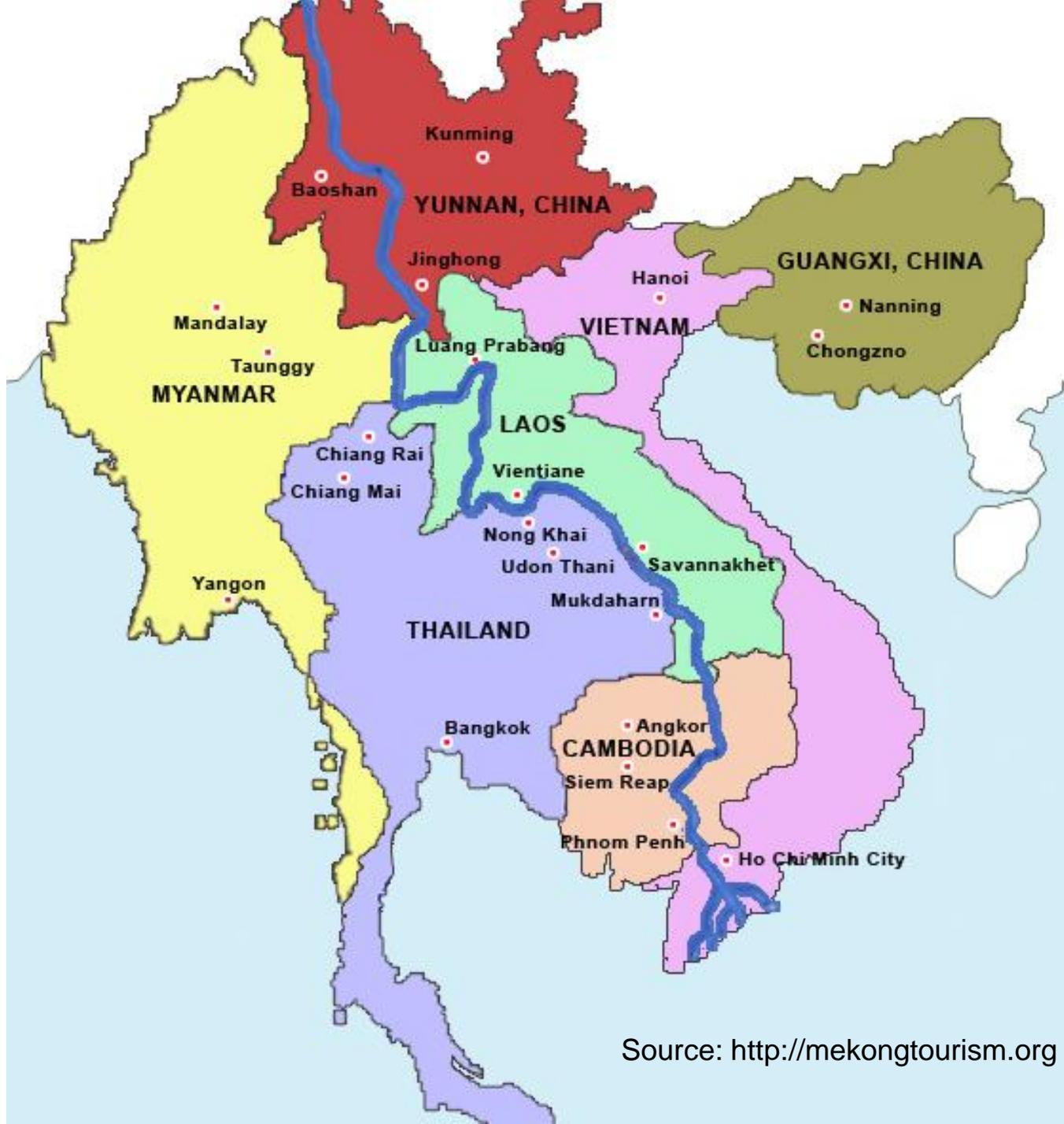


# The role of children in heritage tourism

## Preventing child exploitation



Child Safe Tourism



Source: <http://mekongtourism.org>



# Child Safe Tourism

Take action against abuse



*“I liked talking with the children but I found their situations very sad. It made me upset to see children on the streets and so poor. I wanted to be able to help them but I didn’t really know how to.”*

(Australian tourist, age 26-30)





*'I was informed that girls as young as 10 years old are being asked to accompany tourists/foreigners to the forest. These girls usually stay with the visitors for three to four nights. I'm very concerned about the safety of the children who escort foreigners/tourists.'*

(NGO worker in local community)



*“I feel pity and feel very bad to see children begging and selling on the streets [but] I don’t give money to children who are begging. It gives me a very bad feeling to give money because I know the children have to then give that money to the bad gangster or mafia men.”*

(Japanese tourist, age 42)





# Child Safe Tourism

- **Recognises** its potential **role** in and **impact** on child exploitation
- **Takes responsibility** to minimise harmful impact (direct or indirect) on vulnerable children, and
- **Takes an active** role in strengthening and maintaining a **safe environment for all children**



Child Safe Tourism

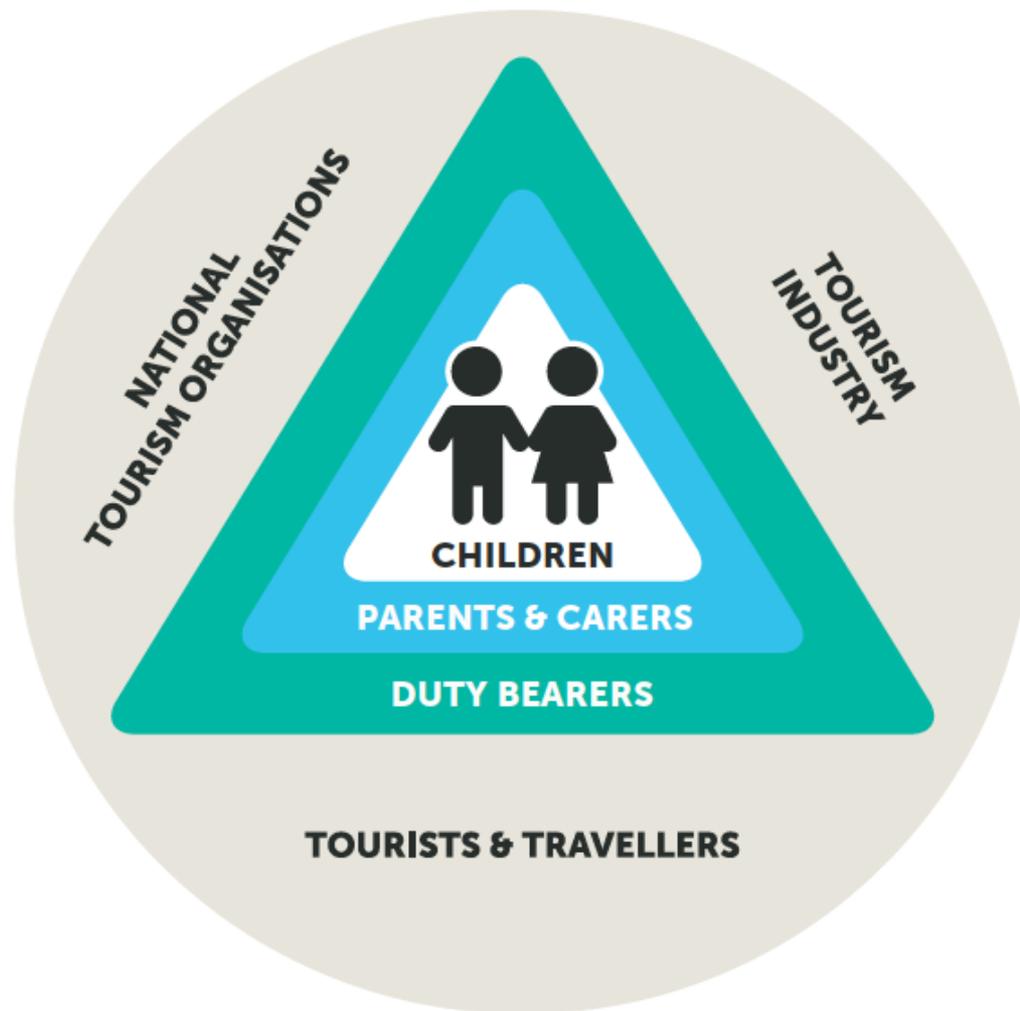
1. Is it in the best interests of the child or children?

2. Does it accord with international child protection standards?

3. What due diligence have you done?

*“If I meet children begging or selling I feel pity and if I can help I would like to. But I think the government should help the children. If I can help the children I’ll feel very happy but if I come here again I hope not to see children begging. I hope that the government will have fixed it.”*

(Chinese tourist, age 30)



**NATIONAL  
TOURISM ORGANISATIONS**

**TOURISM  
INDUSTRY**



**CHILDREN**

**PARENTS & CARERS**

**DUTY BEARERS**

**TOURISTS & TRAVELLERS**

# Thank you. Please contact us:

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