

# Early years services for crisis-affected families

ISSOP conference, Bonn 2018



Credit: International Rescue Committee / Sandra Maignant

Bernard van Leer  FOUNDATION

A good start for all children



# In-country support

- Syria response (Jordan, Lebanon), The Netherlands
- Caregiver support through existing platforms
- National and international partners
- Newcomer and host community





**5** million pregnant women

**22** million babies and toddlers

**33** million women and men taking care of these kids every day

# Systemic change



# Early years on the move

## Direct exposure



Credit: UNICEF

## Displacement

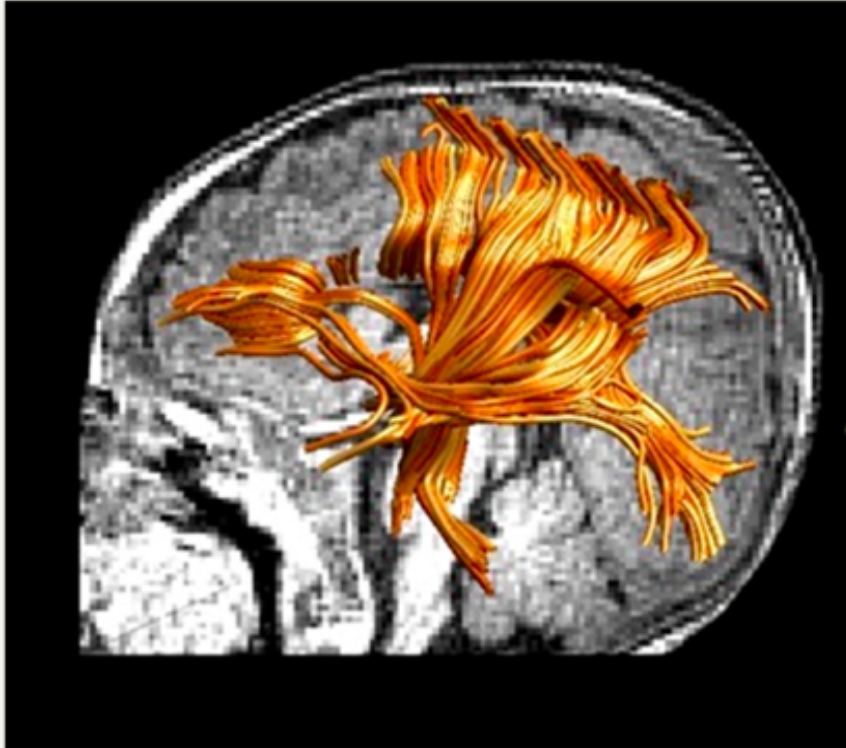


Credit: Khalil Ashawi/Reuters

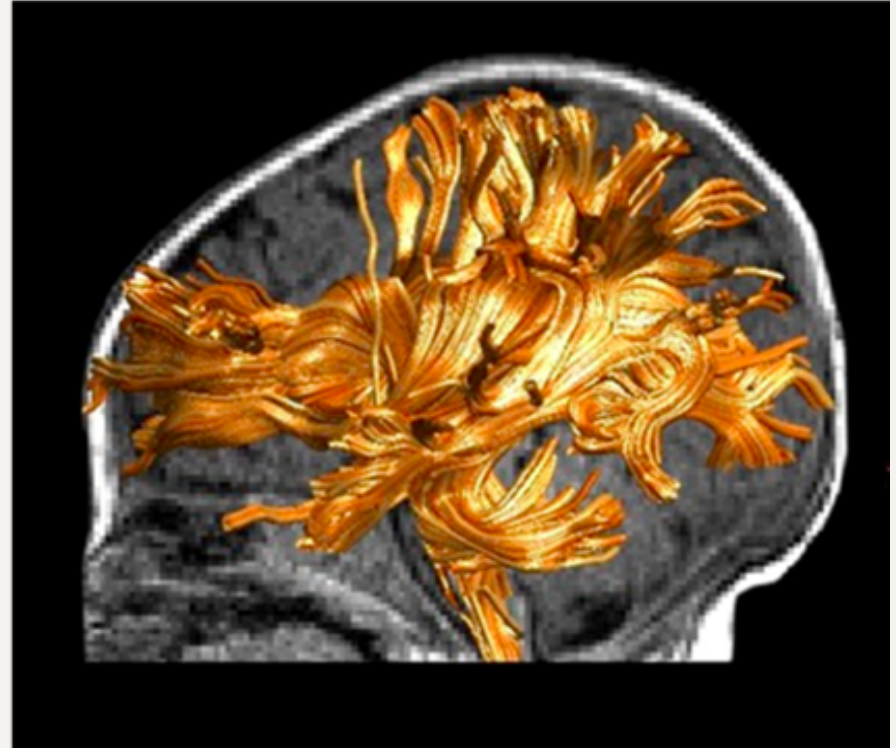
## Ongoing stressors



Credit: UNHCR / Refugees.org

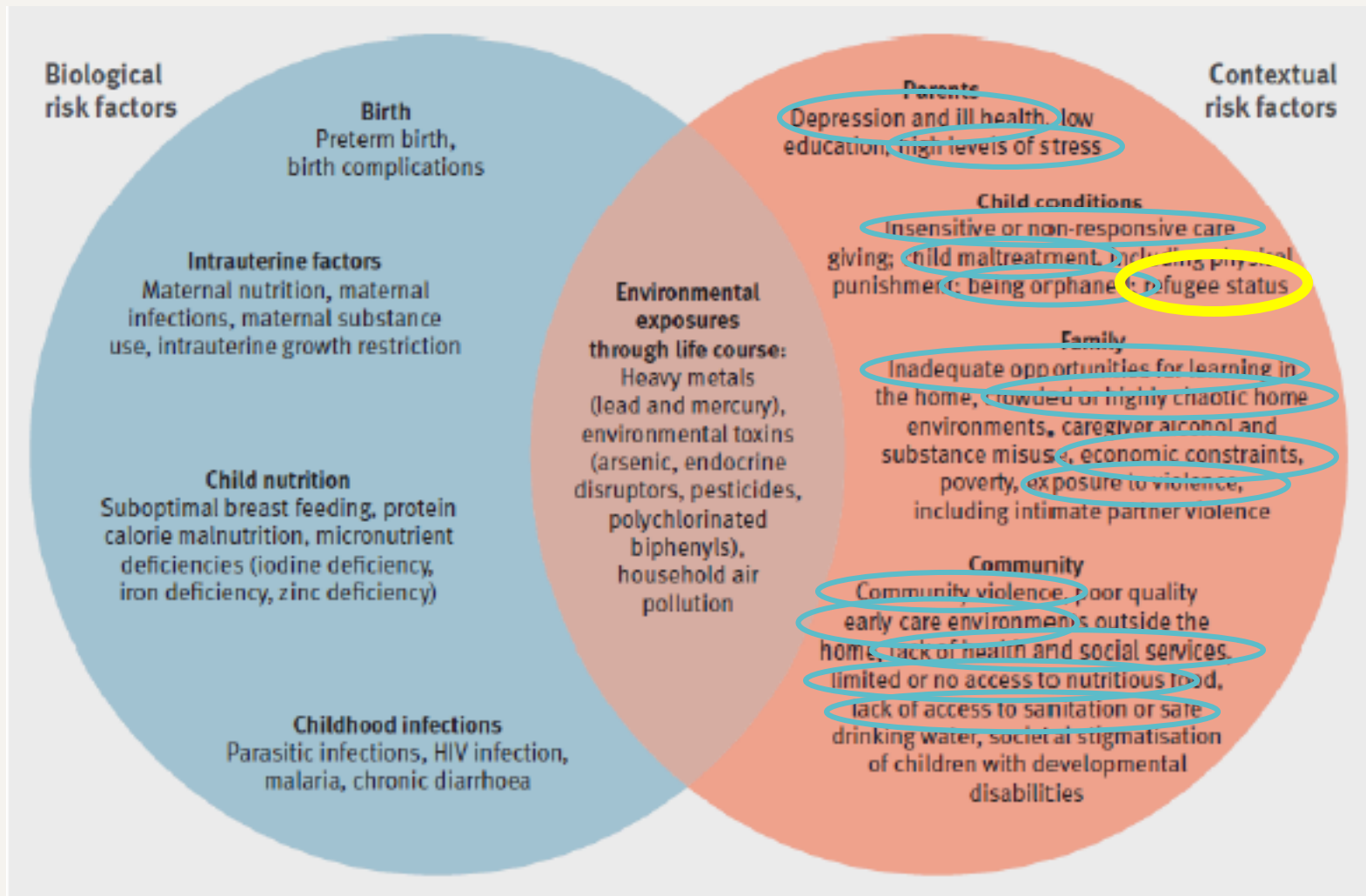


**Surviving**



**Thriving**

# 'Refugee Status' as risk factor





# Common contextual risks

## Parents

- Depression and ill health
- High levels of stress

## Child Conditions

- Non-responsive caregiving
- Being orphaned
- Physical punishment

## Family

- Inadequate opps for home learning
- Crowded/chaotic home situations
- Economic constraints
- Exposure to violence

## Community

- Community violence
- Poor quality early care
- Lack of health/social services
- Limited access to nutritious food



# What can be done?

## Support caregivers to:

- Provide stable, trusting relationship and nurturing care and stimulation
- Improve their mental health and reduce stress levels
- Restore routines and a degree of normal community or family life

## Allow children to:

- Access early stimulation and quality learning opportunities, incl. opportunities for play
- Access basic health, nutrition, and WASH provisions



# Humanitarian policy landscape



PROTECTION



FOOD SECURITY



BASIC NEEDS



HEALTH AND  
NUTRITION



EDUCATION



SHELTER

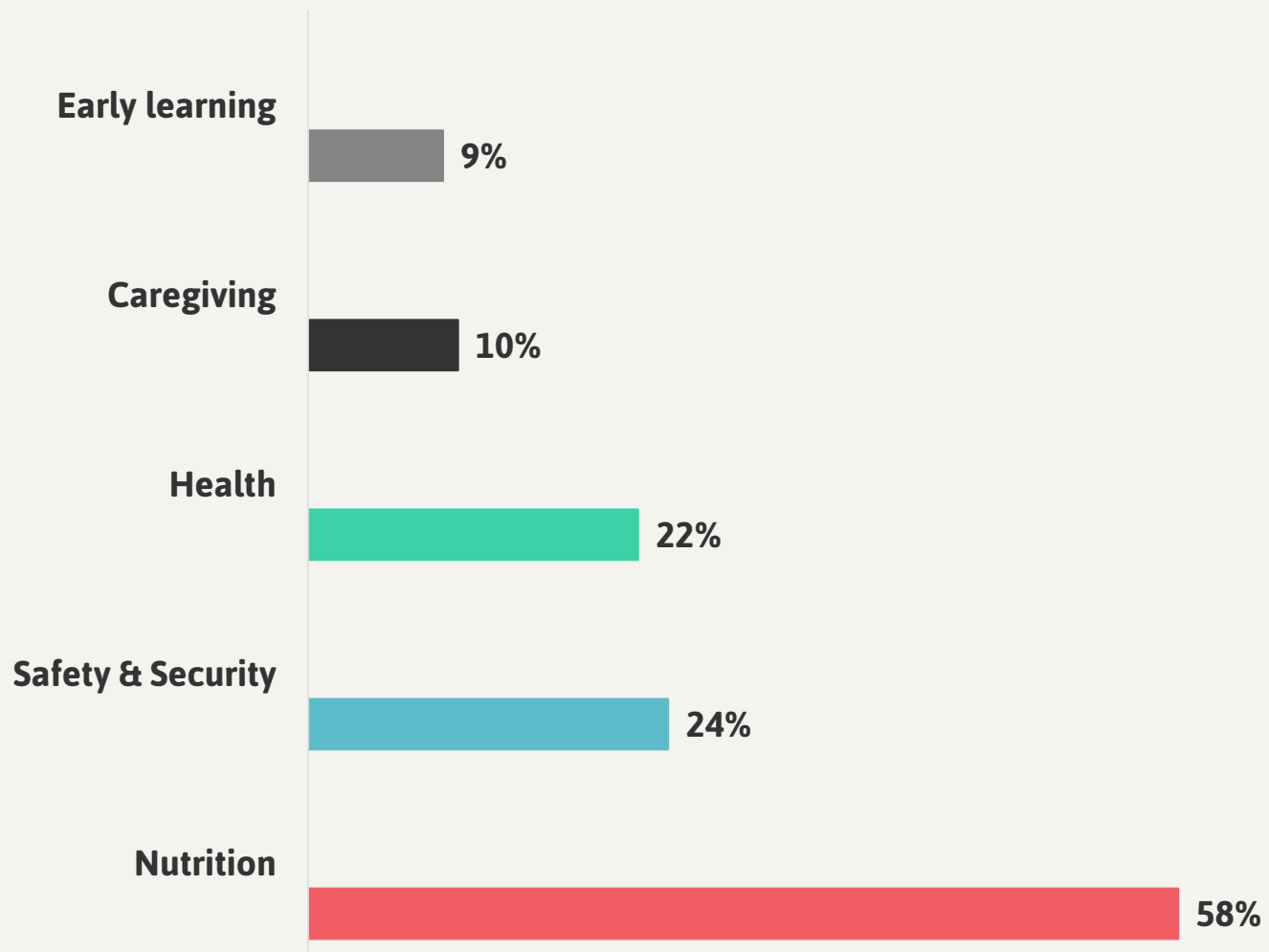


WASH



LIVELIHOODS AND  
SOCIAL COHESION

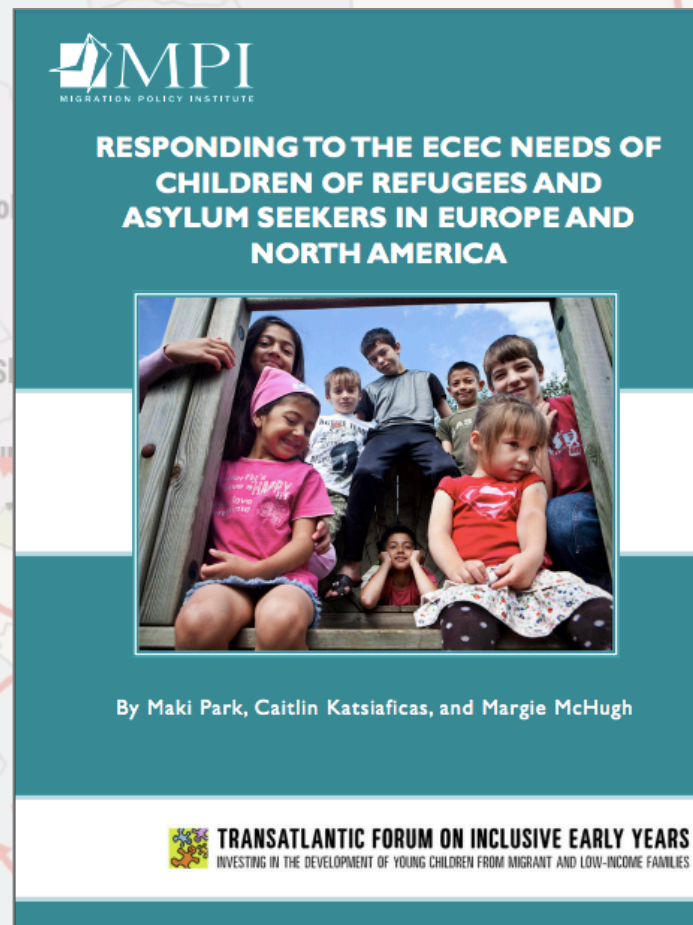
# Inclusion of recommended interventions in response plans



# Resettlement countries policy landscape

*“Country-wide responses [in Europe and North America] to the needs of the youngest refugee and asylum-seekers have been **extraordinarily weak**, despite the legal obligation in most countries to serve this population.”*

- Migration Policy Institute, 2018



العيادة الصحية المتنقلة  
Mobile Health Clinic





# PUBLIEKE GEZONDHEIDSZORG VOOR ASIELZOEKERS (PGA) EN VERGUNNINGHOUDERS

**TAKEN  
GGD GHOR  
NEDERLAND**

**Signaleren & monitoren**  
Vertalen van signalen, onderzoeks- en monitorgegevens naar beleid en praktijk.

**Adviseren**  
Over beleid en praktijk aan organisaties die betrokken zijn bij zorg aan asielzoekers.

**Contractmanagement**  
Afsluiten, onderhouden en aanpassen van contracten met COA, GGD'en en JGZ-instellingen.

**Helpdesk professionals**  
Ondersteunen van GGD'en en JGZ-instellingen bij uitvoering PGA-dienstverlening.

**Verbinden**  
Van uitvoerders, managers en beleidsmakers van organisaties betrokken bij zorg aan asielzoekers.

**TAKEN  
GGD'EN**

TUBERCULOESCREENING, ZO NODIG  
ONDERZOEK EN BEHANDELING



1

BIJ AANKOMST ASIELZOEKER

<p>Halfjaarlijkse vervolgscreening tuberculose (tbc) bij asielzoekers uit hoog risicolanden</p>	<p>Jeugdgezondheidszorg</p>
<p>Infectieziektepreventie- en bestrijding</p>	<p>Jaarlijkse hygiëne controle van voorzieningen in asielzoekerscentra</p>
<p>Gezondheidsbevordering diverse thema's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Zelfzorg</li> <li>- Opvoedingsondersteuning</li> <li>- Seksuele gezondheid</li> <li>- Voorlichting gezondheidszorg in Nederland</li> </ul>	

2

TIJDENS VERBLIJF  
IN COA-OPVANGLOCATIE



INFECTIEZIEKTENBESTRIJDING  
EN HALFJAARLIJKSE  
VERVOLGSREENING TBC  
(GEDURENDE TWEE JAAR)

JEUGD-  
GEZONDHEIDSZORG

BESCHERMEN EN  
BEVORDEREN  
GEZONDHEID

3

TIJDENS VERBLIJF IN GEMEENTE  
(VERGUNNINGHOUDER)





Thank you!

# Proposed Actions

- Raise awareness on critical nature of 1000 days and effect of adversity
- Focus on parents/caregivers
- Leverage the pediatric workforce to shift systemic barriers

