Nurturing Care for Early Childhood Development: a framework for Action and Results

Engagement and Consultations
August 2017 - May 2018

"If we change the beginning of the story, we change the whole story"
Raffi Cavoukian, The Beginning of Life
A unique convergence of evidence and political momentum

2000

2005

2015

ECD Lancet series 2007
ECD Lancet series 2011

Nurturing care for early childhood development: A global framework for action and results
**High-level Steering Group**

*Every Woman Every Child: priority areas*

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<th>Sexual and reproductive health and rights</th>
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Member States taking notice

- 70th World Health Assembly, May 2017
  Global Strategy Progress Report:
  - Spotlight on Adolescent Health

- 71st World Health Assembly, May 2018
  Global Strategy Progress Report:
  - Spotlight on Early Childhood Development
A global framework for nurturing care

- Builds on state-of-the-art evidence
- Focuses on the first 1000 days
- Promotes well-known interventions
- Speaks to all relevant sectors
- Is supported by practical tools and resources
Timelines and process

WHO technical meeting on nurturing care

Informal consultation at UNGA

Formation of coordination and advisory groups, advocacy and engagement group

Stakeholder led consultation and support for country engagement in all regions

First draft document

Open (on-line) consultation

Final document and advocacy materials

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The ambition around the framework

1. Increase political interest, action and investment

2. Engage all relevant sectors in joint actions and strengthen the national response to the SDG Agenda 2030

3. Secure the multiple benefits of optimal early childhood development for life-long health, productivity, and social cohesion

4. Provide a (short) set of effective feasible policy and programme actions to accelerate implementation - relevant and useable!

5. Strengthen the investment case, including through monitoring, research, capacity building, advocacy and innovation

6. Mobilize a global social movement to support all countries reach the vision and goal of the framework
Proposed outline structure

1. Global Situation
   - Costs of Inaction
   - Benefits of Action
   - Opportunities for Action

2. Guiding Principles
   - Vision and Goal

3. Strategic Objectives
   - Key Actions
   - Roles of Key Stakeholders

4. Links to resources & tools to guide implementation relevant to all sectors

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Guiding Principles

- Start early, adopt a life course perspective, make strong linkages with preconception care
- Support family-centred care and infuse parenting interventions into services
- Prioritize the needs of vulnerable families and communities where children are at most at risk
- Give attention to the needs of children with developmental difficulties and disabilities
- Promote a progressive population-based approach towards achieving of equity and fulfilment of human rights
The ecological framework to inform the actions

- National policies
  - ECD responsive health, nutrition, education, social and child protection services
  - Capacity to provide nurturing care
  - Nurturing care by parents and other caregivers
Possible Strategic Objectives
aligned with the *Early Moments Matter* Call to Action

• Invest in services that can give young children, especially the most deprived, the best start in life

• Adopt family-friendly early childhood development policies

• Collect data on essential ECD indicators and track progress

• Provide leadership and coordinate effectively across sectors

• Drive demand for high quality ECD services
Prioritizing the framework’s actions

- Define what various sectors can do to support nurturing care in the first 1000 days
- Build on existing services and promote a dual approach of care for the caregiver and care for the child
- Propose system solutions related to work force, capacity development, service provision, demand generation, monitoring, finance and accountability
Roles and responsibilities

- **Government leaders**: make ECD a priority, strengthen multisectoral governance, invest in evidence-based interventions, and promote accountability

- **Health professionals**: ensure quality services, support responsive caregiving, pay attention to the needs of the caregiver and the child

- **Civil society**: create awareness, generate demand, stand up for children’s rights

- **UN and implementation partners**: synthetize evidence, develop norms and tools, support capacity development, propose the indicators and track results

- **Academic experts**: generate more evidence, strengthen the investment case

- **Private sector and funding partners**: invest in research and innovation, support implementation
Questions to guide the discussion

• Is the scope of the framework clear and appropriate?

• What about the strategic objectives?

• Should the framework have short- and medium-term milestones? What are key elements of a monitoring framework?

• How can the framework be engaging and relevant to all actors?

• What will a user-friendly format and structure look like?
Be part of the action

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