

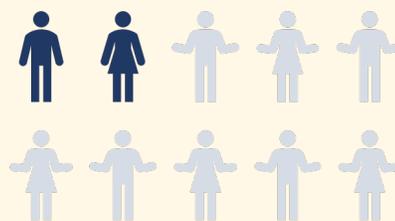
Kosovo's Human Capital

The Missing Foundation for Economic Growth and Social Transformation



Low Human Capital Index

Children born in Kosovo today will be only about half as productive as adults as if they had received strong education and health services



A Workforce Without Skills for Modern Jobs

At age 15, only 20% of youth have functional literacy; only 23% have functional numeracy

Problems Rooted in Deficits During Early Childhood

Health



High out-of-pocket costs (more than 30% of spending) prevent access to critical care



High rates of infant and child mortality; lack of regular health screenings for women and children



Early Education and Care



77% of children entering pre-primary are below benchmarks for literacy and numeracy



Less than 7% of children under age 5 have access to preschool and care centers

Social Protection



National safety net misses many poor families; income support for large families is insufficient



Reactive approach to social services risks exposing children to harm

The Critical Path to Improving Young Children's Wellbeing and Human Capital Development



1 A National Early Childhood Strategy



An integrated approach that ensures all vulnerabilities of each child are addressed at the same time



Strong central leadership to drive cross-sector collaboration and outcomes that transcend the work of individual sectors



A focus on *families'* needs so parents have the health and resources to provide what children need for healthy development



Better linkages across sectors through referrals, case management, a data exchange platform, and robust sectoral data systems

2 Improved Implementation of Existing Policies and Programs

Health

- ✓ Reduce out-of-pocket costs for basic services
- ✓ Improve quality of health services for infants, children, pregnant women, and new mothers

Education

- ✓ Increase pre-primary hours, revise curriculum
- ✓ Expand access to quality preschools through public-private partnerships and incentives for licensure

Social Protection

- ✓ Expand support to poor families through reform of SAS eligibility criteria and benefits formula
- ✓ Implement proactive and preventative approach to social services

3 Assessments of Additional Investments

Achieving long-term goals for human capital and economic growth will require additional investments in early childhood development



Accurate costing of the long-term plan



Strategy for securing fiscal resources