This is what Pam Picken had to say about the NECDA Hackathon attended by 40 Alliance member organisations on the 9th and 10th of April at ELRU in Cape Town. “I was part of the fantastic NECDA Flourish Hackathon last week, to develop the trainer and practitioner guidelines and activities for the National Curriculum Framework, as part of the DBE/UNICEF NECDA tender. The Hackathon was extremely well-designed and carefully thought through to ensure there was maximum engagement with varied ECD stakeholders and that it was a stimulating, energising and creative process. It was a wonderfully unifying gathering of the sector. We had lots of fun AND we met the required outcomes. ELRU provided a great venue and fantastic support from their staff. It was also so encouraging that so many ECD RTOs (Resource and Training Organisations) were prepared to share the materials they have developed so generously and freely, so that the majority of South Africa’s young children can benefit. In unity there is strength, and I earnestly hope that NECDA will lead the ECD sector to take its rightful place in speaking with a strong unified voice to influence South Africa’s policies and programmes for young children. All in all, the NECDA Flourish Hackathon was a real tribute to the passion and commitment of people from the ECD sector who have served our young children and families so faithfully over so many years.”

Warm regards

Monica (Vice-chairperson)