



Child Protection Partnership (CPP)
Report of the Policy and Law Enforcement
Thailand Exchange Tour
February 28 – March 7, 2011



***Strengthening Collaboration on Law Enforcement and Policy: Sharing
Knowledge to Address ICT Enabled Child Sexual Exploitation***



CPP Global Reference Group



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I. Introduction

The Child Protection Partnership (CPP), led by the International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD) as the executing agency, is a unique, inter-sectoral collaboration comprised of organizations from various sectors, including children and their communities, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and the private sector that have a common vision of protection of children and their rights from child abuse, in particular sexual exploitation enabled by use of information and communication technology (ICT) including mobile phones, digital cameras, computers and the Internet.

CPP is an international initiative with implementing locations in South East Asia (Thailand) and South America (Brazil). The goal of CPP is to reduce, and where possible eliminate, ICT enabled child sexual exploitation by building from good practices and technology across public and private sectors. Specifically, CPP has three entry points to address the issue:

- **Equip law enforcement, government and other supporting bodies/organizations** to better address ICT enabled child sexual exploitation;
- **Connect vulnerable children (male and female) to services and protective mechanisms** to gain improved access to responsive legal and other protection systems preventing and addressing ICT enabled child sexual exploitation; and,
- **Adopt a coordinated, integrated systems approach** amongst stakeholders to work in partnership to prevent and address ICT enabled child sexual exploitation and to use ICT innovation towards this end.

CPP Thailand has more than 20 partners working together to achieve its goal. The current program cycle for CPP began in 2008 and ends June 30, 2011 with reporting and documentation work continuing to the end of September 2011. A new CPP proposal was submitted to the Canadian International Development Agency in March 2011 to continue the work in Thailand and other Southeast Asian nations, and Brazil and other Latin American nations.

Three main clusters of activities are underway in Thailand: 1) Community engagement in ICT Child Protection and Surveillance; (2) Prevention through ICT Child Protection Education; and 3) Children and ICT Policy Strengthening at the national level.

The CPP Thailand Exchange Tour was an outcome of the CPP Canada-Thailand-Brazil Study Tour (Ottawa, Edmonton, Victoria) that took place in late October and early November, 2010 with CPP's Global Reference Group Partner, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police National Child Exploitation Coordination Centre (RCMP NCECC), of the Canadian Police Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (CPCMEC). Implementing partners from the law enforcement sector and governmental and non-governmental organizations namely the Royal Thai Police (RTP), National Institute for Child and Family Development (NICFD) of Mahidol University, Thai Ministry of Culture and the Fight against Child Exploitation (FACE) Foundation participated from Thailand in both the Canadian Study Tour and the Thai Exchange Tour along with NCECC.



II. Objectives and Participants of the Thailand Exchange Tour

Objectives of the Thailand Exchange Tour included strengthening Canadian-Thai law enforcement relations; knowledge sharing and furthering understanding to address ICT enabled child sexual exploitation globally; and furthering CPP's work with senior government officials to strengthen law and policy in Thailand.

The Canadian delegation of the Tour included:

Dr. Philip Cook, Executive Director of IICRD

Suzanne Williams, Director of the Child Protection Partnership, and Deputy & Legal Director of IICRD

Manager of Canadian Police Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (CPCMEC) Operations

Manager of Research Unit, CPCMEC, RCMP

Image Analysis Specialist, Victim Identification Unit, CPCMEC, RCMP

The Thailand Exchange Tour Schedule involved more than 100 Thai officials:¹

Monday, February 28 to Wednesday, March 2, 2011	Law Enforcement: Canada-Thailand Law Enforcement Exchange Workshop
Tuesday, March 1, 2011	Policy: Meeting with Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Culture
Wednesday, March 2, 2011	Policy: Meeting with Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Social Development and Human Security Policy: Meeting with Special Advisor of Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Education
Thursday, March 3, 2011	Law Enforcement: Visit Technology Crime Suppression Division (TCSD) of the Royal Thai Police (RTP) Policy: Roundtable meeting at National Institute for Child and Family Development (NICFD) of Mahidol University, Salaya Campus, Nakhorn Pathom* Policy and Law Enforcement: Meeting with Canadian Ambassador at Canadian Embassy
Friday, March 4, 2011	Law Enforcement: Visit Children and Women Protection Centre, Police Region 2 in Pattaya, Banglamung, Chonburi Province Law Enforcement: Visit Pattaya Provincial Court Policy and Law Enforcement: Visit NGO Child Protection and Development Centre in Pattaya
Monday, March 7, 2011	Policy and Law Enforcement: Wrap up meeting at the Royal Thai Police

The delegates from RCMP NCECC participated in the Canada-Thai Law Enforcement Exchange Workshop from February 28 – March 2. Therefore they could not join the policy meetings scheduled during the days. Likewise, due to a meeting with the

¹ See a full agenda in CPP Mission Schedule Summary in Appendix A and List of Persons Met in Appendix B.

Canadian Ambassador in Bangkok on March 3, RCMP NCECC officials unfortunately could not attend the roundtable scheduled the same date.

III. Highlights of the Thailand Exchange Tour – relationships strengthened, knowledge shared and policy work furthered

❖ Canadian –Thai Law Enforcement Exchange Workshop

Following consultations with the Royal Thai Police on the program activities for the Thailand Exchange Tour, a Canada-Thailand Law Enforcement Exchange Workshop was held in Bangkok from February 28- March 2, 2011 with aims to exchange knowledge and share work experience on Law Enforcement in ICT enabled child sexual exploitation and to strengthen collaboration between the Royal Thai Police and the RCMP NCECC.

Participants of the 3-day workshop included 40 Thai police from Bangkok and countrywide dealing with the cases of Child Sexual Exploitation especially in connection with ICT namely Provincial Police Regions 1 to 9, the Southern Border Province Police Bureau, Metropolitan Police Bureau, Anti- Human Trafficking Division, Technology Crime Suppression Division, Tourist Police and the Royal Police Academy.

Subjects for discussion and sharing between the police from the two countries included:

- ✚ History of the NCECC, its services and work
- ✚ Current research relevant to child exploitation offences and offenders including data collection, analysis, replication and expansion of work and future trends of the risks and threats
- ✚ Victim identification, covert online investigations
- ✚ Case studies and ways to improve response to the crime against children nationally and globally.



Suzanne Williams, Child Protection Partnership Director and Deputy & Legal Director of IICRD welcomed all participants and presented the CPP Program and its implementation in Thailand and informed the participants of the background of the Thailand Exchange Tour.

Presiding over the opening ceremony of the workshop, Pol. Lt. Gen. Chatchawal Suksomjit, Assistant Commissioner-General of the Royal Thai Police delivered a key note address expressing appreciation to CPP and RCMP NCECC for their contributions and noting: “...child sexual exploitation offences nowadays have become more complex. The wrongdoers take advantage of the advance of the ICT in this globalization age to commit crime. Therefore investigations of such crime have turned to be more complicated than ever before. International collaboration on law enforcement could be one way to help address the issue. The sharing of knowledge and work experience and learning from each other of the Canadian and Thai police would definitely enhance collaboration between the Thai and Canadian police in efficiently combating ICT



related child sexual exploitation crime...”

The workshop was also attended by CPP partners from governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGO) on the first day. Additionally, the RCMP Assistant Liaison Officer, based in the Canadian Embassy Thailand, participated in the workshop and described the role of the RCMP Liaison Office linking the work of the RCMP to the participants.

The workshop received positive feedback from the participants. Most found that the topics presented by the RCMP NCECC officials and the subsequent discussions with the Thai officers were very useful. They appreciated learning more about the techniques and technology used in investigations and planned to apply what they learned from the workshop to their operations and share it with colleagues. Some participants expressed that the 3-day workshop was too short to cover all important topics for discussion. Some participants suggested that a similar workshop be conducted in regions that are at risk for child sexual exploitation such as Pattaya City and requested more similar workshops for those who had not had an opportunity to attend, as well as a site visit. Many of them requested a manual in working on cases on ICT crime against children to be distributed nationwide.



Several of the Royal Thai Police also expressed an interest in using the database and relevant software programs introduced during the workshop to help deal with ICT enabled Child Sexual Exploitation, as well as maintaining strong Canadian and Thai police relations to work on cases together and continue the networking and sharing of more knowledge and skills in the future.

❖ Visit to Technology Crime Suppression Division of the Royal Thai Police

Pol.Lt.Gen. Chatchawal Suksomjit, Assistant Commissioner General of the Royal Thai Police led the delegates of the Thailand Exchange Tour to visit the Technology Crime Suppression Division (TCSD) of which the Royal Thai Police has designated to be the focal point in collaborating with other organizations including CPP and RCMP on ICT enabled child sexual exploitation. During the visits, TCSD briefed the delegation on the following topics;

- ✚ Current Situation of the ICT in Thailand
- ✚ Legislations including
 - Criminal Code, B.E. 2499 (1956)
 - Computer-related Crime Act, B.E. 2550 (2007)
 - Child Protection Act, B.E. 2546 (2003)
- ✚ The background and mandate of TCSD
- ✚ TCSD operations on prevention, suppression and cybercrime investigation, forensic training including participating in the international conference, course and training
- ✚ Cooperation among law enforcement agencies.
- ✚ Trends of the cybercrime including new trends focusing on Social Networking Communication such as Facebook and Twitter.

The Canadian and Thai law enforcement officers also shared one another's operations such as how the RTP are structured and who is doing relevant work; state of information sharing; NCECC training requirements and corresponding time investment; potential training resources in particular the Canadian Police College technology courses. The visit to TCSD provided the RCMP delegates with a better understanding of the RTP's state of expertise and operations.



TCSO was identified as a possible hub of expertise that could be further developed as a counterpart to RCMP NCECC in addressing online child sexual exploitation.

In addition, TCSO expressed that they had an intention to enhance their networks both at national and international levels and would like to collaborate more with CPP and RCMP NCECC on training that can strengthen its personnel's capacity.

Visit to Pattaya – Meetings Police Region 2, multi-disciplinary team partners, Pattaya Provincial Court and

NGO Child Protection and Development Centre

The delegation of the Thai Study Tour from Canada met with the police officials of the Children and Women Protection, Anti-Human Trafficking Centre of Police Region 2 as well as multi-disciplinary team partners from governmental and non-governmental organizations including Chonburi Children and Family Shelter of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Banglamung Hospital, Fountain for Life Centre, Child Protection and Development Center and Pattaya City. The meeting discussed the collaboration between the Royal Thai police, CPP, RCMP NCECC and other multi-disciplinary team partners. The Thai police explained their operations, success stories and obstacles and how they work with other sectors in handling cases of child exploitation. RCMP NCECC exchanged work experience such as how information is shared and management of database and reassured further collaboration with the Police Region 2 and the team partners.



Further, the delegation for the Thailand Exchange Tour paid a courtesy call to the Chief Judge of Pattaya Provincial Court Suphian Chuengkriangkrai and another 5 judges from his Court. The Chief Judge presented an overview on laws and legal procedures of the Thai Court and assured the delegation that Child Rights and Child Protection are always the Court's major concern. The judges, RCMP Officials and CPP team exchanged the knowledge and discussed the laws and regulations of Canada and Thailand.



The Canadian delegation and representatives from Police Region 2 later visited the NGO Child Protection and Development Center (CPDC). Supagon Noja, Director of CPDC welcomed the Study Tour and briefed the delegates on the operations of the centre that provides street children with shelters, meals, healthcare and education. The centre has been closely working with the Children and Women Protection, Anti-Human trafficking Centre of Police Region 2 in community surveillance on prevention of child exploitation and in assisting children who are victims of the exploitation. Information about child victims and offenders, including Canadians, was shared between Thai and Canadian law enforcement. The centre is open to CPP collaboration on working with children on safe and creative use of ICT to prevent harm from such local threats as predators using mobile phones, and games at Internet cafes to groom and lure children for sexual purposes.

❖ Policy Roundtable Meeting

A Policy Roundtable was held at the National Institute for Child and Family Development (NICFD) of Mahidol University for the Thailand Exchange Tour. The participants included more than 40 participants from government organizations, NGOs, academics, the private sector and youth organizations such as the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the Royal Thai Police, the National Electronics and Computer Technology Centre (NECTEC), the Mirror Foundation, the Internet Foundation for the Development of Thailand, Child Media Program, Siam Commercial Foundation, Rabat Bai Youth Media Group and Ini3 Digital Company Limited as well as Mekha Youth Development Group and the youth representatives from the National Committee on Youth and Children Development.



Dr. Philip Cook and Suzanne Williams participated in the meeting providing an overview of the current and future plans of the CPP Program in Thailand.

The Roundtable Meeting discussed and exchanged views on strategies and approaches in working on prevention of children from risks posed by ICT and key elements in working on Children and ICT and ways to establish and manage a Centre of Excellence at NICFD for safe and creative use of ICT. NICFD offered itself up as focal point on furthering expertise on safe and creative use of ICT.

NICFD Director, Dr. Suriyadeo Tripathi presented the vision, strategies and the mission of NICFD including its goal on 'Development Capacity of Children, Youth and Family's Change Agents' through action research, system, knowledge and technology development in collaboration with partners from all sectors. Itthiphol Preetiprasong, Lecturer of NICFD, presented the situation of Children and ICT in Thailand, Conceptualized Framework, Law and Policy in Working on Children and ICT as well as ICT Curriculum that has been supported by CPP. The Policy Roundtable attracted key partners and supported sharing expertise and ideas on the use of ICT in safe and creative ways and providing their feedback and support for NICFD on the plan to establish the Excellence Centre.

Ladda Thangsupachai, Director of Cultural Surveillance Centre of the Ministry of Culture expressed her concern about the lack of safe media for children and youth, "...currently there are still plenty of 'unsafe' media. Where is the safe media? It's time to consider providing safe media to our children and young people. In this forum, we should share information of who is doing what. What kind of 'network' we need so that we are able to advance on the promotion of use of safe and creative media..."



Piyaporn Manthajit, Manager of Siam Commercial Foundation whose extensive work is on creative use of ICT among children and youth urged all participants to collectively respond to the issues by stating "...all organizations involved in ICT Child Protection need to work together and need to see things thoroughly, both the prevention and protection sides and improve the immunization system for the Thai Youth, creating public awareness on the use of ICT. It is essential to promote media and ICT literacy among parents and the public to catch up with online risks and threats..."

Arunchat Kuruvanich, one of the participating youth and a member of The National Committee on Children and Youth Development noted, “...on Children and ICT Policy, online media and offline media should be developed to be appropriately used by the children and youth. We should also promote the safe use of both kinds of media to the youth that need to be immunized while we should support potential youth groups to make use of the creative media for the development of their communities and country...”

Saksiri Champhan, a representative from the private sector, Director of Ini3 Digital Company producing creative games shared with the meeting “...It is important we have a database on the total number of children using ICT. This should be a priority set forth in the policy in tackling ICT Child Sexual Exploitation. We should compare it to the foreign countries. What helps them to manage the database on children and ICT? What are their laws? And how they enforce them? ...”

In closing the Policy Roundtable, Dr. Tripathi noted “...We have learned a lot from all participants. We are sharing and together creating a learning community. For sure, I believe we will gain from today’s forum. We will certainly work together to move forward and continue sharing and learning from each other to strengthen our working group to achieve our common mission...”

❖ CPP Partners from the Public Sector Share Common goal in ICT Child Protection and Promotion of Creative Use of Media

During the Thailand Exchange Tour, CPP visited Thai government organizations including the Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security and Ministry of Education.

Dr. Philip Cook, Executive Director of IICRD and Suzanne Williams, Child Protection Partnership (CPP) Director and Deputy & Legal Director of IICRD met Chansuda Ruckspollmuang Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Culture and Ladda Thangsupachai, Director of Cultural Surveillance Centre of the Ministry.



The Deputy Permanent Secretary appreciated the visit of CPP team and stated that CPP and the Ministry has shared the common goal in promotion the safe use of new media including ICT. CPP informed the Ministry of the plan for the next 5 years will collaborate with the Ministry in raising awareness among children and youth on safe and creative media of which so far the Ministry has been implementing the awareness campaigns through multi-media campaigns such as gaming expo; short film contest where children learn skills to create such media. Other areas for collaboration could be engagement and education of media, promoting the wider use of CPP curriculum on self- protection from ICT risks and creative use of ICT, supporting networks at provincial and district levels through local committees in 76 provinces possibly using the Ministry’s Creative Media Funds and enhancing surveillance of media and ICT use in Internet.

Further, to strengthen partnership in promoting the child rights and protection, Suzanne Williams and CPP Thailand team paid a courtesy call to Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Napa Setthakorn and informed the Ministry of CPP-IICRD work. During the meeting the Child Protection Act and its current promulgation, the best practice for Community Child Protection System in Nonthaburi Province and possible joint initiatives in promoting the child rights and protection at local government levels were discussed. IICRD has been in collaboration with UNICEF Thailand, Department of Local Administration and Chulalongkorn University for Training on Child Rights, Planning & Monitoring with the Tambon (sub-district) Administration Organizations (TAOs) and will strengthen collaboration with the Ministry in this endeavor as well as look at additional areas for collaboration.



Suzanne Williams also met with Special Advisor of Ministry of Education Permanent, Sivika Mektavatchaikul and the Ministry's senior officials representing the new Technology in Education Fund, Office of Basic Education Commission (OBEC) and ICT Centre to discuss, among other things, possible scaling up and out the CPP ICT Child Protection Curriculum through Thailand's schools. The Special Advisor presented the Ministry's framework including the National Education Network, National Education Information System and National Education Learning Center. CPP's work is in line with this framework and could submit a proposal to the new Technology in Education Fund, awaiting Ministerial approval to permit spending of its funds. The CPP Curriculum has also been offered as part of the OBEC curriculum database initiative within the context of life skills education.



Possible future collaborations between partners within the Education sector (e.g. OBEC, Think Quest, UNESCO, Technology Education Fund and CPP) was discussed including piloting education curricula such as CPP's about safe and creative use of ICT with a variety of tools, target audiences (e.g. children with disabilities, formal education, non-formal education settings), and child centred indicators. A Memorandum of Understanding between CPP, the Ministry and other relevant partners has been proposed in this regard.

CPP and the Ministry also discussed approaches in working together to encourage the critical thinking among Thai students such as media training, promoting Thai society as a Learning Society and further collaboration on promoting Life Skills development among Thai children and youth in both formal and non-formal education program.

❖ Media Coverage on Canadian –Thai Law Enforcement Exchange Workshop

There were 14 media outlets who attended the CPP workshop opening in Bangkok on February 28, 2011 as well as approximately 5 journalists who met the delegation during meetings in Pattaya. This resulted in both English and Thai media coverage of CPP in newspapers, online and TV. Read some coverage online at:

http://www.monstersandcritics.com/news/asiapacific/news/article_1622484.php/Canadian-Mounted-Police-lead-charge-on-child-sexual-exploitation

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/news/369463,charge-child-sexual-exploitation.html>

<http://blogs.straitstimes.com/2011/3/1/banding-together-on-internet-sexual-predators>

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/tech/computer/232395/software-aids-fight-against-exploitation>

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/tech/computer/232394/containing-cyber-crime>

IV. Future Priorities for Thai Law Enforcement and other CPP partners

From the meetings and consultation with Thai Law Enforcement and other CPP partners, several possible priorities emerged. Some of these include:

1. **Future training for the Royal Thai Police from RCMP:**
 - RTP to request via RCMP Liaison Office at Canadian Embassy in Bangkok
2. **Database and information sharing within RTP:**
 - It is suggested that a pilot database take place at Region 2 at Pattaya and expand to the national level using the Child Exploitation Tracking System (CETS).
3. **Technology Crime Suppression Division (TCSD) as Focal point on ICT enabled child sexual exploitation cases for Thailand within RTP:**
 - To assess their requirements and prepare proposal and timeline for Children's and Women's division to attract budget required to acquire relevant training, equipment, operational support
4. **Prevention: Education collaboration to get CPP curriculum imbedded in formal and non-formal education across Thailand:**
 - Share curriculum once finalized with OBEC for uploading to database
 - Further clarify education partnership with the guidance of the Special Advisor for Ministry of Education, Sivika Mektavatchaikul
5. **Awareness Raising/ Building relations with the Media:**

June, 2011 CPP Showcase on Safe and Creative Use of ICT event could include media opportunities such as:

 - Announce new NICFD Centre of Excellence on Safe and Creative Use of Media
 - Release CPP report on Thai Circle of Rights work with children and ICT
 - Announce release of CPP curriculum
 - Announce new Education collaborations

The assistance of the Canadian Embassy could be enlisted to tell the good news of Thai-Canadian relations
6. **Propose formalizing CPP LE areas of cooperation**
 - Further consultations with RTP to be scheduled.

