



“INFANCIES, DISLOCATIONS AND CHANGES”

REGIONAL MEETING JULY 17 2006 AND

III LATIN AMERICAN NETWORK CONFERENCE

CHILDWATCH INTERNATIONAL

MEXICO CITY

UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA METROPOLITANA

JULY 18-20 2006



## FRAMEWORK OF THE CONFERENCE:

As a result of the conjoint work of Brazil (CIESPI), Venezuela (CENDIF) and Colombia (CINDE) to focus on the social issues of poverty, marginalization and violence that compromise the right to full development as citizens of Latin American children and youth, this *Childwatch Study Group* has widened the possibilities of collaboration as an inclusive network to the rest of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean Region, in order to stretch the lag that exists in research and social practices and policy in our countries.

The Study Group has organized two Latin American Conferences as an opportunity of a high level academic encounter of different institutions and organizations involved in the fulfillment of the Child Rights Convention in contexts of poverty, violence and marginalization. After several days of intense work and analysis, different points of convergence were found around methodologies, key indicators of risk, but also of resiliency. There was agreement as to the need to spread the knowledge and expertise, to form new human resources and identify the possibilities of action for social change with a systemic and participative paradigm that would consider children and youth in relation with their families, communities, school, friends or peers.

The complex macroeconomic factors that characterize the increasingly unequal and exclusive Latin American realities, the potential of the role of research as an instrument of change and the limitations of working in adverse conditions of financing, have led to the need to join coordinated efforts that may make it possible to take a critical distance, along with advocacy, and complement their strengths and weakness by networking, in order to establish virtuous circles that may optimize the formation of learning communities as well as the mobilization of a social conscience.

The Latin American Network has set the following goals in the Childwatch International Framework:

- In depth study on Latin American Issues concerning children and youth in the international level
- To identify common problems in the global level in order to transform the local solutions
- To disseminate the network's role: Interchange of resources, discussion and open forums, collaborative research programs among others
- To emphasize the role of research in children and youth's development in relationship with the implementation of effective strategies of communication and action between academic research and social policies of the countries involved.
- To develop the human talent at all levels: formal education, research stays, community empowerment, effective use of technology
- To discuss the effects of diverse dislocations in children and youth such as internal or international migration, rural-urban displacements, from home to the streets, institutionalization (shelters, adoption, etc.)

As part of these strategies in the recent meeting of the Latin American Network in Oslo, Norway, there was a general agreement of organizing the Third Regional Conference in Mexico City for July of 2006. In this event, discussions will be made about the advances and strategies of networking

done in the meantime, in order to assure a greater impact of research in the social transformation that may result in better conditions of the quality of life of our infancy and youth.

#### ABOUT THE CONFERENCE:

PLACE: Auditorium of the General Dean Building, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Mexico City

Date: 18-20 July 2006

We are considering a meeting of three days of intensive work, with the participation of about 50 researchers, plus the assistance of invited researchers of others institutions, students and academic professors interested.

#### THEMATIC AXES:

- Impact of the dislocations in the development of children and youth (internal and international migration, rural-urban migration, from home to the streets, institutional placement of children.
- Democratization of knowledge. Generation of new talents.
- Strategies of incidence of research into public policies and spreading of knowledge by the media (use of technology, communicating with the press, etc).

#### COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATION (SEE ANNEX 2):

CHILDWATCH INTERNATIONAL

UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA METROPOLITANA

UNICEF-MEXICO

ORGANIZATION OF IBEROAMERICAN STATES –MEXICO

#### COORDINATION:

RESEARCH PROGRAM ON INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD- UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA METROPOLITANA

#### MODALITIES OF WORK:

- Plenary speakers
- Round Tables
- Books and other multimedia launch presentations
- Photographic and Child Illustrator Expositions
- Workshop: to illustrate successful experiences to affect public policies such as the Costa Rica experience.

In order to assure full participation and integration of all the invited participants that may speak other language than Spanish, simultaneous translation will be available (English-Spanish; Portuguese- Spanish).

We are offering the possibility of counting with **the permanent transmission of the whole conference by internet** as well as having a **videoconference with at least two other countries** in order to compare, discuss and share three successful experiences about programs for the peace in contexts of violence: the case of Mexico, Colombia and Venezuela.

#### PARTICIPANTS:

One of the issues discussed in the last meeting of the Latin American Network was the importance of attracting new institutions and researchers to open up possibilities of support and collaboration, especially in countries of the region with socioeconomic problems. Efforts are being made to transmit the Conference to countries of the region by internet in coordination with the Office in Mexico of the Organization of Iberoamerican States (OEI) and the *Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana*. UNICEF has shown interest to collaborate and has proposed to extend the invitation to the Regional Office in Latin America as well as to the other offices in the region to help in financing the travel expenses and monies of leader researchers of their Caribbean Countries, Central and South America so that they may participate in the Conference.

Childwatch International would be asked to support the financing of the travel expenses and monies of a key institutional representative of Latin America, the Caribbean Region and Spain (because of the historical-cultural links) of the following KI:

- Caribbean Child Development Centre, associated to the University of West Indies, in Jamaica, whose coordinator was elected as a member of the Childwatch International Advisory Board (Julie Meeks Gardner)
- CIESPI- (The International Center for Research and Policy on Childhood) of Río de Janeiro associated to the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro –whose director, Irene Rizzini-, was ratified as president of the Childwatch International Advisory Board.
- CINDE (the International Center for Education and Human Development) with three offices in Colombia. Its director Marta Arango was also elected as a member of the Childwatch International Board.
- CENDIF (Centro de Investigaciones para la Infancia y la Familia) associated to the Universidad Metropolitana of Caracas, Venezuela. Its director was member of the past Childwatch International Advisory Board.
- CEANIM (Center of Studies and of Attention to Children and Women) of Santiago Chile.
- The Children's Environments Research Group associated to the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. This group is actually working with CINDE in collaborative projects on child participation that has been supported by Childwatch International.
- PANIAMOR Foundation of San José Costa Rica
- The Interamerican Institute of the Child at Montevideo, Uruguay. Among other projects it coordinates the Iberoamerican Informational Network. The Center of Documentation of UAM is part of this network
- The Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development at Toronto Canada, which works with CINDE in the Net of Networks of Early Infancy.
- The Interdisciplinary Network of Research of Cataluña on the Rights of Children and their Quality of Life- University of Girona, Spain.

## CHILDWATCH INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL KEY INSTITUTION MEETING:

A meeting will be celebrated on the 17<sup>th</sup> of July with the Regional Representatives of the KI and the members of the Research Program on Infancy and Childhood of the *Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana* to work on some of the lines of research and have feedback from the network members. It will also be a space to get to know each other and reinforce new forms of interchange and collaboration.

PLACE: Meeting Room of the General Dean Building (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor). *Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana*.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORK AGENDA:

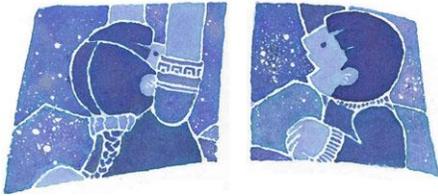
### ELABORATION OF THE AGENDA BY TWO WORKGROUPS AS AGREED AT THE MEETING OF THE LA NETWORK IN OSLO.

In the past meeting of the LA Network, in Oslo Norway, the participants divided in two workgroups to organize, gather and interchange information, directories, and discuss the thematic agenda and the best dynamics of work for July 2006. (see: <http://www.uam.mx/cdi/redesinv/participantes.html>)

It has been solicited to *Childwatch International* that it may be included the possibility of opening two or more discussion forums on the thematic axes selected and we are sending information and links that may visibilize the networking in the webpage of the LA Network.

A series of workshops and seminars in Mexico City have been planned before the Conference as accorded in the Oslo Meeting. Different components of the conference logo will be used in each event as a form to be playing with the idea of change, dislocation and as a form to generate familiarity and continuity with the III Conference. It is suggested that in the web pages where the Conference be announced the logo may be animated in a flash sequence to give the same dynamic impression.

We will extend the invitation to the network to all the preliminary events we will be having so that they may be able to connect and participate via internet in the topic of their interest. We are hoping that the other countries may share their preliminary events in a similar way.



PRELIMINARY INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR TOWARDS THE III CONFERENCE OF JULY 2006, "AGENCY IN INFANCY AND YOUTH", NOVEMBER 7 AND 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2005. (SEE ANNEX 1)

RESEARCH PROGRAM ON INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD-  
UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA METROPOLITANA

GENERAL COORDINATION: NORMA DEL RÍO

This seminar will be celebrated, among other objectives, to inform the authorities of the UAM as well as the international organizations and official institutions that may participate actively as co-organizers of the III Conference in July of 2006, about the objectives of the Childwatch International Latin American Network.

The seminar will also take place in the Auditorium of the General Dean Building of the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana.

We will count with the presence of Dr. Irene Rizzini, President of Childwatch International, as well as with the representatives of UNICEF-Mexico and of the Organization of the Iberoamerican States, the President of the Human Rights Office of Mexico City and the Dean of the UAM-Xochimilco, and the General Secretary of the UAM.

Dr. Ma. De los Angeles Torres, researcher of Chapin Hall (CWKI) will also participate and will be working with part of the team of the Research Program of Infancy and Childhood in a special session along with Dr. Irene Rizzini to discuss a Research Proposal on a Comparative Study of Community young leaders of the cities of Chicago, Mexico and Río.

There will be also time for discussion with the co-organizers and the members of the Infancy Program about the logistics for the III Conference of the LA Network.

ALL THE EXPENSES GENERATED BY THE ORGANIZATION OF THE SEMINAR WILL BE COVERED BY UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA METROPOLITANA. THE TRAVEL EXPENSES AND MONIES OF DR. RIZZINI AND DR. TORRES WILL BE COVERED BY CHAPIN HALL.



VIOLENCE AND MEDIA WORKSHOP

PLACE: UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA METROPOLITANA-AZCAPOTZALCO

DATE: MARCH 30TH, 2006.

RESEARCH PROGRAM ON INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD-  
UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA METROPOLITANA AND UNICEF

COORDINATION: YOLANDA CORONA AND LAURA SALINAS.

In this workshop, different institutions and organizations will be called to share their experiences on prevention or management of violence in different contexts: home, school, community and discussions will be made on how to give a conjoint picture of this issue in the III LA Conference.

UNICEF and OEI will help us in the incorporation of innovative educational experiences in promoting alternatives to violence.



**WORKSHOP ON THE TRAINING NETWORK ON INFANCY RIGHTS AND POSSIBILITIES.**

**COORDINATION:** Yolanda Corona, Graciela Quinteros

This internal workshop will work on the different experiences on the network as well as the resulting effects on the students that have been through the diploma courses offered by the net.

**PRODUCTS:**

The Regional Meeting as well as the Conference will be videotaped in order to make and edited version in DVD.

A book of selected participations will be edited in three languages: Spanish-English and Portuguese. It has been solicited to OEI and UNICEF the possible coedition with the UAM so that the publication will have a wide diffusion in academic, research, political and social contexts.