

# Global Leaders for Young Children

Launching the next generation of early childhood leaders in the world

The Global Leaders for Young Children program at the World Forum Foundation seeks to identify and develop the next generation of early childhood leaders throughout the world. Since its inception in 2004, nearly 200 emerging leaders from 61 countries have participated, with many graduates currently playing major roles in shaping the early childhood policies and practices in their countries and regions.

Global Leaders engage in a two year program, during which time they develop and implement action-oriented projects in their own communities aimed at improving the lives of young children. A carefully designed curriculum helps participants develop leadership capacity and effective advocacy skills, and gain a deeper understanding of early childhood research, practice and global issues. Through participation in three face-to-face meetings as well as ongoing communication, Global Leaders develop a strong network of regional and international peers.

Key areas of focus for the next cohort of Global Leaders include the following:

- **Regional Focus.** Integrating Global Leaders into their regional early childhood networks will connect them to a broader community and strengthen their awareness of regional resources and support.
- **Robust Curriculum.** An enhanced curriculum will strengthen leadership development, global awareness of ECD issues, and knowledge of the science of ECD.
- **Frequent Communication and Mentoring Support.** Guided online discussions, one-on-one guidance from a Regional Coordinator, alumni Global Leader mentors, and regular communication across regions will strengthen the sense of community among Global Leaders and provide ongoing support.



*“The concept of building the capacity of the international early childhood community through a Global Leaders Program has proved successful. Now we need to continue to strengthen the intensity of the program and expand the reach so participants can become even more effective in their efforts to improve the lives of children and to improve policies and practice.”*

- Joan Lombardi

## TARGETED REGIONS FOR 2016-2018

Efforts for recruitment, sponsorship, and regional partnerships will focus on the following six regions for the 2016-2018 class (implementation will move forward with each region only as funding is secured):

**GLAF: Africa Region.** A regional ECD network is emerging with major participation of current and past Global Leaders.



**GLAR: Arab Region.** Strong regional participation has been a cornerstone of the Global Leaders program.

**GLAP: Asia-Pacific Region.** The Asia Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC) will continue to be a key partner with Global Leaders.

**GLEU: Europe Region.** Partnering with the International Step by Step Association (ISSA) with focus on those from Romani/Traveller backgrounds.

**GLNA: North America Region.** A primary focus is on those from indigenous/tribal backgrounds.

**GLSA: South America Region.** Meetings will be aligned with emerging efforts to develop stronger early childhood networks in this region.

## GLOBAL LEADERS SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants for the Global Leaders for Young Children program must demonstrate the following:

- Experience working with young children and families
- Leadership potential in advocating for young children, particularly those at highest risk
- Knowledge of the policy context for young children in their own country
- Strong commitment to improving conditions for young children globally and understanding other cultures
- Commitment to develop and implement an action-oriented project in their own country or community in order to raise awareness about a key early childhood issue or to promote quality early childhood services
- Commitment to remain in the program for the full two years
- Fluency in English

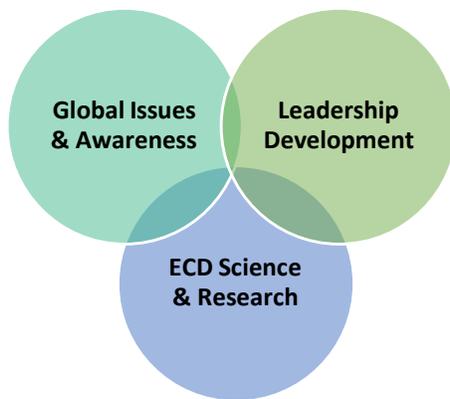
*Preference will be given to those candidates who are active in a professional early childhood association or other related group; or affiliated with a university, government agency, or national or international NGO.*

## CURRICULUM

The Global Leaders for Young Children program at the World Forum Foundation seeks to develop the next generation of early childhood leaders throughout the world. During the two year program, Global Leaders engage with a curriculum designed to build a strong foundation of essential knowledge and skills in the following areas:



**Global Issues & Awareness.** Global Leaders will gain a deeper understanding of current issues affecting early childhood development globally, which will strengthen their awareness of and connection to the broader early childhood community.



**Leadership Development.** Participants will have ample opportunity to enhance their leadership and advocacy skills, and put new learnings into practice through implementation of their own action-oriented projects.

**Science of Early Child Development (SECD).** Global Leaders will receive training and a two year license to access resources from the Science of ECD curriculum from the consortium led by Red River College. Building understanding of research and best practice will strengthen Global Leader advocacy efforts.

This curriculum will be delivered to participants through a variety of methods:

<b>Face-to-Face</b>	Global Leaders will receive face-to-face training at two regional meetings and a pre-conference session at the World Forum.
<b>Monthly Calls/ Webinars</b>	Interactive monthly calls will allow all Global Leaders to engage more deeply with the core curriculum topics and network with their peers. Calls will rotate between All Calls with the entire Global Leader network, to regional group calls, to calls with a small mentoring group composed of current leaders and alumni.
<b>Listserv</b>	Participants will receive regular email updates with current information and resources relevant to their work as Global Leaders.
<b>Regional Networks</b>	Integrating Global Leaders into existing regional networks is a key component of the program.

## Global Leaders Program Timeline



## HOW TO SPONSOR

The World Forum Foundation is seeking partnership organizations to sponsor Global Leaders for the 2016-18 cohort. These sponsors have an opportunity to help target leadership development efforts to certain countries and regions.

### Sponsor Expectations Include:

- Work with the World Forum Foundation and the appropriate regional network association to recruit and identify emerging leaders in accordance with the Global Leaders Selection Criteria.
- Cover the program costs for sponsored Global Leaders, including tuition, travel and an advocacy project grant.
- Serve as an additional resource to the Global Leader by offering technical assistance, support, and mentoring as needed. Encourage full engagement of sponsored Global Leaders in program meetings and calls.
- Check in periodically with the Global Leader to see how he/she is progressing, and be in communication with the Regional Coordinator and World Forum Foundation as needed to ensure a successful Global Leader experience.

### Sponsor Benefits Include:

- Influencing which countries are targeted in the 2016-18 Global Leader cohort.
- Being recognised as a Global Leader sponsor on the World Forum website and at World Forum events, including the program of the 2017 World Forum on Early Care and Education.
- Having the opportunity to participate as an observer at Global Leader face-to-face meetings and view Global Leader webinars.
- Receiving regular Global Leader program updates, news, and information on progress of advocacy projects.

## HOW TO APPLY

Emerging professionals in the ECD field with an interest in becoming a Global Leader can also apply directly to the program. Applicants must meet the Global Leader selection criteria and complete an application by no later than **August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**. Potential Global Leaders applying directly to the program must identify an external sponsor committed to covering program costs and meet sponsor expectations outlined above. A letter of commitment from the sponsoring organization must be included with the application.



## GLOBAL LEADERS PROGRAM COSTS

Below is a breakdown of estimated costs for the 2 year program, based on the average cost per Global Leader:

\$1,000	<b>Advocacy Grant</b>	<i>“Seed money” given to Global Leaders to support implementation of an advocacy project conducted in their country or region.</i>
\$3,000	<b>Tuition</b>	<i>Includes leadership training, a curriculum to deepen understanding of early childhood research and practice, mentoring from Global Leader alumni, and Regional Coordinator support.</i>
\$5,500	<b>Travel*</b>	<i>Participation in two regional face-to-face meetings, as well as attendance at the World Forum meeting in New Zealand (airfare, hotel and conference registration)</i>
<b>\$9,500</b>	<b>TOTAL COST PER GLOBAL LEADER</b>	

*\*Estimated travel costs may vary depending on where the Global Leader is based and location of regional meetings.*



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