

Combating Child Sex Offences





Sexual Exploitation of Children

Sexual exploitation of children is a serious violation of children's rights and an intensely complex issue. In Southeast Asia, child sexual exploitation has been closely linked to the evergrowing regional and international tourism industry. Efforts are being made by countries in Southeast Asia to protect children, including through legislative reform, technical capacity building of investigators and prosecutors, and enhanced cross-border cooperation.

UNODC works with Member States to:

- Strengthen legislative and policy frameworks
- · Enhance staff knowledge and skills
- Enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms
- Enhance information exchange mechanisms and networks

UNODC is well positioned to continue providing support to Member States, particularly in the area of combating child sexual exploitation in travel and tourism and providing appropriate protection to victims. Two documents in support of capacity building efforts for law enforcement officials have been developed and are:

- Introductory training curriculums for Frontline Officers and Specialist Investigators
- An analysis of domestic legal frameworks with particular focus on child sexual exploitation in travel and tourism

The documents were produced under the framework of Project Childhood, an Australian Government initiative that addresses the serious issue of sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism in the Greater Mekong sub-region.

Officers and Specialist Investigators

The training curriculums titled *Investigating Sexual Exploitation of Children* are made up of guides for trainers and handbooks for trainees. The curriculums target frontline officials and specialist investigators separately. Both are very detailed and comprehensive curriculums which include information on module goals, learning objectives, detailed lesson plans, learning exercises and case studies, pre/post-test questionnaires and training feedback forms.

It is expected that the objectives of the training programme will be accomplished through the enhancement of practical and legal knowledge, upgrading of investigation skills, and development of an appropriate attitudinal orientation towards child sexual exploitation.

The curriculums were guided, revised and finalised by law enforcement officials from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Viet Nam and international organisations. It will be used for training frontline officials and specialist investigators in the four countries but can also be suitably adapted and delivered by any police training agency in the world.

The curriculums are restricted to police and are available in English, Khmer, Lao, Thai and Vietnamese.

Analysis of Domestic Legal Frameworks Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Viet Nam

The legal analysis reports consider the extent to which Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam meet international legal standards applicable to developing a criminal justice response to child sexual exploitation in travel and tourism. They identify gaps in existing legal frameworks, provide broad recommendations for areas for reform to address those gaps, and outline an implementation plan for specific action to take forward those recommendations.

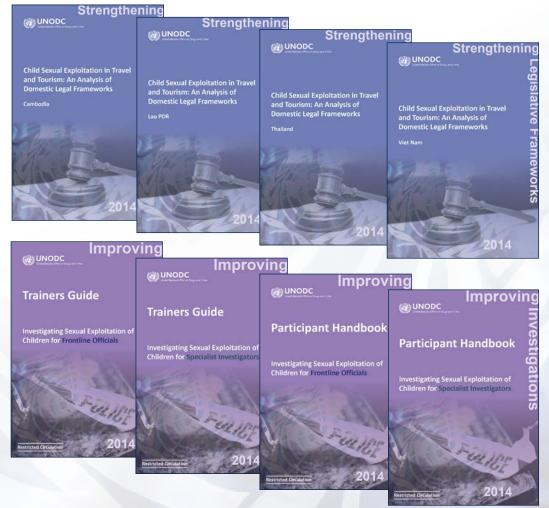
The reports also consider regional frameworks that underpin cross-border cooperation to investigate and prosecute travelling child sex offenders, whilst identifying opportunities to strengthen those frameworks.

The reports have been reviewed by independent national legal experts and are available in English, Khmer, Lao, Thai and Vietnamese.

UNODC Partners in Southeast Asia

- Member States
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region
- The Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime
- COMMIT: The Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative Against Trafficking
- Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering
- INTERPOL
- UN agencies
- Civil society organisations

UNODC Products - Combating child sex offences





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Investigating Sexual Exploitation of Children for Frontline Officials

Structure of the Frontline Officials Curriculum

The curriculum focuses on four modules for Frontline Officials. Whilst it has been structured as a 3-day training programme, the curriculum has been designed to be adaptable depending on context. The curriculum is restricted to police and is available in English, Khmer, Lao, Thai and Vietnamese.

Training Curriculum: Investigating Sexual Exploitation of Children		
Frontline Officials		
Module 1	Introduction to Child Sexual Exploitation	
Module 2	Victims in Child Sexual Exploitation Cases	
Module 3	Evidence in Child Sexual Exploitation Cases	
Module 4	First Response Duties in Child Sexual Exploitation Cases	



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Investigating Sexual Exploitation of Children for Specialist Investigators

Structure of the Specialist Investigators Curriculum

The curriculum focuses on six modules for Specialist Investigators. Whilst it has been structured as a 5-day programme, the curriculum has been designed to be adaptable depending on context. The curriculum is restricted to police and is available in English, Khmer, Lao, Thai and Vietnamese.

Training Curriculum: Investigating Sexual Exploitation of Children		
Specialist Investigators		
Module 1	Legal Framework	
Module 2	Victims in Child Sexual Exploitation Cases	
Module 3	Child Sex Offender	
Module 4	Evidence in Child Sexual Exploitation Cases	
Module 5	Investigating Child Sexual Exploitation Cases	
Module 6	Cooperation in Child Sexual Exploitation Cases	



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Analysis of Domestic Legal Frameworks (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam)

The four legal analysis reports compare domestic laws with international standards relating to child sexual abuse. The reports identify legal gaps and provide concrete recommendations on how to strengthen the legislative framework for the protection of children. The recommendations serve as a constructive basis for governments to progress with legal reforms to better address the fight against travelling child sex offenders. The reports are available in English, Khmer, Lao, Thai and Vietnamese.

The legal analysis considers the following questions:

- Status of ratification of key international instruments: Which instruments have been signed or ratified?
- Criminalisation and penalties for conduct relating to child sexual exploitation in travel and tourism: Is conduct relevant to travelling child sex offending criminalised? What are the relevant penalties?
- Child protection measures in the criminal justice process: Are there legal or policy measures for the protection of child victims and witnesses in the domestic criminal justice process?
- Measures for cross border law enforcement cooperation: Are travelling child sex offences extraditable? Do the laws create extraterritorial jurisdiction for those offences? Are there frameworks for mutual legal assistance?
- Regional cooperation: What frameworks are available to facilitate formal cross border legal cooperation (extradition and mutual assistance in criminal matters) with other project countries? What broader instruments are available to guide regional cooperation to combat child sexual exploitation in travel and tourism?



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