



NEWSLETTER

Reviewing our progress

This issue of our Newsletter revisits the genesis of our current projects and briefly reviews our achievements and the opportunities that lie ahead. ECPAT UK has been working on a number of projects simultaneously and is planning new ones for the future. Over the last year we have provided advice, support, media interviews and information to a wide range of audiences and agencies on the commercial sexual exploitation of children, particularly on child trafficking and the sexual exploitation of children in tourism. In addition, ECPAT UK has also presented at international and national conferences and conducted training. These numerous activities have led to further initiatives and opportunities to work with new partners. In terms of policy work, ECPAT UK delivered its child trafficking submission early in January to the Joint Committee on Human Rights (JCHR) Inquiry into the Trafficking of Human Beings into the UK. We also sent letters informing the Children's Commissioners of the United Kingdom about our trafficking position and the JCHR Inquiry. Our trafficking policy and campaigning work will continue this year with our submission to the UK Government's consultation on proposals for a UK National Plan on Trafficking, which closes this April. The Youth Participation campaign will be ending this year with an external review advising on future directions, whilst our training and awareness raising work on child sex tourism will continue with UK tour operators. In spite of our size as a small charity we have accomplished many of our objectives and will continue to work towards our goal of ensuring the protection of children from sexual exploitation and abuse.

Christine Beddoe, Director, ECPAT UK

Child trafficking training *new Comic Relief grant*

ECPAT UK's 2004 report *Cause for Concern* identified knowledge gaps and lack of services as serious obstacles to providing care and protection for children trafficked into the UK. In 2005 and continuing into the new year, we have received numerous requests for information and training about child trafficking. We are delighted to announce that together with another NGO, *Africans Unite Against Child Abuse (AFRUCA)* we have received funding from Comic Relief to provide UK wide training workshops on child trafficking for professionals. AFRUCA is a children's rights organisation promoting the welfare of African children in the UK and has campaigned on the trafficking of African children into the UK. The workshops will aim to increase the knowledge, skills and ability of care professionals to enable them to effectively respond and provide appropriate support to reduce re-trafficking and thus help eliminate the cycle of exploitation. Crucially, increased co-operation and networking will facilitate communication and shared working between agencies. The ultimate aim is to foster changes in policy in order to provide for and prioritise the care and protection needs of child victims of trafficking.

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Projects to Protect

a brief history and review of ECPAT UK projects

Joint European Work – Trafficking III

Since 2001, ECPAT UK has been involved in a joint European trafficking programme with ECPAT Europe groups. This programme is now in its third stage – the first and second having resulted in research reports covering 16 Eastern and Western European countries. Our own report on child trafficking – *Cause for Concern* – had its genesis through this project.

This programme is being coordinated by the ECPAT Europe Law Enforcement Group through a twinning concept where one East and one West European partner works together on research and training. The overall aim of the programme is to raise awareness, knowledge and expertise on issues of child trafficking and to help implement the recommendations arising from the research. When the programme began little attention had been devoted to child victims of trafficking and their specific protection needs.

“The programme has led to a strengthening of existing partnerships, both with key stakeholders as well as with our ECPAT European partners.”

The current phase is in the final stages of a multi-stakeholder training programme on child trafficking and ECPAT UK is twinned with Beosupport, our partners in Serbia and Montenegro. The goal of this phase is to train a number of police, social workers and government staff on child trafficking and to produce a self-training and Train the Trainer manual. The manual will cover issues of law enforcement, child protection and care at the national and local levels.

The first training workshops are now over and evaluation reports indicate that these were successful. The idea behind training key stakeholders is to ensure that such work is sustainable and that the participants will share their knowledge with their colleagues and incorporate what they learn into their networks. The programme has led to a strengthening of existing partnerships, both with key stakeholders as well as with our ECPAT European partners. The next phase of training is set to begin this summer.



Under a project funded by the Travel Foundation, ECPAT UK has been providing information and training tools on the prevention of child sex tourism to UK tour operators: First Choice, TUI UK and The Gambia Experience so they can develop training for their resort staff. ECPAT UK has produced a training guide that has now been adapted by leading UK tour operators First Choice and TUI UK. Additionally, 11 destination country-briefing papers have been developed for tour operators to share with their staff.

ECPAT UK has been working on child protection in tourism since the beginning of the campaign in 1994. Since that time UK tour operators were sensitised to the issue of the commercial sexual exploitation of children in tourism and this work was further revitalised through the work being done under the UN World Tourism Organisation/ ECPAT Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism.

The Travel Foundation project has intended to help the UK tour operators to include, through training, the issue of child protection within their sustainable and responsible tourism work. Such training is invaluable in imparting staff with the confidence to deal with various situations where they may be required to report an incident or react to a customer's complaint or enquiry about a child being abused. The tourism industry is in a key position to highlight the ways in which to protect children in tourism and prevent abuse by a minority of travellers.

The first phase of the current project has successfully piloted a Train the Trainers programme. First Choice piloted the training in the Dominican Republic. TUI UK and The Gambia Experience are also in the process of developing in-house training materials using their experiences. We look forward to continuing our work with new and existing partners.

Youth Participation

ECPAT UK and The Children's Society have been partners in a three year National Youth Participation Campaign on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children since early 2003. Funded by Comic Relief

"...media stereotypes about young people in prostitution should be challenged to show that like any other young person they also have hopes and dreams for the future."

Fiona Kidd, Youth Campaign Coordinator, The Children's Society.

and The Body Shop Foundation this project aims to give young people a chance to express their views and become visible. One key outcome in 2004 was a response to the UK Government's consultation on prostitution written by the Youth Campaign coordinator with input from young campaigners. They campaigned for the Government to recognise that young people involved in prostitution should be seen as victims of abuse and not as criminals. Over 7,000 postcards were sent to projects providing services to sexually exploited children throughout the country to sign onto the campaign and then sent to the Home Office in response to the consultation.

The history of this campaign stretches back to 1997 when a group of young people in Manchester decided to produce their own video to explain the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children. Another group of young people then wrote a report called More Than One Chance, which surveyed youth involved in prostitution in the UK and led to the development of a proposal to set up a youth campaign.

Currently, the Youth Coordinator is working with 40 young people across the country on a photography project that is raising awareness about the challenges young people face when trying to exit the sex industry or a risky way of life. Through photographs they hope to express their emotions and thoughts, both negative and positive about their past, present and future. They believe that media stereotypes about young people in prostitution should be challenged to show that like any other young person they also have hopes and dreams for the future.

Order publications

Child Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism: Lecturer's Pack (2004) – £10.00

Protect Children from Sexual Exploitation in Tourism (CD) – free, but donation welcome

Cause for Concern: London Social Services and Child Trafficking (2004) – £7.00

What the Professionals Know: The Trafficking of Children Through and Into the UK for Sexual Purposes (2001) – £6.00

Voicing Our Views: End of Project Report (2002) – £4.00

Moving out and moving on....

ECPAT UK has been housed within the Anti-Slavery International office building since 1994 when we first began our life as a campaign against child sexual exploitation in Asian tourism. Due to the projected growth of both organisations we are having to move and are in the process of locating suitable new premises. We would be very grateful to our supporters for any information on shared office accommodation with other NGOs or other reasonably priced options within London.

As a founding member of ECPAT UK, Anti-Slavery International is a highly valued coalition member and we will miss the close association and expertise of colleagues that we have enjoyed over the years. However, our relationship remains as strong as ever and we anticipate that it will continue to do so in the future. We take this opportunity to welcome Catherine Turner, Child Labour Officer at Anti-Slavery International, as our new coalition representative taking the place of David Ould, who is retiring. We pay tribute to David Ould who as a founding member of ECPAT UK has been a passionate supporter of our cause and from whose knowledge and leadership we have benefited enormously. We wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

We also welcome Zoë Hilton of NSPCC, Kathy Evans of The Children's Society and Nick Corby of UNICEF UK who replace coalition representatives from their organisations.

Thank you!

Thank you to all our supporters, donors and volunteers. With your support and generous donations we are able to continue campaigning against the exploitation of children.

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ECPAT (End Child Prostitution, Pornography and Trafficking) UK:

- researches, campaigns and raises awareness on the commercial sexual exploitation of children in the UK and on its international aspects.
- is a coalition of UK based children's rights organisations and the UK representative of ECPAT International, a network of over 70 groups in 65 countries.

ECPAT UK coalition members:

Anti-Slavery International, Save the Children UK, Barnardo's, NSPCC, The Children's Society, The Body Shop Foundation, Jubilee Campaign, World Vision UK and UNICEF UK.

Continue your support

changes to our supporter structure

We have modified our supporter structure and made some changes to the price of our publications. *Supporters* will now receive a new look bi-annual newsletter, subscription to our email mailing list that will provide regular campaign bulletins and a copy of our latest report. Another category of supporter called *Friends of ECPAT UK* will receive any three ECPAT UK reports annually for free, in addition to what is to be provided to *Supporters*.

We thank you for your donations and encourage you to give regularly because it is vital in helping us plan with confidence for the future. Please make cheques payable to ECPAT UK and mail to our postal address. Please request our standing order form if you wish to pay regularly.

Please sign on below before January 2007 by marking your choice and mailing or faxing this form to our contact details given above. Many of you are still receiving this newsletter even though you are not a financial supporter, but starting from next year we will not be able to retain the records of those of you who have not responded.

<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> £15 annually (waged) <input type="checkbox"/> £5 annually (unwaged/ student) <input type="checkbox"/> £ Any amount each month/ quarter/ year by standing order <input type="checkbox"/> Gift Aid declaration I would like ECPAT UK to claim back the tax on all my donations/ supporter fee until further notice. You may cancel this declaration at any time (and must do so if you cease to be a UK taxpayer) by notifying ECPAT UK. Signature _____ Date _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friend of ECPAT UK <input type="checkbox"/> £120 annually <input type="checkbox"/> £10 monthly by standing order <input type="checkbox"/> One-off donation <input type="checkbox"/> £ Any amount If you do not want us to keep in touch with you please tick this box <input type="checkbox"/>
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