**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**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**

**Policies**
- 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 Persons with Disabilities
- Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption

**Data**

- Young children at risk of poor development
  - 2005: no data
  - 2010: no data
  - 2015: no data

- Risk by sex and residence
  - no data

- Lifetime cost of growth deficit in early childhood
  - no data

**Health**
- Treatment for HIV+ pregnant women: no data
- Careseeking for child pneumonia: no data
- Antenatal care (4 or more visits): 88%
- Postnatal visits: 78%
- Early initiation of breastfeeding: 57%
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 37%
- Minimum acceptable diet: 29%

**Early learning**
- Early stimulation at home: 78%
- Children’s books in the home: 32%
- Playthings at home: 53%
- Attendance in early childhood education: 40%

**Security and safety**
- Birth registration: 98%
- Positive discipline: 41%
- Basic drinking water: 91%
- Basic sanitation: 98%

**Nutrition**
- Early initiation of breastfeeding: 57%
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 37%
- Minimum acceptable diet: 29%

**Countdown to 2030**
Women’s, Children’s & Adolescents’ Health

**Details**

Albania

**Demographics**
- Population (2019): 2,881,000
- Annual births: 33,000
- Children under 5 (2019): 169,000 (6%)
- Under-five mortality: 9/1000

**Threats to Early Childhood Development**
- Maternal mortality: 15/100,000
- Low birthweight: 5%
- Child poverty: 0%
- Violent discipline: 43%

- Young mothers (births by 18y): 3%
- Preterm births: 9%
- Under-five stunting: 11%
- Inadequate supervision: 7%

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