



Request for Proposals Consultancy

Legal desk review: mechanism for centrally registering sex offenders

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.

BACKGROUND

Travelling child sex offenders tend to choose destinations known for their lenient laws. The development of the legal frameworks that include mechanism for centrally registering sex offenders, can help prevent the sexual exploitation of children occurring across national jurisdictions.

ECPAT International has been advocating for the improvement of the provisions related to laws or regulations establishing a mechanism for centrally registering sex offenders and provided a baseline on such mechanisms for the selected countries. ECPAT developed a 24-point [legal checklist](#) accompanied by an [assessment matrix](#) to assess national government responses to sexual exploitation of children in the context of travel and tourism. The checklist has been used to assess twelve focus countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Peru, Nicaragua, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, India, Nepal and Bangladesh) of the project “Down to Zero – Building Back Better” and beyond. The legal checklist is available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

The results of the national assessments using the legal checklist and the assessment matrix represent preliminary data, and an evidence reflecting gaps in national legal frameworks. These will be used for further advocacy by ECPAT International and project partners to intergovernmental regional bodies, national and local governments to improve legal frameworks and international cooperation to protect children from sexual exploitation by travelling sex offenders. Beyond the initial checklist assessment, in-depth review of evidence-based good practices to **reflect the current structures at country (and regional) levels in relation to mechanisms for centrally registering sex offenders** is needed to provide concrete and practical recommendations for improvements in the focus countries of the Project and beyond, as part of this advocacy.

ECPAT International seeks a consultant to **complete a desk research** and **draft a paper** that analyses the current structures at country and regional levels in relation to mechanism for centrally registering sex offenders, and provides recommendations based on existing evidence-based good practices in the target countries, as well as strong examples from countries beyond. Such analysis will be based on a review of such provisions in the project focus countries as well as an exploratory analysis of good practice globally. The issue paper should provide concrete and practical recommendations for



improvements in the focus countries of the Project, and towards improved regional and international cooperation.

OBJECTIVES OF CONSULTANCY:

ECPAT International is seeking a consultant to:

- Develop and agree on an outline for the paper, in collaboration with the ECPAT research team;
- Use the available checklist assessments of the existing mechanisms for centrally registering sex offenders in the 12 project target countries, and related relevant legal checklist points, to assess their use and results;
- Based on this preliminary legal analysis, further explore country structures, based on legal/regulatory and policy frameworks for potential insights/gaps;
- Review checklist assessments for further countries (provided by ECPAT) to assist in identifying evidence based good practices to also highlight in the paper;
- Analyse opinions on the suitability of different mechanism for centrally registering sex offenders in order to prevent child sexual exploitation;
- Focus attention on the twelve project countries in which the legal checklist assessment was completed, but also include examples of good practices from additional countries;
- Draft a paper in English language (approximately 20 pages) summarising key finding and capturing practical recommendations and practical examples underpinned by evidence on how mechanisms for centrally registering sex offenders can be used, in general, and specifically in the project focus countries, to eradicate impunity of child sex offenders;
- Provide the library of files, reports and documents reviewed in the desk research.

DELIVERABLES

The consultant is expected to:

- Participate in inception meeting (as soon as the service agreement is signed by both parties, to be arranged by ECPAT International)
- Provide a work plan with dates for deliverables for agreement with ECPAT International
- Be responsible for drafting an outline, and accommodating feedback from ECPAT prior to commencing work on the paper;
- Draft paper of approximately 20 pages, following ECPAT style guide (delivery date to be agreed in work plan);
- Incorporate one round of feedback from ECPAT.
- Deliver a final paper (delivery data to be agreed in work plan).

TIMEFRAME & REMUNERATION:

- It is expected that this short-term consultancy will require 15 working days over a period of up to 2 months (February-March 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 mechanisms for centrally registering sex offenders is an advantage;
- Strong organisational skills and ability to manage time and meet deadlines;



- Excellent writing and communication skills in English (reading skills in Spanish, Portuguese or South Asian/Southeast Asian languages is an advantage).

MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Consultant will report to the Head of Programme (SECTT) and work in collaboration with the Head of Research and Legal Research Coordinator.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- This is a home-based position; the consultant will work from home but should be available online during hours agreed with their supervisor.
- 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, expected daily rate in USD, and a short cover email to vacancy@ecpat.org by 20 January. Mention in the subject header: your name and "Legal desk review: mechanism for centrally registering sex offenders".