

ICDP

International Child Development Programmes



ICDP NEWSLETTER

June 2009

www.icdp.info

Dear friends and colleagues,

In this newsletter you will find news which we received from you in 2009. We also invite you to read our ICDP Annual Report 2008, attached to this newsletter.

We look forward to more information about your work in the coming months!

From the ICDP international team

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1. NEW EVALUATION STUDY



Professor Rolf Holmqvist from the Linköpings University came on a visit to Oslo to meet up with Karsten Hundeide and some of the members of the ICDP team in order to discuss together plans for a new evaluation project in Africa. The study will be carried out in Tanzania in cooperation with ICDP Sweden, ICDP International, Save the Children UK and the University in Dar es Salaam.

The study group is comprised of a supervisor and seven doctoral students. The main researcher will be Sofia Frankenberg Johnsson, a doctoral student currently living in Dar es Salaam.

The intention is to create conditions for a randomized study in order to get effect data that can be used for further development of support groups for caregivers in Tanzania.

The study will enhance our knowledge on two levels: the first concerns the actual effects of ICDP on parents and children and on another level, the study will increase the knowledge about socio-emotional functioning, child-parent interaction and perceptions of parenthood in the selected part of Tanzania and probably also give knowledge about these phenomena in other growing cities with transitional values in Africa. ICDP International is considering a similar study for Mozambique.

2. ARTICLE FROM DENMARK



Relationship is real - but rather invisible force in the pedagogical work. ICDP increases visibility

Since my training as psychologist more than 10 years ago, I have been busy using my educational knowledge to help create good learning environments. In this process, I have been, professionally and mentally, strongly support by the ICDP program.

In 2002 I was invited to collaborate with 5 pre-schools who wanted to ensure the quality of their pedagogical work. Together with external psychological consultant Peter Westmark, I was invited to join them in their "educational transformation journey". The trip was very successful because the ICDP program became the professional framework which allowed the pedagogical staff to find the courage to broaden their outlook – to replace the individual perspective of the child with a relational perspective. The relationship became the heart of the pedagogical work during the project. Through increased sensitive reflection and peer feedback, we focus on the invisible but real relationships. Using ICDP, we could put in words

the power and energy that are embedded in the relationships. The project was a great professional and personal satisfaction for the majority of the participants. We talked about our project throughout the whole of Denmark to other kindergartens and schools, and published a book "Relationship Work in kindergarten" Dafolo, 2004.

Former professor of social psychology Per Schultz - Jorgensen called the project "a milestone in Danish pedagogy." The cornerstone of the success was actually quite simple. We started, supported by the ICDP to highlight and talk about the obvious and ordinary - the human relationships.

The external evaluation showed that the project had increased the staff's professional skills, but at the same time the project proved that employee job satisfaction also increased in parallel. It was a significant side effect that made me very curious. How could it be that increase in duties (for example using video analysis) and "demands for change" were seen positively? Detailed analysis of the evaluation responses showed that the participants experienced thoughts and ideas behind ICDP as meaningful and at the same time a "technical support" for the "invisible - but real pedagogical work" - which increased both the professionalism and joy of work.

Many factors influence both the professionalism and job satisfaction, but during the last few years I have turned to positive psychology, which from a scientific point of view is trying to deal with issues like "what is a good life?" What emotional states increase sensitivity? How can people feel the joys of life, in times which are characterized by great complexity and conflicting trends? My professional passion is concerning the effort to create good life, for young and old, and in this context I find it difficult (impossible?) to find an alternative to ICDP. ICDP is scaffolding all my professional activities or in other words ICDP represents my professional cohesion, whether I work with individuals, team or organizations. I am convinced that for the rest of my working life as a psychologist I'll find meaning and increase my professional commitment around ICDP.

In May 2008, the Danish ICDP Board was formed. We are engaged in the Nordic cooperation and work simultaneously to create a powerful resource of the ICDP network in Denmark. Currently, it is unclear how strong and large the ICDP network is in Denmark, but hopefully we can be more accurate in next years report.

I have written this little article to assure you that ICDP in Denmark is strong and alive, and contributes to enrich professionalism and the joy of working. And the very best: next month I can practice my ICDP skills together with my first grandchild.

- Anne Linder, psychologist and member of the ICDP Board, Denmark www.authenticus.dk

3. DEVELOPMENTS IN AUSTRALIA

ICDP Australia has recently been formed and officially launched in Brisbane; the next step is for the organization to be legally registered. The process leading to this development had started over a year ago when Renee Goetz and Alex Blauensteiner visited Norway to find out more about ICDP by attending an ICDP course in Oslo; ever since then they have been actively promoting their idea of bringing ICDP to Australia and working on it together with others who showed interest. Two recent activities mark the beginning of concrete ICDP developments in Australia: a public fundraising event in Brisbane and an ICDP workshop which gathered participants from Brisbane, Sydney, Perth, Cairns, as well as New Zealand.

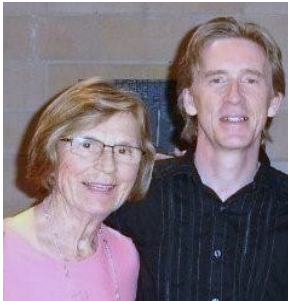


Photo: Renee Goetz and Sebastian Flynn

Fundraising for ICDP: The Gallery Gig series is based around an afternoon tea, with high quality musicians and an art exhibition - the proceeds are going towards the training of ICDP facilitators. Sebastian Flynn is chair of a cultural organization called SICA and he has joined Renee and Alex in their efforts to promote and establish the ICDP program in Australia with the aim of improving the quality of care and interaction offered to children - whether as a parent or professional care-giver.



According to Sebastian, Australia is looking to improve its poor international record with the United Nations and UNICEF for the quality of its childcare, and in these times when parents are working long hours and many children spend extended periods in care, improvements to caregivers' training and better interaction between parents and children is a great cause. On Sunday 19 April the first concert recital held at the Clearview Centre, Seven Hills/Morningside featured Flamenco Guitarist Gerard Mapstone (on photo) , one of Australia's finest classical and flamenco guitarists <http://www.gerardmapstone.com.au>



An ICDP training workshop took place a few days after the fundraising event. (see participants in photos above)

It was very successful and as result all participants showed a lot of interest in the ICDP methodology and agreed to start implementing the program in practice in small scale projects, as part of their training. The whole group decided to create a network, to keep in touch and to continue working together to make ICDP Australia a reality.

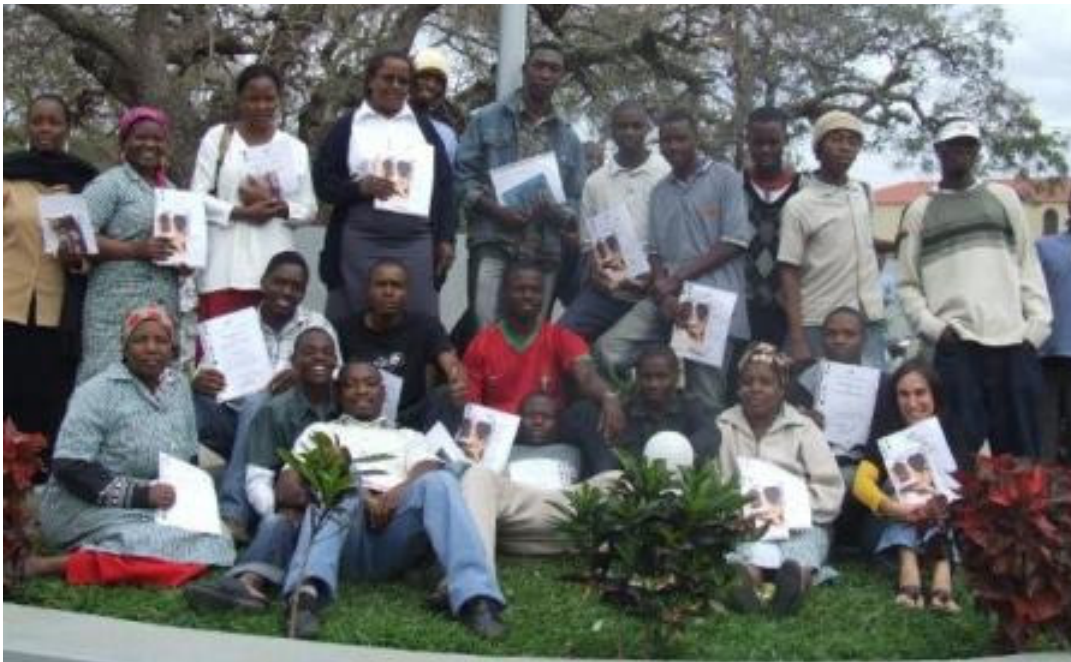
4. FROM ICDP MOZAMBIQUE

News from Pedro Mendes: - During these last few months the focus of our activities has been on preparing for closure of the three year intervention project at Khanimambo Education Child Centre. At the same time we were taking first steps in consolidating our strategy for the future: the aim is to anchor ICDP in stable and outreaching institutions and to mainstream the ICDP program in community organizations. The objective is to train local resource persons and create a spill over effect and also to keep evaluating the impact at grass root levels.



A survey using a pre-post questionnaire that involved 35 children from Khanimambo showed a clear change in several dimensions. Children said that there was an improvement in the quality of the teacher-pupil relation, that adults developed a more open attitude towards them, that

the school atmosphere became more human and relaxed and that the teachers and other adults started asking them for their views and their interests.



In terms of achieving practical results, we keep facing strong obstacles in our work due to general poverty, daily struggle to survive, HIV and AIDS. People are demoralized and totally dependent on old-fashioned ways of functioning and on external material support to counteract their gloomy destinies. Instead of being self-motivated, active and open to real changes, they feel hopeless and are unable to see any positive design for their own future and lack the will to struggle for it.

However, the ICDP psychosocial intervention is understood and recognized as necessary, especially by the women. There have been developments in and around the capital, Maputo. We started working with the “Mozambican Women Organization” that is extremely dynamic at community level and it is becoming an active promoter of the ICDP program. A more systematic and extended cooperation with them is planned for 2009.

We also started working with the Red Cross and signed a 'Memorandum of understanding'; in the first phase of our work we are focusing on the training of the staff at a Day Care Centre for children at high risk that gives support to 150 children and youngsters.

Religious organizations continue to be the most reliable vehicles in spreading our messages. We started projects working with two new communities, both extremely needy. In spite of their difficult circumstances we know that their religious beliefs will greatly assist the ICDP process and will have a positive impact on the behaviour towards their children and families in the future.

Mainstreaming of psychosocial support is of critical importance in Mozambique because, according to the Health Ministry calculations, there are 500 new infections every day and as result the number of orphans is increasing dramatically. This situation is putting pressure on us to increase and extend our ICDP work.

5. SEEKING A WAY AHEAD FOR ICDP IN UKRAINE

Marianne Fresjarå (on photo below)is from the Norwegian Peace Association. She has recently established close cooperation with the ICDP international team.



For over ten years Marianne has been involved with educational projects in Antratsit (town in the Donetsk region of Ukraine) and has developed partnership with several local institutions working for the benefit of children at risk. Through her work over the years she became aware of the importance of programs such as ICDP and this led her to contact the ICDP Oslo office. Following her initiative to introduce ICDP to Ukraine and with the assistance from the ICDP team, she formulated an ICDP project proposal and started the process of seeking funding from various sources in Norway.

6. STRATEGY FOR COLOMBIA

The official government website announces (click on link below) a meeting in the capital Neiva of the Huila province, to discuss progress of the ICDP project and to set future plans; invited among others, are Luis Jorge Sánchez García, the Governor of the province, Paul Martin, the representative of UNICEF and Nicoletta Armstrong from ICDP International.

http://www.gobhuila.gov.co/cms/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7739:gobier-no-y-unicef-socializaran-programas-dirigidos-a-la-infancia&catid=54:secretaria-de-salud&Itemid=200

7. UNICEF CHECKING PROGRESS OF ICDP IN HUILA, COLOMBIA

ICDP activities in the Huila department are continuing to develop. A new phase of implementation is in progress, where the 142 newly trained ICDP facilitators (agents from different local networks: education, health and social services) are organizing training courses for 10 colleagues. The facilitator's have gained sufficient experience with ICDP to be able to train their colleagues as promoters and afterwards supervise their implementation of the programme with families and children. The ICDP project in the Huila province is in process of evaluation. A team of professionals employed by UNICEF



will produce a study report by the end of 2009, showing the effect of ICDP at every level of implementation and making recommendations for the future based on those findings. In this province ICDP has been working in cooperation with the government institutions and their networks; main sponsorship is by UNICEF and Ecopetrol. There is a special committee comprised of representatives from each participant institution set up to monitor the development of the ICDP project. A delegate from

UNICEF (who is part of this committee) went on a field visit to Neiva, the capital of the Huila department, to check progress of ICDP implementation. The visit was to the school "Oliverio Lara Borrero" and the meeting took place with 8 teachers and coordinators who were trained as ICDP facilitators. They demonstrated and explained how ICDP is being successfully used with children, particularly with those who are experiencing some difficulties in their school life. As result of this success they said they wish to expand their work. They made a request to receive more ICDP materials to be able to work with all the preschool and primary school pupils (1200 children).

8. ICDP INITIATIVE WITH STUDENTS

News from Abel Salazar, from Medellin, Colombia: - We have started a new ICDP project, in cooperation with an NGO called "La Imaginación". The target group are 25 students who are in the process of finishing their studies in child care at a government institution called SENA.



The ICDP training involves practical interactive tasks in between the workshop sessions. The aim of the training is to give the students an opportunity to develop practical skills as caregivers, thus complementing their theoretical studies about child development and child care. ICDP trainer, Carolina Montoya from the FUNLAM University (photo above on the right) is also involved and leading part of the training.



In addition to the work with the students, we also ran 4 groups to train 30 teachers (photo above) from the FAN and Carala Cristina organizations; both organizations are working with vulnerable families in marginalized areas of Medellin. Each teacher is responsible for 35 children less than 6 years old. Apart from this, I am in process of training a new group of 40 teachers from the Los Alamos institute, who assist children with special needs. And finally we have planned to train a group of 40 leaders later this year.

9. ICDP IN PARAGUAY

From Elizabeth Gavilan:- We applied ICDP in a project in the small industrial town of Villeta, 45 km south of Asunción, on the Paraguay River, in the period between May 2008 and April 2009. Our work was linked to the Program for Improvement of Early Childhood Education Services by the Ministry of Education, funded the Interamerican Development Bank; the objective of the Ministry is to collect experiences in community-based Early Childhood Education in order to design public policies based on best practices. We held the ICDP meetings for 40 families and their children on the premises of the Catholic convent, on Sunday afternoons, from 2 – 5 pm. We included creative and recreational activities, greatly

enjoyed by all. The ICDP participants were mostly women, but the few men that attended were really interesting as they overcame a Paraguayan prejudice: that child care is an exclusively female job. Our participants were more Guaraní than Spanish speaking. We could not count on laptops or electronic projectors, but we used photos, interchanging of experiences in small groups, role-playing, sharing anecdotes and stories. We gained solid experience in all those alternative methods, and see them as a good way of spreading ICDP to other parts of the country. One thing crystallized for me during the years of application of ICDP in pilot projects, in institutions and on facilitator, as well as caregiver level in Paraguay: We have to focus on caregivers, and choose from among caregivers (rather than from among professionals) the best candidates to be trained as ICDP facilitators. This is because teachers, social workers and other professionals tend to take their ICDP task more as an academic one, and sometimes do not see the high importance of the caregiver's task that needs to be undertaken in an affectionate, understanding, enthusiastic and alert manner.

What do evaluation instruments reveal to us so far about the effects of training in Villeta? Direct observation, supported by photographs showed that participants started to talk more with their children; they practice more physical proximity and have more eye contact with their children. They take care not to insult or maltreat their children in any other way. Evaluations after workshops, as well as spontaneous conversations with participants revealed that participants felt well during workshops; they value their children much more and have learned to dialogue with them; they noticed that having dialogues with one's children has a good effect and it needs to be done calmly; they dialogue now with their teenage children too; they understand that they can be their own children's teachers (previously they thought it was something reserved just for school teachers); they believe children know exactly what it means to be kind or unkind towards them - they will not obey anybody who treats them badly, but do so willingly for somebody who treats them well.



Some of participants' comments:

"I now know what it is that I am doing with my children, I have learned terms to describe how I raise them."

"Thanks to what I am learning here my children converse more with one another now."

"What a pity the course is soon finishing. For me these Sunday afternoons

are a time when I can truly relax. Thanks to what we are learning here I have re-established good contact with my oldest son who is 15 years old and had previously distanced himself from me. My husband is alcoholic and that is a big unresolved problem but at least my children and I talk and share now."

10. REPORT FROM BYDEL ALNA, OSLO

I work as an ICDP coordinator in Alna, a big community that consists of about 60.000 inhabitants. I am one of the two main ICDP trainers. More than 60% of the population are of foreign background. ICDP is my only task in this community and I have been doing this for about a year and a half. During that time I trained two groups of facilitators together with Anne Haga. All together we will soon have 34 accredited facilitators; 9 are still doing their group work with parents or colleagues, but they will hopefully fulfil and deliver their paperwork before the summer! During spring 2008 we put the ICDP programme into practice with 10 groups and in 3 of these groups we worked in a foreign language (Urdu). During the autumn the number was 19 groups; 16 groups (8 for colleagues and 8 for Norwegian speaking parents) and 3 for parents with foreign languages (Urdu and Persian Dari). One of the Urdu groups was with fathers only. There was on average about 6 participants in each group, which means that last year about 174 persons attended an ICDP course in this neighbourhood.

It has been easy to recruit facilitators for training, but not as easy to have parents join the groups. We also experienced that few of the parents attended all the 8 meetings. But nevertheless, we noticed that even those who came only once experienced something important and we concluded that even one "lesson" of ICDP can make a small change. That is at least what we hope for! People are very enthusiastic, and it feels so meaningful to work with this program!!

My mission is soon completed here in Alna, but the work with ICDP will continue by other persons. In the future we really want to get an appropriate system and establish good routines to record all the activities, and we are already beginning to work together with government and HEV to make this happen.

The big plan for the future is that we hope all parents in Norway may be invited to attend an ICDP group before the children get too old!!! Best regards from, Eli Ø Baardseth

11. COMMENTS FROM FACILITATOR RANI RAJMOHAN



Rani Rajmohan (in the middle on the photo) is one of the facilitators involved in the ICDP implementation with minority groups who has participated in the refresher workshop about ICDP, held on the 2nd March in the Ammerud school, in Oslo. Rani has been implementing the ICDP program by working with 2 groups of parents per year and is also the ICDP coordinator for the local council, Bydel

Grorud. She said: "In our council most of the assistants and kindergarten teachers have been through a course in ICDP. I have been working with ICDP since 2004 and in my experience it is most interesting and useful for parents. I see how it influences the parents' experience of the child in a positive way. It is important also because it activates parents' cultural practices and values which help their children's development. It gives parents more self-confidence."

12. ICDP IN RODA VIVA, PORTUGAL

From Penélope Villar: - ICDP Portugal was officially registered in 2008. At present we can count with a core team of seven (2 International Trainers, 1 National Trainer and 4 Promoters) fully trained and prepared to perform field work. Our team is very balanced in gender (3 men and 4 women) and age, since it is formed by members that are in ICDP since its foundation, as well as newly formed members. This balance is extremely enriching since we can count with the contribution from different experiences and professional qualifications.

Our work is mostly in "Roda Viva" Educational and Social Centre, working in Alfragide, a poor district of Lisbon: - 7,1% resident foreign population ¹; - 2,4% school drop out (against 1,8% in Lisbon Metropolitan Area) ¹; - 7,8‰ child death rate (against 5,5‰ in Lisbon Metropolitan Área) ¹; - 3rd position in unemployment in Lisbon Metropolitan Área ²;

1) – Data from CM Amadora in "Plano de Desenvolvimento Social 2005/2007"

2) – Data from IEFP, 2003 in www.iefp.pt

A significant part of the population in Alfragide lives on low income and/or is dependent on social and economic support. The goal of the Center "Roda Viva" is to contribute to the promotion and social integration of the groups at risk. The activities of the centre fall within the areas of early childhood education, family support and monitoring, prevention of domestic violence, sports and socio-cultural animation, marginality/delinquency and addictions prevention, study support, etc. The Centre is a non profit organization hosting children and youngsters from 4 months to 15 years old, in a total of 115 children.

Throughout the year 2008, the work done by our ICDP team was focused on sensitizing parents of children attending the centre. The sessions had a large membership and interest among parents has been growing steadily. When the parent's sensitization training was about to end, and due to its success, the Centre Director asked the ICDP Trainer Penélope Villar to start the sensitization of the whole technical team at "Roda Viva" consisting of 4 Educators and 5 Educational Helpers. In addition another 32 persons were sensitized some of whom are still doing their training in order to be accredited as ICDP Promoters. The aim of ICDP was to develop in those who deal directly with the 115 children an emotional and communicative language as uniform and consistent as possible, so that the necessary and fundamental changes can happen at the levels of children education and their cognitive-emotional development.

The results obtained by ICDP may be considered positive. Changes were observed in the parents, in the technical team, as well as in those trained as Promoters. The success of this intervention ensured the continuity of the project, which will see its scope expanded in the coming months.

The ICDP intervention was facilitated by:

- The motivation and interest shown throughout the sessions by "Roda Viva" Direction, particularly its Director, Isabel Dinis

- The high motivation of a specific group of parents, attending all the sessions
- The parents' open feeling and confidence during all the sessions
- The fact that the group of parents has been reduced led to more personal work and closer sharing of experiences.

Points of difficulty: -The fact that the group of participants was not defined and constant. Since the request to the beginning of this work was done by the Centre Directorate, we had to choose to leave the entries for participation open to all parents who wished to participate. Thus, although we managed to establish a relatively constant and stable group, there were fluctuations in the parents who participated and their attendance;

- According to Parent's request, the sessions took place after work schedule, which meant that the participants felt tired.



For effective monitoring of the work developed, it is important to have regular sessions in which it is possible to discuss and reflect the issues of most concern to parents, enhancing their self-esteem and potential changes that began to emerge in their behaviour. It is important to continue with the sharing and trust established with the parents, because it has proved to be a real antidote to the issues identified by the

Directorate as more disturbing. Furthermore, it is beneficial that this work continues because it increases the interest in parents that were not yet covered by sensitization.

What really makes us believe in the work that we are doing is represented by the “real people and their life stories”, so we would like to share two stories of parents who participated in the sensitization sessions conducted in the "Roda Viva" Centre. One example is a mother of one of the boys considered to be more "problematic". From the first moment she confessed to have no patience, to be shouting and beating her children. As she was progressively more involved in ICDP there were profound changes in the way she saw her children and she began to understand the impact that her behaviour had on them. She became one of the most interested members of the group and shared her experiences with remarkable frankness. She internalized the ICDP concepts and the changes in her behaviour were significant. She completely stopped beating her children, became more consistent when imposing limits to them. She became more calm and relaxed and her relationship with children became more peaceful and easy. Another example is a father who changed and started to feel the need to be with his daughter. Initially he was totally unaware of the importance of spending time with his daughter and the impact it had on her psycho-emotional development. He gradually started to express himself positively about playing with his daughter and began to show more and more interest in spending time with her in order to give her a “secure basis” (in his own words). Towards the end, he verbalized the need to be firm with her within the set limits, even when she was up against them.

13. POSSIBILITIES FOR ICDP IN MEXICO

A group of professionals, who were introduced to ICDP in August 2008, have since formed an ICDP team. They have now finished preparing written materials with basic ICDP information with the aim of introducing ICDP to Mexico. On the 5th of March, Fernando Fatah Nieva, the general director of the CIMA B&C, together with his colleague Martha Sanchez Aguilar, in charge of Education projects, started negotiations with the representatives of DIF (the government area responsible for families) in the town of Puebla. Their vision is to integrate the ICDP program through the government networks on large scale.

14. ICDP PERU IS REGISTERED

News from Ana Sofia Mazzini and Fermina Herrera - both are ICDP Peru board members:



ICDP Peru is a newly registered ICDP national organization. It is currently in process of negotiating an agreement of cooperation with the Ministry for Women.

The Ministry is responsible for a nationwide program called Wawawasi . This program consists in delivering training about health, nutrition and basic care for children, to

selected mothers from a community, who become known as the Wawawasi mothers. Their task is to take care of children less than 3 years of age during the hours that the children's parents are at work.

The aim of the ICDP cooperation with the Wawawasi program is to develop an ICDP pilot project for families and children living in Villa el Salvador, in the south of Lima. It is planned to form 60 ICDP facilitators: 30 persons would be chosen from among the health promoters and 30 from the Wawawasi mothers. The first training workshop is taking place in June by a visiting ICDP trainer.

15. NEW PLANS FOR BRAZIL

Following the initiative of Dr Guillermo Navas, the Save the Children Programme coordinator in Recife, a new ICDP initiative is being planned for Brazil. Cooperation started with a meeting in London between one of the ICDP directors and Maria José Coutinho, the country director of the Brazilian office of Save the Children UK. The Save the Children objective is to promote integral policy for early childhood development and survival including components of early education, health, nutrition and parenting. As an outcome of the meeting, a preliminary plan has been formulated for the future ICDP implementation in the poor communities of the North-eastern area of Brazil.

16. DEVELOPMENTS IN SWEDEN

At the annual meeting in 2008, Karin Edenhammar resigned from her position as chair of the ICDP Sweden Foundation but will continue as an honorary member of the board. Annelie Waldau Bergman was elected as the new chairperson. Annelie is a psychologist/psychotherapist and has been working with the foundation since year 2000. There is another new member of the board, Lilian Berggren, a psychologist active at Örebro University and Barnrättsakademien (Children's Rights Academy).

In 2008 a new training program for trainers started to develop all over the country, with 70 accredited trainers/supervisors. ICDP training reached out also to some new areas, such as training groups of social workers in geriatric care. The first group started in November. Plans are made to host a conference in June 2009 about the inclusion of ICDP in geriatric care. A project that educates young students in ICDP guided interaction has also been initiated. It is an adaptation of the ICDP program to meet the needs of young people today. The purpose of the project is to reduce alienation and rejection amongst younger pupils at intermediate schools.

In September, Peter Westmark from Denmark held a much appreciated seminar on the theme "Golden Moments" in Västervik. In November, a seminar on the theme "Guided Interaction and Creativity" was held in Stockholm. Lecturers included Petri Partanen, Paul Bergman, Benny Marcel (from the Cultural Council) and a guest from Denmark, Anne Linder.

The ICDP Foundation has started an evaluation project, funded by the government's health institute. The evaluation is part of the effort to ensure quality of training. A research project has also been initiated, in cooperation with Linköpings University. The goal is to find out whether professionally educated caregivers more easily detect and understand interaction. There will also be an evaluation of parenting groups.

ICDP Sweden has started a joint-stock company, ICDP AB. The purpose is to hire through the foundation consultants trained in ICDP guided interaction for different assignments, such as lectures and educations.

A number of books, booklets and manuals are currently being edited. There was a need for a review and update, as it is almost eight years since their initial release. In March 2009, the Swedish homepage will be rebuilt to meet the needs for clearer and more easily accessible information. The address is www.icdp.se

17. INFORMATION ABOUT TRAINING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ICDP IN OSLO

From Mona Hannestad: The Oslo municipality is divided in 15 districts with a population of 560 484. The work of ICDP takes place through Health and Welfare, at municipality and district levels. The Oslo municipality has 170 facilitators and 60 of these are from minority groups. We are now in the process of developing a strategy that would secure good quality implementation of ICDP as part of the daily work of the city districts' children's services

'bydelenes oppveksttjenester ' - their networks which are reaching children and families through health stations, kindergartens, schools, and with a special focus on children at risk.

The facilitators working with the minority groups will be receiving additional training about awareness raising and dealing with the problems concerning female genital mutilation. They will be enabled to deal with these issues which sometimes come up in the ICDP sessions concerning cultural practices and themes about limit setting. This work will be in line with the government's current efforts to tackle 3 important areas: forced marriages, female genital mutilation and use of violence as a method of control. The ICDP facilitators will be followed up and given opportunities to share about their experiences on regular basis, and will have access to advice and counselling as required. Other areas of focus for the ICDP work in the Oslo municipality encompasses: a) working with families whose children have special needs, and b) using ICDP through child protection services for children at risk, by working both with parent groups and with individual families on one to one basis.

18. REVISION OF TRAINING PROCEDURE FOR NORWAY



Photo above shows ICDP trainers at the ICDP head-office at a meeting in January. They started to work on the revision of the ICDP training procedures for Norway, under the supervision of Professor Karsten Hundeide: Hilde Ternes (on far right) and Mona Hannestad (in the middle) are members of the board of ICDP Norway. Grete Flakk (on far left) is employed by the Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs to coordinate the ICDP Parental Guidance project which is spreading to most regions in Norway. The implementation of ICDP has reached 37 new municipalities since last year. Hilda is developing ICDP projects in Bergen adapted for use with special needs children. Mona has been coordinating the ICDP Minority Project which is gradually spreading all over Norway. In the Oslo municipality ICDP is implemented with families and children through different networks, such as health stations, kindergartens, preschools and social services. There are 170 ICDP trained facilitators of which 70 are working with minority groups.