



National Child Care Information Center

A service of the Child Care Bureau



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INTERNATIONAL and FOREIGN-BASED EARLY CHILDHOOD ORGANIZATIONS

The following resources provide information on a sample of international early childhood organizations. These organizations include those that make up the World Forum Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose member organizations support early childhood internationally, as well as international organizations that support the healthy development of children worldwide. Additional internationally-focused early childhood organizations also are listed.

World Forum Foundation

The purpose of the World Forum on Early Care and Education is to promote an ongoing global exchange of ideas on the delivery of quality services for children in diverse settings. The World Forum Foundation is a nonprofit organization that supports a variety of international activities in early childhood, including the World Forum on Early Care and Education conference. The World Forum Foundation contracts with Child Care Information Exchange to manage World Forum planning, marketing, registration, and logistics. World Forum Alliance Members include such organizations as:

- **Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI)**

17904 Georgia Avenue, Suite 215

Olney, MD 20832

301-570-2111 or 800-423-3563

World Wide Web: <http://www.acei.org/>

The mission of the ACEI is to promote and support in the global community the optimal education and development of children, from birth through early adolescence, and to influence the professional growth of educators and the efforts of others who are committed to the needs of children in a changing society. A variety of journals and publications are available, including *Childhood Education*, published six times per year, and the *Journal of Research in Childhood Education* (JRCE).

- **The Canadian Association of Young Children (CAYC)**

World Wide Web: <http://www.cayc.ca/Default.htm>

The Canadian Association for Young Children (CAYC) is the only Canadian national association specifically concerned with the well-being of children, birth through age 9—at home, in preschool settings, and at school. This multi-disciplinary association includes parents, teachers, caregivers, administrators, students, and all those wishing to share ideas and participate in activities related to the education and welfare of young children. *Canadian Journal* is printed two times per year.

■ **Canadian Child Care Federation (CCCF)**

383 Parkdale Avenue, Suite 201

Ottawa, ON

K1Y 4R4

800-858-1412

World Wide Web: <http://www.cccf-fcsge.ca/>

CCCF is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the quality of child care services for Canadian children and families. CCCF includes 16 regional affiliate organizations, independent members, and other partner national organizations. The CCCF uses a variety of techniques to communicate amongst its members and to the larger child care community. Information on projects and publications are available on their Web site.

■ **The Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development (CG)**

World Wide Web: <http://www.ecdgroup.com/index.asp>

CG is a diverse consortium of agencies, donors, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and foundations that link with regional-based Early Childhood Care and Development networks comprising of individuals and organizations involved in programming, research, policy-advocacy, monitoring, and evaluation for young children (0–8 years) at risk in the “Majority World.” The term “Majority World” refers to those countries that are often called South countries, developing, or third world countries and serves to remind us that the majority of the world’s children are at risk of delayed or debilitated development.

■ **Early Childhood Australia, Inc.**

P.O. Box 105

Watson ACT 2602

Australia

800-356-900 or 02-6242-1800

World Wide Web: <http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/Default.htm>

Early Childhood Australia Inc., formerly known as the Australian Early Childhood Association, was established in 1938. The Early Childhood Australia, Inc. is a national nongovernment organization that acts in the interests of young children aged 0–8 years of age. Early Childhood Australia, Inc. works with government, early childhood professionals, parents, other caregivers of young children, as well as with various lobby groups to secure the best range of options and outcomes for children as they grow and develop.

■ **Early Childhood Council (ECC)**

P.O. Box 12 526

Wellington

New Zealand

0-800-742-742

World Wide Web: <http://www.ecc.org.nz/>

ECC supports the independent centers of the Early Childhood Sector in New Zealand by providing services and benefits which will encourage centers to provide a high-quality early childhood service which is professional, viable, cost effective, and appropriate to the needs of the local community.

■ **International Child Resource Institute (ICRI)**

1581 Leroy Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94708
510-644-1000

World Wide Web: <http://www.icrichild.org/index.htm>

ICRI is an international organization committed to improving the lives of children and families throughout the world, enabling them to survive and succeed. Since 1981, ICRI has provided technical assistance and consultation to a wide variety of national and international organizations, businesses, governments, nonprofits and others interested in issues such as child care, child abuse prevention, child survival, maternal and child health, placement alternatives for abandoned and traumatized children, and the promotion of children's rights. *ICRI Early Childhood Careers* allows employers to post job listings, and job seekers to search for early childhood education positions. Information on U.S. and international projects, as well as resources, is available on the Web site.

■ **International Step By Step Association (ISSA)**

Keizersgracht 62-64
1015 CS Amsterdam
Netherlands
31-0-20-520-7505

New York Office:
400 West 59th Street
New York, NY 10019
212-547-6918

World Wide Web: <http://www.issa.nl/index.html>

ISSA is a nongovernmental membership organization established in the Netherlands in 1999, which unites individuals and organizations into a network to foster democratic principles and promote parent and community involvement in early childhood education. ISSA is an open forum for parents, educators, and communities to advocate for democratic values and access to quality care and education for all children. ISSA provides early childhood professionals with opportunities for ongoing growth, develops educational resources, and implements high-quality programs based on a child-centered approach, active parent and community involvement, and current research. With its international network, professional capacity, and infrastructure, ISSA acts in cooperation with other partners nationally, regionally, and globally to benefit children. ISSA's programs currently reach more than 200,000 teachers and one million children and their families.

■ **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)**

1509 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
800-424-2460

World Wide Web: <http://www.naeyc.org>

NAEYC is a nonprofit professional organization dedicated to improving the quality of care and education provided to our nation's young children. NAEYC has over 100,000 members, teachers, administrators, parents, policy-makers, and others committed to bringing high-quality early education and care to all young children.

The Association administers the NAEYC Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation, a voluntary, national, accreditation system for high-quality early childhood programs, and the

National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development, which provides resources and services to improve professional preparation and development of early childhood educators and fosters development of a comprehensive, articulated system of high-quality professional development opportunities. In addition to the bimonthly journal *Young Children*, NAEYC publishes an extensive array of books, brochures, videotapes, and posters. *Early Years Are Learning Years* fact sheets on various topics are available on their Web site.

Young Children International is a Web site that provides an online discussion forum as a way to exchange information and network with international colleagues. Early Care and Education in the United States is a link to information that explains the early childhood system in the U.S. for the international community. This resource is available on the Web at <http://www.naeyc.org/yci/default.asp>.

■ **National Association of Early Childhood Care and Education Malaysia (NAECCEM)**

25, Jalan Limau Besar, Bangsar
Kuala Lumpur, 59100, Malaysia 59100
603-2095-2046
E-mail: naeccem@hotmail.com

NAECCEM, begun in 1999, is an umbrella organization that acts in the interest of children from birth to age 8. NAECCEM is a nonprofit, non-government organization that aims to promote the provision of high-quality services for all young children and their families through competent, trained child care professionals. NAECCEM is a member-driven association that aims to fulfill its mission through advocacy at the national and State level, to create suitable product services and publications, and to disseminate quality publications and resource materials and organize quality programs for the development of Malaysian Early Childhood professionals. NAECCEM also affiliates with international early childhood organizations for exchange of “best practices” information.

■ **Pacific Pre-school Council**

P.O. Box 10334
Laucala Beach Estate
Fiji
679-321-2488
E-mail: Tuivaga_U@usp.ac.fj

The Pacific Pre-school Council was formed in 1980 at the first ever gathering of Pacific ECE stakeholders that was held in Suva, Fiji. The Council membership comprises of all National Preschool/Early Childhood Associations in the 12 Pacific Island Countries served by the University of the South Pacific. The main goal of the Council is work closely with the University of the South Pacific and island governments to promote the development of quality early childhood services in the region through teacher training, community awareness and advocacy.

■ **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

7 Place De Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP, France

World Wide Web: www.unesco.org

UNESCO is an agency of the United Nations and promotes international cooperation among its 190 Member States and six Associate Members in the fields of education, science, culture and communication. UNESCO provides information for professionals, parents, and children under the *Early Childhood and Family Portal*. This resource is available on the Web at http://portal.unesco.org/education/ev.php?URL_ID=2573&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.

Additional information on the World Forum Foundation and its Alliance Members is available from the Child Care Information Exchange on the Web at <http://www.ccie.com/wf/index.php>.

International Organizations that Support the Healthy Development of Children

Poverty, poor nutrition, inadequate health services and increased susceptibility for illness and disease, and a weak education infrastructure are issues that many children and their families must face. The following is a sample of organizations that work in developing countries to combat these issues.

■ **Academy for Educational Development (AED)**

World Wide Web: <http://www.aed.org/>

Founded in 1961, AED is an independent, nonprofit organization committed to solving critical social problems in the United States and throughout the world through education, social marketing, research, training, policy analysis and innovative program design and management. Major areas of focus include health, education, youth development, and the environment.

■ **Children's Resources International (CRI)**

World Wide Web: <http://www.childrensresources.org/index.html>

CRI is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to improving the quality of educational experiences and opportunities for children and their families in the United States and internationally. The centerpiece of CRI's efforts is the Step by Step Program. This comprehensive educational reform program introduces child-centered teaching methods in emerging democracies and supports community and family involvement in preschools and primary schools. Step by Step was developed in partnership with the Open Society Institute and Soros Foundations.

■ **International Save the Children Alliance**

World Wide Web: <http://www.savethechildren.net/alliance/index.html>

International Save the Children Alliance has member organizations in 29 industrialized countries all over the world working in over 100 developing countries. Save the Children's programming is focused in five broad areas: education, HIV/AIDS, exploitation and abuse, conflict and disaster, and children's rights.

■ **International Youth Foundation (IYF)**

World Wide Web: <http://www.iyfnet.org/>

IYF is working in nearly 60 countries and Territories to improve the conditions and prospects for young people where they live, learn, work, and play. Established in 1990 to bring worldwide resources to young people in need, IYF works with hundreds of companies, foundations, and civil society organizations to strengthen and “scale up” existing programs that are making a positive and lasting difference in young lives.

■ **United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)**

World Wide Web: <http://www.unicef.org/index.html>

UNICEF has more than 7,000 people working in 158 countries around the world. UNICEF was created to work with others to overcome the obstacles that poverty, violence, disease and discrimination place in a child’s path. UNICEF upholds the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and works for the Millennium Development Goals and for the progress stated in the United Nations Charter. UNICEF is part of the Global Movement for Children—a broad coalition dedicated to improving the life of every child. Through this movement, and events such as the United Nations Special Session on Children, UNICEF encourages young people to speak out and participate in the decisions that affect their lives.

■ **The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)**

World Wide Web: <http://www.usaid.gov/>

USAID is an independent Federal government agency that receives overall foreign policy guidance from the Secretary of State. USAID supports long-term and equitable economic growth and advances United States foreign policy objectives by supporting economic growth, agriculture and trade, global health, and democracy, conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance.

■ **The World Bank Group**

World Wide Web: <http://www.worldbank.org/>

The World Bank Group’s mission is to fight poverty and improve the living standards of people in the developing world. It is a development bank which provides loans, policy advice, technical assistance and knowledge sharing services to low- and middle-income countries to reduce poverty.

Additional Organizations

■ **Association Montessori International/USA (AMI)**

410 Alexander Street
Rochester, NY 14607-1028
800-872-2643 or 585-461-5920

World Wide Web: <http://www.montessori-ami.org/ami.htm>

AMI was founded in 1929 by Dr. Maria Montessori to support the Montessori philosophy of education and corresponding curriculum, created in 1907. AMI supports teacher training; coordinates training-of-trainer programs; encourages and supports the creation of Montessori schools; supports manufacturers who produce approved Montessori materials; oversees

publications; organizes conferences; publishes the magazine *Communications*; and administers the AMI Web site. Additional information on the Montessori Approach is available under The Pedagogy link.

■ **International Reading Association**

Headquarters Office
800 Barksdale Rd.
P.O. Box 8139
Newark, DE 19714-8139
202-624-8800

Washington Office
444 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 630
Washington, DC 20001
302-731-1600

World Wide Web: <http://www.reading.org/index.html>

The International Reading Association is a professional membership organization dedicated to promoting high levels of literacy for all by improving the quality of reading instruction, disseminating research and information about reading, and encouraging a lifetime reading habit. Members include classroom teachers, reading specialists, consultants, administrators, supervisors, university faculty, researchers, psychologists, librarians, media specialists, and parents. Members and affiliates are in 99 countries, extending to more than 300,000 people worldwide. Professional resources are available to facilitate five goals: professional development, advocacy, partnerships, research, and global literacy development.

■ **World Organization for Early Childhood Education (OMEP)**

World Wide Web: <http://www.omep.org.uk/>

OMEP is an international, nongovernmental organization founded in 1948 to benefit children under age 8 throughout the world. OMEP is currently represented in 70 countries and cooperates with other international organizations with similar aims.

The National Child Care Information Center does not endorse any organization, publication, or resource.