Early Childhood Development: The Indispensable Foundation for Social, Economic and Sustainable Development

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Arab Network For Early Childhood
December 15, 2014
Early Childhood Development is the indispensable foundation of sustainable development.
CURRENT SITUATION OF POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Where is ECD?
UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda (2012) *Realizing the World We Want for All*. Report to the Secretary-General
Formal Inception of the Process

Structure

- UN Secretary General
- High-level Panel of 27 Eminent Persons
  - Co-chairs:
    - His Excellency President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (Indonesia)
    - Her Excellency President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Liberia)
    - His Excellency Prime Minister David Cameron (United Kingdom)
- UN System Task Team led jointly by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to lead system-wide preparations for the post-2015 UN development agenda with support from all UN agencies and in consultation with relevant stakeholders.
- County Consultation Teams
Post- 2015 Work Streams

- High Level Panel Report
- Private Sector Compact
- Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- Open Working Group
Where is ECD?

High Level Panel Report (May, 2013) Goals & Targets

- Empower Girls and Women to Achieve Gender Equality (reduction of gender based violence)
- Provide Quality Education and Life Long Learning (increase in % of children with access to pre-primary education)
- Ensure Healthy Lives (reduction in mortality and increase in immunization)
- Ensure food security and good nutrition (reduction in stunting, wasting and anemia by age 5 years)
- Ensure good governance and effective institutions (birth registration)
- Ensure Stable and Peaceful societies (reduction in violence against children)

The age period is addressed – but do these goals and targets address “development?”
Where is ECD?


• Ensure effective learning for all children and youth for life and livelihood
  – All children under the age of 5 reach their developmental potential through access to quality early childhood development programs and policies
  – Sample indicators:
    • Suffer pre-term birth and low birth-weight
    • Stunted growth; Receiving nutrition interventions
    • Living in households above poverty
    • Rate of developmental delays
    • Access to 1 year quality pre-primary
    • Public spending
    • Basic competencies by age 8

Chavan, Yoshikawa, & Bahadur, 2013
Secretary General’s Synthesis Report (Dec, 2014)

Road to Dignity by 2030: Ending Poverty, Transforming All Lives, & Protecting the Planet

EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT IS INCLUDED
Next Phase: Work Streams Going Forward

• Goals, Targets & Indicators
  – ECD target

• Means of Implementation
  – Finance for Development
HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE OUR GOAL?

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