**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**Bahrain**

### Demographics

- **Population**: 1,701,583
- **Annual births**: 22,096
- **Children under 5**: 108,054 (6%)
- **Under-five mortality**: 7/1,000

### Threats to Early Childhood Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threat</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maternal mortality</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low birthweight</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child poverty</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent discipline</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young mothers (births by 18y)</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preterm births</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under-five stunting</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate supervision</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>no data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Children at risk of poor development**

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

**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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Nutrition**

- Early initiation of breastfeeding
- Exclusive breastfeeding
- Postnatal visits
- Minimum acceptable diet

**Health**

- Treatment for HIV+ pregnant women
- Careseeking for child pneumonia
- Antenatal care (4 or more visits)
- Prenatal visits

**Early learning**

- Early stimulation at home
- Playthings at home
- Attendance in early childhood education

**Security and safety**

- Birth registration
- Positive discipline
- Basic drinking water
- Basic sanitation

**Responsive caregiving**

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

**Comparative country data urgently needed**

**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