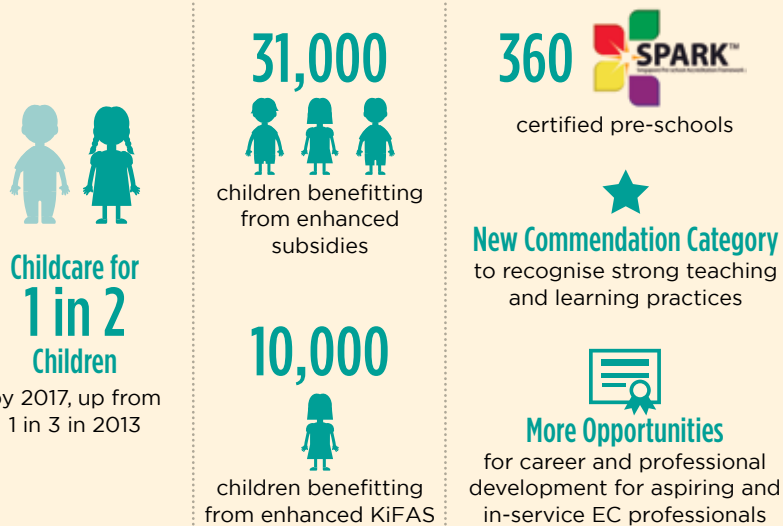


# Investing in the Foundation Years of Our Children

## Targeted Approach

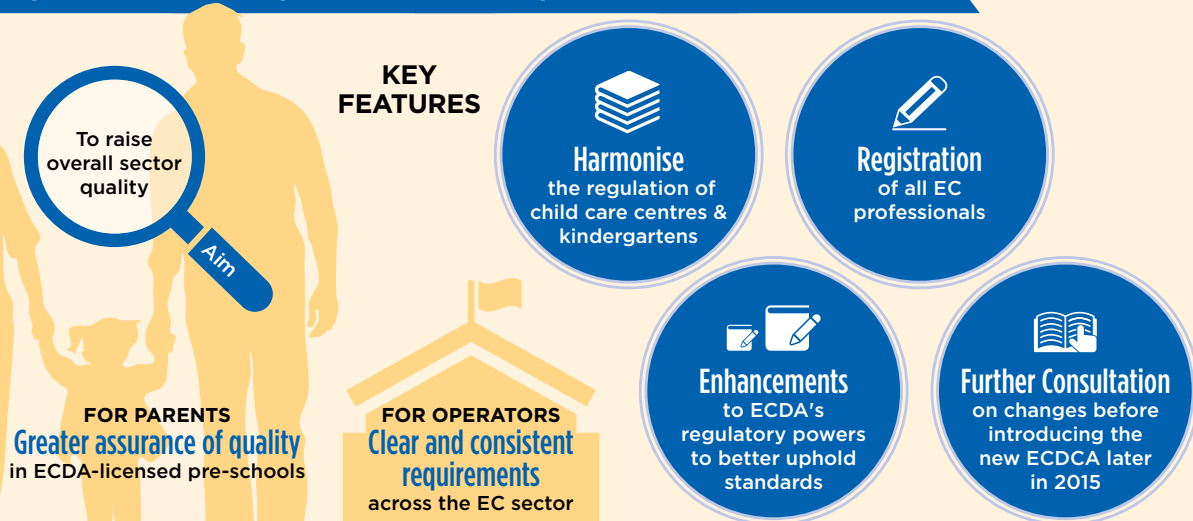
- Keep pre-school services affordable
- Raise the quality of care and education in pre-school centres
- Improve career and professional development opportunities for EC teachers

## Progress in the Provision of Early Childhood Services



## Development of New Early Childhood Development Centres Act (ECDCA)

### KEY FEATURES



## Introduction of 3 New Schemes

### NEW PARTNER OPERATOR (POP)

To improve quality & affordability of child care services

Aim

POPs will receive funding from ECDA to

- Keep fees affordable
  - Reduce current fees
  - Fee cap of \$800
  - Keep future fee increases affordable

Invest in improving centre quality with attainment of the SPARK certification and strengthening HQ capabilities

Enhance continuing professional development & career progression opportunities for EC professionals

POP + AOP

POP to complement existing Anchor Operator (AOP) scheme

about 50%

of pre-school children to benefit from enhanced government support for more affordable and quality pre-schools by 2020

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (PDP)

To improve attraction and retention of teachers in EC sector to meet manpower needs

Aim

For EC professionals

With about 3 years of experience

Identified by employers for potential to take on larger job roles

Structured three-year upgrading programme

Deepen EC professionals' skills

to take on larger responsibilities

Provide opportunities

to further develop and progress

Range of support includes

NEW CERTIFIABLE COURSES

CASH INCENTIVES at key milestones

### EARLY CHILDHOOD CAPABILITY GRANT (ECCG) for Enhanced Internship Host Operators

To support operators in delivering enhanced internships for full-time Early Childhood Care & Education students in ITE & Polytechnics

Aim

3 COMPONENTS OF THE GRANT

to help build capabilities in operators to deliver meaningful and realistic internships for trainee students

MANPOWER COSTS

\$1,700 per trainee

for operators to recognise mentors or hire relief staff to cover mentors' duties

TEACHING MATERIALS + PROJECT RESOURCES

\$200 per trainee

for students to be well-equipped to deliver lessons and complete major projects as part of course

INTERNSHIP STIPENDS

50% of minimum stipend co-funded by ECDA

Funding amounts to \$300 for ITE and \$350 for Polytechnic students per month

The enhanced internship and the ECCG to be implemented progressively from Sept 2015