

# Group discussion: reporting back to plenary

## Session 6 “Implementation challenges and strategies”

GROUP 1 (federal countries)

9<sup>th</sup> OECD ECEC Network Meeting on

“Family and community engagement”

# What are the challenges?

## Family and community engagement

### Structural challenges

- Lack of a national, nation-wide approach
- Multiple levels of government
- Political structures
- Insufficient funding (sustainability)
- Having a similar perspective on family and community engagement (different ideas from different stakeholders)

## Policy design and implementation challenges

- Stakeholder management (including parental voices)
- Meeting the needs of different families (especially since family composition is changing, as well financial backgrounds)
- Meeting the needs of different children
- Supporting integrated services

## Evaluation and review

- Fragmented delivery
- Lack of follow-up of approaches (do they work?)

# What strategies have been taken

- Using research to realise political commitment
- Presenting data on child development to stakeholders to inform them
- Embedding different services (child care services on school grounds etc.)
- Involving stakeholders in implementing approaches (parent associations etc.)
- Sharing best practices between local/regional authorities or legal entities
- Evaluating what did not work (and learn from that)
- Implementing child development progress assessments
- Focusing within approaches on the needs of children (e.g. language development)
- Targeting families and offering assistance (educating them about child health, development , using the Early childhood development index etc.)

# Lessons learned

- Sufficient time for implementation needed
- Piloting can be useful since it can indicate whether a programme works or not
- Awareness-raising among parents of the importance of involvement important
- Tools and materials necessary for successful implementation