



**ECD**  
NETWORK  
FOR KENYA

# *ECDNeK Newsletter*

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**February 2023**

# EDITORIAL NOTE

*The year begins brightly with greater resolutions set to scale our achievements. We are delighted that we had a myriad of opportunities in 2022 that scaled the organization's milestones in various levels. The journey was worthwhile and we are thrilled to have made it to 2023, hoping to scale greater heights. Join us in celebrating how eventful 2022 was and the captivating stories that made it to the 2nd bi-annual newsletter.*

*Editorial Team  
ECDNEK Secretariat*

## *Courtesy Visit by Mathematica representative*

Partnerships are formed and strengthened when organizations extend a hand to support each other by sharing continuous learnings.



It was an honor for the ECDNEK secretariat to host Ms. Joy Nyabwari (MATHEMATICA). She paid a courtesy visit to the office during her visit to Kenya and echoed the extensive reach that the network has managed through its various partnership platforms.

## *Kurasa - Nurturing care in ECD*

The 21st century has seen rise to more technological innovations that are used to scale advocacy agenda on every issue around the globe. Organizations are now embracing podcasts and webinars as platforms that can raise advocacy in the sector. ECD Network had an opportunity to participate on a regional webinar named Kurasa which is founded in Kenya. The webinar showcased conversations that detailed who ECD network is, what the network stands for and called to all listeners to share abstracts for the 5th national ECD stakeholders conference scheduled for 17th - 19th July 2023. Kurasa is an acclaimed educational podcast show that is an innovation of young scholars whose interest is children. The Programmes Liaison Officer, Sally Moraa got to participate in the discussion of nurturing care in ECD.

## Kiambu county & Nairobi county CIDP Stakeholders forum

The ECD Network for Kenya was privileged to participate in the Nairobi and Kiambu Counties' education and health CIDP development respectively. Kenya has successfully transitioned governments through its general election as witnessed in the month of August 2022. Counties have since embarked on aligning their plans and budgetary allocations for the various development projects. Kiambu and Nairobi Counties held a review meeting with implementing partners on the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP). This was to align the projects they are implementing with the President's and Governor's Manifestos.



The Nairobi CIDP development team entailed the following sub - sectors from department of education. These included Early Childhood Development sector, Community Development, Gender and Disability sector and Children/Family & social services sector. In addition to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) implementing in Nairobi County.

The county Economic and planning team guided the Education department sub sectors on the steps that would be adopted in development of the 2023 - 2027 CIDP. These steps included; a) Preliminaries; this is where the economic team develops concept note, circular, formation of steering Committee and sensitization to various departments, b) Data collection and analysis; where review of the previous CIDP takes place to identify the baseline situation, c) development of objectives and strategies; this entails vision, mission, objectives, outcomes and targets of the CIDP, d) programmes and projects that the departments proposes to implement for the 5 years, e) drafting of the combined CIDP, f) validation through public participation, g) adoption and approval, h) launching and dissemination. The previous CIDP (2018-2022) acted as a feedback tool on how the county managed funds and achieved the set targets.



This was achieved through reviewing of sector specific performance to determine the level of achievements. At the end of the workshop, a draft CIDP was developed and shared with the County Economic and Planning department. This would later be combined with other CIDPs from other departments like health. The combined document would later be shared to the public for validation.

ECD Network for Kenya was privileged to be invited by the two counties to join various stakeholders implementing in the counties to share their views on development plans for the county and interrogate the plans laid by the counties.

### ***Ministry of Health TWG for children aged (5-10 YRS)***

The ECD network for Kenya joined stakeholders in the Ministry of Health forum that was focusing on provision of services for children aged 5-10 years. This was a gap identified that needed urgent attention from service providers. The age cohort has been forgotten and there are no programmatic interventions targeting this cohort hence leading to limited data addressing the needs of these children. Research conducted by Clinical Information's Network (CIN) and Kemri indicate that these children (5-10yrs), have experienced high morbidity and mortality as gathers from inpatient data. As a result, MoH found need to form a TWG to discuss the need and development of guidelines addressing the need of these children.

## *NCF TWG Stakeholder meeting hosted by MOH*

Technical working groups is one of the ideas Kenya has embraced to combat the issue of stakeholders working in silos as a sector. The technical working groups are led by government and include representation from the non-governmental stakeholders.



The nurturing care technical working group hosted by the ministry of health is one of the many technical groups in existence in the country. ECD network for Kenya as a member of the group joined members to share on the state of nurturing care in the country. The meeting is among the quarterly scheduled meetings set to share reflections, progress and ideas of scaling the work being done by both government and non-governmental stakeholders

## *Courtesy visit by BRAC IED*

'Karibu Kenya' a phrase commonly used to welcome visitors to our beautiful motherland. This was the order of the day for the ECD network secretariat who had an opportunity to host the BRAC team from Pakistan. The team was part of an expedition team sent to various organizations in Kenya who are doing great innovations in children's sector. ECD Network for Kenya was among the organizations selected to host the team, and was happy to share the knowledge with the visitors. This visit was coupled with innovative ideas on how best the two organizations can learn from each other and areas of partnership in the near future.



## Global Handwashing Day

The ECD Network for Kenya celebrated 2022 Global handwashing day alongside Kiambu County and its partners on 15th October at Karuri Primary school. The theme for this year was unite for universal hand hygiene. The event gave an opportunity to all children to receive sensitization on the best practices of washing hands before and after meals and toileting. The event was a successful commemoration of all efforts put to the county to ensure WASH is administered effectively.



## Courtesy visit by Upward Bound Kenya

Leveraging on the existing partnership by various partners funded by Comic Relief in Kenya under the Rise and Shine umbrella, ECD Network for Kenya was happy to host Upward bound Kenya at their offices. The team is the local affiliates of comic relief and is given the mandate to oversee the progress of the partners and their various projects. Upward Bound was on a mission to document what each Rise & Shine partners are implementing. ECDNeK by virtue of collaborating with KANCO to implement Malezi Bora ya Awali was visited for this purpose.

Documentary : <https://ecdnetworkforkenya.org/newsletters/>



## *NECEC Courtesy visit in Turkana county*

The National early childhood education committee (NECEC) team with representation from the Ministry of education, council of governors, and Kenya institute of curriculum development, UNICEF and the ECD network for Kenya had an opportunity to visit various ECD centers in Turkana County. The visit coupled with a courtesy call paid at the governor's and deputy governor's office. The NECEC mission highlighted the Turkana county government investments in the pre-schools. The team also paid a courtesy call to the UNHCR and met with ECD stakeholders working in Kakuma and Kalobeyei. The visit highlighted the need to strengthen ECD initiatives in Turkana County.



## *Men in Caregiving regional workshop*

The Impact & Innovation Development Center (IIDC) in collaboration with Investing in young Children and their Societies (ICS) and the Africa Early Childhood Network (AfECN) hosted a Learning Convening on Male Engagement in Caregiving in Eastern and Southern Africa. The convening took place on 7th-9th of November 2022 at the Radisson Blue Hotel, Nairobi Upper Hill. The convening gave an opportunity to ECD network for Kenya to share its thoughts on the state of men in caregiving in Kenya.





## *Regional ECD networks courtesy visit to ECDNEK offices*

The ECD network for Kenya had an opportunity to host delegates from Tanzania and Mozambique ECD network offices as well as delegates from South Africa. The visit highlighted discussions of paternal involvement in childcare. Dr Mwoma gave various contributions of studies done in the space, showcasing the milestones of research and studies in Kenya. The visit contributed to a successful learning and sharing convening of the delegates and the network.



## *Courtesy visit by Heartlines ZA to ECDNEK*

The ECD network was thrilled to host Ms Simone of Heartlines ZA, who paid a courtesy call to the office to have a meet and greet with the team and the national coordinator. The visit was fueled by her enthusiasm in championing the men in caregiving agenda by understanding what Kenya is currently doing. The visit was a great boost in raising awareness on the importance of having male champions.



## 4th Learning event (Rise & Shine)

The workshop also gave opportunity to Comic relief to share with its partners on opportunities of future engagements and how best to scale the project.



Upward Bound Kenya successfully launched the documentaries done for all the partners and showcased the various projects being done across the country. The partners are excited to embark on a more learning opportunity in 2023. The Rise and Shine project which focuses on early childhood development and is being implemented in Kenya, Malawi and the United Kingdom for the period 2019 to 2023.

In Kenya, the eight funded partners include; Action Network for the Disabled (ANDY), The Action Foundation working in partnership with Centre for Enterprise Development and Innovation (CEDI), Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team (AMURT), Build Africa Kenya, Kenya Aids NGOs Consortium (KANCO) working in partnership with Early Childhood Development Network for Kenya (ECDNeK), Lwala Community Alliance, Madrasa Early Childhood Programme in Kenya (MECP-K) and Terre de homes Foundation Kenya (Tdh). Upward Bound serves as the Learning Coordinator.

ECDNeK participated in the 4th sharing and learning workshop with other partners. The following were action points for the learning event 4:

- Intensified advocacy on Inclusivity; IECD policy will act as a guide.
- Male engagement films as advocacy tools document male champion's strides they are doing in ECD.
- Effective ECD Approach: Combined integrated approach that is embedded on nurturing care.
- Measurements: Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes and Practice to inform Change and document the various milestones.

## Kidogo end year Gala

December was ushered in style by Kidogo innovations, who celebrated their annual gala highlighting a yearlong success in its various activities. The Gala brought together key stakeholders that have partnered with Kidogo and share in their vision and mission. ECD network for Kenya was thrilled to support Kidogo who is also her board member in the celebrations. The network congratulated the founder Ms. Sabrina on her leadership thus far to the organization, wishing her well in all future endeavors.



## 5th National ECD Stakeholders Conference

The County Government of Turkana in collaboration with the ECD Network for Kenya are pleased to announce the Fifth National ECD Stakeholders Conference. The conference will be held in Turkana University College in Turkana County, on 17th - 19th July 2023. The planning committee commenced planning the conference in March 2022 forming 4 sub-committees. These sub-committees comprise of Fundraising, communications, scientific and logistics. **For more details about the conference visit:** <https://ecdnetworkforkenya.org/conferences/>

