ISS was born 93 years ago

Support families who become separated along the migration routes mainly from Europe and Middle East to the Americas

Today’s mission remains unchanged however more focused on migrating children and their best interest
ISS specific operating model

1. We provide crossborder social casework with tailored solutions (psycho-social & legal)

2. If we cannot do it, we connect beneficiaries with those who can (authorities, NGOs, private practice, etc)

3. We learn, we document, we research and we train

4. Advocacy for policy development in child protection

5. ISS has a very peculiar membership structure: NGOs, Government authorities and private sector practice
Definition in International Law
‘Violence against children’

1. Article 19.1 UN Convention Rights of the Child 1989:

States Parties shall take measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child.

2. UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals - Target 16.2:

End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children
## ISS core services in case work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Services Provided</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHILD PROTECTION</td>
<td>Placement, Kinship Care, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILD ABDUCTION</td>
<td>Alert, Assessment, Mediation, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY WELFARE</td>
<td>Cross cultural Council, Mediation, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADULT PROTECTION</td>
<td>Migrants, Refugees, Social Benefits, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNACCOMPANIED MINORS</td>
<td>Tracing, Reunification, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SURROGACY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRE + POST ADOPTION CARE / KAFALA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Testimonies

14 years old girl harassed, beaten and raped on the migration route to the US. Was allowed in when she arrived pregnant, then detained and put on deportation procedure

ISS intervention:
- Psychological support
- Legal and social support
- Reunification with family
- Finding a host family meanwhile
Testimonies (2)

Nigeria: *Hadiya*, 8, was saved from genital mutilation by her father who then became a target and was hunted. He fled and sought asylum in Norway. Hadiya became a street child.

**ISS intervention:**
- ISS involved in Nigeria
- Found Hadiya in Nigeria
- Reestablished contact between father and daughter
- Reunification after 2 years of separation
ISS & Targetted Advocacy

ISS participates to the NGO Panel for the Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty working towards completion and launch of a Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty later this year (HRW, DCI, ...
ISS members actions (regional)

ISS West African Network

• 16 countries; identification, protection and reintegration of vulnerable children and young migrants in host country, their country of origin or a third country

• over 5'000 children supported and integrated last 3 years

• In each country ISS partner NGO responsible for develops tripartite cooperation with authorities, civil society and international partners

• Yearly all child protection Ministries meet to discuss achievements & challenges and provide direction to the Network
Examples of Global efforts

- Child with disabilities (ISS) + Médecins du Monde + SPOON Foundation
- International Family Mediation (ISS) + AIFI + Center for mediation and law Moscow
- Children on the Move (ISS) + International Federation of the Red Cross
ISS - IFRC collaboration

Improve overall Protection of children through:

- Building bridges between Humanitarian (emergency) experts and Social work /Alternative care experts
- Promote suitable case solutions (Durable) with families and community care
- Develop a joint MOOC
A word to conclude

‘We need to look on how work together with what to do and whom we serve’

Pierre Krähenbühl

Leverage the power of humanitarian agencies, NGOs, civil society actors is in my mind the only way to counter the rise of violence, racism, xenophobia, ...