

HISTORY OF SEP

1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A small group of special needs teachers and therapists form a support group.• The founding members are Theresa, Karolien, Eva, Stella and Christel.
1991–92	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cathy Guillou, a French psychologist, becomes the first Chairperson. The group begins formally meeting at Hillcrest Primary School.• Soon the group grows to more than 40 members.
1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daniel Juma takes over as Chairperson.• The group discontinues partially due to lack of funds.
1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The group revives, and begins meeting at Acorn School.• The group decides to establish a legal entity with a framework and policies.• The name Special Education Professionals is chosen.• SEP's designs a logo and publishes a first brochure.
1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEP begins its monthly early intervention consultations.• Support groups for parents are initiated.• The first one-week teacher training takes place.• Acorn School moves to Lavington, where SEP has an office and a secretary.• Eva Nyoike becomes Chairperson of SEP.
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In January, SEP officially becomes a registered society in Kenya.• In April, SEP's office moves to Gertrude's Children's Hospital in Muthaiga.
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nishad Lalani becomes Chairperson of SEP.
2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEP is now recruiting occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech and language therapists, low vision therapists, psychologists, and special needs teachers.• SEP starts visiting schools, day-care centres and orphanages, providing adapted furniture, therapy materials, equipment, toys and training staff.
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Karolien Remmerie becomes Chairperson of SEP.
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Dutch organization Wereldkinderen begins funding SEP to work on capacity building in 7 homes and schools over 3 years.
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The SEP website www.sepkenya.com is launched.
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEP's first strategic planning retreat is held, clarifying the organization's mission and building the team.• A film is produced about SEP's work.

2010

- SEP begins new partnerships with organizations that provide it with volunteer staff: COMUNDO (Switzerland) – in May and Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO/UK) – in November.

2011

- SEP begins providing formalised training to its intern members.
- SEP launches on Facebook and Youtube.
- SEP opts for a major focus on organizational development.

2012

- SEP begins monthly consultations in Korogocho and Kibera slums.
- A first strategic plan is produced, along with a member handbook.
- SEP expands its paid and volunteer staff.
- Major networking efforts with other organizations.
- 32 intern members receive training.
- SEP has 5 more trainers to facilitate professional workshops.
- Workshops on rights for children with disabilities are added.

2013

- The training team consists of fulltime physiotherapist, speech and language therapist and occupational therapist thanks to a new collaboration with the Slovakian NGO eRko.
- SEP begins providing professional training for income generating activities.
- SEP organises joined disability events with other organizations working in the field of disability.

2014

- SEP recruits more physiotherapists to join the organization.
- Workshops on acceptance are added.
- SEP provides more consultations in different rural places.
- Major networking efforts with other organizations, creating more awareness on disability.
- SEP prepared two policy documents on child protection and community engagement.
- SEP offers a platform for youth with disabilities to socialize through dance.

2015

- SEP has 9 more trainers to facilitate professional workshops.
- The Wezesha programme takes off with a first group of 20 parents from rural areas.
- The Wezesha manual is produced.
- SEP hires a special needs teacher for inclusive education.
- A volunteer policy is added.
- SEP launches a new branding: logo, brochures, developmental wheel.
- A father's support group is launched.
- SEP participates in wheelchair training for its physiotherapist and occupational

therapist.

2016

- A physiotherapist group is started for continuous professional development.
- The siblings workshops (for siblings of children with disabilities) are launched.
- SEP starts training workshops for regular teachers towards inclusion.
- 3 more Wezesha groups are formed through a new partnership with the German organization Misereor.
- SEP organises a father's fun day at the occasion of the UN Disabilities Day.
- SEP partners with Walking Autism for a 4 weeks awareness walk on autism around Mount Kenya.
- SEP expands further to another fulltime occupational therapist, physiotherapist, and communication advisor.
- SEP develops therapeutic toys.
- A change within the management takes place: a new position as a director is created, the former chairperson Karolien Remmerie becomes the director and Dr John Onala is elected as the new chairperson.

2017

- One more physiotherapist is hired.
- A part time occupational therapist is hired.
- Hope for Children (UK) supports the first Wezesha group.
- Books on inclusion are launched.
- Physiotherapy handouts are launched.
- Streamlining of all handouts SEP has produced.
- 2 disability awareness events involving children in different parts of Nairobi.
- 4 theatre performances with the Italian NGO Terre solidali and The Theatre Company of Kenya on raising awareness on inclusion.

2018

- Launch of SEP Strategic plan 2018 - 2022.
- A Fundraising and Communications Coordinator is hired.
- 2 physiotherapists and 1 occupational therapist are training in appropriate paper based technology.
- SEP conducts a 1 week training at John Paul II Rehabilitation Centre in Lokichar
- Improved data collection and recording process are established.

2019

- Move to new office location - Kitisuru 2.5B
- SEP wins the Diara Awards - Diversity and Inclusion Award for best NGO program.
- First fashion show for children with disabilities is held.