

**“Unaccompanied and Trafficked Children
in the Baltic Sea Region”**

**A programme implemented by the
Working Group for Cooperation
on Children at Risk (WGCC)**

Prevention of Trafficking- National Ownership and Mainstreaming of Efforts

At Vilnius conference:

“Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings: Challenges and Solutions”

Head of Children’s Unit Lars Lööf

**Council of the Baltic Sea States Secretariat
(CBSS)**



**MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**



Working Group for Cooperation on Children at Risk

Priorities:

- 1. Sexual exploitation in all its forms**
- 2. Unaccompanied and trafficked children**
- 3. Children living in the street**
- 4. The Rights of Children in institutions**
- 5. Young offenders and self destructive behaviour in children**



Methods used

1. Expert meetings
 - a. Defining common areas of concern
 - b. Identifying gaps
 - c. Outlining areas for action
 - d. Expert input to the WGCC
2. Conferences
 - a. Political support
 - b. State commitments and joint funding
 - c. Unique networking
3. Web site
 - a. Regional information on children at risk
 - b. Networking possibilities online
 - c. Calendar



Expert meetings 05- 08

1. Expert meeting on Care, protection, rehabilitation and reintegration for unaccompanied and trafficked children (Kiev April 05)
2. Expert meeting on supporting boys and girls leaving institutions (Yaroslavl September 05)
3. Expert meeting on Child friendly forensic investigations (Reykjavik May 06)
4. Expert meeting on support to children abused in Internet settings (Sätra Bruk, Sweden, May 06)
5. Expert meeting on monitoring the rights of children in institutions. (Oslo September 06)
6. Expert meeting on Children committing crimes and with a self destructive behaviour. (St Petersburg, November 2007)
7. Expert meeting giving input to the monitoring training. (Tallinn, January 2008)



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Aspects of the programme

➤ BSR CACVT – Baltic Sea Region Comprehensive Assistance to Children Victims of Trafficking – Daphne

1. Training programme implemented with more than 50 experts participating from 10 countries in the region

1. Contact details of experts that are trained are shared with the National Contact Points, National Coordinators and with the TFOC Expert Group on Human Trafficking
2. Evaluation and experiences of the training was assessed jointly by the WGCC and the CBSS TFTHB on the 24th of October, in order for the two groups jointly to consider lessons learned and gaps to address.
3. Resources and tools available in Russian and English on website and on CD-Rom.

2. Mapping project ongoing looking at how children in the region that are trafficked are assisted including interviews with child victims

1. Mapping is ongoing and results to be published in early 2008.
2. Assessing the mapping in cooperation with the CBSS TFTHB at the joint meeting on October 24th.



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Example of a tool

My Education/Training	I attend a course/school that I enjoy/is ok	I'm on a course/at school but I hate it.	I'm not attending any courses/I'm excluded from school
My income/money	I have enough money to pay for what I need	I struggle to manage on the money that I get	I can't afford to eat sometimes or find somewhere decent to stay.
People who have looked after me	I have had people in my life who loved me and took care of me	There have been some good people in my life but it never lasted and I don't see them now	I can't think of anyone who cared for me and who I trusted
My secure base	I feel confident in starting out on my own knowing there is somewhere to come back to for support	There are some places I feel welcome some of the time but it depends on who is there	I don't belong anywhere; there is nowhere I can go if I feel down.
My general health	I eat healthily sometimes and get some exercise	I eat a lot of junk food, I'm a couch potato	I don't eat properly, do any exercise, don't sleep well and I won't see a doctor or dentist
My peers	I have a few close friends who I know I can trust	I have a few friends but they let me down a lot	I have no friends of my age/my so called friends bully and threaten me
My self control	I am able to express my emotions safely when I am with people I trust	I often bottle feelings up and get in a bad mood for ages	I lose it completely and get aggressive or cry so much that I can't stop
Running away	I have never been missing from where I am supposed to stay	I sometimes stay out late/occasionally overnight with my mates without permission	I run away for long periods of time and I stay with risky people or sleep rough
Wanting to change	I want to think about changing the parts of my life that make me unhappy	I'm not sure if there is any point in changing. I'm not sure it is possible	My life is ***** and there is nothing I can do about it



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National Contact Points, NCP

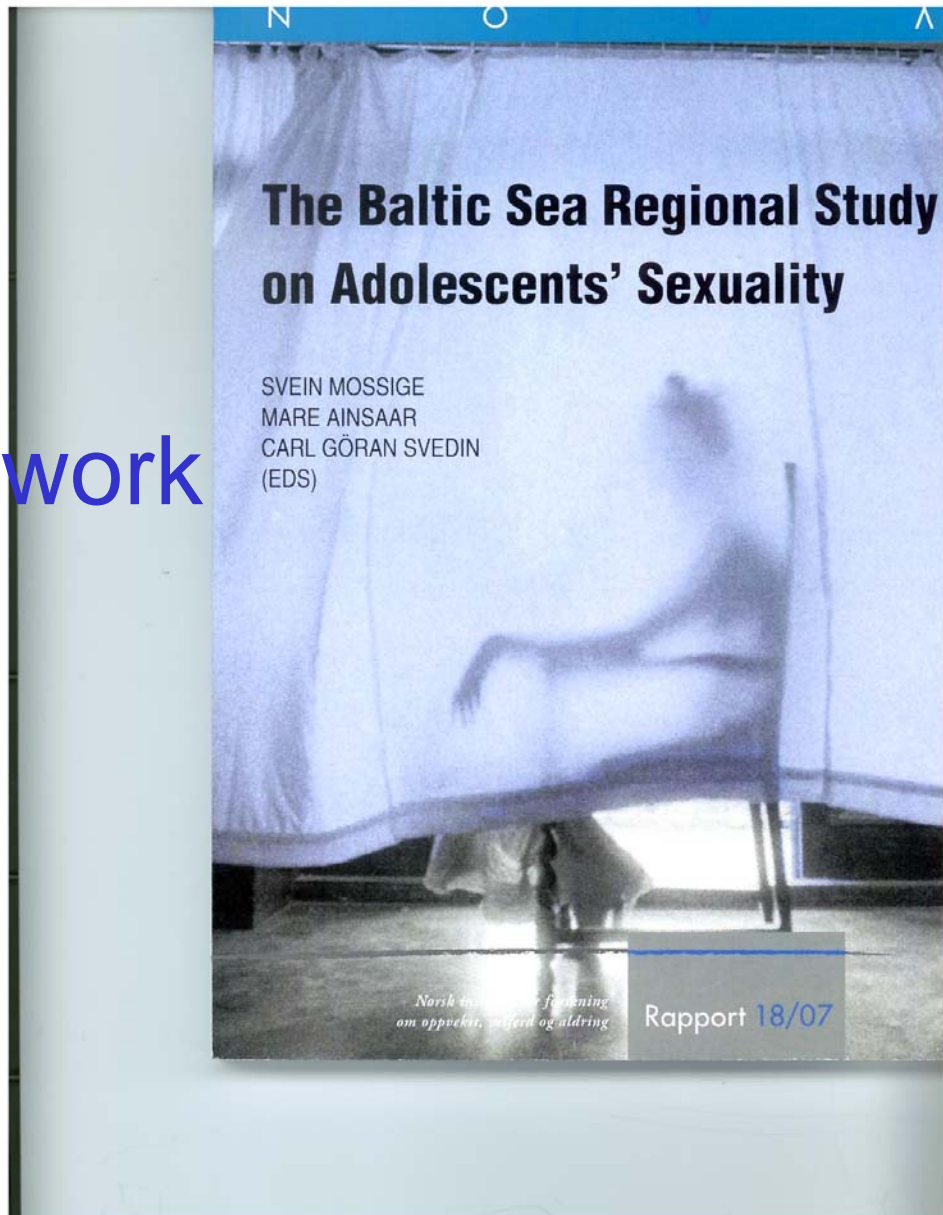
1. Operational in all countries except Russia and Germany
2. 4th Meeting of National Contact Points organised in Warsaw in cooperation with the Polish Ministry for the Interior and Administration in May 2007.
3. Outcome of the meeting to be considered by the WGCC in the updated Plan of Action on Unaccompanied and Trafficked Children:
 1. Disseminating more broadly the NCPs as nodes of information and contact on a national and regional level
 2. More discussions and guidelines on when a child can/should be returned to country of origin
 3. Need to identify children victims of exploitation in criminality



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Other relevant work



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1. Roundtable meeting looking at how to regionally follow up on the UN Study on Violence Against Children especially as it relates to violence in the context of trafficking
 1. Meeting to be organised with relevant regional stakeholders



Challenges

- Why is the prevention of trafficking not mainstreamed into other primary prevention efforts?
- Why are assistance measures for children victims of trafficking not included in the regular programmes assisting children victims of violence?



Accountability

- States
- International donors
- International organisations
- NGOs

We need to discuss accountability



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