

Invest in Childcare

Update on activities

22 January 2024







- Update on Invest in Childcare activities and Q&A 20 minutes
- Women, Business and the Law progress and emerging findings and Q&A-15 minutes
- Sharing work from teams: DRC and Disability Inclusion & Q&A 30 minutes
- Closing discussion- 10 minutes
- AOB 15 minutes

Invest in Childcare: cross-sectoral work program to drive investments in childcare across the WBG

Recipient Executed Funding	Match funding for project finance	Match funding to incentivize countries to allocate resources to childcare within World Bank-supported projects in 10-20 countries (1:1 match funding for IDA and IDA/IBRD Blend countries and 1:2 for IBRD countries)	
Bank Executed Funding	Catalytic grants to countries	Demand-driven, competitive funding that responds to country needs to generate more and better-quality investments in childcare in 30-50 countries and explore innovative approaches	
	Global analytical work	Building the evidence base and addressing knowledge gaps through evaluations, diagnostics, ROI analysis and the development of tools, guidance and publications to support country teams and serve as global public goods \$15m	
	Capacity building	 Internal and external capacity building and knowledge exchange Early Years Fellows training Engaging Policymakers course for selected governments Community of practice for WB teams 	

Thematic brief on care

The Invest in Childcare team collaborated with the World Bank Gender Group on a thematic brief on care, which provides an analytical foundation for the World Bank Gender Strategy 2024-30.

- "Addressing Care to Accelerate Equality" takes a broad framing of care and considers childcare, elder care, and disability inclusion. The brief:
 - Reviews key thematic issues related to the care economy
 - Summarizes evidence on promising solutions and operational good practices
 - Highlights promising areas for future engagement to promote gender equality and empowerment
 - Helps lay out ways the WBG can more actively engage in the broader care economy.



WORLD BANK GROUP GENDER THEMATIC POLICY NOTES SERIES: EVIDENCE AND PRACTICE NOTE

ADDRESSING CARE TO ACCELERATE EQUALITY

TANIMA AHMED, AMANDA DEVERCELLI, ELENA GLINSKAYA, RUDABA NASIR, AND LAURA B. RAWLINGS

OVERVIEW

The care economy is essential in daily life and a driver of economic growth, human capital development, and endoris addining characteristic of the care economy. Women spand 32 times more time on unpaid care work than men and constituite the majority of the care workfore. Disproprionate unpaid care responsibilities and a tack of access to quality, accessible, affordable ever services impede women's economic participation and affect their overall well-being, twestments in the care sector are esential to accelerate equality and could generate up to 297 mittion poids workfore (care).

Globally, the need for care services is high. Worldwide, 43 parcent of all children below primary-school-entry age-350 million children-need childcare but do not have access to it. The need for eldercare is also growing as the population continues to age and face chronic health conditions:

The World Bank Group actively supports countries in addressing this care crisis. This thematic policy note reviews many of the issues, evidence, and lessons learned:

Investing in the care economy is a win-win-win for families, businesses, and economies. Advortable, accessible, and quality care services are a public good that benefits all Care investment can generate jobs and yield multi-generational impacts by improving employment and productivity, child outcomes, family working, and overall economic development.

Ensuring access to well-designed, affordable, and quality care services can increase women's economic participation. Dosigning care services that accommodate needs of caregivers-adjusting hours of operation and location-can boost caregivers' labor market outcomes.

Addressing social and gender norms is essential for increasing the uptake of Leve services. Care is considered women's work across sociaties. Interventions that simultaneously tackle multiple constraints including normative barries to outsourcing care, can increase the uptake of care services and, in turn, improve women's labor market outcomes.

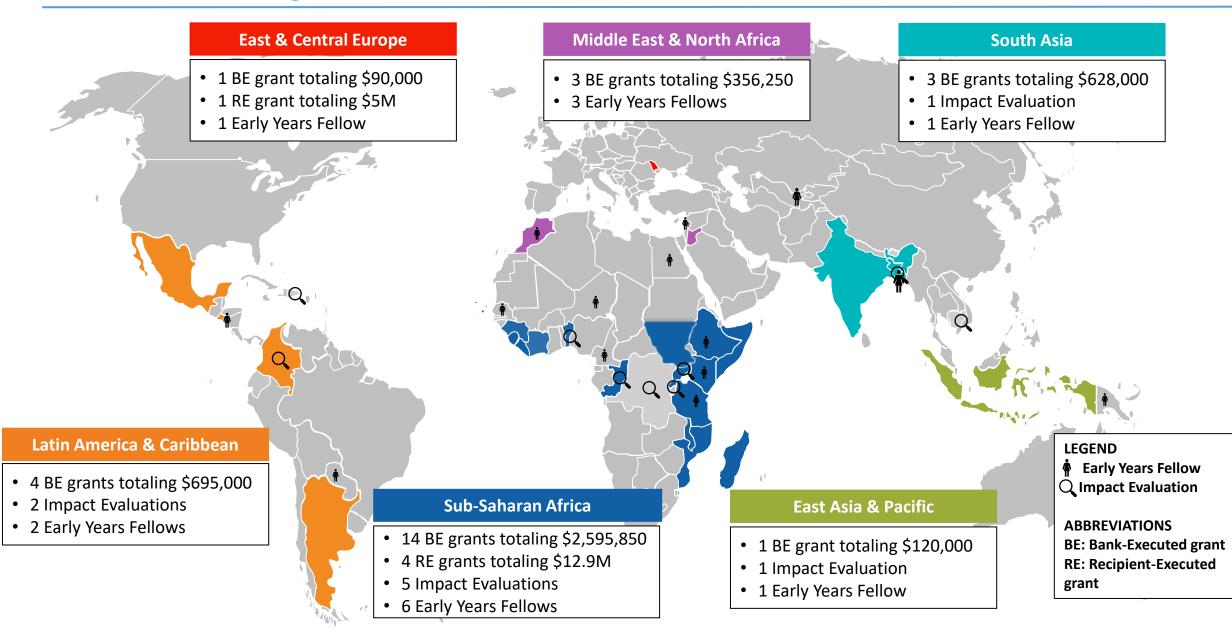
Employer-supported family-friendly initiatives can help employees manage their care responsibilities. This may include childcare support, paid family leave, paid and job-protected parental leave, and flexible working options.

Coordination and collaboration across the public and private sectors is required. Government ministries, the private sector, non-state organizations, and communities must work together to ensure access to quality care provision and maximize the return on such investments.

ALIGUST 2023

ACCELERATE WORLD BANK GROUP

Global coverage of activities so far



Grants

• Catalytic country grants ("Bank-Executed grants"):

- \$4.5 million of funding approved for 26 proposals in the first funding round in December 2022.
- Second funding round closed in December 2023 and received a record 57 proposals totaling \$12.6 million in funding requests. Proposals will be evaluated in the next 2-3 months and details of grants awarded released once approved.
- Project match funding ("Recipient-Executed grants"):
 - \$17.9 million in Recipient Executed (RE) match funding awarded to 5 projects to date: Cote D'Ivoire (\$5m); Moldova (\$5m); Rwanda (\$4m); Senegal (\$1.9m); and Somalia (\$2m).
 - Discussions are ongoing with another 8+ countries and grants will be announced once projects received WB board approval.



Snapshots of approaches emerging from country work

- Leveraging existing community platforms to offer quality childcare that meets the needs of working parents
 - Cote d'Ivoire (RE grant expanding childcare within community nutrition centers to support working mothers within health and nutrition project)
- Expanding childcare through education systems (extending preschool hours and / or offering services for younger children)
 - Moldova (RE grant expanding hours of care available for children aged 0-7, targeting refugees, infrastructure improvements, quality improvements)
- Sustainable childcare models to facilitate participation across a variety of sectors / projects
 - Madagascar, Rwanda, Sierra Leone (BE grants for public work schemes)
 - Malawi (BE grant to re-enroll young mother in schools)
 - Somalia and Senegal (RE grants to make childcare available to facilitate women's participation in training and higher education and to train the workforce)
- Support childcare entrepreneurs as income generating opportunity within SPJ projects with a package of training and support
 - Benin and Republic of Congo (BE grants)
- Building the enabling environment with focus on quality assurance systems and workforce training
 - Integrating childcare into skills training programs to build a quality workforce and establish standards (Senegal RE grant)

Global analytical work

• Data collection:

- WBL data collection on legal and regulatory frameworks related to the availability, financing and quality of childcare services scaled up to 190 countries.
- LSMS developing a childcare module to integrate into national household surveys (to be piloted in Nigeria in 2024 and additional countries in 2025).

• Evaluation:

- $\,\circ\,$ 6 evaluation proposals awarded so far.
- All teams awarded project match funding are preparing impact evaluations of the childcare interventions.

• Tools and guidance:

- Initial set of priority tools and guidance developed and drafts circulated internally with selected WB teams.
- Set includes: a package of sample instruments for childcare situation assessments; guidance note on the essential elements of quality; and suggested childcare indicators and tools for conducting impact evaluations.

Capacity building, knowledge exchange and technical assistance

• Community of Practice (CoP):

 Internal CoP launched in September 2023 to bring together WBG teams working on childcare with knowledge and exchange and learning opportunities on priority topics.

• Engaging Policymakers to Invest in Childcare:

- 24 applications received for the 18-month program to advance the childcare agenda in countries.
- 10-12 country teams and government counterparts expected to be selected.



Looking ahead

Priority activities over the coming months include:

• Finalizing country grant awards

- Applications for the second round of country grants closed in December 2023.
- o Shortlisted teams will be interviewed in February-March with final decisions expected in April.

• Developing and disseminating priority tools and guidance for World Bank teams:

- $\circ~$ Various other tools and guidance under development
- These include guidance notes on initiating dialogue with government counterparts and supporting childcare through Development Policy Loans (DPLs), a report on how governments can harness the power of communities and other nonstate sector actors in childcare, a quality assessment tool, and repositories of materials on key topics.

• Launching Engaging Policymakers to Invest in Childcare

- Following the selection of country teams, the 18-month program will launch by April 2024.
- Launching self-paced online course for the Early Childhood Education Policy Academy Platform
 - Course provides an introduction into the rationale for investing in childcare and explores the links the between quality childcare and women's economic empowerment, child development, family welfare, business productivity and economic growth.
 - The course is being finalized and will be made publicly available once ready.
- Updating the Invest in Childcare website

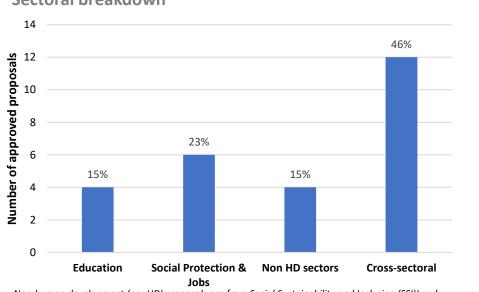


All major strands of the work program are launched and progressing well

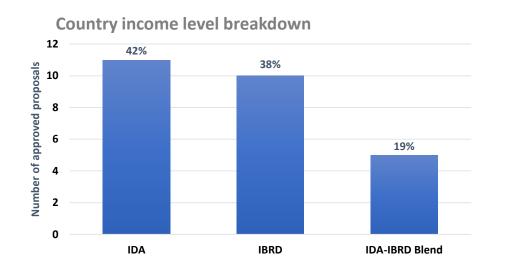
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Bank Executed Funding	Catalytic grants to countries	 \$4.5m awarded to date to 26 teams working across various sectors and 6 regions in December 2023. Second funding round closed in December 2023 and received a record 57 proposals totaling \$12.6m in requests for funding.
	Global analytical work	 6 evaluation proposals awarded so far. Women, Business and the Law (WBL) data collection scaled up to 190 countries. LSMS developing childcare module to integrate into household surveys. Initial set of priority tools and guidance developed.
	Capacity building	 Internal Community of Practice (CoP) launched to bring together World Bank teams working on childcare. 24 applications received for the 18-month Engaging Policymakers to Invest in Childcare program.

Breakdown of catalytic country grants awarded to date

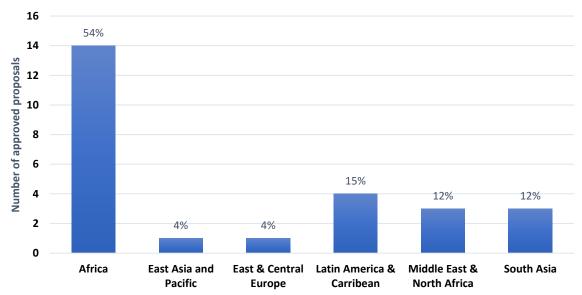
- 26 proposals approved totaling \$4.5 million in the first round of funding in December 2022
 - Highly cross-sectoral with a mix of income levels, regions and activity types.
 - 24 grants finance diagnostics and upstream analytical work (such as situation assessments and mapping of childcare services).
 - 20 grants support strengthening the enabling environment for childcare (such workforce development and forging sector strategies).



Non-human development (no- HD) proposals are from Social Sustainability and Inclusion (SSI)I and Agriculture General Practices (GPs).



Regional breakdown



Sectoral breakdown

Country example: Cote d'Ivoire

Invest in Childcare is leveraging community nutrition platforms (FRANCs) to improve the quality and accessibility of childcare and meet the needs of working parents by offering consistent and reliable childcare.

The Health, Nutrition and Early Childhood Development MPA aims to improve the utilization of quality health, nutrition, and early years development services in targeted regions in Cote D'Ivoire.

Program awarded \$5m in RE (matched by \$5m in IDA) to:

- **Develop norms and standards** for childcare services in FRANCs
- Modifying FRANC spaces to accommodate very young children and training personnel
- Support implementation research to understand parents' experiences of using the childcare services and assess their impacts on women's empowerment and child development outcomes
- **Conduct an impact evaluation** to study the effects of childcare provision on women's empowerment and productivity, child and family outcomes



Sector: Health, Nutrition & Population