INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Building Inclusive Communities for Children and Families (0-6 years)

23rd January 2019

9.00 Reception of participants

9.30 Play groups for inclusion (ABC), Clara Barata (ISOTIS, FPCEUC) & Joana Alexandre (ISCTE-Lisbon University)

The project Playgroups for Inclusion was an innovative educational policy for Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC), targeting children aged 0-4 and their families, not participating in the available ECEC services in Portugal. The project aimed to increase access to high-quality ECEC, providing play sessions to children and caregivers dyads.

Presentations of countries participating in the Erasmus+ Project

10.00 First Five: working together in the early years for all children, Orla Tuohy (Development Center, Tusla and Lifestart Foundation, Sligo), Ireland

Exploring current ways of working with families to improve outcomes and introducing the new Irish strategy for Early Learning and Care. This is a ‘whole of government approach’ which aims to build on our existing integrated supports for families in Ireland.

10.40 Morning break

11.00 From hard to reach families to easy to reach services, Gerda de Groot (GGD, Leiden Public Health Service) and Jolanda Borst (JES Rijnland), The Netherlands

How we locate vulnerable families and connect them to services and programmes that are important for them, such as ‘the playgroup’. A cooperation between the Centre for Children and Families and JES Rijnland.

11.40 Inclusive experiences in a Norwegian municipality, Morten Haaland (preschool leader) and Irene Solem Hansen (adviser in municipality’s preschool team), Fjell municipality, Norway

Use of the “Playful learning” model, learning through child directed play, in a preschool. Experiences from the implementation of the “Safe in our municipality” model to deal with antisocial behavior and bullying. Working to reduce child poverty in Fjell municipality.

12.20 Fathers and co-parents in programmes for families: How to promote their engagement? Catarina Leitão (ISOTIS – FPCEUC), Portugal

Mothers made up most of those enrolled in parental support programmes. However, fathers’ and co-parents’ involvement in children’s education can positively impact their development. This presentation aims to address promising practice to potentiate fathers’ and co-parents’ engagement in programmes for families.

12.50 Final discussion