Day 2 Recap:
Regional multisectoral meeting to promote nurturing care of early childhood development

28 April 2021
Overview: Focus on families & strengthening services

- Build on assets in communities
- Use mixed approaches - all existing contact points and channels
- Mitigate harmful beliefs & practices
- Foster collaboration between community actors
- Engage communities in design and testing of interventions
Country examples

**Indonesia:** Continuum of care through integrated community-based health efforts (Posyandu)

**Pakistan:** Responsive care in maternal and child health interventions through integrated parenting package

**India:** Integrating health, nutrition, early learning, responsive care via home visiting program

**Sri Lanka:** Early identification of disabilities and integrated intervention through parenting
# Spotlight on services for caregiver well-being

- **Need to empower caregivers;** caregiver mental health critical to child development and to providing nurturing care.
- **Efforts to help children are unlikely to succeed unless they also support caregivers.**
- **The most vulnerable families are most at risk for poor mental health;** COVID-19 increased risks.

## Tools and resources
- Nurturing Care Practice Guide (forthcoming)
- Care for Child Development
- Caring for the Caregiver
- Unmeed Early Childhood Champions program
Key points from group discussions

Building workforce capacity is key for all sectors

- Overloaded capacity of frontline workers
- Regular professional training for health sector workers and trainers
- Complementing global tools and guidelines with training

New risks and opportunities from COVID-19

- Use of blended models, including technology, to make adaptations to reach households
- Importance of strengthening home-based platforms to increase access
- Strengthen focus on mental health in nurturing care via existing platforms across sectors, including private sector (private nurseries or health facilities)
Key points from group discussions

Strengthen policy and enabling environment for integrated ECD

- Need for further advocacy at national and sub-national levels
- Integration of nurturing care and responsive caregiving remain as gaps
- Strengthen collaboration between sectors, especially health and education

Maternal mental health as a key driver in ECD outcomes

- Opportunity to support caregivers' mental health through health, nutrition, and other ECD service platforms
- COVID-19 increases the importance of this area

Community-level strengthening

- Importance of engagement and governance mechanism at the local level
- Partnering with key influencers within the community
- Need to build whole-community platforms to deliver nurturing care for ECD
Focus on Families: Country examples

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<th>Initiative</th>
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<td><strong>Serbia</strong></td>
<td>Early Moments Matter. Mass media and community engagement for nurturing care</td>
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<td><strong>Bangladesh</strong></td>
<td>Fathers' Club for male engagement</td>
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<td><strong>India</strong></td>
<td>Pilot to scale model. Community-level governance mechanism for family services strengthening</td>
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