

Terms of Reference:

Fieldwork Team Supervisor for the ‘National Study on the Nature and Extent of Online Child Sexual Exploitation in Cambodia’

June-November 2018

Summary

Action Pour Les Enfants [APLE]¹ and partner organisations² are seeking a Fieldwork Team Supervisor to lead qualitative data gathering and analysis for a ‘National Situational Analysis on the Nature and Extent of online child sexual exploitation (OCSE) in Cambodia. The Fieldwork Team Supervisor will work with the Research Coordinator to train field teams, develop research tools, and lead field teams in the collection and analysis of field data.

OCSE is an emerging form of child sexual exploitation, mediated by the internet, that utilises websites, social media platforms, and smartphone apps. This research is intended to provide a comprehensive understanding of the nature and extent of OCSE in Cambodia, including the various capacities of legislation and key stakeholders (government and CSOs) to address the issue nationally. The study aims to build a strategic set of learnings (using the WePROTECT Framework) that feed into the development of a comprehensive action plan to address OCSE in Cambodia, as well as potential Cambodia-specific interventions for prevention, protection, and the provision of services, and criminal prosecution. At present, national-level research related to OCSE in Cambodia does not exist and there is little in depth understanding of specific online threats and data to inform strategy to address OCSE. Thus, the overall objectives of the study will be to understand the nature and extent of OCSE in Cambodia and identify actionable and evidence-based recommendations for Cambodia-specific interventions, based on the WePROTECT Model National Response (MNR), as well as learnings from local and international best practice.

¹ APLE is a local NGO that exists to strengthen national social and legal mechanisms for the protection of children at risk of, or affected by, child sexual abuse or exploitation.

²At present, our CSO partners include: Action Pour Les Enfants (APLE), Save the Children, and Terre des Hommes Netherlands (TdH-NL).

Motivation for the Study

While numerous anecdotal cases of OCSE have been reported, there is clear need for the development of a stronger base of evidence on the nature and extent of the problem, as well as the capacities of government, CSOs, and other stakeholders to address this emerging issue. At present, there is no national-level research related to any form of sexual exploitation, including OCSE, and consequently little understanding of online threats. The action plan addressing Violence Against Children in Cambodia (2017-2021) references the need for OCSE related interventions in virtually all domains, including policy and governance. However, the lack of accurate information on OCSE is likely to hamper progress and the action plan acknowledges the need to ‘assess the scale and specific nature of online sexual exploitation against children in Cambodia’, to inform developments. (RGC, 2017) Further, Cambodia is a signatory to the WePROTECT Global Initiative, thus this research falls in line with the existing national commitment to WePROTECT.

Thus, the WeProtect Framework³ will guide the development, implementation, and outputs of this research. This framework acknowledges that a coordinated national response to online child sexual exploitation cannot be addressed in isolation and thus requires a wider set of capabilities to be in place, to ensure a complete national response. Effective responses to OCSE, specifically, and to violence against children, more broadly, tend to adopt a multi-faceted and holistic approach, including children, their families, community, government, industry, and media in order to be effectively engaged in preventing and tackling child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Scope of Work — Fieldwork Team Supervisor

The Fieldwork Team Supervisor will work closely with the Research Coordinator to aid in the development and coordination of the Fieldwork team. This will include the development research tools, leading data collection, providing mentorship, facilitating meetings with government inter-agencies and support to a team of 4-5 Fieldwork Team Members, as well as providing key inputs into the analysis of data and the drafting of the final report.

Please note that this project will take a “capacity-building approach” to research, which aims to engage key child-protection agents within Cambodian government and build their capacity through developing on-the-ground research on the issue of OCSE. Thus, the fieldwork team Supervisor will play key roles in developing the project and providing mentorship to the field team members and desk reviewers. The research coordinator will facilitate this process, working with the team Supervisors, and his work on developing the fieldwork, research tools, leading the analysis, and the writing of the final report

The Fieldwork Team Supervisor working alongside of the Research Coordinator will work collaboratively with our three existing partners (Terre des Hommes - Netherlands; Save the Children, and APLE) who have interest and expertise in online safety and child protection.

³ A part of the WePROTECT Global Alliance to End Online Child Sexual Exploitation (2016)

Objectives and Methods of the Study

The field research team take the lead on research applying to the domains of: 1) Criminal Justice; 2) Victims and Survivors; 3) Society, Children, and Communities; and 4) Industry. Within these domains, the following questions will guide the research process:

1. **Criminal Justice** – What are the current practices and challenges for law enforcement and the judiciary in Cambodia, with regard to OCSE?; What are the current capacity-building and training needs with regard to cybercrime and child protection?
2. **Victim and Survivors** – Where in Cambodia is OCSE occurring?; Is it occurring in any particular geographical regions? If so, where? Who are victims (gender and age analysis)? Is there a connection with online and offline sexual exploitation ‘hot spots’? How victims are identified? What services are available for OCSE survivors?
3. **Society, Children and Communities** – How are Cambodian children and young people using the internet / other relevant technologies?; What are the online and offline circumstances and behaviours that place Cambodian children at-risk of online exploitation?; What OCSE risks do Cambodian children and young people currently face and how do those risks arise?; How are Cambodian children being ‘recruited’ to engage in OCSE (e.g. through peer-to-peer networks, family members, or particular venues such as internet cafes)?; How do adults and children’s perspectives on risk differ, as well as what parents and other duty bearers need to enable them to protect children and mitigate risks?; What are offending trends of OCSE in Cambodia or any particular geographical regions?
4. **Industry** – What are OCSE risks/problems identified by ISPs? What are the current mechanisms, attitudes, commitment, motivation, and capacity of ISPs to better protect Cambodian children from OCSE?; What responses exist within the current ICT ecosystem – including Hotline reporting mechanisms, blocking and removing access to OCSE contents, and industry engagement; What are the key messages needed for the development of effective reporting, education, awareness raising, and advocacy materials?

The field team will take a mixed-methods approach to gathering field data within four of the WePROTECT domains. The methods used within each of these domains are proposed as follows:

- **Criminal Justice**

- FGD to Explore current practices and challenges among Law Enforcement and Judiciary official, including individual survey in four key areas (Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Sihanoukville, and Battambang)
- Creation of a local law enforcement case database (based on prosecution data from APLE and other legal aid organisations) and provide content analysis of language, trends, comparison to trends/reporting from CSOs and Media.

- Review researches relevant to Cambodia's criminal justice and law enforcement practises.
 - Review of at least three in-depth case studies (if available) of closed OCSE cases in each area (Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Kampong Som, Banteay Meanchey)
- **Victim and Survivors –**
 - Stakeholders
 - FGD with CSOs, including individual survey in four key areas (Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Kampong Som, and Battambang)
 - At least three (3) key informant interviews with social workers / investigator in each area (a total of eight interviews).
 - Creation of a local law enforcement case database (based on prosecution data from APLE and other legal aid organisations) and provide content analysis of language, trends, comparison to trends/reporting from Law enforcement and Media.
 - Children
 - Review of at least three case studies (if available) of child survivors in each area
 - Child centered learning activities with children from vulnerable communities exploring perception of online risk, perceptions of vulnerability. This will include, but not be limited to, understanding how children and young people are using the internet and other relevant technologies; current online behaviour patterns; risks currently faced by children and how they mitigate those risks; and, what is required to strengthen the resilience of children and young people in online environments.
- **Society, Children and Communities**
 - School children
 - Structured anonymous survey administered within a sampling of public and private schools representing lower, middle, and upper socio-economic groups
 - Parents and Community Leaders
 - FGDs with parents and community leaders assessing their knowledge and awareness of OCSE-related issues, as well as their current capacity to respond to and protect from such issues.

Guiding Principles and Procedures

The design and implementation of the research should take into account the principles of confidentiality and use of appropriate and sensitive interviewing methods for vulnerable groups. This means, ensuring children are at the centre of the research, that principles of gender equality, inclusion and non-discrimination are considered and acted upon throughout, and that the meaningful participation of children and other key stakeholders is promoted in the design and implementation of the research. The successful applicant will undertake to pay special attention to the “Do no harm” principle in order to mitigate any negative emotional, physical and psychological ramifications that may arise from improper and unethical research practices. Furthermore, the assessments are required to be conducted in-line with the Child Safeguarding and protection policies of Terre des Hommes Netherlands, Save the Children, APLE, and other international guidelines on Child Protection and ethical standards in Monitoring, Evaluation and Research.

Further, the research approach will need to be agile and adaptive in recognition that OCSE is an emerging issue, so as to develop a better understanding of the relationship between the online and offline environments and the risks and potential for violence and sexual abuse and exploitation as a consequence of that interaction.

Time frame of the research

The research will be undertaken from June to November of 2018. The activities will span over a period of approximately nine (6) months. The activities will be based on the envisaged timelines indicated below:

- June
 - Co-development of research tools
 - Data Gathering in Phnom Penh
 - Basic analysis of local field data
- July
 - Data gathering in Siem Reap
 - Basic analysis of local field data
- August
 - Data Gathering in Banteay Meanchey
 - Basic analysis of local field data
- September
 - Data Gathering in Banteay Meanchey
 - Basic analysis of local field data
- October
 - Development and implementation of school surveys
 - Analysis of school survey data
 - Beginning comprehensive analysis of field and desk review data
 - Aiding the development of the rough draft of the report
- November
 - Aiding the analysis and writing of Revised Research

Child Safeguarding

In line with the UNCRC, APLE strives to keep children safe in all its undertakings. The successful applicant will be required to read, understand, and commit to abide by APLE Child Protection Policies and guidelines. The applicant will sign the policies to indicate an understanding of, and intention to follow the policy requirements. The methodologies used in this study, along with any additionally-hired team members, must abide by the universally acceptable standards for involving children in research.

Required Experience and Qualifications

- Minimum of a bachelor's degree in social work, psychology, sociology, anthropology, international development, or a related field
- Demonstrable experience in conducting field research with children and/or vulnerable people groups.
- A proven track record in qualitative and quantitative research in the GMS Region.
- At least three years of experience working in the child-protection sector
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Khmer
- Technical knowledge and understanding of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation
- Knowledge of the local area of research (geographical) desired
- Understanding of and strong commitment to ethical research processes, including child protection and child safeguarding

How to Apply

Interested applicants are requested to submit a cover letter and up-to-date resume, and a sample of his/her previous research/study to job@aplecambodia.org, identifying in the subject field 'Applying for Fieldwork Team Supervisor Post'. You may access a full copy of the study Terms of Reference (ToR) [here](#) Terms of Reference Fieldwork Team Supervisor or call 023 996 351.

Closing Date: 8 June 2018 by 5:00PM (Cambodia Time)