

2nd Regional Workshop

Day 2 highlights

The second day of the 2nd Regional Conference workshop was packed with presentations and interventions from various partners and participants, starting in the morning with the Tashkent Declaration and commitments for action to transforming Early Childhood Care and Education.

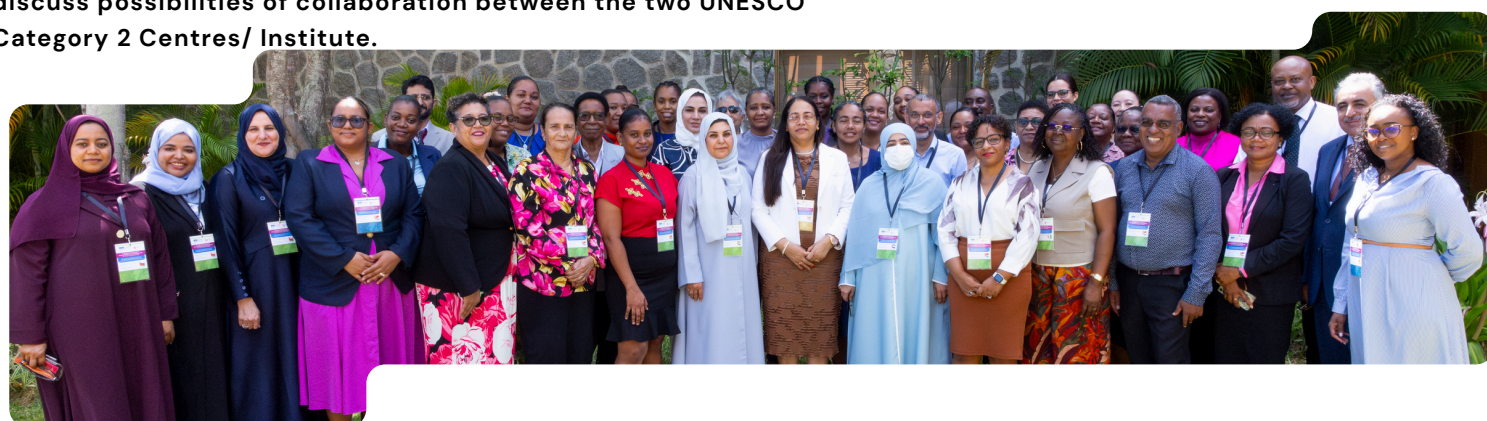
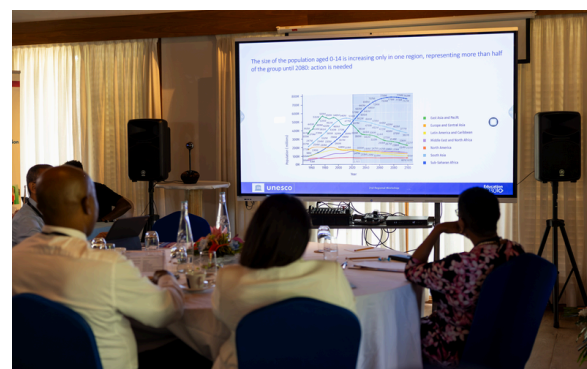
This presentation was done live from Paris UNESCO office by Rokhaya Fall Diawara; a Specialist and the Global Lead for Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) at UNESCO.

Mrs Diawara's presentation set the scene with global direction in the implementation of the Declaration with UNESCO, energizing the transformation, using digital tools along the way and confronting global challenges in the face of many.

In the second presentation of the day, the Chief Executive Officer of the IECD-UNESCO Category 2 Institute, Mrs Shirley Choppy spanned an overview of the ECCE system in Seychelles in her presentation. The strategic priorities, key programme areas and future plans for capacity building, research and knowledge production workforce and advocacy provided a backdrop of expansion and coherence of the institute which now has a more significant role nationally and internationally.

This was reinforced in a presentation by the Regional Centre for Quality and Excellence in Education (RCQE); a category 2 regional centre in Saudi Arabia. Their presentation centred on the quality perspective and project of RCQE as a region reference for education quality and excellence.

Representatives of the two centres will be meeting during the week to discuss possibilities of collaboration between the two UNESCO Category 2 Centres/ Institute.



Country Presentation Highlights

The rest of the day featured presentations from participating countries, focusing on progress in achieving the Tashkent commitments.

The presentations from the *United Arab Emirates—Dubai and Abu Dhabi—*showcased significant developments in early childhood care.

For Abu Dhabi, the discussion highlighted progress in developing parent-friendly workplace policies and nursery subsidies, generating strong interest among participants.

The presentation from Oman depicted progress made in the field of early childhood in line with international commitments.

Côte d'Ivoire spoke about ongoing efforts to ensure quality learning for all children, including basic literacy, numeracy, and socioemotional skills. The country also conducts various awareness campaigns nationwide to help parents understand the importance of ECCE.

Seychelles showcased, through a video presentation, the progress being made, through the best practices pillars, in advancing early childhood care in the country.

Key highlights of the day

Wrapping up the day, Education consultant for the IECD-UNESCO category 2 institute; Dr Andre Leste outlined global and regional progress in implementing the Tashkent Declaration, with UNESCO energizing the transformation.

Dr Leste identified in his address areas where progress has been made:

Access and Inclusion: New policies, legislation, and quality standards are expanding enrolment, improving facilities, and supporting children with special needs and disadvantaged families.

Workforce Development: Continued efforts to upgrade teacher qualifications and improve working conditions, with a growing call for professionalisation and clearer career paths.

Quality Learning: Updated curriculum, early learning programmes, and school readiness tools are enhancing early learning outcomes. New components on citizenship, health, financial literacy, and sustainability are being integrated.

Digital and Data Systems: Countries are adopting digital platforms to manage childcare services and strengthen monitoring, accountability, and reporting.

Financing ECCE: While funding varies, many countries are increasing budget allocations, subsidies, and pursuing public-private partnerships to sustain progress.

Multi-Sector Collaboration: Stronger coordination across education, health, nutrition, and social sectors is emerging as a key driver of holistic early childhood development.

Although long, the day was a fruitful one with a lot of discussions, networking and interest to keep improving early childhood care and education in the region and globally.

