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Project number: 
Insert

Title: 
Scaling up Quality Early Childhood Development Services (0 – 4 years), Presentation made to ECD Indaba, 04th June 2009

Authors: 
Motale, Shirin

Suggested keywords: 
ECD (Early Childhood Devepmnt); NIP (National Integrated Plan); social grants;

Select output type from the list below: (delete inappropriate options)

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- Education Assessment Instruments
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- Pamphlet (published)
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Abstract (add a descriptive paragraph of Output):

HSRC RESEARCH OUTPUTS
6148
4th June 2009
Presentation to ECD INDBABA

Early Childhood Development

Scaling up Quality

Services (0 - 4 years)
Unemployment

The unit I work for focuses on poverty and

unemployment question or not.

evidence of whether something is working

It does this by doing research which gives

lives of South Africans

policies and programs to improve the
government on how to develop better

HSRC?

It is a body set up by parliament to guide
The number of people who can get jobs working in ECD

- They asked HSRC to help them plan for how to increase the number of children who were benefiting from ECD and
- 1 in 4 children in SA at 1-3 years is stunted
- < 57 of 1000 children die before they are 5 years.

- Children – especially the young child 0-4 years:
  They were worried because of what is happening to our
  children.

From 2004 government has begun to realize the
importance of ECD for young children.

President Mbeki

(2008) and President Zuma (2009)

They were worried because of what is happening to our
children.

They have a better chance in life
understanding that if children get good ECD services they
mothers and community leaders did? But now they are
work by government. They thought ECD was just work that
for a long time ECD was not considered very important

Why we have a project on Scaling

UP ECD?
Job creation and ECD

- Government has been trying since 2004 to create jobs in SA
- Big problem: SA has one of the highest unemployment rates in the world with over 5 million people unemployed.
- Government saw that ECD work could provide jobs for a large number of people.
- What was good about ECD jobs is that it provided jobs for women, many of whom have had little chance for training and education.
What do we mean by Early Childhood Development (ECD) Services?

- It goes beyond creches, day care centres and preschools.
- It includes all services for children 0-4 years including health care, nutrition, social development, mental development, access to social grants, programmes such as child minding, home visiting, parent education, play, projects, cognitive development, health programmes, etc.
What do we mean to scale up ECD?

Services

- Improve the quality and sustainability of ECD

Children 0-4 can get

- Increase the different types of services benefiting from ECD

- Increase the numbers of children who are ECD
What we did?

- We started in 2007 with lots of research on all aspects of ECD.
- In 2008 the research was completed.
- We found out what is happening to young children.
- We found out what government is doing or not doing.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Early Childhood Development policy and child profile (0-4 year olds) in South Africa; a summary of policies and services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Review of current Early Childhood Development service delivery in South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 2.1 Government indicators and monitoring systems review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 2.2 Review of education and training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 2.3 Review of the ground delivery models (local case studies)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 2.4 Government budget allocations, processes and systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Innovations to inform improved Early Childhood Development outcomes, scaling and job creation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 3.1 Specification of child and caregiver outcomes and measures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 3.2 Identification of inputs likely to lead to agreed levels of quality of ECD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 3.3 Review of existing and proposed job hierarchies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 3.4 Review of alternative on the ground delivery and supervisory models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 3.5 International case studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Defining approach to innovating in the field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Integrated finding of background studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECD centre costing case studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results that can help us to change for the better

Research?

What we found from our
Laws and Policies

- SA has good laws and policies about ECD

But we face many challenges in implementing these and so on.

- We have the NIP: National Integrated Plan for ECD made in 2006. It says that children need a package of services, including nutrition, grants, immunization, birth registration, stimulation, play, learning etc.

- They should get this through the home, in the community and in centres (creches, preschools etc).

- What is wrong is that the government departments are not linking their work together properly to benefit children. One example is the Grants. If you get a grant, schools expect you to use this money to pay school fees. But this grant is not for school fees.
Meet our Targets

- There are 5.2 million children aged 0-4 years in SA
- National Integrated Plan (NIP) for Early Childhood Development in SA 2005 - 2010 aims to reach 2.6 million poor and vulnerable children by 2010:
  - 20% children reached through formal sites (e.g. creches, ECD centres etc.)
  - 30% children reached through community-based programmes (e.g. IEC, Grants, PMTCT, playgroups etc.)
  - 50% children reached through services directly targeting the household (e.g. birth registration, protection, hygiene, psychosocial care and support etc.)
Targets vs capacity

- We are only reaching 600,000 children through centre-based care at present.
- 0-4 year child population is 5.2 million.
- This means only a fraction of poor & vulnerable children reached, limiting impact on future participation.
- If we want to reach more children we have to increase our capacity at all levels.
The community - people are too poor.
We found poor communities struggle to do fundraising.
Many parents cannot afford to send children to preschools.
Running the centre:
Subsidy from government does not cover the cost.
Our study of ECD centres in the WC showed that the fundraising - community, donors, in-kind contributions.
Child in urban areas:
Range from R 50 or less in poor communities to R90 - R120 per.
Fees paid by parents:
ECD (0-4) subsidy from Dept of Social Development sources:
Funding to run ECD services comes from a variety of.
Funding, cont.

- Money available from government for ECD does not cover start up costs or infrastructure costs, but you need this to register for a subsidy.
- Not all the money that is given to ECD from Pretoria is used for ECD by Provincial Government.
- Money for ECD is mainly for Centre based work.
- Not enough money being spent by government on ECD – this means that only a small number of poor children are benefitting.
- No clarity on who should be providing money for buildings etc.
Limited reach of government funding for ECD centers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Children subsidised (N)</th>
<th>% poor children subsidised</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>59,940</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS</td>
<td>28,558</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>21,117</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KZN</td>
<td>59,000</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>56,223</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPA</td>
<td>35,095</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC</td>
<td>12,600</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>15,165</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WC</td>
<td>44,855</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSA</td>
<td>332,353</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Children to Practitioner Ratios

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latest N&amp;S Practitioner to Child Ratios</th>
<th>1:6</th>
<th>1:12</th>
<th>1:20</th>
<th>1:20</th>
<th>1:30</th>
<th>One assistant per practitioner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 18 months</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 months to 3 years</td>
<td>1:20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 to 4</td>
<td>1:20</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 to 5</td>
<td>1:30</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Carers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Education and Training for ECD

- Financial management skills also can't get donations easily
- Our research found that centres that don't have good after money
  safety issues, how to stimulate children and how to look
  ECD centres need training in how to look after children
  workers
- Problem is that children 0-4 years also need good trained,
  because you can get better paid,
  and work for the centres - many become Grade R teachers
  So after training is finished people don't want to come back.
- The centres is much lower
  government from R 1000 to R 3000. But the earnings at
  when you go for EPWP training you get a stipend from
  it needs to be expanded so more people can benefit.
- Programmes - no fees is paid.
  Most of the training of ECD workers is from the EPWP
  We don't have enough trained ECD workers.
Work conditions in ECD

• Poor working conditions for ECD workers
• Low pay, no benefits
• Money from government does not always come regularly
• Salary depends on money received for the month
Improving Quality of ECD Services

- Goal of ECD 0-4 programme = child development
- Possible to spend billions without having this impact

POOR Quality ECD Centres can Cause Damage
Lessons on Quality ECD

- Key learnings from evaluated programmes globally suggest that quality interventions require:
  - Begin early even in pregnancy - starting with 3 and 4 year olds is too late
  - Integration of health, nutrition, education, social and economic development and care in ECD programmes
  - Collaboration between government and civil society organisations
  - Lower child to caregiver ratios and smaller group sizes for younger children.
  - Staff who are appropriately trained, receive ongoing in-service training and supportive and continuous supervision.
  - Involvement of parents as partners with ECD practitioners
  - Combined package of multiple interventions (birth registration, supplementary food, social grants, parent education etc.) and ECD centres
  - Substantial investment of resources required both for training and for payment of salaries for ECD practitioners.
Helping to improve their services to ECD

Thembane to help them.

We are working with local government –

Learning and through FET colleges.

Increase training for ECD – through

Job opportunities in ECD

We are working with EPWP to increase

Money for playgroups, home visits, etc.

Money for non centre based services etc.

We are helping D05D to look at increasing

What is HSRC doing now?
Training to supervise ECD programs
Training on managing money
Infrastructure grant (MIG)
Infrastructure through the Municipal
ten government to allocate funding for
Training
Increase number of people who get
Increase money for ECD programs
Increase subsidy per child
Increase subsidy government

We need to demand the following from

What needs to be done?
What can ECD centres do?

- Integrate your programmes to include other aspects of a child's development
- Supervise the workers to ensure that they provide quality care
- Monitor what you do? We can learn from our mistakes
- Use your centres to focus on the 0-4 years who are not in the centres
- Make sure that ECD is a top priority in the Municipal IDP