

- Redesign of childcare allocation procedures – Comparing approaches and experiences
Dr Joachim Fiebig, Local Government Association for Youth and Social (KVJS), Baden-Württemberg
Tobias Riehm, Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), Mannheim

Workshop B - Needs-based provision through networking? Approaches in developing integrated services

- Integrated working in the ECEC context: Local examples from different countries
Dr Hester Hulpia, Centre for Innovation in the Early Years (VBJK), Ghent, Belgium
- The Federal Programme on ECEC access in Germany (Kita-Einstieg): Evaluation and local practice
Maike Hoefft, Paderborn University
Christiane Börühan,
AWO Berlin Spree-Wuhle e.V.

Workshop C - Affordable and socially fair? Different approaches of financing ECEC

- Overcoming financial access barriers through subsidies? Approaches of the Canadian ECEC System
Martha Friendly, Childcare Resource and Research Unit, Toronto, Canada
- Needs-based allocation of resources in ECEC – Examples from North Rhine-Westphalia
Dr Katarina Groth und Dr Kristine Blatter,
German Youth Institute, Munich

12.00 p.m. Lunch break

1.00 p.m. Results of the workshops: Challenges and opportunities at local level

Commentators:

Prof Sabine Bollig, University Trier
Daniela Kobelt Neuhaus, Karl Kübel Foundation for Child and Family, Bensheim
Dr Ludovica Gambaro, German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), Berlin

2.00 p.m. Conference sum-up

2.15 p.m. End of conference

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Attendance of the conference is free of charge. Conference languages are German and English. Simultaneous translation is provided.

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ICEC Conference
**Reducing access barriers in
Early Childhood Education
and Care:
International perspectives on
local governance**

22nd – 23rd October 2019
Hotel Aquino, Berlin

In Germany as well as in other countries the availability of places in Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) has improved substantially within recent years. However, we still observe regional differences in terms of accessibility. Often parents struggle to find a suitable place for their children. The whole process of a child entering ECEC services can require considerable resources from a parent's perspective and can represent a particular challenge for families from disadvantaged backgrounds. How access is actually organised can differ considerably in decentralised ECEC systems, depending on municipal authorities, ECEC providers and types of settings. These local contexts are an important, but so far, little researched 'bottleneck' with regard to access inequalities. Therefore, the Equal Access Study conducted at the German Youth Institute (DJI) investigates local-level structural barriers within ECEC systems in Canada, Germany and Sweden. At the conference, preliminary results of the study and related empirical research will be presented together with local (governance) experiences.

The International Centre Early Childhood Education and Care (ICEC) at DJI invites you to discuss approaches and challenges in the local organisation of access to ECEC services. In exchange with national and international experts from politics, research and practice the following questions will be discussed in plenary sessions and thematic workshops:

- Which structural access barriers in systems of Early Childhood Education and Care can we observe? How do these barriers relate to the background and resources of children and families?
- Which local governance strategies are in place in order to reduce access barriers? How can and must we take into account characteristics of the local environment?
- Which approaches are being developed in countries with different ECEC traditions for coping with growing heterogeneity of societies? What can we learn from international comparison?

Programme

Tuesday, 22nd October 2019

12.00 p.m. Reception and snack

1.00 p.m. Welcome

Marion Binder
Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens,
Women and Youth, Berlin
Prof Bernhard Kalicki
German Youth Institute, Munich

1.30 p.m.

**Access to Early Childhood Education and Care:
The role of governance**

Prof Michel Vandebroek, Ghent University,
Belgium

2.30 p.m.

**Inequalities in Early Childhood Service use:
A matter of policy or individual preferences?**

Dr Wim van Lancker, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven,
Belgium

3.30 p.m. Coffee break

4.00 p.m.

Inequalities in access to Early Childhood Education and Care at local level – Results of the Equal Access Study from Canada, Germany and Sweden

Dr Antonia Scholz, Britta Menzel, Sabrina Mannebach, International Centre Early Childhood Education and Care (ICEC), German Youth Institute, Munich

5.00 p.m.

Plenary discussion: How to deal with local inequalities in access?

Xenia Roth, Ministry of Education, Rhineland-Palatinate
Ursula Krickl, German Association of Towns and Municipalities, Berlin
Angela Schweers, AWO Bezirksverband Potsdam e.V.
Dr Vivianne Vidot, ECEC Planning, Herford
Ulrike Kloiber, Bildungshaus Lurup, Hamburg

Wednesday 23rd October 2019

9.00 a.m. Welcome

9.15 a.m.

Local governance and diversity of providers – a field of tension?

Lines of segregation from a local perspective
Prof Nina Högbe, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (HAW Hamburg)

10.00 a.m. Coffee break

**10.15 a.m. Simultaneous workshops
International and national examples**

**Workshop A - 'Just' ways into the ECEC system?
Allocation of places and local steering**

- Efficient and fair? Governing access through the allocating of ECEC places in Sweden
Linda Ekstrand, Sollentuna Municipality, Sweden