



PRE-CONGRESS WORKING GROUPS INFORMATION FORM

Working Group Name: ISPCAN NEXT

ISPCAN NEXT is a supportive, global network of emerging child protection professionals. Equipping the next generation of global leaders in child protection with knowledge, connections, and tools to create a safer and more supportive world for children, now and in the future.

Goal: To strengthen the global community of early-career professionals in child protection by fostering connection, mutual learning, and active engagement in ISPCAN's initiatives, while shaping the future of NEXT.

Objectives

1. Build Community – Create a supportive space for early-career professionals to connect, share experiences, and learn from one another.
2. Facilitate Mutual Learning – Highlight early-career and local voices, while fostering dialogue with senior colleagues to exchange perspectives and explore emerging issues in child protection.
3. Expand Networks – Provide opportunities to strengthen peer connections and pathways for early-career professionals to engage with ISPCAN working groups and senior members, integrating their perspectives into ongoing initiatives.
4. Shape NEXT's Future – Gather member input to co-create priorities and initiatives that reflect the needs and aspirations of early-career professionals.

Visit ISPCAN NEXT Here: [NEXT - ISPCAN](#)

Room Set Up: Round Tables/Banquet style (small round tables seating 4/6 participants)

AV Requirements:

Data projector and screen suitable for slide presentations
Laptop connectivity (HDMI/USB-C) or lectern
PC compatible with PowerPoint and PDF files
Presenter microphone(s): lapel or lectern microphone for speakers
Chair/facilitator microphone
Audience microphones (roving or fixed) to support discussion and Q&A

Co-chairs

- ISPCAN: Lindsey Palmer; Tanesha Littleton
- Australia: Kelly Hand; Kylie Day; Antonia Canosa



Draft Schedule:

1:30 – 2:00 PM (30 minutes) Welcome & Meet and Greet

Purpose: Get to know each other, overview of the working group (purpose, activities, members), set intentions and tone for the day.

Presenters: Kelly Hand, Kylie Day and Antonia Canosa Activities/structure:

- ISPCAN NEXT Introduction
- Goals for the session
- Icebreaker

2:00 – 4:00 PM (2 hr) Session 1: Researching and Practicing with Care: Contemporary, Relational and Innovative Methodologies for ECRs

This session will explore how systems change can be achieved using decolonial and intersectional lenses.

Activities/structure:

- Two 30-minute presentations (including time for Q&A)
- 45 minutes for facilitated yarning circle(s)
- 15 mins discussion of how this might translate to how ISPCAN NEXT works together, what we might want to learn more about, how we might want to influence broader ISPCAN membership

3:45 – 4:00 PM (15 minutes) Break

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM (60 minutes)

Session 2: Panel session: Career development – learning from leaders in our field Panelists:

[Corina Modderman](#) ECR and Associate Dean of the Office of La Trobe Rural Health

[Paul McDonald](#) CEO of Anglicare Victoria.

[Maryam Ehsani](#) CEO of Child Safe ME

This session will be an opportunity to learn from leaders in the field about building careers – what they wish they had known, balancing demands of career and personal lives/wellbeing, what success looked like to them.

Activities/structure:

- Introduction (5 minutes)
- Three 5-minute presentations
- 40 minutes Q&A and discussion

5 to 5:30 Closing remarks - Invite reflection from the group on the day (20 mins)

5:30 PM – End of NEXT Pre-Congress session



Optional: Lunch session with pre workshop – 12:30 – 1:30 PM **Must register for lunch to receive lunch**

- Invite attendees prior to the workshop to join us for lunch to informally meet each other, make connections.

Optional: Post workshop drinks at Sofitel bar or somewhere else local to continue the conversation and network. We can also provide a list of local places to have dinner after this in small groups rather than organize a more formal dinner.

Short Introduction for Chair: This working group brings together ISPCAN's global community of early-career professionals in child protection. It is designed to foster connection, shared learning, and collective engagement in shaping the future of the field. Throughout the conference, emphasis is placed on building a supportive professional community, amplifying early-career and locally grounded perspectives, promoting meaningful dialogue with senior colleagues, and strengthening pathways for active participation in ISPCAN's work. The event also provides an important forum for engaging with participants' ideas, experiences, and aspirations, which will inform the ongoing development and strategic direction of NEXT.

WhatsApp QR Code:



Calling all early
career professionals



Join the ISPCAN NEXT
Whats App Group and
Stay Connected

Email Address Co-Chairs: k.hand.11@student.scu.edu.au or Lindsey.N.Palmer@utah.edu

****Please note AV requirements and room set up requests are not guaranteed**