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## **Contribution from Malta Foundation for the Well-being of Society**

## CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION ACTIONS IN MALTA

**Purpose:** Presenting the work of the Malta Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society (MFWS) on Child Online Protection at the national level.

The Malta Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society (MFWS) is collaborating with the ITU Office for Europe to strengthen child online protection in Malta, within the framework of the "P.O.P-up: Promote Online Protection" established by the MFWS. The collaboration specifically has focused on:

- 1. Scoping trends and identify gaps related to child online safety. This was done through a statistical exercise carried out by MFWS aiming to map the current level of child online protection in the country and a situational assessment.
- 2. The delivery of Training of Trainers (ToT) to social workers and staff of the education system delivered by ITU experts. The objectives of the ToT are to provide academic staff and social workers with a robust knowledge base that will assist them in confronting relevant challenges, developing their knowledge of the child online protection content, and demonstrating how they can strategically use the guideline to address these challenges. After the result of the roll-out of activities by ITU team in June 115 representatives of the psycho-social team across Malts were trained. The first part of the training builded upon the ITU online self-paced COP training for academic staff and social workers, in order to raise awareness and improve participants' understanding of the risks associated with Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (OCSEA) and how educational environments can be used to protect children from OCSEA-related harm. The second part of the training applied the ITU ToT module, which builds on the knowledge acquired during the online selfpaced training. The module translated such knowledge into activities supporting the development of the teaching skills necessary to provide effective training. After the training the participants has successfully submitted and completed the assignment so that to get the certificate of the ITU Trainer on COP and be able to scale-up knowledge via own trainings at the local level.
- 3. The launching and roll-out of the translated ITU COP Guidelines into national languages, including through a stakeholder event.

## **Action required by the Council:**

## References

ITU Child Online Protection Train the Trainers Module for Educators in Malta