

The Moral Imperative

Annual Meetings of the World Bank and IMF- Bali, Indonesia

“Results for Children: High-Level Advocacy Forum on Investing in Early Childhood Development”

Overview of The Moral Imperative High-Level Advocacy Forum

- **Event:** Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) – WB/IMF Annual meeting
- **Date:** 9 – 12 October, 2018
- **MI Session:** 10 October 2018, 11- 12:30 pm
- **Location:** Bali, Indonesia
- **Session Title:** *Results for Children: Faith Actors High-Level Advocacy Forum on Investing in Early Childhood Development.*
- **Application Submitted by:** Arigatou International (for The Moral Imperative to End Extreme Poverty. -The Moral Imperative)

Abstract:

A child’s early experiences are formative for life outcomes. This faith-led high-level advocacy forum poses the critical questions regarding how best to improve the reach and quality of services for children aged 0-3 by exploring the experiences of faith actors and how these can inspire policy and service innovations and investments.

Session Objectives:

1. Make the case for greater investment in effective early childhood services for the 0-3 age group with a special focus on protection of children at risk of violence, poverty, abuse, premature death, stunting, malnutrition/hunger.
 2. Identify innovative partnerships with the UN, World Bank and other development actors to scale up faith inspired pathways for protection of children at risk,
 3. Revitalize protection for at risk children through evidence based on faith-inspired services and programming to achieve the SDGs.
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Session Description:

- Investing early in children can deliver dramatic outcomes for the wellbeing of children, families, and society.
- Advances in our understating of Early Childhood Development have opened up numerous spaces of what is possible for the wellbeing outcomes for children and human capital formation. Faith institutions have a long tradition of investments and services to children family, and community. Faced with adversity, millions of children have come to rely on the resources of faith to promote resilience and thrive.
- How can investments in ECD aid and accelerate the achievement of SDGs? What are the experiences of faith actors in building assets and services for at risk children and what implications would this have on policy, service innovation and resource allocation by states in ECD? What are the best ways to synergize assets programming, and services of faith actors, state parties and development agencies for child development and human capital formation?

Session Format:

- Key note briefing by High Level Speakers Panel from the WB, Faith/Religious Actors, UNICEF and Host Country
 - Intensive themed Q&A “workshop” session with panelists from the MI constituency/ agency personalities.
 - Themed exhibition by participating organizations.
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Facilitators:

Moderator: Dr. Tageldin Hamad, Vice President and Director of UPF UN Relations (TBC)

Panelists:

1. Dr. Agnes Abuom – World Council of Churches
 2. Ms. Edith Jibunoh – World Bank
 3. Hon. Agus Gumiwant Kartasasmita – Minister of Social Affairs - Indonesia
 4. Ms. Dear N. B. Sinandang – Humanitarian Forum of Indonesia / Joint Learning Initiative
 5. Fred Nyabera – Arigatou International
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Key Outputs and Outcomes:

1. Advocacy for ECD at high levels of policy and decision-making (ministers of finance and planning)
 2. Commitment by participating delegations for the revitalization, modernization and greater investment in ECD programs, services and institutional arrangements
 3. Co-locating innovation, evidence-building and continuous service improvement as the basis for planning and evaluating policy, planning, interventions and investments in ECD
 4. Commitment to a shared ECD Institutional architecture built on partnerships between state and social sectors (especially faith inspired actors)
 5. Heightened understanding and appreciation by governments and non-state actors on the need to target resources and programming for children’s services, especially for children below the age of 3 (three) through elaborate national and regional strategies that identify and respond to the entitlement demands for children and the internal and external sources shocks and vulnerability including core risk factors
 6. Establishing linkages and platforms for ECD enthusiasts, advocates and practitioners from across multiple institutional settings
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