EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE

Update for the Inclusive Pre-primary Education Project
To cover

- Role of the OECD
- Focus on ECEC
- Key projects:
  - early learning outcomes
  - staff survey
  - transitions
  - ECEC Network
- Future focus
Role of the OECD

• Directed by member countries
• Focus on policies for inclusive growth
• Greater emphasis on education and skills as a means to improve economic growth and equity
• Produce cross-country data comparisons as well as in-depth policy reviews.
Impacts of ECEC can be seen in PISA

Difference in PISA 2012 performance between students who reported having attended pre-primary school for more than one year and those who had not attended pre-primary school.
Impacts differ across countries

Mathematics performance and enrolment rate in ECEC

- **Enrolment rate of 4 and under as a percentage of the population of 3 to 4-year-olds (in 2000)**
- **R² = 0.11705**
Effects of ECEC extend into adulthood
But the impacts may be declining …
Current focus on ECEC
Improving early learning outcomes

- Interest comes from countries that:
  - intend to lift ECEC participation, and want to ensure quality and impact
  - have raised participation, but are unsure of quality and impact
  - want to ensure they are getting the maximum value from ECEC for their students.
Improving learning outcomes …

• A conceptual framework on an international assessment of early learning has been completed
• Scoping the intent and design of the assessment is now underway
• Instruments will be developed and piloted in 2016/17
A survey of ECEC staff

• Similar to the TALIS survey of teaching staff in schools
• Will collect data on:
  ➢ staff characteristics
  ➢ pedagogical practices
  ➢ beliefs and attitudes
  ➢ organisational issues, and
  ➢ working conditions.
A survey of ECEC staff

• The survey has been scoped, in consultation with interested countries
• A call-for-tender has been released
• Instrument development, field testing and piloting will occur in 2016/17
Managing transitions

• Focus on transition policies:
  - Strategies used
  - Common challenges
  - Lessons learned

• To be undertaken across 2015/16
• Countries expressing interest now
Monitoring quality

• Issue was raised by ECEC Network
• Based on responses to policy questionnaire from OECD countries
• Themes:
  ➢ monitoring is increasing
  ➢ greater focus on definitions of quality used for monitoring, and
  ➢ improving the quality and impact of monitoring
The ECEC Network

• The ECEC Network was set up in 2007, to assist countries to develop effective policies and practices on ECEC.

• The Network:
  - shares information on policies, practices and research
  - identifies areas where further research and analysis is required
  - assesses the need for new data development.

• The Network meets twice a year
Future focus

- Education Programme of Work and Budget will be considered by the Education Policy Committee in 2016
- The ECEC Network is currently reassessing its priorities, which can input to the Policy Committee’s decisions
- Existing projects continue, if there is sufficient country support
Questions and comments?

• THANK YOU.