 to 2020.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD which was shared 12 weeks before the second regular session of 2015.

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\* E/ICEF/2015/12.



## Programme rationale

1. Turkey, which is approaching high-income status,<sup>1</sup> has a diverse population of 77.7 million.<sup>2</sup> Social development indicators continue to improve. Under-five mortality, for example, has fallen sharply, from 24 per 1,000 live births in 2003-2008 to 15 in 2008-2013.<sup>3</sup> Turkey is playing an increasingly large role in the international sphere. It is a member of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the G-20, and is a candidate for European Union (EU) membership. Official development assistance tripled in 2010-2013, reaching \$3.3 billion in 2013,<sup>4</sup> and increased further in 2014, partly due to the influx of Syrians.

2. The Tenth National Development Plan (NDP) aims to improve people's welfare, raise living standards, and establish a just, secure and peaceful living environment by sustainably advancing basic rights and freedoms<sup>5</sup> and by increasing per capita gross domestic product from \$11,183 in 2013 to \$16,000 in 2018.<sup>6</sup>

3. Meanwhile, average living standards are at just over half the EU average.<sup>7</sup> Relative poverty, based on 60 per cent of median equivalized household income, was 22.3 per cent in 2013,<sup>8</sup> while relative poverty among children was almost twice the OECD average,<sup>9</sup> affecting some 7.4 million children (33.1 per cent of girls and 32.0 per cent of boys).<sup>10</sup> Overall unemployment and youth unemployment stood at 9.9 per cent and 17.9 per cent in 2014,<sup>11</sup> respectively, while informal employment was 35.0 per cent (82.3 per cent in agriculture).<sup>12</sup>

4. There are persistent equity gaps, including socioeconomic, regional and rural-urban disparities in decent work, household income and infrastructure. Particularly disadvantaged children who face multiple deprivations are: children whose parents are poorly educated and have low-income, belong to large families, and live in rural areas, as well as children with disabilities (CWD). As Roma children also face exclusion and heightened risks, the Ministry of Family and Social Policies is preparing a Roma inclusion strategy. Gender inequalities persist, for women and girls.

5. Among the 26 NUTS-2<sup>13</sup> level statistical subregions, the gross value added per capita in 2011 was \$13,865 in Istanbul, but only between \$3,515 and \$5,901 in the seven eastern subregions.<sup>14</sup> However, the Kurdish solution process, initiated after

<sup>1</sup> Turkish Statistical Institute (Turkstat) ([www.turkstat.gov.tr](http://www.turkstat.gov.tr))/Address-Based Population Registry System.

<sup>2</sup> Turkstat, National Income Statistics.

<sup>3</sup> Hacettepe Institute of Population Studies, 2013 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS 2013).

<sup>4</sup> Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), Turkey Development Assistance Report 2013.

<sup>5</sup> Tenth National Development Plan (NDP) Paragraph 8.

<sup>6</sup> Tenth NDP Paragraph 120.

<sup>7</sup> Eurostat, GDP per capita, consumption per capita and price level indices, 2013.

<sup>8</sup> Turkstat, Income and Living Conditions Survey.

<sup>9</sup> OECD Family Database (2010 data).

<sup>10</sup> Turkstat, Children in Statistics 2014.

<sup>11</sup> Turkstat, Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS).

<sup>12</sup> Turkstat, HLFS.

<sup>13</sup> NUTS stands for Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics.

<sup>14</sup> Turkstat, Regional Accounts.

three decades of conflict, is expected to boost economic and social development in the South-eastern province, facilitating progress towards equitable access to quality opportunities for children.

6. Syrians fleeing the Syrian crisis have entered Turkey in increasingly large numbers since 2011, while Iraqis have started arriving since 2014. As of March 2015, of the 1.7 million Syrians under temporary protection in Turkey, over half of them children, 250,000 reside in camps in provinces near the Syrian border,<sup>15</sup> while the others live in host communities, mostly in the same regions, but also in Istanbul and other large cities. Despite the generous and vigorous response of Turkey to the crisis, including through registration and health services, many Syrians under temporary protection are living in poverty and working informally. This situation has affected host communities, including children, through pressure on housing, prices, infrastructure and services.<sup>16</sup>

7. These socioeconomic disparities have disproportionate consequences for children: notwithstanding universal health insurance, existing social protection mechanisms and continuing improvements in basic health outcomes in all regions, disadvantaged children are more likely to grow up stunted, not to be immunized and to have inadequate housing and sanitation,<sup>17</sup> as well to face difficulties in access to quality education.

8. Disability constitutes a further dimension of inequity. Support for CWD has increased, but some bottlenecks persist in services and policy environments as well as adverse social attitudes. The Government has made preschool education mandatory for CWD. However, a determinant analysis carried out according to the Monitoring Results for Equity System (MoRES) methodology revealed that the lack of early and appropriate identification of disabilities prevents many CWD and children with developmental delays from accessing suitable services in the crucial early childhood years.<sup>18</sup> Some CWD live in institutions, including 1,315 children with severe disabilities who, in 2012, were still in institutions not exclusively for children.<sup>19</sup> CWD from low-income groups experience multiple barriers to social inclusion and access to services.

9. The Government increasingly recognizes the presence of large numbers of Syrians under temporary protection in Turkey as a development challenge, and has put in place new regulations giving more responsibilities to line ministries. In addition to implications of regional conflicts, Turkey is exposed to a high risk of natural disasters, particularly earthquakes, with the regions of Marmara and Van severely affected as recently as 1999 and 2011, respectively.

10. Children deprived of parental care have benefited from child care reform, which resulted in an increased use of family-type homes and foster care. At the end of 2014, a total of 12,171 children were in residential care, excluding institutions for persons with disabilities, and 4,008 children in foster care.<sup>20</sup> In addition, over

<sup>15</sup> Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) figures, March 2015.

<sup>16</sup> AFAD, Syrian Refugees in Turkey, 2013/Syrian Women in Turkey, 2014; Center for Middle Eastern Strategic Studies (ORSAM): Effects of the Syrian Refugees in Turkey, 2015.

<sup>17</sup> DHS 2013.

<sup>18</sup> Sabanci University, "Towards a Barrier-free Turkey: Where do we stand?" p. 192.

<sup>19</sup> Information obtained from the MFSP Directorate General for Services for the Elderly and the Disabled.

<sup>20</sup> MFSP Directorate General of Child Services.

the past decade, 13,646 children were adopted through a well regulated system that prioritizes national adoption and enables a few international adoptions under specific conditions. In order to further strengthen the child care system and overcome the remaining bottlenecks, priority should be given to the specialization of personnel and to make maximum use of existing standards. In addition, there is need for dedicated services tailored to the special circumstances of Syrian children under temporary protection who are deprived of parental care or other unaccompanied minors, including services offering opportunities to live in a caring and protective family environment.

11. Children, not only from disadvantaged backgrounds,<sup>21</sup> may experience injuries at home, at school and in the community, due to neglect, violence being used as a form of discipline, or sexual abuse.<sup>22</sup> Elements of a coordinated child protection system, including a national strategy and inter-sectoral provincial mechanisms, are in place. A National Strategy for the Prevention of Violence against Children has been drafted. However, the prevention of, and response to, violence, as well as for the rehabilitation of victims need further and more sustained social engagement, requiring much-increased participation of civil society. In addition, Syrian children under temporary protection have an acute need for safe and friendly environments for recreation and socialization, and in many cases require psychosocial support to overcome traumatic experiences and ongoing hardship.<sup>23</sup> Some urban adolescents face the risks associated with street life, including coming in conflict with the law and, a topic of great public concern, drug addiction.

12. Child labour persists, and this includes children working in the street and in small industrial and service enterprises, as well as migratory and seasonal work in commercial agriculture: in 2012, a total of 893,000 children (614,000 boys, 279,000 girls) were engaged in economic activity. This represents 5.9 per cent of children (15.6 per cent of children 15-17 and 2.6 per cent of children 6-14) and shows little sign of improvement since 2006.<sup>24</sup> In recent years, Syrian children under temporary protection are also observed to be working. Poverty is a key structural determinant of child labour, as is a general social acceptance of this phenomenon, hence the response should focus on increasing inter-sectoral coordination, financial assistance and social mobilization. The National Employment Strategy adopted in 2014<sup>25</sup> reaffirms the commitment to implement the Time-Bound Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

13. Progress towards child rights in the justice system includes the setting up of specialized courts and procedures, as well as shorter detention periods, though policy implementation and geographic coverage are still incomplete. The number of juveniles who were received into security units as suspected offenders rose from 68,344 in 2009 to 115,439 in 2013, and as victims from 61,645 to 121,717.<sup>26</sup> There are also plans to establish a specialized unit for children within the Justice Ministry.

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<sup>21</sup> WHO, Adverse Childhood Experiences Survey among University Students in Turkey, 2013: 49.7 per cent of respondents reported at least one type of adverse childhood experience, positively associated with health risk behaviours.

<sup>22</sup> MFSP, National Research on Violence against Women in Turkey 2009, 2014; WHO.

<sup>23</sup> AFAD, Syrian Refugees in Turkey, 2013/Syrian Women in Turkey, 2014.

<sup>24</sup> Turkstat, Child Labour Survey (CLS).

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.uis.gov.tr/uis/EylemPlanlariEN>.

<sup>26</sup> Turkstat, Juveniles Received into Security Units.

Outstanding measures to overcome remaining bottlenecks include increasing the effectiveness of alternative measures, such as community-based protective measures and probation, and ensuring independent monitoring of the system.

14. Turkey has made significant efforts to increase access to preschool and improve its quality: net enrolment is 32.7 per cent for children 3-5 years and 53.8 per cent for five-year-old children (not including five-year-olds attending primary school).<sup>27</sup> However, children who are most deprived and at risk of exclusion often benefit the least, due to barriers related to lack of access to, and poor quality of, preschool services.

15. Enrolment in grades 1-8 is high for Turkish nationals: net enrolment in secondary education (grades 9-12) is 79.5 per cent for boys and 79.26 per cent for girls,<sup>28</sup> but with significant geographic variations. Secondary education has been compulsory since 2012, albeit not always in a formal setting. Children participating in secondary education through non-formal, distance learning may miss out on the additional opportunities of formal education. Non-attendance, class repetition and non-completion result from several determinants, especially child labour: some 50 per cent of children engaged in economic activity were not attending school in 2012.<sup>29</sup>

16. Educational achievements, as measured by TIMSS and PISA tests, have significantly improved, however the education system needs strengthening in terms of overall performance and reduction of disparities.<sup>30</sup> Children identified with special needs are generally integrated into regular classes, though there are still over 32,000 (12 per cent) children in separate classes and 23,000 (9 per cent) in separate schools.<sup>31</sup> The uneven quality of teaching and the shortcomings in school environments remain the key bottlenecks that discourage participation in education and prevent disadvantaged students from taking full advantage of education. Access for adolescents to opportunities such as sports, recreation and social participation outside the school is also affected by uneven availability and cost barriers.

17. Syrian children under temporary protection are at risk of becoming a lost generation. It is estimated that, as of March 2015, only about a third of the approximately 595,000 school-age Syrian children under temporary protection in Turkey were accessing educational opportunities. While over 90 per cent of school-age children in camps were in school, only about 25 per cent of children outside camps were benefiting from education.<sup>32</sup> Provincial education directorates are now supporting formal and non-formal education activities for Syrian children under temporary protection, either through State-run schools or supervised temporary education centres staffed with Syrian volunteer teachers. Key bottlenecks include lack of physical space, infrastructure and teachers, while structural barriers are language, child marriage and child labour. Life skills education (languages,

<sup>27</sup> Ministry of National Education (MoNE), Formal Education Statistics (FES), 2014-2015.

<sup>28</sup> MoNE, FES, 2014-2015.

<sup>29</sup> Turkstat, CLS.

<sup>30</sup> These issues are regularly analysed by Sabancı University Education Reform Initiative (ERG). See also World Bank: "Promoting excellence in Turkey's schools, 2013". The Tenth NDP also identifies quality issues in education (paragraph 141). However, recent changes in the education system were not directly linked to the Plan or embedded in wider consultations. See also the UNICEF CEE/CIS multi-country evaluation (MCE) of inclusive quality learning.

<sup>31</sup> MoNE, FES, 2014-2015, all levels.

<sup>32</sup> Based on DGMM and MoNE figures.

vocational training, distance learning) would also be appropriate for older children who have been out of school for a long time.

18. Secondary enrolment among girls has increased rapidly, but in some provinces it remains noticeably lower than for boys.<sup>33,34</sup> Moreover, enrolment does not necessarily translate into skills acquisition, social participation and empowerment for young women. According to the OECD, 45 per cent of women aged 15-29 were not in employment, education or training in 2013, compared to 18 per cent for men.<sup>35</sup> Girls do more housework,<sup>36</sup> take care of younger children, and are restricted in their activities, including use of the Internet.<sup>37</sup> Meanwhile, girls face significant risks of sexual violence and abuse.<sup>38</sup> Syrian girls under temporary protection in Turkey face similar challenges and risks.

19. Despite the rising average age of marriage, child and forced marriage persist, mainly for girls, sometimes at a very early age. A survey revealed that among women aged 20-24, 14.7 per cent were first married when they were aged under 18 and 1.1 per cent under 15.<sup>39</sup> This reflects structural determinants linked to traditional social norms, including the acceptability of unregistered religious marriages, as well as poverty, ignorance of the consequences of child marriage, and sometimes polygamy. Syrian girls under temporary protection are also at high risk of child marriage.<sup>40</sup>

20. In Turkey, as of January 2015, women held 14.4 per cent of parliamentary seats,<sup>41</sup> while women's participation in the labour force was 30.3 per cent in 2014, compared to 71.3 per cent for men.<sup>42</sup> Women constitute 72 per cent of unpaid family workers<sup>43</sup> but only 9.3 per cent of high-level executives.<sup>44</sup> Gender inequality remains high, depending partly on social background, due to traditional gender roles. The Tenth NDP<sup>45</sup> and the National Employment Strategy<sup>46</sup> seek to increase women's employment, including by improving the provision of day care, and to prevent widespread violence against women. The Tenth NDP<sup>47</sup> also recognizes the need to sustain improvements in women's health and education, and to increase their active participation in decision-making. A new national action plan for gender equality is being drafted.

21. There is a wealth of economic and social data regularly available in Turkey, and Government and non-governmental institutions frequently conduct studies and

<sup>33</sup> MoNE, FES 2014-2015.

<sup>34</sup> An IPA-I project "Promoting Gender Equality in Education" is being coordinated by MoNE Directorate General of Secondary Education.

<sup>35</sup> <http://stats.oecd.org>.

<sup>36</sup> Turkstat, CLS 2012.

<sup>37</sup> Turkstat, Youth in Statistics 2013.

<sup>38</sup> MFSP, National Research on Violence against Women in Turkey, 2009 and 2014.

<sup>39</sup> DHS 2013.

<sup>40</sup> AFAD: Syrian women in Turkey 2014, p. 27.

<sup>41</sup> Parliament website: [www.tbmm.gov.tr](http://www.tbmm.gov.tr).

<sup>42</sup> Turkstat, HLFS.

<sup>43</sup> Turkstat, HLFS.

<sup>44</sup> Turkstat, Women in Statistics 2013 (March 5, 2014 news bulletin).

<sup>45</sup> Especially Priority Transformation Programme 8.

<sup>46</sup> <http://www.uis.gov.tr/uis/EylemPlanlariEN>.

<sup>47</sup> Paragraph 247.

surveys. In order to measure progress towards child rights with equity,<sup>48</sup> additional information that is more frequent, comparable and disaggregated by gender, geography and disadvantaged groups, should be generated, including through better use of existing databases and surveys.

22. Turkey has a strong tradition of delivering on State responsibilities through extensive public service networks. The longstanding cooperation with UNICEF has focused on technical support for the improvement of national public sector services and systems as vehicles of change and for moving forward child rights with equity. According to the midterm review (MTR) of the 2011-2015 Turkey-UNICEF country programme of cooperation, results of this programme included public institutions that developed a wide range of policies, innovative service models for children, curricula, standards and monitoring systems, accompanied by an enhanced capacity for implementing these innovations. This was achieved with a relatively large investment in modelling and piloting. At the same time, strategies of evidence-based policy dialogue, communication for behavioural and attitudinal change, brokering cooperation among sectors and stakeholders, and partnering with civil society and other key actors have been employed increasingly. Regarding policy dialogue, UNICEF demonstrated added value as convener and mobilizer of the Government, Parliament, civil society, and the general public, around key child rights issues.

23. The MTR also found that capacity development worked best when innovations had explicit linkages to government systems, and were accompanied by strong commitment to integration and scaling up. However, lack of disaggregated data, rapid social transformation and system changes, such as the 2012 education reform, made measuring impact on the most disadvantaged children very challenging. Moreover, as the capacity of Turkey expands in service provision, persisting bottlenecks often relate to the more structural determinants of governance, social norms and need for professional development.<sup>49,50</sup>

24. The large influx of Syrians has brought new challenges for child rights realization. The protracted crisis required a programme shift in the assistance for Syrians under temporary protection to address the needs in host communities to a much larger extent while continuing the support in camp settings, and an approach encompassing both humanitarian and development responses.

25. UNICEF contributed to the efforts of line ministries as well as emergency authorities to provide services and build more resilient systems, communities and individuals, including through enhanced normative frameworks. As confirmed by a 2015 evaluation of the UNICEF contribution to the 2011 Van earthquakes, it is vital to support families and long-term engagement beyond the initial crisis period.

<sup>48</sup> 2011-2015 Turkey-UNICEF Country Programme Mid-Term Review report, p. 13.

<sup>49</sup> Including issues of coordination, monitoring, data, resource allocation, awareness and child participation. See Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, 2012, paragraphs 12-21, 24-25, 34-35.

<sup>50</sup> The draft UNICEF CEE/CIS MCE of child care system reform highlights the impact of piloting/modelling when sustainable, and calls for more work on prevention, cross-sectoral integration, CWD/disadvantaged children, and enabling environments. The MCE of inclusive quality learning notes that UNICEF is already “moving from projects and outputs to a system approach focusing on system changes for greater results and sustainability”.

## **Programme priorities and partnerships**

26. The 2016-2020 Turkey-UNICEF country partnership will build on lessons learned and good practices to expand ongoing areas of engagement in national system-strengthening, especially in education, child protection and humanitarian action. The partnership will have a sharper equity focus on the most disadvantaged children and adolescents, addressing fewer issues for greater impact, with the aim to accelerate visible results in selected strategic, cross-sectoral child rights issues. Efforts to support Syrian and Iraqi children and their families, together with vulnerable host-community children, will be scaled up and incorporated further into the country partnership, with a strong resilience component built in.

27. Results will be achieved by supporting national capacity, making available the best technical knowledge, promoting inter-sectoral cooperation and partnering with a wider range of stakeholders. Simultaneously, the partnership will enhance the use of UNICEF convening and mobilizing expertise to leverage more of the capacity existing in Turkey, including in civil society,<sup>51</sup> around a broader child rights agenda. This agenda will result in greater knowledge and national dialogue on, and engagement for, child rights.

28. The country partnership will also emphasize integration and cross-sectoral linkages and create entry points for evidence-generation, policy dialogue and advocacy. Existing partnerships, including with civil society, will be expanded. Stronger provincial-level engagement will be required for humanitarian response and other geographically concentrated issues.

29. Communication will support programme objectives through public advocacy and engagement, and promotion of social and attitudinal change, while fostering greater child rights awareness and a prominent place for child rights on the national agenda. Interested communities will be engaged for maximum reach and sustainability. Children, adolescents and young people will play effective roles in addressing challenges that affect them/their peers and participate in related discussions and decision-making processes.

30. Reflecting both the United Nations Development Cooperation Strategy (UNDCS) and the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, the country partnership will adopt a human rights-based approach and will not only mainstream gender but also include a specific component on gender equality and girls' empowerment.

31. The Turkey-UNICEF partnership will evolve further to include national, regional and global dimensions, with an initial focus on humanitarian action, inclusive quality education and child protection, thus strongly supporting the international dimension of the country partnership.

### **Equity, social inclusion and resilience-building**

32. This component will touch the lives of several million children in all parts of Turkey, particularly benefiting children from the most socioeconomically disadvantaged groups, including CWD, as well as children living in locations and provinces most affected by the Syrian influx, child labour and low school participation.

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<sup>51</sup> The role of civil society is also stressed in the Tenth NDP (e.g., paras. 132, 234-9, 1080).



33. The component will seek to achieve enhanced quality of education and early learning, as well as greater social inclusion. Through increasing access to quality child-friendly learning opportunities and child protection services, the partnership will strengthen the capacity and resilience of national systems, communities, families, professionals and children.

34. This component will also generate more opportunities for integration of adolescents who are, or are at a high risk of becoming, children in contact with the law, working children, children under state protection and out-of-school children; and it will also enhance humanitarian response and resilience benefitting children in emergency and post-emergency situations, including Syrian children under temporary protection.

35. These results require removing barriers related to the limited reach of public systems, increasing child-friendliness and enhancing national capacity. This will be achieved through better policy and standards, innovative and inclusive practices, better case management, more disaggregated administrative data systems in priority areas, such as probation, early learning and inclusive quality education. Through social mobilization and communication for social change, UNICEF will promote child-friendly social norms, such as good parental practices, and improve social attitudes towards child labour and inclusion of CWD in society.

36. The component will also support emergency and post-emergency situations with technical expertise and delivery of some essential services, in line with the UNICEF Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, the commitments of the Government of Turkey and the United Nations Regional Response Plans.

37. UNICEF will work in coordination with, and in support of, both emergency authorities and relevant line ministries. As a result, there will be a more resilient education system with greater capability to respond to emergencies, an increased access to quality child protection services, as well as better prevention of unnecessary family separation, with a particular focus on the needs of host communities.

#### **Quality data, knowledge and advocacy for child rights**

38. This component will contribute to filling data gaps, generating relevant knowledge on child rights issues, promoting well-informed public debate and evidence-based policy-making, as well as engaging the State and society in monitoring child rights, and supporting effective mechanisms for redress. This will contribute to more effective governance, thus enabling Turkey to accelerate the progressive realization of all rights for all children, especially the most disadvantaged.

39. Evidence-generation and policy dialogue will be the central strategies. UNICEF will engage line ministries, the Ministry of Development, the Turkish Statistical Institute, national and/or international academic institutions and think tanks in the production and dissemination of quality data and improved knowledge on child rights. This will include impact assessments of public sector reforms and innovative models in education, child care, and justice systems.

40. In addition, this component will undertake policy-oriented analysis of longstanding and emerging challenges, such as violence against children, child

poverty, disability, and the situation of Roma children. Regular reporting and analysis of available information by the Government and civil society will be promoted to generate an increased space for evidence-based dialogue among a wide range of political and social actors, following international best practices and standards.

41. Dialogue and collaboration will continue with Parliament, the Ombudsperson institution, judicial bodies, other government partners, professional associations and civil society, with the aim to increase child rights awareness among the public, to improve access to justice and to empower children, families and communities to report child rights shortfalls or violations and seek redress.

### **Gender equality among children and adolescents**

42. This component will address the barriers that cause exclusion of many girls, especially but not exclusively among the most disadvantaged communities, including Syrian girls under temporary protection, from public life and professional opportunities. Support will be provided to the Ministry of National Education for the monitoring of the school enrolment, attendance, performance and completion of girls and boys, especially in secondary education, including Syrian girls and boys under temporary protection. The barriers to their full participation will be explored and addressed, and initiatives will be developed to ensure that they acquire the knowledge and skills needed to be equally active members of society. Other line ministries and public institutions will also be supported to ensure that girls acquire life skills and benefit equally from opportunities for social participation and engagement. Simultaneously, the enabling environment for girls' participation will be improved by positively influencing social expectations of their roles through public advocacy and communications, including cooperation with civil society. Empowerment of girls will be promoted, and children and young people themselves will be engaged to claim gender equality.

43. This component will also tackle the factors that cause tens of thousands of child marriages annually. Child marriage will be reduced through community involvement and prevention efforts supporting boys and girls, as well as through dialogue on more effective national normative frameworks, and victims' support.

### **Expanded partnership for children**

44. This component will contribute to enhancing the existing Turkey-UNICEF partnership for children to include national, regional and global dimensions, with an initial focus on humanitarian action, inclusive quality education<sup>52</sup> and child protection. Advocacy and support will be provided for the strengthening of child rights principles and priorities in the international development and humanitarian policies and programmes of Turkey.

45. The country's experience, expertise and resources for children will be mapped, documented and leveraged for children in and outside Turkey through horizontal and triangular cooperation and multi-country initiatives. Exchange of knowledge and good practices for children across borders, particularly in the aforementioned focus areas, will be promoted. Innovative alliances for child rights, involving civil society, universities and other actors will be developed.

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<sup>52</sup> In line with the Call to Action launched by regional education ministers in Istanbul (2013).

## Cross sectoral

46. External communication and communication for social change will be important strategies. Partnerships and collaboration with Parliament, line ministries, local administrations and emergency authorities, United Nations agencies, international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and networks, the private sector, professional associations, academia and the media, will be essential. Capacity development will be supported for local actors. UNICEF will mobilize its rights-based, culturally sensitive approach and international experience, and play a convening role among partners and sectors of society.

## Summary budget table

(In thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Programme component</i>	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other resources*</i>	<i>Total</i>
Equity, social inclusion and resilience-building	1 050	25 000	26 050
Quality data, knowledge and advocacy for child rights	2 085	12 500	14 585
Gender equality among children and adolescents	250	10 000	10 250
Expanded partnership for children	350	1 000	1 350
Cross-sectoral	1 050	1 500	2 550
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 785</b>	<b>50 000</b>	<b>54 785</b>

\* In addition to the amounts shown, significant amounts of OR-Emergency (up to \$120 million) are expected to be raised in 2015-2016 under the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plans in response to the Syrian crisis.

## Programme management

47. This country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to national results for children, and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

48. The country partnership contributes directly to four UNDCS pillars: Sustainable, Inclusive Growth and Development; Democracy and Human Rights; Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment; and Migration and International Protection, and will be implemented within the UNDCS framework.

49. Coordination will be ensured through the Child Inter-sectoral Board chaired by the Ministry of Development. Transparency, visibility and participation, including child participation, will be prioritized. UNICEF will further explore and diversify funding sources, including leveraging of national resources.

50. All components will receive financial support aligned to the Syria Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) through emergency-related channels as well as from regular resources and other resources funding. The cross-sectoral component will contribute to the overall support to the other four outcomes, including communication.

51. External risks to programme implementation and results achievement arising from international tensions, economic difficulties, further emergencies, disasters or governance issues will be mitigated through close and regular dialogue among partners, increased knowledge partnerships and engagement with all sections of society. There will be close implementation of the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers, risk-informed planning and early warning systems, as well as strengthened emergency preparedness and response capacity.

## **Monitoring and evaluation**

52. The country partnership will be monitored through annual, and thematic reviews involving programme partners and the Child Inter-sectoral Board. Scheduled evaluations and other assessments will be agreed among partners and included in UNICEF Planning for Research, Impact Monitoring and Evaluation (PRIME) system.

53. Where available data is insufficient, baseline studies/surveys will be undertaken with key partners, including academic institutions, in order to measure progress towards results. All monitoring of progress towards child rights realization will focus on measuring the reduction of bottlenecks and barriers faced by the most disadvantaged children and families. UNICEF contribution to UNDCS outcomes will be monitored and evaluated through the mechanisms established by the Government of Turkey and the United Nations Country Team.

54. Good practices and lessons learned will be documented to support child rights realization in Turkey and other countries. Where appropriate, technical assistance will be provided to strengthen national monitoring and reporting systems, including real-time data, and their use.

## Annex

### Results and resources framework

#### Turkey-UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2016-2020

<p><b>Convention on the Rights of the Child:</b> articles 2, 4, 9, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 28, 29, 30, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42</p>
<p><b>National priorities:</b> Tenth National Development Plan pillar 2 (Qualified Individuals, Strong Society), esp. 2.1.1-Education, 2.1.7-Family and Women, 2.1.8-Children and Youth, 2.1.3-Justice; pillar 4 (International Cooperation for Development) National Child Rights Strategy, esp. goals 2-participation, 4-education, 6-protection services, 7-juvenile justice, 9-supervision, monitoring and evaluation</p>
<p><b>Sustainable Development Goals<sup>1</sup>:</b> Poverty elimination Health and well-being at all ages Inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning Gender equality and women's/girls' empowerment Inequality reduction within and among countries Peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice and effective, accountable, inclusive institutions Global partnership for sustainable development</p>
<p><b>UNDCS outcomes involving UNICEF:</b> <i>Pillar 1: Sustainable, Inclusive Growth and Development</i> 1.1-sustainable, equitable, job rich growth and development 1.2-equitable access to quality services for underserved populations <i>Pillar 2: Democracy &amp; Human Rights</i> 2.1-protection and promotion of human rights, and participatory governance <i>Pillar 3: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i> 3.1-social, economic and political participation of women and girls 3.2-promotion of gender equality and reduction of sexual and gender-based violence <i>Pillar 4: Migration and International Migration</i> 4.1-sustainable services to people under international protection</p> <p><b>UNDCS outcome indicators measuring change that includes UNICEF contribution</b> –Percentage of five-year-olds enrolled in early learning programmes –Divergence in PISA scores between lowest and highest performers –Child labour rates –Adoption of comprehensive judicial reform strategy addressing needs of women, children and youth –Number of victims of crime identified by security institutions –Percentage of women aged 20-24 married or in union by age 18 –Percentage of refugee children benefiting from education</p>

<sup>1</sup> Most relevant goals from <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html> — accessed March 5th, 2015.

<b>UNICEF Strategic Plan outcomes and priorities:</b>							
–SP5-Improved learning outcomes, equitable inclusive education –SP6-Improved/equitable prevention of and response to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of children –SP7-Improved policy environment and systems for disadvantaged/excluded children, guided by improved knowledge/data –Humanitarian Action –Gender Equality							
UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines and targets <sup>2</sup>	Means of verification	<i>Indicative</i> country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	<i>Indicative</i> resources (Thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
<b>1. Equity increased through social inclusion and resilience-building</b>	<p><b>Indicator 1.1:</b> Net enrolment ratio in early learning programmes (age 5)  <b>Baseline:</b> 53.78% nationwide; gender gap-3.06 percentage points, provincial gap<sup>3</sup>-48.25 percentage points (2014-2015 school year).  <b>Target:</b> 70% nationwide; gender gap-1, provincial gap-30 percentage points</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.2:</b> Percentage of children enrolled in grades 9-12 absent for 10 or more days during first semester of school year  <b>Baseline:</b> 32.70% (2012/2013 school year)  <b>Target:</b> 20%</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.3:</b> PISA scores in problem-solving and mathematics: share of low/top achievers; gender difference in scores (boys-girls)  <b>Baseline:</b>            (a) Problem-solving (2012): Low achievers-35.8%; Top achievers-2.2%; Gender difference-15</p>	<p>1.1 National Education Statistics, Ministry of National Education (MoNE)</p> <p>1.2 Secondary Education M&amp;E Report, MoNE</p> <p>1.3 PISA Results, OECD</p> <p>1.4 Child Labour Survey 2012, Turkish Statistics (TurkStat)</p> <p>1.5 Ministry of Justice (MoJ)</p>	<p><b>Policies and practices are strengthened to ensure equitable access to quality early learning</b></p> <p><b>Policies and practices are strengthened to ensure quality and inclusive secondary education</b></p> <p><b>Policies and practices are strengthened to ensure child protection measures are further strengthened and aligned with international standards</b></p> <p><b>Policies and practices are strengthened to reduce child labour</b></p>	Ministry of Development (MoD); Ministry of National Education (MoNE); Ministry of Family and Social Policies (MFSP); Ministry of Justice (MoJ); Ministry of Labour and Social Security; Ministry of Youth and Sports; Ministry of Interior; Disaster and Emergency Presidency (AFAD); Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM); municipalities  Justice Academy; High Council of Justice and Prosecutors; Union of Turkey Bar Associations	1 050	25 000	26 050

<sup>2</sup> All targets are to be achieved by 2020.

<sup>3</sup> Difference between the best- and worst-off provinces.

	<p>(b) Mathematics (2012): Low achievers-42%; Top achievers-5.9%; Gender difference-8 <b>Target:</b> a) Problem solving: Low achievers-30%; Top achievers-7%; Gender difference-10 (b) Mathematics: Low achievers-37%; Top achievers-11%; Gender difference-3</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.4:</b> Percentage of children engaged in economic activity <b>Baseline:</b> 5.9% (age 6-17); 2.6% (age 6-14); 15.6% (age 15-17) <b>Target:</b> 4% (age 6-17); 1.5% (age 6-14); 10% (age 15-17)</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.5:</b> Percentage of child offenders who receive suspended sentences (including probation measures) as alternatives to imprisonment <b>Baseline:</b> 22% (40,000/180,000) <b>Target:</b> 50%</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.6:</b> Percentage of children under State support living in a family environment (including socioeconomic support as prevention of family separation) <b>Baseline</b> (Dec. 2014): 83% (65,094/78,665) <b>Target:</b> 90%.</p> <p><b>Indicator* 1.7:</b> Percentage of Syrian children in Turkey accessing approved and monitored education services</p>	<p>1.6 Ministry of Family and Social Policy (MoFSP) reports</p> <p>1.7 YOBIS, MONE and AFAD reports</p> <p>1.8 MoFSP and AFAD reports</p>	<p><b>Policies and practices are strengthened to further align justice for children with international standards</b></p> <p><b>The education system has enhanced resilience for responding to the implications of the Syrian crisis and other emergencies*</b></p>	<p>Turkish Red Crescent Society; international and national civil society organizations (CSOs)/networks; universities/research institutions; the media; other stakeholders; young people and children; private sector.</p> <p>United Nations Country Team (UNCT); United Nations agencies in Turkey; UNICEF CEE/CIS and MENA Regional Offices</p>			
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	<p><b>Baseline:</b> 35% overall, 25% in host communities, 92% in camps, x% girls, x% boys (tbd based on new MoNE database (YOBIS) by end-2015  <b>Target:</b> tbd Dec 2015</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.8:</b> Number of Syrian children (and adolescents) in Turkey with access to psycho-social support services  <b>Baseline:</b> 103,500 (Jan 2015)  <b>Target:</b> 150,000</p>						
<b>2. Quality data, knowledge and advocacy for child rights strengthened</b>	<p><b>Indicator 2.1:</b> Number of child-rights-specific policy documents informed by evidence that are generated in line with international standards  <b>Baseline:</b> not applicable  <b>Target:</b> minimum two per year</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.2:</b> Percentage of child rights complaints to the Ombudsperson institution acted upon (annually)  <b>Baseline:</b> tbd by Dec 2015  <b>Target:</b> tbd by Dec 2015</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.3:</b> Number of national CSOs that publish child rights-specific reports annually  <b>Baseline:</b> tbd by Dec 2015  <b>Target:</b> tbd by Dec 2015</p>	<p>2.1, 2.3 joint Ministry of Development (MOD) and UNICEF monitoring</p> <p>2.2 reports of Ombudsperson institution</p>	<p><b>Availability and use of knowledge is increased for upholding child rights</b></p> <p><b>Diversified partnerships are increased for enhanced monitoring/reporting on child rights</b></p>	<p>MoD; line ministries; Turkish Statistical Institute</p> <p>National rights-based CSOs/networks and professional organizations; UNICEF National Committee; universities/research institutions; the media; other stakeholders; young people and children, private sector</p> <p>Parliament; Ombudsman institution; political parties</p> <p>UNCT; Regional Office</p>	2 085	12 500	14 585



<p><b>3. Gender equality among children enhanced and sustained into adolescence</b></p>	<p><b>Indicator 3.1:</b> Percentage of women aged 15-19 and 20-24 not in employment, education or training  <b>Baseline:</b> 28% (age 15-19), 49% (20-24) (2013)  <b>Target:</b> 24% (15-19), 45% (20-24)</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.2:</b> Number of provinces with net enrolment rate in grades 9-12 at least 3 percentage points lower for girls than boys  <b>Baseline:</b> 15 (2014/2015 school year)  <b>Target:</b> 12</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.3:</b> Percentage of women aged 20-24 reporting having been married or in union by age 18  <b>Baseline:</b> 14.7% (2013)  <b>Target:</b> 10%</p>	<p>3.1 OECD database</p> <p>3.2 National Education Statistics, MoNE</p> <p>3.3 Demographic and Health Survey</p>	<p><b>Policies and practices are enhanced to increase girls' empowerment through secondary education, social participation and life skills</b></p> <p><b>Girls and boys and other stakeholders are engaged to reduce child marriage.</b></p>	<p>MoD; MoNE; MFSP; other line ministries; Ministry of Interior; Department of Religious Affairs; municipalities</p> <p>National rights-based CSOs/networks and professional organizations; universities/research institutions; the media; other stakeholders; young people and children; private sector</p> <p>Parliament; political parties</p> <p>UNCT</p>	250	10 000	10 250
<p><b>4. Turkey-UNICEF expanded partnership for children</b></p>	<p><b>Indicator 4.1:</b> Number of international cooperation initiatives benefitting from knowledge generated in Turkey and validated based on international standards  <b>Baseline:</b> not applicable  <b>Target:</b> minimum two per year</p> <p><b>Indicator 4.2:</b> Proportion of Turkey's total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation)  <b>Baseline:</b> tbd based on upcoming MDG report  <b>Target:</b> tbd</p>	<p>4.1, 4.2 joint MOD and UNICEF monitoring</p>	<p><b>More knowledge is generated and disseminated across borders for inclusive quality education, child protection and child-focused humanitarian action.</b></p> <p><b>Turkey contributes to more triangular cooperation and thematic initiatives for inclusive quality education, child protection and child-focused humanitarian action across borders.</b></p>	<p>MoD; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; MoNE; MFSP; other line ministries; AFAD; DGMM</p> <p>Turkish Red Crescent Society; international and national CSOs/networks; universities/research institutions; private sector</p> <p>UNCT; UNICEF headquarters; Regional Office</p>	350	1 000	1 350

<b>5. Cross-sectoral</b>	Effective development, planning, coordination, delivery and monitoring of country programmes results	Periodic reviews and evaluations of programme components	<b>Guidance, tools and resources to effectively design and manage programmes are available to UNICEF and partners.</b>  <b>Strategies to address cross-cutting issues related to child rights implemented.</b>		1 050	1 000	2 550
<b>Total resources</b>					<b>4 785</b>	<b>50 000</b>	<b>54 785</b>

\* To be supported with OR-Emergency funding.