**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**Namibia**

### Demographics
- Population (2019): 2,495,000
- Annual births: 70,000
- Children under 5 (2019): 334,000 (13%)
- Under-five mortality: 40/1,000

### Threats to Early Childhood Development
- Maternal mortality: 195/100,000
- Low birthweight: 16%
- Child poverty: 19%
- Violent discipline: no data
- Young mothers (births by 18y): 15%
- Preterm births: 14%
- Under-five stunting: 23%
- Inadequate supervision: no data

### Young children at risk of poor development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Risk by sex and residence

- Rural: 54%
- Urban: 46%

### Lifetime cost of growth deficit in early childhood

186% Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage

### Early Childhood Development Index

No data

### 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

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**COUNTDOWN TO 2030**

Women’s, Children’s & Adolescents’ Health

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