Combatting Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism Sector in Nepal

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Executive Board Member
Saathi
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Organizational Background

• Saathi: a non-governmental organization established in Nepal in 1992
• Saathi addresses different forms of violence and discriminations faced by Nepali women and children
• First organization instrumental in drawing significant national attention towards domestic violence in Nepal
Major Areas of Work

- Prevention, protection (4 Women Shelters; 5 Safe Homes), empowerment and research based advocacy and networking
- Post-Disaster and conflict interventions
- Creating a safe professional environment for girls/women in entertainment sector, home based workers, etc.
- Ensuring access to justice
- Addressing child sex offenders/pedophiles selecting Nepal as a destination point
Intervention: Working Actively Together for Children (WATCH)

- Case researches
- Awareness raising programs
- Immediate support to children (food, medical, shelter, clothes, etc.)
- Child engagement activities
- Counseling support
- Education support to child survivors
- Legal support during trial period, and coordination and communication assistance
- Vocational, small business support to families (families & children above 18 years)
- Referrals
Assistance Provided by Saathi and Cases filed: 84 cases
(for foreign perpetrators: 37; Nepali perpetrators: 47)

Geographical coverage
Case filed against Foreign Perpetrators (2013 - 2021)

- Saudi Arabian: 2
- Indian: 3
- Germans: 3
- French: 9
- Dutch: 6
- Danish: 1
- Canadian: 3
- British: 4
- Austrian: 1
- Australian: 1
- American: 4
Child Survivors (n=111) of Foreign Perpetrators

Figure 1. Percentage of survivors of foreign perpetrators by sex

- Male: 95.50%
- Female: 4.50%
Percentage of Child Survivors of Foreign Perpetrators by Age

unknown: 8%
7: 1%
8: 5%
9: 1%
10: 8%
11: 5%
12: 10%
13: 9%
14: 25%
15: 18%
16: 7%
17: 3%
Percentage of Foreign Perpetrators by Reason for Being in Nepal

- Tourist, 58%
- Volunteer, 3%
- Unknown, 8%
- Business, 6%
- Employment, 11%
- Social Work, 8%
- Monk, 3%
- Student, 3%

Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation
Percentage of Survivors by Identification Process Adopted by Foreign Perpetrators

- Others: 2%
- Sibling of the survivor: 4%
- Child on the street: 11%
- Unknown: 5%
- Agent of perpetrator: 8%
- Close relative of the survivor: 9%
- Peer of survivor: 13%
- Street child: 6%
- Recreational spaces: 16%
- Same neighborhood: 26%

Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation
Percentage of Foreign Perpetrators by Time Spent on Grooming

- Unknown: 19%
- NA: 8%
- Varied: 3%
- Upto 6 months: 11%
- 2-14 days: 47%
- 1 day: 11%

Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation
Percentage of Child Survivors of Foreign Perpetrators by Place of Abuse

- Hotel room: 60%
- Rented apartment: 28%
- Riverbank: 21%
- Rented house: 17%
- Swimming Pool: 9%
- Jungle (bushes): 10%
- Toilet/Bathroom: 16%
- Lake/Lakeside: 5%
- Unknown: 8%
- Victim's private residence: 4%
- Rented room: 4%
- Alley: 1%
- Monastery: 1%
Percentage of Child Survivors of Foreign Perpetrators by Type of Abuse

- Fondling private parts: 86%
- Oral sex (Offender to survivor): 35%
- Showing adult porn: 21%
- Showering naked with the offender: 18%
- Filming/Photography child pornography: 12%
- Anal sex (Offender to survivor): 14%
- Oral sex (Both ways): 8%
- Oral sex (Survivor to offender): 3%
- Unknown: 8%
- Fondling body parts (Chest, cheeks, lips, stomach): 5%
- Anal sex (Both ways): 2%
- Anal sex (Offender to survivor): 2%
- Rape: 2%
- Fingering the survivor’s anal opening: 2%
- Attempt to anal sex (Offender to survivor): 1%

Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation
Percentage of Child Survivors of Foreign Perpetrators Experiencing Penetration

- Yes, 49%
- No, 42%
- Attempted, 1%
- Unknown, 8%
Percentage of Survivors of Foreign Perpetrators by Abused Individually or In-group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group Representation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual &amp; group of 3-4</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual &amp; group of 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group of unspecified number</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group of 6-7</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group of 3-4</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group of 2</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation
Percentage of Child Survivors of Foreign Perpetrators by Duration of Abuse

- Unknown: 9%
- 8 years: 1%
- 6 years: 1%
- 5 years: 11%
- 4 years: 18%
- 3 years: 16%
- 2 years: 5%
- 1 year: 16%
- <6 months: 8%
- Abused once or twice: 14%

Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation
Percentage of Survivors of Foreign Perpetrators by Reasons for Staying in Touch with Perpetrator

- Electronic gadgets/Video games: 25%
- Food: 73%
- Others: 42%
- Money: 38%
- Educational support: 16%
- Promises of better future: 18%
- Fancy trips: 21%
- Clothes/ Shoes/Fashion Accessories: 25%
- Proximity with victim's family: 12%
- Cigarettes and Weed: 3%
- Motorbike ride: 2%
- Toys: 8%
- NA: 2%
Level of Awareness of Child Sexual Abuse among Parents of Survivors of Foreign Perpetrators

- Aware, 1%
- Unaware, 99%
Percentage of Foreign Perpetrators by Age Group

- 71-75: 3%
- 66-70: 3%
- 61-65: 28%
- 56-60: 8%
- 51-55: 14%
- 46-50: 14%
- 41-45: 14%
- 36-40: 11%
- 31-35: 0%
- 26-30: 0%
- 21-25: 0%
- 15-20: 6%

Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation
### Number of Foreign Perpetrators by Country of Previous Offense History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Perpetrators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>America</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Once a year
Twice a year
Stays in Nepal
more than 2 times a year
Unknown
Percentage of Foreign Perpetrators by Frequency of Visit to Nepal

25%
17%
6%
33%
19%

Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation
Percentage of Foreign Perpetrators with Linkages with Each Other

- No, 70%
- Yes, 22%
- Potential linkage, 8%
Key Achievements and Elements of Success

• Effective collaboration and trust
  • Nepal Police, local community members and survivors
  • Children, family and local government bodies
  • NGOs, INGOs, International Police and Embassies
• Case researches undertaken and team commitment: 358
• Bridging role between survivors and law enforcement bodies
• Education support provided: 111 children (m: 72, f: 39)
• Legal service provided: 111 Children (m: 72, f: 39)
• Medical support: 68 children (m: 51, f: 17)
• Psychosocial counseling provided: 172 Children (m: 114, f: 58)
• Immediate support: 102 Children (m: 83, f: 19)
• Family Income generation activity support: 37 (m: 19, f: 18)

Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation
Challenges

- Changing trends adopted by perpetrators
  - Identification/perpetrators maintaining contacts via social media
  - Staff working beyond duty hours
- Difficulty in children opening up about the abuse
- Inadequate child friendly environment (police station, court, society)
- Victims/survivors turning hostile in court
- Inadequate trained human resources in law enforcement to deal with child victims/survivors of sexual abuse
- Legal loopholes
- Survivors’ access to justice and compensation
- Threat to victim/survivor and Saathi staff
- Inadequate human and financial resources (Saathi)
Thank You...