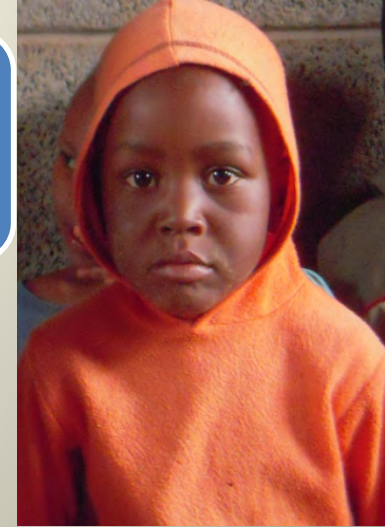




Whose Child is This?



Child Health Days

An Innovative integrated method for improving child development in the resource-constrained

*Mountain
Kingdom of
Lesotho*



What is Integrated Early Childhood Care and Development (IECCD?)

- An approach that recognizes the importance of the first five years of a child's life to achieving its physical, cognitive, and emotional development potential.
- 5 key areas of focus
 - Health
 - Nutrition
 - Education
 - Child Protection and Rights Promotion
 - Sanitation



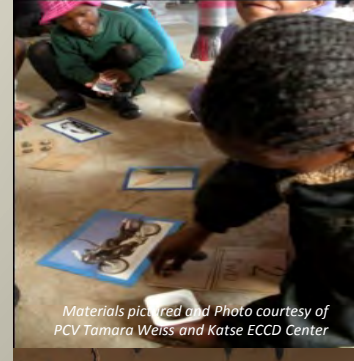
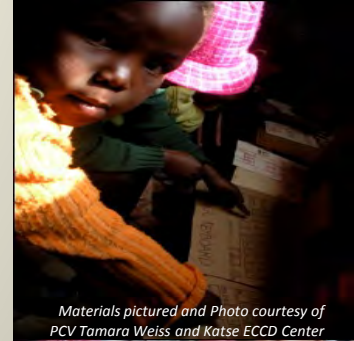
Current Reality

Children

- 32% of 3 to 5 year olds attend preschool
- Attendance: Urban 44%; Rural < 20%
- No programs for infants under 3
- No comprehensive feeding programs
- No early identification program for CWD
- Distance and geographic barriers
- Unsuitable environments for children

Teachers, Caregivers, Parents, Stakeholders

- Limited training opportunities for teachers
- No complementary parental stimulation
- Lack of service delivery coordination
- No reliable data on Child Development



Project Design

SO 1: Children in targeted areas, especially the most vulnerable, have increased access to sustainable IECCD services

Goal: All children in Lesotho, regardless of economic status, benefit from high quality IECCD services and support

SO 2: Children in targeted areas have improved developmental outcomes

SO 3: IECCD stakeholders have evidence to replicate successful models

Beneficiaries

- 1576 children ages 0-5
- 1155 parents and family caregivers
- 395 IECCD community committee members
- 48 teachers
- 48 Community Health Workers

Ecological Model

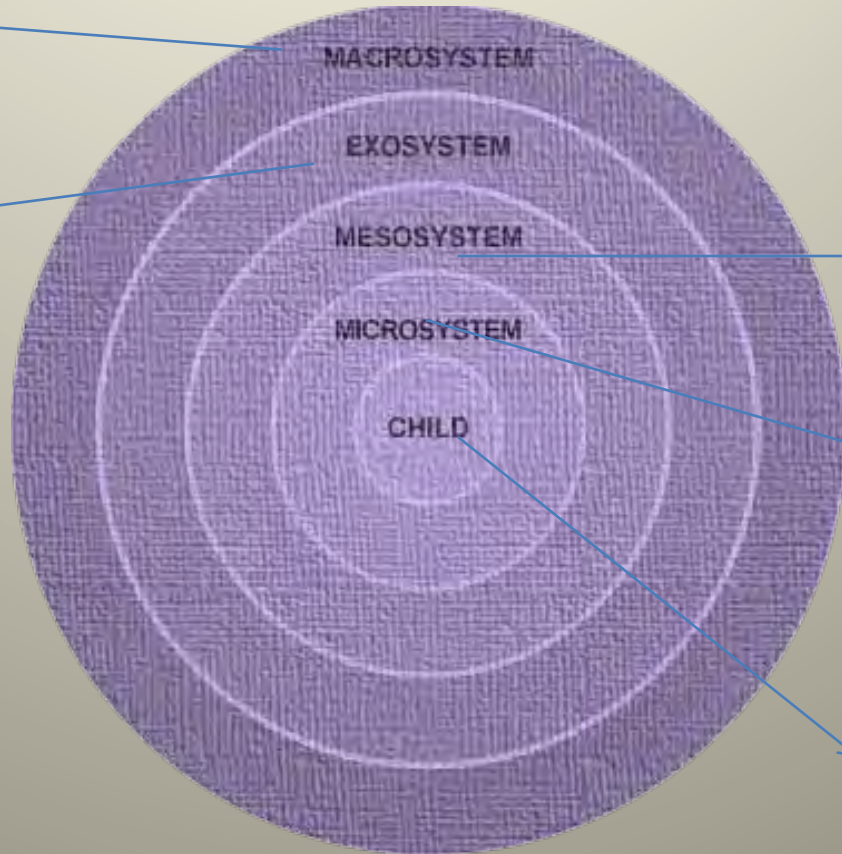
- A conceptual framework upon which the study is built
- Based on social hierarchies reflecting circles/layers of care: children placed at the centre
- Looks at child development within the context of relationships that form her/his environment
- Interaction between factors in the child's life, his/her immediate family environment, the larger society impacts heavily on their development



The theory in graphics: *Circles of Care*

Laws and Policies

Community, schools boards, service providers such as Nutrition and CGPU



Interactions in the Microsystem

Peers, family, church

The Link – Child Health Day & Ecological Model

- CRS framework that places strong focus on holistic programming
- Multisectoral approach – a strategy strengthening collaboration and service delivery; leading to improved holistic service provision

The Child Health Day Model

- An Integrated, innovative quarterly event that facilitates provision of services to children under 5, targeting the 5 key developmental areas
- While Health and Education had been previously providing annual celebrations for children under 5, CHD model is ideal as it brings together other services previously not included in the annual celebrations.



Services Provided during CHD

Health	Nutrition	Child Rights & Protection Awareness	Education	Sanitation
Growth Monitoring	Nutrition Education	Sexual Abuse	Play station	Sanitation & Hygiene education
Immunisations	Keyhole Gardens	Domestic Violence	Teacher & parent Training	Demonstrations
Vitamins	Food Demonstrations	Birth Registration	Material Development	Tippy Taps
HIV Testing			Mobile Cinema	

CHD Key Monitoring Tools

- Growth Monitoring
- Health Referral Register
- Child Card
- Knowledge & Practices Assessment



Key Results

Analysis of Knowledge & Practices Assessment

Education	Health	Nutrition	Child Protection	Hygiene & Sanitation
81% Preschool attendance	90% have children's immunisations on schedule	81% know 3 food groups	67% Know of types of child abuse	29% have sanitary toilets
28% have toys in their houses for children	95% have done child's growth monitoring	76% don't have safe water source	90.5% know of child abuse reporting stations	9.5% wash hands after changing their child's diapers
14% play with their children	100% know signs when child is sick	91% do not treat their water	28.6% have Birth certificates	81% wash vegetables and fruit before use

Key Gaps Identified

- A majority of parents don't engage children sufficiently to promote stimulation
- Because of the geographic setting of the areas, there are no safe water sources available for parents
- Only 29% of the children have their birth registration certificates
- 9.5% of the parents wash hands after changing diapers

Recommendations

- Sharing best practices around parental engagement and documenting them so that Gov't can scale up this intervention. CRS developed parent training materials and disseminated to different departments.
- Engaging with potential donors to support in the improving water and sanitation area.
- Bringing the responsible government department on board to provide birth registration during CHD.

Thank You