

ISSA Connects

FOR LEARNING



**3 DAYS OF ONLINE LEARNING
2-4 NOVEMBER 2021**



Henriette Heimgaertner

ISSA Board President and Co-founder of the Berlin Early Childhood Institute for Quality Development, Germany

Henriette Heimgaertner is the Co-founder & former Managing Director of the Berlin Early Childhood Institute for Quality Development. Before moving to Berlin she has been a Program Specialist with the Bernard van Leer Foundation in The Netherlands responsible for program development and support, monitoring and evaluation in a number of Western and Central European countries.

Thirteen years ago the Berlin Early Childhood Institute for Quality Development was established on the basis of an agreement between the Senate Department responsible for Education, Youth and Family and providers of ECEC services. The agreement is a landmark for Germany making internal and external evaluation compulsory for all publicly funded ECEC centres. The Berlin Early Childhood Institute implements the policies of the agreement and undertakes research on the quality development of all 2,700 ECEC centres in Berlin. Quality development is based on the statutory early years program 'Bridging Diversity'. One of its core concepts are meaningful pedagogical interactions. Its second updated edition was co-authored by Henriette and she is the editor of the English version of 'Bridging Diversity'.

Her affiliation with the International Step by Step Association dates back to 2002. She serves on the ISSA Board since 2017 and took the role of Board President in 2020.