Background information

To further rally policy makers, educators and teachers, families and caregivers, and all stakeholders in pursuit of SDG 4.2, the UNESCO General Conference at its 41st Session approved Uzbekistan’s proposal to host a World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education (WCECCE), a Category-2 intergovernmental conference, which will provide an important forum for policy learning and scale-up of proven programmes and innovations on ECCE across all regions and countries. The WCECCE will be held from 14 to 16 November 2022 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Approximately 1,500 participants, including online participants will be part of the Conference. The Member States delegation shall include head of governments, ministers in charge of education, finance/planning, health, and protection, practitioners, development partners and civil society organizations at national level. At international and regional levels, UN agencies, bi and multilateral organizations, international non-governmental organizations, civil society organization including ECCE networks, youth and parents’ organizations among other will be invited.

The specific objectives of the WCECCE are to:

- take stock of the progress of Member States towards achieving the SDG 4.2 target and other early childhood related SDGs targets.
- exchange knowledge about key enablers, emerging research results, good practices, and innovations to put in place and scale up quality ECCE policies and programmes.
- reaffirm quality ECCE as a right of all children and as the essential foundation for lifelong learning and socio-cognitive development.
- identify opportunities, develop, and agree upon on a set of priorities and strategies to accelerate SDG 4.2 progress and increase investment in ECCE on the part of governments and their partners.
- further strengthen global partnership and solidarity for the cause of early childhood to expand and improve ECCE services in all Member States to help all children attain their full potential.
UNESCO International Bureau of Education (UNESCO-IBE) in its renewed mandate, entails consolidating and synergizing the work of UNESCO in curriculum, fostering a forward-looking vision to contribute to equitable and inclusive education and sustainable development for all, as outlined in its IBE Medium Term Strategy 2022-25. UNESCO-IBE aims to support the transformation of the curriculum and the pedagogy as well as to inform the processes of teaching and learning, aligned with UNESCO Report "Reimagining our futures together. A new social contract for education", the International Commission on the Futures of Education, underlining the role and contribution of curricula in developing learners’ abilities to engage with and the upcoming "Transforming Education Summit" convened by the UN Secretary-General. Despite gains in access to Education, learning gains remain limited. There is growing awareness today that access does not automatically increase learning.

Curriculum is central to unlock the potentials of very young learners and therefore to achieve Quality Education as it articulates a society’s vision on education and provide avenues and spaces for transformation to define learning experiences. Curriculum is the driving force defining the “what”, “why”, “for what”, “how” and “how much”. UNESCO-IBE is being designated to coordinate and lead the Global Thematic consultation on a “Forward and Transformative looking on ECCE Curriculum with a lifelong learning perspective”, in parallel of Regional Consultations and other thematic consultations.

With the support of UNESCO Asia Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, this thematic consultation on ECCE Curriculum aims to reaffirm the critical importance of quality education and lifelong learning from the very early years and to accelerate the achievement of SDG 4.2 and other-related SDGs, by:

- stimulating a renewed way of mainstreaming some of the critical and candent issues in the processes of curriculum transformation undertaken in ECCE
- promoting innovative evidence-based avenues of work and reflection on issues related to the complex task of improving relevance and effectiveness of curriculum, teaching, learning and assessment processes and outcomes.
- integrating early childhood education curriculum in an efficient and relevant manner onto the overall education system, while supporting quality transition to upper levels

Objectives, participants and expected outputs

Online thematic webinars on “Acting towards a Transformative and Forward-looking ECCE Curriculum for Lifelong Learning” are set, ahead of the WCECCE, across all 4 regions (Arab region, Latin America, Asia & Pacific Region, Africa Region) in order to:

1) Bring further food for thoughts and some key insights to Member States related to Quality Education through the lens of ECCE Curriculum and possible learning outcomes from the very early years.
2) Raise Members States ‘political commitment and engagement to develop evidence-based ambitious, relevant, action-oriented and culturally appropriate ECCE Curriculum frameworks.
3) Share and foster discussions between countries and gather insights and recommendations from participants to inform the fine-tuning of the WCECCE thematic report on ECCE Curriculum

This thematic consultation will invite countries and other key stakeholders and experts in curriculum, academia and international and regional organizations.

At the end of the online consultation, main elements of presentation and feedback/comments about key priorities and enablers will be integrated onto a draft outcome document report on this specific theme of ECCE Curriculum. The finalized outcome document generated and enriched throughout consultations across regions will be shared with the WCECCE Secretariat as inputs on the specific theme of ECCE Curriculum that shall be taken into consideration and embedded onto candidate themes and sub-themes of the upcoming Conference.

Provisional agenda | Asia Pacific Region

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<th>PROVISIONAL AGENDA</th>
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| 12:30 – 12:40PM (10') | Opening remarks | M. Yao Ydo, Director UNESCO-IBE  
M. Shigeru Aoyagi, Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau Asia Pacific |
| 12:40 – 12:45PM (5') | Group photo | |
Quality curricula and learning outcomes from the very early years do matter!

**Format, dates and working language**

Online thematic webinar for the Asia Pacific Region will be held on Thursday 22nd September 2022 from 12:30PM to 2:00PM (Bangkok time) via Zoom webinar. The duration of this preparation event will last 90 minutes.

The working language will be **English**.

An **active Q&A Session** will be available for webinar participants during the whole duration of the sessions *(using “Q&A” button)*.

**Registration**

To participate in this thematic webinar, please register via the following link:

[https://unesco-org.org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mSdlnLChSaKn20EVPRi0AQ](https://unesco-org.org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mSdlnLChSaKn20EVPRi0AQ)

**Contact**

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