ECE Fellow: Pema Thinley

Pema has a post graduate Diploma in Public Administration and a bachelors in Environment and Climate Studies. He is currently serving as an Assistant Program Officer with Bhutan’s Ministry of Education, within the ECCD and SEN Division where he has the responsibility to ensure access and quality of ECCD programs in the country.

Project

Report on Status of ECCD Program in Bhutan Using Pre-primary Sub-Sector Analysis Tool: From the perspectives of Program Officers, District Education Officers, and ECCD Facilitators
Report on Status of ECCD Program in Bhutan Using Pre-primary Sub-Sector Analysis Tool: From the perspectives of Program Officers, District Education Officers and ECCD Facilitators

Presenter: Pema Thinley
ECDAN Knowledge Fellow
Mentor: Massey Tucker
Methodology

• Mixed method: Interview and survey questionnaire
• Used pre-primary sub-sector analysis tool developed by UNICEF (contextualized)
Key Findings: Core Functions

Quality Assurance
- There is comprehensive quality standards and tools to monitor quality - QMTEC (Quality Monitoring Tool for ECCD Centres)
- Need to dedicated budget for monitoring of ECCD centres and training all monitoring officials

Family and Community Engagement
- Families and communities are included as strategic partners in the ECCD program in the country
- Parenting education is mandatory

Planning and Budgeting
- Plans are based on global evidence, current data and developed consultatively

Curriculum Development and Implementation
- No fixed curriculum but uses Early Learning Development standards to guide and it has been widely implemented
- Needs revision of those documents
- Plans are based on global evidence, current data and developed consultatively

Workforce Development
- Need clear recruitment strategy in ECCD workforce/profession
- Institute accrediting body to look after pre-service trainings
- Enhance CPD programs and develop clear career pathway.
**Key Findings: Enabling Environments**

**Ministerial Leadership**

ECCD & SEN Division under Ministry of Education and Skills Development looks after the ECCD Program but need adequate staff in the lead ministry.

**Policies and Legislation**

Need National Education Policy and if possible to establish separate ECCD Policy/Act.

**Public Demand**

Demand for ECCD services have been increasing over the years but need to strengthen ownership and continued support from local government.

**Financing**

Sustainable financing mechanism is recommended to ensure perennial and dedicated financing for ECCD program.
Next Steps

1. Presentation of report findings to the executives of the Education Ministry
2. Facilitate the development and endorsement of holistic National Education Policy
3. Development of clear recruitment strategy and setting clear career progression pathway for ECCD workforce