ECD Financing Summit Webinar:

Coming together to imagine new pathways for investing in the early years

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ECDAN
Early Childhood Development Action Network

MAY 6–8, 2026

INVESTING IN THE EARLY YEARS

A Global Technical Financing Forum

KIGALI, RWANDA

INVESTIR DANS LA PETITE ENFANCE

UN FORUM MONDIAL SUR LE FINANCEMENT

- 2 days Forum
- 1 day partner-led events
- Audience: Ministries of finance and planning, resource allocators, economists and program implementers, civil society

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The Path to the Global Technical Financing Forum (May 2026)

Global Financing Working Group & Innovative Financing Learning Group

Cross-Country & Cross-Sectoral Consultations

Financing Toolbox for the Early Years development

Global Technical Financing Forum

Global Early Years Financing Technical Working Group

- 17 organizational members
- Established January 2025
- Purpose:
  - To coordinate assessment of financing in the early years
  - To identify and analyze barriers and gaps as well as opportunities to address
  - To recommend innovative and sustainable financing reforms and mechanisms to support comprehensive whole-child programs and services.
  - To design the technical forum

Global Technical Financing Forum Objectives

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1. Raise awareness; *Sensibiliser*
2. Contribute to global processes; *Contribuer aux processus globaux*
3. Facilitate policy dialogue; *Faciliter le dialogue politique*
4. Promote cross-country learning; *Promouvoir l'apprentissage croisé entre les pays*
5. Catalyze action; *Catalyser l'action*

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Global Technical Financing Forum Key Outcomes

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1. **Global processes/ *Processus globaux*:** Inputs on (e.g., global monitoring report, financing for ECD in primary health care, Act for Early Years campaign).
2. **Innovative financing models and solutions/ *Modèles et solutions de financement innovants*:** Documentation of successful financing strategies and mechanisms.
3. **Financing Toolbox for the Early Years/ *Boîte à outils de financement pour la petite enfance*:** A co-constructed toolbox.
4. **Post-Forum action agenda/ *Programme d'actions post-forum*:** Defined priorities and action to take forward at the national, regional, and global levels to advance coordinated equitable financing for the early years and contribute to the Act for Early Years campaign.

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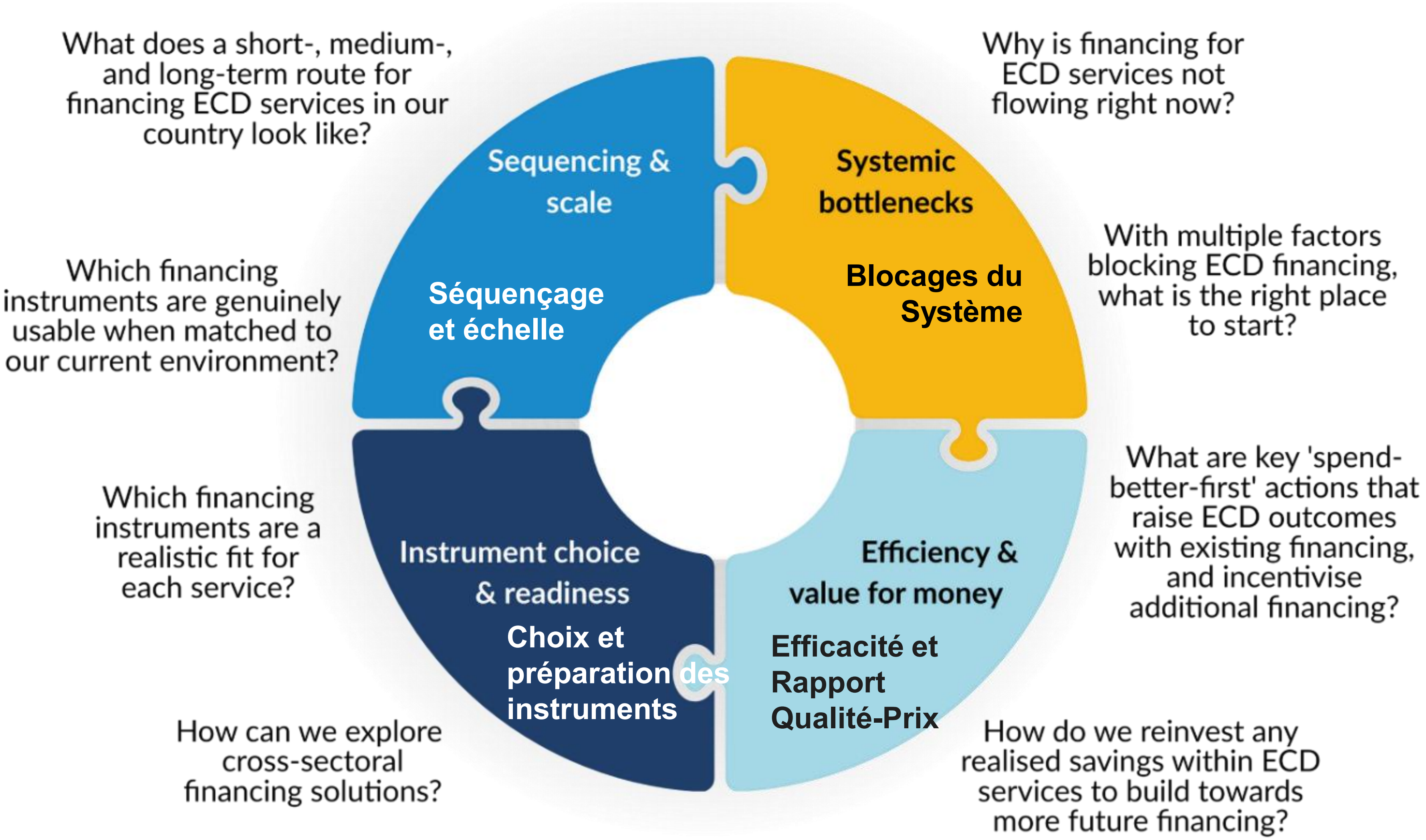
Financing System Bottlenecks

Blocages du Système de Financement



Shared frustrations that make ECD financing feel hard
Des frustrations partagées qui rendent le financement difficile

Political commitments to expand ECD financing are real (e.g. Tashkent & G20)

But financing increases are usually modest, uneven, or delayed

The frustration is rarely intent; it is converting commitments into financing

Why is ECD always competing with other priorities - and losing - even when it is a stated priority?

Why don’t commitments turn into reliable cash at the frontline?

Why does ECD funding feel scattered and hard to pull together across departments?

Why is it so hard to know where ECD money actually went - and what it paid for?

Why does money get stuck in processes - rather than reaching providers and families?

Why do our funding approaches work for some ECD services, but not for others?

What are the financing gaps and challenges in your countries?

Quels sont les déficits de financement et les défis dans vos pays?

Financing Toolbox: La Boîte à Outils du Financement

What is the purpose of the Financing Toolbox?

Turn fragmented funding into a coherent portfolio:
Move from isolated projects to a clear set of service-level financing choices

Make decisions transparent and accountable:
Show ministries of finance and partners why particular options were selected

Protect equity and continuity:
Ensure financing arrangements support most vulnerable groups and stable delivery, not just higher spending

Quel est l'objectif de la boîte à outils de financement?

Transformer un financement fragmenté en un portefeuille cohérent :
Passer de projets isolés à un ensemble clair de choix de financement au niveau des services.

Rendre les décisions transparentes et responsables:
Expliquez aux ministères des Finances et aux partenaires les raisons pour lesquelles certaines options ont été sélectionnées.

Protéger l'équité et la continuité:
Veiller à ce que le financement soit stable et atteigne les groupes les plus vulnérables, et non pas seulement qu'il augmente les dépenses.

What will the Financing Toolbox answer?
À quoi répondra la boîte à outils de financement ?

Where and how do countries find savings before activating additional financing?

Which ECD services match which financing instruments?

Which ECD services and platforms can be viably financed now?

What are the guardrails and SLAs countries must meet to extend the scale and scope of financing instruments?

How do countries sequence reforms over the short- to long-term to maximie financing?

What tools do you need to address the financing challenges in your country?

De quels outils avez-vous besoin pour relever les défis de financement dans votre pays?

Structure of the Financing Toolbox

Structure de la Boîte à Outils de Financement

Module 1: Unblocking core challenges affecting ECD financing; Le déblocage des obstacles au financement	Countries will be able to identify and prioritize their core financing challenges and understand how the Toolbox can assist with immediate and longer-term solutions.
Module 2: Leveraging value for money to extend ECD financing**;** Tirer parti du rapport qualité-prix pour étendre le financement	Countries will be able to identify value-for-money opportunities and highlight practical fixes before seeking new funds for ECD services.
Module 3: The universe of ECD services; L'univers des services de développement de la petite enfance	Countries will be able to define a list of ECD services for potential financing, which are practically grouped across sectors according to financing logic.
Module 4: Financing-related attributes of ECD services; Attributs des services liés au financement	Countries will be able to code each ECD service with standard financing attributes and defaults to enable transparent financing instrument selection.
Module 5: The universe of ECD-relevant financing instruments; L'univers des instruments de financement	Countries will be able to better understand the universe of financing instruments using standard fact sheets and case studies that cover definitions, uses, fit signals, etc.
Module 6: Linking ECD services with financing instruments; Lier les services aux instruments de financement	Countries will be able to produce an evidence-based shortlist of financing instruments per ECD service using a recorded rationale.
Module 7: The enabling conditions for ECD financing instruments; Les conditions favorables aux instruments de financement	Countries will have clear sight of the pre-conditions for the financing instruments and therefore be able to unlock instruments by setting appropriate guardrails and SLAs.
Module 8: Country typologies for ECD services financing; Typologies de pays pour le financement des services	Countries will be able to map a sequenced route to scale — now / short-term / medium-term / long-term — and prepare a credible investment plan for ECD services.

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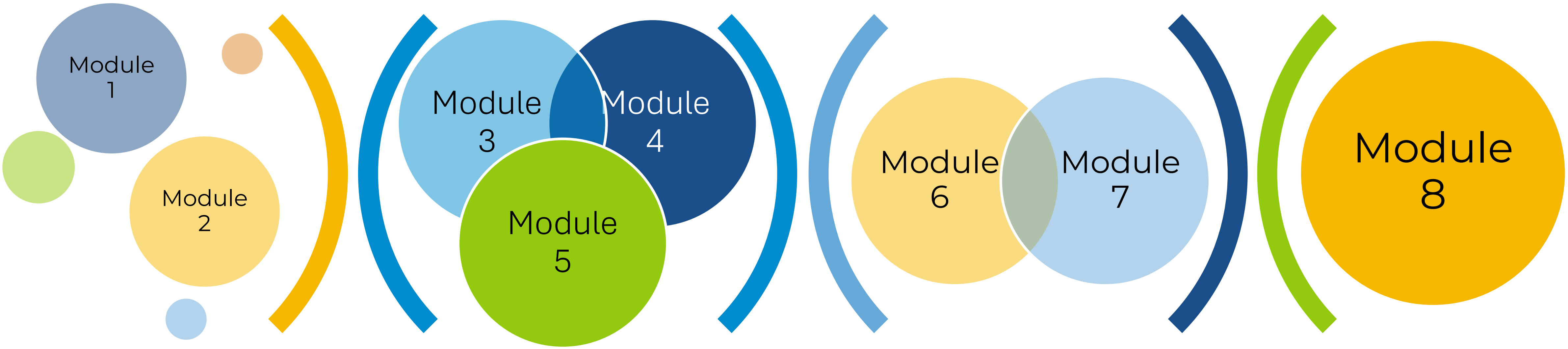
Structure de la Boîte à Outils de Financement



Diagnose financing blockages and create fiscal space

Diagnostiquer les blocages de financement et créer de l'espace fiscal

Define ECD services, code attributes, and assemble financing options

Définir les services de la petite enfance, coder les attributs et assembler les options de financement

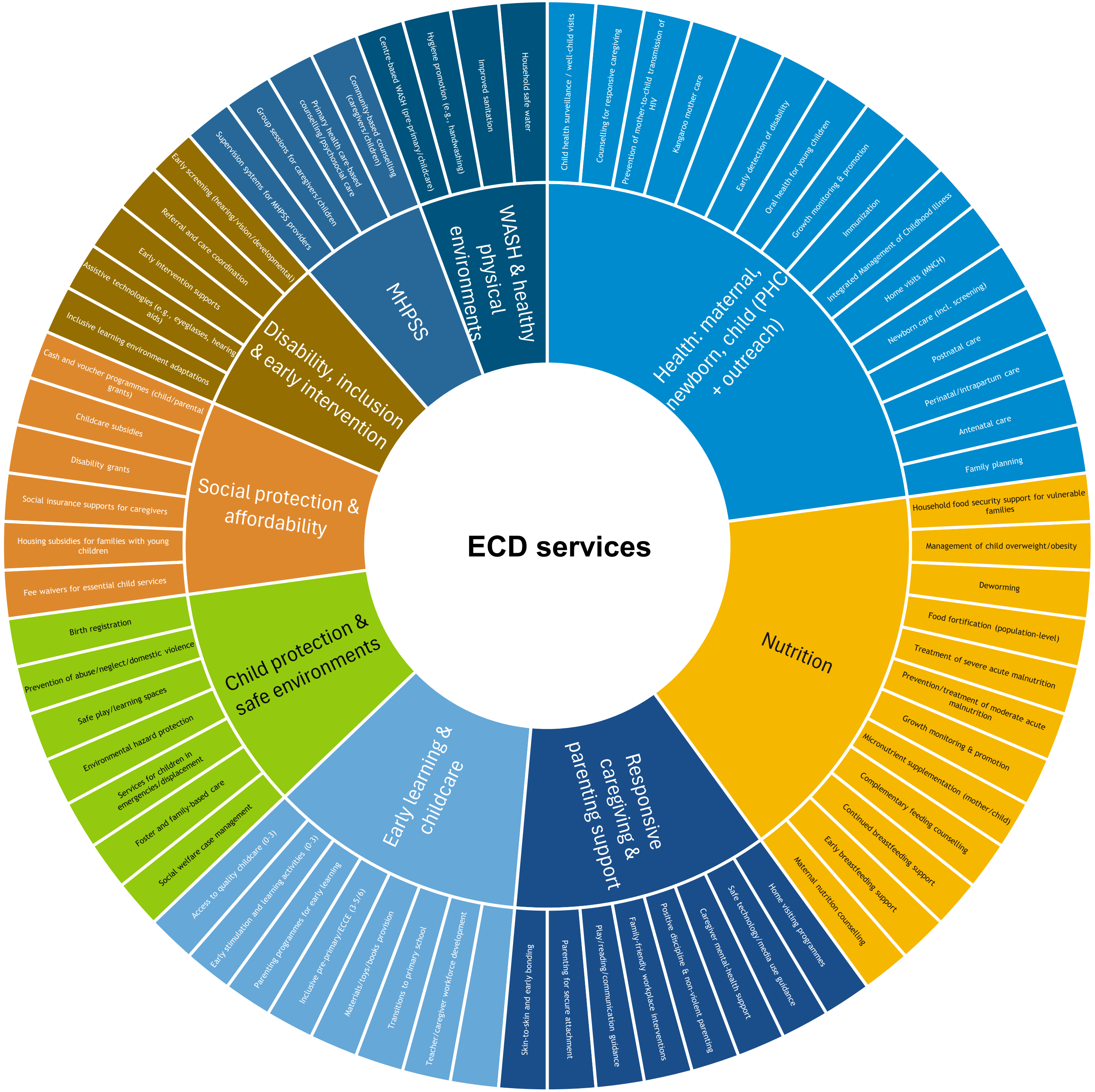
Shortlist financing instruments and lock in guardrails

Présélectionner les instruments de financement et verrouiller les garde-fous

Turn financing choices into a sequenced country plan of action

Présélectionner les instruments de financement et verrouiller les garde-fous

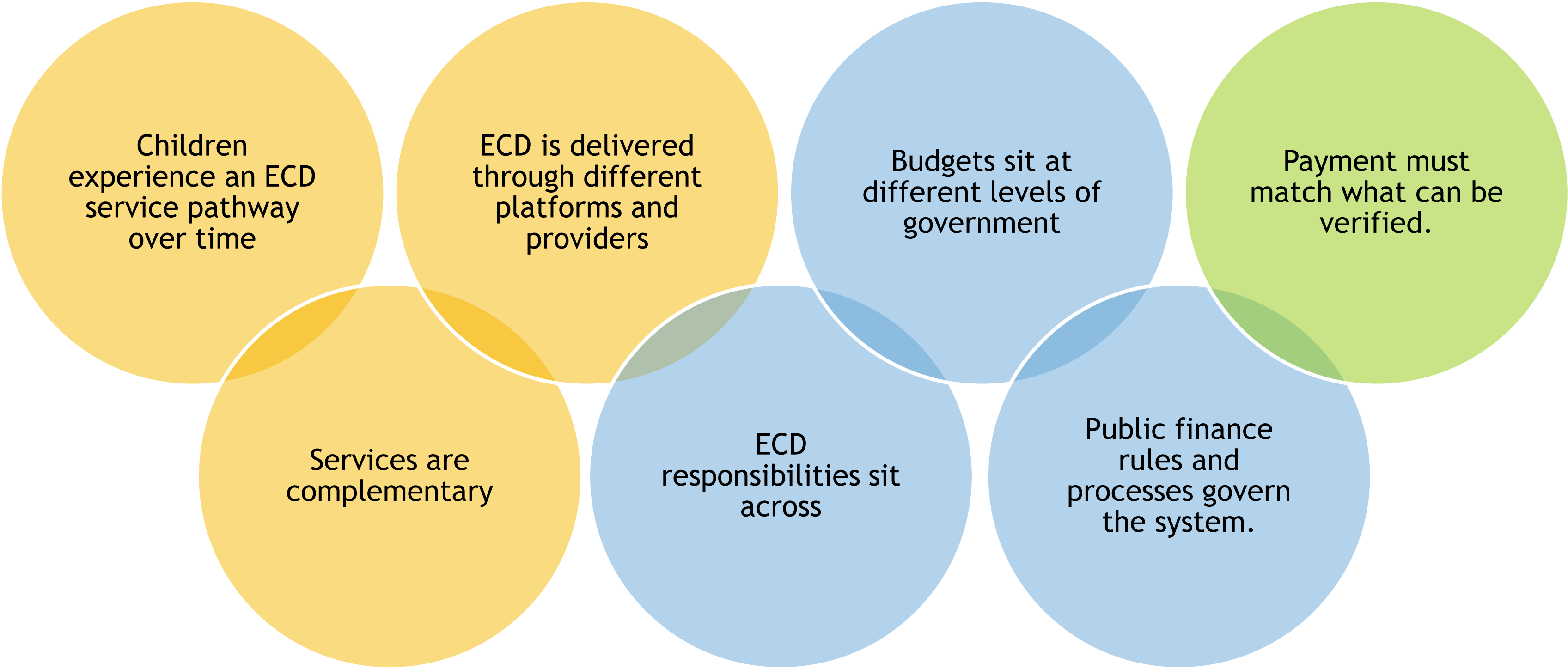
Universe of ECD services: 70+



Complexity in ECD is here to stay! How do we design financing for it?
La complexité est là pour durer! Comment concevoir un financement adapté?

Most teams think ECD financing is hard because it's complex. They're right - ECD financing is multi-dimensional.

What 'complexity' usually means in practice:



These factors interact, so uniform financing approaches rarely work.

Complexity vs blockages

Complexity = the normal multi-dimensional nature of ECD financing (many services, actors and choices).

Blockages = specific constraints that stop money flowing (e.g. late releases, procurement bottlenecks, weak verification).

Blockages are fixable; complexity must be managed.

But complexity is a feature of ECD financing, not a flaw. Progress comes from making complexity understood and then fixing the financing blockages.

ECD financing instruments

Instruments de financement

What are some successful strategies and tools you have implemented to improve and increase financing?

Quelles sont les stratégies efficaces et outils que vous avez mises en œuvre pour améliorer et augmenter le financement ?

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