



International Conference Early Childhood Education and Care

The Power of Play: The Central Pillar of Quality Early Childhood Education and Care



საერთაშორისო კონფერენცია
გათავისუფლები განათლება და ზოგვა

თამაში: სარისხო ასრული განათლებისა და ზოგვის საცდებელი



Second International Conference on Early Childhood Education and Care 2023

The Power of Play: The Central Pillar of Quality Early Childhood Education and Care

8-9 June 2023

Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University, Batumi, Georgia

Agenda

June 8

9:00 – 9:30 9:30 – 10:30 Main Hall	Registration Opening Remarks	Tamar Makharashvili - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia Davit Gabaidze - Chairman of the Supreme Council of Autonomous Republic of Adjara Maia Khajishvili - Minister of Education, Culture and Sport of Adjara Archil Chikovani – Mayor of Batumi Genrieta Tsitsava -Member of Education and Science Committee of Parliament of Georgia Sophie Kiladze - Vice-Chair, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child Nino Lortkipanidze – OIC Deputy Representative of UNICEF Georgia (Opening and Moderation) Philippe Cori - Regional Director OIC of UNICEF Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia Masahiro Kato – JICA ECE Policy advisor to the Ministry of Education and science of Georgia Merab Khalvashi –Rector of Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University
10:30-10:45 Main Hall	Keynote Speech	Bo Stjerne Thomson – Vice-President and Chief of Learning through Play, the Lego Foundation
10:45 – 12:00 Main Hall	Plenary Session 1 - Enabling Environment for Play: National and International perspectives (Panel Discussion)	Tamar Siradze – Vice Rector of Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University (Moderator) Eka Lezhava – Deputy Head of Preschool and General Education Development Department of Ministry of Education and Science Berika Shukakidze – Head of National Center for Teacher Professional Development Kakhaber Lazarashvili – Rector of East European University Debbie Jack - Health Education Department, Middlesex University Nicky Spawls (Online) - Deputy Head of Education Department (Early Years Education)



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თამაში: სართულებით ამონტელი განათლებისა და ზრუნვის საცდებელი



Nancy Fray (Online) – Professor of San Diego State University

12:00 – 13:00

13:00 – 14:30

Main Hall

Lunch

Plenary Session 2 – Play: Theory and Practice (Presentations)

Nino Pruidze – Education Officer, UNICEF Georgia Country Office (Moderator)

Tamar Gagoshidze – Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili State University

„Play and Neuroplasticity“

Nino Jijavadze – Consultant of National Center for Teacher Professional Development

Tamar Saghinadze – Consultant of National Center for Teacher Professional Development

“Piloting of Early Childhood Education Curriculum ‘Play’”

Ayşe Kapukaya, – Education Officer, UNICEF Türkiye Country Office,

İşıl Kırın – Ministry of National Education **Gülçihan Çevik** – Ministry of National Education

“The Colors of Play: Learning Through Play”

Suna Hanoz-Penney - Director of International Programs and Partnerships, ACEV/ The Mother Child Education Foundation

“Lessons Learned from a Promising Accelerated Early Childhood Model: Proven Across Geographies”

Bo Stjerne Thomson – Vice-President and Chief of Learning through Play, the Lego Foundation

1.1. Observation, Documentation and Assessment of Play – Moderator: Nani Mamuladze

1.2. Competencies for Promoting Play-based Learning – Moderator: Lia Kurtsikidze

1.3. Play for All - Moderator: Mariam Khvadagiani

1.4. Diverse Play – Moderator: Nino Gurgenidze

14:45 – 16:15

Parallel Sessions 1

16:15 – 16:45

16:45 – 18:15

Main Hall

Coffee

Plenary Session 3 – Municipal governance - existing practices and alternative solutions (Presentations)

Tamar Toloria – Head of Preschool education division, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia (Moderator)

Tea Dzotsenidze – Project Coordinator, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia “Strengthening Municipal Capacities in Implementation of Law on Early and Preschool Education and Care and National Standards”

Nino Tsintsadze – Director of Child Development Institute at Ilia State University, “Inclusiveness and Improved Access”



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BATUMI 2023



ბათუმი 2023



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19:00 – 20:30

Webinar – Importance of diversified early childhood education services for well-being of children, their parents and communities

Tamar Saghinadze – Consultant of National Center for Teacher Professional Development, “Supporting Early Inclusive Education in Municipalities”

Giorgi Meskhidze – Director, Civitas Georgica
“Georgian Perspectives for Alternative and Innovative Approaches in Preschool Education”

Vidur Chopra - Early Childhood Development Specialist
- Regional Advisor, UNICEF Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia

Tamar Toloria – Head of Preschool education division, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia
(Moderator)

Ana Janelidze – Early Childhood Development Specialist at UNICEF Czech Republic

Tamar Tchkonia – Early Childhood Education Component Lead of Georgia Innovation, Inclusion and Quality Project, World Bank, Ministry of Education and Science,

Lela Chakhaia – Early Childhood Development and Monitoring and Evaluation consultant, UNICEF Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia



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June 9

9:00 – 9:30	Registration	
9:30 – 11:00 Main Hall	Plenary session 4 - Enabling Environment for Play: Policy implementation	Masahiro Kato - JICA ECE Policy advisor to the Ministry of Education and science of Georgia (Moderator) Nino Khitarishvili – Head of Early and Preschool Education and Care Quality Assurance Department at National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement “Authorization standards as a tool for promotion and implementation of play-based learning” Tamar Tchkonia – Early Childhood Education Component Lead of Georgia Innovation, Inclusion and Quality Project, World Bank, Ministry of Education and Science, Nancy Frey - Professor of San Diego State University „ <i>Improving Early Childhood Education (ECE) Institution Management System and Enhancing the Quality of Programs across the Country</i> “ Shinichiro Tanaka - Senior Education Advisor, JICA Headquarters The “Course of Study” for Learning through Play in Japan
11:00 – 12:30 Main Hall	Plenary Session 5 – Parents and Play	Lela Turmanidze – Dean of Faculty of Exact Sciences and Education of Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University (Moderator) Sanja Budisavljevic - Early Childhood Development Specialist of UNICEF Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia Lia Kurtsikidze – ECE Specialist at Ilia State University “2–5-Year-Old Children’s Social and Emotional Competencies” Maia Nasrashvili – Project Coordinator, Civitas Georgica “Left Behind Children Inclusive Participation in Preschool Education Institutions” Nino Margvelashvili – Founder, Kaikona “Let's Try On Playfulness” Suna Hanoz-Penney - Director of International Programs and Partnerships ACEV/ The Mother Child Education Foundation “Gender Transformative Parenting: The Father Support Program” Mihaela Ionescu (Online) – Program Director, International Step by Step Association “Are parent involvement and parenting support optional in a quality ECEC system?”
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	



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13:30 – 15:00

Parallel sessions 2

- 2.1. **Supporting Parents** – Moderator: Natia Revazishvili
- 2.2. **Let's Play Differently** - Alternative Education – Moderator: Tamar Toloraia
- 2.3. **Play in Preschool Institutions** – Moderator: Nana Makaradze
- 2.4. **Academic Discussion about Play** – Moderator: Iago Balanchivadze

15:00 - 16:00

Coffee

16:00 – 17:30

Parallel sessions 3

- 3.1. **Let's Play Everywhere and with Everything** – Moderator: Tamta Kukhaleishvili
- 3.2. **Outdoor Play** – Moderator: Lela Tavdgiridze
- 3.3. **Practitioners and Play** – Moderator: Tamar Saginadze
- 3.4. **Supportive Play** – Moderator: Ana Lagidze

17:30 – 18:00

Main Hall

Summary and closing

Tamar Makharashvili – Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Georgia
Nino Lortkipanidze – OIC Deputy Representative of UNICEF Georgia
David Batsikadze – Chairperson of Committee on Education, Culture and Sports of Adjara Supreme Council
Merab Khalvashi – Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University Rector
Masahiro Kato – JICA ECE Policy advisor to the Ministry of Education and science of Georgia
Maia Khajishvili - Minister of Education, Culture and Sport of Adjara

18:00 – 19:30

Reception