EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Sao Tome and Principe

Demographics

- Population: 219,161
- Annual births: 6,764
- Children under 5: 31,754 (14%)
- Under-five mortality: 30/1,000

Demographics Threats to Early Childhood Development

- Maternal mortality: 130/100,000
- Low birthweight: 7%
- Child poverty: 29%
- Violent discipline: 75%
- Young mothers (births by 18y): 27%
- Preterm births: 11%
- Under-five stunting: 17%
- Inadequate supervision: 16%

Young children at risk of poor development

- 2005: 53%
- 2010: 50%
- 2015: 41%

Risk by sex and residence

- Girls: 52%
- Boys: 48%
- Rural: 52%
- Urban: 48%

Lifetime cost of growth deficit in early childhood

- Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage: 54%

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

- Early initiation of breastfeeding: 38%
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 72%
- Minimum acceptable diet: 23%

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

Health

- Treatment for HIV+ pregnant women: no data
- Careseeking for child pneumonia: no data
- Antenatal care (4 or more visits): 69%
- Postnatal visits: 87%
- Postnatal visits: 84%

Early learning

- Early stimulation at home: 63%
- Playthings at home: 65%
- Attendance in early childhood education: 36%

Security and safety

- Birth registration: 95%
- Positive discipline: 8%
- Basic drinking water: 84%
- Basic sanitation: 43%

Detailed country data sources and footnotes can be found in the master database at NURTURING-CARE.ORG