

# Travel with Care – Care for Children!

## Protect Children against Sexual Exploitation in Tourism

International Newsletter No. 3/December 2009

### Newsletter of the EU project partners:

ECPAT Germany	traenkle@ecpat.de
ECPAT Netherlands/Defense for Children International Netherlands	info@ecpat.nl
ECPAT Estonia/Tartu Child Support Centre	mroomeldi@yahoo.com
ONLUS/ECPAT Italia	letizia.ecpat@gmail.com
Respect – Institute for Integrative Tourism and Development (in cooperation with ECPAT Austria)	Astrid.winkler@respect.at
Preda Foundation, Philippines	predair@info.com.ph
Fundación Paniamor, Costa Rica	direccion@paniamor.or.cr
Equitable Tourism Options (Equations), India	info@equitabletourism.org
Fair Trade in Tourism South Africa (FTTSA)	jennifer@fairtourism.org.za
MAIS–ECPAT Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic	Mais_ecpat@yahoo.com
Solwodi Kenya	solwodi@wananchi.com; elizawanguba@yahoo.com

Editorial.....	2
News & Highlights International.....	3
Reports from the Project Consortium Partners & South Partners .....	4
Law Enforcement - Cases .....	7
Upcoming Dates & Events.....	8

#### Editorial information:

The project „Offenders Beware - Raising Awareness, Capacity and Motivation for the Protection of Children from Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Tourism (CST)” is supported by European Commission and other partners like for Austria by the OEZA (Austrian Development Cooperation) and the Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth, Newsletter no3, December 2009

#### Editor:

Ms Astrid Winkler, respect, Diefenbachgasse 36/9, A-1150 Vienna, Ph: +43 1 895 62 450;  
[astrid.winkler@respect.at](mailto:astrid.winkler@respect.at)

#### To unsubscribe from this newsletter please send an Email to:

[astrid.winkler@respect.at](mailto:astrid.winkler@respect.at)

#### Activities in Austria supported by:



## Editorial

This is the third volume of the EU-project newsletter which is focusing on activities, carried out by the project partners and news from other partners worldwide in order to combat child sex tourism. In the framework of the project „Offenders Beware - Raising Awareness, Capacity and Motivation for the Protection of Children from Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Tourism (CST)”, supported by European Commission and several national partners, the highlight and key activities which has been accomplished since July 2009 was the finalization of the E-Learning tool "[How to Protect Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism](#)".

This E-Learning course was developed in very close cooperation with all project partners and the tourism industry. The recommendations of the industry, mainly from DRV, the German Association of Travel Agencies, were necessary in order to make sure that the course is being accepted by tour operators, travel agencies and other stakeholders from the industry. The process was indeed challenging because wording and case studies used in the course had to be adjusted several times.

Eventually, ECPAT Germany, who has the lead responsibility for the E-Learning Tool, proudly can present the finalized tool in English which is now ready for testing. The test-phase will last until 10 February and all project partners are called to widely promote the tool in order to get as many testers as possible. From summer 2010 on the tool will be available also in German, Dutch, Italian and Estonian.

Another highlight was the first Trilateral Workshop which was organized by the Austrian Government, Dep. for International Tourism Relations, Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth. Organization and preparation of the workshop was developed in close cooperation with ECPAT Austria. Representatives from Austria, Germany and Switzerland from various sectors including tourism industry agreed to strengthening cooperation in prevention and prosecution of child sex tourism.

From Cambodia the NGO APLE reported again several cases of foreigners, who were arrested, charged or sentenced for having abused children in Cambodia. The improvement of prosecution and how reporting systems in tourist sending countries can contribute to it will also be the key topic of the next Expert Meeting which will take place between 7 and 9 March 2010 in Berlin under this project.

If you want to share experiences from trainings on the issue of sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism you are most welcome to sharing your experiences with us, might it be as a trainer, a manager, a student or tourism staff. Just send an email to the address provided under “Editorial information”.

*Astrid Winkler  
Project Coordinator for Austria,  
Respect & ECPAT Austria*

## News & Highlights International

### Fee structure for Child-Protection Code signatories finalized and agreed

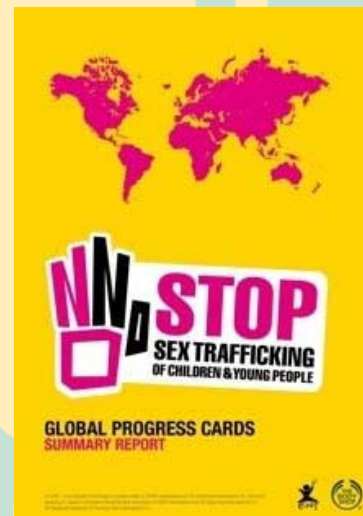
The revised EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting) 2009 Statutes of the Code international organization entered into force on September 1, 2009. Important new aspects foreseen by the revised Statutes concern:

- Introduction of membership fees: Euro 50, 300, 800, for companies small, medium and large.
- Procedure of signing the formal agreements with the Local Code Representatives (mainly ECPAT groups) has started already. For instance, for Austria, ECPAT Austria signed the agreement in December 2009.

### Worldwide start of the joint ECPAT / The Body Shop campaign 'Stop Sex Trafficking of Children and Young People'

In more than 50 countries the campaign was launched since August 2009. ECPAT partners organized different actions for raising awareness for the campaign among the media and the general public such as press conferences, marches and other actions in cooperation with youth, special media events etc. On 24 Sept 09 the CEO of The Body Shop International, Sophie Gasperment, unveiled an innovative new approach to addressing the global issue of child sex trafficking, at the fifth Clinton Global Initiative Annual Meeting in New York. At the CGI, Ms. Gasperment presented an innovative 'Progress Card System' which paints a global picture of how the world's governments are taking action and assesses their progress in their efforts to tackle child sex trafficking in more than 40 countries worldwide. The Body Shop has been invited to participate at the CGI in recognition of its 'Stop Sex Trafficking of Children and Young People' campaign which launched across the world in August in partnership with ECPAT International (End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes). The Body Shop and ECPAT International believe the launch of these ground-breaking cards will dramatically accelerate progress to end child sex trafficking over the course of the next three years. Carmen Madriñan, Executive Director of ECPAT International added, "The first findings from the Progress Card project reveal a truly challenging situation. By reaching out to the public with this information, we aim to elicit broad interest in child protection and enable wide public participation and support to accelerate change in partnership with the private sector, civil society and with government in the lead." According to the Progress Cards Report, for instance, only 10% of countries reviewed have special police units established across the country to investigate child trafficking cases with appropriate specialized training. To learn more about and to support the Stop Sex Trafficking of Children and Young People campaign visit <http://www.thebodyshop.com/stop>

The Body Shop is raising funds through sales of a new Soft Hands Kind Hearts Hand Cream, all proceeds of which go to ECPAT affiliates and ECPAT International.



## Reports from the Project Consortium Partners & South Partners

### **Austria (Respect; ECPAT Austria)**

#### **Austria, Germany and Switzerland strengthening cooperation on combating child sex tourism**

25 participants attended the first *TRILATERAL WORKSHOP on Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism in Vienna*, on 14 and 15 December 2009. The workshop was hosted by the Federal Austrian Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth, Dep. for International Tourism Relations and was organized in close cooperation with ECPAT Austria. The aim was to strengthening cooperation of the three German speaking countries, Austria, Germany and Switzerland. Participants came from various professional backgrounds such as Governmental



Departments/Ministries (Justice, Interior, Foreign Affairs, Family Affairs etc), Tourism industry and NGOs. The participants discussed for instance a reporting system and mechanism for child sex tourism cases abroad, a possible joint awareness raising campaign and other activities. Controversial discussion arose on the issue of costs for training in sending and destination countries which is obligatory for those companies and associations which have signed the Child-Protection Code. A follow-up workshop is envisaged for end of 2010 in order to evaluate the measures undertaken.

### **Train-the-Trainer course in Austria and Germany**

The Austrian trainer-team met for a one-day refresher on 14 November 2009. A professional trainer presented different methods on how to intervene in difficult training-situations. Astrid Winkler, project coordinator for Austria, presented updates on the Child-Protection Code and in regards to law enforcement cases. Seven Austrian trainers attended the joint ToT meeting in Freiburg, 10-12 Dec 09, which was organized by ECPAT Germany.

### **Estonia (Tartu Child Support Centre)**

In September and October 3 trainings on “Child Sexual Exploitation in Tourism” for the tourism students (recreational specialists, nature tourism students, travel agents) were held.

The Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Social Affairs have included Tartu Child Support Centre into the relevant commissions that are responsible to work out national strategies to combat human trafficking (Ministry of Justice), including strategies to fight trafficking of children and child abuse (Ministry of Social Affairs). Also, Tartu Child Support Centre has participated in two roundtables. In workgroup combating human trafficking we succeeded to include also the topic of Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism.

There have been partnership discussions with the representatives of The Body Shop in Estonia to work out the best and most effective possible collaboration in tourism fair TOUREST 2010.

Also, there are preparation works going on with the organizers of tourism fair TOUREST 2010, that will take place on February 12th – 14th, to run an awareness raising event and introduce the topic Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism.

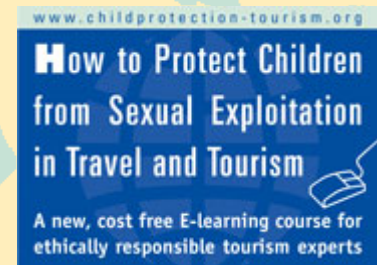
On December 16th there was training for the representatives of travel companies in Tartu Court House, targeted to the travel agencies, bureaux, hotels and accommodation service

providers of Tartu and the whole region of South Estonia. The topic of this training was Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism and related Legislation

### **Germany (ECPAT Germany)**

#### **New, cost free E-learning course “How to Protect Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism” now available**

A new, cost free E-learning course for ethically responsible tourism experts was launched on December 18th 2009 in a trial version. The course is aimed at signatories of the Child-Protection Code. One of the clauses of this code stipulates that employees should be trained to deal with these issues. This E-learning-Tool enables signatories of the Child-Protection Code to train your employees in matters of child protection. Training is free of charge and can be absolved at the employee's work place in a short space of time. This ethically sensitive issue of child sex tourism is presented in a factual manner, without shocking details or images. Video-Clips and interactive units provide stimulating material. The material provides background information on why children are exploited in certain tourist resorts, how this is related to the tourist industry and what action tourism professionals can take from their own workplaces. The course has a modular structure. A twenty minute basic module provides information on child sex tourism as well as on the Child Protection Code. Following this basic module a 10 to 15 minute additional module may be selected. This course provides tourism experts in their respective resorts and travel agencies, as well as decision-makers at tour operators and in hotels with specific information on how to apply the Child Protection Code at their workplaces. The course is available in English from December 2009. As from summer 2010 it will also be available in German, Dutch, Italian and Estonian. The course is hosted by the Deutsches Seminar für Tourismus and can be **downloaded here:** [www.childprotection-tourism.org](http://www.childprotection-tourism.org) Test-learners are welcome to do the course and to fill in a feedback form afterwards.



### **Destination workshop in Kenya**

The DRV (German Travel Association) signed the Child-Protection Code in 2001, and in doing so made a commitment to meet one of the criteria of the Code by training personnel in both Germany and in travel destinations. In 2006 and 2008, two destination workshops were carried out in The Dominican Republic and Thailand. This year, the DRV organized a workshop in Mombasa, Kenya which took place on November 27<sup>th</sup> 2009 at the Voyager Beach Resort. Mechthild Maurer and Steffi Traenkle from ECPAT Germany, who is the local partner of the DRV, carried out the workshop. Among the participants were representatives from numerous representatives of German tour operators and hotels, the Kenyan Ministry of Tourism, the Tourist Police, the Governmental Children's Department, and local NGOs such as SOLWODI Kenya. Two young woman who were child prostitutes themselves and now work as peer educator and sex worker activist, told the audience an their story. Discussing the causes of CSEC, the participants focused on the social situation of Kenyan children. Poverty and domestic violence are the main causes that make children leave their home and prostitute themselves. It seems important to the course participants to see the broader picture: The implementation of the Child-Protection Code in Kenya needs to deal with the fact that child sex tourism is caused by extreme poverty. Corruption makes law enforcement ineffective. These circumstances have to be taken into account when implementing the Child-Protection Code in Kenya. After the workshop, one participant noted “Now, I understand that the problem is a structural one and commercial sexual exploitation of children exists and that some of our guests are involved even if the problem is not visible in our four-star hotels.” Although participants expressed their discontentment about the fact that all attempts to bring offenders to court are undermined by corruption, they agreed on the fact

that the problem has to be tackled by all stakeholders: NGOs, tourism industry and police forces. The workshop helped to connect people and create a local network.

### **Train-the-trainer seminar 2009 carried out by ECPAT Germany**

ECPAT Germany carried out a train-the-trainer seminar from December 10 to 12<sup>th</sup> 2009 in Freiburg, Germany. Among the 30 trainers from Germany and Austria, most are actively involved in training tourism students; others are experts on the prevention of child trafficking. The training imparted knowledge on developments in The Child-Protection Code, training techniques and the prevention of child trafficking.

### **Italy (ECPAT Italy)**

#### **New TV AND AUDIO SPOT available now**

“Children are not a tourist attraction”, is the title of new video-clip for a TV and a Radio spot which has been recently produced. The key message “Don’t just stand by” is aimed to motivate travelers to react and to report cases of sexual exploitation of children as well as to raise awareness on this problem among travelers and the general public. The TV SPOT is produced in 5 languages (English, Italian, German, Dutch, and Estonian) and is now available for distribution. In Italy the TV and Radio SPOT will be available to the media from December 2009 until February 2010. We have chosen to launch the spot and its message in December, because this is a peak period for travels abroad. A number of national and local television channels, closed-circuit televisions of metro stations and airports have agreed to broadcast it while we are planning radio and television interviews to ECPAT Representatives. You can watch the video-clip on [www.ecpat.it](http://www.ecpat.it)



Since October 2009 **several training sessions** on the topic of child sexual exploitation in tourism have taken place in Italy. Our target groups are students of the schools of tourism, professionals working in the tourism industry as well as travelers, tourists, the general public and the media.

In October 2009 the **Municipality of Rome and Milan** (Department of Tourism) invited ECPAT-Italy to a meeting. The Commission for Tourism showed interest in the Code of Conduct for a responsible tourism.

### **South partners**

**India (EQUATIONS): Initiative on Protection of Children in Tourism called by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India - EQUATIONS advocacy with the Indian Ministry of Tourism to take steps for the protection of children began to bear some fruit.**

At the 24th UN World Tourism Organisation Task Force for Protection of Children in Tourism at ITB Berlin in March 2009, the Secretary, Ministry of Tourism (MoT), Government of India was present. Following the presentation by EQUATIONS on the status of children and need for protection in India, the Secretary confirmed his commitment to take action to address the issue of protection of children in tourism. As a follow up to our engagement at the task force meeting the Secretary, MoT organised an inter-departmental meeting in July 2009 between EQUATIONS, MoT, and Ministry of Women and Child (MWCD) at Delhi to discuss the issue on “Protection of Children in Tourism”. EQUATIONS emphasised the need for have mechanism and legislation towards protection of children from exploitation in tourism and to work with various levels of the industry particularly small and medium scale. In November 2009 MoT had called for another meeting to discuss on “Protection of Children in Tourism”

which also involved PATA- India Chapter, UNODC other NGOs. As an outcome of this meeting MoT has launched an initiative on 'Safe and Honourable Tourism' as a step towards evolving a Code of Conduct for all tourism service providers in India. We are persuading them to sign on to the Global Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism ([www.thecode.org](http://www.thecode.org)).

### **South Africa (Fair Trade in Tourism South Africa, FTTSA): Organizations joining forces on prevention of sexual exploitation of children during FIFA World Cup™.**

As South Africa finalizes its plans to host the 2010 FIFA World Cup™, a number of organizations are teaming up to ensure that child protection is firmly on the agenda of this historic mega event. School closures during the month-long tournament mean that hundreds of thousands of children will be "unattended" – and at risk. In response, government has developed a child protection action plan focusing mainly on the nine cities where FIFA matches will be played. In each host city, teams of social workers will be on hand to assist law enforcement and security personnel. UNICEF has launched a project to create child friendly spaces at all official fan parks. A number of stakeholders are advocating for a unified public awareness campaign to prevent and respond to all types of child exploitation including sexual exploitation related to tourism. Towards this end, UNICEF together with the ILO will finance a short-term project by Fair Trade in Tourism South Africa (FTTSA) to kick start implementation of "the Code" in South African tourism, with the aim of launching the first local Code signatories in May 2010 at the annual Indaba trade fair. Despite these and other positive interventions underway, the national action plan remains relatively silent on the growing problem of human trafficking and, in particular, the associated risks to women and children associated with South Africa's hosting of the FIFA World Cup™.

## **Law Enforcement – Cases**

### **India (EQUATIONS)**

The exploitation of children through child pornography is increasing in India. INTERPOL has indicated that child pornography is a serious issue in India. This was also highlighted during the Expert Meeting organised by ECPAT Germany and ECPAT Netherlands in March 2009 at Berlin.

13th November 2009 (Times of India, Bangalore Edition, and article titled "Dutch child abuser found India 'suitable', wanted citizenship"): For the first time in India a case has been registered against an offender under the Section 67 (b) of the Information Technology (Amendment) Act 2008. This section punishes the offender for publishing or transmitting of materials depicting children in sexually explicit act in electronic form.

W.W. (56), the Dutch national now in prison facing charges of child sexual abuse and supplying child pornography. In May 2, 2002 he was arrested for sexually abusing five boys in an orphanage near Mamallapuram (south Indian State of Tamil Nadu). He was out on bail. W. was arrested again on 7th November 2009 by the cyber crime wing of the city police, after being alerted by the Interpol that he was uploading child pornography from the city. According to the cyber crime wing, the Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre, an organisation in Germany, tipped off the Interpol about W's activities following an Interpol tip off that he was uploading child pornography on the internet.

### **Austria/Nepal**

An Austrian suspect was reported to ECPAT Austria in November 2009 through ECPAT France which received information from Terre-des-Hommes representative in Nepal. The suspect is reported having repeatedly received children aged between 8 and 12 years in his hotel room in Kathmandu. The German Embassy was involved due to the fact that there is

no Austrian Embassy in Nepal. ECPAT Austria passed all information available up to now to the Austrian police who is now follow-up the case. Unfortunately, up to now, neither victims nor witnesses in Nepal (from the hotel) are willing to testify. The suspect is a repeating guest to Nepal and known as "wealthy and influential" as it was reported upon request to ECPAT Austria by contact person in Nepal.

## Upcoming Dates & Events

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Main organizer, Event, Participation</b>
14-17 Jan 2010	Vienna	Vienna Tourism Fair
7-9 March 2010	Berlin	Second Expert Meeting on Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism. Main topic: reporting systems
10-14 March 2010	Berlin	ITB, International Tourism Fair Berlin
12 March 2010	Berlin	UNWTO Taskforce For the Protection of Children in Tourism, International Convention Centre ITB, (ICC)
13 March 2010	Berlin	Annual General Meeting (AGM) of TheCode.org