

System Approach for Better Education Results – SABER

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June 5, 2014*

System Approach for Better Education Results (SABER)

Introduction of SABER-ECD concepts

Report on Bulgaria – findings and
recommendations

System Approach for Better Education Results - SABER

Goal: The goal of System Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) is to provide countries with a multi-

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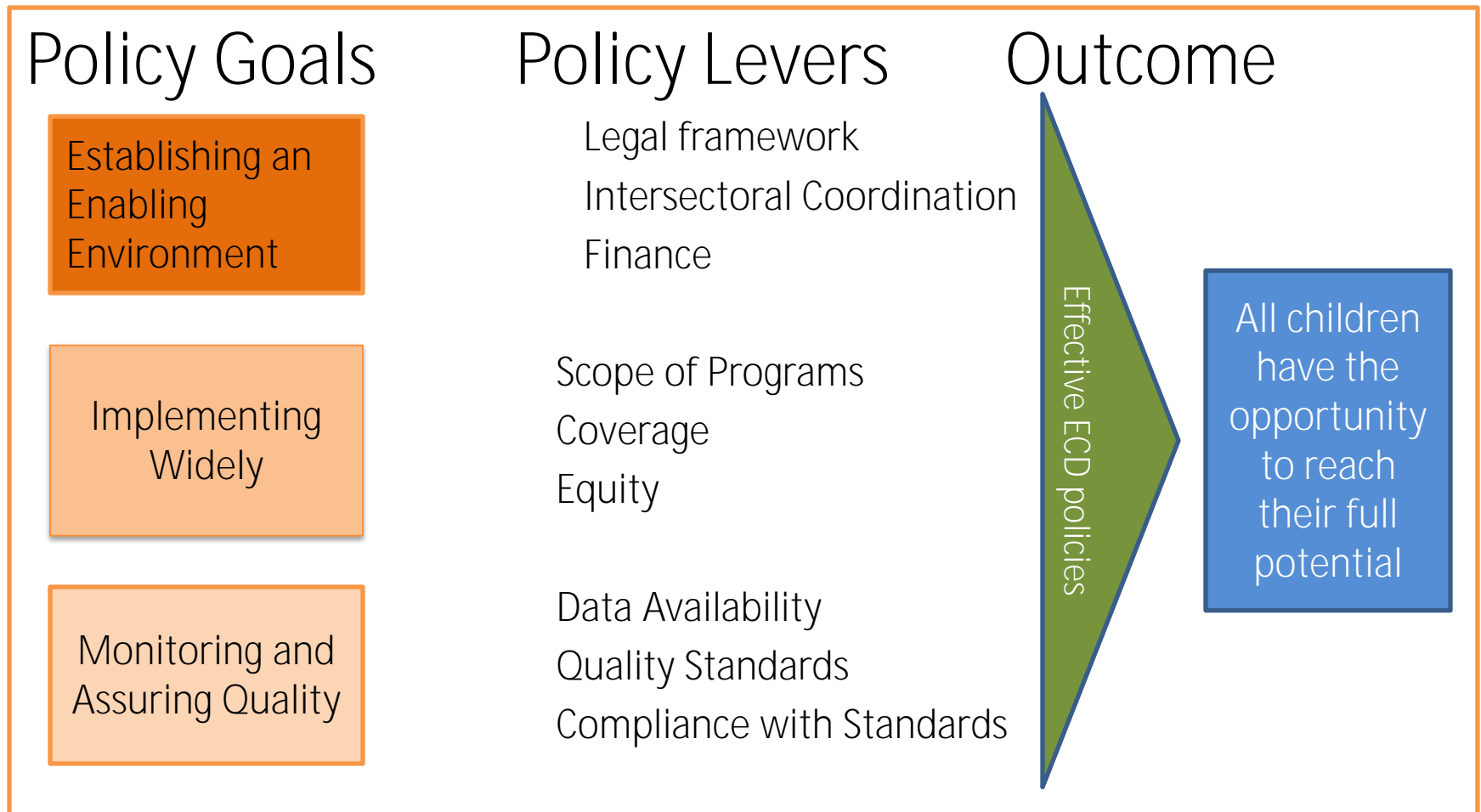
Definition – Early Childhood Development policies

ECD policy framework addresses

They are targeted at

A robust ECD policy should include programs in all essential sectors; provide comparable coverage and equitable access across regions and socioeconomic status – especially reaching the most disadvantaged young children and their families.

The Core ECD Policy goals



(during
pregnancy, after delivery and

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[Dark orange cell]	Non-existent legal framework; ad-hoc financing; low inter- sectoral coordination	Minimal legal framework; some programs with	[Dark orange cell]	[Dark orange cell]
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It is not the goal of the abbreviated list of interventions used in the report to name the existing governmental policies and programs but to name the sectors and the type of services for which SABER – ECD identifies the existence of level of development and effectiveness.

Example

- Standard health screening for pregnant women
- Skilled attendants at delivery
- Childhood immunization
- Well-child visits

ECCE = Early Childhood Education and Care

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. Bulgaria should transform its ECD system from single sector to a multi-sectoral approach, by converging interventions in education, health, nutrition, care stimulation, and protection.

Given that essential ECD services are provided across multiple sectors, it is important to establish a common plan of action for effective service delivery.

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Strengthening ECD budget coordination mechanisms between the different sectors involved. Effective implementation of integrated ECD policy will necessitate a

The OECD recommends that a public investment of 1 percent of GDP is the minimum required to ensure provision of quality early childhood care and education services. Bulgaria currently spend 0.8 percent of its GDP on preschool (UNESCO, 2010) and could consider a

Ensure that

. Overall, out-of-pocket expenditure as a percentage of total health expenditures is high in Bulgaria.

Ensure sustainable and adequate commitment to ECD spending. Sustainable financial investment in the preprimary education sector.



Legal Framework



Intersectoral Coordination



Finance



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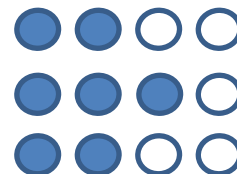
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Breastfeeding promotion; Iron fortification of food staples and reducing anemia prevalence in pregnant women can prevent intellectual and physical impairment in children,

Programs designed to assist parents and families.



Scope of Programs
Coverage
Equity



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The Government of Bulgaria is encouraged to further improve the provision of ECCE to ensure that children younger than three years old have also adequate opportunities for early stimulation and learning.

A possible step is renewing the mission and functions of nurseries as institutions that set clear educational and developmental goals for children's early childhood, inclu

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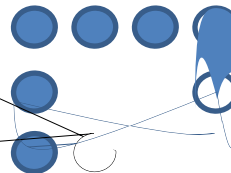
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Data are not available to access ECD provision in relation to children's socio-economic status. Evidence suggests that lack of appropriate early learning and access to essential health and nutrition interventions place poor children at a disadvantage before they start school. The Government of Bulgaria should further ensure expanded access to essential ECD services targeted towards low-income and vulnerable children, as well as those in hard to reach areas.



Scope of Programs
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Ensuring coordination and consistency of data from all sectors is crucial if the Government of Bulgaria is to measure the impact of its investments and guarantee that all children are provided with the essential and/or targeted services they need. The Government of Bulgaria could consider the establishment of an improved integrated monitoring and evaluation system that would help guarantee that eligibility beneficiaries receive the appropriate services.

While minimum standards and requirements for quality assurance in health and education sectors are well developed in Bulgaria, it is highly recommended that monitoring and compliance mechanisms be strengthened.

Data Availability



Quality Standards



Compliance with Standards



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Positive parenting education	Birth registration	
Enforced domestic violence laws, provisions injudicial system to protect young children, child welfare system, income supports		
Parent education on child health and development	Prenatal Care antenatal visits (at least 4) skilled attendants at delivery	Expanded programs of immunizations Well-child visits(growth monitoring and promotion)
Breastfeeding promotion, complementary feeding, dietary diversity	Prenatal nutrition folic acid iron supplementation iodine	Exclusive breastfeeding until 6 months; complementary feeding to age 2 Vitamin A. iodine* iron
Early stimulation, importance of formal early learning	Early stimulation at home or through quality child care	ECCE and preprimary education to promote school readiness
Early childhood outreach should be coordinated with existing health and family support services. Interventions can be center-based, through group programs, or via home visiting		As more children enrol in pre-primary school, center-based programs can be used to reach increasing number of children

		Bulgaria	Australia	Chile	Colombia	Sweden	Turkey
Establishing							

Thank you for your attention!