



Save the Children®

WINDOWS INTO EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

1 March 2017



OVERVIEW

- Introduction
- The most vulnerable children are not in preschool
- Quality interactions boost early development
- The equalizing potential of ECD
- Four lessons from IDELA: Evidence to action
- Call to action
- Next steps

“We have hard evidence that ECD matters – it can change a single child’s life and lift up whole economies.”

HELLE THORNING-SCHMIT
CEO Save the Children
International

Introduction

In search of scalable solutions for every last child

Many children across the world face adversity, but those who begin their lives without appropriate care and early stimulation are at the highest risk of not reaching their full potential.

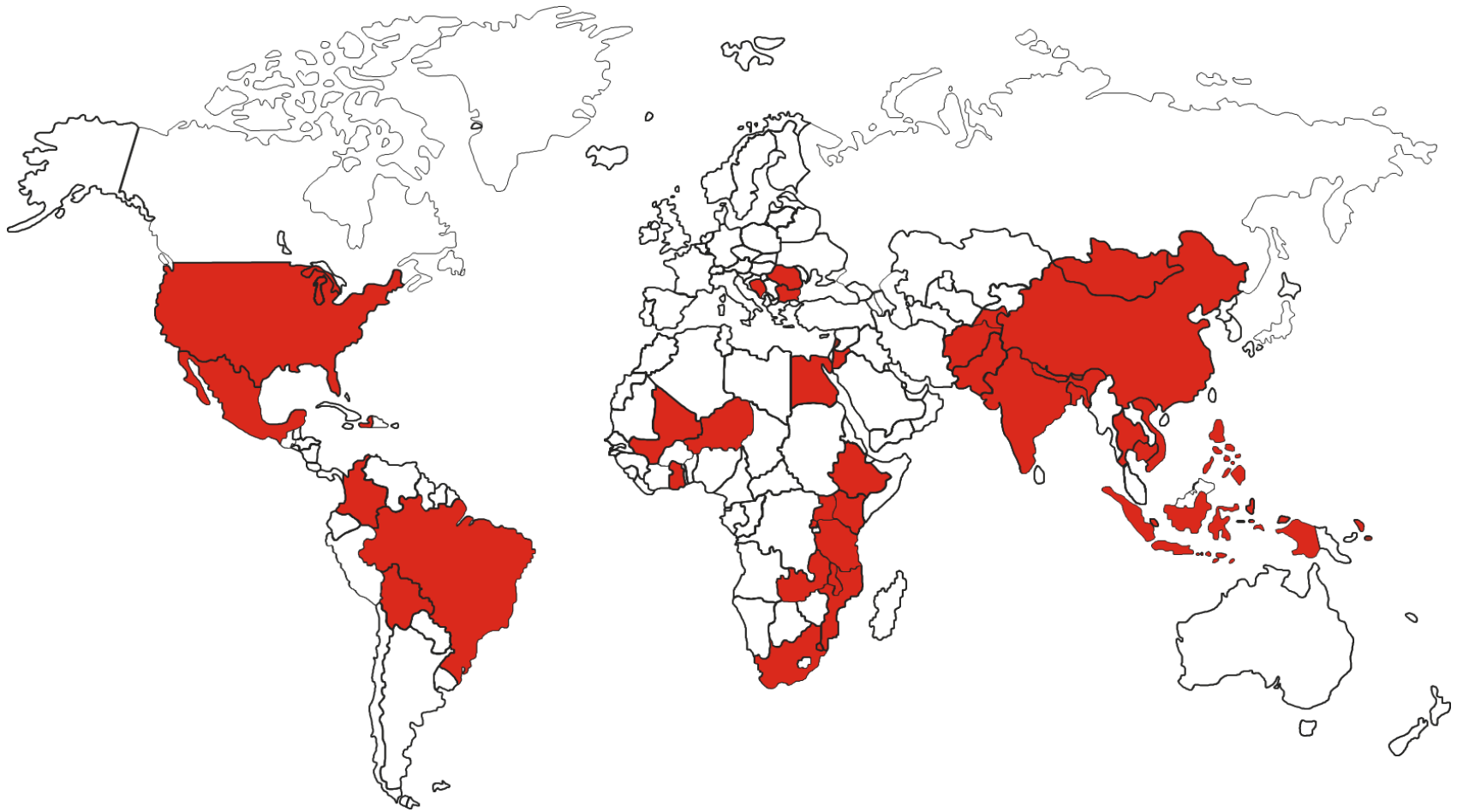
How do we meet the challenge of delivering effective programs in low-resource settings?

This report presents evidence related to

- **Access:** Who is enrolled in ECD programs?
- **Quality:** What they are learning?
- **Equity:** Who is at the highest risk of being left behind?



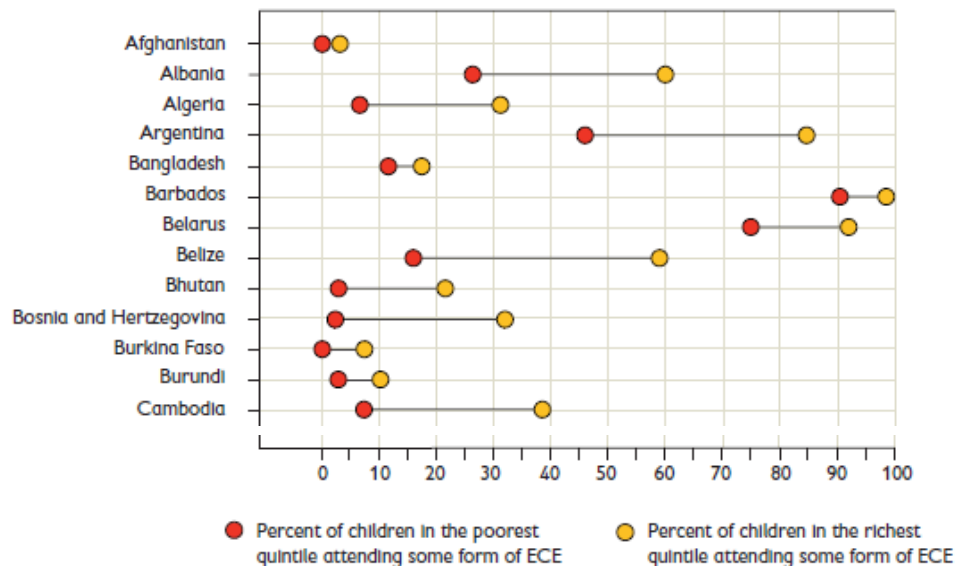
International Development and Early Learning Assessment (IDELA)



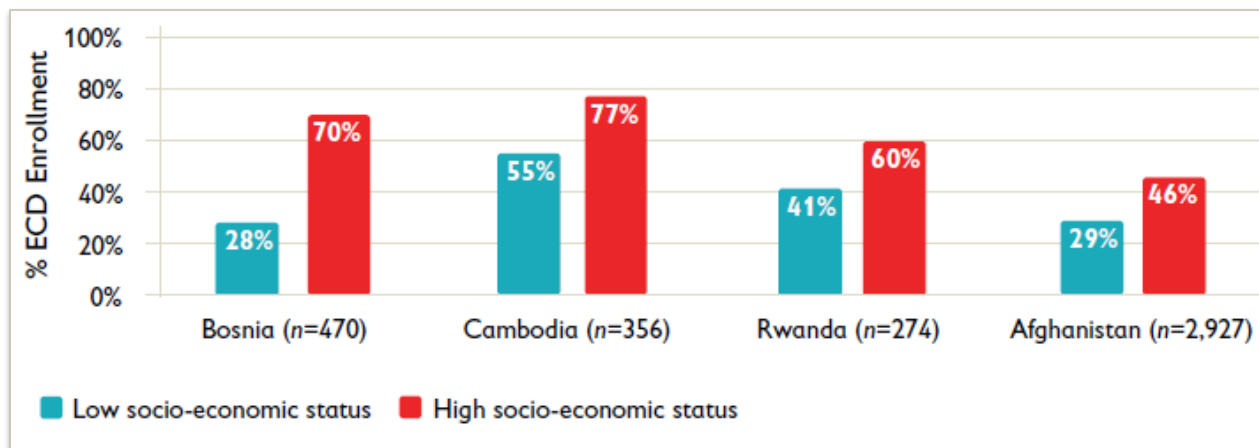
The most vulnerable children are not in preschool

Children in wealthier households are more likely to attend early learning programs

Global indicators and data from SC sites show that the poorest children are also the most likely to be excluded from ECD programs.



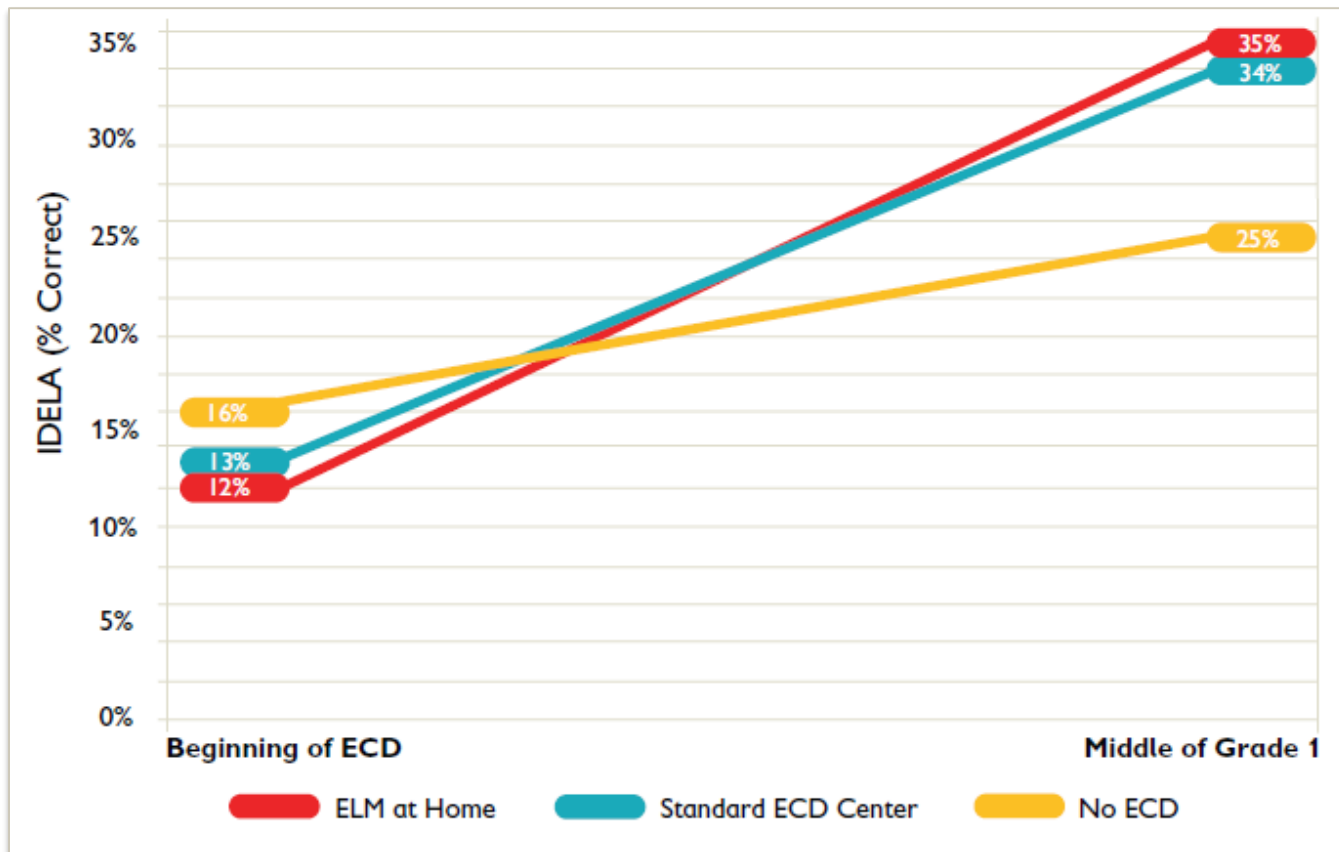
Source: UNICEF global databases, 2014.



The most vulnerable children are not in preschool

SC supports children without access to school-based ECD through alternative models

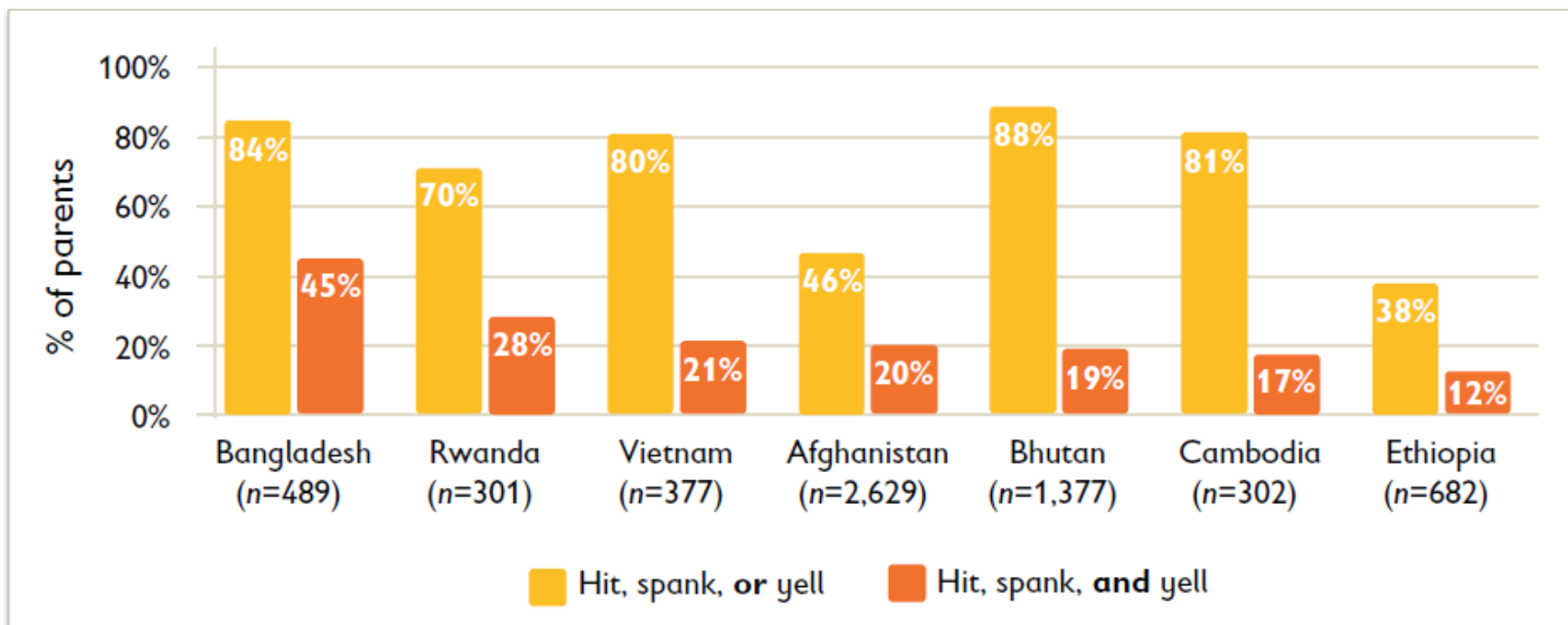
Children receiving home-based support in Rwanda gained and maintained as much learning as those in ECD centers into Grade 1



Quality interactions boost early development

At home

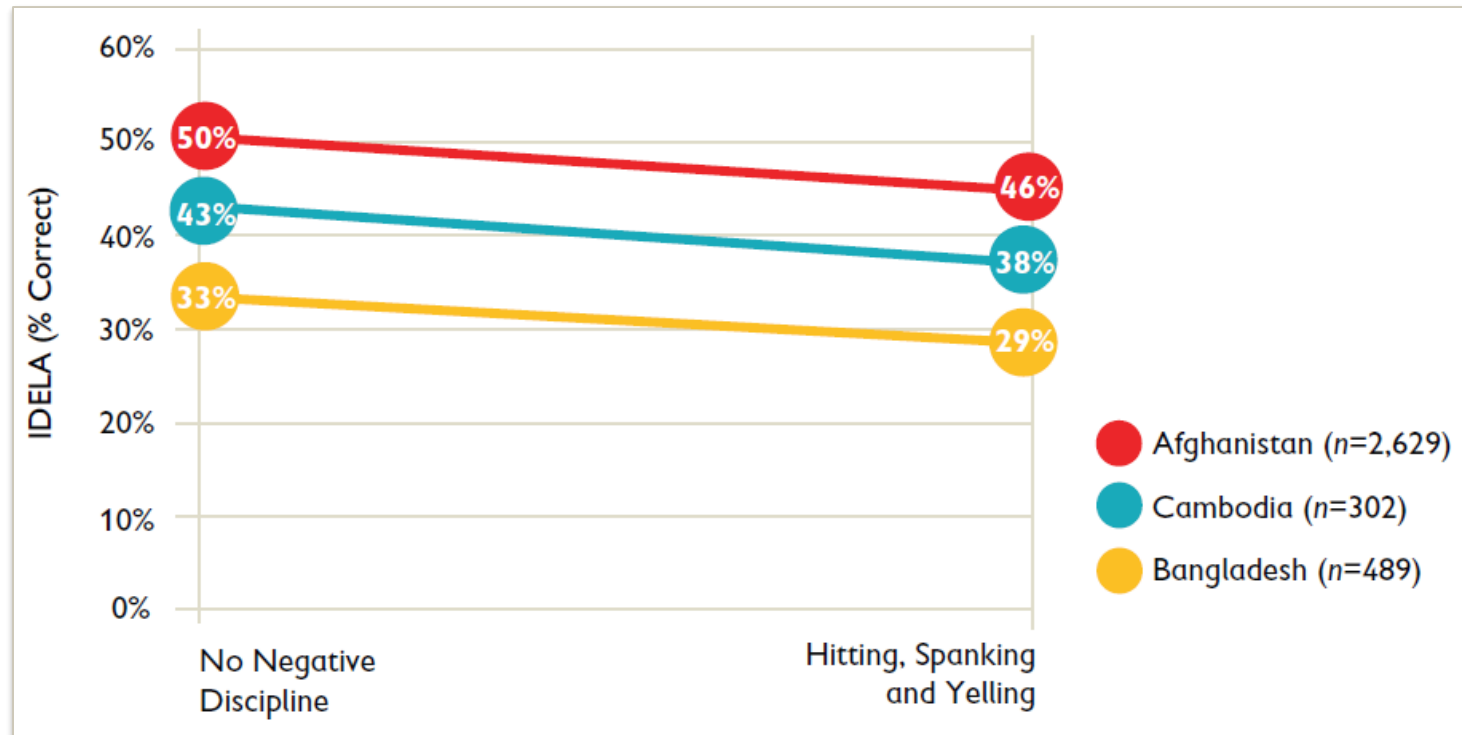
Harsh discipline is prevalent and harms children's learning and development.



Quality interactions boost early development

At home

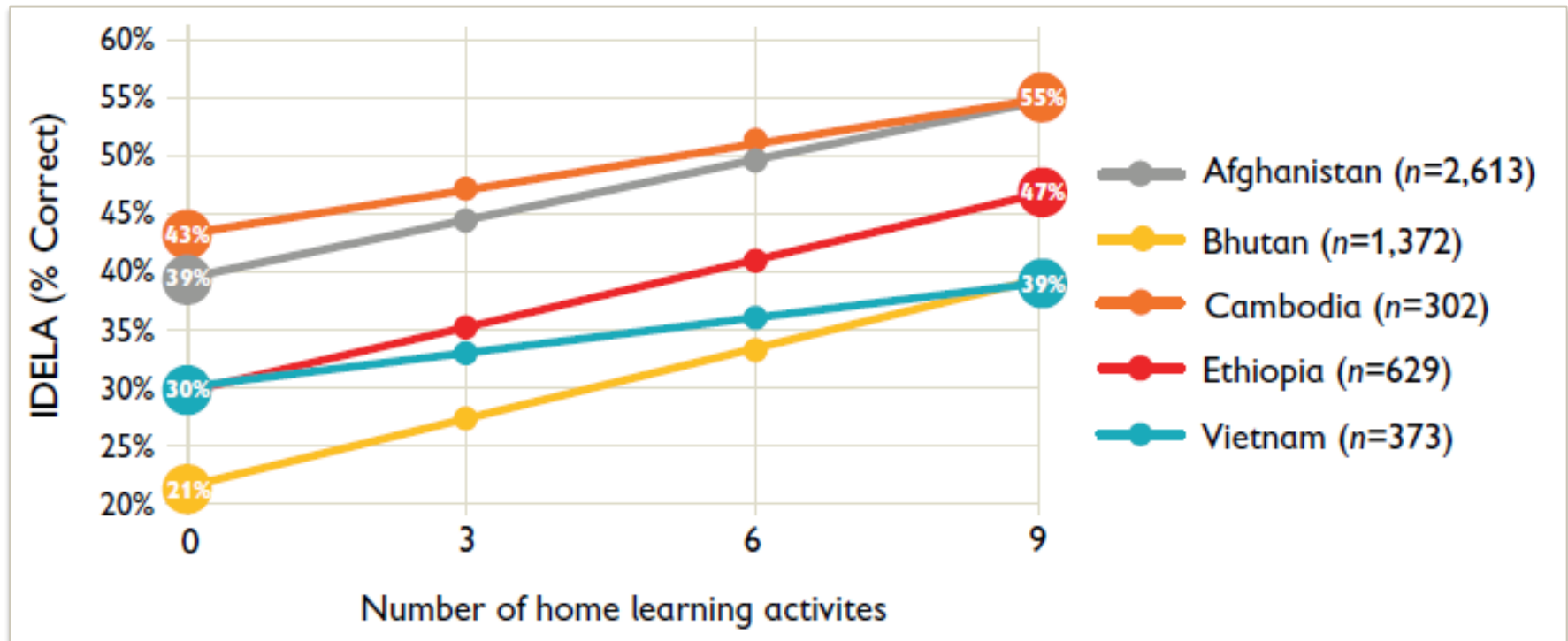
Harsh discipline is prevalent and harms children's learning and development.



Quality interactions boost early development

At home

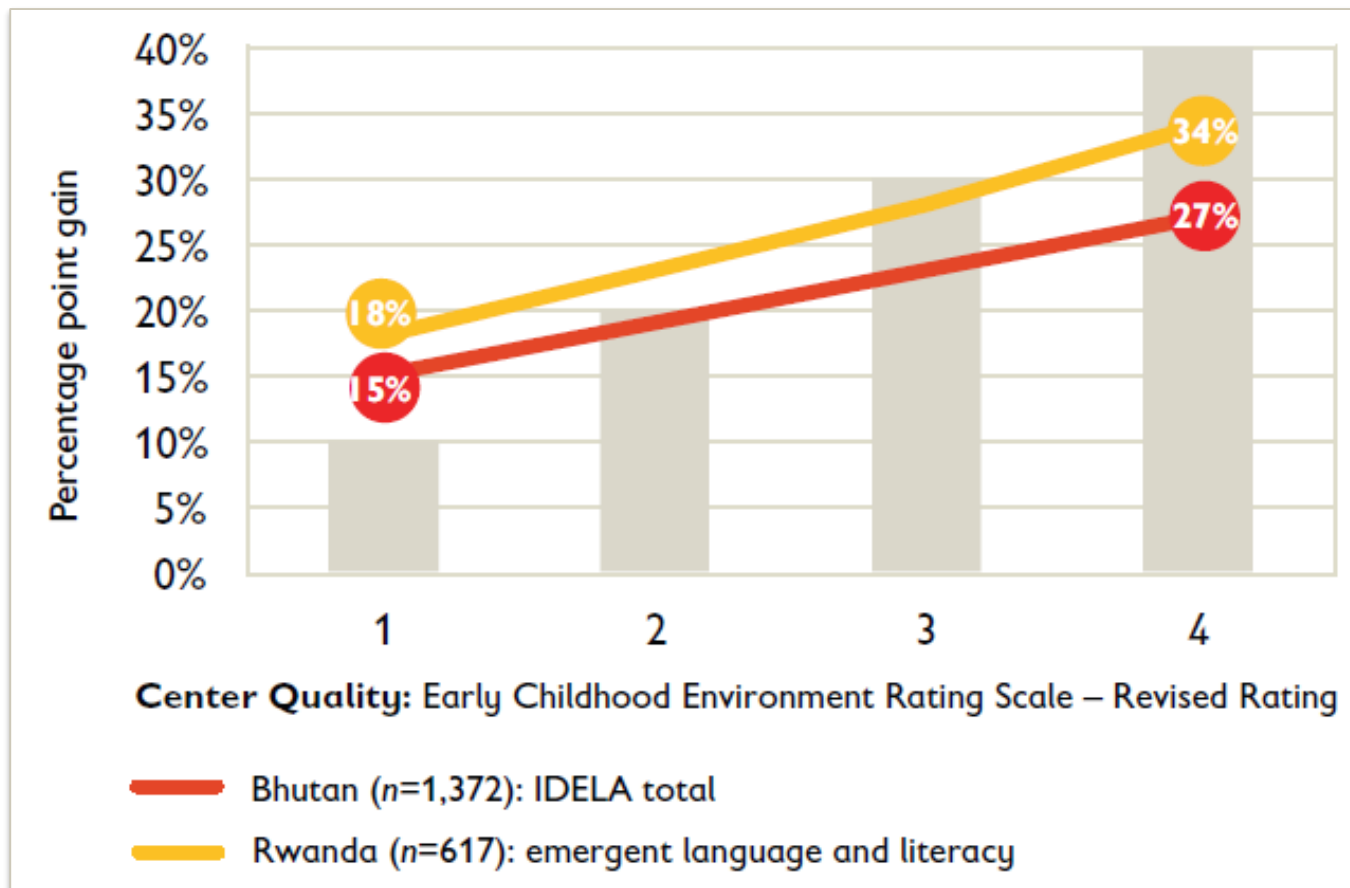
Stimulation and play activities at home support stronger skill growth for all children.



Quality interactions boost early development

In classrooms

More learning happens in higher quality preschool classrooms.

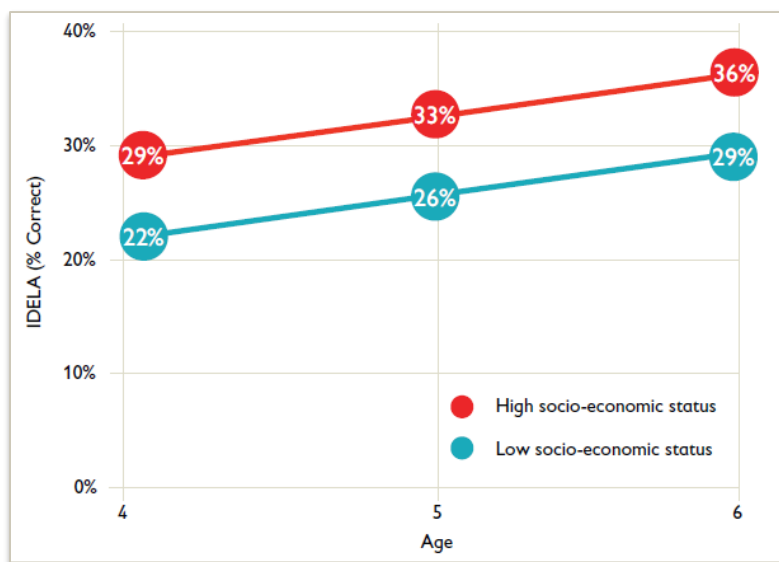


The equalizing potential of ECD

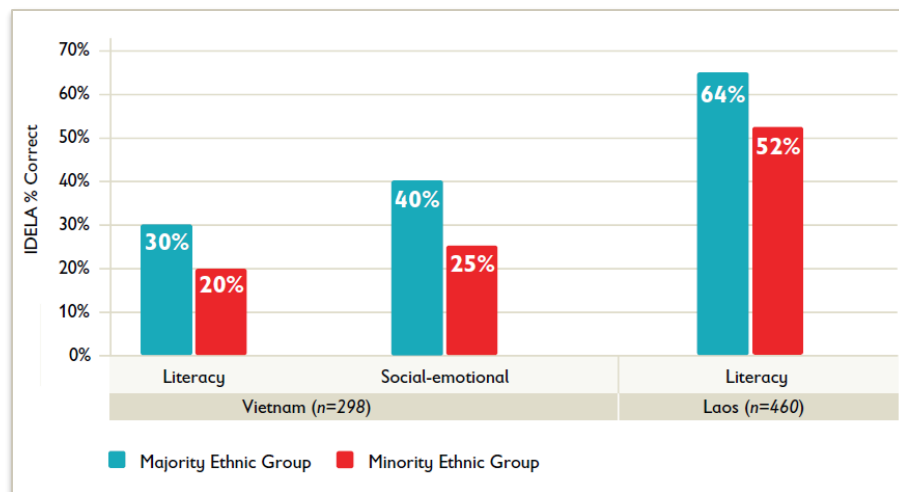
Children are being left behind because of *what* they have, *who* they are, and *where* they live

Disadvantage in the earliest years can lead to persistent and hard-to-overcome deficits later. Effective early childhood interventions are a proven means to avoid and reverse these deficits.

Predicted total IDELA score by poverty level: Afar, Ethiopia



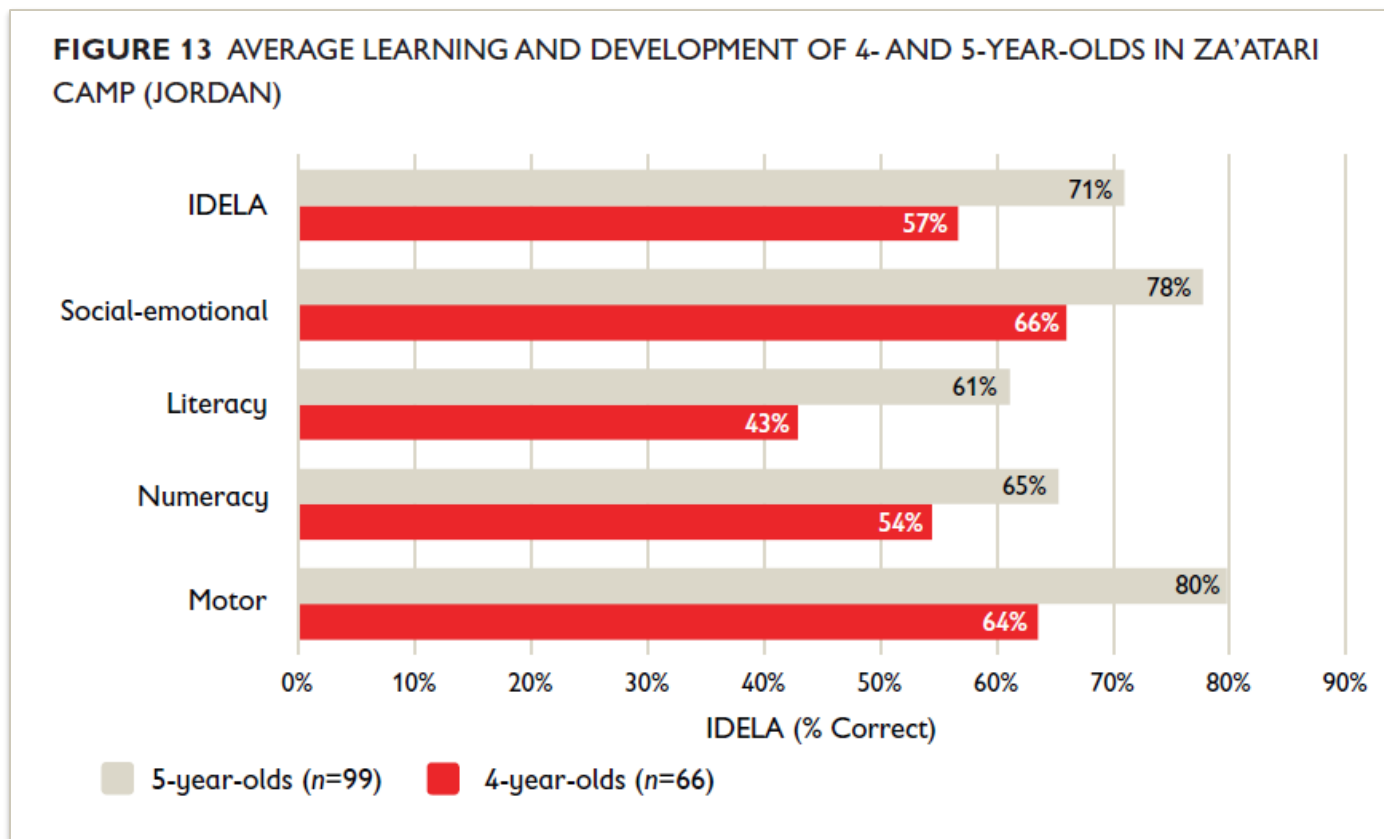
Learning and development by language/ethnic minority status: Vietnam and Laos



The equalizing potential of ECD

Children are being left behind because of *what* they have, *who* they are, and *where* they live

Refugee children require special attention and care.



Four lessons from IDELA

Evidence to Action

1. To reach the most vulnerable children, we need to go beyond preschools.
2. Caring and stimulating environments – at home and in centers – improve child development.
3. Serious focus and investment is needed to close the early gaps for the most vulnerable children.
4. Start early!



CALL TO ACTION



Invest in the early years, especially for the most deprived.

Monitor and build stronger evidence for young children.

Scale-up approaches that work and document their cost effectiveness and impact on equity.

IDELANetwork.org



THANK YOU



Save the Children