

European Training – Trainers’ short introduction

Athens, 3-7 June 2015

Pippo Costella - *Training Coordination*

Over the past 25 years he conceived and implemented initiatives for and with children in collaboration with various NGOs, international agencies and institutions in the Middle East, South East Asia and Europe. His experience concentrated on the development of strategies and programs to protect children from different forms of exploitation and abuse, programs and initiatives targeted at children in conflict zones and emergencies, psycho-social interventions and promotion of human rights in migratory phenomena and transcultural processes. From 2004 to 2008 he has been an active member of the Group of Experts on Trafficking in Human Beings of the European Commission. He works now as independent expert, researcher and trainer with various public and private Italian and international agencies. He is founder and currently Director of Defence for Children International Italy.

Efterpi Gelastopoulou

She was born in a mountainous region of Greece. She studied social work. After finishing her basic studies she worked as a social worker with vulnerable groups such as disabled people, victims of trafficking, refugees, migrants and Roma. She did a master's degree in environmental education as a mean of communication and anti-racist education. She completed her training as a facilitator in the approach of Non Directive Intervention. She is part of the Resiland project team and has conducted laboratories and workshops with children on the move, professionals and officials in Greece.

Philip Ishola

Philip has over 25 years practice, management, policy and strategic planning experience gained while working in central and local government. Whilst Head of Service for a local authority children service department Philip managed a number of separated (unaccompanied) children social work teams, leaving care teams and specialist multi-agency counter child trafficking and missing children victim identification and recovery teams.

In 2010 Philip was appointed by the Minister of State for Immigration as a safeguarding advisor to the Home Office and member of the Independent Family Returns Panel, a post Philip continues to hold.

Philip currently acts as an advisor on the development of China’s Social Care and Child Protective system and the development of a professional system of Social Work across China.

Philip remains a longstanding member of the Association of Directors of Children Services Asylum Task Force and was for 2 years deputy chair of the Serious Organised Crime Agency SOCA /UK Human Trafficking Centre Victim Care Group and member of the Child Protect Group with specific responsibility for children's interests and welfare.

Philip maintains a strong interest in safeguarding all children in need and works closely with a range of statutory and non-statutory organisations across the European Economic Area EEA and Baltic Sea States and globally tasked with reviewing and harmonising best practice to improve child protective systems.

Daja Wenke

An independent researcher and consultant, Daja has long-standing professional experience working with Unicef and other organisations on the prevention of and response to the exploitation of children, including in the context of trafficking, and safeguarding children’s rights in transnational situations. She has specialised on law and policy analysis and applied research aiming to contribute to evidence informed and rights-based policy making, programming and advocacy. A guiding interest in her work is to promote systemic approaches to the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international standards