

Template for Management Response and Action Plan

Name of Evaluation Report:	EndOCSEA@Europe project's Final Evaluation Report		
Date of Evaluation Report:	27 November 2025	Date of Action Plan:	05 January 2026

Overall management response to the evaluation:

The project team welcomes the evaluation findings and fully accepts the majority of the recommendations, which largely align with the project's existing design and implementation approach. Several recommendations reflect practices already embedded in the project, particularly regarding interactive training methods, stakeholder engagement, sub-granting to local NGOs, and innovative approaches. Recommendations related to strengthening monitoring, evaluation, learning, and GEDSI data collection are fully accepted and will be taken into account for future project proposals and implementation.

The project team partially accepts Recommendation 2 on expanding interactive training methods and Recommendation 3 on joint multidisciplinary trainings, noting that current training modules already rely heavily on practical exercises and that sector-specific capacity-building remains the most effective approach given differing mandates and operational realities. Coordination will therefore continue to be strengthened through Training of Trainers, policy dialogues, and technical coordination mechanisms.

[FOR DECENTRALISED EVALUATIONS] Dissemination plan for the evaluation: please briefly explain how the report will be shared (internally, other CoE entities, donors, beneficiaries etc.), methods (email, events, website etc.), resources, timeframe and person responsible.

- Report shared internally within the Children's Rights Division and via e-mail with the donors, who have been part of the drafting process.
- Recommendations have been presented and discussed with the Head of the Co-operation and Capacity-Building Unit and the Head of division.
- Report published on the project website and on a news item.
- Report and related communication products have been shared on the Division's LinkedIn page.
- Report has been shared with all project national partners and beneficiaries through e-mail and uploaded to the project cloud.
- Draft report was presented at the Final Conference of the project by the external evaluators.

Management Decision ¹	Entity in Charge	Planned Actions ² (determined by Entity)	Justification ³ for Non-Acceptance	Target Date for Action	Person Responsible for Action
<p>Recommendation 1: Ongoing adaptation of training content and delivery through regularly scheduled sessions: Given the rapidly evolving nature of OCSEA, the project team should encourage trainers and training institutions to provide regular follow-up and refresher trainings for professionals to reinforce knowledge, assess retention among training participants, and ensure content remains up to date. This includes systematically reviewing and updating training materials, tools, and guidance to reflect technological, legal, and policy developments, such as emerging online exploitation tactics, changes in relevant legislation, or new digital investigation tools used by law enforcement and child protection professionals. This would not only support continued professional development but also provide insight into how well training content is embedded in practice.</p>					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Partially accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	Children's Rights Division Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regularly review training content in the context of subsequent co-operation projects, to ensure training materials reflect the latest technological, legal, and policy developments related to OCSEA. 2. Schedule regular refresher trainings (and ToTs) for professionals in the countries where the trainings already took place (subject to project funding). This could include webinars, short online modules, or in-person workshops. 3. Integration in future project proposals of strengthened M&E and feedback mechanisms, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Short follow-up surveys to assess the application of training content. 		01/01/2029	Head of Unit

¹ The management decision is in relation to the Recommendation (Accepted, Partially accepted, Rejected).

² For implementing accepted recommendations.

³ For recommendations that are partially accepted or rejected.

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		b) Periodic, targeted needs assessments to inform tool and content adaptation. c) Systematic consolidation and sharing of feedback to support continuous learning and bottom-up engagement.			
<p>Recommendation 2: Build on existing interactive training methods to deepen engagement and learning: While participant satisfaction with the training has been consistently high and was valued for its practical relevance, the project team should encourage trainers to incorporate more real-life scenarios, group discussion and interactive exercises, such as roleplays or simulations. This is especially important for safeguarding training, where group size and time allow, as such methods can further enhance engagement and learning outcomes. These methods foster active participation, open discussion, and deeper understanding, especially for professionals like teachers, psychologists, and social workers who need practical tools for everyday use. Including examples of positive outcomes can also help reinforce key messages and boost practitioner confidence.</p>					
<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partially accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	Children's Rights Division Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	1. Encourage the continued replication of scenarios and roleplays through national-level Training of Trainers to reinforce learning over time. When the training modules are subsequently used in other co-operation projects, a review will be conducted to make sure that enough scenarios and roleplays are included.	While the project fully agrees on the importance of interactive training methods, including real-life scenarios and roleplays, all training modules already extensively integrate these approaches. Across the two-day trainings for both Legal and Frontline professionals, participants engaged in a dozen or more practical case studies and roleplay exercises, complemented by group discussions, small-group work and experience-sharing sessions throughout each module. The trainings were already intensive in both duration and content, and further increasing interactive components would require reducing essential theoretical elements, which	01/01/2029 (Subject to subsequent project funding)	Head of Unit

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			are critical to ensuring a solid understanding of frameworks and procedures. The project therefore considers the current balance appropriate, while encouraging the continued replication of these scenarios through national-level Training of Trainers to reinforce learning over time.		
<p>Recommendation 3: Enhance interagency coordination through joint multidisciplinary training.</p> <p>The project actively promoted interagency collaboration by engaging professionals from law enforcement, the judiciary, education, social work, and civil society in targeted legal and safeguarding trainings. This multi-stakeholder approach was highly valued by participants, as it fostered a shared understanding and coordinated response framework while strengthening communication channels and building trust—essential elements for effective collaboration in complex cases. To further enhance these efforts, while continuing the existing separate trainings, it is recommended that the project team organises an integrated joint session bringing together frontline, legal, and law enforcement professionals. Such multidisciplinary training would strengthen coordination across agencies, foster mutual understanding of roles, identify common challenges, and bridge institutional gaps for more cohesive and effective responses.</p>					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Partially accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	Children’s Rights Division Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthened interagency coordination through policy-level dialogues and technical roundtables bringing together key institutions. 2. Inclusion of interagency perspectives and case-based examples in sector-specific trainings to strengthen understanding of other actors’ roles. 3. Targeted coordination sessions for decision-makers and focal points, rather than joint operational capacity-building trainings. 	Interagency coordination is essential and a shared understanding among stakeholders is particularly valuable. That is why, as the Recommendation states, all trainings conducted where multistakeholder (for either legal professionals – gathering law enforcement, prosecutors and judges – or frontline professionals – gathering teachers, psychologists, social workers, doctors, etc.). The recommendation proposes to have joint trainings with all categories. However, those joint multidisciplinary capacity-building trainings might not be appropriate. The	01/01/2029	Head of Unit

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			roles, skills, and operational realities of frontline and legal professionals differ significantly, requiring tailored training approaches. Joint sessions would limit participant numbers per sector and reduce the relevance and effectiveness of the training content. Sector-specific trainings therefore remain the most effective approach, while still being multidisciplinary. Coordination is better supported through policy dialogue and referral mechanisms.		
<p>Recommendation 4: Strengthen and institutionalise monitoring, evaluation, and feedback systems.</p> <p>Particularly in relation to capacity-building efforts to combat OCSEA, existing monitoring tools—such as pre- and post-training questionnaires, interviews, and online surveys—have already provided valuable insights into gaps and progress in awareness, knowledge, and capabilities. In order to ensure the long-term relevance and impact of project activities the project team should continue to use these tools. In addition, establishing a continuous, interactive feedback loop for training participants will promote bottom-up engagement and support ongoing refinement of tools and resources. This will help ensure that training content remains relevant, adaptable, and responsive to participants’ needs. Regular follow-up surveys (e.g., every six months) and periodic needs assessments should also be conducted to track the application of training content and monitor the uptake of project recommendations across member states. Together, these efforts will ensure that project activities remain evidence-based, participatory, and aligned with evolving technological, legal, and policy environments.</p>					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Partially accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	Children’s Rights Division Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	1. Integration in future project proposals of strengthened M&E and feedback mechanisms, including: a) Short follow-up surveys to assess the application of training content. b) Periodic, targeted needs assessments to inform tool and content adaptation. c) Systematic consolidation and sharing of key feedback to support	N/A	01/01/2029	Head of Unit

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		continuous learning and bottom-up engagement. 2. Enhancement of capacity-building for project managers on the development and implementation of M&E tools. 3. Contractual requirements for experts developing training materials to revise content based on participant feedback and monitoring findings.			
Recommendation 5: Strengthen MEL through Comprehensive GEDSI Data Collection:					
<p>To enhance the organisation’s MEL approach, it is recommended to systematically collect and track data disaggregated by gender, age, disability, socio-economic background, and other relevant social factors for all project activities. While some gender, and location-based data are currently collected, information on age and other inclusion dimensions is limited or inconsistent across NGOs. Collecting such data, particularly during workshops with children and activities involving parents and professionals, will help ensure that project activities are inclusive, equitable, and responsive to the diverse needs of participants. Institutionalising this practice will improve evidence-based decision-making, support targeted interventions, and strengthen the organisation’s ability to demonstrate GEDSI outcomes.</p>					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Partially accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	Children’s Rights Division Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	1. Develop and roll out a harmonised set of MEL tools across all activities to systematically collect disaggregated data by gender, age, disability and other relevant inclusion criteria, with clear guidance provided to partner NGOs to ensure consistency and data protection. 2. Integrate routine analysis of disaggregated GEDSI data at the project proposal level and into MEL reviews and reporting to inform activity adjustments, support		01/01/2029	Head of Unit

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		targeted interventions and strengthen evidence-based reporting on inclusion outcomes.			
<p>Recommendation 6: Continue providing sub-grants to support locally led initiatives: As part of the project, sub-grants were provided to local NGOs in Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Montenegro to implement awareness-raising initiatives for children and adolescents, as well as for parents and professionals working with children. Available data indicate that these activities effectively increased knowledge and encouraged dialogue, critical thinking, and proactive behaviour regarding OCSEA. The grant scheme allowed NGOs to tailor outreach strategies to local contexts, develop accessible, age-appropriate resources, and strengthen community-level prevention efforts. This funding model not only expanded grassroots engagement but also fostered innovation in addressing online safety. To build on this success, the project team should continue to provide sub-grants to local civil society organisations to support locally grounded, needs-based awareness and prevention initiatives that leverage existing community networks.</p>					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Partially accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	Children's Rights Division Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	1. Include sub-granting schemes in future project proposals to continue supporting locally led awareness and prevention initiatives. Sub-grants will be allocated to local civil society organisations to enable context-specific outreach, development of age-appropriate resources, and strengthened community-level engagement on OCSEA prevention.		01/01/2029 (Subject to project funding)	Head of Unit
<p>Recommendation 7: Continue Early and Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement: Early operational-level involvement has proven effective in building trust and strengthening cross-border, multi-agency collaboration to combat OCSEA. To sustain and build on the project's successes, the project team should continue to ensure stakeholder engagement at all stages of implementation, alongside ongoing alignment with regional frameworks, such as the Lanzarote and Budapest Conventions, to maintain policy coherence. Tools should be regularly adapted to national contexts, and the project team should further promote knowledge-sharing through regional platforms (e.g., the Lanzarote Committee), as well as peer learning and exchange to enhance regional cooperation and capacity.</p>					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Partially accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	Children's Rights Division Co-operation	1. Develop and implement a stakeholder engagement plan to ensure early and continuous		01/01/2029	Head of Unit

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	and Capacity Building Unit	involvement of key stakeholders at all stages of the project. 2. Include peer learning and knowledge-exchange activities in future project proposals, leveraging existing regional platforms to strengthen cross-border cooperation and policy coherence on OCSEA. 3. Continue sharing all project deliverables with all member states represented in the Lanzarote Committee and the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child.			
<p>Recommendation 8: Expand Inclusion of Stakeholder Groups in Training Activities: While the project’s safeguarding and legal trainings have successfully engaged a broad range of professionals, the project team should promote the broader inclusion of stakeholder groups in training activities. Expanding the target audience could help address time constraints among participants and increase the overall reach and impact of the training efforts. In the legal sector, for example legal assistants could be included, who are more readily available than judges, lawyers, or prosecutors, yet remain closely involved in legal processes. Their inclusion could improve participation rates and strengthen the effectiveness of legal trainings. Similarly, safeguarding trainings should be extended beyond school-based professionals, social workers, psychologists, medical staff, to also include professionals working in youth homes and dormitories. These care settings, often overlooked, play a vital role in prevention, particularly for children from rural or underserved areas. Integrating these institutions more fully into the project’s outreach strategy will enhance training effectiveness and promote more equitable coverage across child protection systems.</p>					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Partially accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	Children’s Rights Division Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	1. Enhance institutional engagement in future projects by conducting a broader and more comprehensive assessment of all institutions regulating and employing professionals who work directly with children, at both legal and frontline levels, in target countries. These		01/01/2029	Head of Unit

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		<p>institutions should be involved from the project design phase to support participant identification, ensure institutional ownership, and align project activities with existing child protection systems.</p> <p>2. Strengthen the sustainability and reach of capacity-building efforts by expanding and continuing ToT programmes to include professionals identified through these institutions, in order to help ensure that improved safeguarding and child protection practices are consistently applied across all professional groups working with children.</p> <p>3. When organising training sessions in future or on-going projects, invite national institutions to specifically identify legal assistants/clerks to participant in trainings for legal professionals and professionals working in youth homes/dormitories for trainings for frontline professionals.</p>			
<p>Recommendation 9: Promote Innovative Approaches to Maximise Impact: Innovative methods, such as cross-sectoral collaboration, training-of-trainers models, engagement of the private sector, and hybrid training formats, have proven effective in extending the reach and impact of project activities. Integrating innovation into project design also enhances scalability, sustainability, and contextual relevance, thereby strengthening responses to OCSEA. To ensure the long-term viability of such approaches, the Children’s Rights Division and other relevant</p>					

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Council of Europe services should encourage donor and partner organisations to continue providing targeted funding and strategic support for projects that adopt and advance these innovative practices.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Partially accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	Children's Rights Division Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	1. Report to the donor (Safe Online) on the impact of innovative approaches used in the project, to encourage their prioritisation in future funding and project selection.		31/03/2026	Project Manager