

Play Learn Thrive Workshop

Jacaranda Hotel Nairobi, Kenya | July 21 – 23, 2026

Overview: This workshop brings together Proof-of-Concept (POC) and Transition-to-Scale (TTS) innovators in the Play Learn Thrive portfolio working across Jordan, Lebanon, and Kenya to:

- Step back and reflect on: for POC innovators, your medium-term aspirations and for TTS innovators, your scaling aspirations; and then focus on how best to achieve your shorter-term priorities, or to address current challenges
- Engage in place-focused discussions about the child development ecosystem within each country to best serve children and their support network for playing, learning, and thriving in emergency settings
- Build learning partnerships between innovators working in similar contexts
- Enhance resilience in challenging times

Welcome Reception: Monday July 20, 18:00 – 20:00			
	Tuesday July 21 · 09:00 – 17:00	Wednesday July 22 · 09:00 – 17:00	Thursday July 23 · 09:00 – 17:00
Morning	• Opening & Welcome: Agenda setting • Gallery Walk: Innovator teams visualize their success and aspirations; Explore and interactively learn from peer innovators	• Case Clinic #2: In same cohorts, the second innovator team presents their priority agenda for input and discussion Office Hours on M&E available for sign up	• Case Clinic #3: Final innovator team presents their priority agenda • Stakeholder Ecosystem: Country-based breakouts to identify local and system stakeholders; explore value contributed and received by each stakeholder Office Hours on M&E available for sign up
Afternoon	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
	• Case Clinic #1: In cohorts of 3-4 teams, these small group case clinics focus on advancing the presenting team’s priority agenda through peer input and discussion • Cross-Cohort Sharing: Initial reflections and key takeaways across case clinic cohorts • Q&A with Grand Challenges Canada	• Plenary: Meaningful Participation Synthesis of and reflection on innovators’ approaches to nurturing meaningful participation of communities, including refugee and displaced communities • Joint Session with Creating Hope in Conflict Innovators: Icebreaker + Open Space	• Stakeholder Ecosystem: continued • Place-Based Platform Support: Regional breakout sessions to reflect on platform support • Closing Plenary: Key takeaways and reflections
Evening	• Dinner on your own	• Light Supper Reception: with GCC, invited guests and peer innovators	

Logistics: Sessions take place at the Jacaranda Hotel unless otherwise indicated • Lunch and coffee/tea breaks provided each day • Light supper provided Wednesday evening

Detailed Agenda

Monday July 20 - Arrival

18:00 - 20:00	Jacaranda Hotel	Welcome Reception at the Jacaranda Hotel with passed canapés and refreshments.
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Tuesday July 21 - Day 1 of Workshop

09:00 - 09:50	Jacaranda Hotel: Wariara Room	Opening & Welcome: Introductions to get to know each other, and creating a space for shared learning.			
		Note: Coffee & tea breaks with snacks are built in throughout the day			
09:50 - 11:30		Gallery Walk: Each innovator team is invited to visualize their envisioned future using a blank poster paper and markers provided. After posters are created, participants visit each poster to learn more about each other's work.			
11:30 - 11:45		Introduction to the Case Clinic process			
11:45 - 13:15	Safari Café	Lunch - buffet style			
13:15 - 15:35	Assigned Breakout Rooms	Case Clinics #1: Assigned small group case clinics for innovator teams to advance on their priority challenges.			
		Cohort A: GAME, Nivishe, CDI (Acacia Room) GAME Case Clinic	Cohort B: Sense, Abu Alanda, Lebanese Alternative Learning (Jacaranda Room) Sense International Kenya Case Clinic	Cohort C: Zaatari, Raneen, Hilfswerk (Bamboo Room) Zaatari Case Clinic	
16:00 - 17:00	Wariara Room	Cross-cohort sharing: Share insights and key takeaways with participants from other cohorts. Open Q&A Session with Grand Challenges Canada team.			

		Dinner on your own. Please check out the list of recommended restaurants .		
Wednesday July 22 - Day 2 of Workshop				
09:00 - 11:30	Assigned Breakout Rooms	Case Clinics #2: Same cohorts as Day 1. Please go directly to your assigned breakout room.		
		Cohort A: GAME, Nivishe, CDI (Acacia Room) Nivishe Case Clinic	Cohort B: Sense, Abu Alanda, Lebanese Alternative Learning (Jacaranda Room) Abu Alanda Case Clinic	Cohort C: Zaatari, Raneen, Hilfswerk (Bamboo Room) Raneen Case Clinic
11:45 - 12:45	Wariara Room	Meaningful Participation interactive session: Synthesis of and reflection on innovators’ approaches to nurturing meaningful participation of communities, including refugee and displaced communities.		
12:45 - 14:00	Safari Café	Lunch - buffet style <i>Note: M&E Office Hours in the afternoon</i>		
14:00 - 15:30	Wariara Room	Meaningful Participation continued		
16:00 - 17:30	Wariara Room	Joint session with innovators from Grand Challenges Canada’s <i>Creating Hope in Conflict</i> innovator teams and invited faculty.		
18:00 - 21:00	Zen Garden	Light supper reception with Grand Challenges Canada, invited guests, and peer faculty. <i>Shuttle service provided between the Jacaranda Hotel and Zen Garden.</i>		
Thursday July 23 - Day 3 of Workshop				
09:00 - 11:00	Assigned Breakout Rooms	Case Clinics #3: Same cohorts as Day 1 & 2.		

		Cohort A: GAME, Nivishe, CDI (Acacia Room) • CDI Case Clinic	Cohort B: Sense, Abu Alanda, Lebanese Alternative Learning (Jacaranda Room) • Lebanese Alternative Learning Case Clinic	Cohort C: Cohort C: Zaatari, Raneen, Hilfswerk (Bamboo Room) • Hilfswerk Case Clinic	
11:20 - 12:15	Assigned Breakout Rooms	Stakeholder Ecosystem Session: Country-based breakouts to identify local and system stakeholders; explore value contributed and received by each stakeholder.			
		Kenya: Sense, CDI, Nivishe (Acacia Room)	Lebanon: GAME, Hilfswerk, Lebanese Alternative Learning (Bamboo Room)	Jordan: Abu Alanda, Zaatari, Raneen (Jacaranda Room)	
12:15 - 13:30	Safari Café	Lunch - buffet style <i>Note: M&E Office Hours in the afternoon</i>			
13:30 - 15:00	Assigned Breakout Rooms	Stakeholder Ecosystem Session continued. Please go directly to your assigned breakout room.			
		Kenya: Sense, CDI, Nivishe (Acacia Room)	Lebanon: GAME, Hilfswerk, Lebanese Alternative Learning (Bamboo Room)	Jordan: Abu Alanda, Zaatari, Raneen (Jacaranda Room)	
15:15 - 16:15	Assigned Breakout Rooms	Place-Based Platform Support: Regional breakout sessions to reflect on platform support.			
		Kenya: Sense, CDI, Nivishe (Acacia Room)	Lebanon & Jordan: GAME, Hilfswerk, Lebanese Alternative Learning, Abu Alanda, Zaatari, Raneen (Wariara Room)		
16:15 - 17:00	Wariara Room	Final reflections, key takeaways & closing.			