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# CATALYZE ECCE TOGETHER FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EVIDENCE (T4ECE) – ETHIOPIA

## BACKGROUND

Enhancing access to low-cost and high-quality early childhood care and education (ECCE) provides a solid foundation for advancing inclusive development objectives. It can improve child development and learning outcomes, promote women’s economic empowerment, enhance family welfare, and drive overall economic growth. Yet, [less than half of children](#) living in low- and middle-income countries are enrolled in pre-primary education. Pre-primary education systems are still developing in many countries, and the quality and coherence of the services are fragmented. These emerging pre-primary systems require reliable information about program quality and child development outcomes to ensure they provide high-quality services and to track progress toward [achieving universal access to quality pre-primary education](#).

ECCE data is essential for improving pre-primary country policies and programs that address persistent, systematic ECCE challenges. In April 2023, the revised National Policy Framework on Early Child Development and Education in Ethiopia was approved, and all public schools across the country are now encouraged to implement pre-primary services. Moreover, there is a wide array of providers working and supporting this area, using various resources, trainings, and curricula.

## CATALYZE T4ECE

The USAID CATALYZE ECCE Together for Early Childhood Evidence (CATALYZE T4ECE) Activity is designed to build the capacity of host country governments, USAID Africa Missions, and local country

partners to engage in ECCE work, with an emphasis on generating evidence to inform future policy and activity design. CATALYZE T4ECE is a continuation of previous work initiated by ECD Measure at University of Nebraska Medical Center. Since 2018, T4ECE began convening government, academia, and civil society stakeholders across four African countries and identified their needs related to ECCE data and measurement, drawing on global and regional expertise.

## T4ECE ETHIOPIA

**Life of Activity:** October 2023 – September 2025

**Country:** Ethiopia

**Prime implementer:** Palladium

**Implementing partner:** ECD Measure at University of Nebraska Medical Center

**In-country partner:** Ethiopian School Readiness Initiative, Addis Ababa University, and Educational Assessment and Examination Service (EAES)

Under previous activities, the Ethiopia T4ECE Task Force team developed an online repository ([ECCE Knowledge Hub](#)) for early childhood development (ECD) data and resources from organizations in Addis Ababa, including early childhood research, policy, and program documentation. This consolidation of resources is especially important in a context like Ethiopia which has dozens of diverse local and international organizations working to support ECD. Under CATALYZE T4ECE, the Ethiopian T4ECE Task Force team – led by Ethiopian School Readiness Initiative, Addis Ababa University, and the Educational Assessment and Examinations Service (EAES) – will expand the Hub to accompany the renewed commitment from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women and Social Affairs, and partner organizations to scale up evidence-based pre-primary resources and services nationwide.

## GLOBAL EVIDENCE BUILDING

In addition to informing ECCE country-specific policy and activity design, CATALYZE T4ECE evidence contributes to a broader goal under the CATALYZE Education portfolio. All learning and evidence generated under CATALYZE T4ECE is integrated into a dissemination effort to make the case for blended finance approaches to address substantial global education funding gaps and improve and sustain learning outcomes for children and youth globally, particularly those most vulnerable.

## MORE INFORMATION

**Join:** [CATALYZE T4ECE Newsletter](#) (via ECD Measure) | **Visit:** [CATALYZE T4ECE Website](#) |

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*This publication is made possible by the support of the American People through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of CATALYZE, implemented by Palladium, and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.*