



Beyond Oil

Education for Growth, Inclusion
and Human Flourishing in
Venezuela



DAVID ROCKEFELLER CENTER
FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
HARVARD UNIVERSITY



Early Childhood Care & Education: Putting Early Childhood First & Integrating Care and Education into Public Policy



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4:00 - 4:45

Moderated by Berta Bartoli



Agenda

1. **The early years** in Venezuela
1. **Policies can enable protective factors** in Early Childhood Ecosystems
1. Examples of **Early Childhood Care and Education integrated in national systems**
1. **Recommendations** for an ECCE national strategy in Venezuela



1. The early years in Venezuela





Early childhood is a period of immense opportunity



01

Early childhood development

The early years set the groundwork for a child's **brain architecture, lifelong health, and overall well being.**



02

Learning

High quality interactions, early stimulation, and nutrition prepare children for learning and thriving in school.



03

Social and economic spillovers

Early childhood is the **foundation for human capital development**, increasing future wages and **women's labor force participation.**



Contextual drivers of child and family well-being in Venezuela

**2 million
children**

aged 0-5 are growing up in a protracted crisis

41%

of 3-5 year olds did not attend pre-school

19%

of under 5 children at risk of poor development*

2. Policies can enable protective factors in Early Childhood Ecosystems



Photograph: SOS Children's Villages Canada

What is in place?

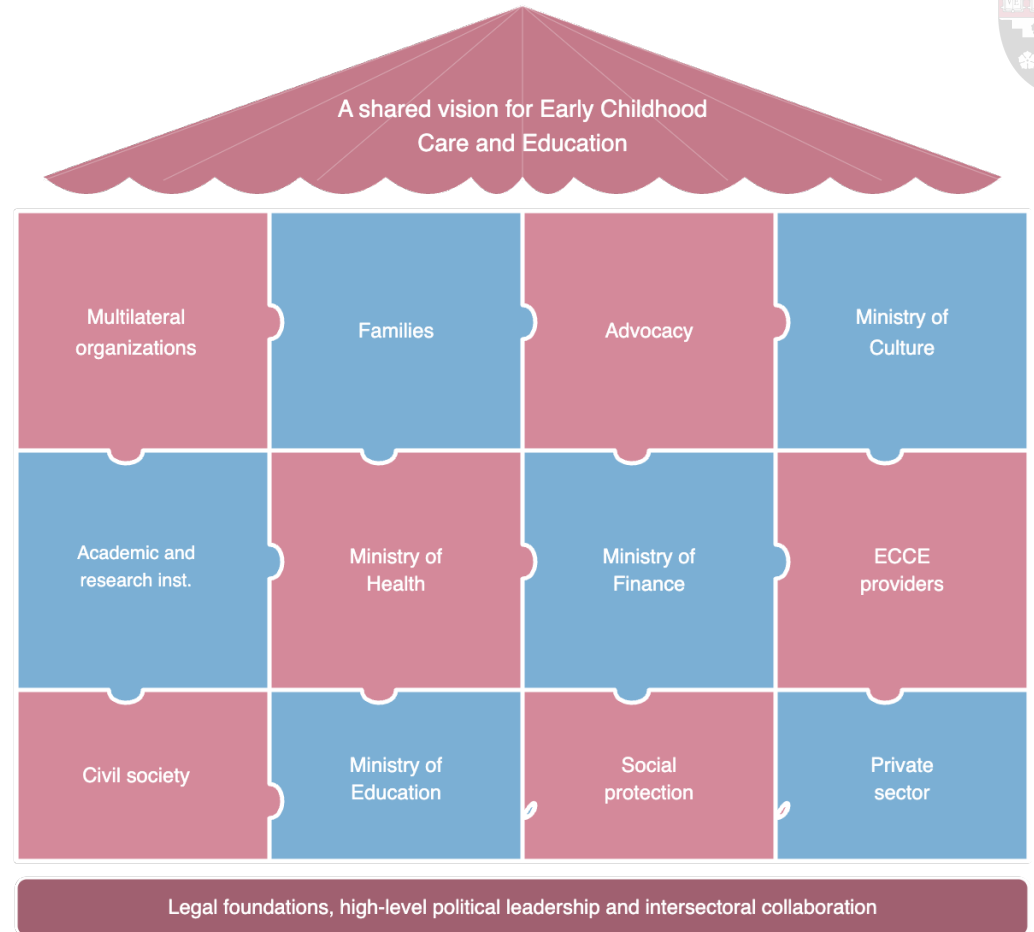
Mapping levels

Level	What to map
Child and family level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Developmental milestones· Health and nutrition status· Home learning environment· Caregiver wellbeing
Provider level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Structural quality indicators· Staff qualifications· Child-to-staff ratios· Learning materials available
Municipality level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· ECCE coverage and reach· Geographic distribution· Enrollment and dropout rates· Equity gaps by area
System level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Policy and legal frameworks· Stakeholder roles and mandates· Financing and coordination· Data and monitoring systems





What do we need to put all the pieces together?

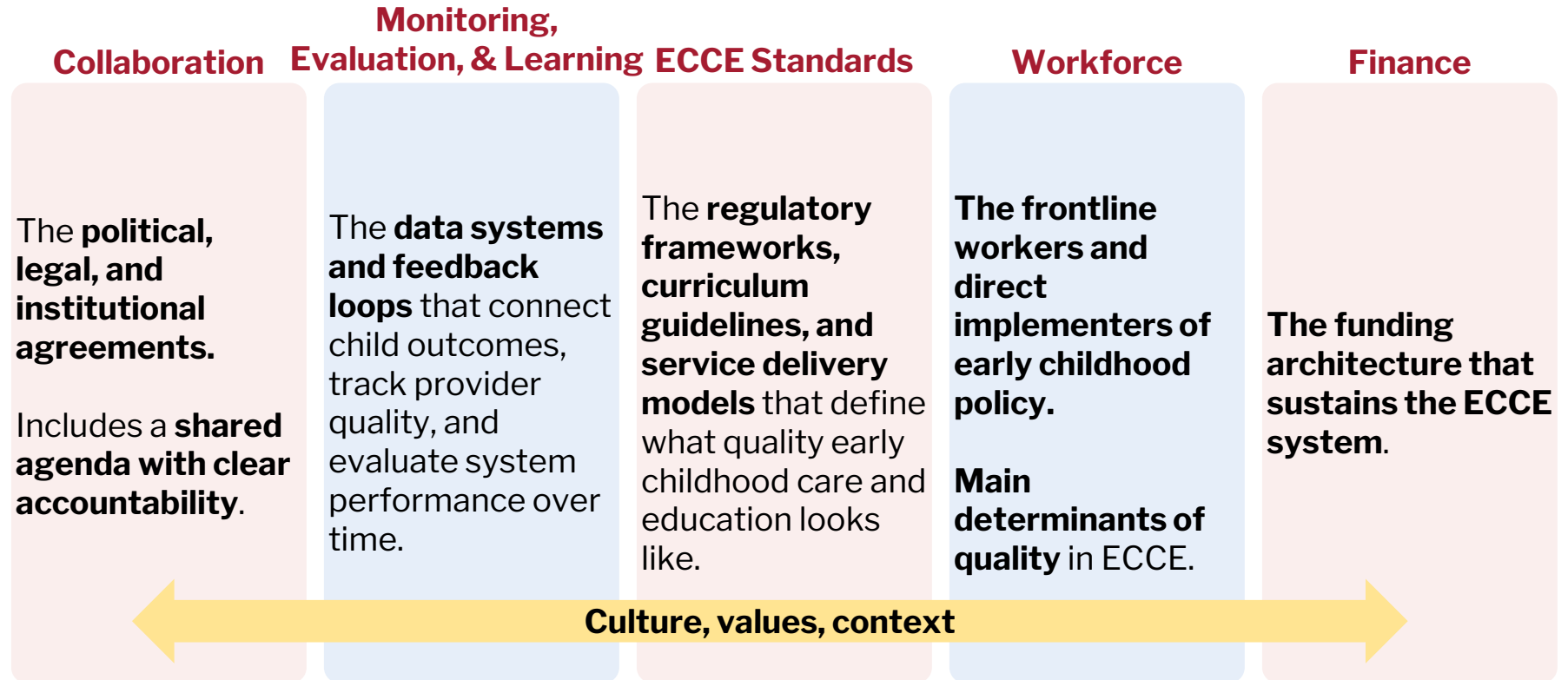


4. Pillars of Early Childhood Care and Education in National Systems





ECCE system pillars





Colombia: De Cero a Siempre (DCAS)

Collaboration

Law 1804 (2016) established a **shared agenda** across public entities, families, and social organizations with **delineated accountability structures**.

Formalized collaboration under the **National Institute for Family Wellbeing and Intersectoral Commission for Comprehensive Early Childhood Care**.

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

ECCE Standards

Workforce

Finance

Law 1804 (2016) established a **3% national payroll tax** as funding stream for DCAS.

Culture, values, context: Involvement of the Ministry of Culture



Brazil's national strategy

Collaboration

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

ECCE Standards

Workforce

Finance

Base Nacional Comum Curricular (2018) is culturally grounded and covers early childhood through upper secondary education.

Operational guidelines on **Quality and Equity in Early Childhood Education (2024)**

Daycare Need Index used to prioritize funding to most vulnerable EC needs.

Decentralized training to reach professionals across the country's municipalities.

Ministry of Education provides **technical and financial assistance for workforce development.**

Culture, values, context: Municipalities are delivery agents



Chile: Chile Crece Contigo (ChCC)

Collaboration

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

ECCE Standards

Workforce

Finance

Registration, Referral and Monitoring System

tracks every child from birth.

Online platform **links health, education, and social protection records.**

Monitoring child development to identify vulnerable children and activate alerts and services.

Culture, values, context: Pre-investment study and formalized local networks

5. Recommendations for an ECCE national strategy in Venezuela





Recommendations for Venezuela

Collaboration

Establish a **clear national vision and agenda, bind it by law.**

Set the table for **cross-sector collaboration** between **health, education, finance, and social protection institutions.**

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

Conduct a **thorough and strategic baseline study.**

Facilitate knowledge exchange.

Establish a cross-sector **Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning system.**

ECCE Standards

Set progressive **ECCE structural and process standards.**

Determine **prioritization criteria** for localities with highest needs.

Workforce

Attract and retain a **qualified early childhood workforce across services.**

Mentorship and cascade training approaches at municipality levels.

Finance

Lead by example, prioritizing government ECCE budget lines.

Protect funding streams by law.

Recommendations for Venezuela



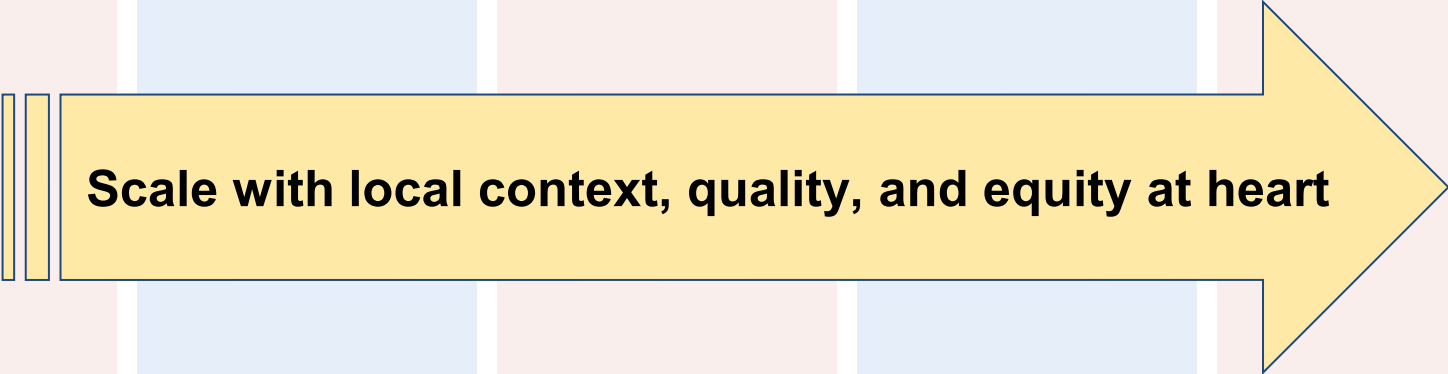
Collaboration

Monitoring,
Evaluation &
Learning

ECCE Standards

Workforce

Finance



Scale with local context, quality, and equity at heart



Venezuela's youngest citizens are at the heart of the country's recovery.





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Thank you!

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