



THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL BENEFITS OF INVESTING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

INCLUSIVE EARLY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT —
AN UNDERESTIMATED
COMPONENT WITHIN POVERTY
REDUCTION

03 – 04 FEBRUARY, 2011, BONN

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Presentation Overview

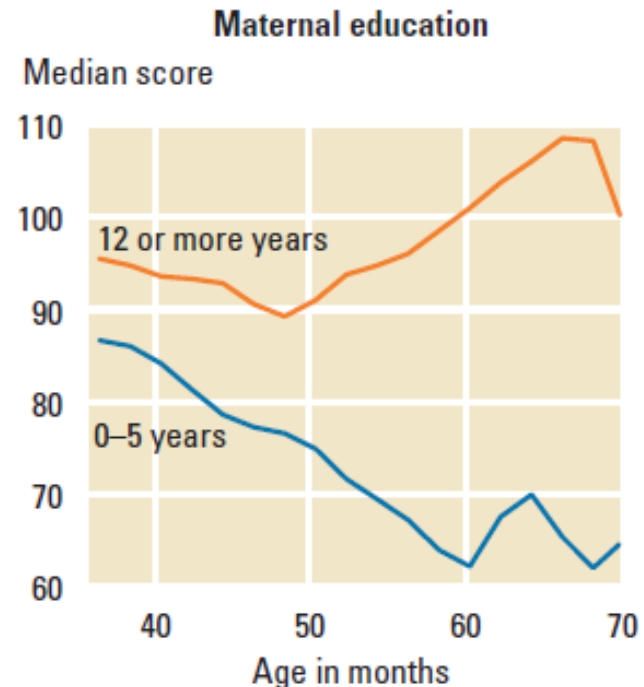
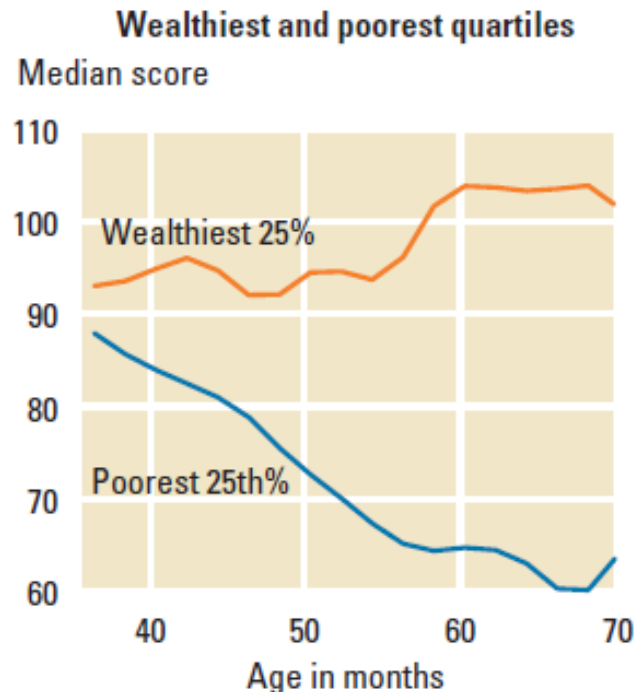
1. Why invest in Early Childhood Development (ECD)?
2. What factors affect ECD and life outcomes?
3. Definitions: Early Childhood Development, ECD programs and ECD policies.
4. What programs affect ECD (and How)?
5. From Programs to Policies to Build (or Strengthen) ECD Systems: Introducing SABER
6. SABER's framework for ECD



Inequality of opportunity starts before birth, and grows deeper during the first years of life

Figure 2 Opportunities are determined early

Cognitive development for children ages three to five in Ecuador differs markedly across different family backgrounds

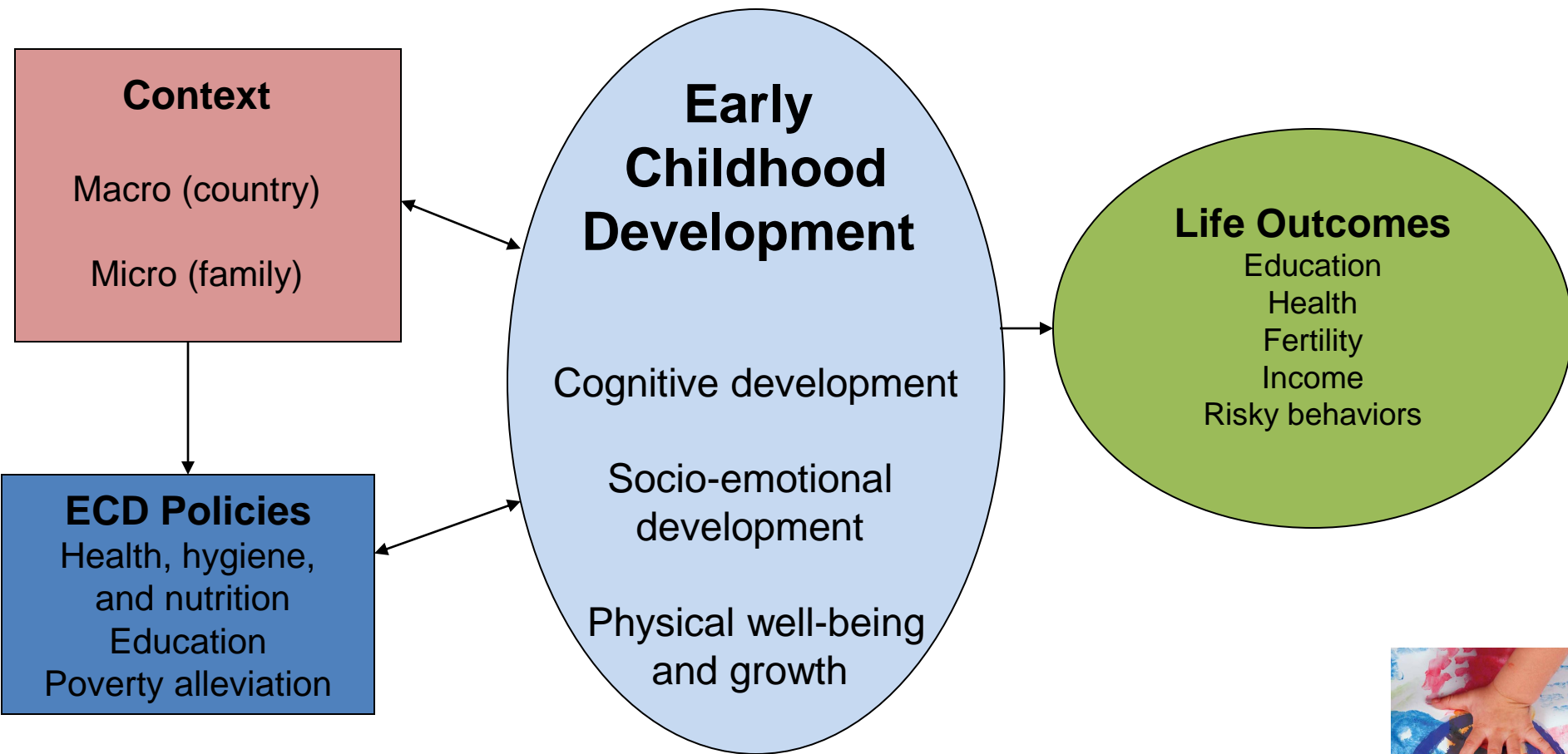


Source: Paxson and Schady (2005a).

Note: Median values of the test of vocabulary recognition (TVIP) score (a measure of vocabulary recognition in Spanish, standardized against an international norm) are plotted against the child's age in months. The medians by exact month of age were smoothed by estimating fan regressions of the median score on age (in months), using a bandwidth of 3.



What happens in ECD has lasting outcomes, context and policy matter

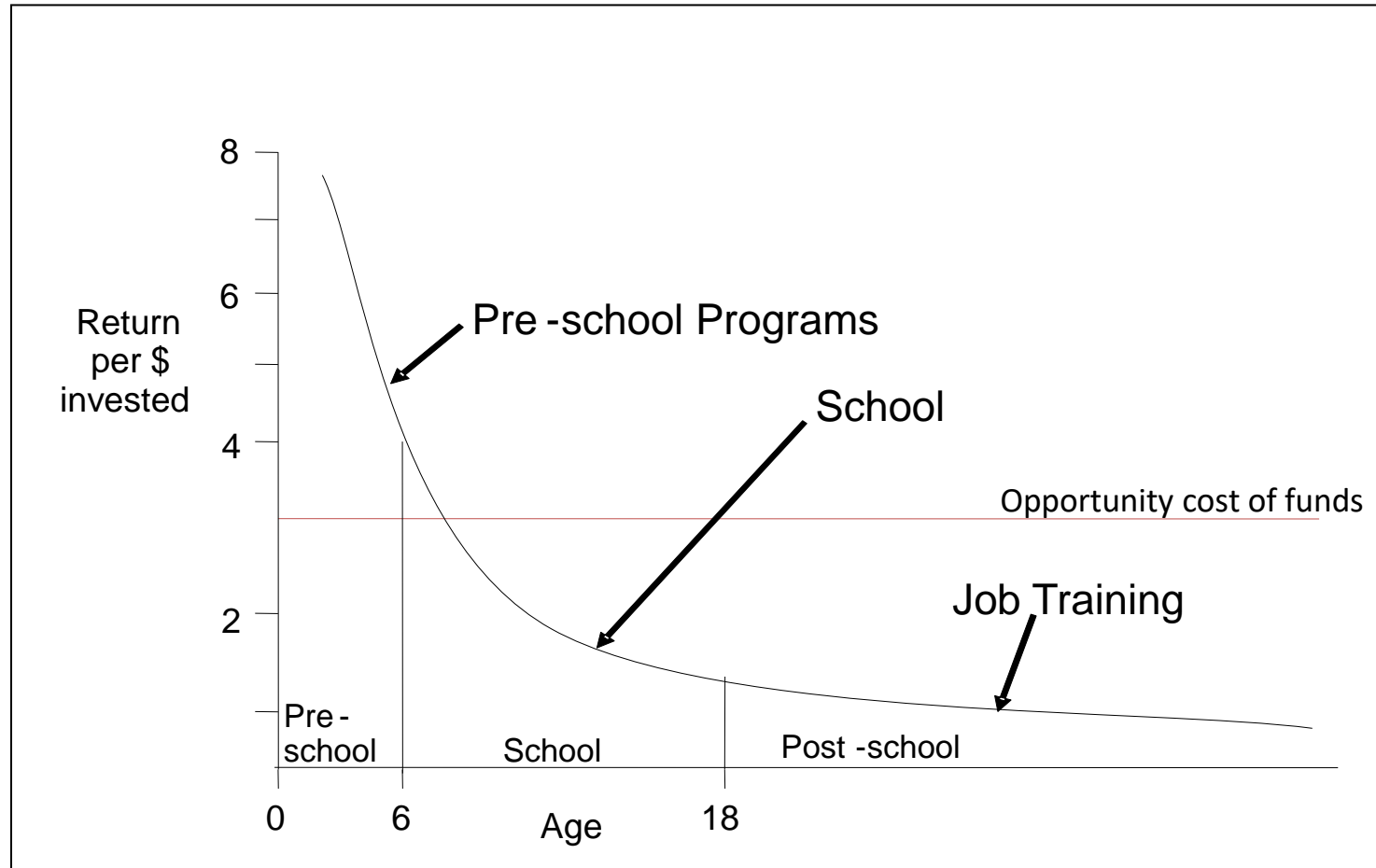


ECD investments have lasting impacts on individuals and society

- There is consistent evidence of the effects that early childhood development interventions have on future life outcomes:
 - ▣ Education
 - ▣ Labor insertion and wages
 - ▣ Health, fertility
 - ▣ Probability of engaging in risky behaviors
- The impact of these interventions is greater in the most vulnerable populations
 - ▣ ECD investments are economically efficient and equity-enhancing



ECD interventions have higher returns than interventions later in life



Source: Carneiro and Heckman (2003)



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Definitions

- Early Childhood Development as the period from when a child is conceived to six years of age (0-6).
- ECD **programs** include specific interventions that may vary according to primary objective, coverage (small scale, universal), and other program characteristics.
- ECD **policies** refer to the regulatory framework and institutional arrangements for service delivery at the national and/or state level to ensure that a nation's children have access to quality ECD services.

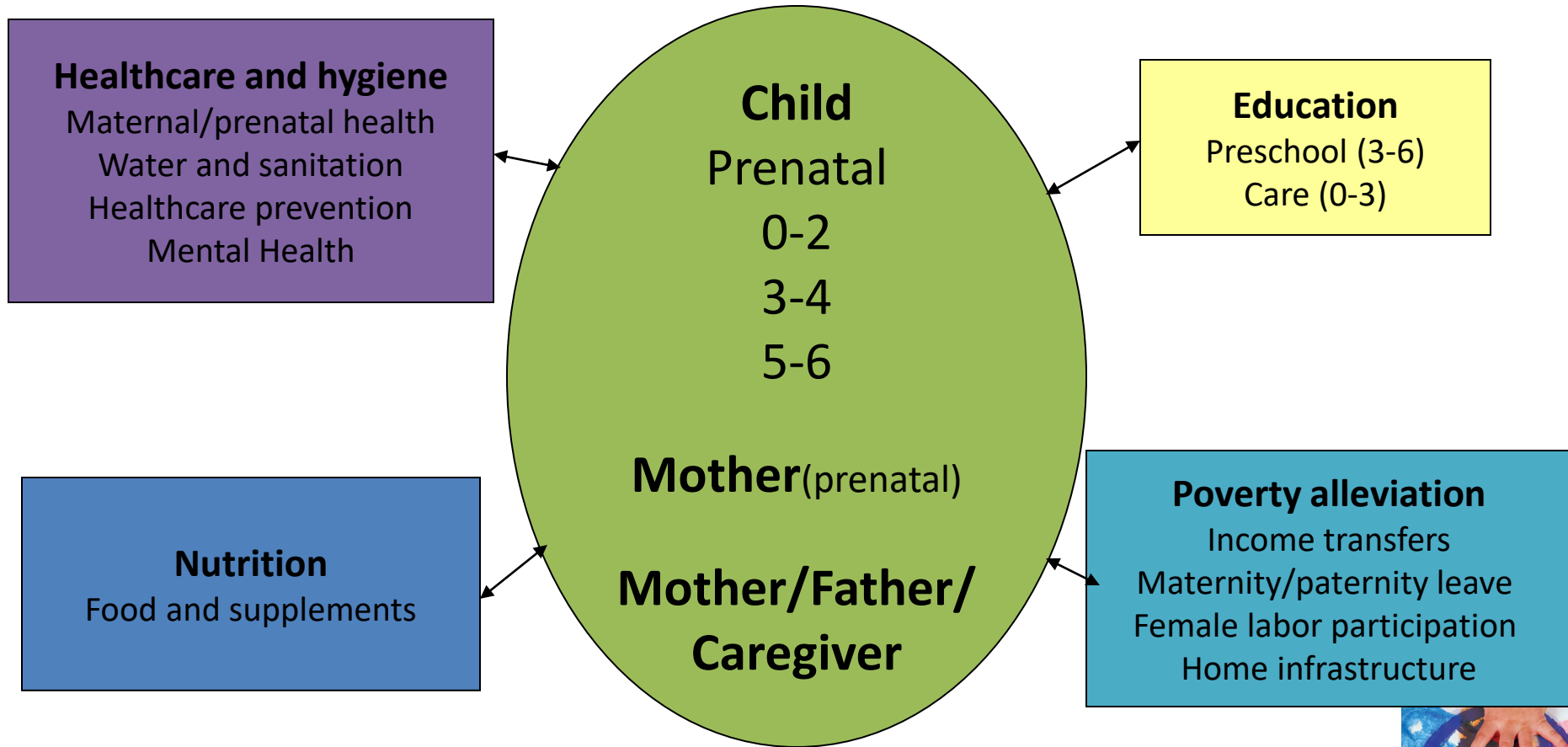


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Programs that affect ECD



Impact of ECD programs

- Interventions with nutritional components have positive effects on:
 - ▣ growth and physical well-being
 - ▣ cognitive development
- CCTs have positive impacts on:
 - ▣ healthcare prevention and control
 - ▣ cognitive and socioemotional development
- Preschool attendance has positive effects on:
 - ▣ cognitive and socioemotional development
 - ▣ the probability of continuing in school
 - ▣ reduced participation in risky behaviors
- But the impact is greatest when interventions are multi-sectoral and integrated



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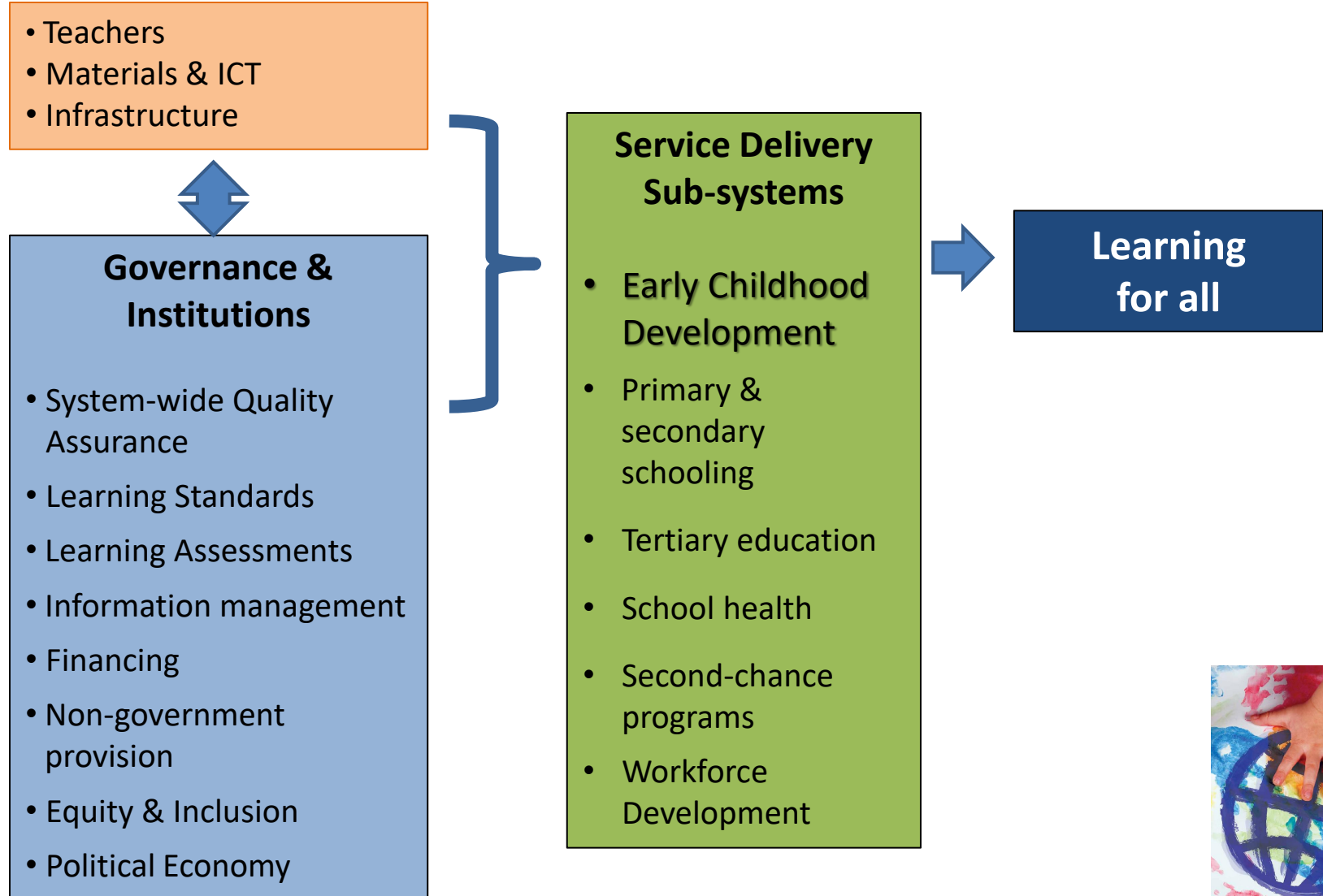


From Programs to Policies to Build (or Strengthen) ECD Systems

- SABER : System Assessment and Benchmarking for Education Results, intends to:
 - ▣ Develop knowledge & tools to systematically help countries:
 - make better policy and program choices based on better evidence and analysis
 - to get better educational results
- Fills a major gap in the availability of policy data, information, & knowledge on what matters most to improve the quality & relevance of human development policies, especially in education

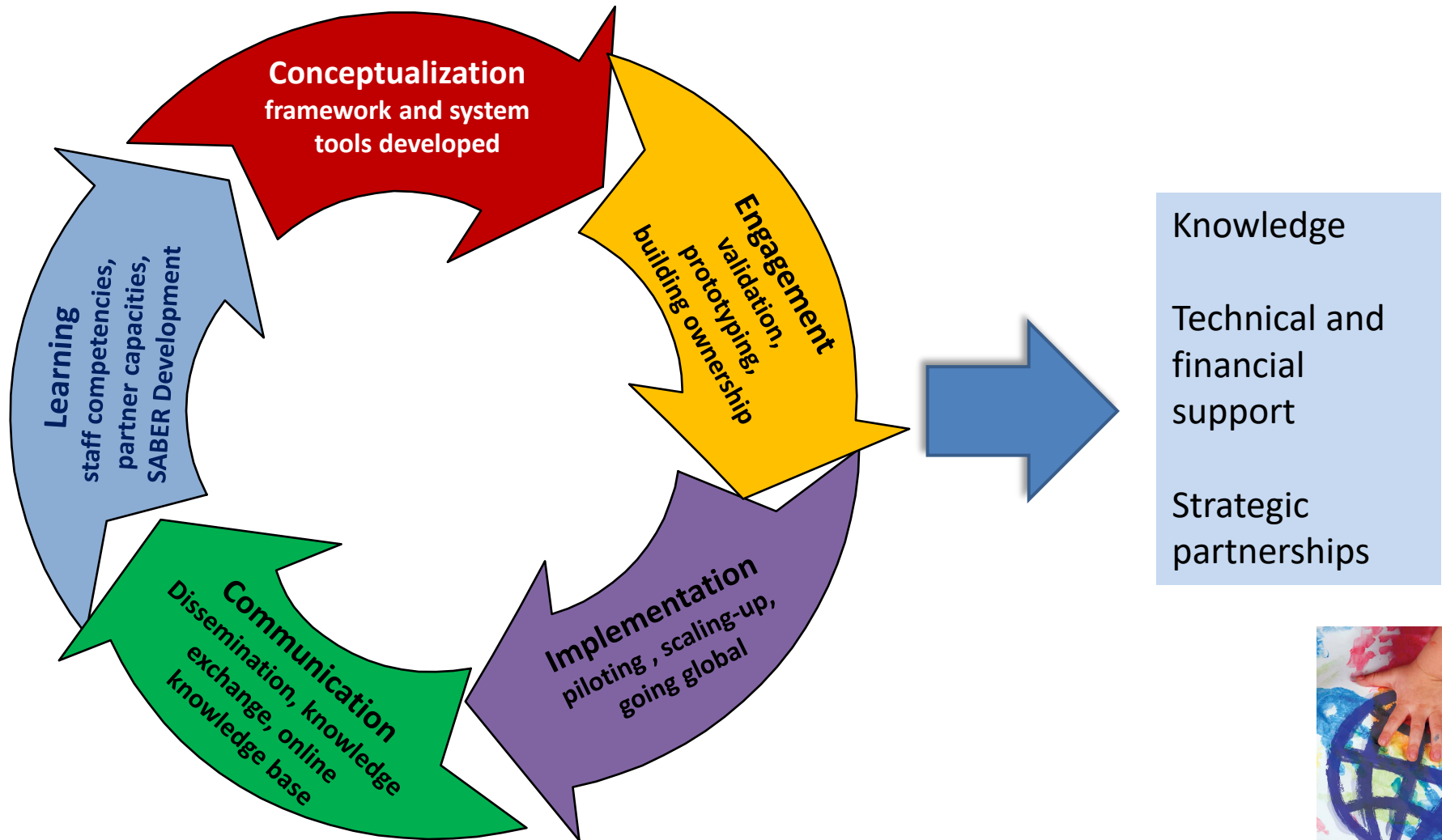


Components of SABER



SABER Development Cycle

An iterative process



SABER's Framework for ECD

1. **Stocktake & classify *programs***
2. **Stocktake & analyze *policies***
 - ▣ assess policy development
3. **Identify Options**
 - ▣ Country-specific options, based on international experience



1. Stocktake & classify ECD *programs*

9 Key Characteristics:

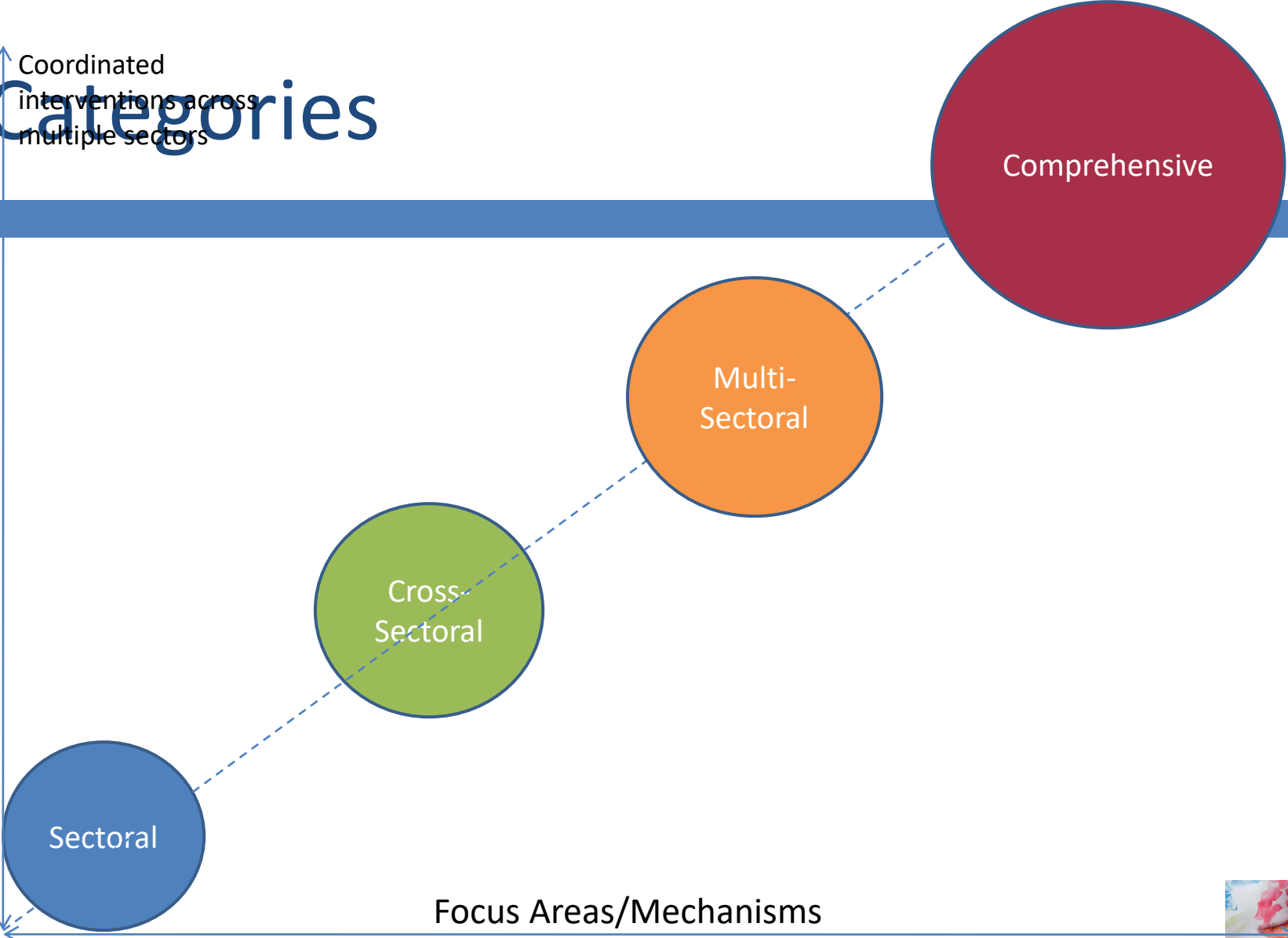
- i. Primary policy objective;
- ii. Brief description;
- iii. Focus area/intervention mechanism;
- iv. Coverage/access;
- v. Institutional arrangements;
- vi. Financing;
- vii. Service providers;
- viii. Quality assurance mechanisms;
- ix. Challenges for going to scale and improving service delivery.



4 Categories

Coordinated interventions across multiple sectors

Complexity of Institutional Arrangements



Single Sector

Specific Sector w/ inputs from other sector

Multiple sectors, specific programs for targeted or universal populations

Comprehensive regular monitoring, some universal services, with tailored interventions



2. Stocktake and analyze ECD *policies*

Policy Goals:

Policy Levers (indicators):

Levels of development:



Establishing an enabling environment

Implementing widely

Monitoring & assuring quality

- Legal framework
- Coordination
- Financing

- Coverage
- Programs
- Policy focus

- ECD information
- Quality standards & compliance

Latent

Emerging

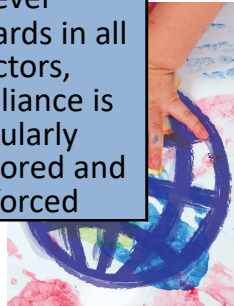
Established

Mature



ECD Policy Goals and Levels of Development

Policy Goals	Policy Levers	Level of Development			
		LATENT	EMERGING	ESTABLISHED	MATURE
Establishing an Enabling Environment	Legal Framework	non existent	minimal	regulations in some sectors	developed
	Coordination	low within sector	high within sector	low inter-institutional	high inter-institutional
	Financing	ad hoc	some programs with sustained	many programs with sustained	sustained for attaining goals
Implementing Widely	Coverage	low	expanding	universal in some sectors	universal in ECD
	Programs	pilot	established in few sectors	established in several sectors	established in ECD
	Policy Focus (health, nutrition, education & child protection)	some and minimal	some established	well established services	integrated services universally provided
Monitoring and Assuring Quality	ECD Information	minimal measures	outcomes at national level	outcomes at national, regional, local level	outcomes at national, regional, local & individual level
	Quality Standards & Compliance	Limited or no standards	Standards in some sectors	Standards in most sectors, compliance is monitored regularly	Standards in all sectors, compliance is regularly monitored and enforced



3. Identify policy options based on comparisons across countries

Policy Goals	Policy Levers	Level of Development			
		Colombia	Panama	England	Sweden
Establishing an Enabling Environment	Legal framework	Established	Emerging	Mature	Mature
	Coordination	Established	Emerging	Established	Mature
	Financing	Established	Latent	Mature	Mature
Implementing Widely	Coverage	Emerging	Latent	Mature	Mature
	Programs	Established	Emerging	Mature	Mature
	Policy Focus	Established	Emerging	Mature	Mature
Monitoring and Assuring Quality	ECD information	Emerging	Emerging	Mature	Mature
	Quality standards and compliance	Established	Latent	Established	Mature



Next Steps

- World Bank is finalizing data collection instruments for ECD programs and policies
- Data collection to begin in Uzbekistan, Turkey, Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa
- Analysis and preparation of Reports for each Country/System
- Development of user-friendly, web-based tool to disseminate information **ECD Policies and Programs Around the World**





Thank You!

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