



ECPAT Netherlands

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What experts think on combating child sex tourism

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Introduction

- Research on:
 - reasons to sign or not to sign the Code of Conduct
 - how to persuade more organizations to sign the Code
 - how to improve the Code of Conduct
 - how to improve communication towards tourists
 - how to improve training of tourism professionals
- Interviews in five different countries with 31 experts from:
 - tour operators
 - hotels
 - airline companies
 - NGO's
 - tourism schools
 - governmental organizations



Reasons to sign the Code of Conduct

- Economical interests
- Social and ethical responsible image
- Fits the trend of sustainable tourism
- Protect positioning of country as a destination of tourism
- Moral responsibility



Reasons not to sign the Code of Conduct

- Not aware the Code exists
- Additional workload
- Additional costs
- Insult to clients
- Possible danger
- Tarnish country's image
- High staff turnover
- Deny responsibility



Persuade more organizations to sign the Code

- Raise awareness among tourism organizations
- Focus on a critical evaluation of the tourism system
- Explain concrete benefits
- Present it as a marketing advantage
- Explain the extra workload and how ECPAT can assist



How to improve the Code of Conduct

- Support implementation
- Give workshops and trainings
- Shorten + translate documents
- Provide examples of texts
- Provide information material
- Decrease reporting load
- Give feedback on the reports
- Have clear sanctions



Communication towards tourists (1)

- Focus on travellers going to risk destinations
- Information by means of brochures, flyers and in-flight videos
- Information material should include:
 - general information on child sex tourism
 - specific information for different sending and destination countries on:
 - legislation of prostitution
 - age of sexual consent
 - legal consequences for offenders
 - how to report



Communication towards tourists (2)

- Encourage tourists to report suspicious behaviour
- Instruct what to report and how to report safely
- Include hotline numbers in information material
- Hand out information materials in planes and hotels
- Don't give the information fully unprepared
- Include in general information on the destination country
- Include local people in the communication
- Focus on adolescents instead of young children



Training of tourism professionals (1)

Trainings on:

- When to inform tourists on child sex tourism
- What to inform tourists about child sex tourism
- How to inform tourists on child sex tourism
- Which tourists to inform on child sex tourism
- How to report offenders



Training of tourism professionals (2)

- Give information on:
 - risk areas
 - legal situation in both countries of origin and destination
 - children rights
 - indicators of victims and child sex tourists
 - how to report offenders safely
 - roles and responsibilities of different actors
- Provide guidelines, case examples, up-to-date information and local contact information
- Accessibility to information guaranteed in the company



Training of tourism professionals (3)

- Awareness raising activities over a long-time period
- E-learning tools can be used to reduce costs
- Train next to tourist personnel also:
 - tourism students
 - hotels
 - transport companies
 - leisure and entertainment facilities
 - law enforcement
 - local government officials
 - embassy personnel



Thank you