**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**Gabon**

**Demographics**
- Population: 2,225,728
- Annual births: 67,272
- Children under 5: 320,376 (14%)
- Under-five mortality: 42/1,000

**Threats to Early Childhood Development**
- Maternal mortality: 252/100,000
- Low birthweight: 14%
- Child poverty: 2%
- Violent discipline: no data
- Young mothers (births by 18y): 28%
- Preterm births: 16%
- Under-five stunting: 17%
- Inadequate supervision: no data

**Young children at risk of poor development**

- Risk by sex and residence
  - Boys vs Girls: no data
  - Rural vs Urban: 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**

**Nutrition**

- Early initiation of breastfeeding: 32%
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 5%
- Minimum acceptable diet: no data

**Health**

- Treatment for HIV+ pregnant women: 71%
- Antenatal care (4 or more visits): 60%
- Postnatal visits: 78%
- Careseeking for child pneumonia: 68%

**Early learning**

- Early stimulation at home: no data
- Playthings at home: no data
- Children’s books in the home: no data
- Attendance in early childhood education: no data

**Responsive caregiving**

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

**Security and safety**

- Birth registration: 90%
- Positive discipline: no data
- Basic drinking water: 86%
- Basic sanitation: 47%

**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

**Lifetime cost of growth deficit in early childhood**

57% Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage

**Children with functional difficulty**

- no data

**Children developmentally on-track**

- no data

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

**Policies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid maternity leave (weeks)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>14 – 18</td>
<td>18 – 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid paternity leave (weeks)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>14 – 18</td>
<td>18 – 26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Not** | Slightly | Moderately | Substantially
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International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes (alignment)
| ✓ | ✔ | Child and family social protection

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