Country profiles available from nurturing-care.org

Early childhood development

Sao Tome and Principe

Demographics
- Population: 200,000
- Annual births: 7,000
- Children under 5: 31,000 (16%)
- Under 5 mortality: 34/1,000

Threats to Early Childhood Development
- Maternal mortality: 156/100,000
- Low birthweight: 10%
- Child poverty: 29%
- Harsh punishment: 80%
- Young mothers (births by 18y): 27%
- Preterm births: 10%
- Under 5 stunting: 17%
- Inadequate supervision: 63%

Young children at risk of poor development

Risks by gender and residence

Support and services for Early Childhood Development: Nurturing Care

Parents and caregivers need a facilitating environment of laws, policies, services and community support to assist them to provide their young children with nurturing care.

Support and services for Early Childhood Development: Facilitating Environments

Health
- Women living with HIV on treatment: 69%
- Early initiation of breastfeeding: 38%
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 74%
- Women receive 4 antenatal care visits: 87%
- Postnatal newborn care: 84%

Nutrition
- Minimum acceptable diet: 22%

Responsive Caregiving
- Public information about ECD
- Parental mental health
- Parent support (groups, home visits)
- Quality child day care

Early Learning
- Children have support for learning: 16%
- Children have playthings at home: 6%
- Homes have children's books: 65%
- Attendance in early childhood education: 6%
- 36% security and safety

Policy
- Paid maternity leave
- Paid paternity leave
- National minimum wage
- Child and family social protection
- International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

International Conventions
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities
- CRC Sale of Children, Child Prostitution & Child Pornography
- Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption

Nutrition
- Exclusive breastfeeding
- Minimum acceptable diet

Security and Safety
- Birth registration
- Positive discipline
- Basic drinking water
- Basic sanitation

At risk in 2005, 2010 and 2015, using a composite indicator of under 5 stunting or poverty

Lifet ime cost of growth deficit in early childhood

Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage

Children have support for learning
Children have playthings at home
Homes have children's books
Attendance in early childhood education

65%
6%
16%
6%
36%

54%