BUILDING BLOCKS
AND STUMBLING BLOCKS

for inter-sectoral coordination of
Early Childhood Development interventions
WHY
A comprehensive approach to ECD?
DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS OF THE CHILD

- Biological
- Cultural
- Psychological
- Social

Source: Silva, V. 2012
DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS OF THE CHILD

- They vary according to children’s age.
- Some have more weight than others at different points in time (developmental stages).
- They are intimately related.
- Need to be satisfied simultaneously.
- Go beyond the child itself

Source: Silva, V. 2012
DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS OF THE CHILD

1. Household socioeconomic level
2. Parents educational level
3. Family environment
4. Work environment
5. Community environment

Source: Silva, V. 2012
What is usually seen in public policies?
PROBABLY...
Every child has the support of some program, but none has support for everything he or she needs.
Coherence

- Early intervention
- Family support
- Education
- Health
- Social services
- Policy framework and NSP

Positive Child Outcomes
COMPREHENSIVE ECD SYSTEM

- Comprehensive National Policy
- Cross Sectoral Governing Body
- Realistic and financially sustainable Strategic Plan
- Quality standards and compliance
- Comprehensive and robust reference, monitoring and evaluations systems
- ECD champions and local level buy-in

Scope, Coverage, and Equity of Programs
CASE STUDIES
JAMAICA CASE

Cross-sectoral/political strategy development, and challenges to implementation
CROSS SECTORAL GOVERNING BODY

- ECC board composition
- Credibility and legitimacy
- Leadership
STRAIGHTIC PLAN

• Results-based Plan
• Cross-sector, but Sector-specific
• Corresponding Budgets
MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- Robust sector-specific monitoring systems
- Unambiguous indicators
- Integrated system
WHAT THE ECC TRIED TO SOLVE

- Lack of Accountability
- Lack of Incentives
- Unpredictable Financing
FINANCE ARRANGEMENTS: SWAp

MoF

MoE

MoH

MoLSS

WB
FINANCE ARRANGEMENTS

- **Disbursement amounts:**
  Depend on achieving DLTs
  (May 2009: 7 DLTs * 180K = 1.26 M)

- **Disbursements subject to:**
  - Proof that milestones are adequately budgeted
  - Budget execution rate is 70% or above

- **Leads to steadier flow of funds and focus on achieving results**
BUILDING BLOCKS

• The Early Childhood Commission
• The National Strategic Plan
• The Monitoring & Evaluation
• The Finance Arrangements
STUMBLING BLOCKS

• Lack of sectoral ownership?
• Too ambitious?
• Too complex?
• Capacity constraints?
BOLIVIA CASE

Think Cross-Sectoral. Act Local.

December 2012
DECENTRALIZED ECD COORDINATION

- Central
  - Interest from the top, but not in the line Ministries

- Department
  - Coordination committees established for HD sector, comparing needs assessments and funding priorities

- Municipal
  - Much interest in coordinating actual delivery of services – through third-party providers
ALTERNATIVE ENTRY POINT FOR ECD INVESTMENTS

• Productivity and labor market participation for young women
CROSS-SECTORAL TEAM WORK IN LCSHD

- Team building
- Research
- Project design

ECD Municipal Program
BUILDING BLOCKS

• Team trust
• Management support
• Field support
• Client interest
• Decentralized arrangements
STUMBLING BLOCKS

• Low incentives for cross-sectoral work
• Unclear link to broader initiative
• Lack of national level champion
HONDURAS CASE

Low-hanging fruit: building on a sectoral intervention – health/nutrition – to incorporate some early stimulation, and achieve proverbial synergies
COMMUNITY-BASED NUTRITION PROGRAM

• AIN-C with long program history (1990s)
• Based on community volunteers for:
  
  - Growth monitoring
  - Parent counseling
  - Referral to health services
ECD MAINSTREAMING

• Pilot AIN-C + early stimulation 2009-2012
• ADDS:

Dev. assessment applied to child

Counseling on early stimulation

Home visits for children with greater dev. needs
RESULTS

• **Increase in attainment** of “expected” development level

• **Decrease in problems** with fine or gross motor skills, communication and language, emotional and cognitive skills
BUILDING BLOCKS

• Commitment from strategic stakeholders
• Financial resources availability
• Building on existing intervention
• Strong implementing agency in the field
STUMBLING BLOCKS

- Lack of buy-in from national level
- Pilot and single sector program
- Lack of funds to support scale-up and advocacy
EVERYTHING I EVER NEEDED TO KNOW ABOUT WORKING ACROSS SECTORS I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN

**WITHIN THE BANK**

| Share everything / Play fair | • Budget, credit  
|                            | • Attention       |
| When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands, and stick together | • Personal relationships  
|                                                            | • Partnerships     |
| Be creative                                                              | • Resources: linking to existing programs, TFs... |
EVERYTHING I EVER NEEDED TO KNOW ABOUT WORKING ACROSS SECTORS I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN

WITHIN CLIENT COUNTRIES

Make friends

- Leaders
- Champions, not just at the top

Don’t take things that aren’t yours

- Sectoral ownership
- Buy in at the line ministry level
THANKS!

Presenters:
Peter Holland- pholland@worldbank.org
Carla Paredes- cparedesdrouet@worldbank.org