



Implementing a Comprehensive ECD Model: Findings from Africa



Children and HIV/AIDS: Action Now, Action How
Mexico City, Mexico, August 1-2, 2008

Poverty + AIDS = acute early childhood deprivation

- Death (1 in 10 African children die before age 5)
- Serious and recurrent illnesses
- Malnutrition
- Life-long cognitive delay
- Increased vulnerability to exploitation and abuse
- Later school failure and drop out
- Child labor
- Stigma, discrimination, cycle of poverty
- Risks higher for the girl child

Food & Nutrition

Child Development:
(Physical,
Socio-emotional,
Cognitive)

National Policy
Community
Child Care Setting
Caregiver/Family

Child



**Child Rights/
Protection**

**Economic
Strengthening**

Health

Testing a sustainable model in challenging contexts



- 21 current projects: 6 in Africa, 9 in Asia, 6 in Latin America, including:
 - Kenyan informal settlement
 - Ugandan town along transport corridor and IDP camps
 - Zambian rural & peri-urban communities
 - Rwanda and Angola

Kibera, Kenya – an urban model

- **Training and awareness**
 - ✓ **National curriculum**
 - ✓ **Community youth theater on importance of ECD**
 - ✓ **Nutrition, safe food handling, PSS and diversity, child rights, economic strengthening, health referrals**
- **Materials**
 - ✓ **Teaching aids, toys, books, pencils and crayons**
 - ✓ **Youth groups' weekly storytelling sessions**
- **Facilities**
 - ✓ **Rehabilitation to improve space, shelter, ventilation, lighting, and safety of premises**
 - ✓ **Playgrounds**
 - ✓ **Improve food storage and hygiene for eligibility for food donor programs**

Uganda: Busia and Gulu

Rehabilitate centers



Grandmothers/caregivers established thriving businesses

Child Mother's mentoring and vocational training program

Radio programs to sensitize community

Formal links with health centers

Testing impact measurement tools

Zambia

- Linked to community based OVC education program
- Sustained by motivated teacher volunteers
- More than 10% of children below age 6 are HIV+
- CARE Zambia advising the govt. on revisions to the national ECD policy and curriculum
- Using Ages and Stages and Offord tools



The Road Ahead

- Impact Research (including and identifying and testing appropriate measurement tools)
- Identify a minimum package relevant for HIV contexts
- Strengthen and expand current programs and partnerships
- Advocacy to influence national policies and budgets

Thank you

