

**The Ministries of Education and their stewardship role over
the pedagogical proposals of Initial Education**

(CONCEPT NOTE)

Regional Workshop

San José, October 10-11 of 2018

1. Background

The CECC carries out support activities for the Ministries of Education to advance towards the achievement of Objective 1 of the Central American Education Policy PEC 2013-2030: *"Every boy and girl between 0 and 3 years of age of the SICA member countries will receive attention and quality initial education in the framework of the different modalities of attention that the countries of this region have, focused on the fundamental and irreplaceable action of the family and with guarantee of rights."* The corresponding goal until the year 2021 -which marks an intermediate milestone for one of the SDG4 goals- seeks to ensure that *"between 60% and 80% of the girls and boys who have access to diverse types of care and development services in their early childhood, public or private, comply with a quality initial education program regulated by the Ministries of Education."*

This Regional Workshop refers to the second part of this goal, which commits the countries to ensure that girls and boys "comply with a quality initial education program regulated by the Ministries of Education."

The CECC understands that it is incumbent upon the Ministries of Education to exercise the stewardship over the initial education provided by all programs of attention to the comprehensive development of early childhood. This concept has been developed and specified in the document: "The Ministry of Education and Initial Education - Inputs for the stewardship of pedagogical proposals".

This document has been previously distributed to the representatives of the Ministries of Education and other actors of Early Childhood Development in the countries, for reading, analysis and contributions. The text, which is a guide for the exercise of the stewardship, proposes 5 specific functions that correspond to the Ministry of Education with regard to initial education. It analyzes the current status of each of them and proposes some suggestions for lines of action. These may already be fulfilled, to some extent, in the Ministries of Education. The event will serve to verify which of them are part of the ministerial practice already.

The Workshop will concentrate on the joint analysis of the suggested lines of action. The data and references of the situation status in each of the functions were previously submitted to consultation and the document will be rewritten with the information updates that the countries have proposed in writing prior to the Workshop.

2. Objective of the Workshop

Validate the inputs for the stewardship of the pedagogical proposals in relation to i. the feasibility for the Ministries of Education to assume each one of the proposed duties; ii. of the conditions that some of them would require to be assumed and iii. the inclusion of lines of action that had not been foreseen.

3. Expected Results

- A document of specific validation assessments on each of the stewardship functions proposed by the document.
- A National Road Map to be drawn up by each country to assume the duties of steward
- A Regional Roadmap that is agreed upon for joint action

4. Methodological Dynamics

The general tone of the Workshop is the work in Tables to analyze and validate the functions of the stewardship of the Ministries of Education on the pedagogical proposals for Initial Education and in country meetings to draw up a National Roadmap, which initiates an itinerary to disseminate the information in the countries and to begin tasks conducive to the Ministries assuming, progressively, all the functions of the stewardship, as the conditions for it are met. The Tables and meetings by country will conclude in written documents ready for presentation in the plenary session and to be recorded later in the memory of this Workshop. The documents will be schematic, for which the participants will have a format to be used directly on the computer.

The results of the Tables and of the work by country, will be presented in plenary sessions, with support for the projection of the documents that have been prepared.

For a basic conceptual framework of the Workshop, three presentations will be made that give meaning to the activity (i) within the framework of the activities of the CECC, (ii) that synthesize the document object of the validation and (iii) that frame the exercise of stewardship within the framework of regional guidelines to strengthen sectoral work. This third presentation will be discussed by representatives of the sectors that intervene in early childhood care.

The Workshop is aimed at promoting the action of the Ministries of Education, in coordinated action with the other Early Childhood Development (ECD) actors, to ensure that all children who participate in public or private services of ECD can count on a

pedagogical approach adequate to the modality that these services have (family, community, institutional). Therefore, it is proposed to the countries to design a National Roadmap to take the appropriate steps, based on the national experience in the matter. At the same time, provide inputs for regional action promoted by the CECC, developing a Regional Roadmap.

The different activities will be animated by the CECC team, in different tasks, to ensure that the proposed Agenda is properly developed in a timely manner.