



FIFTH NATIONAL EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT STAKEHOLDERS CONFERENCE (2023)

17th - 19th July, 2023

Turkana University College, Turkana County

I take this opportunity to thank the organizers of the 5 th National Early Childhood Development Stakeholders Conference for choosing Turkana County to host this important function. It is with great pleasure and honour that I extend a warm welcome to each one of you. As the Governor of Turkana County, I am delighted to have the opportunity to address such a prestigious gathering of dedicated individuals working towards the betterment of early child development in Kenya. Turkana County is the origin of Mankind, known for its rich cultural heritage and vast landscapes and is proud to serve as the backdrop for this momentous event. Our county is home to diverse communities, each with unique traditions.



By embracing the wisdom of indigenous knowledge and incorporating it into our approaches, we can ensure that no child is left behind and that every child has access to the nurturing care they deserve. Turkana County has a population of 138,297 children, with 32444 of them under-fives. The County Government has invested in infrastructure development and personnel, and we currently have 1093 ECD centres, 1026 being public and 67 private centres. The county currently has 594 ECD teachers and we continue to recruit more to meet the demand. This conference holds significant importance as it brings together practitioners, researchers, policymakers, and leaders from various sectors to collectively address the conference theme “From Policy & Evidence to Action.” Through such collaborative efforts and meaningful exchanges, we can transform policies and evidence into tangible actions that positively impact our children’s lives. I encourage all participants to take full advantage of this conference’s knowledge- sharing, networking opportunities, and best practices and discussions. Together, let us explore innovative solutions, foster meaningful partnerships, and enhance the coordination of ECD initiatives across Kenya. Our collective efforts will shape the future of early childhood development and pave the way for a brighter tomorrow for our children.

Once again, I extend my heartfelt welcome to every one of you. May this conference be a source of inspiration, enlightenment, and fruitful collaborations. Thank you for joining us on this transformative journey.

H.E. HON. Jeremiah Ekamais Lomorukai Napotikan
Governor, Turkana County

On behalf of Turkana University College, I am profoundly delighted to welcome you all to the 5th National ECD Stakeholders' Conference hosted at our esteemed institution. As the Principal, I extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to each and every one of you. We are proud to host a Conference of this magnitude in which distinguished participants are drawn from the ECD sphere across the globe. Turkana University College is located in Turkana County, the "Cradle of Mankind", from which it draws its motto "the Cradle of Knowledge". Established in 2017 as a constituent College of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, it aspires to be a globally esteemed university in teaching, research and outreach.



Our mission is to generate, preserve, utilize and disseminate quality knowledge for the advancement of humanity. Hosting this Conference, therefore, fits neatly with our vision and mission. The theme of this conference, "From Policy & Evidence to Action", resonates deeply with our commitment to excellence in education and holistic development. At Turkana University College, we recognize the critical role that early childhood development plays in shaping the future of our society. In this regard, we offer academic programs in Early Childhood Education in the School of Education and Social Sciences. We firmly believe that policies, supported by evidence-based practices, should be translated into concrete actions that benefit our children and communities. As an institution of higher learning, we take pride in incorporating indigenous knowledge and traditions into our academic programs, ensuring that our graduates are equipped with a deep understanding of the local context and the needs of our children. This is particularly so because we are located in a region renowned for its rich cultural heritage and resources. We embrace the opportunity to collaborate with practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and leaders in the field of ECD. Together, we can bridge the gap between theory and practice, leveraging our collective expertise to create meaningful change. This conference provides a platform for open dialogue, knowledge sharing, and the exploration of innovative ideas that will shape the landscape of early childhood development in Kenya. I encourage all participants to actively engage in the conference sessions, seize networking opportunities, and share their valuable insights. Let us collectively envision a future where every child in Kenya has access to quality early childhood development services, regardless of their background or circumstances.

Once again, I extend my warmest welcome to all the participants. May this conference be a source of inspiration, collaboration, and transformative ideas. Thank you to the County Government of Turkana and the ECD Network for choosing Turkana University College as the venue for this significant event.

Wishing you all a productive and rewarding conference experience.

Prof. George N. Chemining'wa
Principal, Turkana University College

I wish to thank the Governor Turkana County H.E Hon. Jeremiah Ekamais for allowing the 5th ECD stakeholders conference to happen in Turkana County. I also that the Principal Turkan University Prof. George Chemining'wa for agreeing to host this conference. In light of this, I welcome all of you to the 5th national ECD stakeholder's conference 2023. In the last seven years, we have held four successful similar conferences in collaboration with the Ministries of Education, and Health and County Governments of Mombasa and Siaya through the Council of Governors with technical and financial support from E C D s t a k e h o l d e r s .



This year's conference is organized by the County Government of Turkana, in collaboration with ECD Network for Kenya, Turkana University, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Health. Our focus this year is on the ECD systems and the theme for this year's conference is: "From Policy & Evidence to Action." Consideration is made on systems thinking and implementation of nurturing care, leveraging on intersectionalities, aligning knowledge, reframing inclusivity as well as early childhood education. By the end of this conference it is expected that as participants we will commit to raising the profile of the ECD agenda in Kenya through strategic financial investment, multi-sectoral collaboration and engagement in relation to public policy processes both at the National and County levels. Similar to the second, third and fourth conferences, we are lobbying the political leadership to prioritize ECD as a critical sector and showcase best practices from counties currently scaling up ECD initiatives. I wish all of us good deliberations during this conference.

Dr. Teresa Mwoma Senior Lecturer Kenyatta University National Coordinator, ECDNeK Executive Director African Council for Distance Education (ACDE)

ABOUT THE ECD NETWORK FOR KENYA

The ECD Network for Kenya exists to strengthen coordination and collaboration on ECD initiatives in Kenya among relevant actors and support development and implementation of ECD policies and programs in Kenya through capacity development, research and advocacy. The Network works closely with National and County governments, organizations, parents and community members to ensure that children access and participate in high quality, holistic Early Childhood Development (ECD) programs. Specifically, the network seeks to: promote, support, sustain and advance an enabling environment for implementation of nurturing care for ECD through research, advocacy, effective partnerships, coordination and strengthened multi sector collaborations. Visit our web page:

VISION

Strong multi-sectoral collaborations advancing Nurturing Care for Early Childhood Development

MISSION

Promote, support and sustain an enabling environment for the implementation of Nurturing Care for Early Childhood Development through research, advocacy, effective partnerships, and coordination.

The 5th National Early Childhood Stakeholders' Conference

The 5th National ECD Stakeholders' Conference theme, "From Policy and Evidence to Action", aims to highlight the importance of using research and data to inform policy decisions, and translating those policies into meaningful action on the ground. Effective policy-making and implementation in ECD is crucial for ensuring that children receive the support and resources they need to thrive. This involves not only developing policies based on evidence-based research, but also creating a framework for monitoring and evaluating their effectiveness. The Constitution of Kenya (2010), acknowledges the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC, 1989); Article 53 guarantees the right of every child to free and compulsory education, nutrition, shelter, health care and protection. However, despite these constitutional guarantees, marginalized and disadvantaged populations continue to face significant challenges in accessing quality ECD services. Guidelines for program implementation, based on policy formulation and oversights, require stronger linkages and interactions between policy, research and practice amongst diverse stakeholders with multi-sectoral coordination.

The conference will provide an opportunity to explore the challenges and opportunities associated with translating policy and evidence into action, including issues related to financing, capacity-building, and stakeholder engagement. It will also showcase examples of successful policy implementation and discuss ways in which we can continue to improve our approach to ECD policy-making and implementation.

Ultimately, the goal is to foster a deeper understanding of the importance of evidence-based policy-making in ECD and to identify ways in which ECD stakeholders can work together to create more effective policies and programs that improve outcomes for young children and families.

The Ministries of Education and Health in collaboration with the ECD Network for Kenya, Council of Governors, and Turkana County are co-hosting the 5th National ECD Stakeholders Conference in Turkana, Kenya. The conference brings together over 500 ECD practitioners, researchers, policy makers and leaders from national and county government as well as research institutions, civil society organizations, the private sector, donors, and the media. The conference provides an opportunity for participants to discuss and share insights on the status of ECD programs in Kenya, innovations, challenges and create resolutions to establish a holistic/multi-sectoral approach towards ECD in Kenya, which will enhance policy and practice on implementation of the Nurturing Care Framework.

Conference Objectives

The conference will be guided by four objectives namely;

1. Strengthening community systems by leveraging existing data on areas of community strategy, use of technology, policy implementation and engagement.
2. Creating awareness on practical and context relevant approaches for implementing the Nurturing Care Framework while engaging the government through collaboration, coordination and technical support processes at all levels of governance and management.
3. Identifying the link between Early Childhood Development and feasible cultural or indigenous child-rearing practices and childcare models, supporting all children to thrive.
4. Identifying milestones, gains and drawbacks in the development of Early Childhood Education policy and practice in Kenya

Theme: From Policy & Evidence to Action

Conference Sub-Themes Find the sub-themes topics here;

1. Systems thinking and the Nurturing Care Framework: Strengthening community systems – leveraging the community health strategy to ward level.
2. Leveraging intersectionalities: Coordination, Technical Working Groups, and implementation blocks.
3. Aligning knowledge: Indigenous and traditional child-rearing practices and cultures that promote nurturing care.
4. Reframing inclusivity: A good start for all children.
5. Early Childhood Education: building programs on best practices.

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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

PRE - CONFERENCE SIDE EVENTS: SUNDAY 16TH JULY, 2023

13th -15th July 2023	Gender and Early Childhood Development Course	AKU - IHD
15 th July 2023	Child Participation in ECD Programmes	WorldVision Kenya & MtotoNews
16th July, 2023		
3:00pm - 5:00pm	Exhibitions and Registration	Secretariat - ECD Network
5:00pm-7:00pm	RECCE	ECDNeK, Mtoto News, Turkana University College

DAY 1: Monday 17th July 2023

Time	Activity	Facilitators
7:30 - 8:15 am	Signing in, Registration & Exhibition	ECDNeK Secretariat
8:15 - 8:25 am	National Anthem, ECDNeK’s Anthem	MC Oscar Kadenge
8:30 - 8:40 am	Opening prayer	Rev. James Louren, Fr. Joseph Ekoomwa & Sheikh Elvis Mohammed
8:45 - 8:55 am	Entertainment - ECDE learners	MC Oscar Kadenge
9:00 - 9:10 am	Opening remarks Dr Teresa Mwoma , National coordinator, ECD Network for Kenya, Senior Lecturer - Kenyatta University, Executive Director ACDE	Session chair: Immaculate Saloan Rapporteur: Ruth Muendo/Stella Mbugua
9:15 - 9:25 am	Remarks from the ECDNeK board chairperson - Beatrice Oyugi, PATH	
9:30 - 9:40 am	Remarks from the Principal, Turkana University College - Prof. George Chemining’wa	
9 :45 - 10:35 am	Opening Ceremony Turkana County CEC (Education/Health) County Secretary - Mr. Peter Eripete, Turkana County Deputy Governor - H.E Hon. Dr. John Erus, Turkana County Governor - H.E Hon. Jeremiah Ekamais Lomorukai, Turkana County Chief guest - H.E Hon. Dr. Erick Mutai Chair Education Committee, CoG and Governor Kericho County	

10:35 - 10:45 am	GROUP PHOTO	
10:45 - 10:55 am	TREE PLANTING CEREMONY	
10:55 - 11:15 am	TEA BREAK	
11:20 - 11:30 am	Keynote address Ms. Shaneen Nilofer - UNICEF “Supporting the government to improve ECD systems in Kenya”.	Session chair: Dr. Gervesaio Miriti Rapporteurs: Stella Mbugua/Ruth Muendo
11:35 - 11:45 am	Keynote address Ms Maniza Ntekim - Conrad N’ Hilton Foundation “The importance of taking a systems approach to turn evidence and policy into action”.	
11:46 - 11:50 am	First Lady - Turkana County H.E Lilian Ekamais	
11:50 - 12:00 pm	Keynote address First lady Nyamira County H.E Emilly Nyaribo “Role of first spouses in promoting early childhood development in the Lake Region Economic Bloc”.	
12:05 - 12:15 pm	Dr. Janette Karimi Head Neonatal and Child Health Division - Ministry of Health(MoH) “The role of the Ministry of Health in promoting implementation of nurturing care for children 0-5 years in Kenya.”	
12:20 - 12:30 pm	Keynote address: Prof. Amina Abubakar	

	Director, Institute for Human Development Aga Khan University “Childhood disabilities and responses: Meeting the developmental needs of all children.”	
12:35 - 1:05 pm	Gallery walk - poster presentations (See Annex 1 for list of presenters)	Session Chair: Tobias Opiyo
1:10 - 2:00 pm	LUNCH BREAK	
2:00 - 2:40 pm	Panel discussions (6 participants) Subtheme: Reframing inclusivity: A good start for all children.	Session chair: Dr. Anil Khamis Rapporteurs: Racheal Makena/Regina Mwasambo

1.1 Learning through play for preschoolers with disabilities in Kenya: Existing approaches, policy gaps and recommendations, *Silas Onyango, Linda Oloo, Margaret Nampijja, and Patricia Kitsao-Wekulo.*

1:2 Supporting African communities to increase the Resilience and mental health of Kids with developmental disorders and their caregivers (SPARK). *Vibian Angwenyi et al.*

1.3 Supporting Adolescent Girls with Young Children in promoting inclusive and Stimulating environments for Early Childhood Development in Homabay County. *Miruka R, Oyugi B, Omedo Ochuka, Odero L and Sheila M.*

1.4 Disability-inclusive Early Childhood Development and Education Project in Homa-bay And Turkana Counties: Baseline Findings. *Sheru W. Muuo, Anita Jeyam and Julia de Kadt.*

1.5 Using facility exit interviews to improve Nurturing Care for ECD integration in Siaya County. *Dickens Omedo, Chris Obong’o, Beatrice Oyugi, Richard Miruka and Linda Odero.*

1.6 An evaluation of the effectiveness of guidelines used by daycare centers in safeguarding preschool children in Burumba Ward, Busia County, Kenya. *Judith Nabwire, Dr. Roseline Olumbe and Dr. Geoffrey Kinuthia.*

2:45 - 2:55 pm	Prof. Paul K. Wainaina VC. Kenyatta University “The role of higher institutions of learning in promoting nurturing care for children 0-3 years in Kenya”.	Session chair: Abisaki oloo Rapporteurs: Peninah Nyamori/ Sally Moraa
3:00 - 3:10 pm	Ministry of Education -Mr. Sereria Mirumbe A.G Director ECDE “The role of the Ministry of Education in promoting quality early childhood education in Kenya”.	
3:15 - 3:25 pm	Dr. Beatrice Inyangala PS Higher Education and Research “The role of research in policy development and implementation in Kenya”.	
3:30 - 3:40 pm	Keynote address -Mr Sheikh Abdinoor C.E.O, National Council for Children Services(NCCS) “The role of NCCS in unpacking the children Act, regulatory and Policy implementation of ECD systems in Kenya”.	Session Chair: Leonard Chumo Rapporteurs: Stella Mbugua/ Ruth Muendo
3:45 - 4.15 pm	Gallery Walk - poster presentations (See Annex 1 for list of presenters)	Session Chair: Paul Odongo
4:20 -4:30 pm	Close of Day 1 - Announcements	
4:30 - 4:40 pm	TEA BREAK	

DAY 2: TUESDAY¹⁸ JULY, 2023

Time	Activity	Facilitators
7:30 - 7:55am	Signing in & Registration	ECDNeK secretariat
8:00 - 8:10am	Recap of Day 1 - Project key points from day 1	Session chair: Munaweza Muleji Rapporteurs: Sally Moraa/Peninah Nyamori
8:15 - 8:55 am	Panel Presentations (6 participants) Subtheme: Early Childhood Education: Building programs on best practices.	

2.1 Education the key to the future, *Ana Baz Moreno, Miren Muskoa Sanchez, Amaia Sanchez Iduya and Soila Kariankei Lucy.*

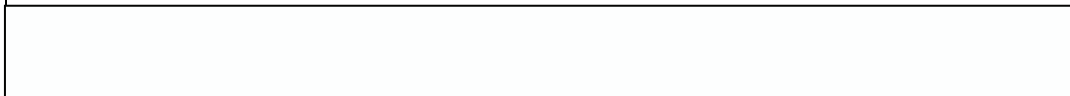
2.2 Influence of project approach on learner participation in environmental conservation activities among pre-primary learners in Kaiti Constituency, Makueni County, Kenya. *Linet Kamene Mutua, Dr. Hannah Kang'ara and Dr. Monica Ituma.*

2.3 Creating an enabling environment for Early Learning through Play in Health facilities. *Emmaculate Otieno and Abella Owuor.*

2.4 Lessons from Scaling Up Quality contextually relevant ECE in Nyanza Region. *Everlyne A. Okeyo, Harrison Kamau, et al.*

2.5 Early Childhood Education in Turkana Pastoralist Communities of Kenya. *Dr. John Teria Ng'asike.*

2.6 Analysis of implementation challenges of the one year Pre- Primary Curriculum in Plateau State Nigeria, *Katniyon Henry David and Liyas Techii Pius.*



9:00 - 10:40 am	<p>Concurrent Sessions</p> <p><i>Breakout Room 1:</i> Subtheme: Systems thinking and the Nurturing Care Framework</p> <p><i>Breakout Room 2:</i> Subtheme: Leveraging intersectionalities</p> <p><i>Breakout Room 3:</i> Subtheme: Reframing inclusivity: A good start for all children.</p>	<p>Breakout room 1: Session chair: Dr. John Ng’asike Rapporteurs: Sally Moraa/Peninah Nyamori</p> <p>Breakout room 2: Session chair: Dr. Hudson Ouko Rapporteur: Nelias Gitahi/Benard Ashiono</p> <p>Breakout room 3: Session chair: Sr. Pauline Acayo Rapporteur: Regina Mwasambo/Racheal Makena</p>
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1.1 Strengthening community systems - leveraging the community health strategy down to the ward levels.

Breakout Room 1: Session Chair: Dr. John Ng’asike
Rapporteurs: Sally Moraa, Peninah Nyamori

1.1.1. Policy implications on developmental milestones and nutrition status among children 0-23 months at Kabale Hospital, Uganda. *Ivy-Marie Komutambo and Judith Kimiywe.*

1.1.2. Predictors of quality of childcare centers in low income settings: findings from a cross-sectional study in two Nairobi slums. *Margaret Nampijja, Nelson Langat, Linda Oloo , Kenneth Okelo, Ruth Muendo, Martin Kiyeng, Patrick Amboka, Mary Abboah-Offei, Anna Ray, Patricia Kitsao-Wekulo, Elizabeth W. Kimani-Murage and Helen Elsey.*

1.1.3. Factors affecting nutrition status of Children in Lamu County. *Eunice Njoroge.*

1.1.4. Effectiveness of faith leaders in the delivery of the WHO’s nurturing care framework. *Charles Ombonya and Tobias Aulo.*

1.1.5. Evidence to action: Improving responsive caregiving practices of women who use drugs in Kakamega county. Stephen Ikonya, Allan Ragi, Jack Ndegwa, Sylvia Ayon and Beatrice Awino.

1.2. Leveraging Intersectionalities: Coordination, Technical Working Groups, and implementation blocks

Breakout Room 2: Session Chair: Dr. Hudson Ouko

Rapporteurs: Nelias Gitahi, Dr. Benard Ashiono

1.2.1. A review of early childhood development policy frameworks, their implementation and impact on children's development in East and Southern Africa countries. Dr. Samuel Ngaruya.

1.2.2. A multisectoral approach to early childhood development: gaps and challenges in frontier counties, Kenya. Phyllis Magoma, Esther Chongwo, Joyce Marangu, Paul Otwate, Eunice Njoroge, Anil Khamis, Margaret Kabue and Amina Abubakar.

1.2.3. Evidence-Based Programme Development to Bridge Policy and Implementation Gaps. Susan Nyamanya.

1.2.4. Scaling impact through collaborative approach to Early Childhood Development. Easter Elizabeth Okello.

1.2.5. Champions changing the Nurturing Care story in Siaya County. Juma , Owuor, Oguttu and Murungi

1.3. Reframing inclusivity: A good start for all children

Breakout Room 3: Session Chair: Sr. Pauline Acayo

Rapporteurs: Regina Mwasambo, Racheal Makena

1.3.1. Predictors of parenting stress among caregivers in disadvantaged settings: evidence from Kenya and Zambia. Kenneth Odhiambo Okelo , Patricia Kitsao-Wekulo , Silas Onyango, Elizabeth Wambui, Josiah King , Aja Louise Murray and Bonnie Auyeung.

1.3.2. Identifying affordable, contextually appropriate Inclusive Early Childhood Development approaches for children with disabilities. Charles Odol.

1.3.3. Integrating Early Childhood Development into Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) services: A Qualitative Assessment on the needs and behavior among teen mothers in Siaya County. Owuor A , Oguttu M, J Nancy and Oketch' T.

- 1.3.4. A good way for all Children with focus On Childcare, Nurturing and Protection for Children accompanying their mothers in Prison, those Institutionalized and those left behind. Christine Odero and Jane Kuria.
- 1.3.5. Comparative analysis of the literacy and numeracy assessment for children in Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya. Samuel Mburu, Jane Maweu, Gladys Agola, Elijah Makaye and Lucy Tengeye.

10:45- 11:10 am	Tea Break	
11:15- 12:55 pm	<p>Concurrent Sessions</p> <p>Concurrent sessions</p> <p><i>Breakout Room 1:</i> Subtheme: Reframing inclusivity: A good start for all children.</p> <p><i>Breakout Room 2:</i> Subtheme: Early Childhood Education.</p> <p><i>Breakout Room 3:</i> Subtheme: Strengthening community systems - leveraging and aligning knowledge</p>	<p>Breakout room 1:</p> <p>Session chair: Nancy Juma</p> <p>Rapporteurs: Bernard Ashiono/Nelias Gitahi</p> <p>Breakout room 2:</p> <p>Session chair: Peter Clavers Otieno</p> <p>Rapporteur: Sally Moraa/Peninah Nyamori</p> <p>Breakout room 3: Session chair: Joyce Maragu</p> <p>Rapporteur: Regina Mwasambo/Racheal Makena</p>

2.0.Reframing inclusivity: A good start for all children

Breakout Room 2 Session Chair: Nancy Juma

Rapporteurs: Bernard & Nelias

2.1.1. Housing condition practices, residential mobility and mental health of children in ECD; a case of Turkana County Kenya. Murunga Anthony and Ekisa Amoo.

2.1.2. To be in compliance with the Nurturing Care Framework: All Children must be reached. Omolara Otujo.

2.1.3. Inclusion of children with disabilities in ECDE in Kenya: what do parents, teachers and children understand, perceive and experience? Findings from an inclusive qualitative study. Mary Wickenden, Josephine Njungi and Brigitte Rohwerder.

2.1.4 Quality Childcare model that supports self-reliance for refugee and host communities' resilience through Social Franchising – The Kidogo Way. Jeremy Makau.

2.1.5 Children and Elections: Spectators or Participants. Leonard Chumo Falex.

2.2. Early Childhood Education: Building programs on best practices.

Breakout Room 2 Session Chair: Peter Clavers Otieno

Rapporteurs: Sally Moraa, Peninah Nyamori

2.2.1. Cheza, Soma, Jifunze: Engaging parents & carers with Vroom Tips and digital books for their young learners; A Technological Approach. Peter Clavers Otieno, Joan Mwachi, Rachel Heavner and Wanjiku Gathoni.

2.2.2. Play-based pre-primary learning in Nigeria: A mixed methods study exploring the associated factors and practices. Tolulope Ojo, Samuel Salama, Yetunde Oluwatosin and Patricia Falope.

2.2.3. Influence of good health on quality pre-primary education in Turkana central sub-county, Kenya. Dr Hannah Kangara, Joyce Chebet and Dr Wanjohi Githinji.

2.2.4. Pre-primary education in Kenya: hits and misses on policies, legislations and financial investment. Ibrahim Alubala, Geofrey Tanui, Brian Kenor and Samuel Mburu.

2.2.5. A simple solution that works: Impact of Mary's Meals school feeding approach. Aluda. C, Awuor, CL and Nyanchwa. T.

2.3. Systems thinking and the Nurturing Care Framework: Strengthening community systems – leveraging the community health strategy to ward level & Aligning Knowledge

Breakout Room 3: Session Chair: Joyce Marangu

Rapporteurs: Regina Mwasambo, Racheal Makena

2.3.1. An Assessment of Organizational Systems for Implementation of Nurturing Care Framework in Selected Western Region Counties, Kenya. Dr. Philemon Yugi, Dr. Roseline Olumbe, Charles Kemboi, James Adede, Regina Mwasambo, Mary Ochieng, Ezekiel Wamalwa and Damaris Wambua

2.3.2. Sustainable community empowerment models on food security to enhance children's nutritional needs in the context of climate change in Kenya. Mary Mogute, Daniel Mutunga, Roseline Olumbe, Abraham Ayieko and George Otiep.

2.3.3. Community led approaches in increasing caregiving practices among teen moms in Siaya County. Oketch T, Owuor A, Oguttu M, Odindo G, Sika J and Otieno B.

2.3.4. The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Child Development in Nairobi City. Charles Muruka, Emily Owino and Yolande Baker.

1:00 - 2:00 pm	LUNCH BREAK	
2:00 - 3:00 pm	SPECIAL PLENARY SESSION Dr. Robert Simiyu - UNICEF Kenya “Public expenditure tracking survey for Early Childhood Development in Kenya. First 8 years of a child, in sectors of Health, Nutrition, Early learning, WASH and Social protection”.	Session chair: Tobias Opiyo Rapporteur: Racheal Makena, Regina Mwasambo
3:05 - 4:05 pm	County/ Bloc Presentations	Session Chair: Dr. Teresa Mwoma Rapporteurs: Sally Moraa/Peninah Nyamori

<p>4:10 - 5:50 pm</p>	<p>Concurrent sessions</p> <p><i>Breakout Room 1:</i> Subtheme: Strengthening community systems - leveraging the community health strategy down to the ward levels.</p> <p><i>Breakout room 2:</i> Subtheme: Aligning knowledge: Indigenous or traditional child rearing practices and cultures that promote nurturing care. and Leveraging Intersectionalities</p> <p><i>Breakout Room 3:</i> Subtheme: Early Childhood Education.</p>	<p>Breakaway room 1: Session chair: Dr. Margaret Nampijja Rapporteurs: Dr. Benard Ashiono/Nelias Gitahi</p> <p>Breakaway room 2: Session chair: Kenneth Okelo Rapporteur: Regina Mwasambo/Racheal Makena</p> <p>Breakaway room 3: Session chair: Dr. Silas Onyango Rapporteur: Sally Moraa/Peninah Nyamori</p>
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3.1 Strengthening community systems - leveraging the community health strategy down to the ward levels.

Breakout Room 1: Session Chair: Dr. Margaret Nampijja
Rapporteurs: Dr. Benard Ashiono, Nelias Gitahi

3.1.1. Empowering women through provision of quality childcare services and strengthening their capacities to engage in paid labor opportunities: Evaluating the effectiveness of the Kidogo model in informal settlements in Nakuru. *Linda Oloo, Patricia Kitsao-Wekulo, Nelson Lang’at , Margaret Nampijja , Silas Onyango , Kenneth Okelo , Martin Kiyeng and Elizabeth Kimani-Murage.*

3.1.2. Community funds of knowledge in enhancing curriculum instruction in Early Childhood Development centers in Turkana Central Sub-county; a case of Turkana County Kenya. *David Kampala Omakada.*

3.1.3. Parental experiences of the impacts of COVID-19 on the care of young children; qualitative interview findings from the Nairobi Early Childcare in Slums (NECS) Project. *Robert C. Hughes, Ruth Muendo, Sunil S. Bhopal, Silas Onyango, Elizabeth Kimani-Murage, Betty R. Kirkwood, Zelee Hill and Patricia Kitsao-Wekulo.*

3.1.4. Engaging Caregivers to Enhance Desirable Learning Outcomes for Children with Disabilities in Low Resource Settings. TAF.

3.1.5. Exploring the perspectives of fathers on the importance of learning through play among pre-primary-aged children in Nigeria. Tolulope Ojo, Samuel Salama, Yetunde Oluwatosin and Patricia Falope.

3.2. Aligning knowledge: Indigenous and traditional child-rearing practices and cultures that promote nurturing care and Leveraging intersectionalities: Coordination, Technical Working Groups, and implementation blocks

Breakout Room 2: Session Chair: Kenneth Okelo

Rapporteurs: Regina Mwasambo, Racheal Makena

3.2.1. Revolution starts in the mind of a child: Introduction of vegetable cultivation for ECDE learners' consumption in the quest to provide Vitamin components and conquering cultural beliefs against vegetables. Alice Akiru, Nakadi Ang`elei, Fumiaki Murakami and David Omakada.

3.2.2. Cross- Cultural Child – rearing Practices among Major Ethnic Groups in Nigeria: Are they Nurturing Care Compliant? Hannah O. Ajayi Ph. D.

3.2.3. Collaborative Action to Accelerate Affordable Quality Childcare. Sharon Macharia; Tracy Koske, Joshua Ainabyona and Asayya Imapa.

3.2.4. Unearthing knowledge, attitude, practice and capacity gaps in multisectoral coordination and giving meaning to effective implementation of ECD policy 2022. Philip Omondi.

3.2.5. Strengthening linkages between Health, Education and Social Protection in Early Childhood Development through Nurturing Care initiatives in the community: A case study of Malezi Bora ya Awali project in Kiambu County. Racheal Makena, Sally Moraa, Judith Mueni, Dr Teresa Mwoma, Allan Ragi and Stephen Ikonya

3.3. Early Childhood Education: building programs on best practices.

Breakout Room 3: Session Chair: Dr. Silas Onyango

Rapporteurs: Sally Moraa, Peninah Nyamori

3.3.1. Researching with Children: Methodological and Ethical Considerations. Dr. Anil Khamis

3.3.2. Play-based pedagogies for early learners in the African context: a scoping review. Margaret Nampijja, Silas Onyango, Kenneth Okelo , Ruth Muendo, Maurice Mutisya, Miriam Ngarega, George Evans Owino, Patricia Falope, Tolulope Ojo , Samuel Salama, Amy Panyi, Yetunde Oluwatosin, Nuha Jatta, Haleinta Bara Traore, Abdoulie FR Jadama, Hamidou Jawara, Moses Abiero, Patricia Kitsao-Wekulo, & Lynette Okengo.

3.3.3. Barriers to an enabling nurturing care environment for children under day-care settings in Kajiado County. Stephen Ikonya ; Allan Ragi; Jack Ndegwa ; Harriet Namale and Angela Sitonya.

3.3.4. Redefining education in emergencies: critical review of early years intrigues in refugee camps and host communities. Dr. Hudson Ouko.

3.3.5. Effect of hunger and drought in ECD Education. Hesborn Dete.

5:50 - 6:00 pm	Close of day 2 / Announcements	Session chairs
6:00 - 6:15 pm	Tea break	
6:00 pm	Dinner for the County Executive Committee (CECs) Members	

Day 3: Wednesday 19th July 2023

Time	Activity	Facilitators
7:30 - 7:55am	Sign in & registration	ECDNeK Secretariat
8:00 - 8:10 am	Recap of Day 2	Session Chair: Dr. George Owino
8:15 - 8:25 am	Keynote address Ms. Florence Omundi Reframing inclusivity: A good start for all children.	Rapporteur: Sally Moraa/Peninah Nyamori
8:30 - 9:45 am	County/ Bloc Presentations	Session chair: Dr. Teresa Mwoma Rapporteurs: Racheal Makena/ Regina Mwasambo
9:50 - 10:30 am	Panel discussion (7 Participants) Systems thinking and aligning knowledge	Session chair: Dr. Olumbe Rapporteurs: Nelias Gitahi/Dr. Benard Ashiono

3.1 Research leadership for early childhood development systems measurements in Kenya. Dr. Teresa Mwoma, Dr. Benjamin Tsofa, Benard Ochuka and Benter Owino.

3.2 Association between parental stress and caregivers' stimulation practices: evidence from Kenya and Zambia. Kenneth Odhiambo Okelo MSc , Patricia Kitsao-Wekulo PhD, Silas Onyango PhD, Elizabeth Wambui, Josiah King PhD, Aja Louise Murray PhD and Bonnie Auyeung PhD.

3.3 What happens next? Examining the sustained impacts of a group-based parenting intervention on parenting behaviors and early child development in rural Kenya. Italo Lopez Garcia, Jill E Luoto, Frances E Aboud, Lia C.H. Fernald, Ronald Otieno and Edith Alu.

3.4 Male Involvement in child Nurturing care. Grace Oduor and Tobias Aulo.

3.5 Systems thinking, a key imperative in achieving universal school feeding: case of Food for Education's ECD implementation. Ruth Muendo.

3.6 Teenage Motherhood and Return to School: The Forgotten Dilemma. Leonard Chumo Falex.

3.7 Child Caregivers Curriculum in Kenya: Status and opportunities for harmonization. Dr. Hellen Kimathi, Dr. George Evans Owino and Rose Kamasara.

10:35 - 11:00 am	Tea break	
11:00 - 11:30 am	Gallery walk - poster presentation (See Annex 1 for list of presenters)	Session Chair: Tobias Opiyo
11:35 – 11:45 am	Voting for the host county for the 6th ECD Stakeholders Conference (Region Bloc)	Session chair: Dr. Teresa Mwoma Rapporteurs: Sally Moraa/Peninah Nyamori
11:50 - 12: 30 pm	Conference Communique/ Official closing ceremony Governor - H.E Hon. Jeremiah Ekamais Lomorukai Turkana County	Session chair: Dr. Teresa Mwoma Rapporteurs: Peninah Nyamori/ Sally Moraa
	Closing plenary Vote of thanks - Ms. Damaris Wambua	
12:35 - 12:55 pm	Conference announcements and closing prayer	
1:00 - 2:00 pm	Lunch and departure	
6:00 pm	Dinner for the Full Planning Committee members	

Annex 1: Poster Presentations

Day 1: Monday 17th 2023

12:35 -1:05 pm

Session Chair: Tobias Opiyo

1. Early Childhood Education: building programs on best practices.

1.1 Influence of Nurturing Care Framework on Learner Participation in Pre-primary School Activities in Turkana Central Sub-county, Turkana County, Kenya. Joyce Chebet.

1.2 TTK Daycare best practices informing child outcomes over time. Chepkoech Faith, Mildred Obuya and Naleke Konchela.

1.3 EIDU - an effective digital teaching and learning program for ECDE. Nina Bolte.

1.4 Translanguaging as a medium for creating school-home interaction in Early Childhood Education Centres in Turkana County. Edward Lokidor.

1.5 A case for Early Childhood Development and Education, Policy and Practice in the County Governments in Kenya. Tracy Koske, Sharon Macharia, Joshua Ainabyona and Asayya Imapa.

Day 1: Monday 17th 2023

3:45 - 4:15 pm

Session Chair: Paul Odongo

2. Reframing inclusivity: A good start for all children

2.1 Sources of risk and resilience for children from Arid and Semi-Arid Areas (ASALs) in Kenya: A qualitative study. Esther Chongwo, Joyce Marangu, Phyliss Moraa, Eunice Njoroge, Barack Aoko and Moses.

2.2 Nurturing care for children with neurodevelopmental disabilities: A cross-sectional descriptive study in a rural setting in Kenya. Silas Onyango, Margaret Nampijja, Nelson Langat, Paul Otware and Patricia Wekulo.

2.3 A case Study of Baby Junior Community Inclusive ECD Centre, Dandora, Nairobi County, Kenya. Janet Ndeto Mwitiki.

2.4 Reconstructing the child for a competitive future in Busia County, Kenya. Dr. Jael Joan Bigambo.

2.5 To explore parental support as a psychosocial factor in relation to academic achievement in Ainabkoi Sub-County. Eshter Bitok.

Day 3: Wednesday 19th 2023

11:00 - 11:30 am

Session Chair: Tobias Opiyo

3. Strengthening community systems - leveraging the community health strategy down to the ward levels and Aligning knowledge: Indigenous and traditional child-rearing practices and cultures that promote nurturing care

3.1 Perceptions of caregivers and healthcare workers on the development of an mHealth intervention in an urban informal settlement in Nairobi. Joyce Marangu, Amina Abubakar and Mark Tomlinson.

3.2 Role of Parental Care Centers (PCCs) in building community sustainability around Nurturing care. Build Africa Kenya.

3.3 Male Caregivers' Routine Activities and Children's Social Play in Nyando Sub-county, Kisumu County, Kenya. Victor Sakwah and Tobias Aulo.

3.4 Traditional foods as a motivator for early childhood development for the Nomadic Turkana Community of Kenya. Dr. Tioko Logiron, PhD.

3.5 The impact of financial inclusion on nurturing care for Early Childhood Development in the informal settlements: A Quasi-Experimental Approach. James Kimani, Stephen Njuguna, Jane Wanjiku and Pauline Njoki.

**For all the 5th National ECD Stakeholders
Conference Abstracts, click the link below :**

www.ecdnetworkforkenya.org/abstracts

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Asanteni Sana!

Governments: Ministry of Health - Neonatal and child Health Division, Ministry of Education - Early Childhood Education, Kenya Prison Services, Council of Governors and County Governments.

ECD Network for Kenya Board Members: Beatrice Oyugi, Dr. Patricia Wekulo, Dr. Teresa Mwoma, Oscar Kadenge, Damaris Wambua, Sr. Acayo Pauline, Dr. Hudson Ouko, Lilly Oyare, Brian Ombayo and Joyce Wesonga.

Development partners and ECDNeK Partners: UNICEF, PATH, Conrad n' Hilton, University of South California, Af_ECN, Mathematica, Comic Relief, Aga Khan University -Institute of Human Development, ChildFund Kenya, Build Africa, Kidogo Early Years, Finn Church Aid, Turkana University College, Kenyatta University, Community Initiatives Agenda, APHRC, Catholic Relief Services, Daystar University, AOSK, ACWECA, WALDORF, EIDU, Uthabiti Africa, LWALA Community Alliance, Little Rock ECD, Mary's Meals, Smart Start Siaya (SSS), KMET, Save the Children, Upward Bound, World Vision, Worldreader, Food4Education, Chuka University, KANCO, MtotoNews, Thriving Child, Madrasa Early Childhood Programme (MECP), Lutheran World Federation, SWAP- Kenya, Inter-Religious Council of Kenya, ECD Network for Kenya and all participants who registered to participate.

Facilitator/MC: Oscar Kadenge

Session Chairs: Dr. Teresa Mwoma, Dr. Patricia Wekulo, Dr. Anil Khamis, Dr. Roseline Olumbe, Sr. Pauline Acayo, Tobias Opiyo, Immaculate Salaon, Dr. Margaret Nampijja, Leonard Chumo, Dr. George Owino, Nancy Juma, Dr. Silas Onyango, Abisaki Oloo, Dr. John Teria Ng'asike, Dr. Hudson Ouko, Peter Clavers Otieno, Kenneth Okelo, Munaweza Muleji and Joyce Marangu.

Rapporteurs: Stella Ndugire Mbugua (Lead), Ruth Muendo (Lead), Regina Mwasambo, Dr. Benard Ashiono, Peninah Nyamori, Racheal Makena, Sally Moraa and Nelias Gitahi.

Communique Developers: Ruth Muendo, Dr. Anil Khamis and Stella Mbugua

Abstract Reviewers: Dr. Teresa Mwoma, Dr. Anil Khamis, Dr. John Ngasike, Joyce Marangu, Stella Mbugua, Dr. Margaret Nampijja, Peter Clavers Otieno, Leonard Chumo Falex, Ruth Muendo, Mas-ad Omar, Dr. Silas Onyango, Racheal Makena, Jeremy Kaburu, Dr. Mary Mogute, Joab Namai, Dr. Daniel Mutunga, Dr. E. Kithuka, Charles Muruka, Philemon Yugi, Eunice Ombech, Steve Ikonya, King Kiranga and Nelias Gitahi.

Committee Chairs and co-chairs: Immaculate Salaon, & Dr. John Teria Ngasike(Full planning committee), Ruth Muendo & Dr. Anil Khamis (Scientific committee), David Omakada & Miriam Atonia(Logistics committee), Nancy Juma & Brian Ombayo (Communication committee), Oscar Kadenge (Finance committee).

Virtual coordinators: Judith Mueni (ECDNeK), Winfrida Otieno (ECDNeK) & MtotoNews

ECDNeK Support Team: Judith Mueni, King Maina, Jane Kariuki, Winfrida Otieno, Silas Guya and Faith Ocharo

Ushers: Agnes Ngilimo, Millicent Mui, Johnstone, Elim, Jacob Emekwi, Cynthia Kiiru, Paul Anapa, David Ekwar, Salome Walukana, Linda Nelima, Madaraka Kolman and Ruth Eravlsa.

Sign interpreters: Josephine Ikwel and Isaya Ekanan Amodoi.

ECD Network for Kenya Secretariat: Dr. Teresa Mwoma, Racheal Makena, Sally Moraa, Judith Mueni, Nelias Gitahi , King Kiranga and Winfrida Otieno

Social Media

Judith Mueni and Winfrida Otieno

Videographer, Photographer and Editor
ECD Network for Kenya and MtotoNews

Annex 2

Fourth Blended National Early Childhood Development (ECD) Stakeholders' Conference (2021)
Theme - Responsive Caregiving for Children in Diverse Circumstances: Innovations and Inclusivity , Conference Communique and Call to Action

First National Conference video: Second National Conference video; Third National Conference video: Fourth National Conference video

The Early Childhood Development Network for Kenya (ECDNeK)

Hosted by Kenyatta University

E-mail: earlychildhoodnetwork2016@gmail.com

Telephone: +254 726 392 781, +254 706186131

Website: www.ecdnetworkforkenya.org

Social Media: <https://linktr.ee/ECDNeK>



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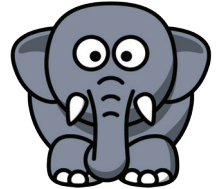


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Challenging limitations. Catalyzing change



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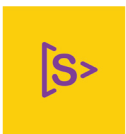
World Vision



Little Rock



Save the Children



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The Early Childhood Development Network for Kenya (ECDNeK)

Hosted by Kenyatta University

E-mail: earlychildhoodnetwork2016@gmail.com

Telephone: +254 726 392 781, +254 706186131

Website: www.ecdnetworkforkenya.org

Social Media: <https://linktr.ee/ECDNeK>

