



1.B Manual Child Status Index – Early Childhood Turakura

2024

Child Status Index – Early Childhood Turakura

By Help a Child, 2024

The Child Status Index – Early Childhood is closely related to Help a Child’s overall goal: improved wellbeing for all children. The Child Status Index measures the wellbeing of young children on the physical, social-emotional and cognitive domains. Within our CCCD projects, the Child Status Index is used as a group-based tool, meaning that groups of children and groups of adults sit together to discuss and score the different themes. The participants score 1 to 4 per question/ statement (1= very bad, 2= bad, 3= fair, 4= good). The themes are:

Domain	Category
Physical	Food Security
	Health Care Service
Cognitive	Education and Work
Social/ emotional	Care
	Abuse and Exploitation
	Emotional Health
	Social Behaviour

The Child Status Index – Early Childhood is administered with both children groups and adult groups. It can be done with groups like SHGs, children groups, youth groups or CLAs.

Please find the Child Status Index – Early Childhood tool and corresponding data form on [our Partner Portal](#).



Food Security

Key Issue: Quantity of food and frequency of meals

1. How many meals do most children eat per day?
2. Do children often complain of hunger?
3. What are the main challenges families face in providing enough food for their children?
4. Tell me about times when there is no or less food. Does this depend on the harvest season?

1 - very bad	2 - bad	3 - fair	4 - good
Young children rarely have food and go to bed hungry most nights	Young children frequently have less food to eat than they need and complain of hunger	Young children have enough to eat some of the time, depending on the season or food supply	Young children are consistently well fed and eat regularly

Health Care Services

Key Issue: Access to preventative and curative health treatment by professional doctors or nurses

1. What happens when children fall ill? How are they treated?
2. When children need medicine, how do people get it?
3. Do most children receive vaccinations? What is the reason that parents do/don't vaccinate their children?
4. Tell me about health services the children need but do not receive. What are the barriers?

1 - very bad	2 - bad	3 - fair	4 - good
Young children rarely receive healthcare services and vaccinations from professionals	Young children only sometimes receive the health services and vaccinations that they need	Young children receive the recommended vaccinations and treatment when they are ill but some services are missing (preventative or curative)	Young children generally receive all necessary healthcare treatments and preventative services that they need including vaccinations



Education

Key Issue: Regular attendance at ECE

1. Are most young children enrolled in Early Childhood Education?
2. Do most young children attend the ECE classes regularly?
3. What are the main barriers to accessing ECE? (i.e. distance, fees)
4. How often do young children miss ECE classes? What are the common reasons for poor attendance?
5. Why do children drop out of ECE?

1 - very bad	2 - bad	3 - fair	4 - good
Many young children are not enrolled in Early Childhood Education (ECE) and attendance is poor	Many young children are enrolled in ECE but many rarely attend, others are not even enrolled	Most young children are enrolled in ECE but attendance can be irregular	Most young children are enrolled in ECE and attend regularly

Care

Key issues: Love and attachment received through caring interactions with adults

1. Are there many semi-orphans and orphans in this community?
2. Do young children have somebody to share their feelings with – whether positive or negative?
3. How often do you see parents or caregivers talking to and playing with their young children?
4. When children are crying or hurt, how do adults usually respond? (Are they comforted when this happens by loved ones OR ignored and told to keep quiet?)
5. Do children generally feel free and happy with their teachers and parents/caregivers? Or are they often fearful?

1 - very bad	2 - bad	3 - fair	4 - good
In our community, many young children have to care for themselves because there are no adults in their household who are taking responsibility in caring for them	Many young children in our community lack consistent adult caregivers around them and do not receive love, attention, and support	Young children have adult caregivers who are present but these adults may spend little time with them and are concerned mostly with physical issues (i.e. food, health)	In this community, almost all young children have adult caregivers who are involved in their lives and actively protect and show love to children



Abuse and Exploitation

Key issues: Cases of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, neglect, or child labour

1. Are there many cases of physical child abuse in this community? Sexual abuse?
2. Do children and parents know about child rights? And respect them?
3. What are the biggest threats to child safety and protection?
4. How much household work are children responsible for?
5. Do young children often miss out on schooling or other child-activities (playing with other children) because they have to help at home?

1 - very bad	2 - bad	3 - fair	4 - good
There is a high number of cases where young children are abused physically, sexually, or forced to do work that is inappropriate for their age in our community.	Many young children in our community are ignored, ill-treated, or asked to do work that is inappropriate for their age	Young children are not supervised very closely so there is the possibility children are not treated well	Almost all young children in our community are protected from emotional and physical abuse. Children are closely supervised, and are not asked to do heavy or inappropriate work

Emotional Health

Key issues: Experience a normal range of emotions but are generally hopeful and positive

1. Are children happy or sad most of the time?
2. How can you tell if children are happy or unhappy?
3. What makes children sad, worried, or fearful?
4. Do young children show trust in adults and in other children?
5. What makes children distrustful?

1 - very bad	2 - bad	3 - fair	4 - good
Many young children in this community are hopeless, sad, and prefer to be alone	Young children often appear sad, upset, fearful and withdrawn	The majority of young children in this community appear happy in some situations but may be isolated and act shy in public	Almost all young children are generally happy and trust others



Social Behaviour

Key issues: Respectful attitude towards others and ability to cooperate with peers

1. Do parents and ECD teachers show a respectful attitude towards other adults and towards the children?
2. Do parents and ECD teachers help young children to recognize and regulate emotions?
3. Do parents and ECD teachers learn young children how to get along with others?
4. Do children have time to play and interact with other children their age?
5. Do children fight a lot with each other?
6. What worries do you have about children’s social behaviour in the community?

1 - very bad	2 - bad	3 - fair	4 - good
Many young children don't know how to get along with others, have difficulties with recognizing and regulating emotions, copy bad examples of parents (beating, teasing, calling names) and show difficulties with social behavior (for example continuous fighting or the opposite; withdrawing)	Many young children do not develop their social skills well because they don't receive enough support at home or at the ECE on how get along with others and how to recognize and regulate emotions.	Many young children develop their social skills because they receive support at home and at the ECD center on how to get along with others and recognize and regulate emotions. Still quite some young children show difficulties with social behavior (for example continuous fighting, teasing or withdrawing)	Young children receive the support and good examples they need to develop social skills. They play well with peers and participate easily in group activities.



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