

**An:** Jara Schreiber - Roundtable Human Rights in Tourism  
**Betreff:** Update and Info: RT blueprint & on-site assessment project

Dear Roundtable members,

as announced in my last mailing, I would like to describe to you in more detail the **status, the process and the next steps of the RT blueprint project and the planned on-site social value-chain assessment**.

The blueprint development and the actual on-site assessment are closely linked. The goal of the project is to develop a general methodology and a concrete, practicable and transferable online tool for Roundtable members and other small and medium sized tour operators to conduct Human Rights Impact assessments (HRIAs) with a focus on the tourism value chain independently. Please find a **detailed overview of the project** [here](#).

### **Blueprint development**

- The interactive “blueprint” tool follows a step-wise approach that is aligned with existing methodologies in the context of human rights impact assessments (HRIA) and will be integrated in the “get started” tool on the Roundtable’s website.
- The draft concept for the blueprint tool was consulted during a first practitioners’ workshop in Utrecht on 26 June. Feedback from the discussions were taken as basis for further concept development.
- The IT-agency is currently developing a prototype for the online-tool and focusright will start to include content within the next weeks.
- The Blueprint prototype will be tested on its usability, functionality and logical construction during an on-site social value-chain assessment in Thailand and Myanmar.

### **Social value-chain assessment**

- The social value-chain assessment includes meaningful engagement with rights-holders along the tourism value chain in a destination to understand positive and negative impacts, and to explore root causes of potential negative impacts.
- Following the HRIA methodology, the assessment consists of three phases: 1. Scoping & Preparation, 2. On-site assessment and consolidation of findings, 3. Follow-up & dissemination.
- **1. Scoping & Preparation Phase**
  - o So far, the Roundtable project core group (Kuoni / DER Touristik Suisse, Gebeco, Studiosus, Tourism watch, ECPAT, forum anders reisen) has been active in providing contacts, reaching out to both business and non-business stakeholders and helping with the logistics.
  - o focusright has already advanced well with the desk research and stakeholder mapping: They have conducted many scoping calls with International Organisations (such as UNICEF and UNDP), NGOs (such as FIDH, ECPAT, The Code, Forum Asia, A21, Manushya Foundation, MCRB, ALTSEAN Myanmar), business stakeholder (mainly incoming agencies in both countries) and some individuals with specific expertise and experience in the two pilot destinations Thailand and Myanmar.
  - o Based on these consultations, the geographical scope for the on-site assessment in the two countries has been defined as follows:
    - Thailand: Bangkok, Chiang Mai & Phuket
    - Myanmar: Yangon, Mandalay, Bagan & Inle Lake
  - o ***RT members with strong contacts to tourism businesses and/or non-business stakeholders in the defined geographical scopes in Thailand and Myanmar that could be consulted during the project are very welcome to share these with the Roundtable.***
- **2. On-site assessment**
  - o The actual on-site assessment will take place from 5-17 September 2019, with a kick-off workshop in Bangkok on September 6<sup>th</sup> and a closing workshop on September 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - o The assessment team in Thailand will be led by Matthias Leisinger (focusright) who will be accompanied by Tony Reyhanloo from DER Touristik Suisse. The team in Myanmar will be led by Sibylle Baumgartner (focusright) who will be accompanied by Jara Schreiber from the Roundtable.

## **Communication / Webinars:**

- Information on the project will be shared regularly through **social media** (the RT is now on [Twitter](#), [facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) – please connect and follow us) as well as through news stories on the **Roundtable's website**.
- **Two webinars (28.8. and 2.10. from 10am-11am):** Please find **the invitation and further info for the webinars [here](#)**.  
We would like to involve interested Roundtable members and other stakeholders in the process of planning and conducting the exemplary assessment. Please register via Email to [info@humanrights-in-tourism.net](mailto:info@humanrights-in-tourism.net) until 20 August 2019.
- **Workshop (22.10., Berlin): Please save the date!**  
We are planning to present and discuss preliminary findings of the assessment during a Workshop in Berlin on 22 October 2019. The aim is to share the findings, discuss the learnings and brainstorm on potential follow-up measures (3. assessment phase: Follow-up & dissemination). This workshop will most probably be connected with the GIZ “Branchendialog” meeting. We will let you know about more details asap.

You are very welcome to reach out to your employees/members/business partners and other contacts, participate in the project, register for the webinars, and collect feedback.

Please check the RT website and social media channels for updates, and do not hesitate to contact us if any questions arise.

Best regards,

Jara

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