

FY2019 Efforts on the “Basic Plan on Measures against Child Sexual Exploitation”

1. Enhancement of public awareness, development of social awareness, and international collaboration

- Promotion of public relations and awareness-raising for the prevention of victimization
 - Held the “Public Symposium for Preventing Youth Crime and Victimization” during the “National Month for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency and Juvenile Damage” (July 2019). [CAO]

- Information dissemination at home and abroad

- Organized the 4th Specialist Group Meeting on Child Sexual Exploitation (January 2020) to introduce the activities of private groups and efforts of prefectural police departments for the prevention of child sexual exploitation; about 220 representatives from relevant ministries and agencies, foreign institutions, private groups, and others attended the meeting. [NPA]



2. Support for children and families to ensure the growth of children without victimization

- Awareness-raising activities for safe and secure internet use

- Organized awareness-raising seminars for safe and secure internet use by young people. [MIC, MEXT, and METI]
- Produced a leaflet featuring specific criminal incidents and modus operandi, and distributed the leaflet to the boards of education, etc. [MEXT and NPA]



3. Promotion of measures to prevent the occurrence and spread of victimization that focuses on tools

- Assistance in measures against tools taken by private organizations

- Provided information regarding child victimization cases and trends of victimization at the Conference for Development of Internet Use Environment for Young People, which was organized to promote voluntary efforts to prevent child victimization, such as via information-sharing among SNS operators, research, and public relations & awareness-raising activities. [NPA]

4. Prompt protection of and appropriate support for child victims

- Responses considering convenience for the person undergoing a consultation

- Changed the name of the hotline for the reporting of suspected child abuse from “Nationwide Hotline Connected to Child Guidance Centers” to “Child Abuse Hotline Connected to Child Guidance Centers” and made the number toll-free; also set up a hotline dedicated to consultation, called the “Child Guidance Center Consultation Hotline” (December 2019). [MHLW]

- Response to inappropriate messages on SNS

- Promoted the efforts of prefectural police departments to call public attention to inappropriate messages on SNS that could lead to child sexual exploitation, while also taking child victims into custody. [NPA]



5. Strengthening of crackdowns and rehabilitation of offenders

- Promotion of crackdowns on crimes of child sexual exploitation

- Promoted crackdowns on crimes of child sexual exploitation, such as violations of the Act Against Child Prostitution and Child Pornography. [NPA]

- Implementation of guidance on prevention of repeat sexual offenses in penal institutions

- Implemented guidance on the prevention of repeat sexual offenses in penal institutions and evaluated the effects of such guidance. [MOJ]

6. Strengthening of the foundation for realizing a society where children will never become victims

- Enhancement of the response capacity of school officials for the early detection of child victims and the promotion of support activities

- Produced and published “A Guidebook on How to Intervene the Child Abuse and Neglect Cases for Schools and Boards of Education” to promote efforts by schools, boards of education, etc., so as to respond to child abuse (May 2019). [MEXT]

- Strengthening of the structure and specialization of Child Guidance Center

- Strengthened the structure and specialization of Child Guidance Centers and municipalities based on the “Comprehensive Reinforcement Plan for Child Abuse Prevention Measures System” by increasing the number of child welfare officers (by approximately 2,020 persons) over four years starting FY2019 and by setting up child and family general support bases in all municipalities. [MHLW]

* NPA (National Police Agency), CAS (Cabinet Secretariat), CAO (Cabinet Office), MIC (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications), MOJ (Ministry of Justice), MOFA (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology), MHLW (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare), METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry).