

Protecting children against violence – Kindernothilfe guidelines for project visitors

Background

In every country and in every society, children are affected by physical, psychological/emotional and sexual violence as well as exploitation and neglect. As a child rights organisation, Kindernothilfe bears particular responsibility in this area. On the one hand, within the scope of its work throughout the world, it has a responsibility to reinforce children's rights and improve their development chances. On the other, Kindernothilfe and its partner organisations themselves are exposed to an increased risk of being used by potential perpetrators of violence to gain access to children. Accordingly, Kindernothilfe and its partner organisations initiate comprehensive measures to protect children against violence and raise public awareness for the issue of child protection.

As a child rights organisation, Kindernothilfe has particular responsibility towards the children in the projects and programmes it supports. Thus, its overriding priority is to guarantee the well-being, protection and safety of children in all projects at all times. That is why Kindernothilfe introduced an institutional child protection policy.

Child protection within the scope of a project visit

As part of Kindernothilfe's objective to take individual and joint responsibility for the protection of children, people visiting a Kindernothilfe project also play a decisive role. Through their behaviour during such a visit, they can make a decisive contribution to ensuring that the right of children to be protected against violence is upheld. Above all, through being alert to, and aware of, the risks facing children, we can also jointly prevent potential perpetrators of violence from gaining access to children through our work.

During your planned project visit, you will frequently come into contact with children. That is why we ask you

to read the following guidelines carefully. Please sign the form below to confirm that you have understood the guidelines and that you will act in accordance with them.

Within the scope of my project visit, I will ...

- › contribute to the creation of a safe, supportive and empowering environment for children;
- › take the opinions, ideas and concerns of children seriously;
- › treat all children equally, with dignity and respect;
- › monitor the codes of conduct of the respective partner organisations;
- › comply with the "two adult rule", i.e. whenever I have contact with a child, a project member of staff must be present at all times or be within sight or earshot; this satisfies the project partner's duty of care legal obligation; outside of the project context, I will not undertake any activities with children from the project;
- › not photograph people – especially children – for private purposes without the prior approval of the project management and the consent of the children; on the one hand, this corresponds with the sometimes stricter local legislation, and on the other, helps to protect children; if I wish to use photographic material for non-private purposes, I will not do so before obtaining the written declaration of consent from the legal guardian; when taking photographs, I will respect the human dignity of children and their need for protection (e.g. by not photographing unclothed or suffering children); I will respect their human rights and will not publish any photographs of children in the internet;
- › deal with children's personal data with utmost care, in accordance with the applicable data protection guidelines and communication standards of Kindernothilfe and demand the same standards from third parties that receive information about children through Kindernothilfe or partner organisations;
- › neither smoke nor drink alcoholic beverages within the project context or in the presence of children;

- > not pass on any personal contact data (e.g. email addresses) in order to protect children;
- > not spend the night in hotels or visit other establishments during my travels that are known to be used for the (sexual) exploitation of children.

and incidents and immediately bring them to the attention of Kindernothilfe. Where Kindernothilfe's partner organisations have their own codes of conduct relating to project visits, I will, similarly, take cognizance of these, give my written consent and act accordingly.

With my signature, I confirm that I have read and understood the guidelines concerning interaction with children within the scope of a project visit, and confirm that I will act in accordance with them. Furthermore, I will respond without delay to all misgivings, allegations

Please return the signed Code of Conduct to your point of contact in Kindernothilfe's donor services.

Name:

Adress:

Place, Date:

Signature: