

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Consultancy

Development of Risk Analysis Guidance for the travel and tourism sector as part of the private sector engagement through The Code

August - October 2025

(estimated 5-6 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 142 members working at national and local levels in 115 countries.

The ECPAT International Secretariat coordinates the global work of the organisation and is based in Bangkok, Thailand. The Secretariat designs and implements global and regional level programmes, and undertakes programming, advocacy and research and facilitates a range of network initiatives.

BACKGROUND FOR THE CONSULTANCY

ECPAT International together with the Down to Zero Alliance (DtZ) partners in Asia and Latin America, work together with the travel and tourism industry to influence development of truly sustainable tourism destinations with child protection at its core. In this process, The Code (short for The Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism) is used as a global multi-stakeholder initiative that unites responsible companies committed to safeguarding children in travel and tourism. The Code has clear implementation criteria, that include 1. Development of policies and procedures; 2. Staff training (in-person and online); 3. Contracts with the suppliers, engagement through supply chains; 4. Communication with customer & travellers; 5. Consultations with CSO, local stakeholders and child participation models; 6. Reporting to monitor progress and impact and promote good practices.

While the risk and impact analysis are part of The Code engagement with the industry, these have been traditionally addressed as an underlying topic analysed internally by the companies, with limited support from the Local Code Representatives (LCRs) and The Code secretariat. Considering global developments in business and human rights, and due diligence processes, as well as the findings from the evaluation of The Code that was conducted as part of the Down to Zero Alliance project in the pilot countries in Latin America and Europe, it was agree that it is paramount that The Code makes the responsibility of the companies to identify and address risks and impacts more explicit as part of its criteria. For this purpose, based on the agreements reached also during a webinar that was held on 22 July 2025 to discuss risk and impact analysis experiences and good practices with the participation of the Down to Zero Alliance partners, ECPAT Network – and with the contributions from ECPAT Germany and the Roundtable on Human Rights in Tourism, it was resolved to develop a guidance, that can be used by LCRs and the companies, on how to conduct risk and destination-oriented impact analysis.

CONSULTANCY OBJECTIVES

We are looking for an individual with expertise and experience in developing risk and impact analysis with the focus on child rights, within a broader context of business and human rights. This will entail working with ECPAT International and civil society organisations as part of the Down to Zero Alliance to develop a guidance, with guiding questions for companies to identify risks across their operations, including services, products and destinations, considering how these can be misused to traffic and sexually exploit children. The guidance will reflect also opportunities for the companies that undertake risk analysis, to prevent harm before it happens.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

A practical guidance with clear guiding questions for companies to identify risks across key dimensions of business operations (services, products, destinations, and customers) across the sectors of the travel and tourism industry that are part of the Code (e.g. accommodation services, hotels, booking platforms, transport, tour operators, agencies, guides etc), considering also its technological dimension and risks to children of sexual exploitation through online means in travel and tourism contexts.

The guidance will become part of the first criteria of The Code and is expected to be designed as an internal resource for The Code that can be used by both companies, and LCRs (LCRs can support companies in this process). The guidance should be possible to be adjusted for the use by both small, SMEs and big companies. To make it practical, it will require incorporation of practical example of risk that companies may identify, and how these should be mitigated and addressed. ECPAT International will be involved in the process of validation of the drafts of this guidance and can gather examples from the Down to Zero Alliance partners and from ECPAT network, to include in this analysis.

The guidance, in its opening chapter, should also explain the difference between risk analysis, and more in-depth impact assessments on the rights of children. The guidance will focus on child right to live free from all forms of sexual exploitation in its online and offline continuity and is to be presented as aligned with a broader human rights risk analysis context, in which companies position child protection.

TIMETABLE

The assignment is estimated to take around 5-6 working days and will be carried out between August and October 2025. A detailed plan and timeline will be defined and agreed with the Consultant at the start of the assignment.

The draft developed by the Consultant will be validated by ECPAT International with the external partners including CSOs, and business. This will be done as part of a workshop that will be organised by ECPAT International, to which the Consultant will be invited. The feedback from the consultation will be used by the Consultant to produce the final version of the guidance. The Consultant will submit the final guidance in Word, ECPAT International will produce the final graphic design of the guidance for internal publication.

CONSULTANT PROFILE

- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in conducing risk analysis and impact assessment for the travel and tourism industry, including in relation to children's rights and ending the sexual exploitation of children;
- Understanding of business and human rights, and child protection issues in particular in travel and tourism context;
- Demonstrated expertise and established connections in travel and tourism industry;
- Excellent analytic skills and writing skills in English.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- This is a home-based position using own equipment and communication tools of the consultant.
- The consultant should be available for online calls in Thailand and Asia time zones.
- The project will be delivered in English.
- 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 Code of Conduct.

OUR COMMITMENT

As ECPAT's International Secretariat we recognise that our strength lies in the diversity of the people who make up our global network, staff, volunteers and consultants. We are committed to being an inclusive workplace where people of all backgrounds and cultures can strive and be themselves. This means we will challenge ourselves to do better and to continue learning, to create and maintain a working environment steeped in respect, tolerance, safety, and where all parties are valued equally.

As a child-focused organisation, ECPAT has a strong commitment to child safeguarding and rigorous procedures, and the successful candidate will be required to sign our 2 codes of conduct.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Please submit an email to <u>vacancy@ecpat.org</u>, with the subject line: **[Your Name] – "Risk Analysis Guidance"**. Kindly include the following documents:

- Cover email and CV detailing relevant experiences
- A proposition of your approach and financial proposal (with daily fee) in USD

Due to the high volume of applications, we receive, we are not able to respond to every application. If you have not heard back from us within 3 weeks from the deadline, it means that your application has not been successful.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

All proposals must be submitted by 22nd August 2025.