

A review of frameworks for providing universal childcare for children 0-3 years old

Author: Paul Otwate

Mentor: Dr. Vidur Chopra

Date: 16.05.2024

Project outline

Preliminaries

- Background
- Objectives
- Research questions
- Methodology

Findings

- Child wellbeing
- Parenting skills and wellbeing
- Gender equality
- Early learning and development
- Economic growth and productivity

Reflections

- Policy reflections and options
- Role of different but related stakeholders

Background



- Over 40% of children (350 million) worldwide need childcare but do not have access
- Access and investment in quality childcare can yield socio-economic and educational outcomes
- Each 1\$ invested in closing childcare policy gap translates to \$3.75 in global economy.
- Limited documented evidence exist that supports universal childcare provisions for 0-3 years
- Expanded childcare provision can help every child access government-subsidized formal care regardless of their background.

Objectives and research questions



Objective

To develop a stronger evidenced case for key stakeholders (policymakers, employers, care providers) to advocate for childcare for 0-3 years.

Research questions

- a) What evidence exists about the benefits of childcare?
- b) What are the most compelling arguments advocates can use to convince policymakers to strengthen and invest in universal childcare policies?
- c) What can policymakers and local advocates do differently to promote care for under 3 years

Brief overview of methodology

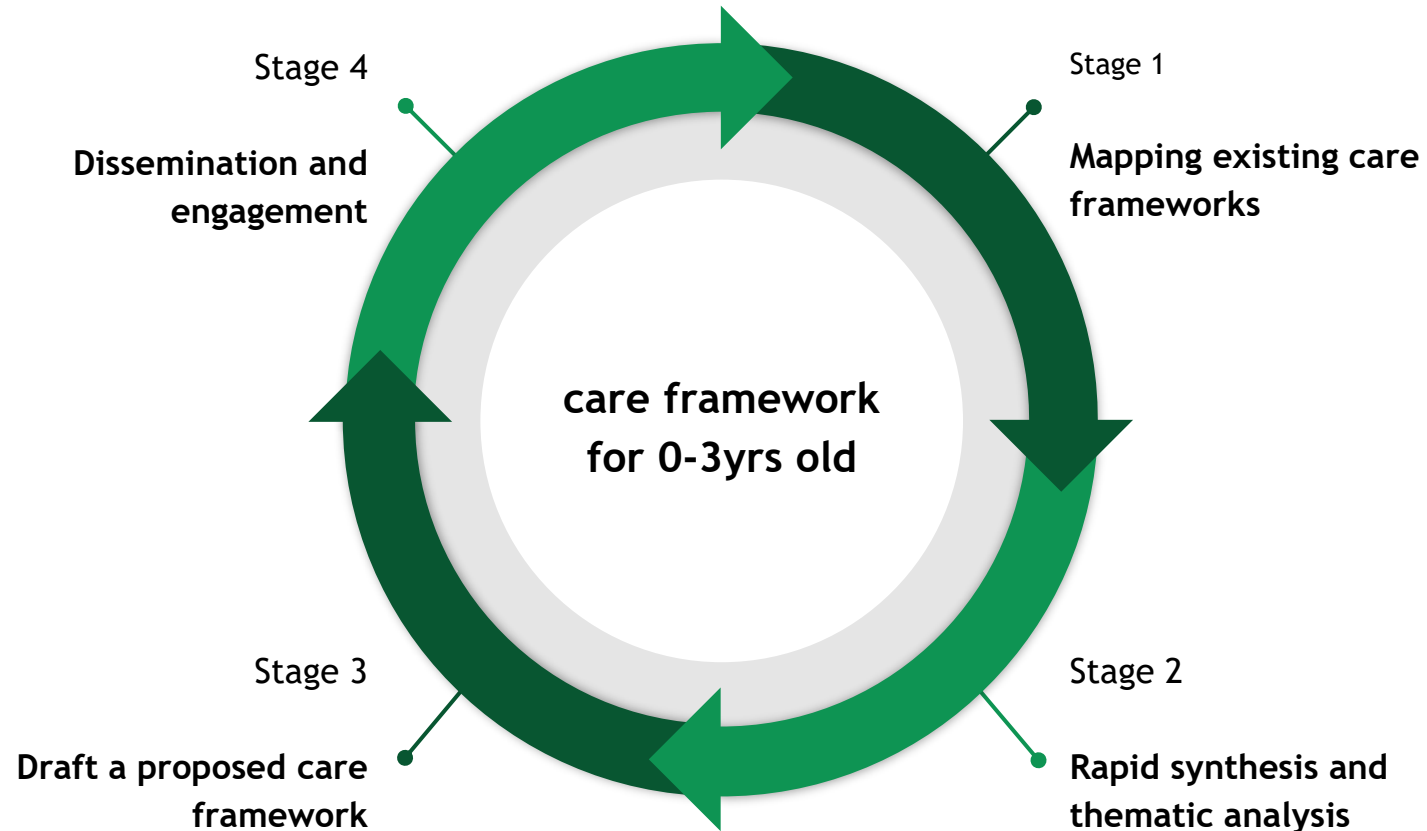


Figure 1. Systematic stepwise approach design

Current Findings



Perspectives on childcare for 0-3	Documented benefits	Policy needs	Targeted stakeholders
Child wellbeing	• Improved cognitive outcomes • Better nutritional outcomes • Integrated services	• Publicly subsidized options • Comprehensive care programs • Inclusive care policies	• Care providers • Health service providers • Parents • Certifications providers
Parenting skills and wellbeing	• Reduced care burden reduces stress • Increased participation in workforce • Increased parenting satisfaction	• Parenting education component • Care facilities next to workplaces • Public subsidized options	• Employers • Public service providers • Care providers • Quality assurance institutions
Gender equality	• High educational achievements in women • Better quality employment in women • Reduced stress at workplace	• Family-friendly policies • Onsite childcare • Subsidized care in institutions • Parenting programs on gender	• Labor lawmakers • Employers • Tax and welfare authorities • Women's champions and rights groups

Current Findings



Perspectives on childcare for 0-3	Documented benefits	Policy needs	Targeted stakeholders
Early learning and development	• Improved school readiness • Better psychosocial & social emotional outcomes • Improved nutritional outcomes	• Integrated care programs • Publicly subsidized care and learning centers • Quality assurance frameworks/bodies	• Childcare providers • Caregivers/parents • Legal authorities for quality check • Private sectors • Employers • Health providers • Public training institutions
Economic growth and productivity	• Decreased labor shortage • Increased economic growth and business productivity • Better job security • Care providers are added to the workforce	• Fair pay policies • Family-friendly policies • Quality assurance • Gender disaggregated data	• Employers • Labor lawmakers • Education institutions • Private sector players • Tax lawmakers

Reflections



Policy goals for governments, employers, private sectors, care providers:

- Immediate review of workplace and institutional policies
- Different sectors and policy advocates can work together to finance and expand access to quality childcare
- Prioritize quality and low-cost childcare coverage for most vulnerable families
- Strengthen care systems through establishing robust quality assurance systems



Early Childhood Development Action Network
455 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 1000
Washington, DC, USA 20001

info@ecdan.org • ecdan.org • connect.ecdan.org