

# Themes of social justice for young children in applied research

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**A K D N**

AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

**SECD**  
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**Science of Early Child Development**



**Part 1: SECD International Activities Overview – Janet Jamieson**  
**Part 2: Experiences in Kenya and Tanzania – Susan Wamithi-Gitau**  
**Part 3: Experiences in Bangladesh – Rabeya Hossain**

# Post 2015 Global Agenda

As of September 2015, World Leaders have committed to 17 Global Goals to achieve 3 extraordinary things in the next 15 years:

1. End extreme poverty.
2. Fight inequality & injustice.
3. Fix climate change.

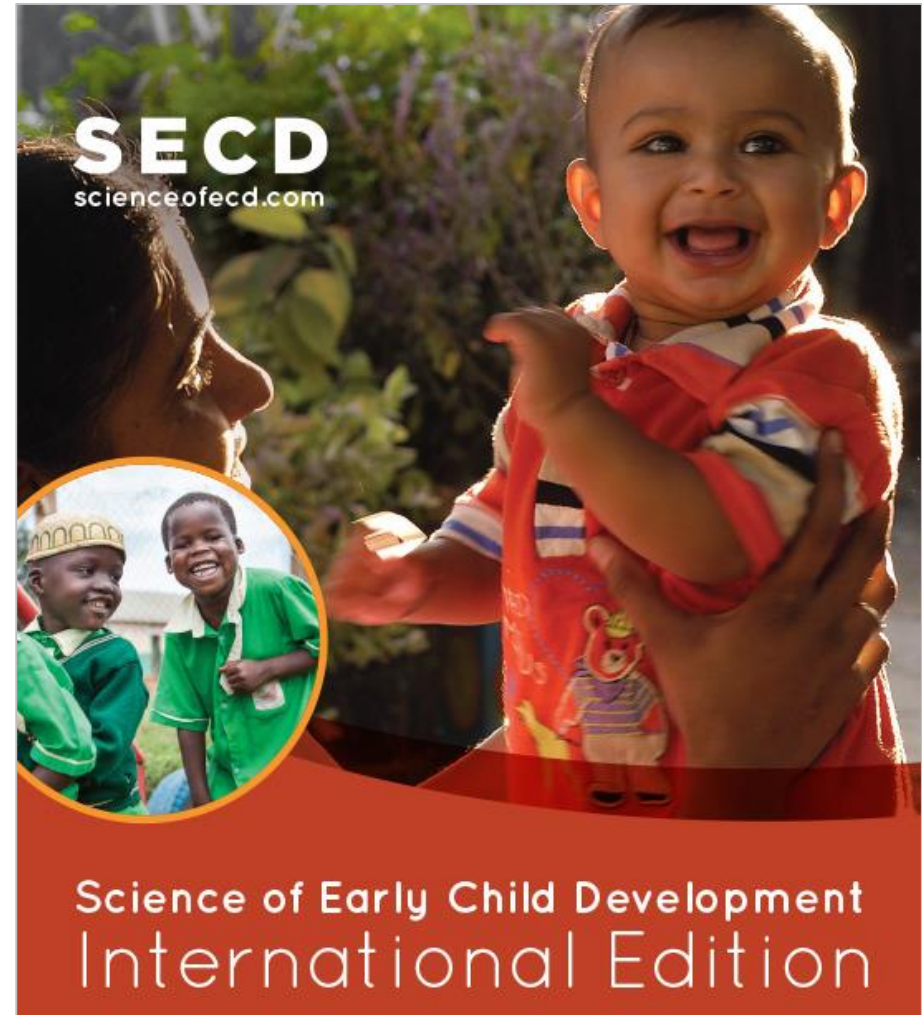
# Post 2015 Global Agenda – 17 Goals

## Goal # 4 Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education  
And promote lifelong learning opportunities for  
all.

**Target 4.2: By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education**

# Knowledge translation and mobilization – Narrowing the gap between research and practice



# Key messages

- Compelling evidence
- A sensitive brain
- Experience gets under the skin
- The value of play
- Supporting resilience
- The economic argument
- The earlier the better



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View a complete list of pages in the SECD - *North American Edition*.



#### Brain Development

Discover how the interplay of genes and early environments shape children's development and influence them throughout life.



#### Coping and Competence

Explore key concepts such as self-regulation and resilience. Crying, temperament, fear, stress and aggression are all studied within the focus of caring relationships.



#### Communicating and Learning

Understand how children think and learn. Delve into exciting research on infant memory, early language development and the importance of play in learning.



#### The Ecology of Childhood

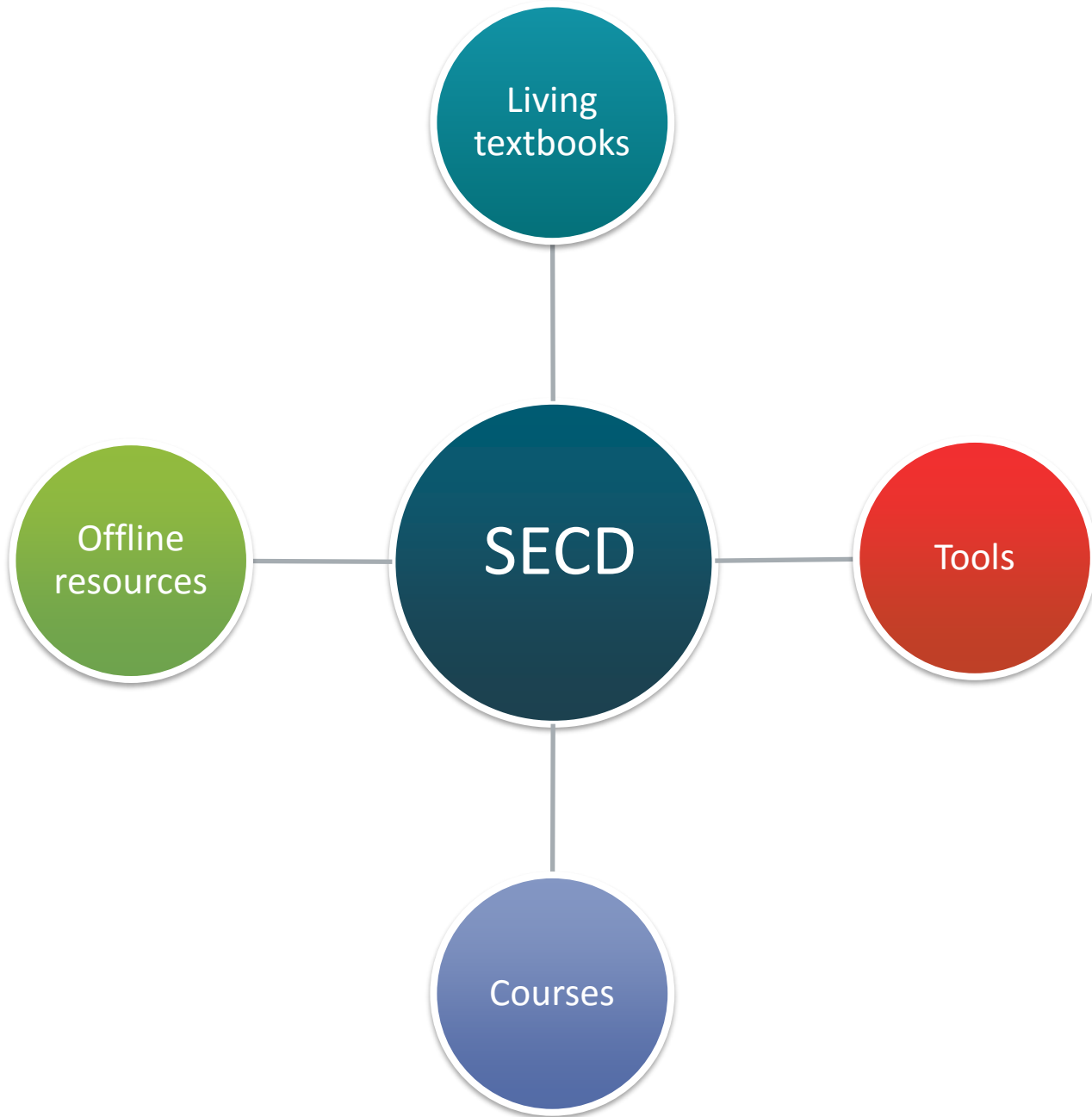
Examine the contexts of children's experiences around the world. Consider children's rights and what makes communities child-friendly.



#### Developmental Health

Gain insight into why early years have such a long-term impact on both individuals and societies; learn how to use this information to advocate for children and families.







Living textbooks

SECD

Tools

Courses

Offline resources

North American Edition

North American Introductory Edition

International Edition

International Introductory Edition

Prenatal Module

Child Development Primer

Resource Kit

Seminar Series

eMessage

Blog

Introduction to SECD online course Red River College

Joint SECD course University of Toronto & Aga Khan University

Aga Khan Development Network online course

Early Human Development Aga Khan University

Foundations of Infant Development George Brown College

# SECD Offline

## Seminar series

- One day – one week workshops for leaders and professionals from various sectors

## Resource Kit

- One – three hour workshop –ready materials for parents/caregivers, frontline teachers and community health workers, etc.

Media-rich, translation-ready, 'global', evidence-based

A photograph of two young children, a boy and a girl, looking towards the right. The boy is on the left, wearing a red shirt and a yellow patterned shawl. The girl is on the right, wearing a white top. The background is blurred, showing other people and a bright, indoor setting. A green curved graphic element is at the bottom of the image.

# SECD

SCIENCE OF EARLY  
CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Seminar Series



# SECD

SCIENCE OF EARLY  
CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Resource Kit



# Central themes of SECD

Video - The Long Reach of Early Childhood

# Science of Early Childhood Development in Sub-Saharan Africa

Dr. Susan Wamithi-Gitau

Pediatrician – Aga Khan University  
Hospital, Nairobi



# Background

- Science of Early Childhood Development (SECD) Modules
  - Brain Development
  - Coping and Competence
  - Communicating and Learning
  - The Ecology of Childhood
  - Developmental Health
- My involvement
  - Participant: Online course
  - Instructor: Training done in Kenya and Tanzania
  - On-line Tutor

# Participants



Science of Early Child Development (SECD) SHORT COURSE Aga Khan University Institute for Human Development (IHD)

An Initiative of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) in partnership with the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation  
Mon April 7th - Sat 12th, 2014, Venue: Fairmont The Norfolk Hotel Nairobi, Kenya

Standing L to R: Linda Kharemwa, Wenyaa Nasaba Salome, Lucy Nyaga, Prof. Janet Jamison, Najma Rashid, Oscar Kadenge, Mercy Ndemo, Pablo Stansberry, Sara Naicker, Daniel Oloo, Josephine Gitonga, Debbeet Sen, Sheila Manji, Dr. Susan Wamithi, Hadija Nandyose, Pedro Maunde, Regina Mwasambo, Americo Mazuze, Margaret Kabue, Martin Ombima, Karissa Padayachie, Dennis Wali, Immaculate Salao

Seated L to R: Evelyn Obonyo, Damaris Wambua, Jellow Tembo, Emily Okong'o, Brighton Nchimunya, Inocencio Manuel, Judy Khanyola, Joshua Kasimba



- Participants from five countries
  - Kenya
  - Malawi
  - Mozambique
  - Zambia
  - Tanzania
- Diverse professional backgrounds
- Work with children infected/affected by HIV/AIDS

# Participants: Activities



# SECD IN MY CONTEXT

- Pediatrician
  - Training doctors and nurses
    - Adapted it to the care for child development training of health care providers
  - Practice
    - Advising caregivers on how to stimulate their children's development by using concepts taught in the modules

# **Science of Early Child Development Seminar Series**

Pilot Initiative in Bangladesh

# Where is it?



# Bangladesh at a Glance



# Urban and Rural Context





# Early Childhood in Bangladesh

<http://blogs.rrc.ca/etv/2013/12/supporting-secd-update-4/>

# Learning opportunities- Government/Community-Based ECD Centres



# Family Support



# Training



# Piloting SECD Seminar Series



# Participants' Reflections

*“ I recommend that all pre-primary teachers should receive this training.”*

*“These topics were never discussed before.”*

*“I learnt a lot of things that will help me become a good mother, and a teacher too”.*

*“The parents would benefit most from this kind of training.”*

**Thank You!**