

## Launching of the IECD-UNESCO category 2 institute 2<sup>nd</sup> regional workshop

The second regional workshop on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) officially opened yesterday late afternoon at the Savoy Resort and Spa, under the theme "Progress and Way Forward on the Tashkent Declaration and Commitments to Action for Transforming ECCE."

The three-day event is hosted by the IECD-UNESCO Category 2 Institute, Seychelles.

In an impressive display of cultural appreciation, IECD CEO Mrs. Shirley Choppy welcomed delegates from the United Arab Emirates (Dubai and Abu Dhabi), Oman, Saudi Arabia, Côte d'Ivoire, and Seychelles, greeting each group in their respective languages. She emphasised the significance of convening such a regional dialogue three years after the World Conference on ECCE in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

"Today, as leaders and experts in ECCE, we come together with a single purpose: to reflect on our progress and to collaboratively chart the way forward," she said. "Over the next two days, we will have valuable opportunities to assess our achievements, identify shared challenges, and develop collective strategies. Our focus will be on pinpointing priority areas that require urgent attention or strengthening, so we can advance ECCE effectively within our countries and regions."

Following her address, Mr. Borhene Chakroun, Director of the Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems Division and Acting Director of the UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC), delivered remarks in which he shared his vision of the IECD in Seychelles evolving into a regional hub for excellence and leadership.

A key moment of the ceremony was the unveiling of a new logo and the official launch of an online system for the registration and inspection of child care services.

The workshop itself was officially launched live from the UNESCO office in Paris by Dr. Mmantsetsa Marope, Chairperson of the Governing Board of the IECD-UNESCO Category 2 Institute.



The ceremony was attended by several dignitaries, including several Ministers and principal secretaries.

Wednesday morning, the workshop will delve into a series of thematic sessions, including:

- The Tashkent Declaration and commitments to transform ECCE
- An overview of Seychelles' ECCE system and the IECD as a regional centre for quality and excellence
- Country presentations
- Networking activities and Educational visits

The remainder of the workshop will take place at L'Escale Resort Marina & Spa, Roche Caiman, Seychelles, concluding on Thursday.



## Logo unveiling of the new online system for registration and inspection of child care services

Guests at the opening of the workshop also witnessed the unveiling of the logo for the new online system for registration and inspection of child care services, by the Institute of Early Childhood Development (Seychelles) IECD.

In a detailed presentation, Mrs Marie France Barra, Director General Regulatory Affairs Division at IECD– UNESCO category 2 Institute explained in careful detail the meaning of each letter of the logo:

The Acronym itself highlights the two core regulatory pillars of IECD–Registration and Inspection.

The two C's symbolize Child Care

The letters "R" and "I" illustrate registration and Inspection

The second Letter I and 's' represent information System and digital solution

The two human figures convey collaborative partnership in ECCE and oversight in regulation and child care services.

Key milestones of the various stages of the system were also presented to the audience, from conceptualization to planning, design and development, piloting of the system and organised visits, feedback, inspection and renewal.



## Launching of the Institute new online system

Following the unveiling of the logo, was the launching of the Child Care Registration and Inspection Information System (CRIIS), an IECD–UNESCO category 2 Institute project in collaboration with the Seychelles Department of Information Communications and Technology (DICT)

This development represents another important step in the digital transformation of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in Seychelles, particularly in the child care sector.

CRIIS is also designed to streamline registration, inspection, and reporting processes, which will improve accessibility and accountability in service delivery.

"As the ECCE sector continues to grow, a digital platform like CRIIS becomes essential if not an indispensable tool to ensure consistency, to reduce administrative burden and to provide real-time data to support regulatory oversight and informed decision-making" said Mr. Benjamin Choppy, the Principal Secretary from the Department of Information Communications Technology, in his remark at the ceremony prior to the launching of the online system.



The system will allow first and foremost for early childcare providers to apply or renew their operating licenses or certificate of registration online, secondly enable inspectors to record and upload reports in real time, to automatically generate notifications and reminders, and lastly to produce analytical reports and dashboards.

This system is showing concrete results of reducing processing time significantly, and if all goes according to Plan, Mr Choppy announced that CRIIS will come into full operation at the start of 2026. He concluded his remark by launching the CRIIS platform.



International participants