



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### Consultancy

## **Integrating Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation of Children (SEC) into Humanitarian Frameworks October 2025 to February 2026 (estimated 20 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 OF THE PROJECT**

ECPAT's **Down to Zero – SUFASEC project** is a regional initiative working to strengthen legal and institutional responses to SEC in Latin America, particularly through cross-border coordination, data-informed advocacy, and the protection of children in situations of mobility. The initiative is implemented in close collaboration with national partners and regional stakeholders, including Plan International, Conexión, and national NGOs.

Sexual exploitation of children (SEC) remains a pervasive risk in humanitarian contexts, including among displaced populations, unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), and children living in camps or host communities. While global humanitarian standards and frameworks exist across child protection, education, health, WASH, and livelihoods, to integrate sexual violence against children and GBV, the integration of specific measures to prevent and respond to the specificities of sexually exploitative situations within communities remains limited. ECPAT International has documented these gaps in a [global report](#) and through various case studies, in [Ethiopia, Kenya, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, Venezuela](#) and through research with young survivors affected by child sexual exploitation in the context of the Venezuelan crisis in Bolivia, Colombia and Peru (to be published soon).

These humanitarian contexts often result in many children having to resort to various negative coping mechanisms that expose them to risks of sexual exploitation including exploitation in prostitution (in 'brothels' and bars, including inside refugee camps), in transactional sex (sometimes also as a way to receive some form of protection during conflicts) or in survival sex (for money, food or promise of a job). Children in humanitarian contexts were also identified as facing exploitative forms of labor

that exposed them to risks of sexual exploitation, or were pushed into illegal activities, such as street-connected petty crimes or drug trafficking in which they were sexually victimized. These forms of sexual exploitation affect girls but boys and children of different gender identities and sexual orientations often face additional barriers to accessing support linked to stigma or societal norms, to access services. The technology-facilitated forms of sexual exploitation of children are also often overlooked in many humanitarian programmes and require revision.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANT

This consultancy will identify opportunities to strengthen the integration of SEC prevention and response into key humanitarian frameworks (e.g., CPMS, case management guidance, CPIMS+, INEE Minimum Standards, Sphere Standards, IASC guidelines) and produce practical tools to support humanitarian actors in adapting their programming to address SEC. More specifically the objectives include

- Map and analyze key humanitarian frameworks and standards where SEC considerations can be better integrated;
- Identify and propose practical entry points and opportunities for integration of SEC into these frameworks;
- Develop **five practical tools and resources** to guide humanitarian practitioners in adapting their programmes to better address SEC.

## SCOPE OF WORK AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- **Brief analysis paper** (5–7 pages): key opportunities for integrating SEC into existing humanitarian frameworks (child protection, education, health, WASH, livelihoods), integrating ECPAT/ Down To Zero reports' findings and recommendations.
- **Five practical tools/resources** (approx. 3–5 pages each) to be decided based on the analysis, including but not limited to:
  - What you need to know about SEC in humanitarian contexts beyond safeguarding (awareness + definitions + specificities).
  - Adapting programming to address SEC (cross-sector guidance for education, health, WASH, livelihoods).
  - Concrete measures and practices for SEC prevention and response (checklists/indicators for integration) including potentially SEC-sensitive case management and possible integration in case management information systems and databases (practical guidance for caseworkers and data systems).
  - Community-based prevention and engagement (tools for engaging with communities, including children and youth, to prevent SEC).
  - Xenophobia, social/gender norms and stereotypes as barriers to preventing SEC and accessing services, and practical advice for empathetic, non-judgmental support for children on the move. This brief will respond to a key research finding, highlighting how common social norms and stereotypes among frontline workers and in the wider community hinder both prevention of SEC and access to services. It will provide

concrete, field-level guidance on how to challenge harmful attitudes and strengthen empathetic, child-centred, and non-judgemental support for children on the move.

- **Short advocacy brief** (3 pages): Why SEC integration matters in humanitarian action and what donors/policymakers should do.

The consultant will be expected to:

- Conduct a brief and targeted review of global humanitarian standards, frameworks, and tools (e.g. CPMS, INEE Minimum Standards, Sphere, IASC, CPIMS+).
- Review existing resources and tools on addressing SEC
- Identify strengths, gaps, and entry points for SEC integration.
- Draft concrete, actionable recommendations for practitioners and decision-makers.
- Design five tools/resources (user-friendly, field-oriented, adaptable across contexts).
- Ensure integration of 2 rounds of feedback and refinement of the tools for finalization.

## TIMELINES

The assignment will take place between October 2024 and February 2025, with a detailed work plan and timeline to be finalized in consultation with the Consultant at the outset. The assignment is expected to require approximately 20 working days in total.

<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Estimated Days</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Literature, frameworks, and resources review	5 days	27 October 2025
Draft analysis paper on integration opportunities	3 days	3 November 2025
Drafting advocacy brief	1 day	15 November 2025
Development of five practical tools/resources	10 days	19 January 2026
Revision and finalisation (feedback integration)	1 day	17 February 2026

## CONSULTANT PROFILE

The ideal candidate/firm will have:

- Proven experience in producing advocacy, campaign and coms content, especially for children's rights or development projects.
- Strong graphic design, video production, and digital storytelling expertise.
- Portfolio of innovative experiences for disseminating learning.
- Experience co-creating content with children or youth-led initiatives.
- Strong knowledge and field experience of child protection in humanitarian action, with expertise on sexual exploitation of children (SEC) preferable
- Familiarity with the various global humanitarian frameworks (CPMS, INEE, Sphere, IASC, CPIMS+).

- Demonstrated experience in developing practical tools and guidance for humanitarian practitioners.
- Excellent analytical and writing skills.
- Experience working with children on the move, displaced populations, or refugee/migrant contexts is an asset.
- Fluency in English; ability to work with Spanish would be a strong plus.
- Commitment to child protection, and safeguarding.

## 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.

## OUR 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 with Latin America time zones.
- 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.

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Please submit an email to [vacancy@ecpat.org](mailto:vacancy@ecpat.org), with the subject line: **[Your Name] – 'Humanitarian Action'**. Kindly include the following documents:

- A brief proposal including methodology and timeline (max 2 pages)
- Portfolio/examples of similar work
- Financial proposal (estimated budget – 10,000 USD)
- CVs of key team members (if relevant)

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 **6<sup>th</sup> October 2025**