

Global Parenting Support Framework

A life-course, multisectoral vision for
supporting caregivers worldwide

December 4, 2025 | Global Launch
UNICEF & Parenting for Lifelong Health

When a child is born, a **community of caregivers** is born too.

Parenting is one of the most powerful drivers of child development, well-being, and sustainable societies.



The time is right to **accelerate global action**

- » Increased family vulnerabilities
- » Fragmentation across sectors
- » Growing global recognition
- » Robust evidence base
- » Digital innovation opportunities



Convention on the Rights of the Child

“For the purpose of guaranteeing and promoting the rights set forth in the present Convention, States Parties shall render appropriate assistance to parents and legal guardians in the performance of their child-rearing responsibilities.” Article 18 (1989)



The **Global Parenting Support Framework** is a conceptual guide to strengthen parenting support worldwide.

Guiding principles

- » Rights-based
- » Equity-focused
- » System-centered
- » Evidence-informed
- » Life-course oriented
- » Strength-based

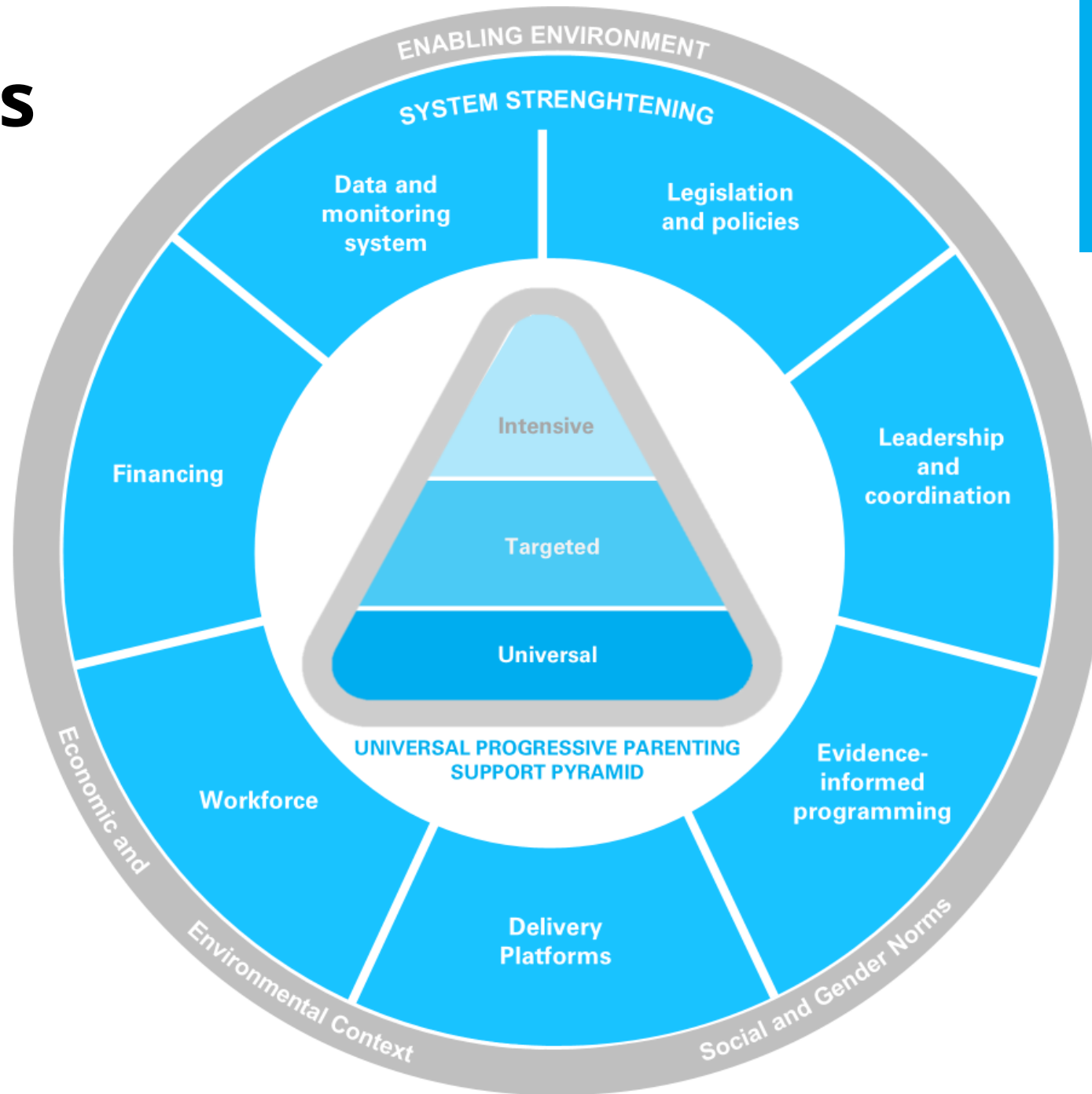


Dimensions of parenting

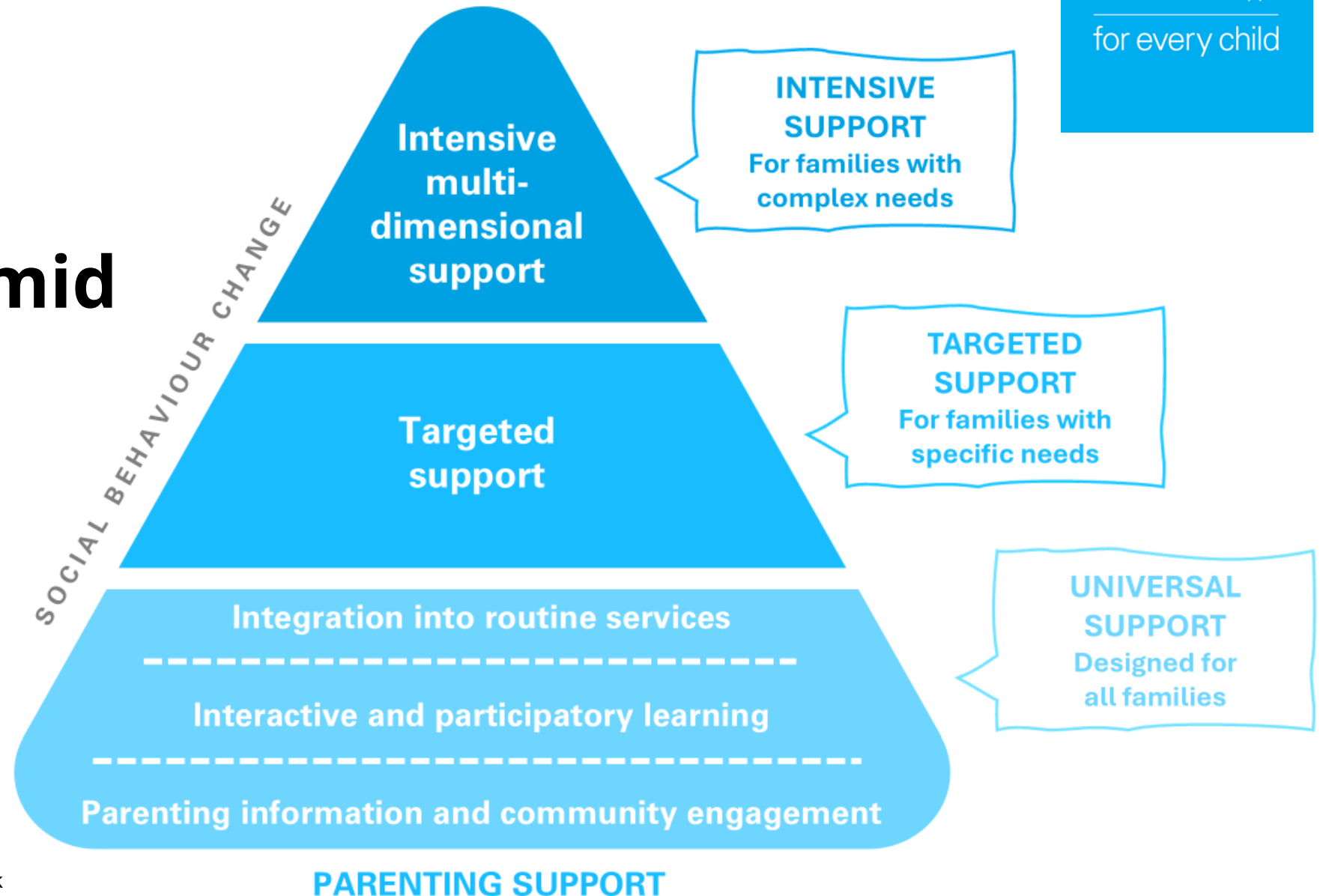
- » Life-course approach
Parenting as a dynamic, evolving process
- » Caregiver behaviours
Caregiving, self-care, and help-seeking
- » Community support & engagement
Parenting as a shared social responsibility



Building Blocks



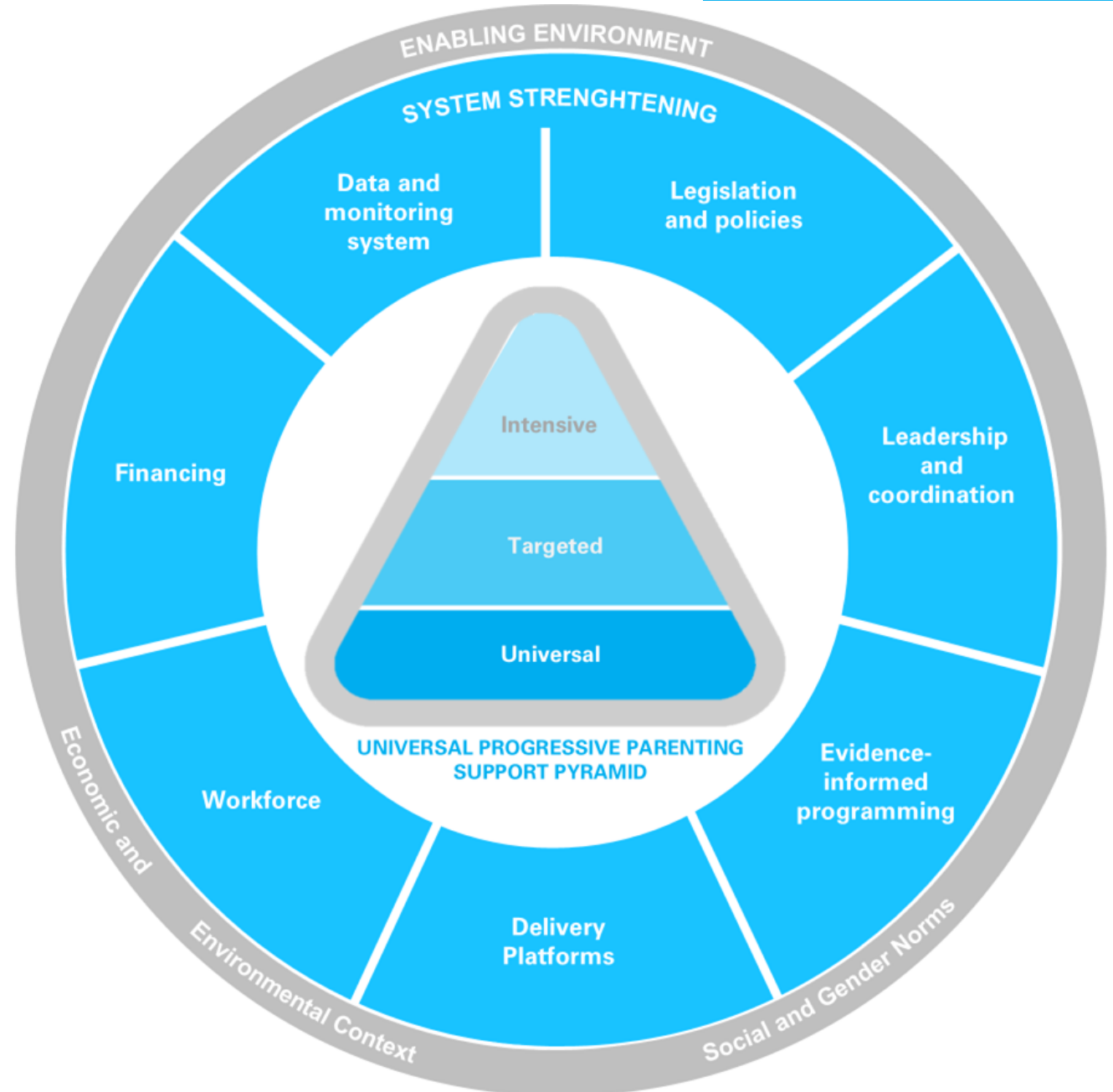
Universal progressive parenting support pyramid



Building Blocks

Seven pillars of system strengthening:

1. Legislation and policies
2. Leadership and coordination
3. Evidence-informed programming
4. Delivery platforms
5. Workforce development
6. Financing
7. Data and monitoring systems

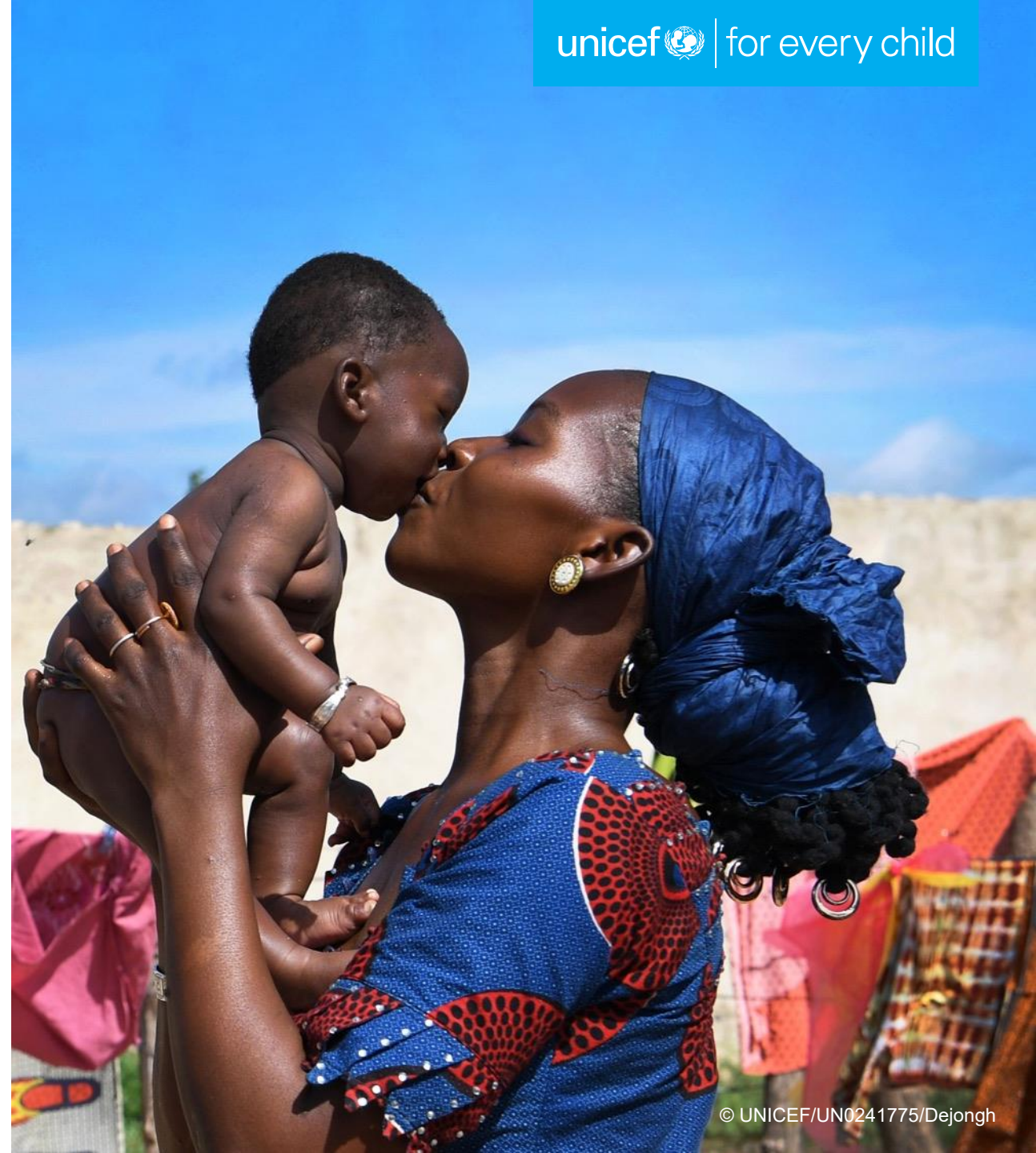


1. Legislation and policies

Establishing the legal and institutional foundations for parenting support

- » Parenting policies and legal frameworks
- » Family-friendly policies supporting parenting
- » Cross-sectoral integration and equity

Example: Policy Analysis and Benchmarking Tool for Universal Parenting Support

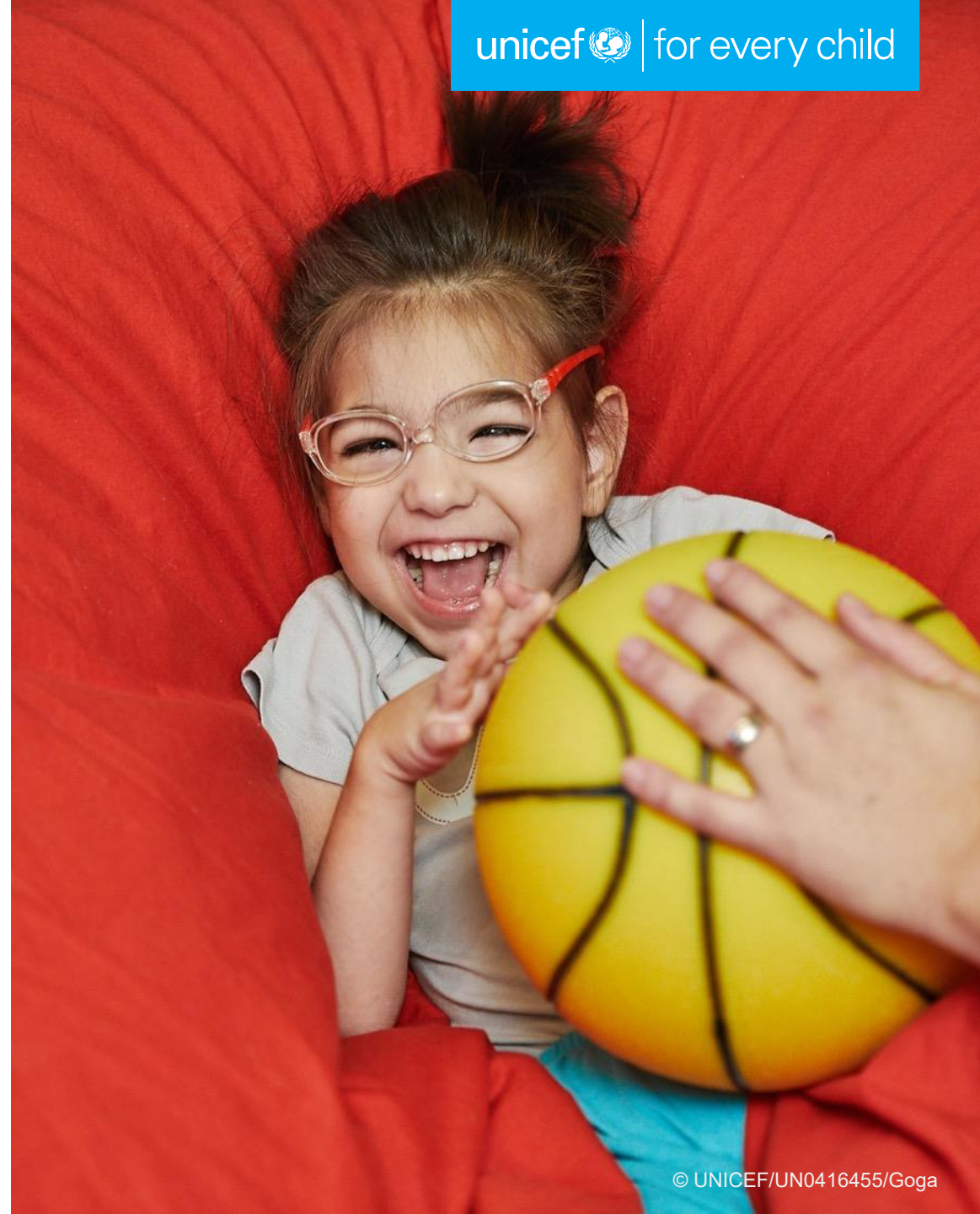


2. Leadership and coordination

- » Define clear roles, responsibilities and accountability
- » Facilitate collaboration
- » Alignment with other policies

The Benchmarking Tool calls for a comprehensive mapping of existing parenting-related initiatives to identify overlaps, gaps and opportunities for integration.

3. Evidence-based & evidence-informed programming



4. Delivery platforms

- » Multiple entry points across sectors, services and community structures
- » Vertical and horizontal scale-up
- » Inclusive of humanitarian settings

5. Workforce

- » Skilled, supported, and motivated workforce as the foundation of quality delivery

6. Financing

- » Sustainable, predictable, and multisectoral investment
- » Integration into national budgets and systems
- » Innovative partnerships and financing models

7. Data and monitoring system

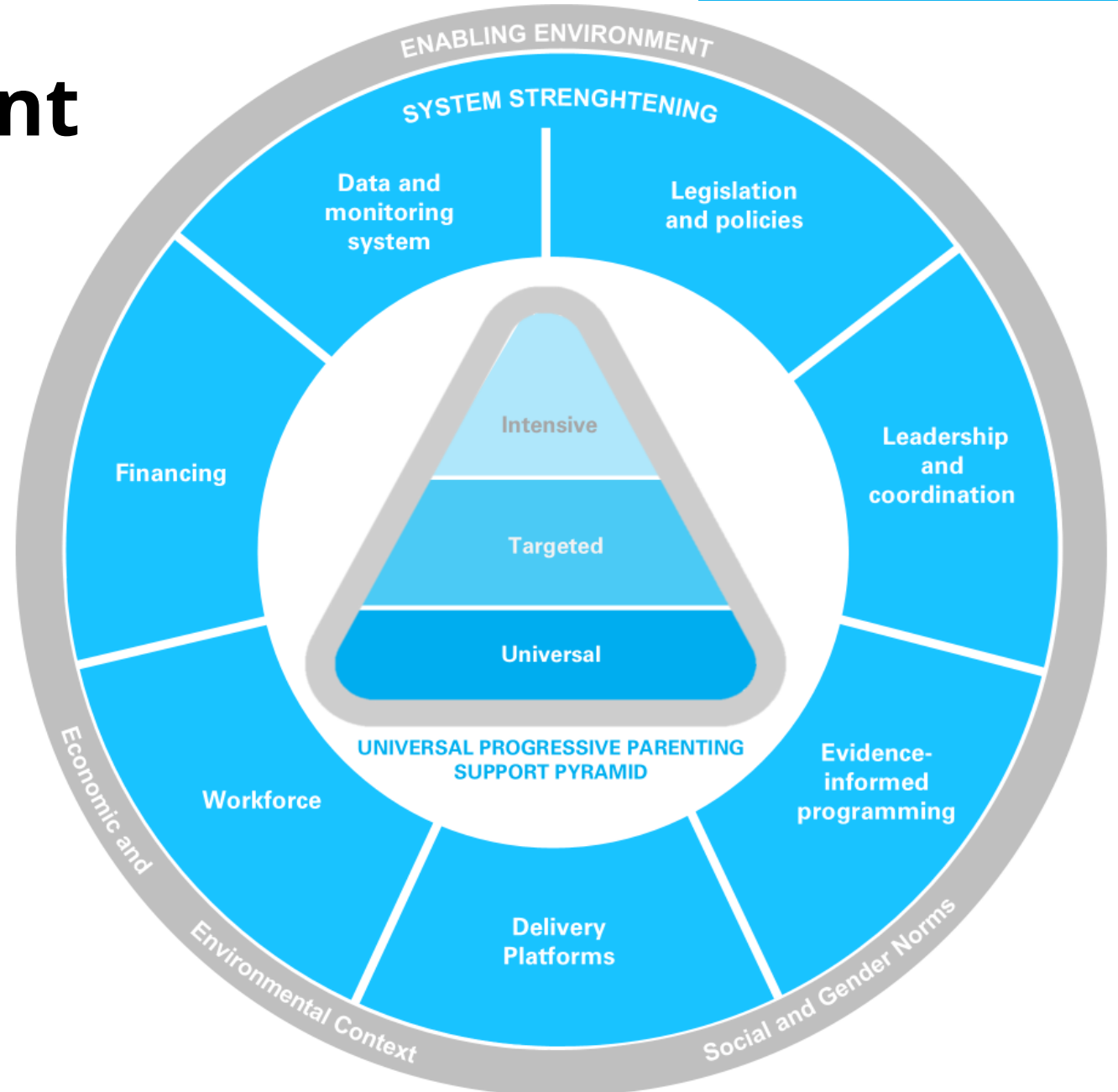
- » Build accountability and continuous learning
- » Track coverage, quality, and outcomes
- » Use theory of change and harmonized monitoring frameworks



Enabling environment

- » Gender-responsive social protection systems
- » Economic security, housing, infrastructure, and access to services
- » Safe, inclusive, and child-friendly public spaces
- » Climate-resilient infrastructure and caregiving services

Gender-Equity Approaches in Caregiving



Bringing it all together: **the Framework in action**



Thank you.

unicef 
for every child



PARENTING
FOR LIFELONG HEALTH



In support of

**Global Initiative to
Support Parents**