

Director

Centre for Early Childhood Development
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In addition, a scanned copy of the demand draft and
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About the CECDR

CECDR was set up as collaboration between Jamia Millia Islamia and Save the Children, India. It is one of a kind centre aimed at developing a national resource in the field of Early Childhood Development (ECD) and is dedicated to strengthening research in the area of ECD. With a vision to bridge the existing gap between theory, practice and policy formulation in India, CECDR is a unique centre in a national university dedicated to creating champions and collecting empirical evidence in the field of ECD. The Centre aims to identify contemporary concerns in the field of early childhood development and undertake research. Our interdisciplinary team which includes professionals from Social Work, Psychology, Child Development, Education and Nutrition makes it possible to bring the elements and expertise from varied disciplines to study the critical field of ECD.

The Centre's activities include:

Research and Documentation

Qualitative Research
Mixed Methods Research

Mapping Studies
Evaluation Studies

Capacity Building

Academic Programmes*
Curriculum Development
Training & Outreach

Advocacy & Networking

Workshops/Seminars
Consultations
Conferences

*Presently the centre offer a MA in ECD & a PhD Programme.

Conference Patron:

Prof. Talat Ahmad
Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia

Mr. Thomas Chandy

CEO, Save the Children, India

Organizing Committee:

Prof. Zubair Meenai
Hony Director, CECDR
Jamia Millia Islamia

Dr. Sanjeev Rai,

National Programme Manager
Save the Children, India

Prof. G. C. Upadhyay
Chair Professor (Education)

Ms. Sofia Azmat
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Assistant Professor
(Psychology)

Ms. Prachi Vashishtha
Assistant Professor
(Child Development)

Dr. Neelima Chopra
Assistant Professor (Education)

Ms. Seema Naaz
Research Assistant

Important Dates

Last date for abstract submission:

15th September 2015

Intimation of acceptance of paper:

29th September 2015

Full paper submission for publication in ISBN edited volume:

20th October 2015

Last Date of registration:

20th October 2015



Save the Children



Third International Conference on Early Childhood Development



**“EMERGING WORLD:
POLICIES AND PRACTICE FOR ECD”**

19-20th November 2015

ORGANISERS:

Centre For Early Childhood Development
And Research, Jamia Millia Islamia
& Save The Children, India

Conference Background and Objectives

That Human Development Indices are closely related to Early Childhood Development is well understood. It is also agreed that it is in a country's best interest to enable all children to benefit from the equalizing and enabling power of Early Childhood Development (ECD). Through a combination of national social policies and international articulations including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Education for All (EFA) goals and the World Fit for Children (WFFC) targets, countries are working to ensure optimal developmental conditions for the world's children, including universal access to quality basic education. However, worldwide evidence highlights the persistence of inequity in enrolment, attendance, learning outcomes and achievement based on gender, poverty, geographical location, ethnicity, health status, conflict and natural disasters. In such a situation, the national ECD policy frameworks can be important tools for creating enabling environments and advocating for adequate funding of ECD related interventions.

Policies often include provisions for building effective co-ordination systems for maximizing the use of resources. They usually call for integrated approaches to ECD training, curricula and methods. The policy planning process also promotes the expansion of national and international investment in ECD, including private sector resources. Finally, most policies establish ECD indicators, databases, evaluation and monitoring systems and action research programmes. The holistic nature of child development requires the involvement of multiple partners across governments, parents, communities, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders. This integrated and participatory approach to ECD policy planning is of key importance to achieving successful policy development and implementation.

Recently, India has formulated the National ECCE policy in 2013. The policy conforms to the vision of holistic and integrated development of the child, with focus on care and early learning at each sub stage of development continuum. The vision is to achieve holistic development and active learning capacity of all children below 6 years of age by promoting free, equitable universal, inclusive joyful and contextual opportunities for laying down foundation and attainment of full potential. It provides for quality ECCE provisions addressing issues of parental participation, inclusion, equity, institutional capacity building monitoring.

However, many policy instruments impinging on young children have been mere declaration of intent than realities. The preparation of a policy is not an end in itself. Rather, the adoption of a National ECD Policy or Policy Framework is only the first step in a long-term process for expanding and improving services for young children and their families.

Some of the challenges in the policy led framework need to be articulated in detail for better understanding. It is seen that often poor policy frame works presents a fragmented approach and are not holistic in nature. Policies sometime remain more of a statement of intent rather than realities as Policies and international laws are seldom backed by enforcements at the national and local level.

The multi-sectoral nature of ECD necessitates policy decisions spanning multiple ministries (e.g. health, education, nutrition, rural development,

women and child development) where no one administrative body has the principle responsibility, government may neglect ECCE, and fragmented responsibility may lead to disparities in access and quality. It has also been seen that often ECD Policies are not integrated with national development plans and poverty reduction strategies. Often, disadvantaged children remain neglected in most cases and the access remains inequitable due to lack of financing and policy frameworks since allocation to ECD in national budget remain small and inadequate in many developing and poor countries.

The above mentioned challenges related to access, equity and quality faced by developing countries need to be analyzed in post 2015 scenario with reference to the recent shift from MDGs to SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). Thus, the Third International Conference on ECD at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi will aim at analyzing how ECD policies have taken shape in the developing countries over past decades. The conference also intends to analyze the context in which the ECD policies and programmes are implemented and the progress achieved through them. The conference will also help in understanding the regional ECD environment in terms of financing ECD, monitoring, evaluation and implementation strategies among other aspects.

Objectives of the Conference:

1. To bring together countries in the region to share their experiences in the area of ECD and early learning with reference to policy development and implementation.
2. Understand the national contexts, the policy environments and the implementation strategies.
3. Share successful experiences of implementing policy dimensions and share the policy implementation strategies to achieve access, equity and quality.
4. Analyze the aspects related to coordination, convergence, monitoring and evaluation.
5. Capture the emerging challenges of early childhood development.

Themes of the Conference:

1. Children in Difficult Circumstances
2. Child Protection
3. Early Childhood Education
4. Equity in Access and Quality of ECD for Girls
5. Policies and Programmes for Below Three years
6. Health And Nutrition
7. Inclusive Practices in ECD
8. Family and Community Participation
9. Financing and Child Budgeting
10. Interdepartmental Convergence And Coordination
11. Children in Urban Spaces

Call for Papers:

Thematic and research papers are invited from practitioners, scholars and students in the above thematic areas.

Paper Submission

- * Papers on the listed themes must be sent by email to ecdconference2015@gmail.com as a Microsoft Word document.
- * Papers must be in English.
- * The following information must be included on the first page of the submission:
 - ▶ Title of the paper and sub theme
 - ▶ Name(s) of author(s)
 - ▶ Organization/institution affiliation
 - ▶ Contact address, telephone and e-mail address
- * Author's names should be on the title page only, in order to facilitate the blind referring process.
- * Papers and abstracts will only be accepted for review on the condition that the manuscript has not been copyrighted, has not been published, has not been presented or accepted for presentation at any other conference or seminar.
- * All accepted and copyrighted papers will be published in an edited book with ISBN Number.

Format for paper abstract and full paper

- * The manuscript must be typed in 1.5 space in 12 point Times New Roman with a margin of 1 inch on all sides.
- * The length of the papers should not exceed 5000 words, excluding the abstract (maximum 300 words) and authors' biography of not more than 150 words.
- * All references must be in the APA format.

Registration Details

Delegates classification	Registration Fees
National Students and PhD scholars	Rs. 1,500/-
National paper presenters	Rs. 2,500/-
Foreign delegates, including students	US \$ 100

Registration Fees is payable through a Demand Draft in favour of 'Registrar, Jamia Millia Islamia' payable at New Delhi. The demand draft along with the details of the delegate including affiliation and title of the paper should be posted to: