

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

FORUM ON INVESTING IN YOUNG CHILDREN GLOBALLY (IYCG)
WORKSHOP #8

**MOVING FROM EVIDENCE TO IMPLEMENTATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS:
STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Held in partnership with the Fraser Mustard Institute for Human Development,
Grand Challenges Canada, and the SickKids Centre for Global Child Health

Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning
686 Bay Street, Toronto, ON, M5G 0A4
June 23, 2016

Many discussions on early childhood focus on small or model programs that are showing promising results. Less attention is paid to how to scale up those programs to serve much larger populations. However a program that serves 100 children is vastly different from one that can serve 100,000 children reliably over time. Using research on what works to reach whole populations requires understanding the challenges of implementation to scale and applying the best knowledge to help ensure effective service delivery to large populations over many years.

Similarly, many discussions on early childhood focus on the supply side of the equation – the design of optimal programs, effective curriculum, appropriate workforce training, etc. Far less attention has been paid to the demand side of this equation – how to build public will and motivate policy- and decision-makers to scale up proven programs to reach large numbers of children; how to maintain funding for those programs over time; as well as continuous quality improvement to ensure that large-scale services are indeed having the effect that was expected based on the smaller programs.

Therefore, the two focus areas for this workshop are: 1) the science of implementing programs and practices that improve outcomes for children birth to age 8 at scale; and 2) how to translate evidence to action among policymakers and the public to finance and support large scale implementation of these programs, practices, and policies.

Planning Committee

Zulfiqar Bhutta, SickKids Toronto

Vesna Kutlesic, *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Albert Lee, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Stephen Lye, Fraser Mustard Institute for Human Development

Dominique McMahon, Grand Challenges Canada

Alan Pence, University of Victoria

Beverly Pringle, National Institute of Mental Health

Eduardo Queiroz, Fundação Maria Cecília Souto Vidigal

Karlee Silver, Grand Challenges Canada

Lorraine Sherr, University College London

Sara Watson, ReadyNation



Grand Challenges Canada®
Grands Défis Canada

SickKids®

Centre for
Global Child Health



Thursday, June 23

PUBLIC SESSION

Event Room 2a/2b

8:00-8:30 Breakfast and registration

8:30-9:00 Welcome Remarks

- **Kimber Bogard**, Director, iYCG Forum
- **Karlee Silver**, Vice President – Programs, Grand Challenges Canada
- **Stephen Lye**, Executive Director, Fraser Mustard Institute for Human Development
- **Ann Masten and Zulfiqar Bhutta**, co-chairs, iYCG Forum
 - Overview of iYCG
 - Remarks on themes from *Lancet* ECD series
 - Remarks on *Beyond Survival* paper
- **Joan Lombardi**, Senior Advisor, Bernard van Leer Foundation
 - Remarks on new *Early Childhood Matters* issue

9:00-10:00 Keynote Session

Moderator: Dominique McMahon, Program Officer – Targeted Programs, Grand Challenges Canada

- **Jeremy Shiffman**, Professor, School of Public Affairs, American University
 - Generating global political priority for early childhood development: challenges and opportunities
- **Suzanne Stewart**, Associate Professor of Indigenous Healing in Counseling Psychology, University of Toronto
 - Implementing programs to promote the wellbeing of indigenous populations in Canada

10:00-11:15 **Session 1: Implementation Science: methodology, measurement, and sustaining impact**

Objectives: This session will focus on the methods that influence the integration of evidence-based interventions into practice settings in populations.

Moderator: Zulfiqar Bhutta, Founding Director, Centre of Excellence in Women and Child Health, Aga Khan University and Robert Harding Inaugural Chair in Global Child Health, The Hospital for Sick Children

- **Melanie Barwick**, Head – Child and Youth Mental Health Research Unit, SickKids
- **Mark Tomlinson**, Professor, Stellenbosch University
- **Radley (Chris) Sheldrick**, Research Associate Professor, Tufts Medical Center

11:15-11:45 Break

11:45-1:00 Session 2: Taking research to scale

Objectives: Hear from case examples to address the following questions: What were some methodological challenges to scaling? Who were key players to making it work? What were the unique opportunities in your context/situation that facilitated scaling or barred scaling? Did the model change at scale? Did you maintain impact? What were the workforce issues? How did the cultural context affect scaling?

Moderator: Stephen Lye, Executive Director, Fraser Mustard Institute for Human Development

- **Sonia Sharma**, Senior Manager – Construction Sites Day Care and Direct Delivery, Mobile Creches
- **Gisela Álvarez Valdés**, Assistant Professor, Julián Grimau University Polyclinic, University of Medical Sciences of Havana
- **Susan Walker**, Professor of Nutrition and Director – Tropical Medicine Research Institute, The University of the West Indies

1:00-2:00 Lunch (*Event Room 3a/3b*)

2:00-2:20 *The Beginning of Life* (*screening of 12-minute video*)

- **Eduardo Queiroz**, Executive Director, Fundação Maria Cecília Souto Vidigal

2:20-3:30 Session 3: The role of research in policy decision-making

Objectives: Explore questions such as: What are best buys for policymakers? What kind of research moves policy to action? What is the most effective way for researchers to convey their knowledge to policymakers, and how can policymakers convey the urgent questions they want researchers to answer? What are some barriers that prevent decision-makers from implementing programs based on good science?

Moderator: Karlee Silver, Vice President – Programs, Grand Challenges Canada

- **Nathalie Charpak**, Director, Kangaroo Foundation
- **Martina Baye**, Coordinator – National Multisectoral Program for Combating Maternal, Newborn & Child Mortality, Ministry of Public Health Cameroon
- **Leonid Lecca**, Executive Director, Socios en Salud
- **Rafael Álvarez**, Mayor, Carabayllo, Peru

3:30-4:00 Break

4:00-5:15 **Session 4: How to translate evidence to action among policymakers and the public**

Objectives: Identify successful strategies for motivating policymakers and the public to take action. Particular attention will be paid to the costs and economic return on investment; making the child development case using science; and the role of messaging and communications. Specifically, speakers will consider varying effective messages such as: the importance of early childhood investments for the current workforce, future workforce, personal well-being, civic life, and better use of government expenditures.

Moderator: Eduardo Queiroz, Executive Director, Fundação Maria Cecília Souto Vidigal

- **Günther Fink**, Associate Professor of International Health Economics, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- **Sara Watson**, Global Director, ReadyNation
- **Jane Bertrand**, Program Director, Margaret and Wallace McCain Family Foundation
- **Michelle Gagnon**, President, Palix Foundation

5:15 **Closing remarks**

- **Zulfiqar Bhutta**, Founding Director, Centre of Excellence in Women and Child Health, Aga Khan University and Robert Harding Inaugural Chair in Global Child Health, The Hospital for Sick Children
- **Karlee Silver**, Vice President – Programs, Grand Challenges Canada
- **Stephen Lye**, Executive Director, Fraser Mustard Institute for Human Development

5:30 **Adjourn**