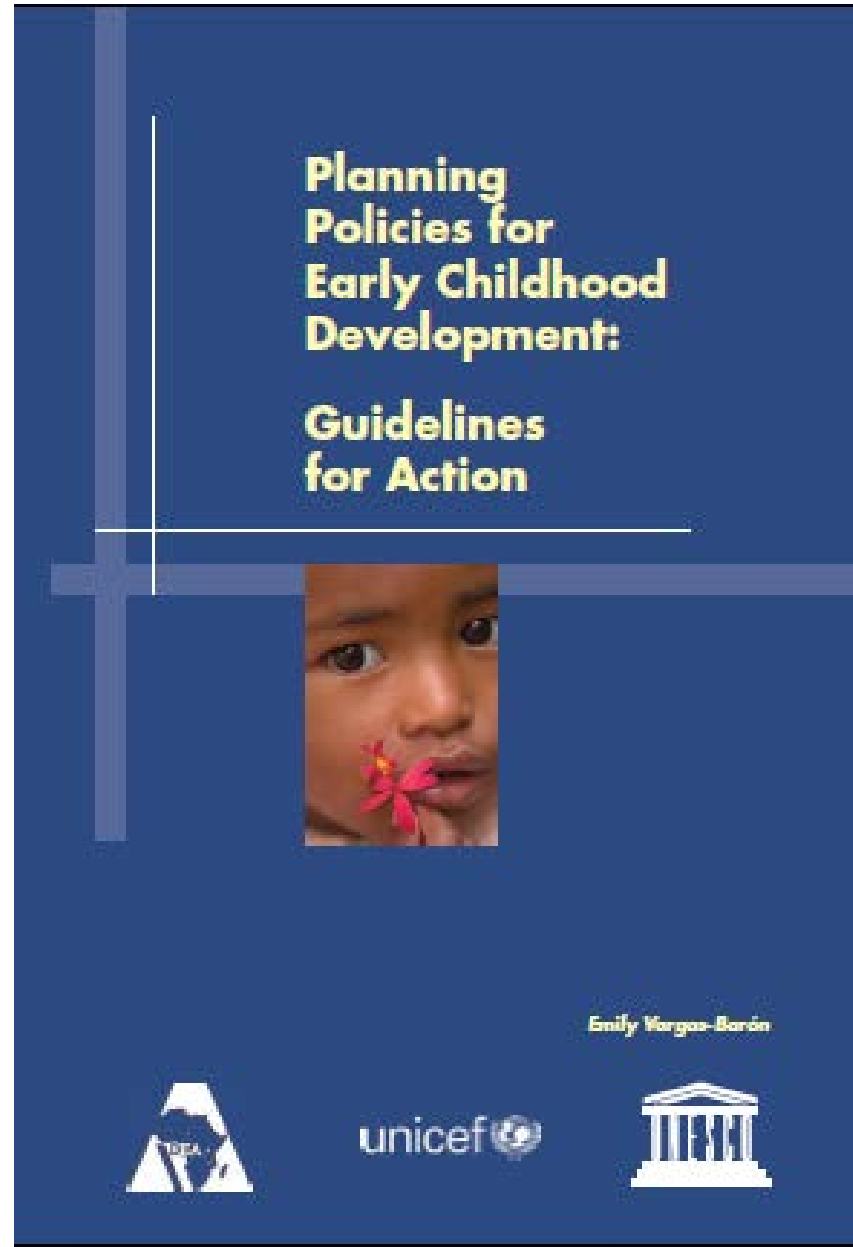


The Vargas-Barón Policy Planning Tool

Slides prepared by Ann S. Masten for the
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Report by

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ECD Policy Planning Toolkit

- ▶ Primary audience - National policy makers and planners in the developing world
- ▶ Primary aim - to provide an ECD Policy Toolkit for national ECD planners
 - ▶ Describes a participatory planning process step by step
 - ▶ Based on extensive experience in national policy planning
 - ▶ Not prescriptive - emphasizes HOW
 - ▶ Provides many resources and recommendations

Contents

- ▶ Justification for ECD policies through age 8
- ▶ History of ECD policy development
- ▶ Principles of an ideal ECD system
- ▶ Guidelines for 5 phases of participatory policy planning
- ▶ Activity Checklists for 5 phases
- ▶ Appendices with many useful resources

Phases delineated

- ▶ I - Preparation
- ▶ II - ECD Situation Analysis and Consultation Preparation
- ▶ III - Community, Regional and National Consultations
- ▶ IV - Policy Drafts and Consensus Building
- ▶ V - Policy Approval and Adoption

Example activity list

PHASE II: ECD SITUATION ANALYSIS AND CONSULTATION PREPARATION

Activity Checklist for Phase II: ECD Situation Analysis and Consultation Preparation	Begun	Completed
2.1 Plan and conduct assessment of children's needs		
2.2 Plan and conduct ECD Resource Assessment		
2.3 Plan and conduct ECD Policy Review		
2.4 Prepare initial data analysis and interpretation		
2.5 Prepare initial draft Situation Analysis for review		
2.6 Prepare nation-wide policy consultations		
2.7 Begin initial interviews with key ECD leaders		
2.8 Revise Work Plan of the Planning Team		

Links to Decision-Support Tools

- ▶ Many decisions are required to implement the processes delineated in this policy planning toolkit
- ▶ Examples
 - ▶ Strategic areas to assess on children's needs
 - ▶ Best indicators for children's needs assessment
 - ▶ How to interpret the data
 - ▶ What to do about it
 - ▶ Matching needs with best available policies and practices
 - ▶ Evaluating trade-offs for investment (simulations based on evidence)
 - ▶ Making best choices suited to the context

What are the best roles of the Forum?

- ▶ Whether and how to...
- ▶ support development of evidence-based and useful tools
- ▶ facilitate policy planners and tool developers in keeping up with evidence
- ▶ support evidence-building for decision-making tools
- ▶ support dissemination of tools
- ▶ encourage use of best tools available