Early Childhood Development Action Network

Progress Report 2017–2019
This progress report presents an account of activities that the Early Childhood Development Action Network (ECDAN) undertook during the 2017–2019 fiscal years. It provides a snapshot of the collaborative and cooperative efforts, actions, and achievements of ECDAN’s partners during 2017–2019.

The ECDAN Progress Report 2017–2019 is an acknowledgement with gratitude for the time, resources, and efforts of so many in the global ECD community united around a common vision and goals. This is the first progress report published by ECDAN. Consecutive reports with similar intent to inform and share will be published by ECDAN on an annual basis moving forward.

**Advocate & Communicate**
- Contributed to the development and dissemination of the Nurturing Care Framework
- G20 endorsed ECDAN as the ECD global knowledge exchange and learning platform for G20 countries
- Participated and presented in over 20 events globally
- Reviewed and contributed to global knowledge products
- Increased visibility of global ECD movement on social media channels

**Learn & Share**
- Shared 137 country profiles on its website and through webinars, in collaboration with the Countdown 2030 Task Force
- Launched its learning agenda and its webinar series (7 webinars were organized during the reporting period, reaching around 3,000 participants)
- Reached almost 3,000 subscribers by December 2019
- Secured funding for its Knowledge Fellows Program

**Connect & Align**
- Invited six “first wave countries” to convene multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder meetings
- Collaborated with more than 39 networks, global partnerships, alliances, and coalitions

**Strengthen the Network**
- Established six task forces which brought together global multi-disciplinary expertise, to analyze and propose plans for evidence-based actions to take the global ECD agenda to scale
- Developed its constitution and began transitioning from an Interim Executive Group to a permanent Executive Leadership Council
- Formalized, expanded, and developed systems, structures and operations of its Secretariat
- Hired an Executive Director in July 2018 and grew its staff

**Financials**
- ECDAN raised US$ 2.1 million and spent US$ 939,681 on operations

**Report Highlights**

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Join the movement for young children and their families

Connect with us and hundreds of ECDAN partners across the globe to advocate for a world where every young child is safe, well-nourished, healthy, happy, and learning.

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List of Acronyms

AFECN  
Africa Early Childhood Network
ANECD  
Arab Network for ECD
ARNEC  
Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood
ECD  
Early childhood development
ECDAN  
Early Childhood Development Action Network
ECPC  
Early Childhood Peace Consortium
GPE  
Global Partnership for Education
IFC  
International Finance Corporation
IMF  
International Monetary Fund
IPA  
International Pediatric Association
ISSA  
International Step by Step Association
LMIC  
Low and Middle-Income Countries
MOU  
Memorandum of Understanding
MOOC  
Massive Open Online Courses
NCF  
Nurturing Care Framework
PMNCH  
Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
SDG  
Sustainable Development Goals
UN  
United Nations
UNESCO  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF  
United Nations Children’s Fund
WHO  
World Health Organization

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Children at a village pre-school, called an ECDC (Early Childhood Education Centre), supported by Save the Children, Mali  
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Kindergarten reading club, ECCD - Sonsonate, El Salvador  
©Victoria Zegler/Save the Children

Shakila, four, plays with her friends at a Save the Children supported preschool in Zomba District, Malawi  
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Executive Group & Task Forces
As we launch our 2017–2019 Progress Report, COVID-19 has spread to every corner of the world. National borders have been closed; travel bans, quarantines, and physical distancing are new norms; health and social protection systems are overwhelmed and disrupted; childcare, pre-schools and schools are closed; food insecurity is growing; and the global economy is almost at a standstill. This unprecedented global crisis has disrupted the lives of young children and their families posing great risks and threats to children’s safety, protection, survival, learning, and their overall well-being. COVID-19 threatens to reverse decades of progress on achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

Before the pandemic, at least 43 percent or 250 million children under the age of five living in low and middle-income countries were at risk of not reaching their developmental potential. Now, as families and communities deal with losses and the socio-economic, physical, and mental health consequences of the global crisis, that number is likely to increase sharply. Without a commitment to support early childhood development, there will be devastating physical, socio-emotional, and cognitive consequences to children over the entire course of their lives with sobering implications for societies. The rising poverty and income inequalities will disproportionately strike young children especially for families living in poverty and humanitarian contexts. Evidence from prior pandemics and disasters indicate immediate and long-term adverse consequences for many children, especially during early childhood when the brain architecture is still rapidly developing and overly sensitive to environmental adversity. Supporting young children to develop and thrive, while advancing equity and inclusion during and after this global crisis is a test of our commitment to a better future.

Now, more than ever, what is required is even more political commitment and support to rebuilding a better world for all young children, giving impetus to the next phase for Early Childhood Development Action Network (ECDAN) that builds on the progress reported over the past three years.

Message from the Chair & Executive Director

ECDAN: 2017 to 2019

The inaugural years were momentous and productive for the ECDAN. The endorsement of the Nurturing Care Framework at the World Health Assembly marked a first for ECD being included in the health agenda. The endorsement of early childhood development as central for social and economic development and growth marked another first for ECD. The G20 also named ECDAN as the ECD knowledge exchange platform. Together, these were decisive moments of validation for a global ECD action agenda and for ECDAN as a global network.

New opportunities have opened for co-creation, cooperation, and collaboration among partners, adding impetus to the global movement for young children and families. The commitment, expertise, and hard work of ECDAN’s partners and members drove ECDAN’s growth, while also contributing to the growing global recognition of ECD’s critical role over the human lifespan and in building human capital.

ECDAN’s partners and members laid a strong foundation during these formative years. Six task forces brought together global multi-disciplinary expertise, to analyze and propose plans for evidence-based actions to take the global ECD agenda to scale. The key actions envisioned are: (i) scale-up essential multi-sectoral interventions; (ii) build capacity of the ECD workforce; (iii) strengthen data and evidence; (iv) increase financing; (v) advocate for young children and families; and (vi) build out a joint results framework. Then, to operationalize the recommendations of the task forces, further consultations built out two seminal strategies: one for knowledge sharing and learning, another for advocacy and communications.

A nimble governance and operational structure, constitution, and 2020–2023 strategic framework were established for ECDAN to optimize collaborative and efficient work. In keeping with the principles of inclusion, additional working groups guided and supported the work of ECDAN.
Resources were mobilized to increase ECDAN’s capacity, reach and impact. During this period, more than US$2.1 million were raised and about US$939,681, not including in-kind support, was spent on operations. ECDAN now has over 100 partners and members, and more than 5,000 subscribers.

Collaborating on joint activities with global sectoral partnerships and four ECD regional networks has strengthened links with diverse national and regional constituencies. Advocacy for the uptake, operationalization, and implementation of the Nurturing Care Framework continues strong. Country engagement work was initiated in six “first wave” countries; lessons learned from this work prompted ECDAN to clarify its value-add as a unique global connector and facilitator of exchanges across regions and nations.

During 2018–2019, ECDAN, through its partners, engaged with the G20 as they developed and launched their ECD Initiative. The G20 Development Committee requested that ECDAN build a global ECD knowledge sharing and learning platform. The platform will launch in multiple phases beginning in mid-2020 and is designed to build and support communities of practice, deepen knowledge exchange and curate national and global resources.

When the ECDAN Knowledge Gateway launches, we anticipate it serving the global ECD community and engaging all partners. On ECDAN’s present website, partners’ knowledge sharing, exchanges, and resources are remarkable. The energy and generosity visible there, inspire us to imagine a coordinated global effort to confront future challenges and threats to young children and their families. As we confront the COVID-19 crisis and looming threats of exacerbated poverty, morbidity and mortality around the world, the past few years give us reason to imagine that this remarkable global ECD community will build back better, and give us hope that all young children can and will have the nurturing care they need to survive, develop, and thrive.

Our partners, members, funders, task force members, and countless others have established a strong foundation for ECDAN during 2017–2019. Their achievements are evident in this report: their global movement is growing as they engage in learning, advocating, and coordinating together for collective action at scale for all young children and families. What a remarkable achievement – and we are all just getting started!

On behalf of the Executive Group, we thank each of you for accelerating the momentum to improve the lives of young children and their families.

This is your movement. Let us keep growing it!

Pia Rebello Britto
Chair

Elizabeth Lule
Executive Director

IMF/World Bank 2016 annual meeting when ECDAN was announced
Left to right: Jim Yong Kim Former President of the World Bank Group, Tony Lake, Former Executive Director of UNICEF, Pia Rebello Britto, Former Global Chief and Senior Advisor, Early Childhood Development, UNICEF
At least 250 million young children fail to reach their developmental potential every year. This is a tremendous loss for each of those children, for their families, their communities, their nations, and the world. The Early Childhood Development Action Network (ECDAN) was launched in 2016 by the leaders of UNICEF and the World Bank Group, along with 80 other organizations, who urgently called for a global movement for those young children and their families, to ensure that every young child is safe, well-nourished, healthy, happy and learning from conception to eight years old and beyond.

ECDAN today is a growing global network of networks with over 100 partner organizations and over 5,000 members from more than 120 countries dedicated to improving the lives of young children and their families. ECDAN provides a platform for partners and members to learn and exchange knowledge with each other, to coordinate advocacy efforts, and find opportunities for collaborative action at scale.

Since ECDAN's launch, six task forces, multiple consultations, and stakeholders of all stripes have contributed thoughts and effort on the role of a “network of networks” in achieving ECD-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). ECDAN’s value-add is to support partners, networks and all members to leverage complementary assets, to harmonize and align policies, to foster collaboration, to improve programs through coordinated action, to assess impacts on children and families, and to grow and share a knowledge base for effective action.

ECDAN is building a global movement to increase dialogue, strengthen political commitment, and catalyze change for young children among diverse multi-sectoral stakeholders. As the visibility and importance of the ECD agenda grows, policymakers at every level are increasingly accountable. The hard work of learning and sharing, connecting, and aligning, advocating and communicating grows steadily stronger as the network sustains its support for the ECD ecosystem.

This progress report is a snapshot of the collaborative and cooperative efforts, the activities, and achievements of ECDAN’s partners during 2017–2019. It is an acknowledgement with gratitude for the time, resources, and efforts of so many in the global ECD community who united around a common vision and goals.

**Vision**
A world where every young child is safe, healthy, well-nourished, happy, and learning.

**Mission**
Recognizing that the early years of life are critical to long-term development, the Early Childhood Development Action Network (ECDAN), through its partners, advocates for higher prioritization of and investment in essential, quality ECD services; facilitates knowledge exchange and learning; and connects and aligns global and regional partners across sectors to drive collective action at scale for all young children to realize their full potential.

**Impact**
Accelerated scale-up of equitable and quality multi-sectoral ECD policies, programs, and services to ensure all young children’s optimal brain development and productive potential.
Evidence-based investments in young children yield results. ECDAN advocates for international and domestic political commitment and financial support for early childhood development (ECD) policies and programs so that every child can live a productive life. Nations and global organizations, too, have ample reason to invest in young children, and families; if all children were able to realize their potential, their nations would grow and thrive.

In 2018, ECDAN, together with WHO, UNICEF, the World Bank Group and the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH) contributed to the development of the Nurturing Care Framework (NCF). The NCF is a roadmap for evidence-based multi-sectoral action; it was created in response to strong evidence and growing recognition that the early years are critical for lifelong productivity. This culminated in the launch of the G20 Development Working Group Initiative for Early Childhood Development in 2018 – the first time ever that ECD was included in the G20 agenda. It reads, in part:

We, therefore, launch the G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development, determined to contribute to ensuring that all children – with an emphasis on their first 1,000 days – are well-nourished and healthy, receive proper care, stimulation and opportunities for early learning and education, and grow up in nurturing and enabling environments, protected from all kinds of violence, abuse, neglect and conflict. This is especially urgent in low-income and developing countries, and in emergency and protracted crisis situations, including forced displacement, where the potential for children’s development could be at risk.

The G20 endorsed ECDAN as the ECD global knowledge exchange and learning platform for G20 countries. As a first step, flagship projects in G20 countries were disseminated on ECDAN’s online knowledge platform.

In 2019, ECDAN drafted and finalized its Global Advocacy and Communication Strategy, which it will, along with its partners, adapt and implement in 2020 in consideration of the emerging global threats to early childhood development. ECDAN and the Open Society Foundation knowledge exchange platforms meeting, to continue and increase investments in early childhood development.

Throughout 2018 and 2019, the ECDAN Secretariat staff, along with ECDAN partners, participated and presented in various conferences, meetings, and workshops to further advance the state of ECD globally. During this period, ECDAN participated and made presentations in over 20 events including the G20 Development Committee Meeting in Argentina, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation knowledge exchange platforms meeting, The Commonwealth Ministers of Education meeting, Leap Ideas Conference, TheWorld and UNICEF Launch of Education Report at the WBG spring meetings, CIES, Harvard University conference on Implemation Research, University of Belfast and Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECP), International Pediatric Association (IPA), Nurturing Care Framework Consultations, Private Sector Family-Friendly Policies, Research Agenda for Parenting, Scaling Up Nutrition annual meeting, meetings hosted by Salesforce and at Deloitte to design the knowledge exchange platform, and three regional meetings hosted by Africa Early Childhood Network (AECN), Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood Development (ARNEC) and International Step-by-Step Association (ISSA). ECDAN organized and co-hosted six side meetings at global ECD gatherings.

ECDAN’s Secretariat reviewed and contributed to global knowledge products. Those include the Private Sector Toolkit developed by International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Report on Official Development Assistance (ODA) by Light for the World, the Global Partnership for Education’s (GPE) Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) and its Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX) Strategy.

Visit the Nurturing Care website to browse the many examples of country specific and global activities.

1 http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/g20whatist.html
To keep young children’s needs in the spotlight and improve accountability, measurement and reporting are critical. In collaboration with the Countdown 2030 Task Force, ECDAN has shared 137 country profiles on its website and through webinars. These country profiles highlight data gaps and needs for capacity building in data collection, analysis and data usage and advocacy for decision making. The country profiles are important for accountability and reporting on progress against the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, keeping young children’s development in the global public eye.

In 2018, ECDAN launched its learning agenda and its webinar series to offer the global ECD community an interactive space for communities of practice, partners, and members. Today, curated resources, best and promising practices, lessons learned, and research are shared on the ECDAN website which is currently being reconstructed for more prompt and active exchanges.

ECDAN is a platform for dialogue on key policy and practice issues that affect young children. The G20’s support for ECDAN’s Knowledge Exchange Platform is an important development for several reasons. It heightens the potential for continuing expansion of ECDAN’s partners and influence. It makes engagement in online conversations and knowledge sharing on a wide range of topics efficient. It opens the door to new voices, innovative approaches, and new opportunities. And it validates ECDAN’s positioning as a platform for global exchanges. Some dialogues will be challenging, but a range of perspectives is essential in a multi-sectoral field and ECDAN welcomes them.

To design and launch the learning exchange platform, ECDAN began with a stakeholder analysis of user needs, completed reviews of other platforms, developed a strategy and design, and finally addressed branding. The Knowledge Exchange Platform has been branded as “The ECD Knowledge Gateway” and will be launched in phases beginning in mid-2020.

Funding for a Knowledge Fellows program was secured in 2019. The program will support young professionals and graduate students to pursue interests in global ECD. They will get experience and in-depth exposure to the global ECD field with mentorship from global ECD experts, and they will contribute to the global knowledge platform while developing their professional skills and expanding and deepening their networks in the ECD field. A Knowledge Fellows Steering Committee was assembled in 2019 to guide the pilot phase of this program.

Communications accelerated in 2018–2019 as the ECD global movement and ECDAN increased their visibility on social media channels, such as Twitter and LinkedIn. ECDAN’s quarterly newsletter continued to grow and now reaches more than 5,000 subscribers. It is also available on the ECDAN website which is currently being rebuilt.
Young children’s development is holistic and requires coordinated inputs from multiple sectors. Yet alignment of ECD stakeholders towards common goals across multiple sectors has long been recognized as a challenge. ECDAN’s strategy in response is to serve as a neutral, inclusive platform to facilitate and strengthen coordination and collaboration. ECDAN’s membership continues to diversify across sectors and stakeholder groups.

In 2018, ECDAN took up the challenge of multi-sectoral coordination at the country level. After an intense partners’ process of data gathering and assessing capacities and the probabilities of success, six “first wave countries” were invited to convene multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder meetings. Their brief was to identify opportunities and barriers to national multi-sectoral ECD coordination. National convenings were rich with information and exchange; coordination emerged, some tentative, some definitive; national ECD networks were formed in some countries; and more efficient mechanisms for linking national efforts to the global movement were identified. Thematic and regional ECD networks and global sectoral partnerships are now intermediate links to ECDAN for some countries.

As a network of networks, ECDAN is in dialogue with more than 39 networks, global partnerships, alliances, and coalitions. Thus, ECDAN is ideally positioned as a neutral, inclusive global organization, to facilitate joint activities and assist with negotiation of memoranda of collaboration.

ECDAN works closely with regional ECD networks to align activities and leverage complementary communication and advocacy assets at the country level. Together with the regional ECD Networks, ECDAN is strategically working to strengthen and expand the global architecture to support and catalyze action for ECD globally.

In 2020, ECDAN will launch three additional communities of practice. One will focus on Playful Parenting in collaboration with the LEGO Foundation and ECD; the other will launch a knowledge sharing working group for the Nurturing Care Framework as well as a community of practice on ECD Financing and Costing.
For a network of networks to thrive, robust governance, partnership, and policy structures need to be developed, implemented, and sustained with buy-in from the breadth of ECDAN’s constituencies. The principles of building trust, transparency, inclusion, and open dialogue have been at the center of the efforts to build a global ECD architecture that integrates global, regional, national, sub-national, and community level programs and policies for young children and their families.

In 2018, ECDAN developed its constitution and began transitioning from an Interim Executive Group to a permanent Executive Leadership Council and a new governance structure as illustrated below. The Secretariat formalized, expanded, and developed systems, structures, and operations to enable the development and implementation of the Strategic Plan in support of the vision and mission determined by ECDAN partners through the six Task Forces. A Technical Advisory Group will be established to guide ECDAN partners’ joint technical priorities and products.

ECDAN’s 2020–2023 Strategic Plan was developed through consultations with ECDAN partners, ensuring broad ownership and buy-in from key stakeholders. It integrates recommendations from six multi-stakeholder Task Forces; inputs from multilaterals, bilateral, international NGOs, CSOs, other networks and coalitions; and was vetted and approved by ECDAN’s Executive Group.

ECDAN hired an Executive Director in July 2018, and in 2019 several additional full-time and part-time consultants came on board to build ECDAN, implement its strategic priorities, and respond to growing demand from the global ECD community. They are listed in the acknowledgement section. While ECDAN’s staff is formally hired on a consulting basis, they operate as a global team.

From ECDAN’s inception to the present day, in-kind support from ECDAN partners continues to be generous and critical to ECDAN’s growth and success, especially during ECDAN’s “incubation” phase. Thousands of in-kind hours supported ECDAN’s Task Forces, country and regional activities, successful fundraising, knowledge and learning exchange initiatives, advocacy efforts, and so much more. The Executive Group gives generously and regularly of its time to steer ECDAN in a productive direction, ensuring that efforts are consolidated and amplified in service of all young children and their families.

Our partners are why ECDAN exists and how we do all that we do.
During 2018–2019, ECDAN focused on fundraising to strengthen its operational capacity. The response from donors demonstrated the heightened recognition of ECD at a critical period.

During this period ECDAN raised US$ 2.1 million and spent US$ 939,681, excluding in-kind contributions. The institutions that gave generously at a critical time in ECDAN’s development include: Bainum Family Foundation, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, LEGO Foundation, Open Society Foundations, and UNICEF.

In addition, ECDAN received in-kind support from several partners, including Bernard van Leer Foundation, Children’s Investment Fund Foundation, the World Health Organization, the World Bank Group, and UNICEF.

ECDAN is incredibly grateful for the support it has received during 2018–2019 from its partners, its temporary host ChildFund International, and the broader global ECD community.

Financial Support

ECDAN thanks our funders who have provided direct and in-kind financial support in 2018–2019.

They had the commitment and courage to place trust and resources in ECDAN during its “incubation”. Now, with the strength of our networks and partners, ECDAN aims to fulfill their vision and help make a better world for young children. In addition, as a network of networks, ECDAN is reliant on its partners to provide invaluable in-kind support to move its mission forward.

Bainum Family Foundation
Bernard van Leer
Children’s Investment Fund Foundation
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)
Global Partnership for Education Knowledge and Innovation Exchange
LEGO Foundation
Open Society Foundations
UNICEF
World Bank Group
World Health Organization

Temporary Host

ChildFund International

We are grateful that ChildFund International stepped up as a temporary host in 2018 and we thank them for their management support.

In-kind Support

As a network of networks, ECDAN is reliant on its partners to provide invaluable in-kind support to move its mission forward. Once again, and always, we thank them for their effort and support.
We are grateful to the following individuals and organizations for serving on ECDAN's Executive Group and their contributions and efforts towards building a global movement for young children.

Aisha Yousafzai
Amanda Devercelli
Ana Nieto
Bernadette Daelmans
Dan Stoner
Diana Hincapie
Diego Adame
Emiliana Vegas
Evelyn Santiago
Ghassan Issa
Joan Lombardi
Jordan Naidoo
Julea Allen
Kofi Marfo
Liana Ghent
Lisa Bohmer
Lynnetta Okengo
Melissa Kelly
Mercedes Mateo-Berganza Diaz
Naomi Rutenberg

Pia Britto
Rokhaya Diawara
Romilla Karnati
Sara Bouchie
Sarah Klaus
Stephen Lye
Yoshie Kaga

Governance Sub-Committee
Joan Lombardi
Jordan Naidoo
Liana Ghent
Lucy Bassett
Pia Britto
Sarah Klaus
Stephen Lye

Country Engagement Sub-Committee
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Bernadette Daelmans
Chloe O’Gara
Ghassan Issa
Kofi Marfo
Lisa Bohmer
Lynette Okengo
Mariza Niteim
Melissa Kelly
Sara Poehlman
Yoshie Kaga

Executive Director Selection Committee
Amanda Devercelli
Ghassan Issa
Pia Britto
Lisa Bohmer
Sara Poehlman
Stephen Lye

Steering Committee
Joan Lombardi
Jordan Naidoo
Lisa Bohmer
Lynette Okengo
Melissa Kelly
Naomi Rutenberg
Pia Britto
Stephen Lye

Nominations Committee
Ghassan Issa
Joan Lombardi
Lisa Bohmer
Lynette Okengo
Naomi Rutenberg
Pia Britto
Romilla Karnati
Stephen Lye
Action 1: Scale-up essential multi-sectoral interventions
Executive Group (EG) liaisons: Sara Poehlman, Ghasan Issa, Melissa Kelly, Chloe O’Gara, Pa Reibello Britt.
Co-Chairs: Aisha Yousefzai (Harvard School of Public Health), Donita Birungi (ARECN/Save the Children Uganda)
Members: Suna Hanoz (ARECN), Svetlana Drival (ARECN/PATI), Hani Aref (AKF Asia, AKDN), Peter Hynes (BabyWASH Coalition, World Vision), Melissa Mueller (Catholic Relief Services), Neil Boothby (CPC Learning Network), Meena Gandhi (DID), Saaed Al Ismaily (Dubai Cares), Vital Didonet (ECD Network, Brazil, and OMEP Brazil), Kate Silver (Grand Challenges Canada), Patrick Obonyo (IEKA Foundation), Katie Murphy (International Rescue Committee), Muneera Rasheed (AKU Pakistan, Building Networks for ECE), Nafisa Gulshaeva (AKF Tajikistan, AKDN), Juanita Bernal (CINDE, Colombia), Muneerah Elbahi (Pakistan)
Action 2: Invest in and build capacity of the workforce to deliver quality services
EG liaisons: Liana Ghent, Kofi Marfo, Ana Nieto
Co-Chairs: Mark Roland (R4D) & Mihaela Ionescu (ISSA)
Members: Stella Nguluka (AfECN/Botswana Competence Building Building Networks for ECE), Nafsia Gulshaeva (ARECN Asia/Pacific network), Ayla Goksel (ARECN/Africa), Emily Gustafsson-Wright (Brookings Institution)
Action 3: Strengthen national data and evidence
EG liaisons: Tarun Dua, Stephen Lyke, Lucy Bassett, Paia Brittto
Co-Chairs: Ivelina Borisova (UNICEF) & Abbie Raikes (University of Nebraska)
Members: Juliana Seleni (ARECN/South Africa NW Uni), Allison Joyner (ARECN/Africa), Both Kubera (CPC Learning Network), Echo Oberru (EDC), Kimber Gabor (Forum on Investing in Young Children Globally), Sharon Bengquist (Gates Foundation), Alexandra Rocha (GPE), Sandra Block (Illinois College of Optometry), Maureen Obonyo (IEKA Foundation), Maria capitano (International Rescue Committee), Maureen Samms-Vaughan (Japan’s Early Childhood Commission), Rita Mercuri (Latin American Social Science Faculty), FLACSO, Argentina, Maureen Black (National Academy of Medicine [previously IOM]), Lauren Pisani (Save the Children), Hirokazu Yoshikawa (SDSN), Silvia Montoya (UNESCO), Nicole Petrovska (representing Claudia Cappa, UNICEF), Juliesta Trías (World Bank, SEI), Bill Shiner (World Vision International)
Action 4: Finance
EG liaisons: Joan Lombardi, Lisa Bohmer
Co-Chairs: Mariavittoria Ballotta (UNICEF-WACRO) & Emily Gustafsson-Wright (Brookings Institution)
Members: Maggie Kamau (ARECN/Nairobi), Nafsia Shakhova (ARECN/Africa), Caroline Arnold (ARECN Switzerland, AKDN), Juanita Bernal (CINDE, Colombia), Kerrie Plois (GPE), France Butcha (R4D), Francis Pargas-Barone (RISE Institute), Elinor Bajartajski (UNICEF), Maria Elena Ubeda (UNICEF-LACRO)
Action 5: Advocacy
EG liaisons: Lynette Okeng, Evelyn Santiago, Joan Lombardi, Lucy Bassett, Ana Nieto
Co-Chairs: Sara Ashen (ReadyNation) & Saif Varghese (Fisher Price and Mattel)
Members: Diane Whitehead (ACEI), Ayla Goksel (ARECN), Sheila Marj (ARECN Switzerland, AKDN), Nathalie Espinol (Alsfiuma Center), Silke Friesendorf (ARECN Secretariat), Gillian Huxhner (CPC Learning Network), Leila Nimaiallahi (CRS), Mirjam Schoening (LEGO Foundation), Maria Estela Ortiz (National Director, Council for Children, Chile), Allison Grossman (RESULTS), Kellen Bouchaine (The World), Jordan Naidoo (UNESCO), Samitha Mor (UNICEF DOC), Adam Wertlieb (Tufts University), Joanna Rubenstein (World Childhood Foundation)
Action 6: Results Framework
EG liaisons: Bernadette Ducelmann, Paia Britto
Co-Chairs: Maniza Ntekim (Open Society Foundations) & Nurper Uluker (Independent Consultant)
Members: Patrick Makoroko (ARECN Secretariat Zimbabwe), Sweta Shah (Bernard van Leer Foundation), Tressa Johnson (Elisa Philanthropies), Alice Wurum (Global TIES for Children), Dominique Mcmahon (Grand Challenges Canada), Patricia Fracassi (Scaling Up Nutrition), Donald Wertlieb (Tufts University), Anne Provo (World Bank)
Regional Networks
Africa Early Childhood Network (ARECN), Arab Network for ECD (ARECN); Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARECN), International Network by Step by Step Association (ISSA), LAC ECD networks
Knowledge Fellows Steering Group
Nirmala Rao (Co-Chair), Frances Alabou (Co-Chair), Lucy Bassett, Joan Lombardi, Stephen Lyke, Beatrice Mafualali, Aisha Yousefzai
DC-ECD Organizations, Coalitions and Networks
Nurturing Care Framework Core Group
ECFAN; Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, Infant, and Child Health (PMNCH), World Bank Group; World Health Organization; UNICEF
Countdown 2030 Task Force
Chair: Linda Richter (University of the Witwatersrand); Advisors to the Chair: Pa Britto (UNICEF); Bernadette Ducelmann (WHO); Amanda Devorelli (World Bank) Members; Maureen Black (Research Triangle Institute); Claudia Cappa (UNICEF); Chris Desmond (Institute for Liberation Studies); Tarun Dua (World Health Organization); Gunther Fink (University of Basel); Jody Heymann (University of California at Los Angeles); Joan Lombardi (Bernard van Leer Foundation); Anna Provo (World Bank); Elizabeth Lule (ECDAN); Jennifer Requejo (UNICEF, Results for Development (R4D), RISE Institute, RTI International, Save The Children, Thereworld & Global Business Coalition for Education, USAID, VSO, World Bank, Zero to Three)