

ISSA Connects

FOR LEARNING



3 DAYS OF ONLINE LEARNING
2-4 NOVEMBER 2021



Prof. Dr. Michel Vandebroek

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Michel Vandebroek is the Head of the Department of Social Work and Social Pedagogy, at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, at Ghent University, Belgium. Michel Vandebroek is also the Chair of VBJK – Centre for Innovation in the Early Years, one of ISSA's member organizations.

In the first part of his career, Michel gained extensive experience in setting up projects of innovation in early childhood education, both in Belgium and more broadly in Europe. These projects included professional development of staff and leadership, advocacy and working with policy makers. Later, in his academic career, where he combines research and teaching, he has pursued themes around the respect for diversity, accessibility of services for children from families in precarious situations, inclusion of children with special needs, quality and professionalism, including issues of working conditions for the early years workforce. He has authored many articles and books in the field, constantly challenging paradigms with the lens of social justice in child- and family-focused policies and pedagogy. Michel Vandebroek brings to ISSA his extensive experience in advocacy and influencing theory and policy, both locally and internationally, as well as his insights on approaches to create stronger synergies between practice, research and policy.

Since the late 1990s, in his capacity of VBJK President and also as an internationally recognized expert in the early years field, Michel Vandebroek has had regular contacts and collaborations with ISSA in diverse partnership projects and initiatives.