Situational Analyses Studies on Child Sex Tourism in Tourist Destinations of India Nepal and Sri Lanka

Code of Conduct Activities in Kenya

13 March 2004
LOCATION AND RESEARCHERS

- India North (Delhi, Agra, Jaipur)
- India South (Goa and Kerala)
- Nepal (Pokhara, Kathmandu Valley)
- Sri Lanka (Colombo, Mt. Lavinia, Hikkaduwa, Galle, Negombo, Trincomalee, Anuradhapura)

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Sexual exploitation of children in tourism is increasing.

CST occurs in both organised and unorganised manners.

CST often occurs without a third party. There is direct contact between children and tourists.

Children are very accessible to potential offenders.

Under the Public Offense Act, no serious penalties handed to tourists for such offences.
CST occurs in a very organised manner (Hikkaduwa) and in an “independent” manner (Galle), depending on location.

Age of victims varies from 8 to 16. Foreign CST offenders often target male victims.

Trishaw drivers are an integral part of the child sex industry in Sri Lanka.
INDIA: Delhi, Agra, Jaipur

- Child sex tourism isn’t as visible as in more rest and relaxation tourism destinations of India.
- CST is not openly discussed or recognised.
- Poverty, ethnic and social discrimination put children at risk of CST.
- Sexual exploitation of children through tourism on the rise.
While Goa has a well-established child sex industry, CST occurs in a more ad hoc and less visible manner.

As protection and prevention efforts are stepping up, CST is being pushed into neighbouring states.

Migration from neighbouring Karnataka is a major source of both CST victims and offenders in Goa.

CST occurs through both the “third party” system and the direct contact system.
REGIONAL CONCLUSIONS

- Offenders take advantage of economic helplessness, aspirations to a better life and the lack of affection and support among vulnerable children.
- Long term or “residential” child sex offenders gain the trust of the communities in which they exploit children, often presenting themselves as benefactors of some kind.
- Child sex offenders are as often domestic nationals as foreign nationals.
- Legal provisions to secure convictions against child sex offenders continue to be lacking throughout the region.
- Pursuing tourism as the sole means of economic development places many children at risk of commercial sexual exploitation.
- Children protection and social services are lacking from tourist destinations. Child protection concerns are lacking from tourism policies.
POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP PROJECTS

- Awareness-raising projects among vulnerable children, namely street and beach children, children in both the formal and informal tourism economies.

- Distributing information leaflets through state and national tourism boards.

- Conducting a series of training workshops on repudiating CST in the tourism industry.

- Promotion of the Code of Conduct and sustainable tourism models through industry associations, SAARC, NTAs and relevant NGOs.
RESEARCH

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Preventing CST and HIV/AIDS in Kenya

Kenya Tourism Concern
Background

• An established tourist destination with over a million arrivals a year.

• Increasing child prostitution. Current estimate of 30,000 victims of CSEC.

• Growing child sex tourism.

• 50% unemployment rate.

• Prevalence of HIV/AIDS highest in the world
A Comprehensive Project

• To train peers and children in schools to raise awareness on the issue among their peer group;

• To set up workshops with and for the tourism industry to train and inform on the problem and to promote the implementation of a “Code of Conduct” based on the already existing “Code of Conduct to Protect Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism”;

• To inform tourists in Austria and Kenya on the problem and to give advices how to react;
Project Activities

• Produce training and information material.

• Build networks among schools to address the issue of sexual abuse of children.

• Conduct workshops for the tourism industry.

• Promote and implement the Code of Conduct.

• Harness greater media attention to raise awareness among tourists.
Contact

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Thank You