

European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA) Annex I - new version 2014

General information

1. Please specify your country.

Poland

2. Is this your country's ECPA entry or an additional project?

additional project

3. What is the title of the project?

Cyber jungle

4. Who is responsible for the project? Contact details.

Municipal Police Headquarters in Szczecin

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5. Start date of the project? (data-dd/mm/yyyy) Is the project still running? If not, please provide the end date of the project.

14.04.2008 - it is ongoing project

6. Where can we find more information about the project? Please provide links to the project's website or online reports or publications (preferably in English).

<http://www.kmp.szczecin.pl>

7. Please give on a page description of the project. Max. 600 words.

The "Cyber jungle" project is aimed at the younger Internet users, their carers as well as people taking part in their education and attitudes shaping. Its mission is to improve the overall security of the Internet users, especially those who are not properly prepared for it.

This set includes the surrounding reality: young people and children do not know the hazard and their parents - who in the accompanying circumstances had not followed the development of this medium - are remaining in ignorance with respect to its capabilities and threats. It is a form of family dysfunction in terms of proper childcare.

Therefore, the security is based on many factor program components and is constructed of three main elements.

1. Increasing awareness of the program participants about the perils related with the Internet used by children and young people as well as improving the safety of its users. It is also one of the objectives of the program.
2. Activating parental control over minors benefiting from the resources and engineering data tools.
3. Introduction of the correlation element in the usual utilization of Internet resources by individual users in a secure direction to each family or group of users.

According to this plan different security levels are achieved by developing the ability to accurately search for specific information preventing contact with the unwanted content. This problem affects mostly youngest children, who should be able to precisely follow specific knowledge resources without the risk of contact with violence, pornography, etc.

Older users should have the ability to assess legal aspects of their activity on the network often balancing on the edge of admissibility.

Another area of impact is developing capacity to assess the risk when establishing virtual relationships and ability to conduct correspondence in a secure manner, i.e. without disclosure of sensitive data as well as creative and save use of defence mechanisms against process of grooming.

The whole project includes the need to develop mechanisms for sharing resources and information technology tools with the minors and their guardians in such a way that the use, for example, of the social network did not facilitate the acquisition of knowledge about the family.

The program is implemented through meetings and workshops with minors, and then with their carers and educators. This gives them the opportunity to acquire knowledge, which parents and guardians do not have, and use it during meetings that are conducted in a form of small talks with the use of multimedia technologies.

"Cyber jungle" handbook for parents was also published as well as "Cyber jungle" and "Cyber security" educational materials for parents and people interested in the issues.

These publications contain information that introduce people who had no contact with the network before into the secrets of virtual reality. This message shows concepts for the average reader with a view to identify opportunities to supervise minors' online activities.

I. The project shall focus on prevention and/or reduction of everyday crime and fear of crime within the theme.

8. How does the project contribute to crime prevention and/or reduction of crime or the fear of crime?
Max. 150 words.

Multimedia tools including instruments of social communication within the Internet might form the germ of crime. They allow young people to gain knowledge about the world, help to create their own system of values, shape attitudes and skills.

Due to their role in the modern world, especially in the education, they should be seen not only in terms of inexpressible possibilities and creating enormous opportunities, but also in terms of the hazards and risks and the potential use by criminal environment. Therefore, the objective of the project is to improve awareness of criminal responsibility for the behaviour exhibited on the Internet having comprehensive hallmarks of offences. The premises of the plan are also directed at widening the knowledge of adult users such as parents and educators about all the popular environments used by young people in a risky manner, which in turn grants them to work out effective supervision over them and shape their proper attitudes.

An important aspect of the plan is also teaching the ability to protect sensible information that can be used as a tool for criminal actions of certain groups.

9. How is the project contributing to raising citizens' awareness of crime prevention? Max.150 words.

The program calls for evolution of the ability to measure the importance of data transferred on the web (for criminal circles) about actual life. The adult participants have the opportunity (in the form of workshops) to understand how to have correspondence oriented for sensitive data acquisition, in a veiled way.

- Familiarise themselves with websites and portals used by young people and together with the leader conduct risk analysis for establishing the risky relationships, especially by younger users.
- They familiarize themselves with popular games and their narrative. They participate in a multimedia show that in an attractive way enriches their knowledge about the Internet.

This leads ultimately to establishing the authority of the parent/guardian oriented to the virtual reality, who becomes a partner for younger generation in the conversation.

So built family relationships allow common online activity, particularly in the field of social networks in such a direction that the information put up on them by individual household members do not complement each other and does not turn into a reliable image of the family in the network and the actual world which contributes to eliminate the dangers presented by the Internet.

II. The project shall have been evaluated and have achieved most or all of its objectives.

10. What was the reason for setting up the project? What problem(s) did it aim to tackle?

The dynamic development of the Internet made it a primary source of information, entertainment and communication even for children and young people. Available free instant messaging, social networking and other opportunities provided by the Internet led to the fact that children and young people began to spend more and more time in virtual reality.

The situation was further complicated by the fact that the knowledge on how to use a computer or the Internet which the parents have often poses much lower level than the skills of their children.

This contributed to a consequent loss of control of the minors' education and the deficiency of sufficient knowledge to ascertain their safety on the web.

This dysfunction generated a range of threats in the real life and in the process of shaping proper attitudes. Minors consciously or unconsciously transmitted and still transmit unauthorized Internet users the information containing personal data or other content that can be misused.

11. Was the context analyzed **before** the project was initiated? How and by whom? Which data were used?
Max. 150 words.

The analysis was conducted in the Department of Prevention of Police Headquarters in Szczecin based on questions asked by parents, educators and teachers during meetings with Police officers as well as letters addressed to the Headquarters asking for urgent meetings with young people on Internet risks and sharing statistical data on juvenile delinquency.

In the initial phase of the project analysis were elaborated to include data from surveys conducted with a randomly selected group of parents participating in school meetings. The survey supported the need for a meeting on this issue, and indicated the areas that should be focused on in particular. This also pointed the need for further educational meetings to change the mentality of the individual parents who - on the basis of stereotyped behaviours and attitudes of entitlement – shook off the responsibility to protect children from the dangers on a number of institutions, excluding themselves.

12. What were the objective(s) of the project? Please, if applicable, distinguish between main and secondary objectives. Max. 150 words.

The primary objective consists of two parts.

1. Raising consciousness about the dangers connected with the usage of the Internet
2. Improving the safety of children and adolescents in the network by activating parental control over children by helping to develop a mechanism to allow simultaneous, joint use of Internet resources by the children with their parents, in specific terms - especially at the level of entertainment.

The secondary aim is to familiarize adults with popular online communities used by minors.

Secondary targets are separated based on whom it concerns:

a) Youth

b) Adults

The basis in both cases is education in the field of:

- Opportunities to commit crimes and offenses using the Internet.
- Identify situations that could cause transfer of personal information,
- Precise information retrieval on the Internet in a way to avoid unnecessary contact with forbidden content,
- An indication of the side effects of using the Internet indefinitely,
- Familiarisation with the structure, capabilities, values and dangers of the Internet,
- Establishing basic rules for Internet use,
- Learning to use parental control application,
- Fight grooming.

13. Did you build in internal goals to measure the performance of the project? If so, please describe at what stage of the project and how you measured whether the project was moving in the planned direction. Max. 150 words.

The level of execution of the project is measured by assessing the number of interested schools in terms of divisions and statistical information concerning the act committed by juvenile offenses including acts committed via the Internet in Szczecin.

- In 2013 we conducted 16 meetings
- In 2014 we conducted 17 meetings,
- In the first half of 2015 year, 39 meetings were carried out

Crime Statistics:

- In the first half of 2013 the overall number of offenses committed by juvenile offenders was 436 208.
- In the first half of 2014 the number fell to 257 offenses committed by 126 juvenile offenders.
- In the first half of 2015 154 offenses were committed by 64 perpetrators.

A large downward movement is visible. It should be mentioned that in the above mentioned period, there were no common offenses committed via the Internet made by juvenile perpetrators, i.e.:

- Criminal offenses of article 286 § 1 of the Penalty Code (fraud),
- Art. 267 of the Penalty Code (theft of data),
- Art. 268 of the Penalty Code (violation of the right to learn the information through the demolition, removal, damage or change in the records).

The project is still in the implementation phase, which followed the needs reported by institutions interested in taking part in the plan. The potency of the meetings can provide information from the schools indicating the change in students' attitudes and common and consistent functioning of parents in improving parental control and a reduction of offenses given by minors despite the growth in Internet usage. Execution of the project is proceeding in conformity with its aims.

14. Has there been a process evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation (internally or externally?) and what were the main results? Max. 300 words.

The internal evaluation process is being conducted on an ongoing basis by the officers involved in the project. It refers to interest entities, such as schools and childcare centres interested in dealing with a range of threats on the Internet. Process evaluation of the project is also carried out based on the analysis of statistical data on criminal acts committed by minors.

15. Has there been an outcome or impact evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation (internally or externally?), which data and evaluation method were used and what were the main results? Max. 300 words.

Internal results evaluation of the project and its effectiveness was conducted i.a. based on the analysis of statistical data on criminal acts committed by minors. The high level of interest from educational institutions is also a factor taken into account in the process of self-evaluation.

All the data collected made it possible to focus the design and construction of its strengths while eliminating the issues that are time-barred. Decreasing number of offenses committed by juveniles also can certify to the positive effects of the task.

On that point there are no research opportunities to the substantiation of the position in which the participants - through knowledge - have saved themselves or other persons, including minors, from becoming a victim of crime committed via the Internet. Each meeting with adults is preceded by a meeting in a classroom. During the classes they discover other problems associated with the usage of the web. It is a kind of communication that improves the strength of continuous matching content to everybody's needs.

III. The project shall, as far as possible, be innovative, involving new methods or new approaches.

16. How is the project innovative in its methods and/or approaches? Max. 150 words.

The innovation of the project is related to the approach to the problem which appeared on the dynamic development of the Internet and crime that is associated with it. Illusory belief in anonymity on the network causes the new area of our activity lacking traditional controls, proven in the real world and it becomes more and more the arena used by *cybercriminals*. In our thinking we often do not understand that the Internet is a space detached from the physical territory of a country, resulting in a reduction not only the fields of protection, but the very definition of security. These assumptions effect on reducing the possibility of recognition of hazards arising from virtual reality, thus undermining our ability to effectively defend ourselves. In such circumstances, we are looking for complementary legal solutions on both - international and domestic levels, forgetting that effective prevention of such phenomena must be related to the broadly understood prevention and education. This is how the project aims to reduce crime, including Internet crime among minors. But it does not focus on proving the offenses and criminal responsibility for their commissioning, even though it contains such an element.

The idea of the project (and its innovation) is that it shows the dangers that young users might meet on the Internet. The assumptions of the program are aimed at developing the ability to accurately search for specific information in a way preventing contact with unwanted content. One area of impact is to develop ability to assess risk when establishing virtual relationships and the ability to conduct correspondence in a safe manner - without disclosure of sensitive data - and creative use of defense mechanisms against criminals operating on the network. On the other hand it gives adults tools to have a much wider range of parental controls.

IV. The project shall be based on cooperation between partners, where possible.

17. Which partners or stakeholders were involved in the project and what was their involvement? Max. 200 words.

The Schools Headmasters, Principles of childcare centres, Youth Psychotherapy Centres and school counsellors took care of the organization of meetings, workshops, diagnosis of the problem and interest in the various institutions. They supplied data on the scale of certain phenomena in the assumptions of the institution by reporting emerging issues relating to unacceptable behaviour of young Internet users. Their job was also to educate and make available rooms to conduct meetings. The Commission of Public Safety Municipal Office in Szczecin helped to finance the project. The Church as an element in direct touch with minors and youth in the educational process at school and during the retreat will incorporate the content of responsibility in their own message. The operators of the Internet network promote the programming and strategic consulting.

V. The project shall be capable of replication in other Member States. (Projekt powinien nadawać się do powielenia/wdrożenia w innych państwach członkowskich.)

18. How and by whom is the project funded? Max. 150 words.

(Jak i przez kogo projekt jest finansowany? Max. 150 słów.)

At the beginning the project was financed entirely from the budget of the Public Safety Commission of the Municipal Office in Szczecin. Financing concerned the preparation of teaching materials. Other costs, including the costs associated with the use of human resources to implement the project were taken by the organizers of the meetings.

19. What were the costs of the project in terms of finances, material, infrastructure and human resources?
Max. 150 words.

In the first phase, about 4 000 PLN (1000 euro). These costs related to the preparation of teaching materials. With regard to human resources, i.e., project preparation and the training of tutors it is not possible to calculate the exact costs due to the fact that the coordinators realized the project while performing their duties.

20. Has a cost-benefit analysis been carried out? If so, describe the analysis, including how and by whom it was carried out and list the main findings of the analysis. Max. 150 words.

In a large part costs were generated by the need to print educational materials for parents, educators, and teachers. These materials have been transferred for use by police officers and educators, teachers and parents themselves.

Analysis of the precise costs related to the use of human resources is not possible due to the fact that persons conducting activities related to the project and all assisting them performed it as part of their duties.

An internal evaluation of the project was conducted and its effectiveness leads to the conclusion that the project costs are disproportionate to the benefits that it brings.

21. Are there adjustments to be made to the project to ensure a successful replication in another Member State?

The approach described in the project is about the dangers of online activity and does not require any changes, because it is universal for each Member State of UE.

The changes that could be introduced into the project may concern only some specifics of the criminal law of particular country and the system of legal solutions that take into account in the legislation of each country. It should be taken into account, however, that the level of awareness and technological development of each country is also different. The message must be tailored to local needs.

22. How is the project relevant for the other Member States? Please explain the European dimension of your project.

The development of the information society, affiliated with the expanding of the Internet coverage, is accompanied by penetration of the following aspects of human activity into cyberspace. The available in Member States reach of the Internet and the ability to immediately access it from almost anywhere on Earth, combined with low cost of maintenance, meant that more and more entities and individuals choose to move different elements of their daily activities into cyberspace. Available via computers, tablets, mobile phones or other devices Internet has become one of the major media, synonymous with freedom of speech and unfettered transfer of information, and in some cases, successfully used as a tool of revolution and social change.

This does not change the fact that using the Internet is still exposed to various types of risks. Raising awareness about the dangers associated with Internet used by children and youth, activating parental control over children who use the Internet and improve safety among its users is a universal element for all Member States. Currently, the European Union supports the digitization of Member States to have Internet access as wide as possible. Efficient and public Internet is an opportunity to increase educational and development opportunities for each Member State. It is also important to make the Internet safe for its users.

Please provide a short general description of the project (abstract for inclusion in the conference booklet – max. 150 words)

"Cyber jungle" preventive program is an initiative aimed at children and young people and their carers. The program is designed to raise the level of safety. It is carried out in a form of meetings and workshops with children, youth and their parents, carers and teachers. A simple, accessible language and talks about difficult issues are one of the advantages of the program. The people conducting the meetings communicate content tailored to the age and educational level of the audience. The project consists of several components. The first task is to improve awareness of the risks associated with the Internet use by children and young people as well as improving the safety of its users. The second element is to activate parental control over children who use the Internet and develop mechanisms for joint use of it by children and their caregivers. The third one is to improve relations inside the family and build the authority of the parent who is familiar with the specifics of virtual environments of the youth. This way he/she becomes a partner for the teenager in a conversation about the problems.