

RECOMMENDATIONS

Theme 1a: Social norms

- Identify and document social norms and traditional practices which encourage positive attitudes or behaviours with regard to children;
- Reinforce and adapt innovative approaches based on the promotion of “positive” social norms with regard to child; integrate traditional practices in institutional systems;
- On the basis of the facts shown, advocate with donators for the grant of long term funding, development of social norms being slow in essence.

Theme 1b: Economic factors

- Document and share good practices and lessons learnt relating to the positive impact of social protection programmes on the issue of sexual exploitation of children in Africa;
- Insure that national protection strategies appropriately take into account resources issues related to gender and childhood on one hand, and on the other hand that they are sufficiently equipped with resources to meet the needs of groups of the most vulnerable children and their families;
- Advocate and work in partnership with governments and members of parliament to insure that the importance of poverty reducing and social protection strategies for the prevention of sexual exploitation of children and adolescents are taken in to account.

Theme 2: Application of the law and legal frameworks

- Ratify the main international and regional conventions relating to the sexual exploitation of children and insure that by 2010 for all state members of the African Union, national nominative frameworks are harmonised with the African Charter of the Rights and Welfare of the Child of the one hand, and with the CRC on the other hand.
- Document and exchange good practices in Africa in terms of legal reform and the harmonisation of laws relating to the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents.
- Set up a unit for legal training and mechanisms for the popularisation of legislation relating to children for members of parliament and government, service providers, the private sector and civil society on all levels including that of the child.
- Remove the main obstacles blocking the application of the law through, for example, the implementation of proceedings which favour children victims of sexual exploitation, birth registration and insuring an adequate distribution of resources.

Theme 3a: Sexual exploitation in and around school

- Implement surveillance, follow-up and reference mechanisms for cases of sexual abuse to children in schools and their surroundings to guarantee a safe and favourable environment for children.
- Promote and support the involvement and active collaboration of social structures (teaching unions, parent associations and student councils) for the protection and implementation of answers to the situation of sexual abuse and exploitation made against children, especially girls;
- Increase awareness and strengthen the capacities of teachers, staff employed in the schools and their surroundings, parents and community representatives on the rights of the child, legalisation and existing child protection services.

Theme 3b: Sex-specific violence in situations of conflict and post-conflict

- Strengthen the coordination of the humanitarian response to sex-specific violence: cluster approaches, government leadership, cartography of interventions, etc.
- Carry out rigorous large-scale evaluation programmes in the fight against sex-specific violence in situations of conflict and post-conflict; spread the lessons learnt in order to promote the most promising approaches;
- Improve quality of data (broken down by age and gender) in situations of conflict and post-conflict (by using surveillance mechanisms, such as Security Council Resolution 1612);
- Support and reinforce local protection systems on a community level, especially in countries where institutional protection mechanisms are not operational during periods of conflict.

Theme 3c: Prevention and care services, including community based childhood protection systems

- Draw up cartographies on a national level of cross-sector services for the prevention and response to the situation of sexual exploitation of children and adolescents; analyse the main weakness and evaluate costs thereof;
- Document and exchange good practices in terms of the cross-sector prevention and response in Africa with the aim to be implemented all throughout the continent;
- Promote and support the implementation of global information management systems (IMS) to measure and evaluate both the impact of sexual violence made against children and the effectiveness of the services which aim to limit this impact. Use this data to supply arguments for the grant of sufficient resources for the intensification of more promising actions.

Theme 3d: Strengthen children's capacity to protect themselves against sexual exploitation and abuse

- Advocate for the integration of sexual education, especially with regard to the sexual exploitation of children, in the school curriculum.
- Encourage involvement of traditional chiefs in the fight against sexual exploitation of children
- Allocate children broadcast time so that they can organise and participate in radio and television programmes
- Allow children to have access to documents on sexual exploitation in libraries
- Teach children how to say no to sexual exploitation and break the culture of silence surrounding sexual abuse.

Theme 4: Corporate social responsibility

- Create an alliance with the private sector and a "fund" managed by the private sector for activities related to corporate social responsibility and the exchange of lessons learnt;
- Promote the use of secured internet as well as parent control through the reinforcement of relations between media and the information industry
- Spread the "code of conduct" initiative to the entire travel and tourism sector in Africa
- Strengthen collaboration mechanisms with the private sector, civil society and government within the framework of the National Action Plans.
- Document and exchange existing good practices and the lessons learnt to be able to reproduce them.