From Fragmentation to a Unity of Effort for Early Childhood Development:

The SDGs and multisectoral ECD monitoring and evaluation systems

Optimal early childhood development (ECD) is key to a more positive future, as recognized through the inclusion of dedicated targets and indicators in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aimed at measuring progress among young children and their families.

The recent proliferation of new tools and indicators to measure ECD has prompted the need to take stock and unpack the measurement landscape to effectively inform the development or strengthening of multisectoral ECD monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems. Now is the time to coordinate the different sectors within the field of child development to support the establishment of comprehensive national multisectoral data systems for policies and programmes.

Goal

Inform and support data specialists and child development leaders to identify their needs and build capacity to plan the development of national multisectoral ECD monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and policy and programme planning systems that consider and use SDG, regional and national indicators. In addition, to promote the identification of opportunities to establish regional networks to support countries and help them share experiences and lessons learned.

Objectives

- Build interest in, and commitment to, establishing and strengthening national multisectoral ECD monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems

- Explain key processes and elements of national multisectoral ECD monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems

- Take stock of and unpack the ECD measurement landscape

- Encourage countries to improve the quality of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) instruments, integrated databases, and data use to help achieve SDGs related to ECD, inform regional and country target setting, and, ultimately, improve ECD programmes

- Highlight the importance of linking and utilizing data to inform policies and programmes

- Identify regions and countries interested in receiving more in-depth training workshops and/or technical assistance to establish or improve their existing national multisectoral ECD monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems.

Audience

The webinar series is targeted at the country and regional level, to a primary audience of data specialists, child development policy planners, and practitioners working on M&E, programme evaluation, and policy and programme development and implementation at the national level in the field of ECD. It is anticipated that UN and other international agencies (particularly those working at the regional and country level on ECD programming and M&E) and members of ECD regional networks will also find the webinar series informative and useful.

Webinar	Dates and time	Topics	Panelists
1. Applying the Nurturing Care Framework to multisectoral M&E systems for early childhood development	24 April 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) **REGISTER HERE**	Learn how the Nurturing Care Framework can be used at national and subnational levels within the context of multisectoral monitoring and evaluation systems and hear a practical country example of its application in this context	Boniface Kakhobwe, UNICEF Sheila Manji, WHO
2. The role of developmental screening of young children in data collection systems	26 June 2024 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., EDT **REGISTER HERE**	This webinar will unpack the role of developmental screening tools in providing care and services to young children and their families and their importance as a central component of national data collection systems. Data specialists will hear about criteria that can be useful in evaluating and assessing how to select the most appropriate screening tool. The second half of the webinar will highlight implementation considerations within formal and informal systems.	Emily Vargas-Barón, RISE Institute Hollie Hix-Small, Portland State University Kevin Marks, Peace Health Medical Group, USA and Odense University Hospital, Denmark

All webinars will offer simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, French and Spanish.