Welcome to our bi-weekly Digest!

It is in these extraordinary times that staying connected becomes crucial. We are deeply committed to our ECDtf community around the world. We will continue sending the bi-weekly Digests in addition to all time-sensitive messages that you have been receiving.

We hope all of you and your loved ones are well in these difficult times. Our hearts go out to all those affected by illness, the isolation of preventive measures, or personal and professional hardships caused by this global crisis.

Take care.

You can find these Bi-weekly Digests and former Newsflashes uploaded in our website: http://ecdtf.org

ECDtf – Early Childhood Development Task Force for Global Partnership on Children with Disabilities

Our vision is to ensure that young children with developmental delays or disabilities will achieve their full potential. We promote multi-sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, programs, and practices in all nations.

All comments and suggestions are welcome.

News:


What Infants, Toddlers and
Preschoolers Need During the Pandemic - MindShift

Scientists knew all of that before the coronavirus sent rates of unemployment, hunger, depression and anxiety soaring. There are programs like Healthy Steps that can help families access resources and support. But Shonkoff worries that the enormous stress and instability families are facing will harm babies and toddlers for years.

www.kqed.org

The Biology of Adversity in Childhood: Why You Should Care | American Academy of Pediatrics

When C. Henry Kempe brought the plight of child abuse to the national forefront in the 1960s, he knew that infants who didn’t bond with mothers as neonates were at risk for abuse. But despite his scientific background as a renowned virologist, he likely had no idea how childhood adversity could affect the developing brains of children.

www.aappublications.org

Unseen scars of childhood trauma

Twenty years of research have established the connection between adverse childhood experiences and long-term health. Now researchers are looking for ways to measure the biology behind the correlation and try to reverse it.

knowablemagazine.org

How Toddlers Benefit From Other Than Parents?


https://knowablemagazine.org/article/mind/2021/unseen-scars-childhood-trauma

https://www.moms.com/how-toddlers-benefit-relationships-other-than-parents/
Relationships Than With Parents

Good relationships at a young age are the key to happiness and emotional wellbeing of a person. The relationship between child and their parent is the most prevalent but other relationships are also important. Included in these relationships are family members like siblings, grandparents, uncles...


America’s Mothers Are in Crisis - The New York Times

In early September, as the school year inched closer, a group of mothers in New Jersey decided they would gather in a park, at a safe social distance, and scream their lungs out.

Events:

- [Webinar] Investing in Learning: the Case for Strengthening the Collection and Use of Learning Assessment Data in EiE Contexts

Feb 25, 2021 08:00 AM
https://rescue.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_70l5D-laTqOflj2-TwOPjA

Welcome! You are invited to join a webinar: [Webinar] Investing in Learning: the Case for Strengthening the Collection and Use of Learning Assessment Data in EiE Contexts. After registering, you will receive a confirmation.
- **Reimagining Girls' Education: Solutions to Keep Girls Learning in Emergencies**
  
  Feb 25, 2021, 08:00 AM in Eastern Time (US and Canada)
  
  [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bToWykijyQOuI_w0-ndBagw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bToWykijyQOuI_w0-ndBagw)

  Welcome! You are invited to join a webinar: Reimagining Girls' Education: Solutions to Keep Girls Learning in Emergencies. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the webinar.

  
  Wednesday, February 25, 2021

  **Webinar on Harnessing Social Protection to Improve HIV Outcomes in Children**

  Exploring game-changing innovations that have improved HIV outcomes amongst children by combining social protection with biomedical support.

- **Using video as a tool for storytelling & advocacy on EiE**

  [https://outlook.live.com/mail/0/AQMkADAwATEyMGE3LTRjMzMALTI…%2Blc4KJNcgACLNPyWAAAALwHIF6HYrZ0oBfiHOCozXIA7Zd3owAAAA%3D](https://outlook.live.com/mail/0/AQMkADAwATEyMGE3LTRjMzMALTI…%2Blc4KJNcgACLNPyWAAAALwHIF6HYrZ0oBfiHOCozXIA7Zd3owAAAA%3D)
Welcome! You are invited to join a meeting: [Workshop] Using video as a tool for storytelling & advocacy on EiE. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the meeting.

INEE is partnering with Illuminaid to provide a unique capacity building workshop on using video as a tool for storytelling and advocacy on EiE. Digital storytelling through video is more engaging than a standard lecture, and this workshop will highlight how the use of video can overcome many obstacles that would otherwise inhibit change, such as language, culture, location, and access to resources. This two-hour workshop, conducted in English, will a) highlight the benefits of video for advocacy, b) demonstrate how to create and disseminate videos for advocacy

- **Inclusive Learning Environments for Infants and Toddlers**

  March 9, 2021
  
  https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=reg20.jsp&cid=dc495c44e8ae62f6bae6b6bd92a57719&eventid=2874569&sessionid=1&key=8C83BFBA5A97D8B1DFEF7AB4B21F41&regTag=&V2=false&sourcepage=register

- **Early Childhood Critical Reading Group: An invitation to a collaborative provocation**

  The aim of the reading group is to **discuss, think and study collectively as a community**: to deepen our critical perspectives on early childhood, and to share discussions and ideas around it. Once per month the group will meet to discuss an article, book chapter, or output in any media that is relevant to early childhood studies. The event will run on the **last Friday of each month** (in term time) from **12.30 to 14.00 (GMT)** via Zoom—beginning **Friday, 26 February 2021**. Sessions will be **open to anyone who is interested**: graduate students, staff, practitioners, and undergraduate students. Group members will be able to **propose reading materials** for discussion and chair sessions on areas of particular interest to them. The reading group is an initiative of the **DCU-Early Childhood Research Centre**. For more information and to **register your interest to participate**, please contact us at **ecrc@dcu.ie**. The Zoom link to join the group will be sent out half an hour before each session.

Some interesting articles/reports:

- [https://inee.org/system/files/resources/TWB%20Landscape%20Review_August%202019_0.pdf](https://inee.org/system/files/resources/TWB%20Landscape%20Review_August%202019_0.pdf)
The room is hot. Thirty-six degrees Celsius to be exact. Dust covers the various surfaces in the room, and any movement produces small clouds of debris in its wake. 162 girls, between the

- **The bedrock of inclusion: why investing in the education workforce is critical to the delivery of SDG4.**
  
  [Link](https://www.youthpower.org/sites/default/files/YouthPower/files/resources/The%20bedrock%20of%20inclusion_0_0.pdf)


  The Pandemic Has Compounded the Turnover Problem in Early Childhood Education | EdSurge News

  Staff departures were a major problem in child care long before the pandemic. While firm numbers are hard to find, studies estimate annual turnover rates between 26 and 40 percent for early childhood educators in licensed facilities. The risks and burdens of COVID-19 have made it all the more difficult to both retain high-quality early childhood

- [Link](https://www.thedialogue.org/analysis/presupuesto-por-resultados-para-el-desarrollo-infantil-el-caso-de-peru/?lang=es)

  Presupuesto por Resultados para el Desarrollo Infantil – El Caso de Perú - The Dialogue

  La experiencia de Perú con presupuestos por resultados
proporciona una opción viable para la elaboración de una política para la primera infancia sostenible.


Midiendo el impacto de la Covid-19 en los niños y niñas menores de seis años en América Latina – Mapeo de encuestas en curso y sistematización de lecciones aprendidas - The Dialogue

Este informe sintetiza las resultados de un estudio sobre las encuestas implementadas en la región para medir el impacto de la pandemia en la infancia.


Investigating Risks and Opportunities for Children in a Digital World: A rapid review of the evidence on children’s
internet use and outcomes

Children’s lives are increasingly mediated by digital technologies. Yet, when it comes to understanding the long-term effects of internet use and online experiences on their well-being, mental health or resilience, the best we can do is make an edu

The State of Open Humanitarian Data 2021

We created the Data Grids in 2019 as a way to help users in their quest for relevant, complete and timely data. The Data Grids bring together a limited set of foundational datasets needed to understand a humanitarian context.

Grandmothers — a neglected family resource for saving newborn lives

Across the globe, the well-being of newborns is significantly influenced by the knowledge and practices of family members, yet global health policies and interventions primarily focus on strengthening health services to save newborn lives. Predominant approaches to promote newborn survival in non-western cultures across the Global South are based on a western, nuclear family model and ignore the roles of caregivers within wider family systems, whose attitudes and practices are determined by culturally prescribed strategies. In this paper, I review evidence of a neglected facet of newborn care, the role and influence of senior women or grandmothers. Based on a family systems frame, I reviewed research from numerous settings in Africa, Asia and Latin America that provides insight into family roles related to newborn care, specifically of grandmothers. I identified primarily published studies which provide evidence of grandmothers’ role as culturally designated and influential newborn advisors to young mothers.

Resources:

https://centre.humdata.org/stateofdata2021

https://gh.bmj.com/content/6/2/e003808.full
Safe to Learn: Tracking progress in Nepal, Pakistan, South Sudan and Uganda | Blog | Global Partnership for Education

The Safe to Learn initiative calls on governments and education authorities to adopt a five point Call to Action, which sets out in high-level terms what needs to happen to end violence in schools and create safer learning environments.

www.globalpartnership.org

PE is what kids need to beat the 'COVID slide'

In the midst of a pandemic, schools are doubling down on core subjects like reading and math to beat “the COVID slide.” But in the effort to keep test scores up, we’re at risk of de-prioritizing play. In fact, PE may be the subject kids need most during a continuing global health crisis. PE is ...
and entertaining, providing another context that can be leveraged for learning...

https://www.edutopia.org

Incoming Kindergarteners Need to Know Key Life Skills

It’s no surprise that academic rigor has become the main focus of kindergarten in the United States. Kindergarten teachers are expected to teach a total of 98 academic standards to their class of 20+ five-year-olds. Those 98 standards were written with the assumption that these five-year-olds are...

www.weareteachers.com

COVID-19's kindergarten setbacks will have long-term achievement impacts | K-12 Dive

K-12 News. Dive Brief: Kindergartners losing months of school or skipping the grade entirely due to the novel coronavirus pandemic will face long-term impacts as a result of the disruption to a critical foundational learning year in which rapid brain development and academic base-building occurs, EdSource reports. About 17% of...

www.k12dive.com

[Bosnia and Herzegovina]
Revolutionary Education Reform in Sarajevo: a class does not have to last 45 minutes - childhub.org

Education reform in Sarajevo Canton has been a long-standing topic, the implementation of which is the first important step in the systemic change of teaching in schools. If that

Home Page | Inclusive Education Initiative

Rwanda. Allocation of USD 1.93 Million to conduct comprehensive mapping and review of resource classrooms and assessment centers, along with strengthen Education Management Information System (EMIS), technical assistance, and targeted capacity building.

On-Demand and Up-to-Date? Dynamic Inclusion and Data Updating for Social Assistance

The COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically demonstrated the importance of social assistance programs worldwide. But what does it take to deliver benefits and services to those most in need at the right time? The paper published by the GIZ sheds light on this topic and presents following conclusion: Given the dynamic nature of poverty and vulnerability, it requires up-to-date information from beneficiaries as well as the dynamic inclusion of these data.
Right to read: Joint efforts to provide books to minority-language learners | Blog | Global Partnership for Education

During this world-upending pandemic, ethnolinguistic minority learners are falling further through the cracks. Even if they have access to the technology necessary for distance learning, they will likely not receive content in their own language. Here is what organizations like UNESCO are doing to make sure minority learners don’t fall further behind.

Joyful ABC Activity Books | National Museum of African American History and Culture

The Joyful ABC activity booklet series invites caregivers and educators to support children’s positive identity development while growing their language and literacy skills with activities, museum objects, and new words based on the book, A is for All the Things You Are: A Joyful ABC Book.

Potter the Otter: A Tale About Water

Potter teaches his friends the importance of drinking water to stay healthy and hydrated! Connect with Potter!

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/potterloveswater

Instagram:
Nurturing the curiosity and invention of children’s ideas

In December 2020, Gitanjali Rao, a 15-year-old inventor from Colorado, was named Kid of the Year by Newsweek. Showered with accolades, children like Rao are often treated as if they are unicorns, completely different than others their age.

Harsh punishment leads to less credible parenting.

How to Support Preschool Families in the Transition to Kindergarten | Edutopia

Before my oldest child started kindergarten, I joined an information session at his new school. Among the presenters was the director of the on-site after-school program, and a parent asked when registration would open. The response: It had been open for a while, and there was a waitlist. The parent...

New Tools Will Measure Impact of Play on Child Development -- THE Journal

An international effort is setting out to come up with new ways to help educators and others measure the impact of play on learning and child development.

What Does COVID-19 Learning Loss Actually Mean? (Opinion)

COVID-19 learning loss is a big topic. Unfortunately, there has been limited discussion on specifically what is being lost.
Did you know that interactions among genes, experiences, age, and environments influence every biological system in the body, with especially powerful effects in the earliest years? When we think about the foundation of early childhood development, we often focus on brain architecture. However, the environments we create and

Connecting the Brain to the Rest of the Body: Early Childhood Development and Lifelong Health Are Deeply Intertwined - Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University

We know that responsive relationships and language-rich experiences for young children help build a strong foundation for later success in school. The rapidly advancing frontiers of 21st-century biological sciences now provide compelling evidence that the foundations of lifelong health are also built early, with increasing evidence of the importance of the prenatal period and first […]
Investing in Learning: the Case for Strengthening the Collection and Use of Learning Assessment Data in EiE Contexts | INEE

This policy paper is for EiE sector donors, both in humanitarian and protracted crisis contexts, national governments and humanitarian and development agencies. It provides guidance on how to increase and improve the measurement of holistic learning outcomes for crisis-affected learners.

About the Toolkit | ECE Accelerator

The tools currently in this toolkit are related to the first two stages – Education Sector Analysis (ESA) and Education Sector Plan (ESP) development. These are the essential foundations for all other planning and implementation.

#KidsAreEssential

We believe—in regular times and even more in times of crisis—that #KidsAreEssential. We are calling for a strong and sustained public investment in young children and their families that addresses the threats of COVID-19 and sets them up for success beyond it.
Partnering with Parents--Building a Supportive Relationship | Center for Inclusive Childcare

Priscilla Weigel spends time with Michele Fallon, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant discussing the essential connection with families when you are caring for young children. The two examine ways to provide parents the opportunity to be heard and supported, in order to build healthy foundations.

Call to Action and courses:

- **Transforming Education for Children with Disabilities**
  
  Thank you for taking the time to fill out the Inclusive Education Initiative Community of Practice’s first-anniversary survey. We won’t be here without your participation and contribution!
  
  [Link](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IEI-1year)

[Inclusive Education Initiative Community of Practice](https://www.inclusivechildcare.org)

[Survey] What advocacy tools would help you?
Over the past decade, humanitarians have emphasized the critical need for effective community engagement (CE) in relief efforts. To enhance CE in humanitarian contexts, the USAID Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance has awarded a grant to UNICEF HQ to improve global capacity for social science support in humanitarian contexts; with

Community Quality of Care Stakeholder Survey: REQUEST FOR INPUT by 10 March 2021

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=9CL6b2hFBUGtQy461HJpV69mASpk8ItLqioHmOC5YuNUMExCODVlVFlxSU85WkpQWTFOVEQwUU9NSS4u
Request for Proposals - Equal Measures 2030

Equal Measures 2030, and its partners FAWE and Initiative Pananetugri pour le Bien-être de la Femme (IPBF), are collaborating on the Global Affairs Canada-funded project “Data-Driven Advocacy for Girls Education in Emergencies (EiE) in Africa.” The project aims to work with both women’s rights organisations (WROs) and decision-makers to improve the collection and use of gender data to...

Sharpen your data skills in crisis-sensitive educational planning | IIEP-UNESCO

Eight weeks with a 10-day preliminary phase. 12 hours per week. Course fees: 1,600 USD for an individual | 1,400 USD for individuals in a team of four.

Job opportunities:

- Chief of Party, Learn to Read Program - Laos
  Save the Children
  Vientiane
  APPLICATION DEADLINE: 10 MARCH 2021
  https://inee.org/jobs/chief-party-learn-read-program-laos

Chief of Party, Learn to Read Program - Laos | INEE

Save the Children seeks a Chief of Party (COP) for an ongoing USAID-funded education Learn to Read project in Laos. This project was launched in 2018, and is scheduled to end in 2023.
• **Gender Specialist - Consultancy**  
  Plan International Denmark  
  Home based  
  APPLICATION DEADLINE: 10 MARCH 2021  
  
  [https://inee.org/jobs/gender-specialist-consultancy](https://inee.org/jobs/gender-specialist-consultancy)

Gender Specialist - Consultancy | INEE  
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Plan International Denmark is looking for a Gender Specialist (Consultant) to support the implementation of the PlayMatters project. PlayMatters is a 5-year project funded by the LEGO Foundation and led by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) looking to bring playful learning to 800,000 refugee and host-community children age 3 – 12+ across Ethiopia, Uganda, and Tanzania.

• **Chief of Party, Education**  
  International Rescue Committee  
  Kabul, Afghanistan  
  APPLICATION DEADLINE: 13 MARCH 2021  
  
  [https://inee.org/jobs/chief-party-education](https://inee.org/jobs/chief-party-education)

Chief of Party, Education | INEE  
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The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is one of the world’s leading agencies working in post-conflict and development contexts, supporting communities in over 40 fragile, failed and developing states.
To view this discussion on the web visit