ReosPartners

| **Open Space Harvest** | 2018 Learning Festival
Geneva
May 22 & 23 |

Topic: ECD Lab focused on SDG 4.2

Host: Eduardo Marino, Fundação Maria Cecilia Souto Vidigal (FMCSV), Brazil

Who Else Participated:

Christel (Brazil)	Giuliana (C&A Foundation, Brazil)
Federico (Porticus, Brazil)	Josephine (Europe)
Fernando (Brazil)	Karen (South Africa)
	Mahmood (South Africa)

Main ideas, insights, and take-aways:

Did a round of introductions and surfaced questions:
- A-Z on labs
- Platform on ECD – learning from different experiences
- Sharing experiences form labs
- What transformation do we want to have in ECD?
- How to use an ECD lab on SDG 4.2 as an example for other SDGs?
- What is the role of the funder – as a funder and participant? What do I need to pay attention to?
- How to use/balance scenarios and labs?
- What are the learnings from the South African Platform on ECD that could be shared?
- How to bring in innovation?
- How to best design an ECD lab in Brazil to best serve needs?
- In what way can Reos South Africa offer systemic engagement in ECD?
- How to scale?
- How to bring a Southern energy and perspective to ECD?
- How well are we making the business/financial case for ECD?

Eduardo introduced the idea of an ECD lab focused on SDG 4.2 that is being designed in Brazil with Reos' support. He has a lot of questions and wants to explore them with others with experiences with labs and with ECD in other countries. There is a network of organizations in Brazil (Ciranda) that he has presented the idea to. ECD is advancing in Brazil and a significant milestone was reached with the creation of a legal framework on ECD recently. Both Instituto C&A and FMCSV were involved in influencing this agenda. There are tensions in the ECD field in Brazil mainly due to different ideologies around ECD. One of his questions is how to create a collective desire/ambition for the project with the Ciranda network. They focus on more than ECD but he feels it is important to focus on a specific SDG Goal and target: 4.2: By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and preprimary education so that they are ready for primary education.

Mahmood shared an experience of ECD in South Africa:

- conducive policy framework for ECD, doesn't necessarily mean or translate into action, are strengthening systems to execute the policy on the ground, helping government on the ground to support ECD practices to implement the policy
- using lean start up approach: ideation, testing, scale, needs to work at 5000 centers, not 5, working with what exists already, it is not either/0r, it is to advance policy and action

Discussion in group:
- Scenarios are a good way to discuss and bring in polarities and is able to work with different ideologies
- if there is polarization, this is an argument for doing scenarios first, it is a good starting point and a way for the stakeholders to develop relationships so that they can work together to then be able to transform the system
- scenarios accommodate the different perspectives and allow the group to create possible futures
- the group does not need to agree on what the problem is, it needs to acknowledge that there is a problem
- philanthropy plays an important role: have flexible money that can kick-start processes, can take more risks, can invest in working on the whole system, can work with innovators and early adopters, need to make room for followers.
- need to be clearer on what the fiscal argument is for ECD: use this argument more effectively
- impact investing: ECD is prime for impact investing, blockchain, proof of impact

Any next steps, actions or commitments:
- keep in touch and keep exchanging examples, practices and ideas