Human Trafficking in the Tourism Sector
the role of the private sector in prevention
and diffusion of Good Practices

Research Project, Network of Strategic and International Studies (funded by EEA Grants)

Miguel Santos Neves, Project Coordinator

31st Meeting World Tourism Network
on Child Protection
Berlin, 10th March 2016
PLAN
1. Context and objectives of the project
2. Linkages THB – tourism sector and risk factors
3. Prevention strategy and the role of the private sector
4. Preventing child trafficking: good practices
5. Project results
6. Challenges for the future: acting together to prevent THB and protect the business
LINKAGES

(i) **Places for human trafficking activities** – premises of hotels are used as locations to exploit victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation, taking advantage of the privacy associated with hotel rooms.

(ii) **Victims work in tourism** – There can be trafficking for labour exploitation involving seasonal workers hired to employment agencies for temporary positions by hotels/restaurants during peak seasons.

(iii) **Trafficking in the supply chain of products acquired by tourism firms** from various suppliers and there is a risk of existence of slave labour/human trafficking in the supply chain of these products.

(iv) **Ownership of tourism firms by traffickers** – direct ownership of hotels, restaurants or travel agencies by traffickers as instruments of a strategy to hide and thus facilitate the development of their criminal activities.

(v) **Tourism as Human Trafficking recruitment inducer / carrot** – Many victims are recruited by means of false offers of employment in the tourism sector (via internet or employment agencies).

(vi) **Reintegration of former human trafficking victims** – hotels or restaurants contribute actively to the reintegration of former victims by offering professional training or job opportunities.
Risk Factors

(i) Hiring of seasonal workers during peak seasons through temporary employment agencies

(ii) High incidence of immigrant workers in the staff

(iii) Geographic location of hotels in regions internationally known as sex tourism destinations

(iv) Organisation of high profile sport events, musical events or large conferences in a specific country.

(v) Lack of a prevention strategy to control and minimise external risks
Prevention Strategy

- Holistic approach
- Process approach
- Flexibility and adaptability

7 dimensions
(i) Training
(ii) Procedures
(iii) Regulation
(iv) Risk assessment
(v) Cooperation
(vi) Communication
(vii) Research
Prevention Child Trafficking: Good practices

(i) **Awareness campaigns**: targeted at potential clients, i.e. video Air France/ECPAT “A child is not a souvenir” (demand side)

(ii) **Educate for protection**: role of schools and actions targeted at potential victims and families (supply side)

(iii) **Procedures to prevent and detect child sexual exploitation**: mandatory identification of a child at check-in; special check-in for children; signs of sexual exploitation in rooms (exploitation side).

(iv) **Procedures to prevent and detect child labour exploitation in tourism** (exploitation side)
Project Outputs: Campaign

HOTELS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING
NO ROOM FOR TRAFFICKERS

Human Trafficking can take place in your hotel:

- Seasonal workers hired through recruitment/employment agencies might lead to mistreatment of human trafficking victims.
- Traffickers use hotels as a place to store organs or sexual exploitation of victims of human trafficking.

Sign and implement:

- The Code of Global Ethics in Tourism of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). Join the 20 Portuguese associations and companies that have already signed the WTO Code.
- The ECPAT Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism. Join the 1287 companies that have already signed the ECPAT Code.

Get to know international good practices and implement them at your hotel.

More information at www.nsis.org.pt
Project Outputs: Handbooks
Project results and Impacts

H3 – BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES IN THE TOURISM SECTOR CONTEXT

"Which connecting channels exist between trafficking and Tourism?"

PRE – TRAINING (67% CORRECT RESPONSES VS HT CONCEPTS)
POST – TRAINING (96% CORRECT RESPONSES VS HT CONCEPTS)

"What role can tourism workers have in Human Trafficking prevention?"

PRE – TRAINING (87% CORRECT RESPONSES VS HT CONCEPTS)
POST – TRAINING (96% CORRECT RESPONSES VS HT CONCEPTS)

H2 – DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING DETECTION SKILLS

"Which signals can you recognize in a potential Human Trafficking victim?"

PRE – TRAINING (43% CORRECT RESPONSES VS HT CONCEPTS)
POST – TRAINING (74% CORRECT RESPONSES VS HT CONCEPTS)

H1 – LEARNING HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONCEPTS

PRE – TRAINING (89% CORRECT RESPONSES VS HT CONCEPTS)
POST – TRAINING (97% CORRECT RESPONSES VS HT CONCEPTS)

TRAINING 444 PEOPLE

PUBLICATION ON BEST PRACTICES
STAKEHOLDER MAPPING
METHODOLOGY INSPIRED ON COMMUNITY IN ACTION
RELEVANT ENTITIES (HOTELS AND TOURISM TRAINING SCHOOLS)

SCIENCE AND RESEARCH BASED SOCIAL ACTION MEETINGS
SOLID TECHNICAL SKILLS
NOTABLE EXPERIENCE IN HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL INNOVATION
FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND QUALITY CRITERIA OF EEA GRANTS/GULBENKIAN

EVAUATION
REPLICATION

PROJECT TEAM: SOLID TECHNICAL SKILLS, NOTABLE EXPERIENCE IN HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL INNOVATION

FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND QUALITY CRITERIA OF EEA GRANTS/GULBENKIAN

WWW.STOPTHETRAFFIK.ORG

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE TOURISM SECTOR
STAKEHOLDER MAPPING
PUBLICATION ON BEST PRACTICES
TRAINING DETECTION SYSTEM AWARENESS EVALUATION REPLICATION

RESOURCE $S
OUTCOMES
OUTPUTS
OUTCOMES
ACTIVITIES
RESOURCES

NSIS
Challenges for the future: acting together

(i) Multi-actor cooperation enhanced:
   - need for more public regulation;
   - combine soft law private sector with hard law regulation.

(ii) Overcome obstacles to the diffusion of good practices and speed up adoption – develop knowledge networks; improve monitoring of implementation and include recommendations.

(iii) Specialised joint training and better communication
Thank you!

Miguel Santos Neves
miguelsantosneves.nsis@gmail.com