first years first priority

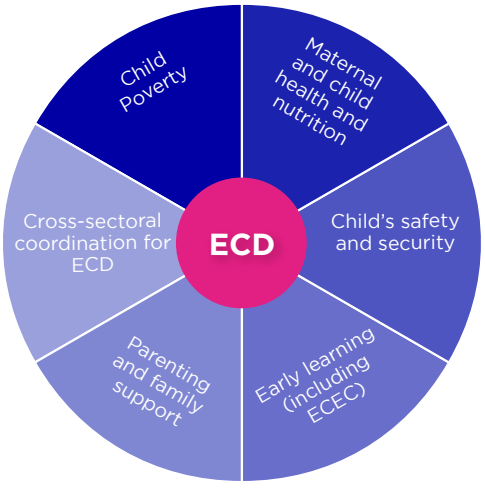


Early Childhood Development in

SERBIA

Country Profile 2021*

Serbia has made some efforts over the past years to deliver on **early childhood development (ECD)** policies and to support families with young children. Specifically, the Government of Serbia has issued a national "Call for Action for Support to Early Childhood Development" which aims to initiate coordinated and comprehensive ECD action and invest in children from the prenatal period to entry into school. There is almost no national legislation however guaranteeing access to basic ECD services in Education, Health, Nutrition, and/or Social and Child Protection for ALL children under six. Thus, for the moment, universal ECD policies with a cross-sectoral approach are one of the first priorities.



POLICY AREAS IMPACTING ECD

Country PRIORITIES

Develop a coherent cross-sectoral approach to ECD supported by legal and strategic documents.
Develop a systemic comprehensive system of support to all parents from a child's prenatal period to six years of age.
Ensure that each child up to six years of age has access to health, social and education services.
Include child-specific priorities in the documents of the Economic and Financial Dialogue.
Introduce specific measures for targeted support for families and children in view of the COVID-19 crisis.
Give special attention and support to families near the poverty line.
Strengthen social dialogue with various stakeholders, including civil society organisations and parents.