

ECD: The Foundation for Sustainable Development

Louise Zimanyi, The Consultative Group on ECCD
Road to Melbourne, February 26, 2014



Where is ECD on the Post-2015/SDG agenda?

- ❑ Young children need to be on the agenda in a more central and visible way - no voice!
- ❑ This despite ongoing and various efforts to advocate for ECD, illuminate entry points, suggest targets and indicators in key areas and as a strategy to reducing inter-generational poverty and inequality (ecdgroup.com)
- ❑ Current identified priority areas, proposed goals and targets* do not reflect the compelling evidence base and broad-based rationale for urgently and comprehensively addressing healthy child development and what policies and programs should be in place
- ❑ The 2010 UN Sec Gen Report and Resolution on implementing rights in early childhood is not reflected

*UN HLP Panel Report, UN SDSN report , Open Working Group priorities paper



- ❑ **GOAL:** Ensure all children (0-8) get the best start in life and develop to their potential

- ❑ **3 targets and related indicators** to: ensure healthy child development, support for parents and caregivers and access to quality ECD programs and services

- Solves a critical issue – strong impact on sustainable development
- Compelling message that energizes people, companies (?) and governments
- Easy to understand and communicate without jargon
- Measurable using credible international comparable metrics
- Widely applicable
- Voice of the people
- Consensus based
- Starts with a verb/action



Next Steps/Opportunities

- ✓ Revised technical paper on ECD
- ✓ Updated advocacy strategy
- ✓ Lobbying member states for champions as goals, targets and indicators are debated during OWG process
- ✓ Presentation of petition to UN Sec. General, June 2014
- ✓ Breakfast of champions at UN General Assembly, September 2014



YOUR HOMEWORK!!

- ✓ [SIGN THE PETITION by UK MP Tessa Jowell – 10,000 signatures needed](#) asking Ban Ki Moon to put ECD at the heart of Post 2015 – 5,000 collected to date!
- ✓ Please send your input to include in the background note of the High-Level Event of the General Assembly [“The Contributions of Women, the Young and Civil Society to the Post-2015 Development Agenda”](#)

What provisions, policies and measures could most effectively address the high levels of child poverty which are prevalent across many regions and the specific impact of inequalities on children’s survival, growth and development from earliest years of life, in the context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda?

How can the voices, views, priorities and best interests of children, including adolescents and children from the most marginalized groups, be systematically and fully taken into account in the design and implementation by Member States of the new Development Agenda?

