**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**Congo**

**Demographics**
- Population: 5,518,092
- Annual births: 176,735
- Children under 5: 821,959 (15%)
- Under-five mortality: 48/1,000

**Threats to Early Childhood Development**
- Maternal mortality: 378/100,000
- Low birthweight: 12%
- Child poverty: 20%
- Violent discipline: 81%
- Young mothers (births by 18y): 26%
- Preterm births: 17%
- Under-five stunting: 21%
- Inadequate supervision: 42%

**Young children at risk of poor development**

**Risk by sex and residence**

**Lifetime cost of growth deficit in early childhood**
- Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage
- Children with functional difficulty
- Children developmentally on-track

**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>None</th>
<th>≤14</th>
<th>14 – ≤18</th>
<th>18 – ≤26</th>
<th>&gt;26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid maternity leave (weeks)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>≤14</td>
<td>14 – ≤18</td>
<td>18 – ≤26</td>
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</tbody>
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<th>International conventions</th>
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<td>✔️ Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔️ Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption</td>
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</table>

DETAILED COUNTRY DATA SOURCES AND FOOTNOTES CAN BE FOUND IN THE MASTER DATABASE AT [NURTURING-CARE.ORG](#)