

The right to a strong foundation ^[1]

Global report on early childhood care and education

Author: UNESCO & United Nations Children's Fund

Source: UNESCO

Format: Report

Publication Date: 1 Jan 2024

AVAILABILITY

Access online ^[2]

Short Summary

Building a strong foundation through early childhood care and education

Inclusive and quality early childhood care and education (ECCE) are vital for promoting school readiness, foundational learning, and lifelong well-being. Yet almost 60% of children in low-income countries do not have access to early care and learning opportunities. To meet national targets of providing at least one year of organized learning before primary school, low-income and lower-middle-income countries must fill an annual financial gap of USD 21 billion and recruit at least six million more educators before 2030.

The first global report, jointly published by UNESCO and UNICEF, offers insights into global and regional ECCE trends. The report, which is a key response to the commitments outlined in the Tashkent Declaration, synthesizes scientific evidence on ECCE's importance, and exposes persistence gaps in policy and investment. It illustrates how countries have responded to providing equitable and quality ECCE opportunities.

The report invites all stakeholders, from governments and policy-makers, to educators, parents and organizations, to ensure that the commitments made in the Tashkent Declaration are fully realized by building a strong foundation for every child.

Related link: [New UNESCO global report highlights critical role of early childhood care and education](#) ^[3]

Region: International ^[4]

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