

Budapest International Sports Conference

Focus on the safety of
children in sports



Keeping Children Safe in Sports

The project was coordinated by the Terre des hommes Romania Foundation, in partnership with Terre des hommes Greece and Regional Office of Terre des hommes.

KCSS was co-funded by the European Commission's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Program (REC 2014-2020).



Keeping Children Safe in Sports Project

<https://childhub.org/en/child-protection-multimedia-resources/keeping-children-safe-sports-video>

- *The journey* -



Keeping Children Safe in Sports Project

Overview of KCSS Journey

Key tools

Recommendations for Sports Clubs



The Journey



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- **Child Safeguarding policies and procedures** were developed in Greece and Romania, based on the international standards on safeguarding, on Keeping Children Safe coalition, UEFA toolkit & Terre des hommes. These standards were adapted to local legislation.
In Romania they benefit of the close involvement of the National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption (NAPCRA).
- Romanian Gymnastics Federation and Romanian Football Federation signed for the first time in Romania these policies and their public commitment was followed by another 20 sport clubs and associations from Ro.
- In Greece, 20 summer camps signed and committed to respect CSG policies and procedures.





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Child Safeguarding Champions

- 22 trainers in Romania
- 22 trainers in Greece
- 186 coaches trained in Romania – football, gymnastics, handball, karate and other sports – 15 multiplication trainings in Bucharest, Deva, Cluj, Sibiu, Timisoara, Arges, Constanta, Focsani, Resita
- 170 summer camps staff in 7 multiplication trainings



KEY tools developed

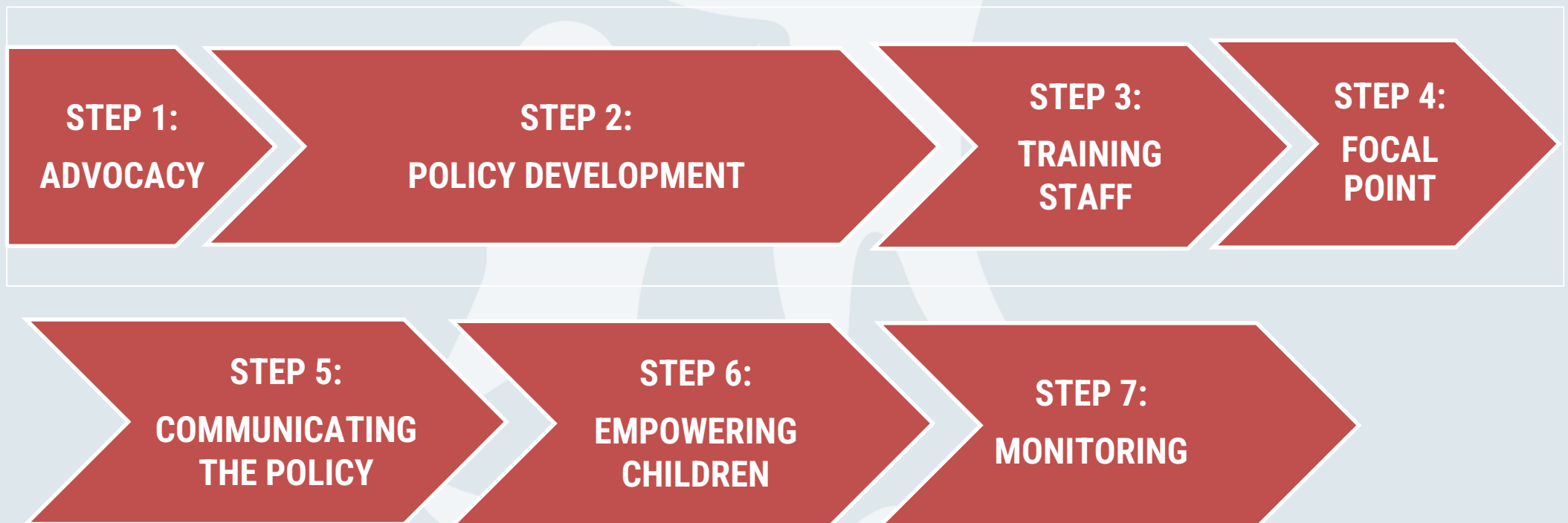
<https://childhub.org/en/series-of-child-protection-materials/keeping-children-safe-sports>

- An e-learning course about safeguarding – in Greek, English and Romanian – is available on Childhub – for gymnastics, football coaches and summer camp staff
- A Training of Trainers Manual – in English, Ro, Greek
- A Training of Trainers Manual for Young Facilitators – in English, Ro, Greek
- Safeguarding Activities for Children in Sport Clubs and Summer camps – In English, Ro, Greek
- Children's Guide for Safety in Sport – English, Ro, Greek
- Best Practice Guide – English, Ro, Greek



Recommendations

7 steps towards developing and implementing a Child Safeguarding Policy



STEP 1: ADVOCACY FOR INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFEGUARDING

WHY?

- Institutional support at the highest hierarchical level (e.g., sports federations and associations) is needed for ensuring a **sustainable and meaningful impact**.

WHAT?

- Meetings and/or workshops on child protection and child safeguarding for decision-makers (e.g., presidents of the sports federations, sports clubs, and summer camps managers, State child protection authorities).



STEP 2: DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICY

WHY?

The **Child Safeguarding Policy (CSP)** explicitly defines the manner in which your organization contributes to keeping children safe. It includes all the preventative and responsive measures that you shall take to preserve children's safety and well-being in your activities.

WHAT?

- Find and study the relevant national legislation on child protection;
- Collaborate with a child protection organization/expert for the development of the Policy;
- Consider whether your organization already has an internal policy that foresees measures for the safeguarding of children;
- Include in the Child Safeguarding Policy the voices of the children you are working with.



STEP 3: TRAINING THE STAFF ON CHILD PROTECTION AND CHILD SAFEGUARDING

WHY?

Safeguarding is a multidimensional concept; it usually requires sustained effort in order to be fully reflected in your organization's procedures and practices.

WHAT?

- Peer-to-peer approach;
- Training of Trainers and replication trainings.



STEP 4: DESIGNATING AND TRAINING A CHILD SAFEGUARDING FOCAL POINT

WHY?

A **Child Safeguarding Focal Point** is the person responsible for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of your Child Safeguarding Policy, providing training to the staff, proposing its review when necessary, and managing concerns related to child safeguarding in your organization.

WHAT?

- The person selected as a Focal Point should have a genuine interest in the topic of Child Safeguarding, as well as good communication skills;
- Focal Point receives appropriate initial training on the topic of Child Safeguarding and attends complementary training in the field of Child Protection;
- Have in place a job description for the Focal Point, with clear roles and responsibilities.



STEP 5: COMMUNICATING THE CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICY TO ALL PARTIES

WHY?

A Child Safeguarding Policy is only useful as long as it is used by all the actors involved in ensuring the safety of children.

WHAT?

- Make sure that all current employees and new staff are aware of your Child Safeguarding Policy;
- Organize child protection and child safeguarding workshops for your staff;
- When recruiting new participants in your activities, communicate your Child Safeguarding Policy beforehand to all children and families that express their interest to collaborate with you.



STEP 6: EMPOWERING CHILDREN'S VOICES AND THEIR SELF-PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS

WHY?

One of the final goals of any Child Safeguarding Policy is to also empower children to understand the different dimensions of safeguarding and report any concern that they might have.

WHAT?

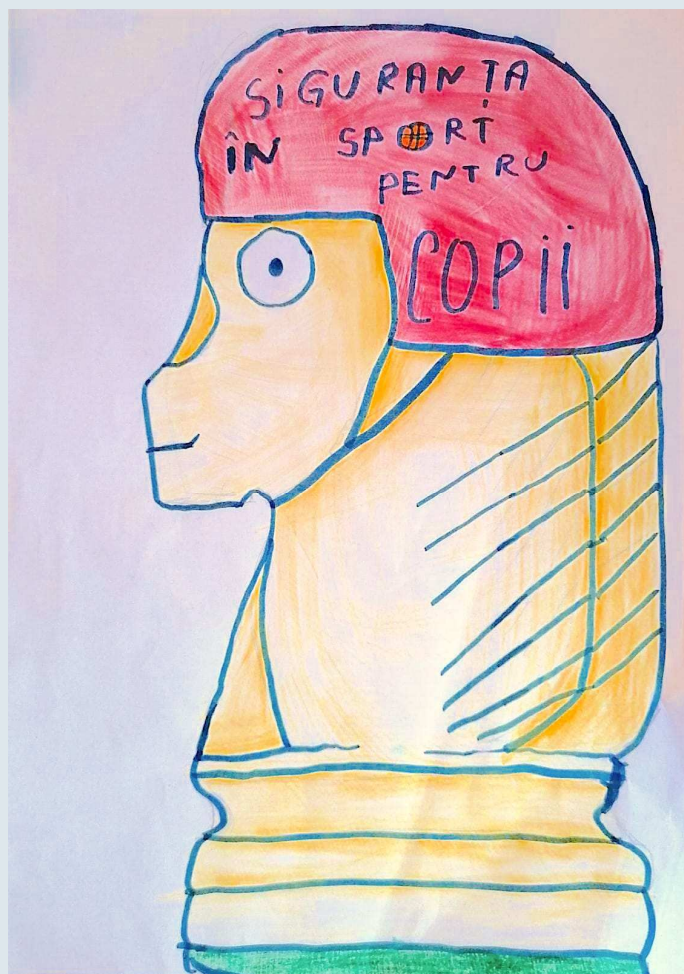
- Peer-to-peer methodological approach for empowering children's voices
(*Resources developed within the project: “**Coloured Shields**” manual & child-friendly guide* for introducing the concept of safeguarding to children);
- Multiple initial awareness-raising sessions might need to be organized;
- Repeat the process each year for the new children joining your club or summer camp.



Children and Young People

- Child Advisory Boards in Greece and Romania
- Youth facilitators
- 151 CYP from Romania and 123 CYP from Greece learned about safeguarding, how to protect themselves





Siguranța în sport
pentru copii

CIUBOTARU
CLARA-MARIA

O piesă de șah cu echipament de protecție.

În sport, trebuie protejat atât corpul (de accidentări), cât și mintea (de stresul unei competiții și emoțiile, supra-solicitarea antrenamentelor și dezamăgirea înfrângerilor).

Child Safeguarding in Sports - by Ciubotaru Clara Maria

A chess piece with protective equipment - in sports, the body (from injuries) and the mind (from the stress of competition, emotions, overworked training and disappointment of defeats) must be protected.



07
SEP

ORA
16:00

Palatul Bragadiru, Calea Rahovei 147-153, București



Terre des hommes

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Fundația Terre des hommes Romania și partenerii săi, ANDPDCA și Federațiile Române de Fotbal și Gimnastică, au onoarea de a vă invita marți, **7 septembrie**, ora **16.00** în **Grădina Palatului Bragadiru**, la

GALA MEDIU SIGUR PENTRU COPII ÎN SPORT

Alături de copii, vom lansa o certificare suplimentară pentru cluburile sportive care îi protejează cel mai bine și vom sărbători un moment istoric în sportul românesc. Siguranța e un sport de echipă!

RSVP PÂNĂ PE 2 SEPT. LA: cristina.vladescu@tdh.ch

Vă așteptăm cu drag!



Un eveniment în cadrul proiectului Mediu Sigur pentru Copii în Sport (Keeping Children Safe in Sports), co-finanțat prin Programul Drepturi, Egalitate și Cetățenie al Uniunii Europene (REC 2014-2020). Proiectul KCSS e coordonat de Terre des hommes Romania, în parteneriat cu Terre des hommes Grecia și Terre des hommes Ungaria.



MINISTERUL MUNCII ȘI PROTECȚIEI SOCIALE
Autoritatea Națională pentru Drepturile
Persoanelor cu Dizabilități, Copii și Adoptii

STEP 7: MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICY

WHY?

Adopting a Child Safeguarding policy should not be a one-time initiative, but rather a sustained and long-term organizational commitment.

WHAT?

- Monitor and adjust the Child Safeguarding Policy on a yearly basis:
 - ✓ Fill the **Self-Assessment Form** regarding the stage of implementation of all the Safeguarding measures taken by your organization;
 - ✓ Complete the **Action and Monitoring Plan** which details the concrete steps your organization should take in the next year for improving its safeguarding procedures.



Areas identified in the best practice guide that require further action

1. Changing mentalities and attitudes of all staff
2. Changing parents` mentalities and attitudes
3. Developing and strengthening the collaboration with Child Protection authorities
4. Proper allocation of resources and staff for Child Safeguarding
5. Engaging in a community of practice in the field of Safeguarding

Child Safeguarding is a teamwork !

Hope you will join us !



Thank you !

Cristina Vladescu

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