



Request for Proposal Consultancy

Desk review of evidence-based practice to prevent and respond to child sexual exploitation in voluntourism

July – September 2021
(15 working days)

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

ECPAT International is a global network of organisations working together for the elimination of the sexual exploitation of children (SEC) in all its manifestations i.e. exploitation of children in prostitution, online child sexual exploitation, sale and trafficking of children for sexual purposes, sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism and some forms of child, early and forced marriage. The ECPAT Network currently consists of 122 members working at national and local levels in 104 countries. The Secretariat office of the ECPAT Network is based in Bangkok, Thailand..

BACKGROUND

ASSESSMENT OF LEGAL INTERVENTIONS TO PROTECT CHILDREN IN THE CONTEXT OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM

ECPAT International developed a 24-point [legal checklist](#) to assess national government responses to sexual exploitation of children in the context of travel and tourism (SECTT). The checklist has been used to assess eleven focus countries of the Project “Ending trafficking and the sexual exploitation of children through sustainable travel & tourism recovery and development” and other countries in the Americas, South Asia, Southeast Asia and Africa. The legal checklist is available in English, French and Spanish [here](#). Additionally, [The Code](#) Voluntourism policy has been developed to guide the private sector to exclude visits to orphanages from their packages and divest from some forms of voluntourism that allow un-vetted access to children that puts children at risk of being trafficked and sexually exploited. The country analysis with national assessments, and The Code Voluntourism Policy will be made available to the legal consultant as further background documentation for this assignment.

The results of the national assessments using the legal checklist represent preliminary data, and an evidence reflecting gaps in national legal frameworks – such as the need of regulating and monitoring the use of international volunteers in children care centers and in activities in direct child contact. These will be used for further advocacy by ECPAT International and its members to intergovernmental regional bodies, national and local governments to improve their protections of children in the context of travel and tourism.

A review of evidence-based practice to prevent and respond to child sexual exploitation in voluntourism is intended to reflect the current structures at country and regional levels in relation to voluntourism to provide concrete and practical recommendations for improvements in the focus



countries of the Project (Brazil, Bolivia, Mexico, Peru, Kenya, Uganda, Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka), as part of this advocacy.

ECPAT thus seeks a consultant to complete desk research and **draft an issues paper** that analyses the current structures at country and regional levels, and provides recommendations based on the existing global evidence-based practices (related to the legal checklist areas) in particular from the “sending” focus countries of the Project (Germany, The Netherlands, UK and the USA), and beyond, where good practices exist such as for example Australia to prevent and respond to child sexual exploitation in the context of travel and tourism.

OBJECTIVES OF CONSULTANCY:

ECPAT International is seeking a consultant to:

- Undertake a desk review of global literature that identifies evidence-based practices that prevent and respond to child sexual exploitation in relation to voluntourism;
- Focus attention on the eleven Project countries in which the legal checklist assessment has been completed, and based on this preliminary legal analysis, further explore Project country structures, based on legal/regulatory and policy frameworks for potential insights/gaps
- Identify examples of existing voluntourism policy and regulation implemented in other countries to extract lessons and recommendations for Project countries
- Draft a paper (approximately 20 pages in English language) summarising key finding and capturing practical recommendations and examples underpinned by evidence on what governments in the eleven focus countries of the Project need to do in practice to regulate the issue of voluntourism and un-vetted access to children at legal and policy levels;
- Provide the library of documents reviewed in the desk research.

TIMEFRAME & REMUNERATION:

- It is expected that this short-term consultancy will require 15 working days over a period of up to 3 months (July-September 2021).

CONSULTANT PROFILE

- Advanced degree in law preferred;
- Track record of experience in legal research;
- Knowledge on child sexual exploitation and abuse with a particular focus on voluntourism;
- Strong organisational skills and ability to manage time and meet deadlines;
- Excellent writing and communication skills in English, reading skills in Spanish; South Asian/Southeast Asian languages an advantage.

MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Consultant will report to the Head of Research and work in collaboration with the Head of SECTT and Legal Research Officer.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- This is a home-based position; the consultant will work from home but should accommodate regular online availability during Bangkok office hours.



- The Consultant is expected to act at all times in a manner consistent with the values of ECPAT International and in compliance with the organisation's policies and procedures including Child Safeguarding Policy and the Staff Code of Conduct.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Please send CV, daily rate and a short cover email, including reference to relevant experience, to vacancy@ecpat.org

Mention in the subject header: your name and "Desk review – voluntourism and SEC"

Deadline for submission: July 20, 2021.