ONLINE CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (OCSE)

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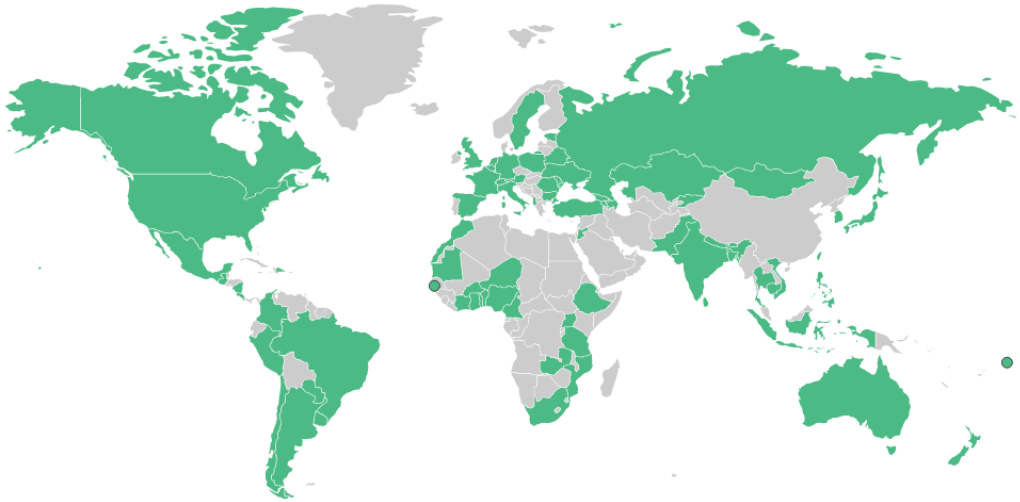
ABOUT ECPAT

Global Network of Civil Society Organisations

Sole Goal:

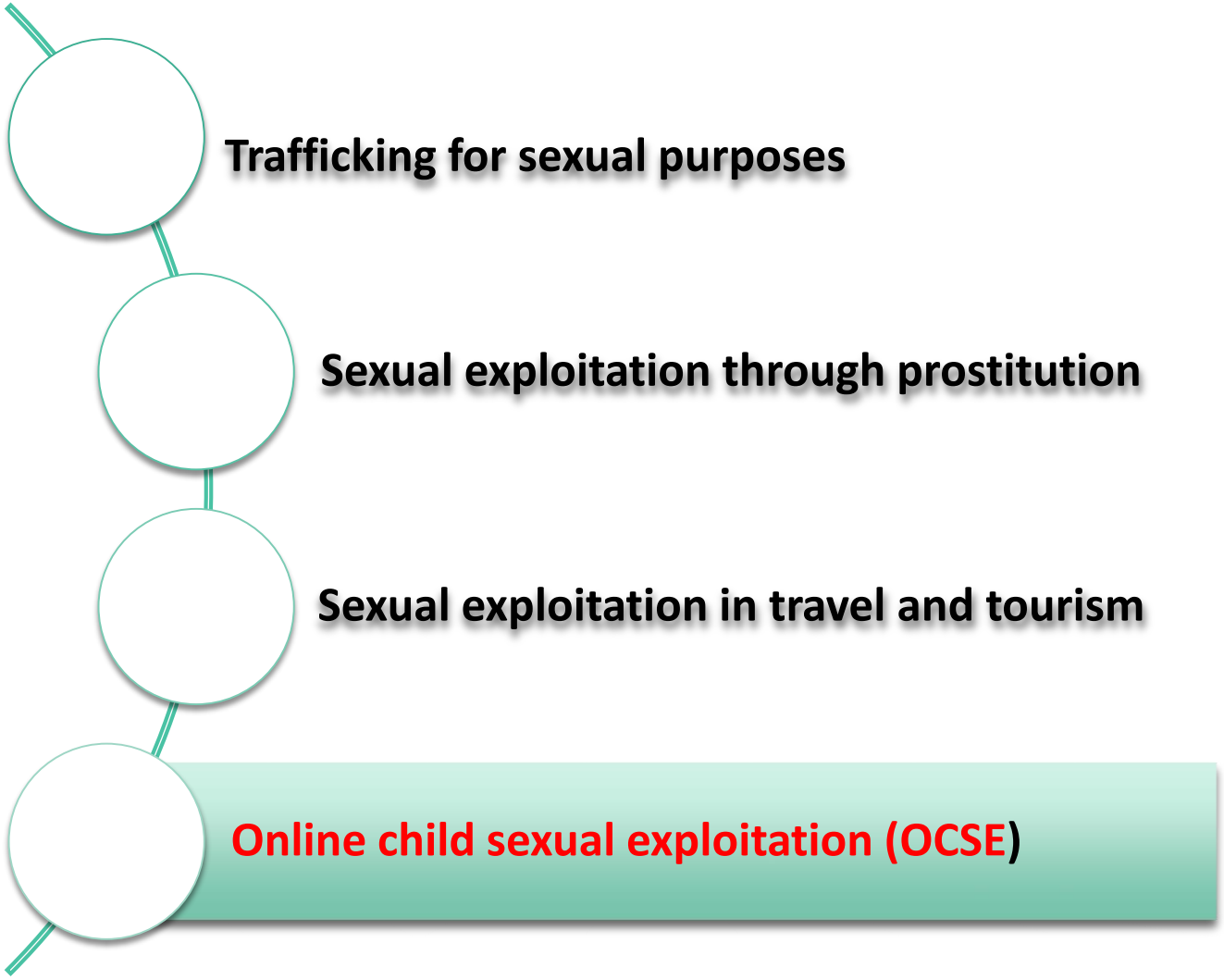
Ending the Sexual Exploitation of Children

102 members in 93 countries



25 members in Africa in 24 countries

FOCUS AREAS


Trafficking for sexual purposes
Sexual exploitation through prostitution
Sexual exploitation in travel and tourism
Online child sexual exploitation (OCSE)

What is Online Child Sexual Exploitation?

- Sexual abuse of children
- Facilitated through ICT /or the Internet
- Form of cybercrime.

TECHNOLOGY

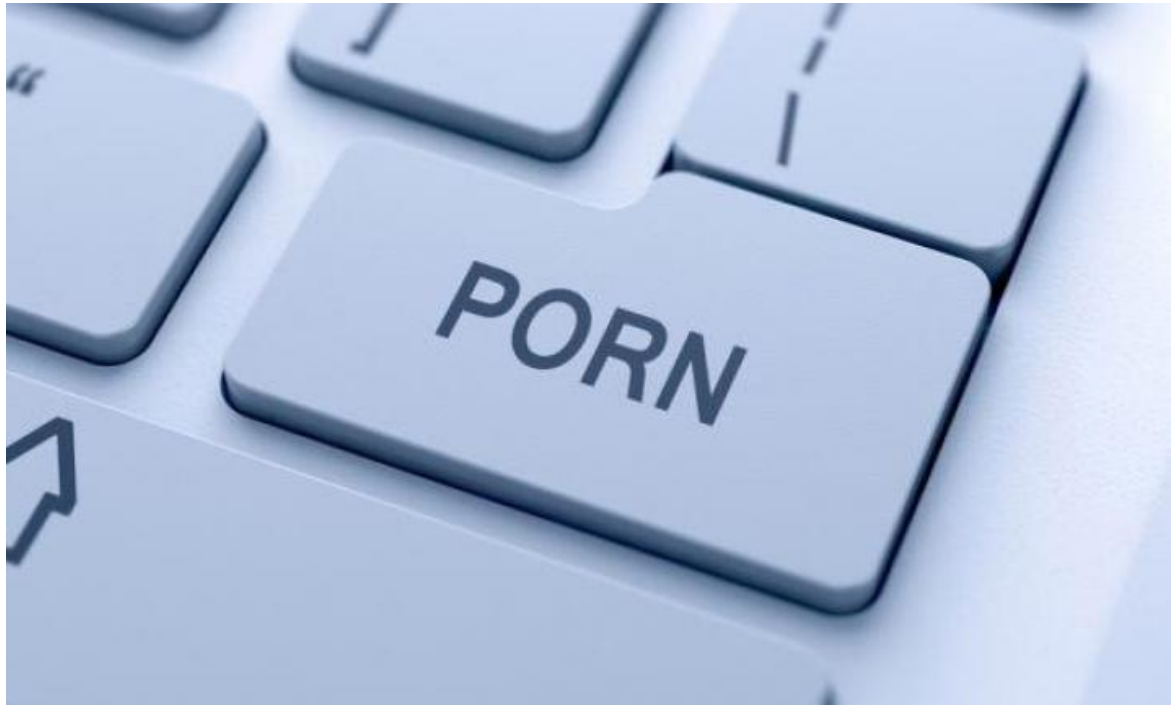
Buzzle.com
World at our fingertips
Threat of online predators

Manifestations

Online child sexual exploitation

Child Sexual Abuse Materials (CSAM)

(Child pornography)



Materials depicting:-

1. Acts of sexual abuse and/or

2. Focusing on the genitalia of the child

Computer/Digitally Generated CSAM (Virtual child pornography)

Child pornography involving artificially created children

Harmful because:-

- Creates a culture of tolerance
- Can be used to groom children

Online grooming for sexual purposes

- Establish relationship with a child

- via internet / digital technologies

- Intention:

Online or offline sexual abuse

Sexting

- Self production of sexual images
- Consensual activity between peers (mostly)

Problematic when:

-Not consensual

or

-Content abusive/criminal elements

Sextortion

Sexual extortion

Black mailing using self-generated Images

Live online child sexual abuse

Involves:-

1. Coercion of a child to participate in sexual activities

2. which is transmitted live or ‘streamed’ over the Internet

3. watched by others remotely.

Impact

Victim impact statement (Paroline V. United States)

"I live in **constant fear** that someone will see my pictures and recognise me and that I will be **humiliated** all over again…I am **powerless** to stop it…it's **like** I am **being abused over and over and over again**".

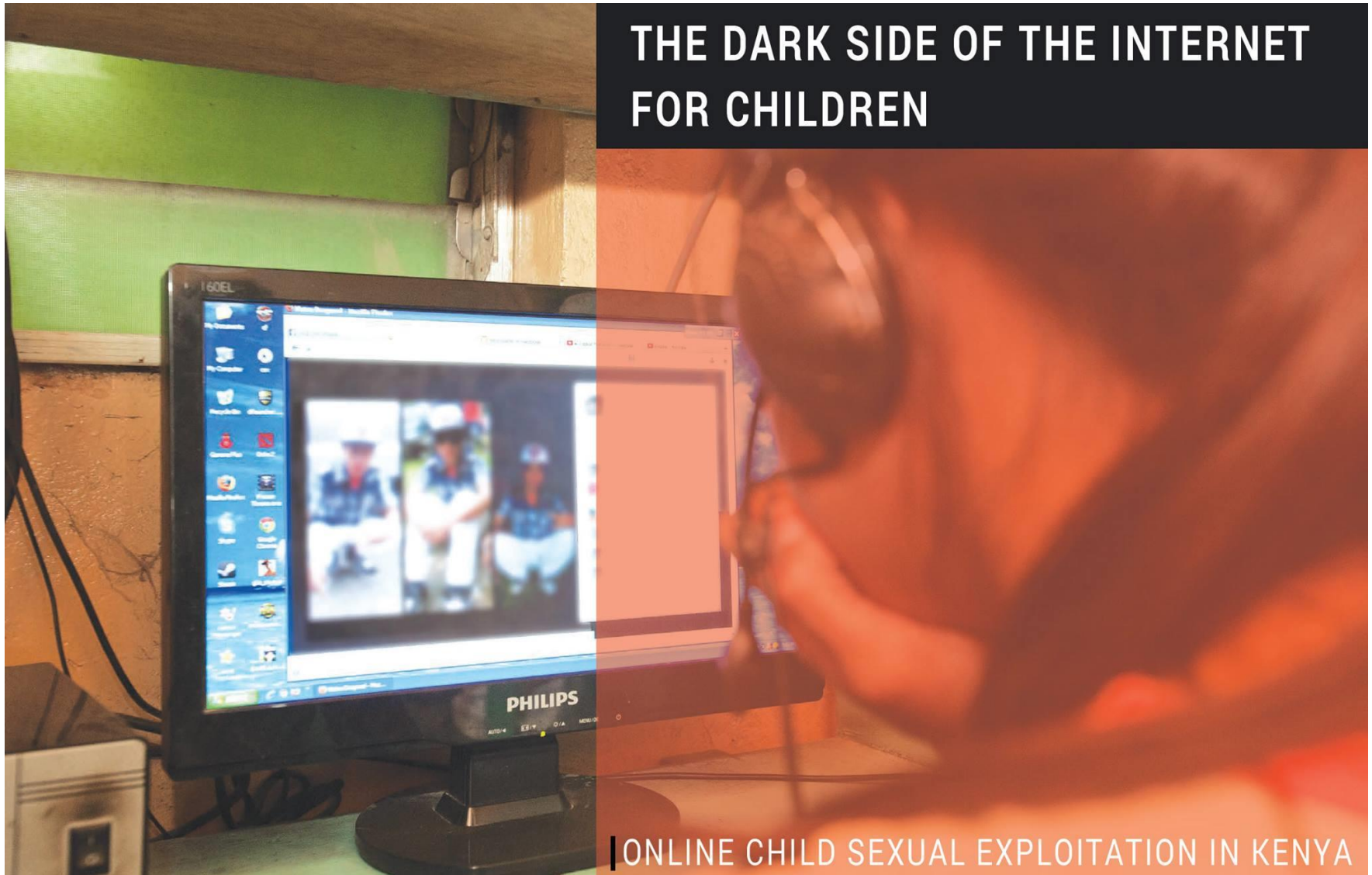
Why Africa needs to respond!

Online Child Sexual Exploitation

African Children are vulnerable to OCSE:

- Unsafe internet practices among children
- Poor guidance from parents and teachers
- Insufficient understanding - parents/stakeholders
- Cyber cafes not well regulated

Online Sexual Exploitation already happening



Problem likely to continue growing!

- rapidly increasing internet,
- limited regulation,
- little awareness and
- poverty

How should we respond?

Online child sexual exploitation

Multi-disciplinary response

WePROTECT Model National Response (MNR)

Helps countries:-

- Establish & develop coordinated national responses
- Evaluate their current response, identify gaps & prioritise efforts

Current Gaps / Challenges

Combatting online child sexual exploitation

Some gaps

- No explicit criminalization
- No reporting obligations – ISPs
- Limited awareness
- Limited technical capacity
- Differences in legal approaches
- Lack of reporting mechanisms

Recommendations to address gaps

Legislation

Recommendation

- **Explicitly criminalize all forms of offences related to online child sexual exploitation.**

Recommendation

- **Harmonise domestic legislation with international standards**

Recommendation

- **Amend legislation where needed to impose a legal obligation for ISPs to report if aware of CAM in their systems**

Recommendation

Build specialist skills for :-

- law enforcement officers
- Judiciary and prosecutors

Recommendation

- Provide a dedicated hotline for reporting suspected CSAM

- Have take down procedures once reports are made

Recommendation

- Have awareness creation programmes on online child sexual exploitation.

Thank you!

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