

# BEQI: Together in Practice

A System for Measuring and Improving Quality in Early Childhood Programs

## WHAT IS BEQI: TOGETHER IN PRACTICE?

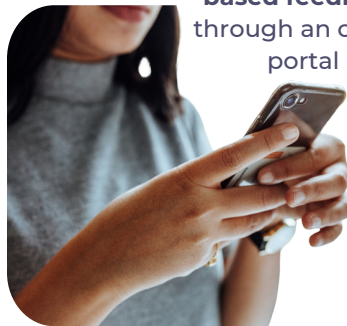
**BEQI: Together in Practice** is an easy-to-use system designed to help monitor and improve early childhood programs through evidence-based practices. At the core of the system is the **Brief Early Childhood Quality Inventory (BEQI)**, an adaptable, proven tool that is already helping early childhood programs for children from birth to age five in 18 countries monitor environments and practices.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

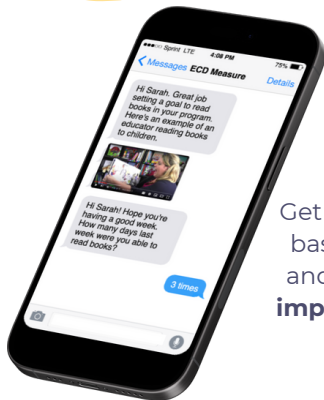
Start with a virtual or in-person **observation** to gather data on interactions and practices and understand educator priorities for quality



Get immediate data and **strengths-based feedback** through an online portal



Get regular text-based nudges and support to **improve quality**



## WHAT PRACTICES ARE INCLUDED?

We focus on evidence-based practices and program elements around the following themes:



### PLAY-BASED LEARNING

How does the educator use play-based activities and materials to engage children in learning?



### LEARNING THROUGH CONVERSATIONS

How does the educator use conversation and dialogue to facilitate children's learning?



### PROMOTING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

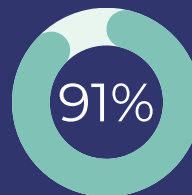
How does the educator interact with children to foster social and emotional development?



### SAFE & STIMULATING ENVIRONMENTS

How is the learning space arranged and what are the health and safety features of the environment?

## IT IS EFFECTIVE!



In a recent pilot with 46 childcare programs in the USA, 91% of early childhood educators who used BEQI: Together in Practice over 12 weeks improved the use of evidence-based practices in their programs.



## WHAT IS INCLUDED?

### ✔ BEQI OBSERVATIONAL TOOL

- **50-item observation checklist** used by trained observer virtually or in-person to look at evidence-based practices and characteristics
- Scored using **yes/no scale** that is streamlined, easy-to-train on and easy-to-interpret.

### ✔ BEQI EDUCATOR QUESTIONNAIRE

- Captures **educator perspective and background**, covering demographic information, aspects of mental health, perceptions of key practices, and engagement with families.

### ✔ TOGETHER IN PRACTICE SYSTEM

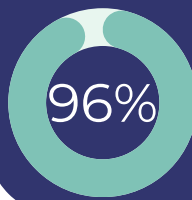
- Our unique **tech-enabled and strengths-based feedback system** provides educators and administrators with useful data to increased uptake of evidence-based practices.
- Through an **online portal**, provides individualized feedback is provided to educators and aggregated results for programs, networks, and governments.
- Provides **immediate feedback**, encourages **goal-setting**, and offers **light-touch professional development** to educators through SMS texts or WhatsApp messages.

## WHY USE BEQI: TOGETHER IN PRACTICE?

- Research shows that using the BEQI: Together in Practice system improves early childhood quality, leading to enhanced learning and development for children
- Offers an easy-to-use system and online portal allowing users to enter data, share videos and pictures, receive immediate feedback, and aggregate data so that community/state organization administrators can view educators' information easily.
- Requires less training than traditional quality measures
- Helps educators focus on their priorities; helps administrators monitor data more easily
- Can be adapted to different contexts or settings (eg, home-based childcare, community-based education, formal preschools)



## EDUCATORS LIKE IT!



96% of educators who have used the system say the immediate and strengths-based feedback was helpful.

## WHAT ARE USERS SAYING?

“The BEQI is a great tool for starting a conversation with child care providers about quality that values their input, allows you to meet them where they are, and hones in on the most essential elements. Unlike many other measures of quality, the BEQI is a streamlined tool that sets the stage for meaningful collaboration with child care providers to facilitate quality improvements.”

- Shannon Cotsoradis, Chief Executive Officer, Nebraska Early Childhood Collaborative, USA

“As a coach and mentor, I love this tool that allows the director, teacher, or provider to review their curriculum, how they relate to each child, to the group, and how their learning environment is set up. BEQI helps me dig into all the important areas in an organized, thought-provoking way with them and makes it much easier to set goals along the way to having a quality program.”

- Claudia Zapata, Child Care Coach, USA

“This experience has already changed the way the Ministry of Education is thinking about quality and how to use data and evidence to improve programming.”

- Wesley Galt, Chief of Education, UNICEF Guinea Bissau

## WHO IS ECD MEASURE?

We are a team of early childhood experts committed to building better lives for young children around the world through data. We support professionals, governments, non-profit organizations and researchers with tools, resources and connections to use data towards quality early childhood care and education for all children.

**Are you interested in helping us further test and develop BEQI: Together In Practice?**

Reach out to us via [info@ecdmeasure.org](mailto:info@ecdmeasure.org)

Learn more at [ecdmeasure.org](http://ecdmeasure.org).

**ECD measure**

SUPPORTING DATA-DRIVEN SYSTEMS  
FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT