

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK ON PEACE BUILDING WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025 - 2030





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INTRODUCTION

In November 2004, early childhood professionals and researchers from regions experiencing conflict around the world convened in Belfast, Northern Ireland. World Forum Belfast, was organised jointly by NIPPA, now called Early Years – the organisation for young children and the World Forum Foundation. It brought together representatives from 15 different countries and provided the opportunity for them to share their stories, experiences and perspectives. While each of their situations was unique, the concerns they had regarding the impact of conflict on children and their families were remarkably similar.

PAULINE WALMSLEY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER EARLY YEARS

They began to understand it is possible to make a real difference to the lives of children and families in societies affected by conflict. The result has been the creation of the International Network on Peace Building with Young Children (INPB). This Network, led by Early Years and CINDE is a global initiative to make visible the role of early childhood development as a force for reconciliation and peace building.

Early Years' founding mission is to improve outcomes for young children using a community development approach that supports the healthy relationship between children, families and communities to seek solutions to problems they face, to build evidence and share learning and knowledge. As a region in conflict, we re-shaped our approach in an explicit and intentional move to ensuring respect for difference is at the heart of services for young children in a divided society.

It is in this context of shared mission that Early Years has resourced the secretariat including the chairing, administrative and advisory functions of the Network. The survival of the Network has depended on our ability to work together, when so much around us has been dividing.

At the core of the Network are people active in communities across the globe who together have developed, researched and scaled new ideas and knowledge and influenced policy. It is hopeful that the Network has made visible the impact of conflict and the power of young children and early childhood development in peacebuilding over the last twenty years. This represents important new knowledge in a period of time, that witnessed a massive expansion in the actors within the field of early childhood development and has informed science and practice in the field.



The INPB Strategic Plan 2025 to 2030 is rightly ambitious to reflect the challenges faced by young children that are increasing in scale, frequency and ferocity. The 2025 to 2030 Strategic Plan will enable the Network to shine a light on and learn from new practices emerging from local communities across the world, utilising the potential of science and advocacy to create meaningful change. It is our ambition that the Network will bring forward new actions that will inspire, support, equip and invest in early childhood professionals closest to children and families and realise the true potential of early childhood and peacebuilding. I wish to thank the members of the International Network on Peacebuilding with Young Children for their tireless work for the rights of young children. Early Years is proud to continue to support the Network in delivering on this plan.



INTRODUCTION

The International Network on Peacebuilding with Young Children is proud to launch our Strategic Plan 2025-2030. The launch of the plan coincides with the 20th Anniversary of the formation of the Network in November 2004. As we reflect on the formative years of the Network, we remember a much more hopeful and peaceful time for children and families across the globe. Northern Ireland had just emerged from 30 years of conflict, South Africa had ended apartheid and had managed a peaceful transition of power, Colombia was moving towards a peace agreement, the Balkans were in a more settled period after a brutal war and there seemed to be glimmers of hope in the Middle East. However, during the first decade of the Network's existence approximately 40 million children were directly impacted by war.

As a Network we were determined to highlight stories of hope and share the incredible impact that Early Childhood Development services around the world were playing in promoting a culture of peace and respect for diversity. Over the past 20 years we have developed proven, evidence informed early childhood services in a variety of contexts emerging from conflict.

We have documented the works in two publications, "From Conflict to Peace Building the Power of Early Childhood Initiatives" (2004) and "Foundations of a Peaceful World – The Transformative Power of Early Education to Promote Peace and Social Cohesion" (2023).



We have worked with partners, in particular the Early Childhood Peace Consortium based in New York to develop advocacy campaigns to highlight the importance of investing in early childhood development services both during periods of intense conflict and in periods of post conflict and peacebuilding.

Sadly, as we launch our new Strategic Plan, we have not realised our vision that all children grow up in peaceful, just societies, free from conflict and violence. In 2023, 250 million children across the globe were impacted by conflict. Children, families and communities across the world are facing a poli-crisis caused by climate catastrophes, economic recessions, pandemics, and war. We in the Network are still hopeful and ambitious. The Strategic Plan sets out several key Strategic Goals and Objectives that will make visible the power of Early Childhood Development Services to promote sustainable peace, justice and reconciliation. We look forward to working with National Governments, UN Agencies, Civil Society Organisations, Academic Institutions, children, families and communities to achieve the ambitious programme of work outlined in this Strategic Plan.

Siobhan Fitzpatrick
Chair of the International Network
Consultant, Early Years

WHO WE ARE

The International Network on Peace Building with Young Children (INPB) is a global initiative led by early childhood programme developers, child rights advocates, researchers and civil society organisations working to promote a peaceful and just life for young children, their families and communities, as well as to highlight that early childhood care is essential for a sustainable pathway to peace. The Network comprises organisational and individual membership from countries living in, emerging from, or under the threat of conflict.

HISTORY OF THE NETWORK

The Network was formed in 2009, having evolved from the work initiated by the World Forum Foundation, Early Years, (formerly known as NIPPA), and CINDE (International Centre for Education and Human Development, Colombia) through the International Working Group on Peace Building, a Working Group of the World Forum (2004).

A significant output of the early work of the group was the publication of the book “From Conflict to Peace Building: The Power of Early Childhood Initiatives - Lessons from Around the World” (2007 Ed Connolly, Hayden and Levin).



OUR VISION

Our Vision

All children will grow and thrive in peaceful and just communities, free from conflict and war.

OUR MISSION

To make visible the role of early childhood development as a space for reconciliation and peace building in regions experiencing conflicts, including armed conflict.

To use and promote evidence informed programmes and strategies to enable children, families and their communities to reconcile and achieve social justice and live in sustainable harmony and peace.

OUR COMMITMENTS

We, as a Network, are committed to promoting peace and social justice and contributing to ending violence for children and families, with specific attention to the six grave violations against children identified by the United Nations.

In addition, we would add - ending the use of civilian sites, such as homes, schools, and hospitals for military purposes and actions, including the use of mines and other explosive devices in areas used by children.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NETWORK SINCE 2004:

The International Network on Peace Building Project has created an important sustainable International Network on Peace Building with Young Children, which has made visible the impact of conflict on young children and the power of early childhood services to be an important medium for peace building initiatives in regions of conflict, and those emerging from conflict.

The following are some of the key achievements of the Network over that period:

The development of a Masters Programme in Applied Peace Building with Young Children in partnership with INCORE, Ulster University. This innovative development was piloted for three years (2009-2012) and is now being reviewed with a view to having it available globally from September 2025.

The development of an International Programmatic Toolkit Manual for work with young children, parents and teachers in regions experiencing or emerging from conflict. The toolkit has been adapted for implementation in the Balkans, Palestine, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan and the Asian-Pacific (ARNEC) region.

The Network has carried out important advocacy work to contribute that the issue of early childhood and conflict is included in existing or under-development policies, as in the case of Colombia, the Balkans, Palestine, Israel, Nepal, among others.

The Network is recognised as a source of expert advice on peace building activities with young children internationally, with members of the Network supporting UNICEF in a number of regions in Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa (Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Egypt, East Timor and Vietnam)

An advocacy strategy aimed at developing a UN Resolution on Peace Building with Young Children has been developed which has made visible the importance of work with young children in the countries involved in the Network. Critical country, regional and international partnerships have been formed to drive the peace building agenda within the UN Sustainable Development Goals with a particular focus on highlighting and linking the importance of Goal 4, which promotes early education for all, and Goal 16 which promotes peace and social justice.

The Network activities have contributed to the development of new knowledge in peace building with young children as a result of the research and evaluation activities carried out by Network members. Early Childhood Programme development on Peace Building with Young Children has led to programme adaptation, development and evaluation in the Balkans, Israel, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

The Network was a joint partner with ECPC in hosting a High-Level Event at the 78th Meeting of the United Nations in September 2023 highlighting the importance of ECD as a Pathway to Sustainable Peace.

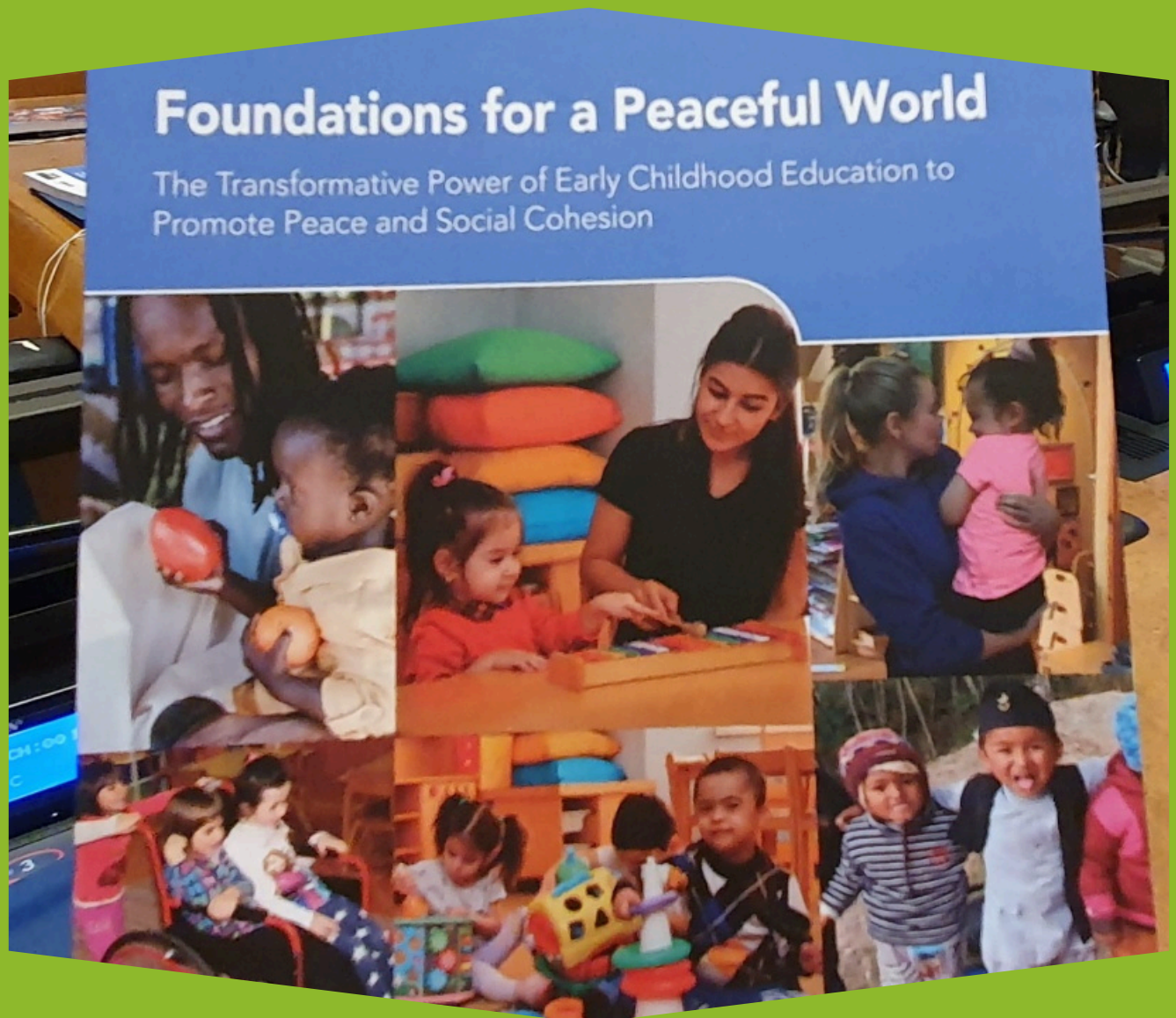
The Network has been involved in the development of a new social emotional programme on resilience and peace building with two-year-old children and their parents in Northern Ireland. The programme was piloted and evaluated, showing positive outcomes. The intention is to take the programme to scale in Ireland and beyond.

The work of Network members is captured in a new publication “Foundations for a Peaceful World: The Transformative Power of Early Childhood Education to Promote Peace and Social Cohesion” (2023). The book was launched at the 78th High Level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2023 and has been promoted at a number of international conferences since then.

The Network is represented on the LINKS initiative led by Queens University Belfast and is supporting programmatic implementation in Timor Leste, Vietnam, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Egypt, Mali, Palestine and Colombia

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK – PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

<https://www.early-years.org/international-publications>



OUR VALUES AND APPROACHES

- The Network encourages a child rights and social justice approach acknowledging the longitudinal interdependence between adult and child rights and always considering the best interest of children
- The Network believes that children should be recognised as complete human beings, as subjects of rights, and the need to exercise their rights in ways different from adults and according to their evolving capacities. Children require that their languages and forms of expression be recognised, as well as their participation and their agency capabilities that results from the interaction with adults and peers
- The Network recognises the impact of global forces such as climate catastrophes, migration, economic recessions on the lives of young children and the link between these global forces on the development and escalation of conflicts
- The Network adopts a child-centred, socio-ecological approach that promotes partnership with parents, families, local communities and service providers, paying attention to power relations
- The Network encourages a learning approach that attends to power and other relations, processes and outcomes necessary for building peaceful, present and sustainable futures
- The Network recognises and celebrates the richness of the diversity of ways to be young children according to culture, ethnicity, gender, age, faith, socio-economic conditions, and political preferences of their families. However, the Network does not engage directly in political party partisanship





- The Network advocates to support and improve the capacities of parents, educators and other relational agents and relevant service providers to promote the integral development of children, families and communities using information, scientific knowledge, people's experiences and wisdom in the design and development of policies, programmes and projects
- The Network attends to power relations in building institutional capacity for good governance of social services and educational and care design and delivery
- The Network promotes the links between scientific knowledge, people's wisdom and practical experiences to advocate for public policies and programmes that address the issue of the impact of armed conflict and violence on young children, their families and communities, and the way in which societies can benefit from those policies and programmes for the general purposes of building peaceful societies, social justice and sustainability
- The Network advocates and works to help countries to articulate their ECD and peace building policies with the general policies to promote political, cultural, social, economic and environmental progress that ensures a good life and social justice for their citizens in sustainable ways. We recognise the important causal link between climate catastrophes and conflict, and therefore will work to promote climate and planetary justice in all our programmes and activities
- The Network recognises the costs of inaction and lack of investment in quality policies and programmes aimed at promoting comprehensive development in Early Childhood as a mechanism to perpetuate conditions of violence towards children.

Network members will continue to use these interlinked perspectives, approaches and strategies in the interests of social justice, building peace, undoing silences and supporting reconciliation and healing.

OUR FOCUS

Pregnant women and young children (from conception to 8 years of age), their families and communities, in societies experiencing, or emerging from, a situation where one or more groups are in armed conflict, including pre and post conflict scenarios. The International Network on Peace Building with Young Children draws on the conceptual framework of the child in the context of their family and community, as has been informed by Bronfenbrenner.

The focus of the Network is underpinned by a Child Rights Socio-Ecological Model, which demonstrates how the child contributes to his or her social environment while simultaneously being affected and served by it, thus highlighting the inter-connectivity of child development and environmental wellbeing. Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory[1]: Bronfenbrenner (1979-2005) developed this theoretical framework to explain how everything in the child's social environment impacts on their growth and development. Importantly from a child's rights perspective, the child is not passive, but active within these systems. The relationships are what Bronfenbrenner refers to as bi-directional.

The network also recognises the importance of contemporary contributions from gender perspectives, capabilities, subjectivities, territoriality, among others

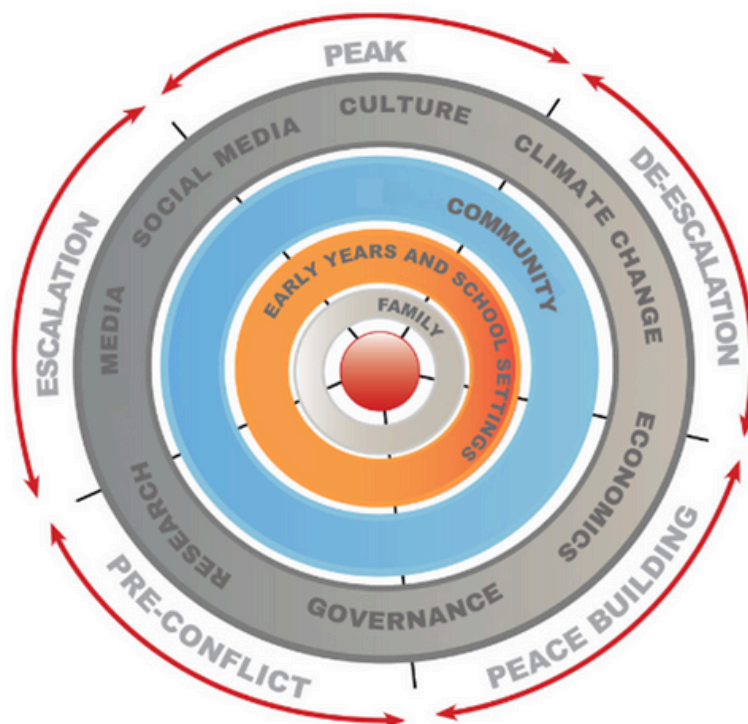
[1] Bronfenbrenner U (1979) The Ecology of Human Development, Cambridge, Harvard, University Press



CHILD RIGHTS SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL MODEL



THE PROGRAMMATIC FRAMEWORK FOR EARLY YEARS PRACTITIONERS WORKING IN CONFLICT REGIONS



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The International Network on Peace Building with Young Children advocated with other key networks and organisations in ensuring Goal 16 was introduced and linked to Goal 4 of the Sustainable Development Goals (2015-2030). Goal 4 and Goal 16 will underpin the work of the Network within this strategic planning period.

OUR LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

1

To ensure integrated ECD is present in relevant Government policies and programmes as a key part of the reconciliation processes in pre-conflict, conflict and post conflict situations.

2

To ensure policies recognise and support children, families and communities affected by the various stages of conflict. We acknowledge the importance of developing programmes that meet the needs of children, families and caregivers during periods of intense conflict as well as developing preventative strategies and programmes within the framework of guaranteeing comprehensive care for children.

3

To promote, support and expand institutional and international alliances, which position the issue of ECD and peace building on a range of networks and global and regional fora. We will use these alliances and partnerships to promote regional and international exchange of knowledge, practice and experience.

4

To collaborate with ECD practitioners, families, communities and academia to build, communicate and use knowledge effectively to inform the activities of the Network, including advocacy and lobbying.



5

To develop new knowledge and understanding related to the multiple aspects of the impact of growing up in conflict on young children, families and communities and using this knowledge for action to bring about positive changes for children, families and communities in a culturally contextual manner.



6

To support evidence based programmatic interventions that promote reconciliation, peace building and child well-being, and facilitate the exchange of evidence-based practice.



7

To strengthen institutional capacity especially in areas of early childhood practice, governance, research, teaching and in peace building activities.

THE ORGANISATION OF OUR NETWORK

1

Early Years the organisation for young children, acts as the secretariat to the International Network on Peace Building with Young Children. In that capacity it convenes, organises and facilitates all activities and meetings related to the work of the Network, including identifying potential sources of funding. The long-term goal is that the Network becomes an independent/registered self-funding entity.

2

An Executive Committee provides overall strategic and programme support to the Network. Membership of the Executive Committee reflects the regional make-up of the Network. This includes representation from the following regions: Latin America, Africa, Europe, the Balkans, the MENA (Middle EAST, North Africa) region, the ARNEC region.

3

Thematic Working Groups comprising members of the Network will take forward priority work areas identified by the Network. The Thematic Working Groups are as follows: Governance and Financial Sustainability; Advocacy; Programme Development and Research—including a Reading Group. Thematic Working Groups will report to the Executive Committee and are guided by the Terms of Reference identified in Appendix One. A dedicated lead will be appointed to each Working Group who will report on behalf of the Group.

4

Regional Networks, or subgroups of existing regional networks, will support regional initiatives in coordination with the Executive Committee. The members of the Network will be drawn from early childhood practitioners and academics with experience of working in or supporting early childhood programmes in regions experiencing or emerging from armed conflict.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES 2025-2030

During the period 2025-2030 the International Network on Peace Building with Young Children will focus on the following goals and objectives. We will concentrate on strengthening governance with a focus on ensuring financial sustainability of the Network.

We will seek new membership from underrepresented countries and regions. We will continue our work in developing and scaling up proven and innovative programmes that support children and families during periods of intense conflict and in periods of post conflict and peace building. We will continue to develop high quality research activities that will contribute new knowledges to the field of peacebuilding with young children and their families.

Finally, we will develop local, regional and national advocacy campaigns aimed at making visible the impact of conflict on young children and their families. We will work with others, including the Early Childhood Peace Consortium, to develop a UN Resolution that recognises the power of Early Childhood Development services to promote peace, justice and development.



THEMATIC WORKING GROUP 1.

GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY REPRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION

Goal 1

Strengthening governance, membership, representation and participation

Objectives

Finalise the governance manual

Expand membership, representation, participation and partnerships

Goal 2

Financial and human sustainability strategy

Objectives

Ensure financial sustainability of the Network and achieve its objectives

Ensure human sustainability of the Network to guarantee its operations

Goal 3

Develop a Communication and Visibility Plan

Objectives

Set a structured process for internal and external communication

Ensure High visibility of INPB for the purpose of achieving the various objectives



THEMATIC WORKING GROUP 2.

ADVOCACY

The Network has achieved remarkable outcomes in the area of advocacy during the recent strategic plan period. Through its efforts in partnership with the ECPC and with leadership from Early Years, the following form the highlights:

1. Publication of the new book “Foundations for a Peaceful World”
2. Participated in advocacy events (UNGA 2x, High level meeting 2023)
3. Published position papers (Lebanon, Palestine, Israel, Ukraine)
4. Presented at conferences (Sarajevo, Amman, Istanbul, Sofia)

For the coming strategic plan period, the following will form the general domains of work:

1. Continue cooperation with ECPC leveraging on ECPC connections within the UN and academia with a view to securing a UN resolution on the impact of conflict on children, highlighting the contribution that Early Childhood Development strategies have on promoting sustainable peace and influencing the post 2030 Agenda
2. Activate the advocacy group to be more responsive to the poli-crisis affecting children globally

Goal 1

To secure the support and endorsement of a UN Security Council resolution on the protection of children in armed conflict zones

Objectives

Making public and visible policy briefs to relevant stakeholders

Developing a draft UN resolution in close cooperation with the Early Childhood Peace Consortia

Goal 2

To raise awareness on the role of Early Childhood Development strategies in promoting peace and sustainable development and advocate for instating relevant policies

Objectives

Promote an ecological approach and evidence-based policy making to inform advocacy activities

Raise the awareness on the important link between ECD and Peacebuilding and advocate for instating relevant policies



THEMATIC WORKING GROUP 3.

PROGRAMMATIC DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

The Research and Programmatic Working Groups combined during the period of the most recent Strategic Plan for purposes of efficiency, recognising the overlap in membership and proving helpful for such activities as writing and editing our recent book.

For the 2025 – 2030 Strategic Plan, the Research and Programmatic Working Groups will work to increase the visibility of those young children and their families impacted by conflict, and promote effective evidence based ECD programmes that contribute to peacebuilding and social cohesion.

Programmatic Goals

The International Network on Peace Building with Young Children aims to design new programmes which support innovation and build on evidence in the field of peace building in early childhood care and education in regions experiencing or emerging from armed conflict in three main efforts. The first of these efforts is to contribute to training, advice and mentoring programmes for adults (parents, teachers, health and social service professionals and community activists) who support young children in regions experiencing or emerging from armed conflict. The second effort is the development of strategies, curriculum and related resources for young children in regions experiencing or emerging from armed conflict. The third effort is to contribute to the development of appropriate accredited programmes of training at graduate and postgraduate levels.



Research Goals

The main purposes of research activities of the International Network on Peace Building with Young Children include identifying, creating, disseminating and applying high quality knowledge which can, in keeping with our shared values, support countries, communities and families to build peaceful societies in an ever-changing world. It aims to create new possibilities for conceptual, methodological and practical developments. The Children's Rights Socio-Ecological Cycle of Conflict Model with considerations of climate impact and spiritual life was selected as the basis for research, practice and policy alike.

A central principle of the Network's research strategy is a respectful dialogue that is maintained across all members and outside colleagues and during all phases of conflict, creating shared understanding, from the multiple perspectives of academic scientific knowledge and the knowledge and wisdom of varied participants and beneficiaries in different communities, regions and countries. It advocates for transdisciplinary research approaches and dialectical thinking, in which multiple perspectives and research methods are used to support the goals of the Network. In line with this approach, participants in the Network include researchers, practitioners, policy makers, NGOs, universities and research and development centres.

Recognising the complexity of conflicts and of change processes, the Network regards these multiple participants and diverse kinds of knowledge as important and valuable resources. Dialogue which includes a wide range of role players, especially families and communities, is central in our research to identify deep understanding of causes of conflicts, ways of enhancing positive and protective aspects and addressing negative impacts and harming environments. Based on these understandings, new directions can emerge for designing policies and programmes which support the well-being of children, families and communities in armed and post-conflict conditions.

Goal one: programmatic development, implementation and capacity building

Objectives

1

To adapt and roll out some of the programmatic processes developed by the Network within other countries. Expand our own knowledge about peace building programmatic processes and disseminate worldwide. A key focus for this objective would be to pilot, evaluate, and adapt the rollout of the International Programmatic Toolkit in countries and contexts that so far have not had funding to do so.

2

To pilot and evaluate the new social and emotional resilience programmes for younger children to address all phases of conflict in existing and new locations. Further expand capacity building of Early Childhood professionals using the expertise of the Network.

3

To revise, expand, and roll out the Masters Programme both as a full programme or using appropriate stand-alone modules, and to contribute to the development of appropriate accredited programmes at graduate and post graduate levels.

4

To implement, in association with the Governance and Finance Working Group, an internal communications plan that increases mutual support, integration and partnerships internal to and between all Working Groups.

5

To design new programmes which support innovation and build on the evidence in the field of peacebuilding in early childhood care and education in regions experiencing or emerging from armed conflict.

6

To further develop and scale up programmes that are relevant at periods of intense conflict.

7

To further develop curriculum and related resources and activities that will enhance existing or new programmes.

8

To contribute to the training, advice and mentoring programmes for adults (teachers, parents, health and social service professionals, community activists) who support young children in regions experiencing or emerging from conflict.

9

To work with the ECPC Youth Working Group to further develop intergenerational programmes that involve young people.

10

To expand the membership of the Working Group to include greater representation from Latin America, Africa and Central and Eastern Europe.



Goal two: the International Network on Peace Building with young children links theory, practice and research

Objectives

1

The Network Executive Committee with the support of the research interest group facilitates communications between all Network interest groups to ensure that theory, practice and research are integrated, and each of the interest groups complements the work of the other groups, in line with the values and goals of the Network.

2

Strengthen the theoretical, methodological and technical capacity in the Network to undertake research on armed conflict and peacebuilding with young children, families, communities and institutions. This would include facilitating the study of different paradigms and their related epistemologies and ontologies in order to identify approaches and methods which support the goals of the Network. Make the knowledge emerging from study of relevant different paradigms accessible to members of the Network and others who support the goals of the Network. Expand research of the Network to new countries; identify and disseminate central articles and research resources within the Network and beyond; expand our participation and presentation of our research in relevant international research forums and conferences. In addition, further development of core technical skills in data collection, analysis and interpretation, using a range of quantitative and qualitative methods is needed. Make the knowledge emerging from this emphasis on capacity building accessible to members of the Network and others who support its goals

3

Link the update and implementation of the Masters Programme and the work of other interest groups.

Goal three: initiate and/or support research in partnership with communities in the regional networks

Objectives

1

Through the Secretariat and the Governance and Finance Working Group, identify sources of—and access to—funding to implement promising research designs which support the goals of the Network and all other aspects of the work of the research interest group. Specifically, to support the entire set of objectives, the Working Group will make a funding application to Horizon Europe that will support programmatic implementation and research. The Programmatic Group will also seek out other sources of funding to support the work and the achievement of these objectives.

2

Identify research partners who have strong relationships with local communities in conflict and post-conflict contexts. This can be done primarily through the regional networks.

3

Facilitate processes and meetings to design research which can support the goals of the Network. This should prioritise attention to power relations and research ethics while focusing on developing capacity and leadership.

4

Hold regular workshops to bring Network supported research teams together to learn from each other.

Goal four: disseminate research findings which support the goals of the Network

Objectives

1

Support research teams (within the Network and with research partners) to disseminate their learning through a variety of accessible media for different target audiences, such as practitioners, service providers and research briefs for advocacy.

2

Support research teams to publish their research in peer-reviewed academic journals.

3

Support Network research teams to present their research in relevant conferences and events.



Goal five: document all aspects of the research interest group activities

Objectives

1

Provide resources for documentation and knowledge management, including research and presentations, or teaching by Network members and partners on studies, projects and programmes closely and broadly related to peace building with young children.

2

Make information available by prioritising open-source platforms and producing content for distribution.

3

Include families and communities in the design/implementation/reflection/evaluation of local research initiatives e.g. in a process of Community Based Participatory Research.

4

To strengthen the theoretical, methodological and technical capacity of members that would include the study of different research paradigms.



THEMATIC WORKING GROUP 4.

THE READING GROUP

The Reading Group was initiated after the 2019 strategic planning process as one of the strategies towards building a learning organisation. The main aim is to help members of the Network strengthen our understanding of different ways of knowing and being and prompt action for a just and peaceful world. The group seeks to inform all aspects of the work of the INPB, including peacebuilding with young children, their families and communities.

Goals

- To provide a collaborative environment that fosters meaningful dialogue and exchange of ideas among members so that we can rethink everything including challenging our own discourses, practices, attitudes, beliefs and ways of knowing and being
- To strengthen our understanding of the poli-crisis and the complex causes of violence in the current global context
- To imagine innovative action within the broad goals of the INPB and in support of all INPB working groups.

APPENDIX ONE: TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will be led by Early Years and CINDE and is composed of one member from each region.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Develop and implement a five-year strategy to achieve the objectives set out in the Strategic Plan and to coordinate the activities of the Thematic Working Groups
- Manage the membership process in an open, fair and transparent way to ensure regional and geographic expertise
- Maintain the linkage and manage the relationship with the World Forum Foundation and other international networks and organisations
- Maintain and develop external linkages e.g. ECPC, SCF, UNICEF, ECDAN, INEE and others
- Disseminate information about events and products
- The Executive Committee will be selected from among the members of the Network and will serve for three years, with the option to be eligible to serve for a second term.



Membership

The Executive Committee will comprise no fewer than five and no more than seven members who will serve for a period of at least three years after which membership will be reviewed on the basis of regional representation. Founder members will serve until such time as there is membership in place that is robust, transparent and reflective of the region.

The Executive Committee will meet virtually on a quarterly basis and face to face at least once per year.

International Network on Peace Building with Young Children

Roles and Responsibilities

- The Network reports to the Executive Committee on progress in relation to the delivery of the strategic plan
- Network members will form Thematic Working Groups on advocacy, programmatic development, and Masters development to deliver specific elements of the strategic plan
- Network members are willing to serve from January 2025-2030 after which membership will be reviewed on the basis of representation of institutions, networks and regional representation
- It is the individual responsibility of Network members to secure visa and documentation for travel, but Executive Committee responsibility to support by developing strategies and mechanisms to support this.

Membership

The Network is made up of early childhood practitioners, academics, civil society organisations with experience of working in or supporting early childhood programmes in regions experiencing or emerging from armed conflict and specifically should:

- Represent countries in or emerging from conflict
- Be experts in the conflict regions and in the field of early childhood
- Represent recognised stages in armed conflict, for example, engaged in conflict, peace keeping, peace-making and peace building need to be represented
- Be willing and able to act as positive role models for this work within their own institutions, networks and regions
- Report regularly on the work of the International Network within regional networks.

The Network will meet once per annum and will communicate regularly between meetings.



Thematic Working Groups

The work of the Network will be organised in Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) that draw upon the specific expertise within the Network membership in relation to programmatic development, professional development, research and advocacy. As well as creating a space for exchange and learning, the Thematic Working Groups are tasked with delivering key outputs in line with the Strategic Plan.

TWG 1 - Governance and Financial Sustainability

TWG 2 - Programmes and Research

TWG 3 - Reading Group

TWG 4 - Advocacy

Roles and Responsibilities

- Share knowledge and expertise in relation to each theme
- To actively participate and contribute to activities and discussions
- To work collaboratively to develop a range of accessible tools, programmes, training and professional development opportunities that support young children, their families and communities and respect difference
- To identify strategies that position the issue of ECD and peace building in-country, regionally and globally.



Membership

- Membership of the Thematic Working Groups is open to all members and is drawn from the Network. Members should have a specific interest and expertise in relation to each Thematic Working Group that they are able and willing to share
- Where possible, it is desirable that membership of a Thematic Working Group reflects a distribution on a geographic basis with a mix of backgrounds in practice and research
- Members should commit to two meetings of the Thematic Working Group per year as well as activities outside of meetings. Dates of meeting to be set at least 6 months in advance.



MEMBERSHIP



ARGENTINA

Raul Mercer
American School of Social Sciences



COLUMBIA

Constanza Alarcon
Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)



INDIVIDUAL UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dr Joshua D Feder
Fielding Graduate University



INDIVIDUAL SOUTH AFRICA

Dr Norma Rudolph (Founder member)



IRELAND

Michelle Hart
Chief Executive Officer, National Childhood Network (NCN), Ireland



ISRAEL

Professor Margalit Ziv
Kaye Academic College of Education



KYRGYZSTAN

Nurlan Choibekov
OSCE-Academy



LATIN AMERICA

Mr Alejandro Acosta
International Center for Education and Human
Development (CINDE)
Founder Member. He has remained in the Network after
his retirement from CINDE, due to his work in Latin
America and his long association with the Network.



LEBANON

Ms Lina Hamaoui
International Development and Empowerment
Association (IDEA)



NEPAL

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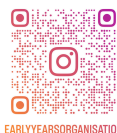
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