Greetings, ECDtf members and friends,

This Message # 19 alerts you to recent activities and developments of interest, upcoming events, and new resources. Our new strategic plan is now in action. Many thanks to those of you who submitted your interest forms and volunteered to implement activities consistent with your goals and objectives. If you have not yet alerted us to your preferences, please complete the attached form so we can connect you with like-minded colleagues and opportunities. We welcome your comments and contributions as we move forward.

**Featured resources:**

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=fXf3CCyhLGu#t=12](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=fXf3CCyhLGu#t=12) Please take 13 minutes to enjoy and consider this impressive articulation of the evidence-base for inclusive ECD
- [http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002322/232205e.pdf](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002322/232205e.pdf) EFA update with a deeper and broader awareness of disability matters!
- [http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=868bc193d9fcfe837d3fb7bc3&id=876e1dbfcc&e=8f2dceb5ea](http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=868bc193d9fcfe837d3fb7bc3&id=876e1dbfcc&e=8f2dceb5ea) Four new tools that put UNICEF data to work for children

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**Topics (detailed below):**

1. **ECDtf and GPcwd updates**
2. **ARNEC seeking “buddies” for country coordinators**
3. **Kellogg Foundation seeks project officer**
4. **Calls for Proposals**
   - International Congress for Developmental Pediatrics – extended to June 3
   - ACEI Global Summit on Childhood – due September 28, 2015
   - Toronto Association for Infant & Child Development – extended to May 29
5. **Upcoming meetings**
   - May 6-8  NNDR, Bergen, Norway
   - May 12-14  FPG Inclusion Institute, Chapel Hill, NC USA
   - May 14  NPS Coalition to Improve Lives, Washington, DC
   - May 20  FoC Policies to promote Child Health & Wellbeing, Princeton, NJ USA
   - June 4-7  Changing paradigms in Down Syndrome, Paris
   - June 4-5  DECET International Conference on Diversity, Equality and Social Justice in Early Childhood  Birmingham, UK
   - June 9-11  8th Session CRPD COSP, including GPcwd side-event, NY
Professional Development Webinars & Resources

A new polio?????: http://childandfamilyblog.com/childhood-mental-illness-3

On a humorous note: http://www.tylervigen.com

New resources

1. ECDtf & GPcwd updates

   a) Several ECDtf members are planning to attend the Developmental Pediatrics Congress in Istanbul December 2-5, so we anticipate a formal or informal gathering to discuss ECDtf business and recruit new members from among the attendees. If you anticipate being in Istanbul then, please let donald.wertlieb@tufts.edu know so you can be included in the planning and proceedings.

   b) Attached is a form with a list of our new strategic plan priorities and areas for your contributions to ECDtf. Please note the areas that most interest you and email it to donald.wertlieb@tufts.edu. Many thanks to those of you who have already submitted the form. Once we receive a few additional forms, we shall bring people together in initial committees to plan and develop work activities. Some of you may prefer to work as individuals. As funding becomes available, we shall offer to fund your work. However, we recognize that all of us will continue to conduct volunteer work in order to achieve our objectives.

   c) Our colleagues on the GPcwd Task Force on Physical Activity and Sport are circulating a very interesting and impressive draft paper “Why Inclusive Physical Activity and Sport are Critical Components of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.” Unfortunately, it does not yet include much consideration of the special needs and opportunities in early childhood development and intervention. If you are interested in participating in the improvement of the document, please contact Amy Farkas Karageorgos at inclusion4development@gmail.com

   d) The 8th Session of Conference of State Parties (COSP) will take place in New York June 9-11, and the GPcwd is organizing a side event (date and time to be confirmed). Speakers would be a representative from each task force and one young person representing the Youth Council of the GPcwd. The theme for this year’s COSP is “Mainstreaming the rights of persons with
disabilities in the post-2015 development agenda”. GPcwd speakers will highlight partnership and youth participation plans and activities now underway. Please contact secretariat@gpcwd.org for further details.

2. ARNEC seeking “buddies” for country coordinators

The Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC) is a network established to build strong partnerships across sectors and different disciplines, organisations, agencies and institutions in the Asia-Pacific region to advance the agenda on and investment in early childhood. The Buddy system is open to graduate level students, researchers, practitioners, parents, advocates for ECD or anyone interested in Early Childhood matters. It presents a unique learning opportunity for the Buddy to work closely with the ARNEC Secretariat and respective Country Coordinators, connect directly with ARNEC members around the world, and be part of projects that contribute to Early Childhood in the Asia-Pacific region. The Buddys will be linked by subthemes of the ARNEC annual theme: “The transformative power of ECD for equitable development.” Interested? Email your CV to secretariat@arnec.net  TOR at http://www.arnec.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/ARNEC-Buddy-system-TOR.pdf

3. Kellogg Foundation seeks planning, evaluation & research project officer

http://nonprofitprofessionals.com/job/wkkf-pero

4. Calls for Proposals

International Congress for Developmental Pediatrics – extended to June 3


Toronto Association for Infant & Child Development – extended to May 29
https://oaicd.ca/sites/default/files/story/OAICD%202015%20Call%20for%20Presenters%20letter_0.pdf

5. Upcoming meetings

May 6-8  NNDR, Bergen, Norway http://www.cvent.com/events/nndr-13th-research-conference/event-summary-874cd3c94ce04d119a5ad0d9c9122124.aspx  NNDR conferences brings together researchers, policy makers, activists and practitioners to share scholarship and ideas, and provides a forum for Nordic and international collaboration in disability studies. The conference welcomes a wide range of contributions applying social, cultural, historical and philosophical perspectives to the study of disability. Its next conference will be held in the historic Norwegian town of Bergen, May 6 -8. 2015. The NNDR 13th Research Conference aims at giving new insights into frontline topics, questions and approaches within contemporary Disability Research and will in our plenary session raise the following questions: What characterizes disability studies as a field? What impact does technology and innovation have on the field? How has the concept of gender been dwelt upon? What are
transnational issues in the disability field? What are seen as disabling conditions or practices?

May 12-14  FPG Inclusion Institute, Chapel Hill, NC USA  
http://inclusioninstitute.fpg.unc.edu/speaker-list

May 14  NPS Coalition to Improve Lives, Washington, DC  
http://www.npscoalition.org/#policy/cee5

May 20  Policies to promote child health, Princeton, New Jersey USA  

June 4-7  Changing paradigms in Down Syndrome, Paris
June 4-5  DECET International Conference on Diversity, Equality and Social Justice in Early Childhood  
Birmingham, UK

‘Quality’ continues to be the defining term for early childhood education and care. There is now a broad consensus among policy makers, practitioners and researchers that ‘access to universally available, high-quality inclusive ECEC services is beneficial for all’ (to quote a high profile policy document published by the EU Commission). The importance given to ‘quality’ in early childhood has been emphasised by the proposal for a European Quality Framework, launched by the EU Commission in 2014. But what constitutes ‘quality’ in relation to the experiences of young children, their families and communities in and with early childhood institutions and programmes remains a highly contested matter. Questions of how to develop, support, maintain and (e)value) quality are at the centre of controversial debate. There is no shortage of definitions – but they all depend on the context, the vantage point and the vested interests of those who are in a position to define.

As DECET, the international network that works for diversity, equality and social justice in early childhood, our position is clear: Firstly, questions of ‘quality’ are first and foremost connected to the rights of all children to grow up and live free of discrimination. Secondly, all means all – regardless of a child’s or their family’s race, ethnicity, colour, sex, gender, language, belief, religion, nationality, legal status, economic status or ability. THERE CAN BE NO QUALITY WITHOUT EQUALITY  
http://www.newman.ac.uk/media-centre/4131/no-quality-without-equality-in-ecce/?src=DECETconference

June 9-11  8th Session of Conference of CRPD State Parties (COSP), New York, including a GPCwd side event  

June 30-July3  Education in the 21st Century: Multiculturalism, children’s rights & global citizenship, Haifa, Israel. The themes of the conference include:
Identity in Multicultural Environments: construction of identity; dimensions of identity (language, religion, culture, gender, etc.); Pedagogical Approaches for Multicultural Classrooms: pedagogical strategies and tools; local culture; ethnic and minority groups; the role of critical pedagogy; Children’s Rights in the 21st Century: approaches for promoting children’s rights and the role of educators as social agents in promoting and protecting children’s rights; Global Citizenship: critical thinking, social justice and social movement; power relations and social change through education. Gordon College, Haifa, Israel
http://sites.gordon.ac.il/conf2015

July 6-9  Beit Shapiro International Conference on Disabilities, Tel Aviv, Israel
http://eng-conf.beitissie.org.il/welcome-letter-2/

August 2015  DISES International Roundtable    Jerusalem & Bethlehem
https://www.facebook.com/DISES.CEC

September 2-4  International Society for Child Indicators, Capetown, SA From welfare to well-being: Child indicators in research, policy & practice.

October 1-2  Readynation Global Summit on Early Childhood Investment, NY
http://www.readynation.org/event/2015summit

October 4-8  6th Africa Forum, Kampala, Uganda
http://www.perkins.org/international/africa/africa-forum


December 2-5  International Developmental Pediatrics Congress    Istanbul, Turkey
The 1st IDP Congress will be in Istanbul, Turkey, organized by the Developmental Pediatrics Association (Gelişimsel Pediatri Derneği) in Turkey and Ankara University. UNICEF-CEECIS (Central and Eastern Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States) Regional Office, UNICEF-Turkey, Turkish Ministry of Family and Social Policies, Turkish Ministry of Health and numerous non-governmental organizations are supporting the Congress. The theme for the 1st IDP Congress is “ADD-ECD: Addressing Disability and Difficulties in Early Childhood Development.” We will be hosting numerous presentations, panel discussions, workshops and research presentations from a multitude of countries. The launch of the first internationally developed method to monitor child development, the “International Guide for Monitoring Child Development (IGMCD)” will take place during the Congress with IGMCD courses provided in English, Russian, Spanish and Turkish. The Congress will host presentations on other seminal innovative models that address difficulties in early childhood development in low and middle-income countries. http://www.idpcongress.org
Plans pending for meeting for ECDtf side-event.

March 31-April 3  ACEI Global Summit on Childhood,  San Jose, Costa Rica  
http://www.acei.org/programs-events/summit.html

June 8-10/16  ISEI, Children’s Rights & Early Intervention, Stockholm, Sweden  
http://depts.washington.edu/isei/2016conf.html

6. Professional Development Webinars & Resources

May 19, 2015, 1-3 pm EDT  “What do we know about community and family based interventions for vulnerable children in HIV affected contexts in Africa?”  


DEC Professional development Webinars  http://www.dec-sped.org/learningdecks

Inclusive Ed webinar March 2015  https://vimeo.com/122763731  
https://vimeo.com/122754174


8. On a humorous note:  http://www.tylervigen.com

9. New resources

(these have come to our attention since our last communiqué; please feel free to contribute and share other resources with a “reply-all” to this ECDtf Message, pending our establishment of our ECDtf Collaboration and Resource Sharing Platform. Please consider elaborating upon or critiquing one of these resources as a contribution to our new feature, TASK FORCE TALK)

b.  http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=868bc193d9fcee837d3fb7bc3&id=876e1dbfcc&e=8f2dceb5ea

e. http://www.savethechildren.org/atif/cf/%7B9def2ebe-10ae-432c-9bd0-df91d2eba74a%7D/SOWM_2015.PDF So sorry to see such minimal attention to disability matters


g. http://www.equality-of-opportunity.org Imagine if the big database included disability indices and global data!


i. http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002321/232189e.pdf Celebrate the visibility of ECD, ECI and IECD commitments!


m. http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/InclusiveAndQualityEducation.aspx

n. https://soundcloud.com/ohchr/sets/disabled-people-have-right-to


q. http://media.wix.com/u/773dc1_28010400a41f4dd697c6ef5b85a982cc.pdf


t. https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=fXF3CCyhlGU#t=12
