

ECD environment as a third teacher – child development, efficiency and innovation



Tigran Shmis, Sr. Education Specialist, World Bank, Moscow

Bishkek, June 2015

Outline

Why ECD environment matters Innovations and opportunities Areas for further development



Existing context





Kurt Lewin and Loris Malaguzzi

B = f(P, E)

Behavior is a function of personality and environment

In Reggio Emilia ECD environment is considered as a **third teacher**, after **parents** and **teachers** (Gandini, 1998). Children learn through interaction with environment and other people.



Characteristics of developing environments

- 1. Different materials and equipment.
- 2. Increased perception of the control over environment.
- 3. Opportunities for children to arrange the environment for personal needs.
- 4. Areas for privacy.





Impact on outcomes

Agency and executive function are higher when more opportunities are provided for initiative, and ability to change the environment by children (Bagby et al, 2012).





The more active space in environment, the more creativity, the less conflicts, higher self confidence (Prescott, 1967; White and Stoecklin, 2003, Maxwell, 2007).



What can be done?: innovations require changing the rules





Regulatory environment of most CIS countries



Child-centered resilient environments



Size of the kindergarten: opportunities for modelling the 220 places kindergarten

Active space per child $\sim 9 \text{ sq.m.}$



0% heating 0% electricity 0 USD

2.5 sq.m.

up to 30% electricity up to 1.2 mln USD over 40 years of operation







МИКРОРАЙОН ЗА



Ø



ОБЩЕЕ ИГРОВОЕ ПРОСТРАНСТВО





Competition on innovative kindergartens as part of the project: 200 places center



Competition on innovative kindergartens as part of the project: 100 places center





Soft side is equally important

- 1. New spaces need new approaches for childteacher interactions;
- 2. The existing spaces may be rearranged (first slide);
- 3. New quality assurance system as a basis for improvement of the whole system;
- 4. Efficiency may drive new management models and approaches;
- 5. The National level needs special TA to improve regulatory frameworks



Thank you! tshmis@worldbank.org

