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Nurturing Care Framework



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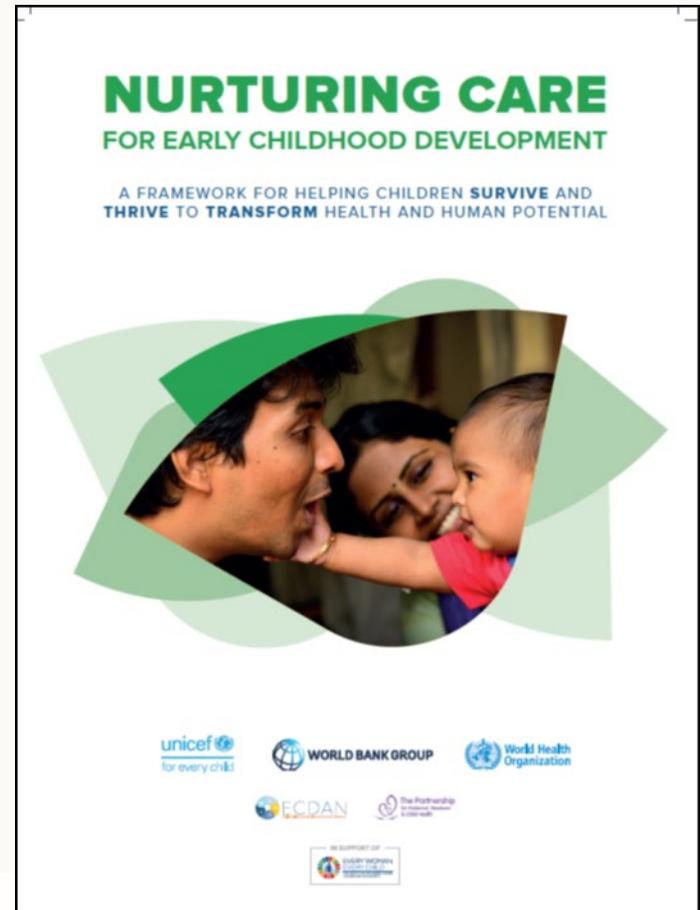
Overview

1. Definition of Nurturing Care Framework (NCF)
2. Components of the NCF
3. Intersection with health and nutrition programs
4. Global actions
5. USAID's support
6. Useful references

The Nurturing Care Framework

A road map that outlines:

- Why efforts must begin in the earliest years, from pregnancy to age 3
- How nurturing care protects children from the worst effects of adversity
- What caregivers need in order to provide nurturing care



Nurturing Care

- Nurturing care: conditions created by public policies, programs, and services
- These conditions **enable communities and caregivers to ensure children's good health and nutrition, protect them from threats, and give them opportunities for early learning through interactions that are emotionally supportive and responsive**





Early childhood development is explicitly mentioned as part of SDG Target 4.2, and contributes to the achievement of several other goals.

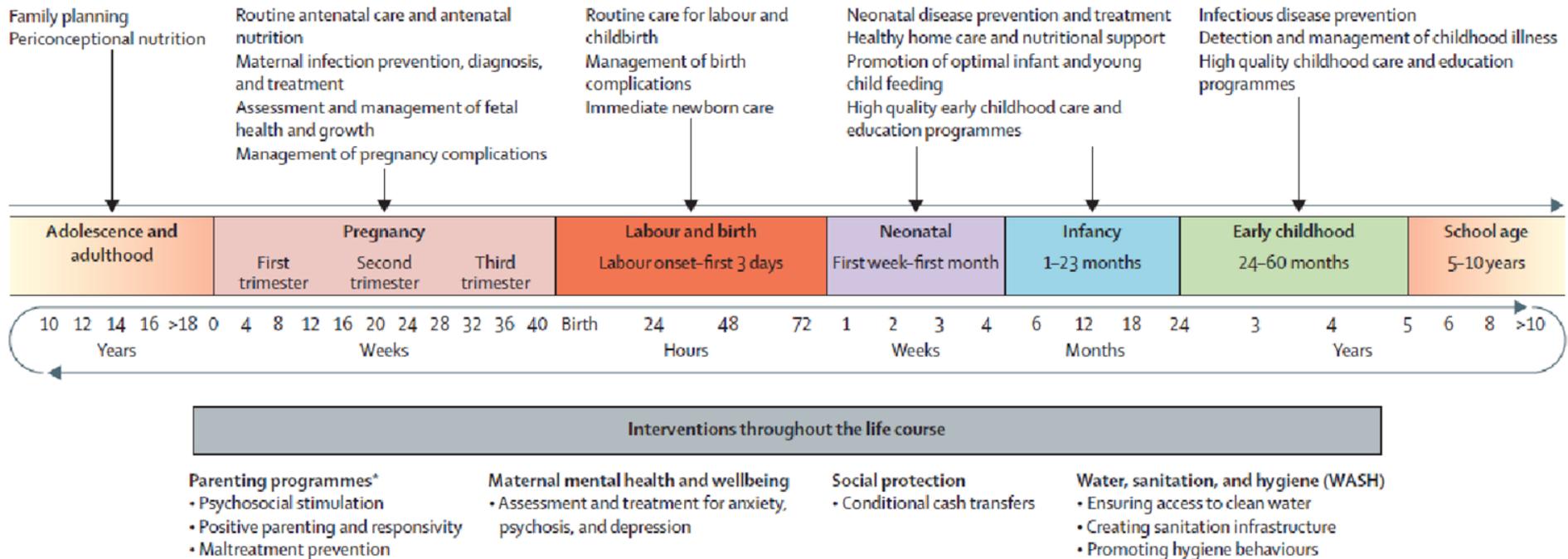
4.2.1: Proportion of children under age 5 years who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being

Background: Global Momentum

ECD in Low and Middle Income Countries

- 43% of children under five years of age in LMICs (250 million children) are at risk of sub-optimal development
- Sub-Saharan Africa has more countries with high prevalence of children at risk
- Poverty, stunting, low maternal schooling, and physical abuse are determinants of sub-optimal development
- Sub-optimal development is associated with poor health, inadequate learning, lower education, smaller adult earnings, and social tensions later in life

Interventions through the Life Course

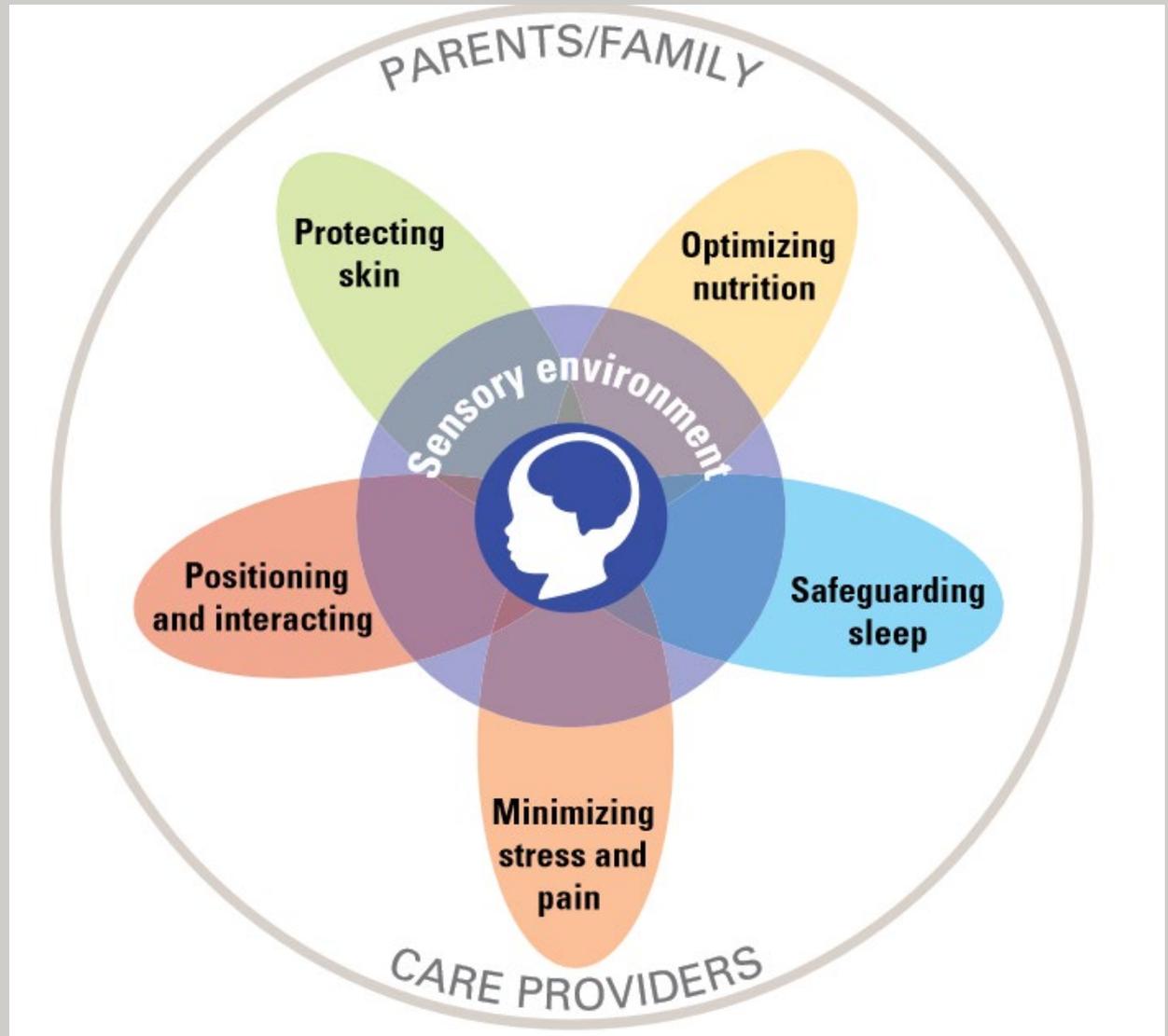


Opportunities for Nurturing Care in Health Sector

- Interventions during pregnancy, in antenatal care, ensuring pregnant woman feels the movements, sings, soothe the fetus
- Around birth: From birth, the baby can recognize the mother's voice
- Postnatal follow up: Early bonding is facilitated by skin-to-skin contact, BF and the presence of a companion to support the mother
 - Soon after birth, babies respond to faces, gentle touch and holding, as well as the soothing sound of baby talk
- During well-baby consultations or sick child visits: Caregivers soon learn to appreciate how babies respond to them, which is essential for the optimal development of the baby's rapidly growing brain
 - These parenting practices also build the foundation for optimal nutrition, quality interactions, and care.

Developmentally Supportive Care for Small and Sick Newborns

Small (preterm and low birth weight) and sick newborns need nurturing care because they are most vulnerable and likely to suffer from disability and developmental delay.



Global Actors Work: Metrics

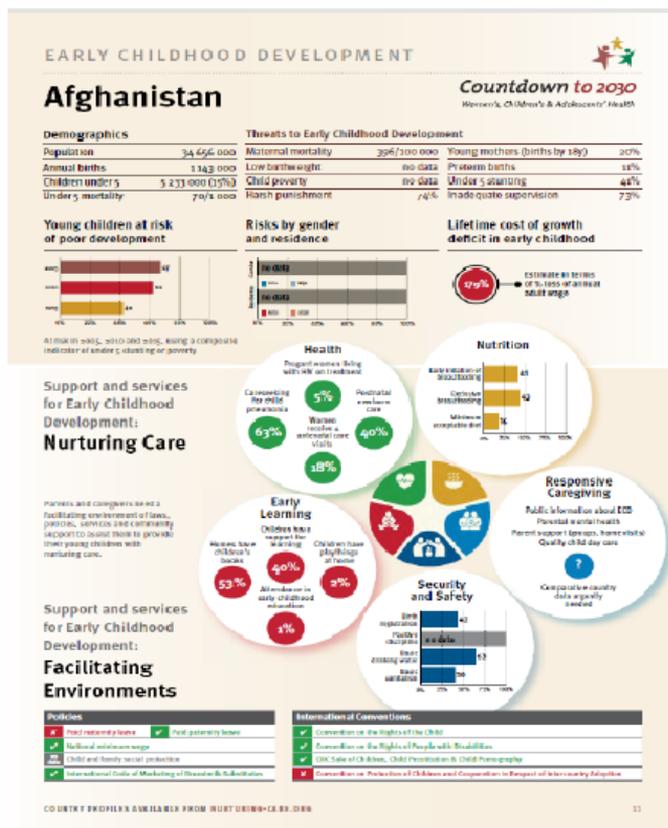


Efforts for Global monitoring:
Tool development

UNICEF - Revisions to
Early Childhood
Development Index
(ECDI)

WHO- Global Scales
of Early
Development (GSED)

Inter-Agency:
Measuring Early
Learning and Quality
Outcomes (MELQO)



Countdown profiles

- Example of efforts to coordinate use of all available data to create a 'picture' of ECD
- Indicators selected relate to the 5 components of Nurturing Care
- Updated country profiles being developed for 2019

Data Reporting

91 Country profiles

THRIVE
NURTURING CARE
FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Country profiles
for early childhood development

Countdown to 2030
Women's, Children's & Adolescents' Health

DST-NRF Centre of Excellence
in Human Development

Individual and Society
University of the Witwatersrand,
South Africa

www.ecdan.org and www.nurturing-care.org

Regional Efforts in Africa



AfECN has been promoting Nurturing Care in child rights policy and practice in Africa

This has been achieved through partnerships with



The Civil Society Forum on the African Charter on the Rights & Welfare of the Child



The African Committee of Experts on the Rights & Welfare of the Child



The Child Rights Network of Southern Africa



The African Child Policy Forum



The Organization of African First Ladies for Development



Southern Africa Federation of the Disabled

Other regional networks

- Arab Network for Early Childhood Development (ANECD) and Arab Resource Collective (ARC)
- Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood Development (ARNEC) a professional regional network for ECD
- PAHO's work:
 - PAHO annual congress of presidents of Health Commission in Parliaments
 - OAS-supported network of parliamentarians working on childhood development and education
 - National meetings with health, education, social protection, academia, professional associations and national commissions to end poverty
 - Forefront countries for NCF where policies and strategies are advanced: Peru, Ecuador, Nicaragua, DR, Honduras, Panama and Brazil for NCF

USAID's Support

- Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity (APCCA) new strategy provides great opportunities for synergies
- Education Office's new strategy including younger children
- GH/MCHN Office providing some limited support to UNICEF and WHO for tool development and implementation guidance on the Nurturing Care Framework for health delivery platforms
- GH/MCHN commissioned development of nurturing care for small and sick newborns and landscape of countries' experiences
- Internal ECD Working Group
- OHA ECD tool assessment

APCCA Strategic Objectives

OBJECTIVE 1
BUILD STRONG
BEGINNINGS



**Build Strong
Beginnings**

OBJECTIVE 2
PUT FAMILY
FIRST

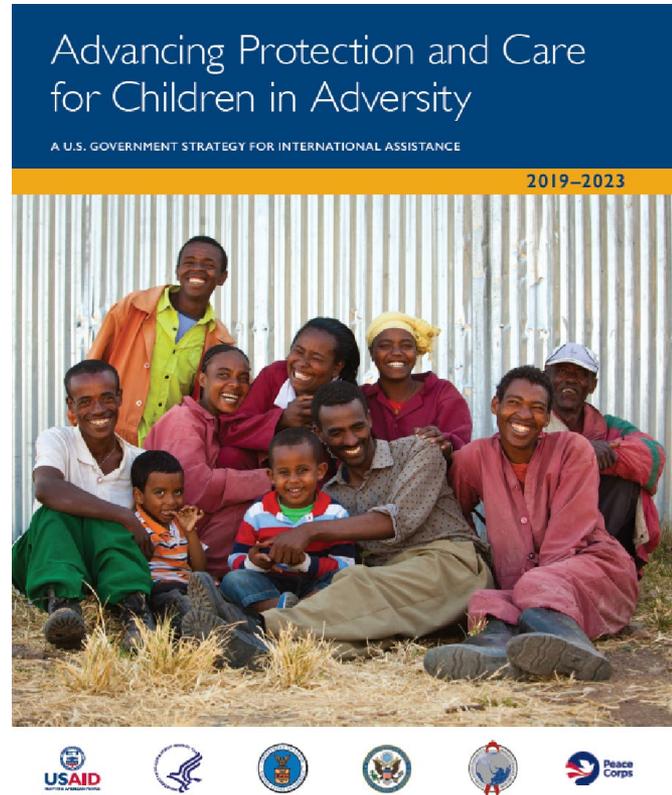


**Put Family
First**

OBJECTIVE 3
PROTECT CHILDREN
FROM VIOLENCE



**Protect
Children
from
Violence**



Some take away messages

- Progress is being made and there is already a wealth of knowledge and resources
- Common elements and needs are emerging
- There is increasing country demand and readiness to invest
- More emphasis on effectiveness and implementation research
- There is need to contextualize, specially for humanitarian contexts
- It's important to capitalize in every opportunity- PHC, UHC, Human Capital Project, Country Investment Cases, others.
- Develop clear guidance on what and how to measure progress

Resources

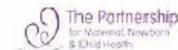
- 2016 ECD Lancet Series
- Nurturing Care Framework
- Care for Child Development (UNICEF)
- World Bank ECD measurement toolkit
- ECD country profiles
- ECD and nutrition programming (FANTA)



NURTURING CARE

FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

www.nurturing-care.org



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