

ECD ECOSYSTEM



Cross-sectoral coordination in the ECD eco-system

WHY ⇒ WHAT ⇒ HOW

A learning journey ...



WHY

- Early years are crucial and unique
- Every child has the right to a healthy life and a bright future
- Child's healthy development requires a holistic view
- Children's and families' needs are complex
- Not one service will be able to address all needs



A child's development is impacted upon by the quality of the environments in which they live, from their home to neighbourhood, from various public spaces to early childhood settings.

Everything in their lives matters for their healthy growth and development.





Nurturing environments for young children

HOME ENVIRONMENT | INFORMAL

NEIGHBORHOOD | INFORMAL

SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY |
NON-FORMAL
FORMAL

ECD ECOSYSTEM



WHAT

Coordinated governance structures, policies, funding ...and services of quality for children and their families (in formal, non-formal, informal settings)

National level

Regional level

Local level

HOW

Key factors for effective coordination across the early childhood ecosystem

Shared vision,
values,
commitment

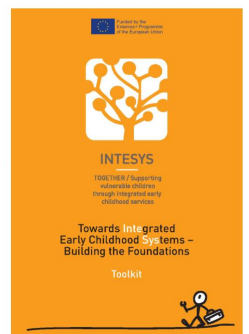
Time,
communication, and
trust-building

Strong (political)
leadership

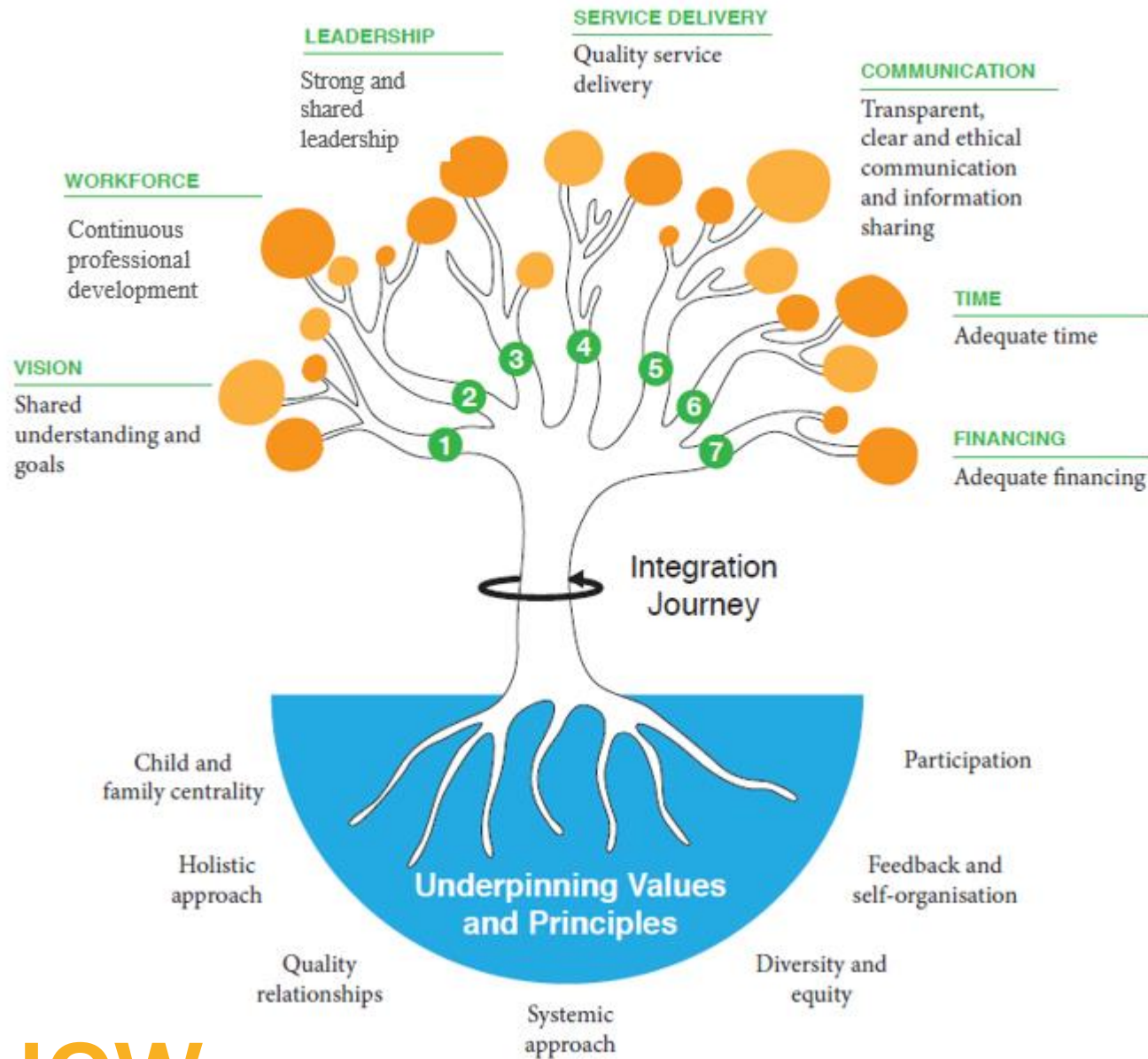
Supportive policy,
governance, and
funding structures

Functional and empowered
coordination infrastructure
(at different levels in the
system)

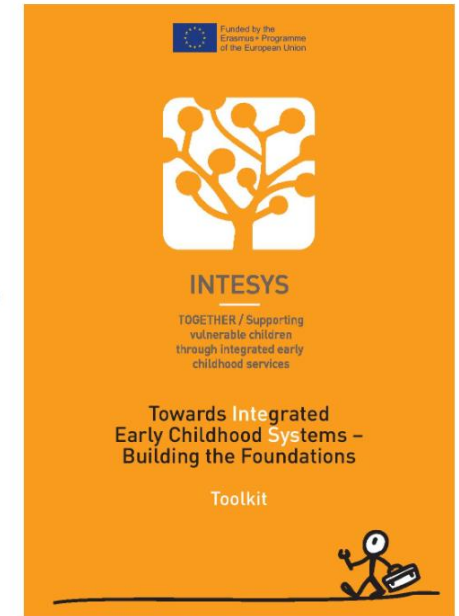
See **INTESYS Toolkit: Towards Integrated Early Childhood Education and Care Systems – Building the Foundations**



Key factors and Quality Practices



HOW



Resource author
Ionescu, M., Trikić, Z., Pinto, L.
Published in
2019

Reference Framework for Integration in Early Childhood Systems

Different forms of integration in early childhood systems

HOW

	Institutional independence	Consistent/ Shared goals	Joint planning	Joint service delivery	Lead organization	One leading agency
Cooperation (across sectors, in a network of services)	●	●				
Collaboration	●	●	●			
Coordination	●	●	●	●	●	
Integration of services		●	●	●	●	●



HOW

ISSA's contribution to the theory and practice of cross-sectoral coordination:

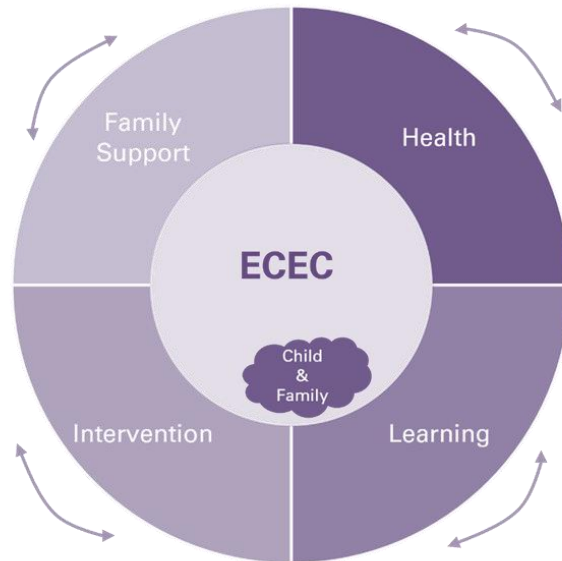
- **INTESYS Toolkit** (piloted in 3 countries)
- **Primokiz approach** in working with local governments (50 municipalities in Europe)
- **ECD Toolbox** for local governments

ECD Toolbox – Building Block 3/Tool 3: Leveraging Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) to support children and families with higher vulnerabilities and limited access to services

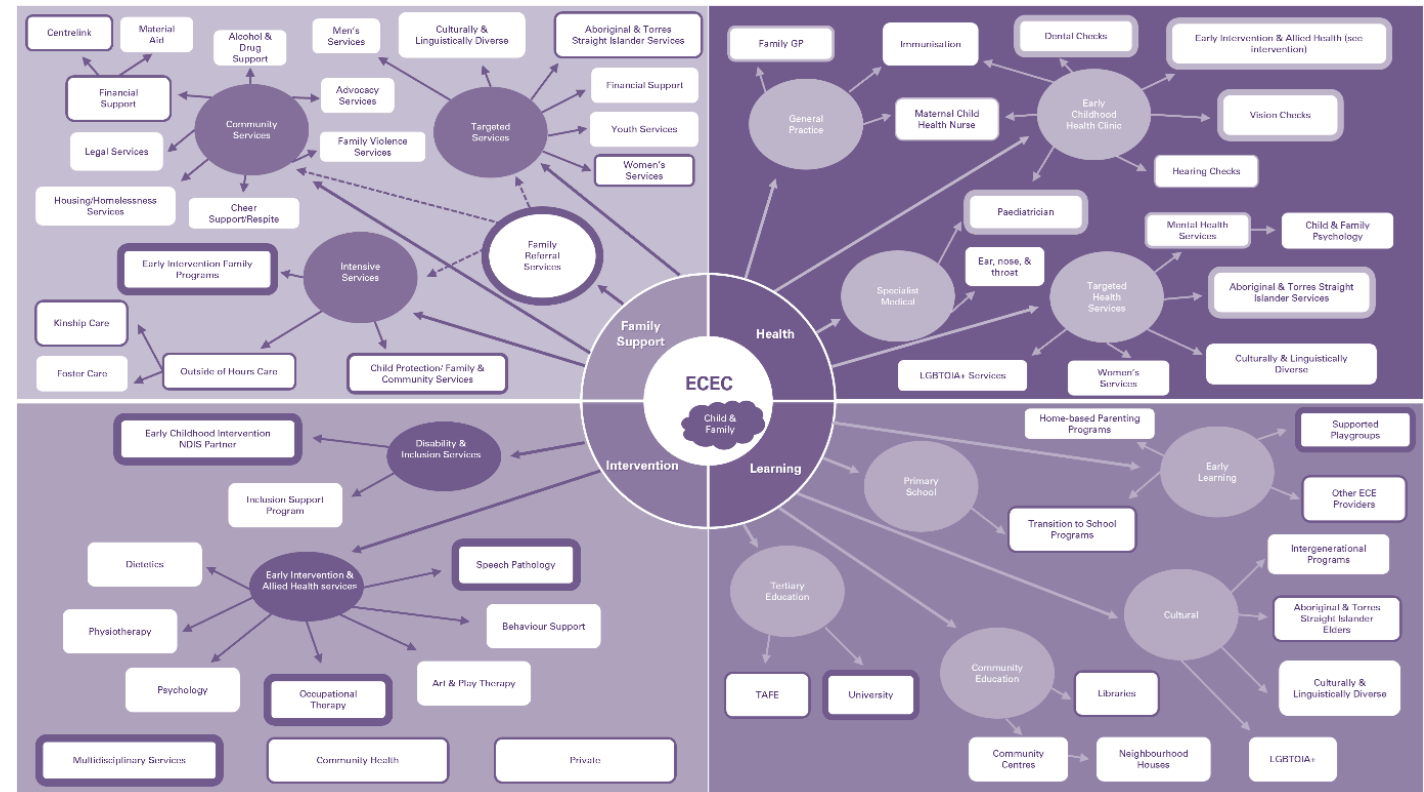
Functional Practice Framework (Neilsen-Hewett, et al., 2023)

Neilsen-Hewett, et al. (2023). Supporting service integration through early childhood education: challenges and opportunities in regional contexts. *Front. Educ.*, 14 September 2023, Sec. Special Educational Needs, Volume 8 – 2023.

<https://doi.org/10.3389/feduc.2023.1220658>



HOW





THANK
YOU

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