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Fighting child sexual abuse: prevention policies for offenders

Inception report

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Foreword

“Do you like children in ways you should not? “

“You are not guilty because of your sexual desire, but you are responsible for your sexual behaviour. There is help! Don’t become an offender!”

“Child pornography is sexual abuse. You are not to blame for your sexual responsiveness to child pornography, but you are responsible for your own behaviour. It is your choice whether you click on it or not. Help is available! Don’t become an offender. Not even online!”

These two slogans are retrieved from the Dunkelfeld¹ project and they summarise in a glance the need that child sexual abuse is prevented before any abuse occurs.

¹ <https://www.dont-offend.org/>

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Thanks to the numerous stakeholders, persons and organisations, that either for professional reasons or on voluntary basis, have placed commitment, trust, energy and work in all those initiatives and programmes aiming at preventing and fighting against Child Sexual Abuse.

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Executive summary

Policy context

Sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children constitute a serious violation of fundamental rights and in particular of the rights of children to protection and care necessary for their well-being, as it states in the UNHCR Convention on the Rights of the Child [1][2].

The European Union has adopted already several initiatives in order to address sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children. The Directive 2011/93/EU on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, replacing Council Framework Decision 2004/68/JHA2 has provided a detailed EU regulatory framework in this matter ranging from prevention to repression policies. The EU cybersecurity strategy [3] updated in September 2017 [4], as well as the European Agenda on Security COM(2015) 185 final [5], have enshrined the need to fight against such crime in addition to the fight against terrorism and serious organized crime. Complementing and strengthening the call for action, the European Parliament has also adopted a Resolution on child sexual abuse online 2015/2564(RSP) [6]. Include EP Report September 2017

The study

This study builds on data from child sexual abuse prevention initiatives and programmes for (potential) offenders run worldwide. The main objective of this research is to map existing prevention programmes in the European Union and at international level, focusing on:

- interventions and treatments for (potential) offenders before any abuse occurs;
- convicted offenders in prisons;
- convicted offenders after they leave the prison to fight against recidivism.

In particular, the present report focuses on:

- identifying possible gaps and/or overlaps in the programmes within the EU;
- identifying best practices and lessons learned: what worked/what did not work and why?
- identifying representatives with most knowledge on this issue globally, regardless of their occupation (i.e. whether public officials, academics, NGO members).

Findings

The main finding of this study is the **very large number of programmes and initiatives present worldwide** as synonymous of tangible need to support (potential) offenders in retain their impulses without acting against children.

Child sexual abuse prevention programmes **dedicated to victims** are well advertised. However, **only few initiatives for (potential) offenders benefited of information and awareness raising campaigns**.

According to presented research, **initiatives addressed to (potential) offenders, who fear to (re)offend contribute to the prevention of Child Sexual Abuse**. Thanks to such preventive

measures, the whole society could benefit from a strategy at macro-level, community level, individual level (victims and offenders).

It is highlighted that **there are different profiles among potential offenders**: paedophiles, individuals attracted by children, who are committed to avoid having sexual contact with children, online sexual offenders, offenders that have already abused and others. Specific risk assessment tools might be conceived, studied and tested for each of these specific profiles. **Risk factors for recidivism from each profile might be considered in order to design effective programmes to prevent child sexual abuse.**

A first picture of best practices and lessons learned are illustrated in the evaluation section of the present document, nevertheless **more research on risks factors and on initiatives is desirable in order to support the design of effective programmes** targeting child sexual potential abusers.

Recommendations

The results of the study highlight the need to endorse the idea of preventive support to contrast child sexual abuse. Together with awareness raising campaigns and supports to victims, support to (potential) sex offenders could also contribute to CSA crime mitigation. Figure 1 summarises the areas of interventions herewith proposed.

Information campaigns and awareness raising

According to experts in the field, human sexuality is characterised by a wide variety of sexual preferences, including for some individuals a preference for the body of children and/or adolescents. As long as this attraction is not transformed in behaviours, there are no consequences for the potential victims. A growing body of research suggests that a large proportion of pedophiles have never touched children sexually, nevertheless being categorised under this status can cause serious societal isolation and judgment. Awareness raising campaigns on the existence of such preventive initiatives could help offenders and those knowing someone with sexual interest towards children to seek for help. Engagement with stakeholders, including citizens, can increase the impact of prevention.

Research

Recent works offer encouraging findings on the effectiveness of such initiatives dedicated to (potential) offenders, nevertheless studies suffer of methodological flaw that can be overcome with new and complementary research. Supportive actions to fund research in the domain is also desirable.

Building a network of experts gathering best practices

The building of a network of initiative and treatment providers would facilitate the identification of key representatives with most knowledge and competences in the field together with best practices and lessons learned. Collaboration at national and international level would mitigate overlaps and will feed eventual gaps towards an agreed standardised framework of supportive initiatives.

Developing a framework of polices

Despite the increasing amount of consistent work that is being done by local authorities, charities and voluntary organisations, more coordinated actions are needed in order to create a common framework

of policies and high-quality evidence-based programmes to enhance social change and more efficiently prevent child sexual abuse.

Invest in a competence framework and specific curriculum for helpers

Invest in a competence framework for helpers is necessary. The development of specific competences to assist people with sexual preference for children is needed as some of the reported initiatives are carried out on a voluntary basis without acquired specific and necessary qualifications. Helpers need to professionalise, and to develop specific skills and to work in multidisciplinary team.

Funding

Any person who fear that might commit any offence, may have access, where appropriate, to effective intervention programmes or measures designed to evaluate and prevent the risk of such offence being committed. Preventive strategies should be sufficiently funded in order to address this need from the mentioned areas of intervention.



Figure 1. CSA Prevention – Areas of intervention

Source: European Commission

Abstract

Sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children constitute major violation of fundamental rights and in particular of children rights to protection and care necessary for their well-being, as it is stated in the UNHCR Convention on the Rights of the Child.

A series of Union initiatives and in particular Directive 2011/93/EU on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography aim at supporting actively and in a coordinated way the implementation of prevention and repression policies.

The aim of this research is to first map existing prevention programmes in the European Union and at International level, focusing on interventions and treatments for (potential) offenders before any abuse occurs, for convicted offenders in prisons, and for convicted offenders after they leave the prison to fight against recidivism. Prevention campaigns and programmes, helplines, and circles of aids in the International and European landscape are listed and referenced.

The effectiveness of the approaches has not yet been fully demonstrated and presented. Nevertheless, the report also offers preliminary evaluations of the reported initiatives and highlights on the possible best practices. In addition, criteria for more thorough assessment are suggested.

The prevention programmes are considered as an important contribution for a resilient and effective approach to fight against child sexual exploitation both in the cyberspace and offline, and to raise main stakeholders' awareness to the issue.

1. Introduction

Sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children constitute a serious violation of fundamental rights and in particular of the rights of children to protection and care necessary for their well-being, as it states in the UNHCR Convention on the Rights of the Child [1][2].

The European Union has adopted already several initiatives in order to address sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children. The Directive 2011/93/EU on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2004/68/JHA2 has provided a detailed EU regulatory framework in this matter ranging from prevention to repression policies. The EU cybersecurity strategy [3] recently revised [4], as well as the European Agenda on Security COM(2015) 185 final [5], have enshrined the need to fight against such crime in addition to the fight against terrorism and serious organized crime. Complementing and strengthening the call for action, the European Parliament has also adopted a Resolution on child sexual abuse online 2015/2564(RSP) [6]. The European Commission is also actively collaborating with the Global Alliance Against Child Sexual Abuse Online. Reports published in 2014 and 2015 document the progress made by each Alliance member.²

Fighting child sexual exploitation, both in “real life” and over the internet, has been primarily focused on responding to abuse after it occurs, rather than on prevention. However prevention is a goal that can be achieved through various possibilities of intervention³ such as detection/control measures; self-regulation; awareness and education initiatives and technological measures.

This inception report aims at mapping the strategies put in place both at International and European level with the purpose of identifying best practices for preventing child sexual exploitation. It constitutes one of the on-going research actions carried out in the frame of AVICAO (Authors and Victims Identification of Child Abuse) project of the DG JRC - E3 Cyber & Digital Citizens' Security Unit.

Even though present researches [7] [8] have not yet completely demonstrated the level of effectiveness of prevention approaches, European Member States as well as a series of third countries⁴ have launched prevention campaigns and programmes, helplines and circles of aids. Moreover, the EU has founded development programme such as Daphne⁵ in order to develop tools to support prevention initiatives.

As underlined by the Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy for the European Union⁶ efforts should be focused on ensuring that child sexual abuse is prevented before it occurs. This strategy's philosophy is bolstered by a growing body of evidence demonstrating that child sexual abuse can be prevented [7] [10]. This implies that a series of measures and strategies may be implemented in order to avoid that people at risk of abusing become offenders, and potential victims become actual victims.

The outline of the Chapters is as follows: we start with an introduction and methodology, in Chapter 2 we present the concept of child sexual exploitation, whereas in Chapter 3 we summarized strategies to contrast the phenomena. In Chapter 4, a review of initiatives such as projects, campaigns and circles of

² http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/organized-crime-and-human-trafficking/global-alliance-against-child-abuse/index_en.htm

³ <https://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants/results/daphne-toolkit/en/content/child-pornography-internet-evaluating-preventive-measures>

⁴ <http://www.stopitnow.org/>

⁵ <https://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants/results/daphne-toolkit/en/content/preventing-child-sexual-abuse-evaluating-and-implementing-european-model-stop-it-now>

⁶ <http://europa.eu/globalstrategy/en/global-strategy-promote-citizens-interests>

aids is presented. Chapter 5 reports some evaluations of prevention programmes dedicated to offenders. Finally, Chapter 6 concludes the report with a series of recommendations for future research. The Appendix has been conceived as an off-the-shelf manual where several projects and initiatives have been collected. Interested parties can easily consult the content as it has been developed; differentiating sections for potential sex offenders who fear to offend, convicted individuals in prison and after they leave the prison. A dedicated section to minors is also present.

2. Methodology

The aim of this research is to map existing prevention programmes in the European Union and at International level, focusing on interventions and treatments for (potential) offenders before any abuse occurs, for convicted offenders in prisons, and for convicted offenders after they leave the prison to fight against recidivism. In addition, policy initiatives launched by Member States regarding prevention of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) within the scope of articles 22 and 24 of the Directive 2011/93/EU are presented. The focus is therefore on interventions and treatments for (potential) offenders. In particular, the present report focuses on:

- reporting the existing prevention programmes in the EU and beyond, at all levels focusing on offenders: for people who fear that may offend (1), for convicted offenders in prisons (2) and for convicted offenders after they leave the prison (3);
- identifying possible gaps and/or overlaps in the programmes within the EU;
- identifying best practices and lessons learned: what worked/what did not work and why?
- identifying the people with most knowledge on this issue globally, regardless of their occupation (i.e. whether public officials, academics, NGO members).

The methodology applied to build research findings was divided into three phases:

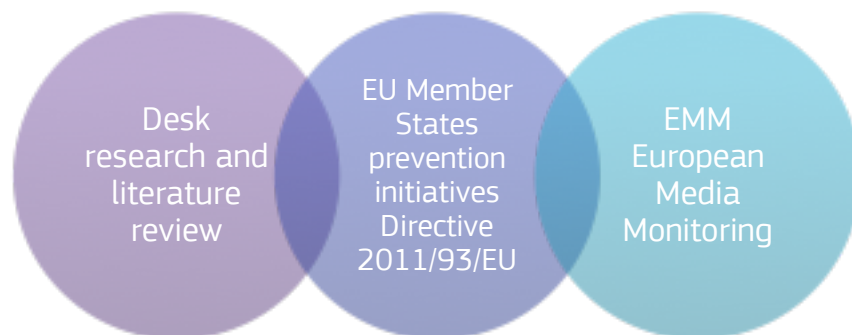


Figure 2. Three phases methodology

Source: European Commission

2.1. Desk research and literature review

In order to initiate the research, a preliminary literature review was performed to identify and learn from experiences, findings and resources from various existing programmes and initiatives related to interventions for adults at risk of offending. This allowed the mapping of different initiatives in terms of national policies and countries, as well as to identify emerging trends and challenges.

2.2. EU Member States Initiatives under the Directive 2011/93/EU

The second and more in-depth phase was designed to fuel the fact-gathering action and complement the initial project mapping. In this second phase, we looked at those initiatives put in place by twenty-seven EU Member States under the Directive 2011/93/EU [3] and focusing on the following articles:

“Article 22 Preventive intervention programmes or measures”

This article comprises those initiatives to ensure that persons who fear to offend can be assisted with measures designed to prevent the risk of offences being committed.

“Article 24 Intervention programmes or measures on a voluntary basis in the course of or after criminal proceedings”

In this article reference is made to those intervention programmes or measures imposed by the competent judicial authorities under national law, that Member States shall take to prevent and minimise the risks of repeated offences of a sexual nature against children. Such programmes or measures shall be accessible at any time during the criminal proceedings, inside and outside prison, in accordance with national law.

2.3. JRC European Media Monitor

To complement the two phases described above, the JRC European Media Monitor (EMM)⁷ for News Gathering tool was also considered and used. The JRC EMM News Brief is a tool monitoring a given list of sources, typically news websites, forums and blogs, to classify their content within different predefined categories. For this research, categories dedicated to news on (potential) sex offenders’ initiatives and programmes were created and monitored.

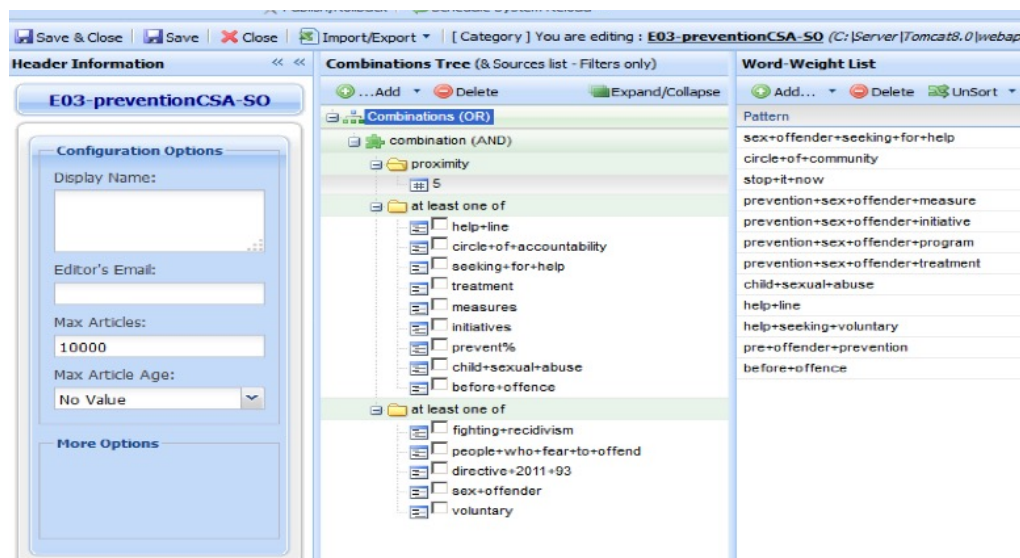


Figure 3. EMM Category Editor for CSA Prevention Initiatives

Source: European Commission

⁷ <http://emm.newsbrief.eu/>

3. Theoretical framework

3.1. Child sexual abuse

3.1.1. What is child sexual abuse?

Child sexual abuse does not fit into a unique definition. Child molestation, sexual abuse of children, pedophilia, exploitation of real and virtual images of children have been subject of extensive research. Herewith we report the definition of child sexual abuse formulated by the World Health Organisation:

"...the involvement of a child in sexual activity that he or she does not fully comprehend, is unable to give informed consent to, or for which the child is not developmentally prepared, or else that violate the laws or social taboos of society. Children can be sexually abused by adults or other children who are – by virtue of their age or stage of development – in a position of responsibility, trust, or power over the victim" (World Health Organisation, 2006:10).

Child sexual abuse is a worldwide issue and the impact of this abuse can be devastating and endure into adulthood. For this reason, it is crucial to invest in those programmes and activities aiming to prevent child sexual abuse before it occurs. Together with educational and preventive programmes for children, parents and educational organisations, some initiatives for adults and young people, and those who fear to offend and have not yet committed abuse, are on the raise. In this report we will focus on those initiatives available to help people who are struggling with their "bad" feelings and thoughts about children and sex.

3.1.2. How do we define a child?

Although childhood has been studied and analysed in different theoretical fields and cultural backgrounds, in this study we refer to the agreed definition of childhood that was adopted by the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the child (UNHCR, 1989). [1]

Article 1 of the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the child (CRC) states that a child is understood as "every human being of age of 18 years, unless the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier"(UNHCR, 1989). [1]

This Convention is the first international human rights treaty that defines universal standards and rights for children all over the world. The child was rendered from a "passive object to be protected and cared for" into "an active social subject with rights, a person in a process of growing, whose evolutive capacity must be respected and protected" (UNHCR, 1989). [1]

"The Convention:

Defined childhood as a separate space from adulthood and recognized that what is appropriate for an adult may not be suitable for a child.

Called on governments to provide material assistance and support to families and to prevent children from being separated from their parents.

*Recognized that children are the holders of their own rights and are therefore not passive recipients of charity but empowered actors in their own development."
(UNICEF, 2005) [11]*

3.1.3. Who can be defined as an (potential) offender?

The profile of (potential) offender is also a multifaceted one and herewith we list some examples:

- people, who may have a sexual preference for children or pose a sexual threat to them for other reasons but who have not acted;
- detected abusers, who are known to the authorities as having abused children;
- offenders, who have abused but have not been detected;
- online abusers;
- minors. Research demonstrates that the average age of abusers is 14 years old.[12];

In this report we focus on those initiatives aimed to support the halting of abuse before it happens and prevention of recidivism.

3.1.4. Who can be considered as a guardian?

A guardian is a person who takes care of the child's needs. This care includes both repression and preventive actions to be put in place in order to protect a child.

When considering a new prevention initiative, most people think about educating individuals: children, parents and professionals. Nevertheless, as described in Figure 4, some interventions can target specific risk groups, as for example potential sex offenders who fear to abuse (*selective primary prevention*). In this sense potential perpetrators can play a double-role and prevent themselves by asking support to dedicated entities and in this sense they can also be considered as guardians.

Herewith we report scientists' statements retrieved by the website Virtuous Pedophiles⁸ that strive towards better investigate strategies and measures to be offered to pedophiles and/or individuals seeking help because they are sexually or intimately attracted by children.

Pedophilia refers to the sexual interest in children, whereas child molestation refers to the actual behaviour [...].

A growing body of research suggests that a large proportion of pedophilic men have never touched children sexually [...]

"I believe that science and society can learn a great deal from people with sexual attractions to children who are trying to learn how to best avoid acting on those impulses. [...]"

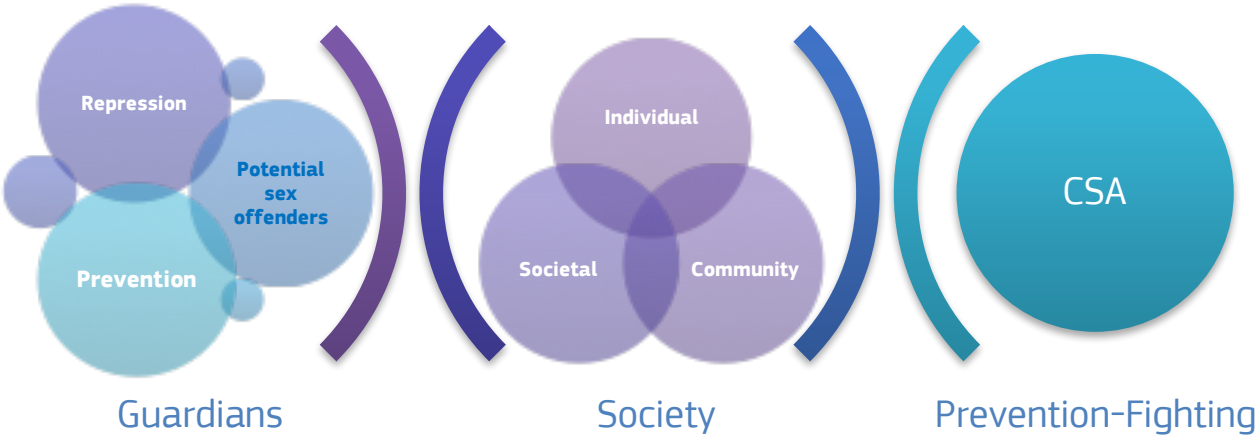


Figure 4. Roles and societal systems to both prevent and fight the Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)

Source: European Commission

⁸ <https://www.virped.org/our-supporters.html>

Respect for the right of the child to adequate protection and care within and outside the home must be the basis for international, national, community and family action against child sexual abuse. All these societal systems have responsibility for preventing this crime and for punishing perpetrators in order to stop child sexual abuse and protect childhood.

In the following list, there are some guardian roles that might be considered for a holistic preventive approach:

- criminal justice (Repression);
- law enforcement agencies (Repression);
- public health (Repression & Prevention);
- offenders themselves (Prevention);
- community as circles of aids (Prevention);
- family members of actual/potential abusers who already use the helpline (Prevention);
- adults worried about the sexual thoughts or behaviour of an adult or young person (Prevention);
- adults worried about a child they think may be at risk of sexual abuse (Prevention);
- parents/carers of children who are not thought to be at risk (Prevention);
- adults unsure whether or not to report concerning behaviour to authorities (Prevention);
- professionals working with children or working to protect children from harm (Prevention);
- professionals working with people who have or are at risk of sexually abusing children (including children or young people with sexually harmful behaviour) (Prevention).

3.2. Strategies to prevent child molestation, sexual abuse of children and pedophilia

Fighting against child sexual abuse, both in “real life” or over the internet, has tended to focus on responding to abuse after it occurs, rather than in prevention. However, prevention is a goal that can be achieved through various areas of intervention such as detection and control measures, self-regulation, awareness and education initiatives and technological measures.

3.2.1. A public health approach

CSA has been recognised as a public health issue since the late 1980s [13], and the World Health Organisation (WHO), among others, believes that the public health approach may contribute to a reduction in rates of child sexual abuse[14].

How do we define the public health approach?

An evidence-based approach to prevention is central to public health. According to the WHO report on violence prevention[14], the principles of public health provide a useful framework for both continuing to investigate and understanding the causes and consequences of violence and for preventing violence from occurring through prevention programmes, policy interventions and advocacy.

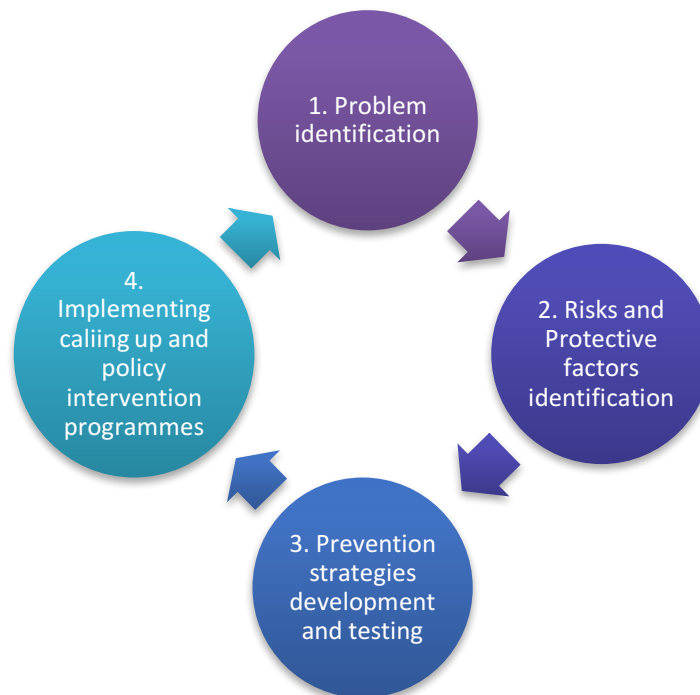


Figure 5. Four steps of the Public Health Approach

Source: European Commission

The public health approach to violence prevention seeks to improve the health and safety of all individuals through identification of risk factors that increase the probability that an individual will become a victim or a perpetrator of violence.

The consequence of considering child sexual abuse as a public health problem is that prevention needs to be seen as a priority, before any abuse has happened.

There are multiple steps in the public health approach, with each step informing and nourishing the next. Many people, organisations, and systems are involved at each step and along the way. Some of them contribute specifically to one step, others, as the prevention practitioners, all along the process.

Basically, the approach consists of four steps as described in Figure 5. To design an effective programme, the following questions need to receive adequate answers.

What is the problem and what are the causes??

It is needed to define the problem through the systematic collection of information.

To establish why violence occurs it is worth conducting research to determine the causes and correlation between violence, the factors that increase or decrease the risk for violence, and the factors that could be modified through interventions.

What works? And for whom?

To find out what works to prevent violence by designing, implementing and evaluating interventions.

To implement and scale-up effective and promising interventions and evaluate their impact and cost-effectiveness.

Prevention is central to the public health approach and takes place at three levels: primary, secondary and tertiary prevention. Smallbone et al (2008)[15] explained that the public health model gives us a useful and robust conceptual framework for distinguishing interventions by talking about primary, secondary and tertiary prevention, terms that are frequently used when discussing public health problems.

Primary Prevention: approaches that take place before sexual violence has occurred in order to prevent initial perpetration or victimization.

Secondary prevention initiatives also aim to stop abuse from occurring but are targeted at specific groups who are known to be at greater risk of becoming a perpetrator or victim of child sexual abuse.

Tertiary level initiatives are used when sexual abuse has already happened and are targeted at groups including perpetrators, victims/survivors, families and communities [15]. These initiatives aim to reduce the consequences of child sexual abuse and to prevent it from reoccurring. This includes services for victims/ survivors of child sexual abuse, but can also include work aimed at helping abusers to manage their own behaviour and not offend again.

Prevention requires behavioural change and even though it is difficult to create social change, public health approaches have been successfully used to help with a wide range of issues, such as smoking reduction, reducing the spread of HIV, encouraging using seatbelts in vehicles. There is no reason not to approach stopping child sexual abuse before it occurs by using a public health approach. It requires a community effort by all members, awareness raising, education, support at different levels (social, research, medical, political, healthcare, those responsible for forming public opinion, etc.), implementation and advocacy and probably further research to improve it at further stage in order to eradicate such abuse.

3.2.2. A social-ecological model

A second helpful framework often used when discussing child sexual abuse as a public health approach, is the social-ecological model used by Krug, Dahlberg, Mercy, Zwi, & Lozano, (2002) Dahlberg and Krug (2002) for the World Health Organisation's report on violence [16], where they made reference to the Bronfenbrenner's (1979) [17] and Heise's (1998) [18] (2001) [19] work arguing that the abuse can be influenced by a complex array of interconnected factors across:

- Individuals;
- Relationships;
- Communities;
- Macro-social levels.

The socio-ecological model as in figure 6 recognizes the interwoven relationship that exists between the individual and their environment. Individuals are responsible for developing and act in a lifestyle that reduces risk and improve health, nonetheless individual behaviour is determined to a large extent by social environments (e.g. family, community norms and values, regulations, and policies). The most effective approach leading to healthy behaviours is a combination of the efforts at all levels: individual, interpersonal, organisational, community, and public policy.

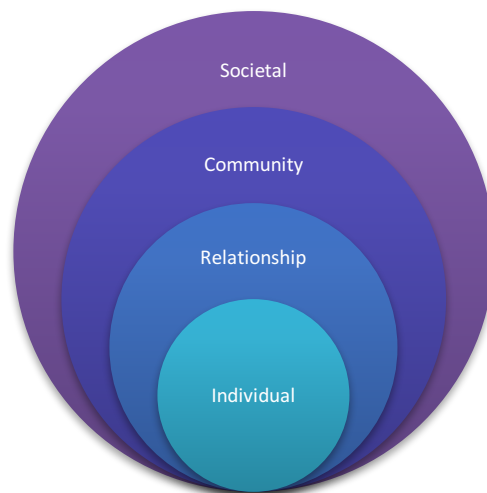


Figure 6. Socio-ecological model

Source: European Commission

INDIVIDUAL

The first level identifies biological and personal history factors that increase the likelihood of becoming a victim or perpetrator of violence. Among these factors, there are age, education, income, substance use, or history of abuse. Prevention strategies at this level are often designed to promote attitudes, beliefs, and behaviours aiming at preventing violence. Specific approaches may include education and life skills training.

RELATIONSHIP

The second level examines close relationships that may increase the risk of experiencing violence as a victim or perpetrator. A person's closest social circle-peers, partners and family members-influences their behaviour and contributes to their range of experience. Prevention strategies at this level may include mentoring and peer programs designed to reduce conflict, foster problem solving skills, and promote healthy relationships.

COMMUNITY

The third level explores the settings, such as schools, workplaces, and neighbourhoods, in which social relationships occur and seeks to identify the characteristics of these settings that are associated with becoming victims or perpetrators of violence. Prevention strategies at this level are typically designed to impact the climate, processes, and policies in a given system. Social norm and social marketing campaigns are often used to foster community climates that promote healthy relationships. Building collaborative partnerships may also be part of changing the community.

SOCIETAL

The fourth level looks at the broad societal factors that help create a climate in which violence is encouraged or inhibited. These factors include social and cultural norms. Other large societal factors include the health, economic, educational and social policies that help to maintain economic or social inequalities between groups in society.

All these sub-systems and their related interactions are recognizable in the programmes and initiatives presented in the following chapter and in the Appendix of the present report. The reader will comprehend that this macro-system might be considered as unified system with properties that should be analysed both by piecemeal examination of each member and as a whole. In this sense, the *Gestalt* dictum “*the whole is greater than the sum of the parts*” is applied.

4. Reporting on prevention initiatives addressed to sex offenders – Setting the scene

This chapter summarises the findings retrieved by a desk-research and preliminary literature review performed to identify existing programmes and initiatives related to intervention for adults at risk of offending. This phase allowed the mapping of different initiatives in terms of International and European policies, as well as to identify emerging trends and challenges. This overview does not intend to illustrate a complete picture of the available initiatives, rather a starting point for forthcoming research on the subject.

4.1. The International landscape

Prevention initiatives dedicated to sex offenders seeking for help are present worldwide. Our preliminary research shows that several projects have been put in place in the United States, Canada, Switzerland and Europe. The aim of these actions is to prevent offenders from offending or reoffending. Among the main and well-known initiatives there are:

Helplines such as *Stop It Now!*, which operates in the United States, the United Kingdom and Ireland. A dedicated section of their support and guidance program is offered to sex offenders seeking help with a *Tip Sheet: Twelve Questions About Your Behaviour Only You Can Answer* to create awareness about thoughts and behaviour.

Circles of Support and Accountability are groups of trained volunteers who support convicted child sex offenders to reintegrate into the community after prison, with the aim of reducing their risk of reoffending. The circle's main function is to reduce the likelihood of reoffending by providing the core member with a temporary surrogate social network, and to help him or her to establish a supportive social network of his own.

Online Support is offered by many organisations such as *Virtuous Pedophiles* and the *Shadows Project*. This service is offered by online support groups for non-offending pedophiles.

4.2. Initiatives at European Union level

Indeed, the European Union pays continued attention to the prevention of child sexual exploitation. Prevention of potential sex offenders has been explored through European Union projects in the following ways:

Online support and guidance, on the input of the international initiative *Stop It Now!*, the *DG Justice of European Commission*, under the *Daphne Funding Programme*, has designed a project called *Preventing Child Sexual Abuse: Evaluating and implementing a European model of Stop It Now!*. The main aim was the *development of an evidence-based toolkit providing guidance for the successful implementation of Stop It Now! services across Europe, and the promotion of existing services to aid their expansion*. The project provided an evidence-based model for use in setting up prevention services across Europe, based on the public health approach. The *Stop It Now!* approach is innovative because it is accessible to those at risk of offending, as well as other users such as parents and family members who do not pose a risk to children. The overarching aim is to prevent child sexual

abuse. The project also evaluated the only two *Stop It Now!* services operating in Europe - in the UK and the Netherlands.

Network foundation. In addition, a new European Network to exchange and transfer knowledge and expertise in the field of treatment programmes for perpetrators of sexual harassments and violence against children and young people has been set up. *Prevention of and Fight against Crime Programme European Commission Directorate-General Justice, Freedom and Security* has funded this network.

The *Eradicating Child Sexual Abuse Project (ECSA)* is led by the *Lucy Faithfull Foundation* and funded by the *Oak Foundation*. It aims to develop a child sexual abuse **prevention toolkit** to be used internationally.

Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA) can be considered as a complement to sex offender treatment and reintegration to society. British, Dutch and Belgian organisations (*Circles Europe: Together for Safety; CTS*) has led to the joint application for a two year grant from *Daphne III program* of the EU supporting the proliferation of *COSA*. The second project *Circles4EU* aimed at further dissemination in Spain, Latvia and Bulgaria. More partners, not yet ready to start, are orienting themselves on the *COSA* method in France, Ireland and Hungary.

4.3. Initiatives at EU Member States level

One of the most worldwide well known initiatives carried out at European Member State level is surely the *German Prevention Project Dunkelfeld* (literally *dark field*) (PPD).

The ongoing PPD project was launched in 2005 in Berlin with an extensive media campaign advertising the possibility for (possible) sex offenders to receive help. The PPD offers free and confidential treatment to those seeking help for a sexual attraction to children or young adolescents.

In 2005 the project media campaign was designed to communicate the following messages:

Do you like children in ways you should not?

You are not guilty because of your sexual desire, but you are responsible for your sexual behaviour. There is help! Don't become an offender!

In 2009 the chosen slogan was:

Child pornography is sexual abuse. You are not to blame for your sexual responsiveness to child pornography, but you are responsible for your own behaviour. It is your choice whether you click on it or not. Help is available! Don't become an offender. Not even online!

The second message was developed to include potential and undetected child pornography offenders and to extend the issue to the online world.

Offenders who volunteer for the program receive one year of treatment based on the cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) model. This aims to increase victim empathy, reduce offence-supportive behaviours (which can include substance abuse and pornography consumption) and increase self-regulation.

Some also access pharmacological intervention in the form of androgen-deprivation therapy (also known as chemical castration). The project has expanded across several cities in Germany.

The PPD shows that it is possible to reach pedophiles and hebephiles in the community and to encourage these men to change their habit of using child abusive images.

Preliminary research on the effectiveness of the *Dunkelfeld Prevention Project* is promising [2]; it has been shown to reduce the many risk factors associated with offending. But more research is needed to assess whether this reduction in risk translates into reduced offending.

Other valuable initiatives at Member State level have been put in place also thanks to the input of the Daphne project, which has inspired them.

- **Circles of Support and Accountability** have been established in the UK, The Netherlands and Spain;
- **Help Lines** are offering help to potential sex offenders in the UK, Denmark, Finland;
- **Online support** is also available in the UK, Ireland and The Netherlands through the *Stop It Now!* Project and *Lucy Faithfull Foundation*.

In addition, the *Stop It Now!* programme can voluntarily be joined by any person anonymously in order to find guidance in regard to the prevention of child abuse offences. The provision of a safety plan aiming at preventing the risk of any child abuse as well as the possibility to seek professional advice and help via this programme do not stipulate that convicts or persons subject to criminal proceedings for the commission of child offences are subject to an assessment of their danger and risk of repetition. As described in Article 24(1) of the Directive, the campaign Stop It Now provides individual help to potential offenders. No differentiation is made with regards to the age of the offender. Thus also children who sexually offend can make use of the programmes.

4.4. Complementary research through EMM

To complement the two phases described above, the JRC European Media Monitor (EMM)⁹ for News Gathering tool was also considered. The JRC EMM News Brief is a tool monitoring a given list of sources, typically news website, forum and blogs, to classify their content within different predefined categories. For this research, categories dedicated to news on (potential) sex offenders' initiatives and programmes were created and monitored for a period of six months, from October 2017 till March 2018. Even though this is a preliminary test-bed and the categories set up can be fine-tuned, the outcomes of this preliminary news gathering confirm the presence of preventive campaigns, Apps, and other resources **addressed to victims, parents and educators**. As far as concerns preventive initiatives **targeting (potential) offenders**, these were not retrieved by the system.

This result can be read in different ways. As said, it can be a limit related to the categories definition. In this case a new set of categories could be envisaged and a new process and monitoring could be launched to see if new suitable results are given. Another possible explanation could be attributed to the fact that such initiatives are not well enough advertised in the press. This second interpretation might confirm the societal taboos towards the topic and the need to consider awareness raising campaigns similar to those launched by the *Dunkelfeld project* as a possible way to engage potential offenders and citizens in the prevention programmes and initiatives.

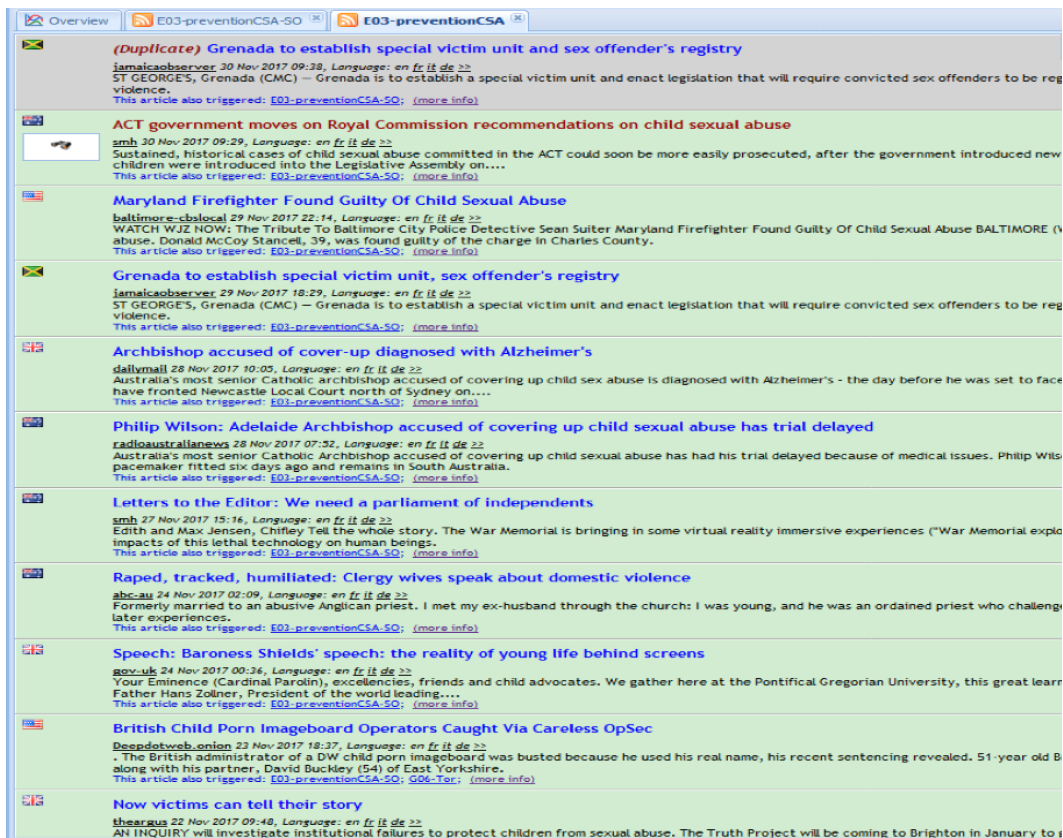


Figure 7. EMM outcomes for E.3 Prevention category

Source: European Commission

⁹ <http://emm.newsbrief.eu/>

4.5. Gathering measures and strategies together

The Appendix presents the outcomes of the three-step research. By gathering findings following the methodology illustrated in chapter two, the following structure has been developed:

- Preventive intervention programmes or measures for people WHO FEAR THEY MAY OFFEND;
- Intervention programmes or measures (on a voluntary basis) for convicted offenders IN PRISON;
- Intervention programmes or measures (on a voluntary basis) for convicted offenders AFTER THEY LEAVE THE PRISON;
- Intervention programmes or measures offered to MINORS.

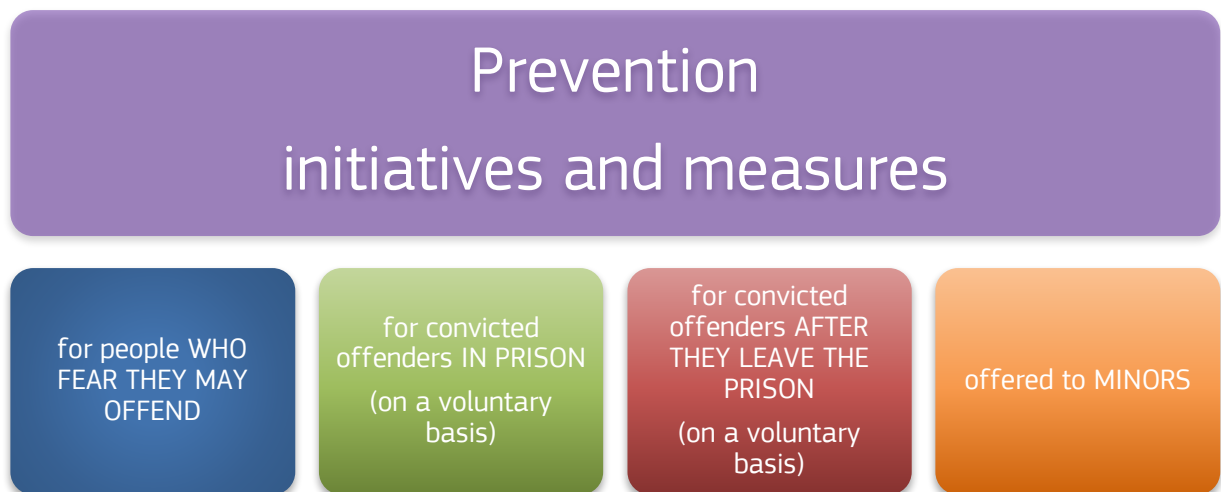


Figure 8. Appendix structure

Source: European Commission

The Appendix has been conceived as an off-the-shelf tool where initiatives, programmes, projects, etc. are gathered. Different colours have been assigned to each section to enable the reader to find needed resources and best practices in a smooth way. Figure 8 describes it in a graphical way.

5. Evaluation on the effectiveness of the prevention initiatives for (potential) offenders

In this paragraph some evaluations on the effectiveness of prevention initiatives for (potential) offenders are reported. Recent works offer encouraging findings, nevertheless studies suffer of methodological immaturity, that can be overcome with new research.

The first finding that deserves attention is related to the emerging disclosure by (potential) sex offenders seeking for help:

Helplines such as *Stop It Now!*¹⁰ report large numbers of calls from those concerned about being sexually attracted to children and requesting support to prevent them from offending.

The *Virtuous pedophiles* support group¹¹ operates for pedophiles, who are committed to avoiding having sexual contact with children, declares that more than 2,000 pedophiles have signed up for the group.

Preliminary research on the effectiveness of the *Dunkelfeld Prevention Project*¹² is also promising. Although it is difficult to make a statistical evaluation of the success of this initiative, it is interesting to note that it is very popular with pedophiles (440 patients have been treated over the past ten years and some come especially from other European countries).

In addition, the *Berlin Prevention Project Dunkelfeld (PPD)* aims to prevent child sexual abuse (CSA) by targeting men who fear they may sexually abuse children, and who seek help without being mandated to do so. In the article *Can pedophiles be reached for primary prevention of child sexual abuse? First results of the Berlin Prevention Project Dunkelfeld (PPD)* [3] it has been shown that many risk factors associated with offending can be reduced. The research aims to demonstrate that a pedophilic or hebephilic sexual preference is very common among pedophile men. In addition, it is shown how these men can be reached, and their determination to find help is documented. For this project evaluation, the target group was informed of the project and encouraged to respond via a media campaign. A telephone screening was conducted over the first 18 months. Of the 286 who completed the screening (60.1% of the respondents), 84.3% (N = 241) were interviewed by a clinician. Of the interviewees, 57.7% (N = 139) and 27.8% (N = 67) expressed a sexual preference for prepubescent and pubescent minors, respectively, and 10.8% (N = 26) for mature adults. The remaining 3.7% (N = 9) could not be reliably categorized. With this research it has been highlighted that (potential) child molesters with a respective sexual preference, can be reached via a media campaign and efforts to prevent CSA ought to be expanded to target this group.

Themes in participant feedback on a risk reduction programme for child sexual exploitation material offenders [2] [4] is a qualitative study aimed to evaluate a community-based psycho-educational programme, *Inform Plus*, utilising interviews from 13 male programme leavers, alongside interviews from 8 non-offending others associated with the programme leavers. Results were positive. After course completion, CSEM offenders reported feeling better able to manage their thoughts, feelings and behaviours which may be related to their internet offending. The programme was found to initiate

¹⁰ <http://www.stopitnow.org/>

¹¹ <https://www.virped.org/>

¹² <https://www.dont-offend.org/>

a motivation for self-fueled change, to facilitate communication within and beyond the group therapy setting, and to make accessible to the participants the possibility and goal of a desirable future away from offending. Non-offending others comprising the partners or parents of *Inform Plus* participants and other associated professionals, independently validated these results.

Online sexual offenders represent an increasingly large proportion of all sexual offenders. Many of these offenders receive noncustodial sentences, and there is a growing need for community-based interventions. An *Evaluation of a Community-Based Psycho-Educational Program for Users of Child Sexual Exploitation Material* was run by Dervley, Perkins, Whitehead, Bailey, Gillespie, & Squire [20]

The aim of this study was to evaluate a psycho-educational programme for community dwelling users of child sexual exploitation material (CSEM). A total of 92 adult male participants completed self-report measures at pre and post. A subset of participants also completed measures after a follow-up period. Results suggested benefits across depression, anxiety, and stress; social competency, including locus of control and self-esteem; and distorted attitudes. Furthermore, these effects remained 8 to 12 weeks following programme completion. The results suggest that CSEM users are amenable to treatment in the community and that there are beneficial outcomes in affective and interpersonal functioning following psycho-education. These factors represent treatment targets for sexual offenders and are recognized risk factors for contact sexual offense recidivism. Furthermore, more research is needed to assess whether this reduction in risk translates into reduced offending.

A recent study by Seto *Research on online sexual offending: what have we learned and where are we going?* [4] underlines the fact that online offenders differ in some psychologically and criminologically meaningful ways from contact offenders[10],[21] Moreover, Seto examines recidivism and developed the first risk tool for child pornography offenders called *Child Pornography Offenders Risk Tool* (CPORT)[22]

From these evaluations it is highlighted that there are different targets among potential offenders: pedophiles, individuals attracted by children, who are committed to avoiding having sexual contact with children, online sexual offenders, offenders that have already abused and others. According to the public health approach (see chapter 3 of the present report), risk factors for recidivism for each target group might be considered to design effective programmes to prevent child sexual abuse. Specific risk assessment tools might be conceived, studied and tested for specific target group, therefore specific supportive initiatives might be designed accordingly.

Further research targeting (potential) offenders and taking into account different targets is also needed in order to develop effective prevention strategies.

6. Discussion and future research

Considering child sexual abuse as a public health problem gives us a range of theories and frameworks/models that can help us design effective programmes to prevent such offences. Smallbone et al (2008)[15] explained that theory is important in designing effective prevention strategies because theory allows us to understand the **causes** of child sexual abuse, the **motivations** behind it and **how those motivations interact with situations**.

According to these assumptions, if we understand how and why child sexual abuse happens in the first place, we can design programmes and policies to prevent it.

In the following section, a question-answer tool is proposed to think through a violence-related problem one would like to impact in a community or organisation

In this research review we focused on prevention initiatives and treatments for (potential) offenders. In particular, the present report focused on:

- reporting on the existing prevention programmes in the EU and beyond at all levels focusing on offenders:
 1. for people who fear that may offend;
 2. for convicted offenders in prisons and;
 3. for convicted offenders after they leave the prison;
- identifying gaps and overlaps in the programmes within the EU;
- identifying best practices and lessons learned: what worked/what did not work and why?
- identifying the people with most knowledge on this issue globally, regardless of their occupation (i.e. whether public officials, academics, NGO members).

Existing prevention programmes and initiatives for the three above mentioned categories have been listed in the Appendix. From this mapping it appears a large variety of entities and initiatives are carried out at International and European level. There are several programmes for the profiles (1), (2) and (3) listed above. Some of these initiatives are targeting specifically (potential) offenders at risk of abuse, others are both working in the general field of prevention and they also offer support to victims and children care givers. A first picture of best practices and lessons learned are illustrated in the evaluation section of the present document, nevertheless more research on risks factors and on initiatives is desirable to design effective programmes targeting child sexual potential abusers.

Despite the increasing amount of good work that is being done by local authorities, charities and voluntary organisations, more coordinated action is needed in order to create a common framework of policies and high-quality evidence-based programmes to enhance social change and prevent child sexual abuse. Furthermore, a competence framework for helpers is necessary. Most of the reported initiatives are carried out on a voluntary basis.

Herewith we present a customised question-answer tool¹³ aimed at conceiving strategies for prevention initiatives for (potential) sex offenders who fear to (re)-offend. In the presented version potential resources have been listed according to the outcome of the work illustrated in this report.

¹³ https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ph_app_violence-a.pdf

1	Define the problem	<p>a) What (violence-related) problem do I want to prevent?</p> <p>b) What data are available to describe the scope and burden of the problem?</p> <p>c) How many people are affected by the identified problem?</p> <p>d) Who is experiencing the problem?</p> <p>e) When and where is the problem occurring?</p>	<p>a) Prevent child sexual abuse before any abuse occurs. Prevent recidivism by offenders when they leave prison.</p> <p>b) Create awareness on the fact that there are virtuous pedophiles seeking for help</p> <p>c) Programmes as Stop-It-Now!, Dunkefeld program, Circle of accountability are receiving huge amount of help seeking requests by (potential) sex offenders.</p> <p>d) Macro-level, community level, individual (victims and potential offenders)</p> <p>e) CSA is experienced at worldwide level</p>
2	Identify Risk and Protective Factors	<p>f) What are the causes?</p> <p>g) Where do I find research to answer?</p> <p>h) What are the risk factors for the problem?</p> <p>i) What are the protective factors for the problem?</p>	<p>f) A part from the abuse itself. Lack of measure and strategies to avoid that people at risk of abusing become offenders.</p> <p>g) See literature in reference</p> <p>h) Different targets among potential offenders: pedophiles, individuals attracted by children, who are committed to avoiding having sexual contact with children, online sexual offenders, offenders that have already abused and others.</p> <p>i) All prevention initiatives.</p>
3	Develop and Test Prevention Strategies	<p>j) What works? And for whom?</p> <p>k) Where do I find information to answer?</p> <p>l) Are there existing, effective strategies based on best available evidence?</p> <p>m) If none exist, what resources do I need to develop a new strategy based on what was learned in steps one and two?</p> <p>n) Where can I find research partners to help evaluate the selected strategy?</p> <p>o) Is the strategy effective – did it do what was intended?</p>	<p>j) Evaluation of present/past initiatives.</p> <p>k) See evaluation section of this report.</p> <p>l) Research is present, nevertheless more research is needed.</p> <p>m) See articles in reference. More research in the domain is desirable</p> <p>n) See Appendix</p> <p>o) See Evaluation section</p>
4	Assure Widespread Adoption (Dissemination and Implementation)	<p>p) Implementing and scale-up Who would benefit from this strategy (parents, educators, policy makers, etc.)?</p> <p>q) How do I get this strategy to the people who need it?</p> <p>r) Where can I find assistance and support for implementing an effective strategy and on-going monitoring and evaluation of the strategy?</p> <p>s) What resources are needed to establish prevention initiatives in support to sex offenders?</p>	<p>p) According to presented research child sex abuse is preventable also thanks to initiatives addressed to (potential) offenders, who fear to (re)offend.</p> <p>q) The whole society could benefit from this strategy at macro-level, community level, individual level (victims and offenders)</p> <p>r) Raising awareness about such initiatives. Address the issue to policymakers to invest sufficiently in preventative strategies.</p> <p>s) Design a common strategy at EU level and ask for adoption my Member States:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legislation - Advertising campaigns - Operational costs/support facilities. - Develop framework of competences for helpers - Create consortium (government/professionals/ citizens/NGOs) to run such initiatives

Table 1. Questions/answers tool aimed at conceiving strategies for prevention initiatives on CSA

Source: European Commission. Initial model available at www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ph_app_violence-a.pdf

7. Conclusion

Preventing children from sexual abuse is a human rights and a public health problem. The risks and consequences of physical and psychological trauma should draw international attention to this emergency. The prevention issue can be approached through awareness raising, education, advocacy, research and policy interest and action.

According to the Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy for the European Union¹⁴, we should also be focusing our efforts into ensuring that child sexual abuse is prevented before any abuse occurs. This implies that we need to put in place measure and strategies to avoid that people at risk of abusing become offenders, and potential victims become actual victims. Member States in addition to punishing perpetrators, have responsibility for preventing this crime before it occurs. According to the Directive 2011/93/EU (Article 22) any person who fear that might commit any offence, may have access, where appropriate, to effective intervention programmes or measures designed to evaluate and prevent the risk of such offence being committed.

In this report we mapped the strategies put in place both at International and European level with the purpose of preventing child sexual exploitation. Even though present research [7] [8] has not yet completely demonstrated the effectiveness of the prevention approach, several countries in the world¹⁵ and European Member States have launched prevention campaigns and programmes, helplines and circles of aids. Moreover European Projects (e.g. Daphne¹⁶) have founded research in this issue. There is a growing evidence base about interventions and strategies that shows that child sexual abuse is preventable [7]–[10]. This report does not pretend to give an overall picture of existing initiatives on the subject. Nevertheless, it can be considered as an inception work to identify best practices for preventing child sexual exploitation. On this basis, further considerations and analysis might be considered to better support policies on prevention for (potential) offenders.

From our first analysis we believe that even though good work is being done by local authorities, charities and voluntary organisations, more coordinated action is needed to create a common framework of policies and high-quality evidence-based programmes.

As regards research, there is a need for more in depth studies on risks factors to better design specific programmes for specific offenders. There are different targets among potential offenders: pedophiles, individuals attracted by children, who are committed to avoiding having sexual contact with children, online sexual offenders, offenders that have already abused and others.

Furthermore, to design effective programmes targeting child sexual potential abusers there is a need to evaluate the effectiveness of existing and new initiatives, possibly not qualitative research only (e.g. laboratory sexual reaction, implicit association test to evaluate attitudes towards CSA of sex offenders after treatment).

¹⁵ <http://www.stopitnow.org/>

¹⁶ <https://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants/results/daphne-toolkit/en/content/preventing-child-sexual-abuse-evaluating-and-implementing-european-model-stop-it-now>

Before encouraging more initiatives to be put in place, there is a need to invest in terms of human resources and skills development in order to build a comprehensive competence framework for helpers. Most of the reported initiatives are carried out on voluntary basis.

All in all, the results of the study show on the one hand gaps in the supply of common policies and solutions tailored for (potential) offenders. On the other hand, the reported initiatives and research results show that there is a tangible need for such actions. Policy makers should be aware of these possible strategies.

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Terminology

Pedophilia refers to a sexual preference for pre-pubescent children.

Hebephilia refers to a sexual preference for pubescent children. In some countries, these attributions can be the basis of a medical diagnosis.

Potential abuser refers to adults who may pose a sexual threat to children (i.e. they have sexual thoughts and feelings towards children) but who have not committed abuse.

Public health approach refers to a comprehensive strategy that includes primary, secondary and tertiary level prevention interventions to address individual, interpersonal relationship, community and societal level factors that contribute to a problem – in this case, the perpetration of child sexual abuse.

Sexual interest in children is used to refer to adults who are sexually attracted to children, whether or not they have a sexual preference for them over adults.

Sexual preference disorder is a medical diagnosis given in some countries, indicating the adult has a sexual preference for prepubescent or pubescent children.

Child sexual abuse images, not 'indecent images' or 'child pornography', to reflect the fact that viewing and sharing these images is a form of child sexual abuse and an offence. A significant proportion of images used by sexual offenders are self-produced by children and young people, uploaded to young people-oriented websites or shared with friends, but their use remains an offence. Other images are not only abusive in how they are used but also in their production, with children being abused online or offline to create them.

The above mentioned terms have been retrieved from this source:

<http://www.natcen.ac.uk/media/329131/stop-it-now-toolkit.pdf>

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<https://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/522/tarred-and-feathered>

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Conferences and events

<http://www.iatso.org/>

IATSO was founded formally on March 24th, 1998 in Caracas, Venezuela during the 5th International Conference on the Treatment of Sex Offenders. It is an international non-profit organisation committed to the promotion of research of and treatment for sexual offenders throughout the world.

Goals and Objectives

The sponsorship of biennial International Conferences on the Treatment of Sexual Offenders for the dissemination of new research, treatment methods and to provide continuing education and networking opportunities. The promotion of international, regional and local conferences on the Treatment of Sexual Offenders. Updating the IATSO Standards of Care for the Treatment of Adult Sexual Offenders and the IATSO Standards of Care for the Treatment of Juvenile Sexual Offenders consistent with advances in knowledge of the treatment of sexual offenders. Advocacy of humane, dignified, comprehensive, ethical and effective treatment of sexual offenders throughout the world.

Journals and books

Journal SEXUAL OFFENDER TREATMENT

The journal SEXUAL OFFENDER TREATMENT, the official journal of the International Association for the Treatment of Sexual Offenders (IATSO).

Sexual Offender Treatment is an international peer reviewed journal open to all scientists and practitioners researching sexual abuse. We welcome all contributions that enhance or illuminate relevant practice and science. For further information and guidelines for authors please visit the association's homepage www.iatso.org.

<http://www.sexual-offender-treatment.org/welcome.html>

Book "Child Sexual Abuse in Europe" by Corinne May-Chahal, Mária Herczog

https://books.google.it/books?id=AT6mXxTtkfC&pg=PA29&lpq=PA29&dq=Child+sexual+abuse+Prevention+Programmes+Across+Europe&source=bl&ots=TmqN_7Dnf7&sig=qln7QFMytZLzQZY1LMqH4xrqpmY&hl=it&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiksfzC8YHWAhVLuRQKHb0AAXwQ6AEIVzAF#v=onepage&q=Child%20sexual%20abuse%20Prevention%20Programmes%20Across%20Europe&f=false

Sex Offenders: Punish, Help, Change or Control? Theory, Policy and Practice ...

https://books.google.it/books?id=la3wbFqjPPEC&pg=PT201&lpq=PT201&dq=help+line+for+sex+offenders+in+Europe&source=bl&ots=7BvdYf50a9&sig=0lNwKq2vAd8EtVtTRuI0SB2DoY0&hl=it&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiql7_Y_ZzWAhVJ1RQKHSDeBiqQ6AEIbjAI#v=onepage&q=help%20line%20for%20sex%20offenders%20in%20Europe&f=false

Online Risk to Children: Impact, Protection and Prevention

https://books.google.it/books?id=9qbWDqAAQBAJ&pg=PA89&lpq=PA89&dq=Inform+plus+programme&source=bl&ots=0ySyxeJp1D&sig=Ht2HX8Kwlcwi_NWasmk7bMjoU-g&hl=it&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjvvy8zJ3WAhXCWhoKHdXMDLoQ6AEIVDAG#v=onepage&q=Inform%20plus%20programme&f=false

List of abbreviations and definitions

EU	European Union
US	United States
CSA	Child Sexual Abuse
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation

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Annex

Article 22 and article 24 of Directive 2011/93/EU

“Article 22 Preventive intervention programmes or measures”

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that persons who fear that they might commit any of the offences referred to in Articles 3 to 7 may have access, where appropriate, to effective intervention programmes or measures designed to evaluate and prevent the risk of such offences being committed”

“Article 24 Intervention programmes or measures on a voluntary basis in the course of or after criminal proceedings”

1. Without prejudice to intervention programmes or measures imposed by the competent judicial authorities under national law, Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that effective intervention programmes or measures are made available to prevent and minimise the risks of repeated offences of a sexual nature against children. Such programmes or measures shall be accessible at any time during the criminal proceedings, inside and outside prison, in accordance with national law.

2. The intervention programmes or measures, referred to in paragraph 1 shall meet the specific developmental needs of children who sexually offend.

3. Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the following persons may have access to the intervention programmes or measures referred to in paragraph 1:

. (a) persons subject to criminal proceedings for any of the offences referred to in Articles 3 to 7, under conditions which are neither detrimental nor contrary to the rights of the defence or to the requirements of a fair and impartial trial, and, in particular, in compliance with the principle of the presumption of innocence; and

. (b) persons convicted of any of the offences referred to in Articles 3 to 7.

4. Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the persons referred to in paragraph 3 are subject to an assessment of the danger that they present and the possible risks of repetition of any of the offences referred to in Articles 3 to 7, with the aim of identifying appropriate intervention programmes or measures.

5. Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the persons referred to in paragraph 3 to whom intervention programmes or measures in accordance with paragraph 4 have been proposed:

. (a) are fully informed of the reasons for the proposal;

. (b) consent to their participation in the programmes or measures with full knowledge of the facts;

. (c) may refuse and, in the case of convicted persons, are made aware of the possible consequences of such a refusal.

APPENDIX

A1 - Preventive intervention programmes or measures for PEOPLE WHO FEAR THEY MAY OFFEND

Stop It Now! (US, UK, Ireland, The Netherland)

The project

The concept of **Stop It Now!** originates from the US. Since 1992, the organisation has been providing information and resources to support adults, families and communities to protect children from sexual abuse.

Prevention and guidance tools are available both for children and adults.

They collaborate with the the Global Institute of Forensic Research, Inc. (GIFR) specialising in providing cutting-edge research, training, and software solutions to mental health, correctional, and legal professionals working in both general care and forensic settings around the world. Dedicated to innovation, international experts develop services and programming to promote evidence-based best practices and improve both compliance and outcomes in assessment, treatment, and monitoring <https://www.gifrinc.com/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

The **Stop It Now! US** has inspired the **Stop It Now! Initiative in Europe**.

Target

A dedicated section is available for sex offenders seeking for help with a “Tip Sheet: Twelve Questions About Your Behaviour Only You Can Answer” at this link <http://www.stopitnow.org/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

The tip sheets are licensed under the **Creative Commons**, which allows interested stakeholders to reproduce them according to available guidelines. Online Help Center is also available for information and guidance.

Contacts

<http://www.stopitnow.org/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

Mailing address: 351 Pleasant Street, Suite B-319, Northampton, MA 01060, US

Tel: 413.587.3500

Helpline: 1.888.PREVENT or email the Helpline through the website

Dedicated links to contact Stop It Now! staff in the US are available on the website for:

- Sign up for updates
- Help with a concern about possible child sexual abuse
- Permissions to use materials or link to us
- Training interest

- Media and publicity inquiry
- General inquiry

Sister organisations:

UK & Ireland:

Stop It Now! UK and Ireland works to protect children and prevent child sexual abuse. Their helplines offer confidential advice, information and support to anyone with concerns about child sexual abuse and helps callers take the action that is in the best interests of children. The helpline is available to any adult who has concerns relating to child sexual abuse. This includes those who are concerned that an adult or child they know is sexually abusing a child, or **is at risk of doing so; is concerned about their own thoughts or behaviour towards children, including an interest in child pornography**; or is a parent or carer of a child whose sexual behaviour or interests they find worrying.

Freephone Helpline: 0808 1000 900

Email: help@stopitnow.org.uk (emails received are anonymised to preserve confidentiality and they aim to respond within 3-5 days)

www.stopitnow.org.uk [accessed on 16/07/2018]

Specialist Treatment Organisation for the Prevention of Sexual Offending

StopSO UK is an organisation that also aims to prevent sexual offending through therapy (fees apply). Anyone who is concerned about their thoughts or behaviour can ask for help from StopSO UK. <https://www.stopso.org.uk/mandatory-reporting/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

Netherlands:

The Stop It Now! Netherlands helpline was launched in March 2012, sponsored by the Internet Hotline (Netherlands) and der Waag, a center for outpatient forensic psychiatry - and with the help of Stop It Now! UK & Ireland.

<https://dewaagnederland.nl/en/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

<https://www.meldpunt-kinderporno.nl/en/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

Virtuous Pedophiles

The project

The ***Virtuous pedophiles*** support group operates for pedophiles who are committed to avoiding having sexual contact with children. More than 2,000 pedophiles have signed up for the group.

The website is intended to reduce the stigma attached to pedophilia by letting people know that a substantial number of pedophiles **DO NOT molest children**, and to provide peer support and information about available resources to help virtuous pedophiles remain law-abiding, and lead happy, productive lives.

Under "Who we are"/"First words" section there are the messages of 71 pedophiles who wrote to the group in its first year of existence, after the site went live in June of 2012. Similar emails continue to arrive every day.

"Letters to self" are letters of two of the group members wrote that they would want their younger selves to read when they first realised their attraction to children.

"Reflections" are thoughtful pieces from three of the group members.

"Founders" has the bios of the site's co-founders Ethan Edwards and Nick Devin.

Target

Individuals at risk of offending, as well as other users such as parents and family members who do not pose a risk to children.

Contacts

Available at this link:

<https://www.virped.org/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

You can also write to virpeds@gmail.com

The shadows project (EN, DE, FI, ES, RU)

The project

The **Shadows Project** is addressed to people who experience sexual attractions - some exclusively, some non-exclusively - to children, and who willingly decided not to act on these urges - and make this same decision again and again, every day of their life. This Website does in no way excuse or condone child abuse in any shape or form. It is instead about people who experience sexual attraction to children and DO NOT OFFEND! The site is designed to inform interested readers what kind of support is wanted at the moment.

Project goals:

- Show, that the word "pedophile" is not synonymous with "sex offender" because there are many pedophiles, who don't offend
- Show, that we suffer severe generalized discrimination
- Show, that nobody can be judged based only on his/her sexual (or other!) inclinations and only our BEHAVIOR defines WHO WE ARE
- Break the silence when it comes to pedophilia and providing a possibility for non-offending pedophiles to express themselves and their troubles coping with their problems, fantasies and impulses
- Encourage other pedophiles not to offend
- Show, that our sexual preference neither makes us monsters nor insane ticking timebombs
- Show, that we are normal human beings with a life and family, job, friends, ideas, dreams and fears, fantasy, art and poetry
- Show, that we positively are RESPONSIBLE and MOTIVATED enough not to act on our sexuality when it comes to children

Target

Individuals at risk of offending. People who experience sexual attractions - some exclusively, some non-exclusively - to children, and who willingly decided not to act on these urges.

Contacts

Available at this link:

<http://www.shadowsproject.net/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

[mail \(at\) shadowsproject.net](mailto:mail@shadowsproject.net)

Stopdigitaleovergreb & Save the Children Denmark

The project

The Danish national police launched the *campaign* **Stopdigitaleovergreb** to prevent people from downloading images and video with child sexual abuse.

The campaign works this way: the police upload videos to p2p networks with names suggesting that the content is child sexual abuse material. Instead of abusive content, the videos show a police officer who warns people of the consequences of downloading this kind of content. Some of the wording from the video sounds like this: "You *have downloaded this file from a police computer, and we have information that we may use to identify you*".

The videos also refer to the national helpline for people with sexual thoughts and fantasies about children. According to Save the Children Denmark, this element is important: not all people are aware that the helpline exists, and if we want to stop child sexual abuse, we need to tell people with sexual fantasies of children that it is possible to control it.

Save The Children Denmark's child pornography reporting service is co-financed by the European Commission and is part of INHOPE, a global network of hotlines fighting material of child sexual abuse on the Internet.

Target

Campaign to prevent downloading of child sexual abuse material and to provide national helpline for people with with sexual thoughts and fantasies about children.

Contacts

<http://stopdigitaleovergreb.nu/redbarnet/en/campaign-to-prevent-downloading-of-child-sexual-abuse-material/> [accessed on 14/09/2017]

The same kind of campaign is being rolled out in other European countries.

<https://www.psykiatri-regionh.dk/bryd-cirklen/Sider/default.aspx> [accessed on 14/09/2017]

Read the national TV-news about the campaign.

<http://www.dr.dk/nyheder/indland/aktion-mod-boerneporno-politiet-dukker-op-paa-paedofiles-skaerme#%21/00:05> [accessed on 14/09/2017]

Go to the helpline "Break the Circle".

<https://www.psykiatri-regionh.dk/bryd-cirklen/Sider/default.aspx> [accessed on 14/09/2017]

European project – Daphne Funding Programme

The project

Preventing Child Sexual Abuse: Evaluating and implementing a European model of Stop It Now! (Reference Number JUST/2011/DAP/AG/3031) This project is funded by the **Daphne Funding Programme**, whose main aim was the development of an evidence-based toolkit providing guidance for the successful implementation of **Stop It Now! services across Europe**, and the promotion of existing services to aid their expansion.

The project provided an evidence-based model for use in setting up prevention services across Europe, based on the public health approach. The Stop It Now! approach is innovative because it is accessible to those at risk of offending, as well as other users such as parents and family members who do not pose a risk to children. The overarching aim is to prevent child sexual abuse. The project evaluated the only two Stop It Now! services operating in Europe - in the UK and the Netherlands.

The research with users of the service found that, via the Helpline, potential offenders were able to better understand that their behaviour was problematic/illegal; how to identify triggers; how to manage their behaviour (for example, reduce online access); that they should speak to other people who could support them reduce their risk; it also helped them to put in place protective factors that could reduce their risk of offending. Users of the service reported that they do think Stop It Now! helps prevent child sexual abuse. Moreover, the following deliverables were issued:

- A toolkit
- Helpline (nl) use study report
- Report Study of the use and effects

The project was led by NatCen Social Research in the UK and de Waag in the Netherlands. The Lucy Faithfull Foundation which manages Stop it Now! UK and Ireland also contributed, along with project partners Save the Children, Finland, which runs the Nettivihje hotline tackling online child abuse images, and the Prevention Project Dunkelfeld, Germany. These two partners assessed development of the toolkit to inform its relevance to different nations.

Target

Individuals at risk of offending.

Contacts

Available at this link: <https://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants/results/daphne-toolkit/en/content/preventing-child-sexual-abuse-evaluating-and-implementing-european-model-stop-it-now> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

Eradicating Child Sexual Abuse (ECSA) Project & toolkit Lucy Faithfull Foundation (UK)

The project

The ***Eradicating Child Sexual Abuse Project*** is led by the **Lucy Faithfull Foundation** and funded by the **Oak Foundation**. It aims to develop a child sexual abuse prevention **toolkit** to be used **internationally**, that can be used by a nation, area or region to develop a considered and credible strategy for the prevention of child sexual abuse.

The toolkit aims to guide users through the process of creating a child sexual abuse prevention strategy and build a plan to prevent child sexual abuse based on their understanding of the place they are in and the particular problems children face.

The biggest part of the toolkit is made up of example programmes and interventions from around the world, some 180 example interventions, which users can browse.

Target

People who fear that may offend among others.

Contacts

http://www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk/oak_foundation_international_toolkit.htm [accessed on 16/07/2018]

The Lucy Faithfull Foundation

Bordesley Hall

The Holloway Alvechurch

Birmingham B48 7QA

Tel: 01527 591922

Fax: 01527 591924

Email: contact@lucyfaithfull.org.uk

For all Lucy Faithfull Foundation media enquiries please contact: Media and Communications Manager, Matt Whitticase

[01372 847160](tel:01372847160) / [07515 788456](tel:07515788456)

mwhitticase@lucyfaithfull.org.uk

Don't become a perpetrator ('Nicht Täter werden') project (Austria)

The project

The project ***Don't become a perpetrator - Nicht Täter werden*** has been initiated by the Men's Counselling Centre of Vienna and is based on a similar German project ('Kein Täter werden'). The Austrian project like the German one supports potential offenders that were seeking psychological help to prevent them from the commission of child abuse offences.

The project however unlike the German one, which has branches in all over Germany, is only based in Vienna.

The initiative and projects that have been outlined above sufficiently ensure that potential perpetrators in Austria that fear that they might commit child abuse or exploitation offences have adequate access to prevention measures.

Target

For men and numerous family counselling centres, where help-seeking men receive free and anonymous counselling on sexuality questions and sexual violence issues.

Contacts:

Standort Erlachgasse 95/5, 1100 Wien

<http://www.nicht-taeter-werden.at/Hintergrund.html> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

I.T.E.R. – Outpatient clinic (Belgium)

The project

I.T.E.R is an outpatient clinic where offenders of sexual abuse can find help. "Iter" is a Latin word (as in "itinerary") and means "the way ahead" or "an expedition". The letters of the word I.T.E.R. represent the purposes of the therapy: I-mpuls control, T-ackling re-offending, E-mpathy awareness, R-esponsibility acceptance.

I.T.E.R. is a working partnership linking CAW Archipel-Groot Eiland vzw, CCCZ Ahaseverus VZW, and Teaching Projects. The three organisations have pooled their resources to form one single team of the area Brussels/Halle/Vilvoorde. In this way the provisions drawn up between the Flemish Authority and the national Ministry of Justice regarding conform ability in the treatment of sexual offenders have been fulfilled at local level. In addition, Archipel-Groot Eiland is authorised to supervise the welfare of patients in the district of Leuven.

By means of this co-operation I.T.E.R. can give a clear picture of the help it offers to all those interested. There is now just one Flemish-speaking reporting centre in the whole area for the therapy and counselling of sexual offenders. As well as this, the partnership allows I.T.E.R. to evaluate patients' files inter-disciplinarily. In the interest of accessibility and because of the anonymity offered by a large city, Brussels was chosen as location. This was made possible through the support of the Flemish General Assembly.

Target

The services of I.T.E.R. are at present limited to the needs of offenders of sexual abuse.

The therapy is based on tackling re-offending and boosting motivation; individual therapy sessions; group sessions; psychiatric and audio logistic consultations; behaviours guidance therapy; system directed psychotherapy; bonding and sexual relationships; special skills training (e.g. Stress and rage management) social skills.

Contact

Gaucheretstraat 164

1030 Brussel

Telefoon: 02/512.62.43

Fax: 02/512.80.53

E-mail:

<http://www.iter-hulp.be/index.html> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

<http://www.iter-hulp.be/index.php?n=15&id=15&taal=E&mnav=A>



STOPP Help Hotline (Estonia)

The project

Estonia has informed that as of 12 June 2015 the help **hotline STOPP** was opened.

The overall objective of the hotline is to decrease the spread of sexual violence in Estonia, achieved through improving access to relevant counselling services and increasing the capability and capacity of organisations operating actively in the field. At the time of the conclusion of this assessment, there is not information about whether there are additional specific programs for the persons who contact the hotline. Based on the initial news report, the aim of the STOPP helpline is not to provide treatment for the persons who call the hotline. The aim of the hotline is to allow persons to discuss their concerns regarding their sexuality. The consultants of the hotline will aim at finding where to refer to the person. Yet there is no obligation or guarantee that the person will be provided assistance after the phone call.

Target

The hotline is designed for persons who believe that they may commit a sexual offence. They can call the hotline and receive free counselling. The hotline operates only on workdays between 18:00-22:00.

Contact

<https://www.just.ee/en/treatment-sexual-offenders> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

SEXPO RY (Finland)

The project

The private organisation **Sexpo Ry** with his partners has set up a prevention programme for people who are afraid that they might commit sex offences. Sexpo is a foundation that was set up in 1969 and whose aim is to foster sexual well-being by offering varied services such as counselling, therapy, consultation and sex and relationship education. Their activities include projects, research and development, and voluntary work. Sexpo Foundation provides counselling, therapy, consultation and education in matters of sexuality and relationships

Save the Children Finland, a national organisation founded in 1922, which by its own definition 'fights for children's rights in order to immediately and permanently improve children's lives in Finland and all over the world' has opened at the beginning of 2015 a website called otanvastuun.fi (lit. I take responsibility) aimed at people who feel interest at sexual material depicting children or at contacting children through the net. The site is established with the help from Criminal Sanctions Agency, Criminal Sanctions Training Centre, Sexpo foundation and Väestöliitto, the Family Federation of Finland. Åbo Akademi university's faculty of psychology's research group has suggested bringing German Dunkelfeld-model to Finland aimed at pre-empting sexual offences directed at children. The size of the project would be around 15 volunteers per year. The project appears to be currently lacking funding. (source: Haaste magazine, 1/2013).

Target

Any person fearing that they might commit offences directed at children can seek help.

Contact

<https://www.sexpo.fi/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

Otanvastuun (Finland)

The project

Save the Children Finland, a national organisation founded in 1922, which by its own definition 'fights for children's rights in order to immediately and permanently improve children's lives in Finland and all over the world' has opened at the beginning of 2015 a website called **otanstuun.fi** (lit. I take responsibility) aimed at people who feel interest at sexual material depicting children or at contacting children through the net. The site is established with the help from Criminal Sanctions Agency, Criminal Sanctions Training Centre, Sexpo foundation and Väestöliitto, the Family Federation of Finland. Åbo Akademi university's faculty of psychology's research group has suggested bringing German Dunkelfeld-model to Finland aimed at pre-empting sexual offences directed at children. The size of the project would be around 15 volunteers per year. The project appears to be currently lacking funding. (source: Haaste magazine, 1/2013).

The program engages potential abusers to consider the consequences of sexual activities directed at children and provides tools for controlling their own harmful behaviour. The program also encourages users to reflect on their own lives and how to pursue things that matter to them in non-harmful ways.

The program consists of three parts:

- What does it mean to have sexual interest in children?
- How can I control my behaviour if I have sexual interest in children?
- The way forward: How to maintain adapted behavioral and cognitive changes and where to find more help.

The background for this program is in Cognitive Behavioral Theory (CBT). The program challenges misbeliefs and thoughts regarding sexual action towards children. It also offers exercises to change these beliefs and provides information on where to seek help.

Target

Otanvastuun.fi self-help program is primarily intended for people who are worried about their sexual interest, thoughts, feelings or actions concerning children. The program benefits people who acknowledge that he or she has a primary sexual interest in children.

Contact

<https://www.pelastakaalapset.fi/en/our-work-in-finland/children-and-digital-media/otanstuun/>

[accessed on 16/07/2018]

Forte, the Swedish Research Council for Health (Sweden)

The project

Forte, the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare, is mandated by the Government to fund, communicate and evaluate research, in order to set research priorities and identify knowledge gaps. Forte also has a national responsibility to coordinate research within several specific areas, including children and adolescents. Prevention of sexual offences against children is therefore a highly relevant field of research within Forte's mandate. With respect to adults and adolescents who have not committed sexual abuse against children, but are at increased risk of doing so, there is a lack of evidence about the effectiveness of preventive methods.

Target

To determine the current state of knowledge in this research field, Forte was directed by the Swedish Government to evaluate interventions for adults who have committed, or are at risk of committing sexual abuse against children, as well as methods for assessing the risk of an adult (re)offending sexually against children.

Contact

Professor Niklas Långström appraised the scientific literature and authored the report and an external referencegroup reviewed a draft report and provided feedback.

The referenced report summarizes the scientific evidence in support of preventive medical and psychological interventions for offenders and adults at risk of committing child sexual abuse, and assessment of sexual recidivism risk. It also highlights scientific uncertainties and research priorities, and list suggestions for policy and practice.

<http://forte.se/app/uploads/sites/2/2016/02/preventing-sexual-offending-against-children-en.pdf>

[accessed on 16/07/2018]

DUNKELFED Prevention Project (Germany)

The project

A prevention project called **Dunkelfeld** (Do you like children in ways you shouldn't?) began in Germany in 2005 to provide clinical and support services to individuals who are sexually attracted to children and want help controlling their sexual urges, but are otherwise unknown to the legal authorities.

Dunkelfeld Prevention Project is a research and therapy project set up by the Institute of Sexology and Sexual Medicine at the Charité University Clinic in Berlin, whose aim is to offer therapeutic measures to those who feel sexually attracted to children and/or teenagers and to thus prevent them from committing an offence. The patients learn to control their impulses. The therapy entails two to three hours' treatment per week over a period of one year. The work sessions, which generally take place in groups of five to eight patients, focus on specific themes: sexual fantasies, sexual self-regulation, cognitive distortion (a problem which involves attributing to a people intention that they do not have), and empathy for the victim.

The group is encouraged to develop strategies to deal with risk situations. The project builds on two assets to help pedophiles feel at ease and talk about anything that comes to mind in small group sessions: absolute trust in the therapists and an approach that lifts the burden of guilt. It is explained to them that pedophilia is a mental disorder that cannot be treated and whose causes are unknown. Although it is difficult to make a statistical evaluation of the success of this initiative, it is interesting to note that it is very popular with pedophiles (440 patients have been treated over the past ten years and some come especially from other European countries) and to see the political support it receives.

Target

Persons who feel sexually attracted to children and/or teenagers and to thus prevent them from committing an offence

Contact

<https://www.dont-offend.org/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

<https://www.dont-offend.org/app/kontakt/message> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

Don't become a perpetrator (Nicht Täter werden) project (Germany)

The project

Preventive intervention programmes and measures for persons that fear that they might commit offences have been put in place in Germany. The project has by now been expanded to the nationwide prevention network **Don't become a perpetrator**. Currently the **Don't become a perpetrator** project has 11 contact points all over Germany via which persons that fear that they might commit child offences can get in contact with specifically trained personal free of charge. In 2005 the Institute of Sexology and Sexual Medicine at the University Hospital of the Charité Berlin has launched the government-sponsored 'Prevention Project Dunkelfeld'.

The patients learn to control their impulses. The therapy entails two to three hours' treatment per week over a period of one year. The work sessions, which generally take place in groups of five to eight patients, focus on specific themes: sexual fantasies, sexual self-regulation, cognitive distortion (a problem which involves attributing to people intentions that they do not have), and empathy for the victim. The group is encouraged to develop strategies to deal with risk situations. The project builds on two assets to help pedophiles feel at ease and talk about anything that comes to mind in small group sessions: absolute trust in the therapists and an approach that lifts the burden of guilt. It is explained to them that pedophilia is a mental disorder that cannot be treated and whose causes are unknown. Although it is difficult to make a statistical evaluation of the success of this initiative, it is interesting to note that it is very popular with pedophiles (440 patients have been treated over the past ten years and some come especially from other European countries) and to see the political support it receives.

Target

Persons that fear that they might commit offences.

Potential offenders that were seeking psychological help to prevent them from the commission of child abuse offences.

Contact

<https://www.kein-taeter-werden.de/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

<https://www.dont-offend.org/app/kontakt/message> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

Troubled Desire (Germany)

The project

Troubled desire is an internet-assisted self-management tool for people who feel attracted to children and early adolescents. The goal is ultimately to prevent child sexual abuse and the use of child abuse images and to alleviate the distress experienced by those with pedophilic inclinations.

The online-program not only aims at making information, assessment and treatment available online, but also at providing contact to healthcare professionals who provide preventive treatment on site in that particular country. In Germany preventive treatment for pedophiles and hebephiles can be done through personal counselling because the law allows those with pedo- and/or hebephilic inclinations, even those who have already offended, to obtain treatment without legal consequences (doctor-patient confidentiality). In many other countries, such as India, Canada or the United States, there are mandatory reporting laws which make it difficult to work with patients in a live setting on a personal basis.

As the sexual preference for children and child sexual abuse are internationally relevant phenomena, Troubled desire project is supporting the establishment of a supply system by building an international network of treatment providers with each national network operating in accordance to its national mandatory reporting law (for example, reported previous use of child sexual abuse images does not need to be reported according to American mandatory reporting laws).

Target

People who feel attracted to children and early adolescents and don't have the chance to get in real contact with therapists. Contacts to therapists will be arranged if possible. The self-management tool as well as real contacts to therapists are assured to be confidential and anonymous.

Contact

Institute of Sexology and Sexual Medicine

Zentrum für Human- und Gesundheitswissenschaften
Universitätsklinikum Charité Campus Mitte
Freie und Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Luisenstraße 57
D-10117 Berlin-Mitte
Spokesperson

Prof. Klaus M. Beier, MD PhD
Mail: klaus.beier@charite.de

<https://www.troubled-desire.com/en/> [accessed on 19/07/2018]



Linka Dôvery (Slovakia)

The project

Linka Dôvery is an anonymous 24/7 helpline which provides psychological assistance to persons calling. It includes assistance also for persons who fear that they may abuse children.

Target

Persons who fear that they might commit any of the offences referred to in Articles 3 to 7 of Directive may seek appropriate assistance, for example free consultancy via anonymous helpline 'Linka Dôvery'.

Contact

Linka Dôvery is operated by II . Organised by: Department of Psychiatry of the University Hospital of L. Pasteur. The phone number is 055/ 622 2323.

<https://www.dusevnezdravie.sk/linky-pomoci/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

<http://en.dusevnezdravie.sk/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]



Centre of Andrology and Sexual Medicine in Stockholm (Sweden)

The project

Sweden does have a **Centre for Andrology and Sexual Medicine** at the University Hospital Karolinska in Stockholm.

This centre is described as the specific measure that Sweden has taken to assist persons who are in the risk zone for committing sexual crimes. However, there is no clear information on the website regarding the fact that the Centre has this function. The Government proposed the introduction of as so called *stop phone* where persons who fear that they will commit sexual crimes can call to get help. It has not been possible to identify where information regarding this stop phone is to be found and whether it is now in place.

Target

This Centre deals with all types of sexuality problems including persons who believe that they are in the risk zone for committing the types of crimes referred to child sexual abuse.

Contact

<http://www.karolinska.se/for-vardgivare/kliniker-och-enheter-a-o/kliniker-och-enheter-a-o/centrum-for-andrologi-och-sexualmedicin/> [accessed on 14/09/2017]

Keinmissbrauch Project - Forensic Institute Eastern Switzerland

The project

According to scientific studies, up to one percent of all men between the ages of 18 and 75 have sexual fantasies directed towards children (source: kein-taeter-werden.de), which would mean around 20,000 men in Switzerland. Many do not succeed in permanently controlling their inclinations. They commit sexual assault on children or use misuse pictures on the Internet, so-called child pornography. Others have so far been able to suppress the sexual impulses directed at children, but fear losing control and committing a crime. Some of those affected have a problem awareness and are open to professional help. However, until some time ago, specific therapy offers were missing in Switzerland. Since 2009, the **Forensic Institute Eastern Switzerland** has offered a corresponding range of counselling and therapy in individual and group settings. The aim of these offers is on the one hand the control of sexual impulses and thus the protection of children against sexual assaults. On the other hand, men with pedophile tendencies who do not want to commit abuses should be strengthened in their preventive engagement. Among other things, the offers refer to the successful programs of the Institute for Sexual Medicine of the Charité in Berlin. The group therapies are carried out with up to 6 participants in a discrete setting in an anonymous location. They are run by two psychotherapists, a woman and a man.

Target

This Centre deals with all types of sexuality problems including persons who believe that they are in the risk zone for committing the types of crimes referred to child sexual abuse.

Contact

Ihre Ansprechpartnerin für Anmeldungen und Auskünfte: M. Sc. Stefan Matt, Psychologe FSP, Rechtspsychologe SGRPlic. phil. Matthias Maguhn, Psychologe FSP Rechtspsychologe SGRP

keinmissbrauch@forio.ch

www.keinmissbrauch.ch [accessed on 17/07/2018]

Forensisches Institut OstschweizZürcherstrasse 149CH-8500 Frauenfeld

Telefon +41 52 723 30 00Fax +41 52 723 30 05

info@forio.ch

www.forio.ch [accessed on 17/07/2018]

NSPCC (UK)

The project

The **NSPCC** is a charity specialising in child protection and the prevention of cruelty to children. The charity has a free anonymous 24/7 helpline that provides help, advice and support to adults worried about a child.

Target

Primary Prevention – general deterrence (bystander intervention; public education campaigns)

Secondary Prevention – working with “at risk populations” (Stop It Now helpline; troubled families working; therapy for self-identified pedophiles).

Contact

The NSPCC

Weston House, 42 Curtain Road, London EC2A 3NH. Leading children's charity, incorporated by Royal Charter

Registered charity number 216401. NSPCC, charity registered in Scotland, charity number SC037717. Jersey registered charity number AJC179.

Helpline: 0808 800 5000

Text: 88858

Email: help@nspcc.org.uk

www.nspcc.org.uk [accessed on 16/07/2018]

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/conferences/how-safe-2016-presentation-working-with-perpetrators-child-sexual-abuse-kieran-mccartan.pdf> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

A2 - Intervention programmes or measures IN THE COURSE OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS



Minnesota Department of Correction (US)

The programme

The mission of the **Minnesota Department of Correction** department is to reduce recidivism by promoting offender change through proven strategies during safe and secure incarceration and effective community supervision.

innovative Programming: Since 95 percent of all offenders will eventually be released back into the community, the Minnesota Department of Corrections does all it can to help offenders transition back into the community as productive citizens. Chemical dependency treatment, education, vocational training and classes in cognitive thinking form the foundation of a programming regimen that is designed to keep offenders from committing new crimes after release.

Target

To convicted persons during incarceration.

Contact and references

Minnesota Department of Corrections
1450 Energy Park Drive
Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108-5219

<http://www.doc.state.mn.us/PAGES/index.php/employment-opportunities/volunteer-opportunities/>

[accessed on 16/07/2018]



BEST programme (Austria)

The programme


Austria has established a system – **BEST** – in which all sex offenders when commencing serving their sentence are assessed. After the two-week screening by BEST each sex offender will be provided with an indication on the necessity to follow treatment programmes. Thus, the BEST screening can be regarded as an assessment of the danger that they present and the possible risks of repetition of sexual offenders.

Target

All sex offenders commencing serving their sentence.

Contact and references

https://www.justiz.gv.at/web2013/file/2c9484853e44f8f9013ef9d9e2b928dd.de.0/correctional_services_2016_download.pdf [accessed on 16/07/2018]



PRIKIP Program - Program Prevention of Recidivism and Impulsive Behaviour Control (Croatia)

The programme

PRIKIP programme (Programme Prevention of Recidivism and Impulsive Behaviour Control), organised by employees of special treatment programs under the Prison Administration of the Croatian Ministry of Justice.

It is a form of psychosocial group therapy for male sex offenders. Each PRIKIP group is managed by two qualified therapists who specialise in working with sex offenders. The results of the evaluation show that the programme is highly effective and justify its implementation. In addition, a convicted person may be subject to a series of security measures designed to prevent or eliminate the circumstances conducive to the commission of sex offences, such as mandatory psychiatric treatment, mandatory drug addiction treatment or mandatory psychosocial treatment. All prisoners sentenced to a term of more than six months and all prisoners for whom the mandatory psychiatric treatment security measure has been ordered, regardless of the length of the sentence, begin their sentences at the Diagnostic Centre in Zagreb. During the prisoner's detention, experts in different fields assess the person (psychological, pedagogic, social, criminological and medical analysis) so they may propose an individual programme for the execution of the prison sentence.

Target

Prisoners and minors' perpetrators of crimes involving sexual nature, perpetrators of crimes committed against children and those associated with adult and child pornography.

Contact and references

<https://rm.coe.int/presentation-martina-baric-22nd-cdpps/168072aa93> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

CIPM – Centro Italiano per la Promozione della Mediazione (Italy)

The organisation

A new pilot project, planned and managed by **CIPM - Centro Italiano per la Promozione della Mediazione**'s private social practitioners, started in September 2005. This project can be seen as the first attempt to treat and deal with offenders in the Italian penitentiary scene, envisaged the establishment of a *Intensified Treatment Unit* (ex art.115, 4th cpv DPR n.230 / 00) within the 2nd House of Recruitment of Milan - Bollate.

This solution has been thought of as a valid alternative to detention in protected areas, physical and emotional solitude, isolation that sometimes allow a vicious circle where discomfort, grudges, physical and verbal violence contribute to aggravate problem situations that often they hesitate in real pathologies. Treatment is conceived as offering to the individual the ability to raise awareness, redefine and then modify the significance so far given to their existence, and as an opportunity to rework their offense and understand the dynamics and consequences. The team consists of several professional figures, such as criminologists, psychologists, educators, psychologists and an instructor. Treatment interventions for perpetrators of sexual offenses made in the penitentiary sector are a form of territorial prevention oriented primarily to reducing relapse and improving the quality of life of the individual. Over the years, the Units of Treatment have proven to be a place for care and transformation as well as a space for convicted persons to acquire and experience new ways of meeting and relationship, as well as the ability for the team to carry on a continuous observation and review work, which has allowed to constantly update and modify the program itself.

Target

For convicted offenders in prison.

Access modes: direct access to prisoners from all Italian prisons can be made by reports from the educational area, attorneys and territorial social and health figures.

Contact and references

Written communication addressed directly to Prof. Paolo Giulini at Cipm's headquarters in Via Coreggio, 1 in Milan or at C.R. of Milan Bollate.

Prof. Paolo Giulini - Centro Italiano per la Promozione della Mediazione, Via Correggio, 1 Milano

Tel: 800.66.77.33 Fax: 02 88.44.63.44 Email: info@cipm.it

<http://www.cipm.it/cosa-facciamo/circoli-di-sostegno-e-responsabilita/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

<https://www.vice.com/it/article/wnkbdm/sex-offender-reati-sessuali-programma-paolo-giulini-bollate> [accessed on 16/07/2018]



STOP programme (Finland)

The programme

Core Programme STOP which is aimed at persons convicted of sex offenses. The sessions are kept 2-3 times a week, inside the prison. Prisoners can participate in the Sex Offender programme. An inmate who has at least eight months left in his or her prison term can apply to the program.

Core Programme STOP run at Riihimäki prison, where 149 prisoners had completed the programme by January 2009. 129 of them were released and four had been convicted of new sex offenses.

Target

Inmates only are eligible to take part in the STOP program, whereas the Directive provision sets out a requirement for such programmes to be accessible at any time during the criminal proceedings.

Contact

Riihimäki Prison

Kaunolanraitti 311310 Riihimäki, Finland PB 100

11311 Riihimäki, Finland

Tel. +358 29 56 81200 Fax +358 29 56 81276

Director Pasi Oksa, tel. +358 29 56 81211

Assistant Director Susanna Schugk-Laulumaa, tel. +358 29 56 81314

Assistant Director Jukka Lievonen, tel. +358 29 56 81322

Email: firstname.lastname@om.fi

Building Better Lives Programme programme (Ireland)

The programme

In 2009 the **Sex Offender Management Policy Reducing Re-offending, Enhancing Public Safety** was published. The policy is aimed at bringing about changes in offenders' lives that reduce the risk of re-offending and enhance public protection. It forms an integral part of the wider range of interventions by criminal justice and community-based agencies.

The **Building Better Lives (BBL) sex offender programme** commenced in 2009. It uses a strengths-based psychology approach and comprises three components:

- the Exploring Better Lives (EBL) programme,
- the Practising Better Lives (PPL) programme and
- the Maintaining Better Lives (MBL) programme.

The **EBL group** aims to develop motivation and confidence about positive change. The **PBL group** focuses on obtaining a more detailed understanding of past offending and developing positive offence-free self management plans for the future. The **MBL group** aims to support ongoing progress and development for men who are serving longer sentences in prison and to ensure a through-care plan from prison to community-based supports.

The programme is delivered in Arbour Hill by a team of psychologists, including clinical and counselling psychologists, who have developed specific expertise in clinical practice including assessment and therapeutic work with men convicted of sexual offences.

Prison-based therapeutic interventions with convicted sex offenders also include one-to-one interventions, interventions by approved in-reach services and interventions available to prisoners generally.

The target

All sex offenders commencing serving their sentence.

Contacts

<https://www.irishprisons.ie/index.php/prisoner-services/treatment-of-sex-offenders/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

The Irish Prison Service is administered centrally with its headquarters located at: IDA Business Park, Ballinalee Road, Longford, Co. Longford

Fax: +353 43 33 35100 Fax: +353 43 33 35371

Email: info@irishprisons.ie



SeNat - Sex Offender Therapy Program (Lithuania)

The program

The **SeNat** program is designed to provide therapeutic and psychological assistance to individuals, sexually and otherwise exhausted children, within the Prison Department, in collaboration with foreign scientists, who developed a special therapy program SeNAT - Sex Offender Therapy Program for Lithuanian Corrections.

It should be noted that to provide complex measures aimed at eradicating all forms of violence against children, the National Program for Prevention of Violence against Children and for Assistance to Children for 2008–2010 was adopted.

Target

Individuals who have committed sexual offenses against children, although a flexible program structure and the versatility methodologies based on cognitive-behavioural, therapeutic paradigm, allow to apply the program also to adults who have committed sexual offenses.

Contact and references

<https://www.dadinternational.org/images/VulnerableLithuania.pdf> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

https://marisluste.files.wordpress.com/2010/11/2_20_vilmante_gintaraite2.ppt [accessed on 16/07/2018]

Voluntary Program at the Corradino Correctional facility (Malta)

The program

The Maltese authorities have highlighted that sex offenders are within the prison placed in a separate division which nevertheless still allows them to make contact with other inmates. Moreover, the SOP-3 (Standard Operating Procedures: Measures) includes provisions which ensure that sex offenders are provided with adequate access to voluntary intervention programmes and measures. It follows from Article 1 SOP-3 that intervention measures and programmes should be offered to sexual offenders inside and outside of prison as well as during the criminal proceedings. Imprisoned offenders are provided with the possibility to access **voluntary programmes and measures within the Corradino Correctional Facility** while offenders outside the prison system and persons subject to criminal proceedings fall under the responsibility of the Probation and Parole Services.

The measures and programmes are determined by means of an individual assessment which takes into consideration the risk and needs of the sexual offender. They are provided individually to each offender by the Psychology Unit in the Department of Probation and Parole. Additionally, the SOP-3 makes provision to ensure that from a psychological point of view sex offenders are provided with individual therapy should they request it. It should be noted that there are not examples of intervention programmes provided for in the SOP-3 as this measure is of general applicability.

Target

Sexual offenders inside and outside of prison as well as during the criminal proceedings.

Contact

<https://www.gov.mt/en/Services-And-Information/Business-Areas/Law%20Enforcement/Pages/Correctional-Services-in-Malta.aspx> [accessed on 16/07/2018]



ADEB – Associação de Apoio aos Doentes Depressivos e Bipolares (Portugal)

The programme

The Ministry of Justice, the Directorate-General for Social Rehabilitation and Prison Services has implemented an **Intervention Program**. The program aims at the rehabilitation of sexual offenders serving an imprisonment sentence and uses a group intervention methodology based on the cognitive-behavioural approach to beliefs, attitudes, emotions and deviant perceptions. The programme seeks in fact to identify the cognitive and emotional dysfunctions leading to the criminal action and addresses them in order to induce changes. The general objectives of the program are the prevention of crime and recidivism as well as the protection of victims and of the general public. The programme is composed of 44 sessions, 14 of which part of a motivational component opened to non-differentiated groups. The remaining 30 sessions are included in the central intervention component, opened to different groups of offenders.

The Portuguese authorities also mentioned the psychiatric health facilities involving the aspect of behavioural psychotherapy, particularly with intervention in the field of sexology. Furthermore, one of the measures of the National Mental Health Plan 2007-2016 consists in the prevention of domestic violence and child abuse.

Target

The program aims at the rehabilitation of Target: sexual offenders serving an imprisonment sentence

Contacts

Sede Nacional (Lisboa)

Tel.: 21 854 07 40/8

Tlm: 96 898 21 50

Fax: 21 854 07 49

Email: adeb@adeb.pt

<http://adeb.pt/ficheiros/uploads/02a75f2c0346f49717d171c23b7f56a2.pdf>

[The document is not available – Accessed on 04/12/2017]

Dirección general de instituciones penitenciarias (Spain)

The program

Organised by the **General Directorate of the Penitentiary System** (Dirección general de instituciones penitenciarias) of the Ministry of Interior (2006) and by Psychologists occasionally accompanied by other prison professionals (teachers or social workers).

Organic Law 1/1979 on the Penitentiary System contains a set of provisions striving for the consecution of rehabilitation and social reintegration of sex offenders.

Target

Sex offenders in prison. It is foreseen individualised voluntary treatment for minor offenders (not in prison but in specialised centres).

Contact

<http://www.institucionpenitenciaria.es/web/portal/Reeducacion/ProgramasEspecificos/agresoresSexuales.html> [Accessed on 16/07/2018]

<http://www.institucionpenitenciaria.es/web/portal/Reeducacion> [Accessed on 04/12/2017]

More details are available in Spanish at this link:

http://www.institucionpenitenciaria.es/web/export/sites/default/datos/descargables/publicaciones/Doc_Penitenciario_3_completo.pdf [Accessed on 04/12/2017]



ROS - Relations and coexistence programme (Sweden)

The program

Sweden has developed a special programme called the **ROS programme - Relations and coexistence programme**. This programme is based on group and individual therapy sessions that are meant to increase the perpetrators ability to feel empathy and their understanding of how to handle emotions and relationships. It is also meant to help the perpetrator understand how to change the situation.

This programme is available in five closed prisons and in a great number of facilities for open care of criminals.

Target

Persons who are convicted of a sexual crime against children.

Contact

<https://www.kriminalvarden.se/behandling-ochvard/behandlingsprogram/sexualbrott/ros> [Accessed on 04/12/2017]

A3 - Intervention programmes or measures AFTER CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

Sex Offenders Resources (US & EU)

The project

The **Sex Offender Resources** mission is to be a leader in providing up to date resources for those whom are registered sex offenders and their loved ones (family, friends, etc.). The website provides information on where to find counselling, employment resources, housing information, family support, as well as book recommendations. Each state listing provides information about sex offenders laws for that individual state.

The words “sex offender” on the website is referred to anyone who has been convicted of a sexual offense. This site does not judge anyone. Sex Offender Resource is here to provide information on where one can find the help and support they need. People deserve a second chance and information one can find here can help give a registered sex offender just that, a second chance in making correct decisions from this point forward.

Target

In general, for individuals registered as Sex Offenders and their loved ones, looking to support for re-entering into society.

The Sex Offender Resource website is for those who are registered sex offenders looking for help in finding counselling, employment resources, understand how to develop a relapse prevention plan and other resources. Family members of registered sex offenders who are looking for information regarding laws and restrictions their loved one must follow can find that information here. The website is for the person who may be thinking of committing a sexual offense as well as a place for an individual looking for help in preventing himself/herself from committing a sexual offense.

Contacts

Detailed information are available at this link: <http://www.sexoffenderresource.com> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

European projects – Sex offenders:

A new **European Network** to exchange and transfer knowledge and expertise in the field of treatment programmes for perpetrators of sexual harassments and violence against children and young people. **Prevention of and Fight against Crime Programme European Commission Directorate-General Justice, Freedom and Security** has funded this network.

<http://www.sexoffenders-project.eu/> (Languages: IT-EN-BG-PL-EL) [accessed on 16/07/2018]

COSA (US & Canada)

The project

COSA – Circles of Support & Accountability started 15 years ago in Ontario, Canada, as an alternate means of social support to high-risk sexual offenders released at the end of their sentences without any community supervision. The pilot project in South-Central Ontario has since assisted almost 200 offenders. Projects based on this model are now in place in the United Kingdom, several jurisdictions in the United States, and throughout Canada. Initial research into the efficacy of the COSA pilot project showed that participation reduced sexual recidivism by 70% or more in comparison with both matched controls and actuarial norms. The current study sought to replicate these findings using an independent Canadian national sample. A total of 44 high-risk sexual offenders, released at sentence completion and involved in COSA across Canada, were matched to a group of 44 similar offenders not involved in COSA. The average follow-up time was 35 months. Recidivism was defined as having a charge or conviction for a new offense. Results show that offenders in COSA had an 83% reduction in sexual recidivism, a 73% reduction in all types of violent recidivism, and an overall reduction of 71% in all types of recidivism in comparison to the matched offenders. These findings suggest that participation in COSA is not site-specific and provide further evidence for the position that trained and guided community volunteers can and do assist in markedly improving offenders' chances for successful reintegration.

Target

COSA (Circles of Support & Accountability) offers restorative re-entry services for sex-offenders through community support, jobs and housing.

Contacts

<http://cosa-fresno.org/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

In Canada:

<http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/002/008/002008-3000-eng.shtml> [accessed on 14/09/2017]

www.cosabc.ca [accessed on 14/09/2017]

<http://cosaottawa.ca> [accessed on 14/09/2017]

<http://alberta.mcc.org/programs/rjm/cosa> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

CAW & COSA (Cirkels voor ondersteuning, samenwerking en aanspreekbaarheid) (Belgium)

The project

The **CAW & COSA - Cirkels voor ondersteuning, samenwerking en aanspreekbaarheid** offers, as a centre for social well-being, differentiated services and assistance in Belgium. They help to promote social integration and participation, and to reinforce the social well-being. By offering an approachable access they try to reach every person whose chances are threatened or diminished, as a result of personal, relational, family related or social factors. CAW uses a community-orientated approach based on a pluralistic vision to give people the chance to get back on their feet in their own environment.

This organisation communicates in Dutch. Herewith we report the translation into English of the message presented in Flemish through the website.

“Talking is the first step. You can tell your story, ask for advice or help. You always decide for yourself where you accept help. And because we know that it is sometimes very difficult to talk about certain themes, you can also call anonymously.

Are you looking for help? Call 078 150 300

The CAW can help you with information, advice, reception, practical help, crisis assistance and guidance.

Call the central CAW number 078 150 300

- *your call will always be answered by a reception employee in one of the CAWs*
- *the care provider will conduct a conversation with you in the same way as in a conversation in a CAW. When you contact us by telephone, e-mail, chat or in a personal conversation, we want you to be helped in an equal way.*
- *You can also always request an appointment for a personal meeting”*

Target

The COSA project are targeting offenders to re-enter in society

Contacts

<http://www.cawantwerpen.be/> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

<http://www.cawantwerpen.be/preventie> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

<https://donorinfo.be/nl/organization/caw-brussel-vzw> [accessed on 16/07/2018]

State Probation Service Project No. LV08/1 "Increasing the Application of Alternatives to Imprisonment Including Possible Pilot Project on Electronic Surveillance (Latvia)

The project

In January 2015 Project of the State Probation Service of Latvia Nr.LV08/1 **Increasing the Application of Alternatives to Imprisonment (Including Possible Pilot Project on Electronic Surveillance)** in order to develop re-socialization tools meant for juvenile offenders and to involve volunteers from the society to reach of goals of the service has set up a working group to work on theoretical and practical aspects of the volunteering work.

The working group is intended to develop a pilot project of voluntary work which helps better to reach the objectives of the Service. It is planned that the Service involves about 60 confreres who will conduct common activities with young offenders (aged 14 to 25 years) to help them acquire useful skills and strengthen values and interests that support re-socialization.

Project partners:

- Prison Administration (Latvia);
- Court Administration (Latvia);
- Mediation Service (Norway);
- Ila Detention and Security Prison (Norway);
- Oslo Probation Service (Norway);
- Ministry of Justice (Estonia);
- Confederation of European Probation.

The target

Probation client, who is under supervision of the State Probation Service and has been convicted for intentional violent criminal offences or criminal offences against sexual inviolability and morality. The aim is the re-socialization tools meant for juvenile offenders and to involve volunteers from the society.

Contacts

Central Office of State Probation Service Adress: Dzirnavu str. 91, Riga, LV-1011

Phone: +371 67021138 Fax: +371 67021139E-mail: vpd@vpd.gov.lv

<http://www.probacija.lv/stateprobationservicelaw>



Mens' Crisis Centre-Free services (Lithuania)

The project

By implementing the initiative entitled **Better for all: working with male domestic abusers in order to support women and children, the victims of domestic violence**, the Men's Crisis Centre of Kaunas County (MCKKC) sought to address the lack of support for male domestic abusers in Lithuania.

The aim of the project to strengthen NGOs providing services to male domestic abusers, thus increasing support and protection for the victims of domestic abuse, i.e., women and children.

Organised by NGOs, social workers, specialist, psychological counselling, the Men's Crisis Centre of Kaunas County (MCKKC) and EEA2009-2014 "It is better for all: the man, who are violent in the domestic environment"

Target

For convicted offenders after they leave the prison.

Contacts

<http://www.vyrukrc.lt/visiems-geriau/39-.html>



CIPM – Centro Italiano per la Promozione della Mediazione (Italy)

The organisation

The **CIPM – Centro Italiano per la Promozione della Mediazione** offers support to sex offenders after they leave the prison. The support is developed through the **COSA re-entry program** based on a successful international restorative justice model of assisting high level offenders reintegrate into their communities from incarceration.

Trained COSA volunteers work in teams and meet weekly with the offender, or core member, and the Reintegration Specialist to support his/her return to the community and management of everyday living. The circle holds the core member accountable for adherence to post-release expectations and development of healthy relationships. The duration foreseen is 12 months and the circle is composed by the sex offender and three volunteers (not necessarily experts) that represent the society. The signature of a contract for subscription and participation is requested

Target

For convicted offenders after they leave the prison

Contacts

Centro Italiano per la Promozione della Mediazione, Via Correggio, 1 Milano

Tel: 800.66.77.33

Fax: 02 88.44.63.44

Email: info@cipm.it [Accessed 16/07/2018]

<http://www.cipm.it/cosa-facciamo/circoli-di-sostegno-e-responsabilita/> [Accessed 16/07/2018]

A4 - Prevention initiatives or measures offered to MINORS



Before You Act (US)

The project

B4U-ACT –Before You Act assembled a list of over 30 credentialed practitioners in Maryland who agreed to its *Principles and Perspectives of Practice*, and who were willing to provide caring and inviting services to clients, who are sexually attracted to minors. Lay volunteers were sought, who would be trained to operate a hotline for the purpose of referring minor-attracted individuals to these professionals.

Due to the tremendous barriers to communication among minor-attracted adults, mental health professionals, and the public, recruiting these volunteers proved to be unworkable. As a result, B4U-ACT chose to direct its efforts at working to eliminate these barriers.

To do this, it organised a small working group of mental health professionals and minor-attracted adults to identify these barriers, discuss how their elimination would benefit both parties and society in general, and develop plans for interventions to overcome them. This working group compiled a report of its findings and future plans for B4U-ACT.

The report suggested holding workshops for mental health professionals and minor-attracted people in order to promote dialog and understanding between the two groups. As a result, in March 2008, B4U-ACT began offering its series of semi-annual workshops.

Target

B4U-ACT was established in 2003 as a 501(c)(3) organisation with the following purposes:

- To publicly promote services and resources for self-identified individuals (adults and adolescents) who are sexually attracted to children and seek such assistance;
- To educate mental health providers regarding the approaches helpful for such individuals;
- To develop a pool of providers who agree to serve these individuals and abide by B4U-ACT's Principles and Perspectives of Practice;
- To educate the public regarding issues faced by these individuals.

Contact

B4U-ACT, Inc. P.O. Box 1754Westminster, MD 21158

Phone: (410) 871-8156

General Inquiries: b4uact@b4uact.org Research Inquiries: science@b4uact.org

<http://www.b4uact.org/> [Accessed 16/07/2018]



Are you dreaming of them? Project (Germany)

The project

The ***Are you dreaming of them?*** project aims at emotionally supporting adolescents that gravitate to younger children. Similar to the *Don't become a perpetrator project*, the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth together with the Charité in Berlin has developed a new prevention project.

Target

Tailored for adolescents.

Contact

<https://www.du-traeumst-von-ihnen.de/> [Accessed 16/07/2018]

Organised by: Information is provided via the website and by personal of the Charité Berlin and the Vivantes Clinic in Friedrichshafen.

Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin

Institute of Sexology and Sexual Medicine

Project „Primary Prevention of Sexual Child Abuse by Juveniles – PPJ“ represented by Prof. Klaus M. Beier, M.D., Ph.D., Director

Luisenstr. 57

10117 Berlin

Phone: +49 30 450 529 302

Fax: +49 30 450 529 992

E-Mail: [madelaine.dimitrowa@charite.d](mailto:madelaine.dimitrowa@charite.de)



Baseline Project (Ireland)

The project

The **Baseline** project comprises group interventions in three modules and allows responsive and flexible delivery of rehabilitation services which take account of individual risk, needs and capacity. The programme is provided by a team of psychologists who have developed specific expertise in clinical practice including assessment and therapeutic work with men convicted of sexual offences.

The Baseline project is a joint initiative between the Northside Inter Agency Project (NIAP) and the IPS Psychology Service which has been providing group programmes for young offenders in St Patrick's Institution with a history of sexually harmful behaviour.

It also continues work into the community for those with convictions for sexual offences.

The programme comprises group interventions in three modules and allows responsive and flexible delivery of rehabilitation services which take account of individual risk, needs and capacity.

Target

Baseline Project opened to children that sexually offend, however are only accessible to convicted offenders inside the prison. It also continues work into the community for those with convictions for sexual offences.

Contact

http://www.irishprisons.ie/images/monthlyinfonote/sex_offenders_2013.pdf [Accessed 16/07/2018]
<https://www.irishtimes.com/life-and-style/health-family/how-helping-child-abusers-can-keep-kids-safe-1.2910536> [Accessed 16/07/2018]



Forensisches Institut Ostschweiz forio in Frauenfeld (Switzerland)

The project

The **Forensisches Institut Ostschweiz forio in Frauenfeld** was founded in 2004. With the goal *Prevent Abuse – Promote Change*, it particularly campaigns for commensurate and effective treatment methods for delinquent youth and adults. Since 2009, forio has also offered advising sessions and therapies for men with a pedophilic preference. This offer is primarily directed at men who have not yet committed an offense and refers to, among others, the offers of the German Prevention Network *Kein Täter werden*, which has been successful over the years. Both individual and group therapy options are offered there.

Target

Youth and adults. Since 2009, forio has also offered advising sessions and therapies for men with a pedophilic preference.

Contact

www.keinmissbrauch.ch [Accessed 16/07/2018]



National Plan for Rehabilitation and Reintegration for Juvenile Justice (Portugal)

The project

A **National Plan for Rehabilitation and Reintegration for Juvenile Justice** was set out by the Ministry of Justice for the years 2013 to 2015 and provides for a programme of prevention of violent behaviours, especially with regard to sexual assaults.

The measures set out in the National Plan are specifically aimed at the specific developmental needs of children who sexually offend.

Target

Such plan is addressed to young persons who have committed crimes, including crimes of sexual abuse.

Contact

The National Plan is available at:

http://www.igfse.pt/upload/docs/2013/RCM46_2013.pdf [Accessed 14/09/2017]



PIT – The individualized Treatment Program (Spain)

The project

PIT – The individualized Treatment Program organised by communities such as the Agency of Madrid for the re-education and reintegration of minor offenders. Execution of Judicial Measures of the Madrid region.

Target

Sex offenders and in particular minors that are not in prison but in special centres.

Contacts

PIT The Individualised Treatment Program

<http://www.institucionpenitenciaria.es/web/portal/Reeducacion/ProgramasEspecificos/agresoresSexuales.html>

http://www.madrid.org/cs/Satellite?c=CM_InfPractica_FA&cid=1142668925228&language=es&pageName=ComunidadMadrid%2FEstructura

In addition, below the website of the Agency of Madrid for the re-education and reintegration of the minor offender:

http://www.madrid.org/cs/Satellite?c=CM_InfPractica_FA&cid=1142547219102&idConsejeria=1109266187224&idListConsj=1109265444710&idOrganismo=1109167959659&language=es&pageName=ComunidadMadrid%2FEstructura&sm=1109266100977 [Accessed 16/07/2018]



Programs for minors (ROS-BUP-ART) (Sweden)

The project

There are various possibilities depending on the age of the child and whether the child has been convicted or not. Boys between the age of 15 and 22 who are convicted of sexual crimes are placed in a special youth home. In this home they get treatment in the form of **Aggression Replacement Training (ART)** which is a skill, anger management and moral training. They also get individual therapy and sexual and relationship education in addition to regular school education. For boys who are between 13 and 21 years old, who have not been convicted, but have been taken into custody by the social services, there is a special home where they attend a child adapted version of the **ROS programme** (Relations and coexistence programme). Children, both boys and girls, who are younger, between 3 and 17, who act in a sexual manner against other children get help through the **child psychiatry (BUP)** in a special unit in Stockholm, dealing with these issues. BUP provides the children with behavioural therapy, education or another type of treatment depending on their age and maturity.

Target

For children and young persons who commit sexual crimes or who behave in a sexual manner towards other children.

Contact

<http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/Lists/Artikelkatalog/Attachments/18211/2011-1-1.pdf>[Accessed 16/07/2018]

<https://www.kriminalvarden.se/behandling-ochvard/behandlingsprogram/sexualbrott/ros>[Accessed 16/07/2018]

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