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MINISTRY OF HEALTH - ETHIOPIA

# Early Childhood Development (ECD) Training

## Participant Manual



Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
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# Contents

<b>Foreword</b>	
<b>Approval statement</b>	
<b>Acknowledgement</b>	
<b>List of Acronyms</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Introduction to the training manual</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>CHAPTER ONE Concept of Early childhood development (ECD) and nurturing care</b>	<b>8</b>
1.1 Early Childhood Development	<b>9</b>
1.2 The Nurturing Care Framework and its component.	<b>10</b>
<b>CHAPTER TWO Brain Development</b>	<b>17</b>
2.1 Children brain development	<b>18</b>
2.2 Identify the common risk factors for child development.	<b>24</b>
2.3 Early childhood development intervention landscape in Ethiopia	<b>28</b>
2.4 Prepare safe, attractive, and age-appropriate play materials.	<b>30</b>
2.5 chapter summary	<b>32</b>
<b>CHAPTER THREE Developmental monitoring in the newborn and older children</b>	<b>33</b>
3.1 Introduction to developmental Monitoring	<b>34</b>
3.2 Newborn's development assessment	<b>35</b>
3.3 Introduction to developmental monitoring in older children	<b>37</b>
3.3.1 <i>Milestones per age category</i>	<b>38</b>
3.4 Developmental assessment and classification in children:	<b>40</b>
3.4.1 <i>Classifying children based on developmental milestone assessments and problem solving.</i>	<b>40</b>
3.4.2 <i>Recording, referral and follow up for children with developmental problems.</i>	<b>41</b>
3.5 Summary	<b>44</b>
<b>CHAPTER FOUR Promoting Child Development in Different Touch Points and Providing Counseling:</b>	<b>45</b>
4.1.1 <i>What touching points are being targeted at health facilities?</i>	<b>46</b>
4.1.1.1 <i>Promoting child development in ANC</i>	<b>46</b>

4.1.1.2 Promoting child development in maternity ward and PNC	48
4.1.1.3 Promoting child development during GM, EPI and UNDER 5 Clinics	49
4.1.1.4 RESPONSIVE CARE, PLAY AND COMMUNICATION WITH SICK CHILDREN	52
4.2.1 Steps of Counseling	52
4.3.1 Concepts of responsive care giving and responsive care givers	59
4.3.2 Responsive Interactions	59
4.3.3 Effective way of teaching caregiver to become more responsive	59
Summary	60
<b>CHAPTER FIVE Promoting child development through play box sessions</b>	<b>61</b>
5.1 Play box Session	62
5.2 Preparing play materials for the play box session	63
5.3 Conducting play box session	63
5.4 Recording the playbox activity and keeping inventory	64
5.5 Problem Solving around play box	65
5.6 Practical Session in Selected health facilities	67
5.7 Summary;	68
<b>CHAPTER SIX Recording, reporting and analyzing of child development</b>	<b>69</b>
6.1 Recording and reporting of child development	70
6.2 Analyze trends in child development data	71
6.3 Process of recording and reporting of child development data	73
6.4 Post mentoring and supervision tool	73
6.5 Summary;	74
<b>ANNEX: GUIDE FOR PLAYBOX SESSION IN WAITING ROOM &amp; PEDIATRIC WARD</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>ANNEX: RECOMMENDED PLAYBOX KIT</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>ANNEX HOW CAREGIVERS CAN USE PLAYBOX MATERIALS</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>ANNEX: Integrating Play Into a child's daily routine</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>ANNEX: SELECT AT LEAST 2 OR 3 OF THESE CAREGIVERS FOR COUNSELLING AT EVERY PLAYBOX</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>ANNEX 1 RECOMMENDED PLAYBOX KIT</b>	<b>82</b>



## Foreword

Ethiopia has made impressive progress in achieving many of the national and global health indicators as a result of strong leadership of the Ministry of Health (MOH), the coordination efforts and intensive investment in the health system by the government, partners and the community at large. Despite these achievements, the government of Ethiopia recognizes that the risk of poor developmental outcomes remains extremely high, affecting more than half of children under five years.

Care and support activities during early childhood have more positive impact than those during other stages of development. Especially, different programs which targeted from the perinatal period to the first three years after births are more effective and efficient than those implemented in later years.

Investing on early childhood development targeted programs help to timely identify and quickly support children with special needs who are prone to risks for development, will improve participation in primary education, by availing access to pre-school education, has great economic importance through ensuring access to quality programs for early childhood, will improve in their education and productive in their professional pursuit, help to reduce expenses at family and national levels, reduced dropout and repetition rates, will present better job opportunity and improved standard of living, reduces poverty and helps to ethically shape the children who will ultimately strengthen their capacity as well as the capacity of their family and society at large.

The purpose of this participant manual is to increase the knowledge, skill and attitude of trainees on early child development through providing a framework that serves as guidance for strengthening stakeholders' participation, designing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating early child development initiatives.

Thus, this participant manual is prepared to guide all program implementers and other stakeholders who are taking part in early child development programs and initiatives.

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