Nurturing care for early childhood development: a framework for helping children **survive** and **thrive** to **transform** health and human potential
The unique convergence of evidence and political momentum
Key messages from the ECD Lancet series 2016

• The early years, starting from conception, are a period of special sensitivity for child development

• The most formative experience of young children come from NURTURING CARE

• Early investment has lifelong and intergenerational benefits

• Policies, information and services are important

• Multisectoral collaboration is essential and the health sector has a special role to play
The Nurturing Care Framework

• A road map for action
• Building on state-of-the-art evidence
• Outlining:
  • 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
What is Nurturing Care?
What are the benefits of nurturing care
What is needed to support nurturing care
Risks to brain development

- Individual level (e.g. preterm birth, stunting, disability)
- Family level (e.g. poverty, poor caregiving, few learning opportunities)
- Community level (e.g. unclean and unsafe environments, crime)
- Systems level (e.g. poor health care, low quality child care)
- Societal level (e.g. conflicts)
Multi-sectoral interventions have an impact on brain development

Source: Britto, Lye, Proulx, Yousafzai, Matthews, Vaivada, et. al. (2017)
Effective interventions

Parental mental health

Responsive care and Opportunities for early learning

UNICEF/WHO Care for Child Development (CCD)
Policies, information, and services tailored to needs

MEETING FAMILIES’ AND CHILDREN’S NEEDS

- Families of children with additional needs
- Families and children at risk
- All caregivers and children

Specialised services
- Additional contacts and benefits

Indicated support
- Targeted support

Universal support
- National policies, information and basic support

POPULATION COVERAGE

INTENSITY OF INTERVENTION
The framework’s guiding principles

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **THE CHILD’S RIGHT TO SURVIVE AND THRIVE**
- **LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND**
- **FAMILY-CENTRED CARE**
- **A WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY APPROACH**
- **WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT ACTION**
Five strategic actions

1. Lead and invest
2. Focus on families
3. Strengthen services
4. Monitor progress
5. Se data and innovate
Sectors and stakeholders working together

EVERY SECTOR AND ALL STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTING TO ACTION

- Multilateral organizations
- Bilateral organizations
- Media
- Governments
- Civil society
- Business community
- Philanthropic organizations
- Academic and research institutions
- Agriculture
- Nutrition
- Labour
- Environmental health
- Health
- Finance
- Child protection
- Education
- Social protection

PEOPLE/GROUPS
Nurturing care for sustainable development

NURTURING CARE AT THE CENTRE OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY AND THE SDGs

GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR WOMEN’S, CHILDREN’S AND ADOLESCENTS’ HEALTH

SURVIVE

THRIVE

TRANSFORM
# Milestones for the next five years

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATIONAL MILESTONES</th>
<th>GLOBAL MILESTONES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All countries have developed a national coordination mechanism and a plan to address nurturing care in a holistic way.</td>
<td>Global stakeholders have established functional mechanisms for multi-sectoral coordination and harmonized action in support of nurturing care.</td>
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<td>All countries are addressing nurturing care in national communication strategies and through community structures and local leaders.</td>
<td>Global stakeholders have launched a global advocacy campaign for nurturing care and promote effective approaches for engaging communities and giving them agency.</td>
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<td>All countries are strengthening their workforce’s capacity to support responsive caregiving and early learning – among all families and children, including those with additional needs.</td>
<td>Global stakeholders have developed and updated guidelines, service packages and implementation guidance for nurturing care, and promote their use.</td>
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<td>All countries are collecting data about the quality and coverage of interventions for all five components of nurturing care.</td>
<td>Harmonized global indicators and measurement framework for nurturing care are available and used to assess implementation and impact.</td>
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<td>All countries are investing in local research to strengthen implementation of nurturing-care interventions.</td>
<td>Global stakeholders have identified research priorities for nurturing care and invest in studies to address them.</td>
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NURTURING CARE
FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT