Consolidated Goal from the Asia-Pacific Regional ECD Conference
18-20 November 2013 in Singapore reviewed and refined by ARNEC’s Steering Committee members on 22 November 2013.

Goal: Ensure all children get the Best Start in Life and for Learning

Note: Use of percentages may mask continued inequities. All indicators would need to be disaggregated in order to demonstrate continued inequities e.g. gender, rural/urban, language etc.

Target 1: Ensure that all children are healthy, socially and culturally competent, respectful of diversity and learning successfully

Proposed Indicators (baseline and measures are in the MICS): By 2025/2030
1. Increase % of children achieving their developmental potential beginning from birth (e.g. ECDI, UNICEF)
2. Decrease % of children affected by stunting at age 2 (MICS)
3. Increase children’s physical, emotional and mental health status; e.g. decrease child morbidity (diabetes, pneumonia etc.)
4. Increase pre-primary competencies (learning metrics; e.g. Learning Metrics Task Force (LMTF))
5. Increase early grade competencies (learning metrics; e.g., LMTF)
6. Increase children’s respect for difference and diversity

Target 2: Increase the number of children experiencing positive, responsive, sensitive and nurturing child-rearing practices in safe and peaceful environments

Proposed Indicators (baseline and measures are in the MICS):
1. Implementation of family support and child protection policies especially for at-risk children and families.
2. Increase by X% the number of children living in a physically safe, healthy and protective environment (e.g. access to clean drinking water, living conditions)
3. Increase by X% the number of families that have developmentally-appropriate books, play and learning materials at home.
4. Increase by X% parental/adult involvement (mother-father) in developmentally-appropriate stimulation and early learning at home and other settings.
5. Decrease by X% the number of children left home alone without adult supervision and cared for by older siblings, 10 years old or younger.
6. Decrease by X% the number of children experiencing harsh discipline and other forms of violence and abuse.
7. Decrease by X% maternal depression and domestic violence (increase life satisfaction of parents)

1 With a special focus on children from disadvantaged groups (including children with special needs and in fragile states/complex emergencies/conflict)
2 Environments refers to home and other child rearing settings.

MICS (Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey)
ECDI (Economic and Community Development Institute)
UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Fund)
Target 3: Ensure equitable access to quality, inclusive, and sustainable early childhood programmes and services

Signed and endorsed by:

Proposed Indicators:
1. Implement coordinated national policies with action plans and convergence structures for equitable and quality ECD programmes.
2. Increase total budget allocation for ECD programmes across different sectors as a percentage of GDP.
3. Increase enrolment by X% of children in under 3 ECD programmes, in 2 years of pre-school education, and early grade primary programmes (e.g. child-centered, anti-biased language and culture-specific curriculum, qualified teachers, low child/teacher ratio, supportive learning environment)
4. Establish access to quality ECD and education programmes for poor and vulnerable families with young child (e.g. children with disabilities, during emergency and crisis)
5. Reduce disparities/increase equality of opportunities in access to quality services.
6. Increase by X% in number of at-risk children, and primary caregivers who receive psycho-social support, especially in conflicts and emergencies

3 Supported by integrated comprehensive multi-sectorial ECD policies.