Concept Note

Background

In response to the widespread recognition of the importance of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and the lack of robust and comprehensive Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) teacher training curricula on SEL in the Asia-Pacific region, UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education (UNESCO Bangkok) with the financial support of the Japanese Funds-in-Trust (JFIT) and in partnership with The Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC), have developed the Asia-Pacific ECCE Teacher Training Handbook for Social and Emotional Learning (APETT SEL). This directly responds to the need for contextually relevant and culturally sensitive SEL programming for the Asia-Pacific region, with appropriate teacher training provisions for teachers to effectively deliver SEL in their own environment.

The Handbook is part of the project on ‘Empowering ECCE Teachers with a Transformative Vision of Education’ project, which aims to empower ECCE teachers to assume active roles in promoting positive social behaviors through social and emotional learning. It is also part of the on-going advocacy and technical assistance effort of UNESCO Bangkok, to strengthen the capacities of education stakeholders in promoting the equity and quality of ECCE across the Asia-Pacific Region.

Delivery of the SEL curriculum is important not only for the content of the curriculum, but in the methodology of how the curriculum is shared with young children. Teachers are a significant driving force in accelerating SEL programs and practices in learning environments. Teacher’s own social-emotional competence and wellbeing have a strong influence on their students. Classrooms with warm teacher-child relationships support deep learning and positive social and emotional development among students. Therefore, it is important, more so now than ever in the post-COVID-19 pandemic recovery, to prepare teachers to create and maximize opportunities for children’s SEL in the classrooms. This regional Handbook including 10 comprehensive teacher training modules addresses these issues and aim to assist Member States to equip their ECCE teachers with knowledge and skills to ensure that children develop pro-social and emotional skills and positive peer relationships from early stage of learning process, particularly in enhancing (1) knowledge about student SEL and classroom management; (2) strategies to apply in the classroom; and (3) teacher’s own social and emotional competence.

The Handbook has been field tested in four countries in the region, namely, Cambodia, Fiji, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam.

This side event “Transformative ECCE Through Social and Emotional Learning” serves as a launch of the Asia-Pacific ECCE Teacher Training Handbook for Social and Emotional Learning (APETT SEL). UNESCO Bangkok, in partnership with ARNEC, will take the opportunity to launch this Asia-Pacific ECCE Teacher Training Handbook for Social and Emotional Learning, highlighting its key contents and discuss main issues in relation to SEL in ECCE at the global level.
Objectives

The objectives of the launch event are to:

- To officially launch the Asia-Pacific ECCE Teacher Training Handbook for Social and Emotional Learning (APETT SEL) and showcase key contents
- To raise awareness of the importance of SEL to a wide range of ECCE stakeholders

Target Audience

The launch will be hosted by UNESCO Bangkok in partnership with ARNEC and will seek the participation diverse stakeholders involved in ECCE including:

- Member State delegation officials from ministries in charge of ECCE
- The pre-service and in-service early childhood educators and workforce
- State or private universities and teacher training institutes
- INGOs/NGOs for training their ECCE workforce
- Leaders from early childhood education agencies, including principals, teacher leaders, teacher association representatives

Working Language

Proceedings will be in English.

Dates and Format

Date: 14 November 2022
Time: 17.30 – 18.30 Tashkent time (GMT+5)
Duration: 60 minutes
Room: F, Tashkent City Congress Hall
Format: In-person as a side event of the WCECCE

Registration

Registration is free and required in advance.

[In-person only] Kindly register at: https://forms.gle/H6j55aAuu9rgrPAfA

For more Information

Please contact: Kyungah Bang, UNESCO Bangkok at k.bang@unesco.org

Facilitator: Catherine Wilczek, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education

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| 17:30 – 17:35 | Opening remarks  
- Shigeru Aoyagi, Director, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education |
| 17:35 – 17:45 | Why SEL is important for ECCE teachers post COVID-19 (10 min)  
- Marc de Rosnay, Professor, University of Wollongong (UoW) - Early Start Australia |
| 17:45 – 18:20 | Presentation of Handbook (10 min)                                                |
Kyungah Kristy Bang, Programme Officer, Section for Inclusive Quality Education (IQE), UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education

**Moderated discussion: Sharing country experiences in piloting SEL Handbook**

**Moderator:** Evelyn Santiago, ARNEC (25 min)

- Chhon Chheang, Chief of preschool office of Early Childhood Education Department, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia
- Anjeela Jokhan, Permanent Secretary for Education, Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts, Fiji Islands
- Sarah Vurobaravu Liki, National ECCE Coordinator, Education Services, Ministry of Education, Vanuatu
- Bui Thi Lam, Associate Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Early Childhood Education, Hanoi National University of Education (HNUE), Viet Nam

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<td>18:20 – 18:25</td>
<td>Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>18:25 – 18:30</td>
<td>Wrap-up and closing remarks</td>
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<td>- Margarete Sachs-Israel, Chief, Section for Inclusive Quality Education, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education</td>
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