

Quality Early Childhood Development in South Africa: A Call to Action

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Final Conference Programme

27 - 29 september 2023

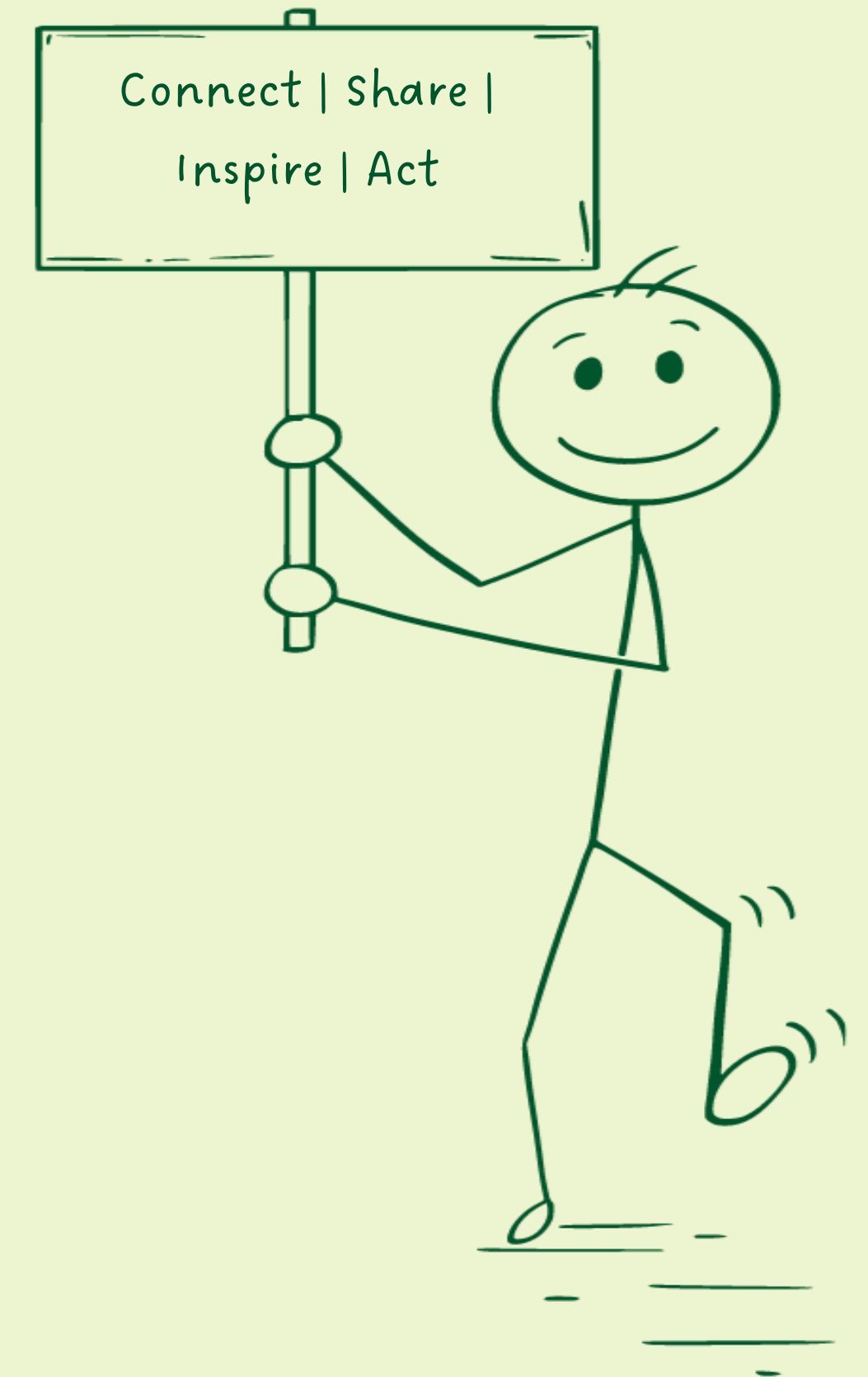
College of Cape Town, Crawford Campus
174 Kromboom Road, Crawford, Cape Town



The conference programme is subject to change

Day 1: 27 September 2023

12h00 - 13h30	Registration	
13h45 - 14h00	Conference Opening Act - Centre for Early Childhood Development	
14h00 - 14h15	Conference Welcome - Dr Muswaba, Principal of the College of Cape Town	
14h15 - 14h25	Message from the City of Cape Town Executive Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis	
14h30 - 15h15	Keynote Address - On love and playfulness Professor Nuraan Davids, Professor of Philosophy of Education – Stellenbosch University	
15h15 - 15h45	The development of emergent biliteracy in young children Dr Xolisa Guzula, Senior Lecturer in Applied Language and Literacy Studies – University of Cape Town	
15h45 - 17h15	'Khawuleza' Event:	
	1. Disparities between affluent and impoverished ECD centres: What is the reality, the impact and the solution?	Amanda Nomsa Mbali – Centre for Early Childhood Development
	2. Affirming ECD practioners and children through music and song: An overview of the MusicWorks Training Programme	Raymond Schuller - MusicWorks
	3. Stronger: A comprehensive toolbox for empowering family connection to allow children to succeed	Danielle Moosajie – Arise
	4. The Helix Collective – Crisis intervention funding for 0-5 year olds	Elisabeth van Wyk – The Helix Collective
	5. ECD Connect: A practitioner’s pocket assistant	Jade Jacobsohn – ECD Connect - DGMT
	6. Leading the way: Nurturing success through management competencies in South Africa's ECD sector	Dr Jessica Ronaasen – Stellenbosch University
	7. Creating open-source materials to support quality early learning	Kirsty Paxton – SmartStart Early Learning NPC
	8. Book-sharing for Fathers – Helping fathers create nurturing and stimulating relationships with their young children	Karen Ross – Mikhulu Trust
	9. MASKOT – Keeping children on track	Léanne Keet – Masikhule
	10. Beefing up the ECD package of care – Khula Nathi	Helen Donkin – Zero2Five Trust
	11. The Chaeli Campaign ECD Outreach Programme: Upskilling parents and ECD Practitioners to better support children with barriers to learning	Olwethu Nqevu – The Chaeli Campaign
12. Book Dash – Making beautiful, open books for the ECD sector	Julia Norrish – Book Dash	
17h15 - 17h30	Networking – Tea/coffee	



Day 2: 28 September 2023

DAY 2	Tea/coffee on arrival			
09h00 - 10h30	Plenary: Drivers of Quality Early Learning, using evidence to inform action Linda Biersteker, Sonja Giese, Dr Janeli Kotze & Dr Nicholas Dowdall Facilitator: Dr Nicholas Dowdall			
10h30 - 10h50	Tea			
	Main hall	Conference room	Room 17/18	Room 19/20
10h50 - 11h30	Recognition of Prior Learning for access: Piloting an approach to 'open doors' at undergraduate level Dr Giulietta Harrison – SANTS Private Higher Education Institution Facilitator: Kirsty Barnes (CECD)	Effective leadership and management in Early Childhood Development centres: A case study of Mvudi cluster Shonisani Agnes Mulovhedzi – University of Venda Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	Down to business: Unlocking success for ECD centres by adopting a business mindset Lyndsey Petro – GROW ECD Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	Enhancing access to quality early childhood development (ECD) services in marginalised communities: The Kouga ECD Project Jessica Blom – Centre for Early Childhood Development Facilitator: Sarah Atmore (CECD)
11h30 - 12h10	Implementation of the ECD Mobile programme in Northern Limpopo by Khanimamba Training and Resource Centre Queen Baloyi – Khanimamba Training & Resource Centre Facilitator: Kirsty Barnes (CECD)	Child-centred climate action: Where the most vulnerable become the most valuable Nicole Biondi – The Do More Foundation Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	Exploring the possible enablers of a numeracy and literacy integrated Family Maths Storytime Programme Roxanne Long – South African Numeracy Chair Project, Rhodes University Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	Enhancing early development nutrition Petrina Pakoe, Amelia Koeries & Thandi Mtombeni – Peninsula School Feeding Association Facilitator: Sarah Atmore (CECD)
12h10 - 12h50	Occupational Therapy intervention in Early Learning Programmes Léanne Keet – Masikhule Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	Making local government work for early childhood development Tinotenda Muringani & Tshepo Mantjé – Equality Collective Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	Investing in home and community-based early learning programmes as a strategy for quality access Rebecca Hickman – SmartStart Early Learning NPC Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	Developing ECD teachers' knowledge and skills to meet the demands of quality education in a rural context Ayesha Carrim – University of South Africa Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)
12h50 - 13h30	WhatsApp: A training tool that supports learning, implementation, and community building Anya Morris – Africa A+ Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	The importance of play in early learning: Knowledge, attitudes and practices of parents and caregivers with children birth to six years old Lungile Mdluli & Mpho Papale – UNICEF Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	Ready-Set-Go: Empowering school readiness in children through collaborative parent-child programmes Danielle Moosajie – Arise Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	Teachers at the core: Exploring the usefulness, feasibility, and implementation of an early literacy and language programme Monique Visser & Dr Shelley O'Carroll – Stellenbosch University Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)
13h30 - 14h10	Lunch			
14h10 - 14h50	Khula Nathi – Bringing growth monitoring to ECD centres Helen Donkin & Julika Falconer – Zero2Five Trust Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)	The rhetoric of workforce professionalism: An analysis of South African early childhood policy Dr Mary G Clasquin-Johnson & Hasina B Ebrahim – University of South Africa Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	[Re]Imagining parent and teacher understanding of parent participation in an ECCE setting Ally Connelly – University of the West of Scotland Facilitator: Sarah Atmore (CECD)	Building a common understanding of quality ECE: Hearing from practitioners, caregivers and children Malibongwe Gwele – Children's institute, University of Cape Town, & Linda Biersteker Facilitator: Gloria van Rensburg (CECD)
14h50 - 15h30	Evaluation of the EAT LOVE PLAY TALK pilot Parent Education Programme Dr Jessica Ronaasen – The Do More Foundation, & Linda Biersteker Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)	Translanguaging as a medium of communication in multilingual peri-urban pre-school classrooms Sibongile Mahan – University of South Africa Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	Effective professional development for early years education practitioners in disadvantaged communities: Challenges and strategies Prof Chinedu Okeke – University of the Free State Facilitator: Sarah Atmore (CECD)	Inclusion of 21st Century skills in effective ECD programmes for children aged four to six years Wilna van Rooyen – Vivlia Publishers Facilitator: Gloria van Rensburg (CECD)
15h30 - 16h30	Panel Discussion: Working together for quality ECD in South Africa Dr Sigamoney Naicker – Department of Education Ms Ntjantja Ned – Hollard Foundation Trust Ms Tracey Chambers – GROW ECD Prof Hasina Ebrahim – University of South Africa Session facilitator: Prof Eric Atmore			
	Networking - Tea Break			

Day 3: 29 September 2023

DAY 3	Tea/coffee on arrival			
09h00 - 10h00	Panel Discussion: Equity from the Start: Advocacy and Social Justice in Early Childhood Development Theodora Lutuli – ECD Activist; Inkwenkwezi Educare Centre Yusrah Ehrenreich – Centre for Early Childhood Development Mmatsetshweu Ruby Motaung – Training & Resources in Early Education Elisabeth van Wyk – The Helix Collective Session facilitator: Jessica Blom			
	Main hall	Conference room	Room 17/18	Room 19/20
10h00 - 10h40	The development of the professional teaching standards for the ECD educator workforce in South Africa Hasina B Ebrahim, Sheila Drew & Rene King – University of South Africa Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	The role of play in the development of executive functions in age three- to five-year-olds in South Africa: The LEGO PLAY 2.0 Project Rachel Neville – JET Education Services Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	Ikamva Labantu Principals Training Programme: Making a difference Mildred Bopoto, Barbara Stemmer – Ikamva Labantu Charitable Trust Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	Diverse mathematics learning styles in rural Early Childhood Development centres of OR Tambo District, Eastern Cape Province Neliswa Gqoli – Walter Sisulu University Facilitator: Kirsty Barnes (CECD)
10h40 - 11h20	Toy library norms and standards: Debate, discuss and learn Dr Monica Stach – Cotlands Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	Are commercially-produced resources essential for an emerging literacy programme? Julie Hay – Singakwenza Early Childhood Education Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	Child protection is everyone’s business – A Protective Behaviours approach to personal safety Candice van Rooyen – Protective Behaviours Southern Africa (PBSA) Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	Improving early childhood development in informal settlements: An innovative multi-country pilot project Michaela Ashley-Cooper – Centre for Early Childhood Development & Thozama Nomnga - FEDUP Facilitator: Tatum Dyson (CECD)
11h20 - 11h50	Tea			
11h50 - 12h30	Overcoming barriers to ECD registration for the delivery of effective ECD programmes in rural settings Nokubonga Purity Hlongwane – Zero2Five Trust Facilitator: Boniswa Gquma (CECD)	Using data collection tools and systems to drive change in early learning in South Africa: A case study Sonja Giese & Andrew Dawes – DataDrive2030 Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	Community Health Workers supporting mothers in the First Thousand Days through parental support and book-sharing Karen Ross – Mikhulu Trust Facilitator: Gloria van Rensburg (CECD)	Breaking Barriers: A call for change in local governments’ regulatory framework for ECD centres, starting with the City of Cape Town Yusrah Ehrenreich - Centre for Early Childhood Development Facilitator: Tatum Dyson (CECD)
12h30 - 13h10	Towards reconstructing student-teacher beliefs about children through theoretical and practical encounters in Grade R Dr Linda Bosman & Lynn Chambers – Stellenbosch University Facilitator: Boniswa Gquma (CECD)	Quality assurance in ECD in South Africa Hasina B Ebrahim – University of South Africa Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	Bringing a Wordworks online self-study training course to ECD practitioners: A snapshot of pilot learnings Asanda Mpahla – Wordworks Facilitator: Gloria van Rensburg (CECD)	Understanding fathers’ involvement in their children’s early learning and development: Perceptions of South African fathers and mothers of young children Lauren van Niekerk – University of Cape Town Facilitator: Kirsty Barnes (CECD)
13h10 - 13h50	Lunch			
13h50 - 14h30	Improving South African Grade R children’s participation and transforming a teacher’s pedagogical approach through robotics dialogue storybooks Hanrie Bezuidenhout – University of Johannesburg Facilitator: Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	Malungeni: From baseline to change – Promoting quality ECD in practice Dr Giulietta Harrison – SANTS Private Higher Education Institution Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)	Ocean kraals: Re-surfacing discarded stories and materials for sustainable futures Joanne Peers, Dr Theresa Giorza & Carole Scott – Centre for Creative Education Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	Analysing the growth of early grade mathematics research in South Africa Mellony Graven, Hamsa Venkat & Pamela Vale – Rhodes University Facilitator: Boniswa Gquma-Lisa (CECD)
14h30 - 15h10	Developing students’ and early childhood development practitioners’ awareness of sensory gardens benefits Nkhensani Susan Thuketana – University of Pretoria Facilitator: Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	Sivulithuba: Creating opportunities for capacity building and access support in the early years Mmatsetshweu Ruby Motaung – Training & Resources in Early Education Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)	Chapter 7 of the Children’s Act: What are the best interests of young children? Daniel Peter Al-Naddaf – Equal Education Law Centre Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	The importance of mental mathematics for supporting Foundation Phase teaching and learning Mellony Graven & Hamsa Venkat – Rhodes University Facilitator: Boniswa Gquma-Lisa (CECD)
15h10 - 15h50	Exploring the impact of a story-based pre-Grade R teacher training programme Dr Shelley O’Carroll – Independent Facilitator: Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	Early childhood development practitioners’ competence in developing learners’ literacy skills Nomasomi Matiso – Walter Sisulu University Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)	Enhancing early childhood education? Exploring the intersection of teacher education and digital learning Donna Hannaway – University of South Africa Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	Training ECD teachers for early intervention and inclusion for children with disabilities Dr Ensa Johnson, Dr Mary G Clasquin-Johnson & Dr Arine Kuyler – University of South Africa Facilitator: Boniswa Gquma-Lisa (CECD)
15h50 - 16h15	Conference Closure - Dr Linda Bosman (SARAECE) & Prof Eric Atmore (CECD)			
	Tea Break			