### EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

#### Guyana

**Demographics**
- Population: 786,559
- Annual births: 15,316
- Children under 5: 73,864 (9%)
- Under-five mortality: 29/1,000

**Threats to Early Childhood Development**
- Maternal mortality: 169/100,000
- Low birthweight: 16%
- Child poverty: no data
- Violent discipline: 67%
- Young mothers (births by 18y): 16%
- Preterm births: 13%
- Under-five stunting: 11%
- Inadequate supervision: 5%

**Young children at risk of poor development**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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>None</th>
<th>Slightly</th>
<th>Moderately</th>
<th>Substantially</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid maternity leave (weeks)</td>
<td>≤14</td>
<td>14 – 18</td>
<td>18 – 26</td>
<td>≥26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid paternity leave (weeks)</td>
<td>≤14</td>
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<td>≥26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Nutrition**

- Early initiation of breastfeeding: 49%
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 21%
- Minimum acceptable diet: 28%

**Responsive caregiving**

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

**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