## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

### Afghanistan

#### Demographics
- Population (2019): 38,042,000
- Annual births: 1,212,000
- Children under 5 (2019): 5,639,000 (15%)
- Under-five mortality: 62/1,000

#### Threats to Early Childhood Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threat</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maternal mortality</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low birthweight</td>
<td>no data</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child poverty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Violent discipline</td>
<td>63%</td>
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#### Young children at risk of poor development
- At risk in 2005, 2010 and 2015, using a composite indicator of under-five stunting or poverty

#### Threats to Early Childhood Development
- Maternal mortality: 638/100,000
- Low birthweight: no data
- Child poverty: no data
- Violent discipline: 63%

#### Lifetime cost of growth deficit in early childhood
- Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage: 179%

#### Risks by sex and residence

#### Nutrition
- Early initiation of breastfeeding: 41%
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 43%
- Minimum acceptable diet: 15%

#### Health
- Treatment for HIV+ pregnant women: 11%
- Careseeking for child pneumonia: 62%
- Antenatal care (4 or more visits): 40%
- Postnatal visits: 18%

#### Education
- Early learning: 73%
- Children’s books in the home: 2%
- Playthings at home: 53%
- Attendance in early childhood education: 1%

#### Preventive care
- Birth registration: 42%
- Positive discipline: 14%
- Basic drinking water: 67%
- Basic sanitation: 63%

#### 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 in providing their young children with nurturing care.

#### Facilitating environments

### International conventions
- ✔️ Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ✔️ Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- ✔️ Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption

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**Support and services for early childhood development:**

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### Security and safety

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**DETAILED COUNTRY DATA SOURCES AND FOOTNOTES CAN BE FOUND IN THE MASTER DATABASE AT NURTURING-CARE.ORG**