UN agencies and NGOs collaborate to monitor the efforts and achievements in combating the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Latin America and the Caribbean

One of the main results of the Latin America and Caribbean follow-up meeting to the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children held in May 2004 was a request from participating countries f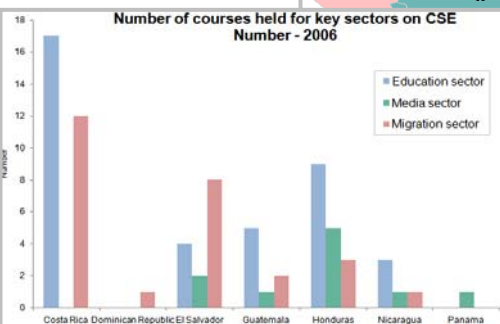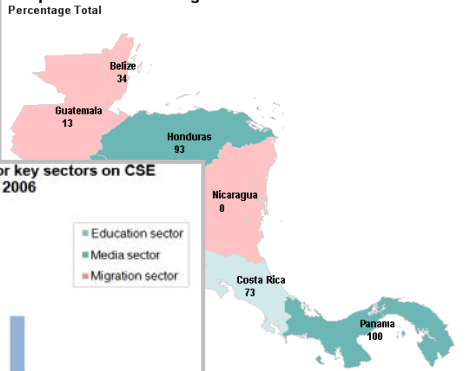or support from international cooperation agencies to develop a regional information system to monitor efforts and achievements in this area.

To meet this demand, and in a noteworthy example of collaboration among UN agencies and between the UN and NGOs, the International Labour Office (ILO), UNICEF, the International Organization for Migration, and the international NGOs Save the Children and ECPAT International developed and recently released *DevInfoLAC CSE*.

This DevInfo adaptation contains a number of quantitative and qualitative indicators to monitor the actions undertaken by the countries in the region to prevent and eliminate the commercial sexual exploitation of children. In addition to gathering the information for several countries and time periods in one repository, this information system allows users to easily create presentations of the data in the form of tables, graphs and maps. The enhanced accessibility to key information is expected to contribute greatly to the generation of knowledge that is essential for the development, assessment and review of actions carried out by countries in combating this crime.

For further information on this indicator and information system please write to esc@oit.or.cr or tacro@unicef.org.

ILO trainer David López leads a regional workshop for DevInfoLAC ESC database administrators in Panama in April

DevInfo facilitates the monitoring of the MDGs and the National Poverty Reduction Strategy in Paraguay

The General Directorate of Statistics, Surveys and Censuses in Paraguay, with the support of the UN in the country, has developed *ParInfo*. This adaptation of DevInfo brings together data from 13 sources on more than 200 indicators to monitor the MDGs and the country's National Poverty Reduction Strategy. The indicators are further classified in 13 sectors, including indigenous people, gender, youth and HIV/AIDS.

As far as possible and relevant, data are disaggregated by sex, urban/rural residence and wealth status. In addition, department and district level data are available. Importantly, this disaggregation will allow the analysis and monitoring of disparities between different groups of society and regions within the country.

In order to make this wealth of data easily accessible to all, ParInfo can be queried online at www.parinfo-dgeec.gov.py/DI5Web/.

Children's rights observatory in Tunisia adapts DevInfo to support its monitoring activities

Tunisia's Observatory for Information, Training, Documentation and Studies for the Protection of the Rights of the Child has developed *ChildInfo* to manage relevant data on the situation of children in the country. ChildInfo collates data from varied sources, such as surveys, censuses and administrative registries, classified in 9 sectors, including sport activities, living conditions, culture and recreation.

The content of the database, most of which will be updated annually, facilitates the realization of comprehensive analyses and extensive monitoring of children's rights. Depending on availability, data for the 355 indicators are disaggregated by sex, age, urban/rural residence and other important background variables. The database also includes data at the governorate and district levels.

By gathering the data in one system, making them easily accessible and facilitating their presentation in the form of tables, graphs and maps, ChildInfo is expected to contribute greatly to the analysis of data and to evidence-based decision-making in areas that affect the rights of children.

This rich source of information can be accessed online at www.observatoire-enfance.nat.tn/fr/statistiques.php.

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