3rd Asia-Pacific Regional Policy Forum on Early Childhood Care and Education

5-6 June 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal
• 48 Ministers, high-level officials from 28 countries in Asia and the Pacific, observers from key ECCE stakeholders

• Carries on the spirit of the Putrajaya Declaration adopted at the second policy forum in Putrajaya, Malaysia in July 2016

• 4 ministerial roundtable Sessions and 1 sub-regional group discussion
Ministerial Roundtable 1

- Regional synthesis of the Putrajaya Declaration Follow-up Reports by Korea Institute of Child Care and Education (KICCE)
  - Based on the 17 completed country survey, the report shared regional trends and progresses against 9 action agenda since the Putrajaya Declaration
  - Identified challenges, policy initiatives, and good practices in AP region

- Monitoring SDG 4.2 by UNESCO
  - Overall introduction to SDG 4.2 indicators and discuss challenges in monitoring those indicators
  - The results of pre-forum survey was shared

- Measuring Early Childhood Development in the SDGs by UNICEF
  - Specifically focus on indicator 4.2.1
  - Shared recent development on methodology/standards to monitor SDG 4.2.1
Day 1

Ministerial Roundtable 2

28 countries shared their
- Updates on ECCE status
- Challenges implementing and monitoring SDG 4.2
- Best practices in implementing and monitoring SDG 4.2
Day 2

Ministerial Roundtable 3

Based on the pre-forum survey and the Putrajaya Follow-up reports, five priority areas were identified and developed the Putrajaya +2: Regional Action Plan for advancing and monitoring SDG 4.2.

Sub-regional group discussion sessions

The delegates divided into five sub-regional groups (Central Asia, East Asia, Pacific, South Asia and Southeast Asia) to contextualize the action points by discussing priority action areas, timeframe and strategies to meet these actions.

Ministerial Roundtable 4

Shared outcomes from the sub-regional discussions and tentatively adopted the draft Kathmandu Statement for Action.
The delegates tentatively adopted the draft Kathmandu Statement for Action which includes 5 priority areas.

- Priority Area 1: Financing
- Priority Area 2: ECCE in Education Sector Planning
- Priority Area 3: Equity in access for all
- Priority Area 4: Quality Improvement
- Priority Area 5: Monitoring 4.2 Indicators
Kathmandu Statement for Action

Priority Area 1: Financing
• Commitment to gradual increase in financial investment
• Introduce and incorporate innovative financing policies and mechanisms
• Engage and promote pubic-private partnerships
• Build an effective accountability system

Priority Area 2: ECCE in Education Sector Planning
• Integrate pre-primary level into the Education Sector Plan (ESP)
• Build or strengthen governance and accountability mechanism for ECD/ECCE
• Institute measures to develop inclusive, responsive and resilient ECCE system
Priority Area 3: Equity in access for all

• Guarantee the provision of at least one year, but ideally two years, of free and compulsory quality pre-primary education
• Implement targeted interventions for marginalized children

Priority Area 4: Quality Improvement

• Ensure that the provision of at least one year of free and compulsory quality pre-primary education is delivered by well-trained educators and through developmentally appropriate quality curriculum and learning materials
• Develop and devise clear policies, strategies and action plans for the professionalization of ECCE personnel
• Develop culturally- and linguistically-appropriate and gender-sensitive/responsive curriculum
• Promote collaboration with primary education, especially with early grade teachers, to ensure the smooth transition of children
Kathmandu Statement for Action

Priority Area 5: Monitoring 4.2 Indicators

• Develop comprehensive national monitoring and evaluation systems

• Build capacity in data collection, analysis and reporting at the country level by
  • Strengthening multi-sectoral approach
  • Improving the quality and levels of disaggregation of data and ensuring that indicators measure progress towards reducing inequality

• Strengthen the role of the education sector to lead the coordination
Based on the comments and inputs received during the 3\textsuperscript{rd} policy forum on ECCE, the forum secretariat will revise and finalize the \textit{Kathmandu Statement for Action} for member states’ review and final endorsement.

After the endorsement, the forum secretariat will share the meeting proceedings and the final Kathmandu Statement of Action with a wide public.
Thank you!