

Participants' notes: [More information on http://www.spbea.org.fj/Ecce_Workshop.html]

Please note that a workshop is “a seminar, discussion group, or the like, that emphasizes exchange of ideas and the demonstration and application of techniques, skills, etc.” Therefore participants are expected to be actively involved in all activities. PLEASE COME TO THE WORKSHOP PREPARED.

Attached please find instructions and information which are to be linked with the workshop programme :

1. *General Information about the workshop – aims, logistics, airfares, DSA etc.*
2. *Matrix for use in DAY ONE – please use the appropriate one ie government or NGO*
3. *Template for country presentations for DAY ONE;*
4. *Discussions in small groups – research proposal for funding via PRIDE*
5. *Discussions on networking both a regional and national levels*
6. *Template for use in DAY THREE– current assessment approaches being used for 0 – 8 years olds.*
7. *Structured group discussions on suggestions for assessment tools to be used for 0 -8 year olds*
8. *Discussions on language development for 0 – 8 year olds.*

DAY	PREPARATION	PRESENTATION
ONE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information for the matrix to be handed in at registration. 2. Please limit your presentation to template. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SPBEA & UNICEF will collate info into matrix and present. 2. Each participant will make a presentation based on the templates that are on http://www.spbea.org.fj/Ecce_Workshop.html.
TWO	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Action research proposals 	The research question brought to the meeting by each of the participants will be presented in group discussions and outlines of research proposals developed.
THREE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collect information on current assessment approaches. Government and NGO representative should work together on this. 2. Participants are asked to prepare themselves for discussions on the five 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Country presentation based on the templates below ie three questions below. 2. Country participants are to consider the five questions provided below for session 1.30 – 3.00 3. Each participants should have some ideas of the strategies/ideas that government/NGOs and development partners should be working on for

	questions 3. What should be done in the countries and what realistically should be done ... by government/NGOs and development partners?	session 3.20 – 5.00
FOUR	1. Read documents on culture and language that are provided. Please download from website. 2. Find out what your country's policy is on language of instruction in preschools and education in general. 3. Find out what the country's policy on culture is.	1. Share the information gathered at group discussions and in response to the 8.45 – 10.30 keynote address. 2. Share information gathered from the 11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. panel discussion 3. Share discussion on language from 1.30-3.00

1. General Information about the workshop – aims, logistics, airfares, DSA etc.

A regional Early Childhood Workshop with the theme “**Supporting Learning from 0 – 8, Creating the Future**” is being supported by the Government of the Solomon Islands, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL), Pacific Regional Initiatives for the Delivery of Basic Education (PRIDE), UNESCO, UNICEF and SPBEA. This is aligned to the resolution of Ministers of Education for development partners to work together for the provision of quality education for the Pacific. **The workshop will be held from 26 – 30 March 2007 in Honiara, Solomon Islands**. The workshop venue is being organized by the Solomon Islands Government and representatives of the government will meet all the participants on arrival in Honiara and transfer them to their hotels.

The status quo in most of our countries in the Pacific is that while governments support the development work being done for this age group there is minimal government involvement and less coordination amongst government departments and NGOs working in the area. From the outset, the promotion of early childhood services have been mainly organized and coordinated by the NGOs. This workshop attempts to bring NGOs and Government officials together to discuss national, regional and global Early Childhood issues. Further, the aim is to solicit greater commitment in developing strategies for the enhancement of early childhood programmes and initiatives that will develop the Pacific Child to his/her full

potential. The workshop will bring together policy makers and NGO representatives who are active in the area of care, development and education of children from 0 – 8 years. The objectives of the workshop are:

1. Reconfirming the importance of 0 – 8 years olds' care, development and learning.
2. Getting government policy makers and stakeholders who work with children to making a commitment to develop vision, policy, curriculum guidelines/framework, appropriate learning environments and facilities for children 0-8 years of age.
3. Strengthening of national and regional networking amongst stakeholders who work with young children 0-8 years.
4. Sharing assessment techniques used for 0 -8 year old children.

The outcomes/outputs of the workshop will include:

- the publication of a book as part of PRIDE's Pacific Education Series arising from the presentations, discussions and resolutions,
- the development of follow-up strategies by each of the partners to support countries realize the commitments made at the workshop.

As far as possible each country will be invited to nominate one government and one NGO participant. The workshop organizers will provide airfares and DSAs [US\$100 per night for accommodation, meals, transfers and incidentals]. Please note block bookings for participants are being organized by the Solomon Islands Ministry of Education and participants are not to move to other accommodations. Accommodation costs will be deducted from DSAs.

The **government nominee** should be conversant with 0 – 8 year olds development and associated activities of their country. More importantly, the government participant should be a policy maker who is able to commit to working with NGOs in the promotion of quality services for children aged 0 – 8 years in your country. It is important that the right persons are nominated to attend this workshop so that EFA goal 1 related to this age group is addressed appropriately by the government and NGO representatives.

Please provide us with the name of your nominee to represent your Ministry/Department involved in the education of children from 0 – 8 years of age in your country. We would like the person's full name as it appears on his/her passport to expedite travel arrangements. This can either be faxed to Ms Roshni Mala on fax number (679) 3302898 or emailed to her at rmala@spbea.org.fj and to Ms Tosi Mata'utia on fax number (685) 26593/22253 or emailed to her at tosi@unesco.org.ws.

Government participants are asked to make a 5 minute presentation on the government's position with regards to the care, development and education of children aged 0 – 8 years. The NGOs are being asked to make a 5 minute presentation on their activities as well. Templates are provided for these purposes and participants are asked not to deviate from them. Attached are forms from UNESCO regarding data that we would like all participants to complete and bring to the workshop.

We look forward to having some fruitful discussions and sharing of ideas that should contribute immensely to the betterment of our children, the future of our region.

2. Matrix for use in DAY ONE – please use the appropriate one ie government or NGO

Please note ... you only need to fill in one of the two matrices attached. If you are the government representative then fill in that matrix but only for your country. Similarly if you are the NGO representative, you will fill in that Matrix but only for your country. You need to hand in your part of the matrix to the workshop secretariat during registration.

MATRIX FOR DAY ONE – GOVERNMENT SESSION (*Each GOVERNMENT country participant is expected to collect the following information and present them to the secretariat upon registration*)

Notes:

1. **Strategy and Operational Plans** – should have a ‘yes’ or ‘no’ for each of these plans with a very brief comment.
2. **Finances (Govt Budget, wages, resources, capital costs)** – this box should contain a comment to state where the finances come from and what the finances are used for. Averages amounts or rough percentages used for each would be useful to share with others.
3. **Early Childhood Development Issues (0 – 3 year olds) (What support services [e.g. public recreational centres, nursing and diaper changing facilities] are in place for these groups of children)** – Brief comments only.
4. **Organizational Issues (Teachers and their training; how are NGOs organized across the age group; how are centres organised)** – a phrase describing this should be entered here.
5. **What needs to be done by NGOs**

Country	Strategy Operational Plan (Yes/No – brief comments)	Finances (Govt Budget, wages, resources, capital costs)	Early Childhood Development Issues (0 – 3 year olds) (What support services [e.g. public recreational centres, nursing and diaper changing facilities in public] are in place for these groups of children)	Organizational Issues (Teachers and their training; how are NGOs organized across the age group; how are centres organized)	What needs to be done by Governments
Cook Islands					
Federated States of Micronesia					
Fiji					
Kiribati					
Marshall Islands					
Nauru					
Niue					
Palau					
Papua New Guinea					
Samoa					
Solomon Islands					
Tokelau					
Tonga Tuvalu					

MATRIX FOR DAY ONE – NGO SESSION [*For NGO participant*]

Notes:

- 6. **Strategy and Operational Plans** – should have a ‘yes’ or ‘no’ for each of these plans with a very brief comment.
- 7. **Finances (Govt Budget, wages, resources, capital costs)** – this box should contain a phrase to state where the finances come from and what the

Country	Strategy Operational Plan (Yes/No – brief comments)	Finances (Govt Budget, wages, resources, capital costs)	Early Childhood Development Issues (0 – 3 year olds) (What support services [are their public recreational centres, nursing and diaper changing places in public] are in place for these groups of children)	Organizational Issues (Teachers and their training; how are NGOs organized across the age group; how are centres organized)	What needs to be done by NGOs?
Cook Islands					
Federated States of Micronesia					
Fiji					
Kiribati					
Marshall Islands					
Nauru					
Niue					
Palau					
Papua New Guinea					
Samoa					
Solomon Islands					
Tokelau					
Tonga					
Tuvalu					
Vanuatu					

finances are used for. Averages amounts or rough percentages used for each would be useful to share with others.

8. **Early Childhood Development Issues (0 – 3 year olds) (What support services [e.g. public recreational centres, nursing and diaper changing facilities in public] are in place for these groups of children)** – Brief comments will be appropriate.
9. **Organizational Issues (Teachers and their training; how are NGOs organized across the age group; how are centres organised)** – a comment describing how the organization should be entered here.
10. **What needs to be done by NGOs -**

3. Template for country presentations for DAY ONE

See files ...

Presentation of Government – Day 1

Presentation of NGO – Day 1

4. Discussions in small groups – research proposal for funding via PRIDE – DAY TWO

Please prepare one topic for research that concerns the provision of education and care for 0 -8 years olds in your country. The research topic should be in the form of a question and be something doable and realistic. Please read the papers on http://www.spbea.org.fj/Ecce_Workshop.html related to research especially “participatory action research” ... this should give you an idea about the type of research activity that you should be focussing on.

5. Discussions on networking both at regional and national levels – DAY TWO

Given that NGOs are the major activists with regards to “education and care” for 0 – 8 year olds, the issue of national and regional networking needs to be discussed. Are the national/regional networking/links strong ... should they be strengthened, if so how can this be done?

6. Template for country presentations: current assessment approaches being used for 0 – 8 years olds - DAY THREE

In this session, there will be presentations by groups in small groups – participants will break up into country cluster groups. For example one group might consist of Samoa, Tonga, Cooks Islands and Tuvalu. Within that group – each group will make its country presentation (based on the template below). Then summaries of the main points will be presented in a plenary of all participants. Mrs Vasu Tuivaga will coordinate this session.

Presentation should be limited to discussions around the questions:

1. “What is the type of assessment used for 0 – 3 year olds?”
2. “What is the type of assessment used for 3 – 6 year olds?”
3. “What is the type of assessment used for 6 – 8 year olds?”

7. Structured group discussions on suggestions for assessment tools to be used for 0 - 8 year olds – DAY THREE

QUESTIONS FOR DAY 3, SESSION 2 [1.30 – 3.00 p.m.]

1. Discuss some of the reasons/purpose for evaluation/assessment in an early childhood setting
2. Describe the types of evaluation/assessment strategy that may occur in an early childhood setting.
3. What / Who do we evaluate/assess in the early childhood centre and why?
4. How does evaluation/assessment promote collaboration between children, teachers and families, and other professionals?
5. Who needs to know the results of evaluation/assessment carried out?

8. Discussions on language development for 0 – 8 year olds. - DAY FOUR

Will be distributed at the workshop.