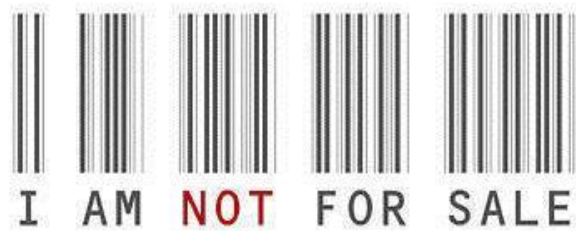


STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL

for the

“DIALOGUE AND DISSENT” FRAMEWORK



LOBBY & ADVOCACY FOR CHILD RIGHTS AND FAMILY PRESERVATION IN MARKET
DRIVEN INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION AND SURROGACY PRACTICES



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PREFACE

Too many children, especially in economically poor and politically unstable countries, are becoming victims of injustices brought upon them by careless and often devious adults. Children, who for whatever reason cannot grow up in their own families, are still languishing in derelict institutions, fall victim to child labor, sexual abuse, or have to live and fetch for themselves on the streets. At the same time there is, what cannot be called anything else but a burgeoning new form of exploitation, whereby childless couples in the rich Western world, sometimes unwittingly, more often knowingly, through shady agencies on the ground, use unprotected communities as recruiting grounds for international **adoption** and vulnerable young women as breeding hens for their offspring in the form of **surrogacy**.

A strong alliance has come together to fight, in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the above mentioned injustices through lobby and advocacy efforts which will create meaningful change on local, national, regional and global level. Two small but very capable Dutch organizations, both with long, proven track records in international development work, partner in this proposal with a network of key (inter)national organizations in the field of Inter Country Adoption and surrogacy. Among them are two organizations who have lived what we lobby for: adult adoptees in The Netherlands and young people in and from care institutions in Kenya. Lobby and advocacy through the actual target group is in our view a powerful and special aspect of our partnership, not a guarantee, but definitely a promise for success. Furthermore we link up with influential organizations like The Hague Conference on International Private Law, International Social Services in Geneva and with renowned scientists and researchers who will feed our lobby & advocacy efforts with the much needed evidence base.

The topics we will want to address through our lobby and advocacy work, directly link to several of the priorities of the Ministry:

The many illegal practices related to Inter Country Adoption (ICA) and Artificial Reproductive Technology & Surrogacy (ARTS) are caused by and often play a perpetuating role in poverty of communities in the Global South. If reducing poverty is the aim of developmental aid, then ICA and ARTS are definitely issues that need to be addressed.

Other MoFA areas of interest are also important here, most notably Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights and women and child rights in general. Maybe not in the obvious way like, for example, combating HIV would be, or fighting for free contraceptives for women, etc. But looking deeper into especially ARTS, one will see that gross violations of women and children's rights are taking place and that the reproductive health of thousands of young women is put in serious danger.

Our "I AM NOT FOR SALE" alliance presents to the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs an interesting, much needed, potentially high impact, and yes, exciting lobby & advocacy partnership!

I. GENERAL INFORMATION APPLICANT

a. Name of the lead organisation	Vereniging Wereldkinderen			
b. Address en telephone number	Riouwstraat 191 2585 HT Den Haag T 070 3506699 F 070 3547867			
c. E-mail adress	klute@wereldkinderen.nl			
d.	The email address above can be used for official correspondence about the programm.			
e. Managing Director	Mss Inge Prenger			
f. Contact person for the application	Mss Margot Klute			
g. Partners in the Consortium	International Child Development Initiatives (NL)			
h. Name Bank and account	Deutsche Bank IBAN: NL06DEUT04247336 BIC: DEUTNL2N Postbus 19507 2500 CM Den Haag			
i. Annual Income Wereldkinderen		€	Local currency	Total
	2011:	3.344.000		3.344.000
	2012:	3.712.000	n.a.	3.712.000
	2013:	3.656.000		3.656.000
Annual Income International Child Development Initiatives		€	Local currency	Total
	2011:	1.413.815		1.413.815
	2012:	1.397.187	n.a.	1.397.187
	2013:	1.404.004		1.404.004
j. Wereldkinderen and International Child Development Initiatives receive grants from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs listed below:				
Wereldkinderen: -MFS II 2011 - 2015 Together4Change Alliance), activity number 22171				

Total amount alliance: € 52.289.963

Total amount Vereniging Wereldkinderen: € 2.995.245

Stichting International Child Development Initiatives (ICDI):

-MFS II 2011 - 2015, activity number 22155, Child Rights Alliance

Total amount alliance: € 52.093.404

Total amount ICDI € 3.819.085

-Kindhuwelijkenfonds 2014 - 2015, Alliance with lead applicant Kinderpostzegels and The Hunger Project

Total amount alliance: € 1.711.778

Total amount ICDI: € 326.535

II. THRESHOLD CRITERIA

D 1

Wereldkinderen, Vereniging voor Kinderwelzijn (Wereldkinderen), civil society Child Welfare organisation, based in The Hague, The Netherlands, was founded May 15, 1971 in the form of a “Vereniging”. The statutes are included in Annex A.1. Article 2 sub 4 of the constitution states that Wereldkinderen is a not-for-profit organisation.

International Child Development Initiatives (ICDI), civil society Child Welfare organisation, based in Leiden, The Netherlands was founded April 28, 1994 as a “Stichting” and a not-for-profit organisation. The statutes are included in Annex A.1

The cooperation agreement between the two organizations can be found in Annex A.1.

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Wereldkinderen works actively to achieve structural poverty alleviation in, at present 10 low and lower-middle income countries. In these countries Wereldkinderen collaborates with and supports local partner organisations. (See <http://www.wereldkinderen.nl/pageid=9/Projecten.html>)

Vision, mission and approach of Wereldkinderen

Every child has the right to a childhood and to grow up in a safe and secure family circle, so the child receives attention and nourishment, it can go to school and grow up to be an independent young adult. Millions of children are deprived of this right. They grow up in poverty and in very vulnerable situations causing families to disintegrate. The 2015 United Nations millennium goals to sharply reduce worldwide poverty will only be partly achieved. Efforts to realize a world in which every child can grow up safely remain badly needed.

Wereldkinderen stands up for the rights and the welfare of vulnerable children in low and middle income countries that are at risk of growing up without family. Wereldkinderen reinforces and supports local structures, so there is more capacity to let children grow up in their own family circle. If children cannot live in a family situation in their own country, Wereldkinderen acts as an intermediary for intercountry adoption that is in the best interest of the child. Wereldkinderen considers adoption to be a child welfare measure. Its necessity must be clear, considering the child's rights and respecting the adoption triangle: biological parents, adoptees and adoptive parents. The activities of Wereldkinderen are aimed at fighting and preventing abuses related to adoption. The basic principles of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child are leading. Many countries are parties to the Hague Adoption Convention¹. Countries that have signed the Hague Adoption Convention must consider national solutions first. Wereldkinderen, together with international partners, works

¹ The Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (Hague Adoption Convention) protects children and their families against the risks of illegal, irregular, premature or ill-prepared adoptions abroad. [Text of Convention](#)

on family reinforcement and if necessary family replacement. All these activities are covered by Wereldkinderen's leading prerogative: 'Every child has the right to a home!'

Wereldkinderen has partners in 10 countries who carry out projects for poverty alleviation, family strengthening and alternative care and undertake lobby and advocacy activities on children's rights: Haiti, Colombia, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, India, Thailand, China, Philippines, and Indonesia.

To see what projects are carried out in these countries, see page 8 - 15 of the annual report 2013 (Annex V).

International Child Development Initiatives' strategic objectives can be found in ICDI Strategic Plan 2011-2015 on their website:

http://www.icdi.nl/publications/icdi_strategic_plan_policies/2014/strategic_plan_icdi_2011_2015_summary/

On the 1st of January 2014 ICDI was active in 10 countries; see the link on the website

http://www.icdi.nl/projects_and_research/current_projects

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Wereldkinderen's lobby and advocacy activities have as their key focus to keep children in their own family, by changing mind-sets, attitudes and -also very important- opportunities of people and fighting for better regulations and support structures of governments and local organizations.

For more info, please See the Case Studies which are part of this proposal and the annual reports 2011 (*page 21*), 2012 (*page 27*) and 2013 (*page 9: support to partner organisations, and page 12: linking and learning and page 15: implementation of The Hague Convention in Ethiopia, Birth registration in South-Africa, Alternative Care in South Africa and deinstitutionalisation in Kenya, South-Africa and Ethiopia*).

Wereldkinderen has a long history of lobby and advocacy, both in The Netherlands and in the international arena. They have gained a wealth of knowledge on intercountry adoption and know how the pro-adoption lobby works. The organisation knows has a proven trackrecord in setting up child protection systems to prevent separation of children from their parents and the organization learns from and with their partners how this works in reality. Wereldkinderen was instrumental in the decline of adoptions from Latin America and Asia and in developing safeguards towards child rights based adoption and best interest determination, and can use this wealth of experience to build the capacity of organisations in other regions. Lobby and Advocacy are at the heart of the work of Wereldkinderen. In The Netherlands to ensure that our country and all colleague organisations work in accordance with the Hague Convention standards and in the cooperation with the Ministry of Safety and Justice to ensure that Dutch legislation and the recruitment, preparation and support of adoptees and adopters is of good quality and really serves the best interest of the children that come to our country. Wereldkinderen was a key actor behind the development of the quality Framework for IA in

The Netherlands and has a strong link with the adoption department in the Ministry. They and the Council for Child Protection seek advice from Wereldkinderen and Wereldkinderen is always invited in thematic conferences and working groups for policy change and evaluation of legislation. When relevant government partners from abroad visit the Netherlands we meet with Mr van Aniel and his colleagues from the Ministry and advice who they should meet. At the same time we lobby Parliament to bring issues at the table there and influence policymaking. Wereldkinderen promotes change through direct beneficiaries and is always in dialogue and cooperation with the organisations for adoptees and adoptive parents.

In lobby and advocacy work all staff of the organisation are involved. It is part and parcel of the department that facilitates the adoption process in the way they cooperate with local partners, national governments and Dutch Embassies and in the importance laid on investigating reports of proposed adoptable children and the measures taken to prevent separation of children from their parents. Wereldkinderen is supported by a large network of volunteers in The Netherlands (135 in January 2014) linked to projects at grassroots level in countries

Wereldkinderen works. Together with the African Child Policy Forum Wereldkinderen lobbied for the ratification of the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption (HCAI 1993) and worked on African Guidelines for Intercountry Adoption who in 2013 were handed over to African Union and the African Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. They were also disseminated and promoted among countries and organisations in Europe. (see also under case-studies where this process is described in more detail.)

In 2014 a plan is developed for capacity building of local partners and central authorities for the implementation of these conventions and guidelines, among other with Professor Julia Sloth Nielson², Professor at the University of Western Cape and Special Professor at the Child Rights Department of the University of Leiden. She is 2nd Vice-President of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (period 2011 - 2016).

Through participation in **Euradopt**, the network of adoption license holders in Europe, Wereldkinderen is also active in lobby and advocacy for quality systems with respect to intercountry adoption and compliance with The Hague Convention regulations in all countries partners in Euradopt work.

The partner organisations within Euradopt can be found at <http://portal.euradopt.org/> Wereldkinderen leads the organisation of the Biennial Euradopt Conference to be held in 2016 in The Netherlands. Agreed theme for this conference is: "The Future of Intercountry Adoption in a changing society". Here we will demonstrate our unique inclusive way of working, inviting all actors, including adoptees, adoptive parents and biological parents (also from the global South) to participate in the discussions about the future of intercountry adoption

In lobby and advocacy work all staff of the organisation are involved. It is part and parcel of the department that facilitates the adoption process in the way they cooperate with local partners, national governments and Dutch Embassies and in the importance laid on investigating reports of proposed adoptable children and the measures taken to prevent separation of children from their parents. Wereldkinderen is supported by a large network of

² <http://acerwc.org/about-the-committee/experts/>

volunteers in The Netherlands (135 in January 2014) linked to projects at grassroots level in countries Wereldkinderen works.

International Child Development Initiatives

Lobby and advocacy is always part of the work ICDI and its partners in the South are doing. This ranges from public awareness raising campaigns on certain child rights issues to active lobby with local or national authorities. ICDI specific role in this is usually to advice partner organizations on content of their lobby and advocacy work and/or to provide research data which can be used to feed into the lobby and advocacy efforts. ICDI also itself sometimes directly works with government institutions in countries to advice on legislation and policies .

Links to the annual reports 2012 and 2013

http://www.icdi.nl/publications/year_reports/2012

http://www.icdi.nl/publications/year_reports/2013

Annual report 2011 can be found in Annex

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Wereldkinderen and ICDI are the main applicants, but in fact represent a larger network of organisations³ who have all been involved in development of this proposal and who will play active roles in the envisaged lobby and advocacy activities. With them Memoranda of Understanding will be signed.

These organizations are:

- **The Institute of Social Studies (ISS)**, an international University based in The Hague, which organised an international forum of experts in intercountry adoption and surrogacy in August 2014 (see http://www.iss.nl/news_events/upcoming_events/events_detail/article/65057-iss-hosts-international-forum-on-intercountry-adoption-and-global-surrogacy/). Their alumni network consists of high level researchers and policy makers all over the world who exchange information and on whom they can rely for scientific input in the debate. The alumni, child rights in development experts, can also be relied on to build capacity on lobby and advocacy in the countries where they work.
- **United Adoptees International**, the Dutch organisation of adult adoptees who are active both nationally and in countries of origin to lobby for the rights of children to be cared for by their parents, for knowing their roots (tracking and tracing), for single women's rights to keep their children, and fight against fraud and coercion. UAI provides capacity building to authorities and for local partners in lobby and advocacy.

³ For various reasons these organizations were not eligible as co-applicants.

- **Kenya Society of Care leavers**, a Kenyan based grass roots organisation registered in 2009 consisting of over 250 young people who grew up in institutions. They lobby and advocate for the rights of children to stay in their families and for de-institutionalisation and reintegration of children back into families and communities. They provide skills training and capacity building to their members and to children who still reside in the care institutions. They are active members of several government and NGO working groups and networks in Kenya.
- **International Social Services in Geneva**: This is the international knowledge, lobby and advocacy group for the debate about alternative care, adoption, cross border child protection and surrogacy in the world. Together with Save the Children International and SOS Children's Villages they are convenors of the NGO Working Group on Alternative Care for Children connected to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. This working group wrote the Guidelines for the Alternative Care for Children (UNGA 2009), and at present develop international tracking tools.

Other parties in our network who are supporting this proposal and whose exact roles will be defined:

- **The Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH)**. This is the international body for drafting the Hague conventions on Cooperation in Adoption (1993), and in Child Protection (1996) and supports their implementation.
- **University of Leiden**. The department of adoption and the department of child rights.

Wereldkinderen is an active member of the steering committee of the **Better Care Network**, the network of Dutch organizations that lobbies and advocates for the international guidelines for the alternative care of children. See www.bettercarenetwork.nl for activities co-organised by Wereldkinderen. In the past years Wereldkinderen was chairing the working group on adoption composed of UAI, Council for Child Protection, NIDOS and University of Leiden.

Wereldkinderen is member of the **Dutch CABA working group**, meant for the exchange of knowledge and experiences on HIV/ AIDS related issues, but also meant to work on joint lobby initiatives both nationally and internationally.

Wereldkinderen cooperates with other actors in promoting good parenting through the **Parenting Africa Network**. Partners of Wereldkinderen, OSSA, OPRIFS (Ethiopia), Give a Child a Family, SA Cares (South Africa) and Childline Kenya are also members of this network.

Wereldkinderen and ICDI are both members of Partos in the Netherlands.

Wereldkinderen is founder of **Euradopt**, a network of license holders in adoption who strive for implementation of the principles of The Hague Convention in their own work and in the countries they cooperate with. Wereldkinderen leads on the organisation of the biannual conference in 2016 with the theme: "The future of Adoption", which will be aligned with activities of our alliance.

Wereldkinderen maintains strong links with the **Ministry of Justice, Safety and Security** and the **Dutch Embassies** in the countries where they work.

ICDI is a leading member of **Eurochild**, based in Brussels, Belgium. Its mission is to promote the welfare and rights of children and young people in Europe through building a network of active organisations and individuals to improve the quality of life of children and young people.

Eurochild's activities include:

- Sharing information on policy and practice;
- Monitoring and influencing policy development at national and European level;
- Creating interest groups and partnerships between member organizations;
- Representing the interests of its members to international institutions;
- Strengthening the capacity of its members through training, individual advice and support.

ICDI is also a member of **DCDD: the Dutch Coalition on Disability and Development**. DCDD's final goal is to achieve access and effective participation in society for persons with disabilities in the Global South on an equal basis with others. More specifically, DCDD aims to achieve involvement of persons with disabilities in policy-making and equal access of persons with disabilities in programmes of Dutch development cooperation.

ICDI is member of the **Child Rights Information Network (CRIN)**. This is a global research, policy and advocacy organisation.

ICDI is also founding member of the **Child and Youth Research Network**. The Network's mission is to promote, internationally, the inter-disciplinary study of children and young people in order to further awareness and understanding of issues that affect their well being.

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Annual total income	2011	2012	2013	2014 expected
Wereldkinderen				
Own Income	3.143.815	2.870.808	2.766.651	2.906.000
Funding Foreign Affairs	200.185	841.192	889.349	698.127
Percentage not of Ministry of Foreign Affairs	93,9%	77,4%	75,7%	76%
International Child Development Initiatives				
Own income	388.220	517.375	547.622	783.500
Funding Foreign Affairs	1.015.784	879.812	866.193	780.000
Percentage not	28%	37%	39%	50%

Ministry of Foreign Affairs				
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Total percentage not BZ is clearly above the required 25% for the alliance as a whole, and for each partner separately also.

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The Management of Wereldkinderen

Name, function	Annual salary	Additional income/ bonuses	Hours per week according to contract
Board	None		n.a.
Inge Prenger, Director	€ 77.196 (including holiday allowance)	None	36

Nr of staff in the organisation: 12, 9 fte (in total 16 staff members, August 2014)

Nr staff per department: 4 (programmes), 7, 9 (adoption), 1 management.

On top of this Wereldkinderen has 5 paid contact persons in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Thailand, Colombia and China (see page 7 of the annual report 2013).

Annual total income of all staff in 2013: € 962.000

Explanation to reason the complexity and strategic positioning of the organisation what justifies the heights of the salaries:

Wereldkinderen is license holder for intercountry adoption and programme management and works in a complex international context. All staff has at least BA degree or Masters. Because the financial management is complicated also administrative staff members connected to both departments have higher financial education. Salaries follow the CAO Welzijn and include social security and participation in pension fund PFZW.

The Management of International Child Development Initiatives

Name, function	Annual salary	Additional income/ bonuses	Hours per week according to contract
Board	None		n.a.
Mathijs Euwema, Director	€ 65.163,-(incl holiday allowance)	None	40

Nr of staff in the organisation: 10 (August 2014)

Nr staff per department: N.A.

Annual total income of all staff in 2013: € 340.068 (this excludes pensions and social security).

Explanation to reason the complexity and strategic positioning of the organisation what justifies the heights of the salaries:

ICDI is a mixture of an expertise/research institute and an NGO, operating in the often complicated international context. All its staff members are experts in different areas of child development and have a PhD or at least a master's degree. Salaries are loosely based on the salary-house used by universities in The Netherlands.

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Wereldkinderen has ISO - 9001 and received the Partos 9001 certification August 5, 2014. See annex V 1.8

International Child Development Initiatives has recently passed the O-toets in the scope of the Kindhuwelijkenfonds 2014.

III. PARTNER SELECTION CRITERIA

3.1 TRACK RECORD

3.1.1. CASES

Case study I: “Lobby and advocacy for regulating inter country adoption in Africa with a particular focus on Ethiopia”; Wereldkinderen and partners, 2012 - 2015.

It is estimated that there are over 53 million orphaned children in Africa⁴. There is a growing concern among governments, human and child rights advocates that Inter Country Adoption (ICA) poses serious risks and challenges. Although some children clearly benefit from it, experiences from many countries show that ICA is marred with structural problems, and elicits illegal activities and often promotes institutionalisation of children. There is also a great concern over psychosocial and other challenges children face due to the cultural disconnect they are exposed to. Studies over the last ten years⁵ show that Africa has become one of the key regions where Western parents go to adopt children. Despite a worldwide decline of inter country adoptions, the adoption from Africa has tripled. Yet only 14 African countries have ratified the Hague Convention on Inter Country Adoption. The African Child Policy Forum (ACPF) describes adoption as “modern-day imperialism, allowing dominant, developed cultures to strip away a developing country’s most precious resources, its children”⁶.

Wereldkinderen cooperates with ACPF in the scope of the Together4Change Alliance, with a particular focus on Inter Country Adoption (ICA), developing gatekeeping and appropriate child protection measures to ensure that adoptions from Africa are fully in line with The Hague Convention, and in particular that they are in line with the subsidiarity principle. Lobby and advocacy is directed towards the ratification and implementation of this convention across Africa, with a specific focus on Ethiopia, a country that is confronted with the largest group of pro-adoption lobbyists, with incidences of fraud and coercion causing many children to be separated from their families and taken away from their country unnecessarily. Local partner organizations of Wereldkinderen in Ethiopia complement lobby & advocacy on ICA with activities to prevent separation of children from their families, arranging birth certificates, preventing child marriages and developing child protection services together with the national and local government.

A study carried out by ACPF⁷ and Wereldkinderen showed that in many cases of ICA from African countries, the ethics as laid down in the *Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Inter Country Adoption* (“Hague

⁴ From the website of African Child Policy Forum, August 17, 2014

⁵ Report African Child Policy Forum “Africa, The New Frontier for Inter-country Adoption” 2012

Adoption Convention”) are not respected. Illegal and irregular activities, including child trafficking, child abduction, buying and selling, improper financial gain and corruption, private adoption, falsification of documents and circumventing adoption procedures, are observed as common practices in contradiction to the child’s best interest. This analysis was done through desk studies and collaborations with international research institutes like the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague (ISS) and interviews with a range of stakeholders and central authorities worldwide (a.o. from USA, France and Netherlands), African central authorities and multilateral agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA etc.).

Following this analysis Wereldkinderen worked out a lobby & advocacy strategy to get this issue on the African development agenda, to ensure that ICA practices are regulated and to counter-act the enormous pressure on African countries from waiting Western parents to “provide” them with African children for adoption⁸. Wereldkinderen and ACPF started lobbying with governments of African countries to harmonise national laws on inter country adoption with international and regional standards; to establish comprehensive child protection systems; and to create credible data-gathering and analysis systems to ensure evidence based policies and decision-making on needs and appropriate responses in the sphere of alternative care.

The strategy focuses on awareness raising and cooperation at Pan African level while at the same time project partners of Wereldkinderen at grassroots’ level raise awareness at community and country level in Ethiopia. These partners carry out projects to prevent separation from parents and thus put barriers to influx of children in residential child care institutions who often end up in ICA. They also actively lobby with local and country level policymakers.

Wereldkinderen and ACPF organized the Fifth International Policy Conference (a biennial Conference which acts as platform for policy dialogue), from 29 -30 May 2012 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and dedicated it to the theme of ICA. The title of the Conference was “Inter Country Adoption - Alternatives and Controversies”. The conference brought together experts and policy makers from all over Africa and some key international stakeholders to look into the various issues and the implications of ICA in Africa. Conference outputs included the Addis Ababa Communiqué on Inter Country Adoption in Africa; Guidelines for action on Inter Country Adoption of Children in Africa⁹; publications like “Africa: The New Frontier for Inter Country Adoption¹⁰”, “Inter Country Adoption: An African Perspective¹¹”, and a documentary titled “An Uncertain Journey”.

⁸ <http://www.gnn.com/2012/05/29/world/africa/africa-child-adoption/index.html>

⁹

http://www.africanchildinfo.net/index.php?option=com_sobi2&sobi2Task=sobi2Details&catid=3&sobi2Id=1261&Itemid=135&lang=en#.UG3YF7CRoA

¹⁰

http://www.africanchildinfo.net/index.php?option=com_sobi2&sobi2Task=sobi2Details&catid=4&sobi2Id=1127&Itemid=135&lang=en#.UG3wF7CRoA

¹¹

http://www.africanchildinfo.net/index.php?option=com_sobi2&sobi2Task=sobi2Details&catid=4&sobi2Id=1133&Itemid=135&lang=en#.UG3_F7CRoA

The Conference deliberations emphasised that absolute priority should be given to enabling all children in Africa to remain with their families and in their communities; that ICA should be guided by the best interests of the child, applied only when an alternative family environment cannot be found in the home country, and, that it should be in line with the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, and other international legal principles and standards. The Guidelines for Action on ICA of Children in Africa, developed by Wereldkinderen and ACPF, are a useful tool for this and were presented to the African Committee of Experts for the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

Wereldkinderen disseminates the Guidelines for Action on Inter Country Adoption of Children in Africa and worldwide among all their relevant contacts and networks¹². In Ethiopia we work directly with the government towards ratification of the Hague Convention. Wereldkinderen speaks with international actors like UNICEF, ISS Geneva and the NGO Group on the Rights of the Child and The Hague Conference on International Private Law and thus brings ICA and the need for family strengthening to the international table (see annex V about the event to be organised in September 2014 in Geneva as side event of the Human Rights Council).

To support the process of working towards ratification of the Convention by more countries in Africa, Wereldkinderen is organising training for Central Authorities (government bodies) from 10 English speaking African countries, planned early 2015, in cooperation with Professor Julia Sloth Nielson from the University of the Western Cape South Africa and Associate Professor of Law at the University of Leiden, Department Children's Rights. Professor Sloth-Nielsen is vice president of the African Committee of Experts of the Rights and Welfare of Children. Wereldkinderen furthermore cooperates with a network of African and international organisations to organise a regional conference for Southern and Eastern African countries on Child Protection Systems to prevent separation (see concept note for this conference in annex).

For the lobby and advocacy at grassroots and local government level, Wereldkinderen trained **CEO's and Directors of these organizations in effective lobby**, in country but also in NL: in December 2013 staff of OPRIFS and OSSA came over to The Netherlands for training in new lobby and advocacy methods.

Wereldkinderen co-organized (and continues to do so) conferences and Linking & Learning Workshops (L&L) with regards to Alternative Care (like in 2013 in Ethiopia and in South Africa) and Parenting Events (15th May in The Hague) where Ethiopian partner HIWOT presented their project on involving fathers in keeping families together. Wereldkinderen organised coverage of this event in the Vice Versa magazine to disseminate outcomes(see information on our website in link¹³).

The **main result** so far of our lobby & advocacy activities is that the topic of ICA is indeed on the political agenda in Africa, as was the main aim of our strategy. The Guidelines are

¹²

¹³ http://www.wereldkinderen.nl/pageid=94/articleid=1259/Seminar_Ouderschap_als_motor_van_armoedebestrijding.html

endorsed by the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (see letter on our website in the link¹⁴). This influential committee now urges governments of African countries to take measures to stand up against the pro-ICA lobby from abroad and to give absolute priority to enabling all children in Africa to remain with their families and in their communities. This should lead to harmonising national legislation with the ACRWC and UNCRC and putting in place comprehensive child protection systems. This is a long process and will involve much more lobby and advocacy and investment in developing alternatives to the easy option of putting children up for adoption abroad in the coming years.

Wereldkinderen, as small NGO, cannot do this alone and thus links up with big international organizations like UNICEF, Save the Children and African Networks like Pan Africa Network, Parenting Africa, and ACPF. The approach is to cooperate with the large organisations and at the same time build capacity of grassroots organisations in Africa like HIWOTT, OSSA and OPRIFS in Ethiopia, Childline Kenya and Give a Child a Family (GCF) in South Africa, to ensure that they can play a role in the (inter)national discussions. This also poses challenges on these organisations. Small organisations can act and adjust quickly while the big international ones often delay the process because of their hierarchic decision-making processes. Despite the frustrations that this sometimes causes, Wereldkinderen has learned to work with this and continues to assist partners to stay motivated.

Despite all these efforts, the pro-adoption lobby, in particular from the USA, remains strong. Ethiopia has still not ratified the Hague Convention and technical legal assistance from The Hague Conference can only be given on request of members states and Ethiopia is still not a member. Wereldkinderen discusses these issues with The Hague Conference staff and supports where possible in capacity building of the responsible Ministry. Wereldkinderen invited Hassane Mohamed, from the Child Promotion and Protection Directorate of the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs to participate in the International Forum organised by the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague¹⁵ in August 2014 for learning purposes, but also for a direct meeting with The Hague Conference staff. The International Forum specifically addressed the roles and responsibilities of agencies and governments and discussed ways to fight fraud and coercion. At the same time new developments and trends, like commercial surrogacy, an upcoming phenomenon in Africa, were discussed and contacts made with colleagues from other countries, like Uganda, that reported that, while the numbers of ICA in Ethiopia slowly decline, the numbers in Uganda go up. A lot of work remains to be done.

Over the years Wereldkinderen learned that the only way to get the message across is to practise what we preach. Having guidelines endorsed at the highest policy level, the African Committee of Experts, is no guarantee for local implementation. This is why we also work through local NGOs at grass root level and in close cooperation with the national, regional and

¹⁴

http://www.wereldkinderen.nl/pageid=94/articleid=1183/Guidelines_for_Action_on_Intercountry_Adoption_in_Africa_online.html

¹⁵ http://www.iss.nl/news_events/past_events/past_events_detail/article/65057-iss-hosts-international-forum-on-intercountry-adoption-and-global-surrogacy/

local government. Wereldkinderen's Dutch staff supports lobby & advocacy efforts of partners where and when needed and always listens to and makes use of local expertise

Wereldkinderen is flexible and adopts its focus and approach as circumstances require (without losing sight of its mission of course). For example: based on findings of our partner organization HIWOT in Ethiopia we got involved in the fight against child marriages. By using peer-to-peer learning approaches we managed to make some villages in the Amhara region totally child marriage free. When extra funding became available, we could quickly scale up these activities. Although new in the field of child marriages, when partners convince us of the need to combat such issue in line with our strategic objectives, Wereldkinderen is willing and able to invest in this.

Wereldkinderen maintains close relations with the Embassies in order to ensure that adoptions to The Netherlands are in line with international standards, and for learning and linking, supports the networking efforts of the Embassy to bring together CSOs in Ethiopia; we ensure that relevant partners take part in this and maintain contacts with Dutch organizations like Plan and ICDI to learn from their experiences and adjust and align our projects.

Believing that learning must go both ways we often invite partners to come over to The Netherlands to share their experiences, disseminate findings and inform Dutch organisations.

Wereldkinderen has clear guidelines for the selection of their partners. They must subscribe to the standards, code of conduct and ethics of the organisation and their strategic principles. New projects are always based on clear project proposals with agreed deliverables and logframes and financial management according to GAAP¹⁶ principles.

All partners need to abide to the PME system agreed with them. When we start cooperation we jointly formulate the goals, indicators and outcomes and how to manage risks and challenges. Short communication lines are created and regular contact via email and monitoring visits ensures that we can adjust the programme and planning according to needs and problems encountered.

The programmes of Wereldkinderen typically focus on poor and vulnerable children and their families. Empowerment of women and girls is part and parcel of all projects as they are key in transforming the situation of families. But Wereldkinderen also has specific peer-to-peer learning programmes for fathers, which lead to non-violent childrearing practices, fathers allowing girls to study (and not marry them out), etc. This goes hand-in-hand with setting up mother-to-mother support groups and other initiatives to emancipate women, such as incoming generating activities, vocational skills training activities and improving access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights services.

In the Together4Change alliance Wereldkinderen programmes were externally evaluated in 2013 and recommendations followed up¹⁷. The report concludes that the Wereldkinderen programme is on schedule and that it's programmes will lead to lasting impact and sustainable improvements in the lives of vulnerable children. The recommendations of the evaluation were to publish more about the impact on micro level, to create change on macro

¹⁶ Generally Agreed Accountancy Principles

¹⁷ The report of the evaluation is in possession of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

level (for instance by showcasing one case of child abuse as “not done” in order to engage discussion and set norms around violence against children) (see page 12 annual report 2013). The full report of the evaluation is with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Wereldkinderen is following up on the recommendations.¹⁸

Wereldkinderen scored High (4th) in the Transparency Study of Partos carried out in 2012 by International Research Institute Keystone among 46 European Organisations, of which 17 in The Netherlands. It showed that partners valued the respectful approach of Wereldkinderen and that cooperation really had added value, especially in the area of lobby & advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation of projects. This study also indicated that partners hoped to gain more media attention for their work and to find additional ways of funding. Wereldkinderen accepted this challenge and therefore will participate in the Partos follow-up study in 2014. (see annual report 2013 page 12¹⁹) This will also contribute to the sustainability of the partners and the work they carry out, also when the Together4Change project term ends.

Casestudy II : Preventing early marriages in Punjab, Pakistan; ICDI with local partner organization Bedari, 2010-2015

Early marriages is a common practice in Pakistan and in the Punjab region (the prevalence is reported between 24% to 50%²⁰). The causes are multi-fold and include: extremely weak legislation; lack of implementation of the existing laws; children are treated commodities/slaves; tribal and feudal structure of society; lack of awareness in the public about harmful effect of child marriages; extreme poverty; internal trafficking; and lack of will in the government. Another important cause of child marriage is the ineffective and non-responsive birth registration system. The birth registration for children, especially girls is never prioritized, which gives room for manipulation of the age of the child/girl at the time of marriage. In addition, there are no central, independent and strong child rights bodies that could monitor child rights violations including the issue of child marriages. An analysis of child marriages and its causes was done by ICDI and its partner organization Bedari through desk research, talks with local stakeholders (Focus Group Discussions, interviews) and via observations.

Realizing that the existing national law on child marriages is not enacted, and knowing that legislative powers in Pakistan have been turned over to the provincial authorities, and with a deep knowledge about how traditions are maintained at the local level, we set out on a multi-faceted approach, which elements included:

-Advocacy and sensitization in villages with parents, community leaders, teachers, girls themselves, and so forth, to create attitudinal shifts;

-Conditional cash transfer programmes to keep girls in school;

-Advocacy and community mobilization to create “bottom-up” pressure towards the local and provincial authorities;

¹⁸ See for example <http://www.wereldkinderen.nl/websites/implementatie/mediadepot/923a5e33748.pdf>

¹⁹ http://www.wereldkinderen.nl/pageid=94/articleid=1304/Jaarverslag_2013_online.html

²⁰ See, for example, <http://www.isj.org.pk/child-marriages-in-pakistan/>.

- Awareness raising campaigns via community theatre and the media;
- Creation of a provincial network of NGOs to lobby with the authorities (*Alliance Against Child Marriages* (AACM));
- Active involvement of this network in drafting new provincial legislation to counteract child marriages.

Although still a work in progress, the results so far are already pretty impressive²¹:

- Enormous reduction in early marriages in the villages where the programme is implemented.
- Prohibition of Child Marriages Bill soon expected to be approved by the provincial legislature.

Lobbying and advocacy are integral part of the activities ICDI and its local partners implement. This makes sense, as our mission is to change the underlying causes of children's problems in a holistic manner. The example from Pakistan highlights how this works in practice:

ICDI and partner organizations together identify a problem and the causes. We together devise a strategy to counteract the problem. This strategy will usually consist of: action research, capacity building to improve services, and lobby & advocacy. For the lobby & advocacy part ICDI's specific role is then usually to advise the local partner on the best sub-strategies, developing content of materials, and by providing evidence based information on a topic, which can be used to convince stakeholders. The local partner is usually responsible for the translation of all this on the ground, through activities like: advocacy campaigns, community sensitization, involving local media, direct lobby with authorities, and so forth. ICDI's programme managers are disposed to give the local partners the support they need. Skills in lobby & advocacy are part and parcel of the tasks of ICDI programme managers and are deployed in almost every project.

ICDI's lobby & advocacy efforts takes places in the countries we work in, not (or if when, then to a very limited extent) in The Netherlands. As described above this means that our partner organizations do most of the work in lobby & advocacy, whilst we play a support and advisory role (and the level of support and advice we give to partners is always catered to their exact needs; this ranges from training to more on the job support). Although this of course differs a bit per partner and per country, ICDI partners usually have excellent relations from grassroots to the highest political levels. This enables them to engage relevant stakeholders in their lobby & advocacy work. It also means that they are usually asked by others (government, NGOs) to take part in consultations and negotiations on relevant issues. In Pakistan, for example, ICDI's partner Bedari is not only founder of the Punjabi network against child

²¹ An independent mid-term evaluation of the Girl Power Programme took place in 2013 by Avance/Transition International. This report is in the possession of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

marriages, but also active member of the national network that lobbies with the Pakistani government.

Since lobby & advocacy are integral part of the project²² ICDI and its partner Bedari implement in Pakistan, results of these efforts are closely monitored through the existing PME system. This means: every year expected results, outcomes and outputs are formulated and if needed adjusted. There is a clear logframe for the project, which includes the lobby & advocacy targets. Every quarter the partner needs to report to ICDI on how far things are on track. ICDI further monitors progress via visits and regular Skype and email contact. In this particular example we have not needed to make many adjustments, as the approach as described in the beginning of this case study, has worked very well so far. In general, the main lessons ICDI has learned, through stringent evaluations, is that lobby & advocacy will have the most impact if it's done as part of a larger holistic effort (as said earlier, combines the elements of research, capacity building to improve services/conditions and lobby & advocacy from grassroots to government level). This lesson we try to apply in the design of all our projects.

As should be clear from the above, ICDI projects, including the lobby & advocacy aspects, are almost always jointly designed with local partners. In essence, local partners take the lead in identifying the issues and developing interventions, with ICDI playing a supportive and advisory role (there are exceptions whereby the initiative comes more from ICDI, but then the development and implementation of a project is still a joint process). The Pakistan example described here again showcases this: the problem was identified by the local partner, and then jointly we developed what we thought would be the best approach. Transparency and accountability are high on ICDI's agenda, and we have policies in place which our local partners always have to sign on to (and we actively monitor if they comply with these²³).

The Girl Power Programme in Pakistan focusses on improving the rights and opportunities of adolescent girls and young women. This is done in many ways, such as improving access and continuation of education for girls, improving their work skills, training them in life skills and SRHR, and, as described in this specific example, preventing that they end up being married off early. In 2013 an independent Mid Term Evaluation took place of the Girl Power Programme and it was found that good results have been achieved in:

- Reducing violence against girls and women (including reducing the number of child marriages);
- Increasing the social-political participation of girls and young women;
- Increasing social acceptance and support for participation of girls and women in education.

²² In this case the MFS II funded Girl Power Programme.

²³ Examples of ICDI's policies, such as our complaints procedures, can be found here: http://www.icdi.nl/about_us/2

The evaluation report also explicitly states that results are likely to be sustainably embedded because of the direct capacity building and attitude changing work that is being done with target groups (at the individual, community and institutional/political level)²⁴.

Casestudy III:

United Adoptees International

- **Goal:** Establish constructive relationship with Central Authorities (CA) in India to persuade them to take interest of (returning) adoptees and their provide them the possibilities to execute their rights of having access to their 'birth family' information with the ultimate possibility to reunite with their family.
- **Country:** India, The Netherlands
- **Period:** 2012-2014
- **Outcome:** This process is still in progress and UAI is trying to tackle the beliefs of the Indian CA that the need and urgency of creating ways to facilitate Birth Family Search (BFS) should be paramount, and to develop and train adoption agencies employees and boards in India to make them understand the need for adoptees to have access to India and their Indian families.

United Adoptees International (UAI) is one of European leading organizations for and by adult adoptees in field of ICA which has the BFS issue prominent on their agenda. It's well known for their advocacy to get those BFS problems on the political agenda as a shared understanding of one of the many priorities for many ICA adoptees.

The Ministry of Security and Justice includes UAI to give comments on certain policy issues like the Kalsbeek Report²⁵ but also to comment on Indian issues like the famous Rahul case²⁶, a boy who was stolen from his Indian parents and sold into ICA and ended up in the Netherlands. In that regard, India as a sending ICA country has breached in many ways the Hague Adoption Convention and therefore adoptee organizations like UAI are a necessity to convince and lobby and advocacy on governance level like the Indian CA.

More and more governments accept the consultation of UAI and each year more and more agencies and government bodies seem to be open to be in touch with UAI. In that regard, UAI succeeds to establish sufficient contact with several governmental organizations.

In regards of the India CA, the Indian (South-Asia) representative of UAI is on top of the Indian case(s) and is still in a continuously correspondence to seek and challenge the current adoption developments and practices in India.

That UAI is still in contact with the Indian CA compared to other organizations which are denied access and not taken seriously, the effectiveness must be seen as a long term goal based on the fact that both parties are still accepting each other's findings in the meanwhile trying to find common ground to solve issues in both interests and possibilities.

²⁴ An independent mid-term evaluation of the Girl Power Programme took place in 2013 by Avance/Transition International. This report is in the possession of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

²⁵ <http://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten-en-publicaties/kamerstukken/2008/05/29/rapport-commissie-kalsbeek-over-interlandelijke-adoptie.html>

²⁶ <http://poundpuplegacy.org/node/30318>

In the beginning UAI started as an civil-action organization but soon developed itself as a small but strong NGO that offers expertise to adoptees and adoption related organizations.

In regard of the Indian case, it shows contentiously its flexibility to seek for common grounds to find solutions for long existing problems regarding ICA and BFS in India. With eye and understanding for its culture and seeking local contacts a means of local aid, it resulted in being invited and being a part of the program on the 3rd International Meet on Adoption February 2013 in Delhi²⁷. This marks its success to enter the political arena without being seen and approached as a unacceptable entity because of its political standpoints.

By continuously training and development of UAI staff, the representatives becoming stronger to become a solid part of the political and societal context and to maneuver as well in that area without losing its goal and essence of existence.

UAI is an registered foundation and therefore a legal body based in the Netherlands and works fully with volunteers. Financially its fully dependent on private donations. It has a daily board including a treasurer, committees and an a legal advisory board which assist in legal cases and issues involving governmental topics and governance issues.

In regard of the Indian situation, UAI shared its experiences and outcomes with different network partners nationally and internationally and its activities and outcomes are published annually on its website²⁸ UAI reports back to their supporters by email and newsletters and are continuously in touch with their partners worldwide.

UAI is continuously seeking for inclusiveness by attracting and seeking attention from adoptees and to share their experiences with their networks. Also UAI is cooperating with joint projects where (birth) parents are involved²⁹ or are seeking with organizations who are partly covering issues involving topics from the ICA area such as anti-racism/multicultural organizations³⁰ but also those organizations who are focusing on alternative family care and extended families³¹.

In India, UAI its trying to get attention for inclusiveness of issue of adoptees regarding involving the Persons of Indian Origin Visa (PIO) part of Tracing-the-Roots program which is issued by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. Even though this program is meant for all overseas from Indian origin, it does exempt adoptees from Indian origin to have access to this visa. UAI is trying to persuade the Indian government to include also adoptees from Indian origin to have access to this possibility to make it easier for them to travel back and forth to India as any other person from Indian origin.

All UAI activities in India or elsewhere are based on socio-ecological and social wellbeing of all involved. Due to the sensitive nature of UAI's work, the organization and its staff, its continuously looking for long term and sustainable approaches to enhance the possibilities to assist adoptees by their BFS in India and to reunite with families.

²⁷ <http://adoptionindia.nic.in/international-meet/main.html>

²⁸ www.uaifoundation.com

²⁹ <http://www.untitledmothers.org/>

³⁰ <http://www.stichtingmcnw.nl/>

³¹ http://www.bettercarenetwork.nl/pg-17382-7-21471/pagina/welkom_bij_better_care_network.html

Also it contributes to countries development and awareness, that adoption is not a single and incidental intervention but a life time involving process whereby nations and families all over the world are involved and where the separation of families does not always mean that adoption in itself does prevent the emotional and soma-psychological need to know and being in touch with ones kin.

UAI therefore sees ICA most of the time as an existential fracture in the kinship relationship between the families and adoptees in involved. There were we can prevent ICA for these reasons to keep sustainable systems intact, all nations and states should primarily focus on preventing ICA and seek interventions to prevent dissolution of lineage and kin.

United Adoptees International, is founded in 2006 and has since been active as lobby and advocacy organization representing interest for adult adoptees in the fields of social empowerment, human rights, and juridical development in the best interest of adoptees in the Netherlands and internationally.

UAI is the best known organization in the Netherlands and within Europe which is actively involved in issues involving adoptees, child and human rights and where these rights and interests of adoptees are endangered. In the Netherlands and within Europe it's the only organization which is active on cross-border issues and takes if necessary a political and societal stand in the best interest of adoptees.

UAI has been quoted many times in international media and publications are published in several foreign newspapers³² and articles have been spread around the world expressing our concerns about thematic themes involving adoptees interests. Also in national media UAI has been part of many controversial topics³³ regarding ICA and documentaries. Regularly UAI has been publishing articles in newspapers such as Trouw³⁴ or has been quoted³⁵ by other newspapers in the Netherlands or abroad³⁶.

Due to UAI's involvement adoption scandals appeared in the national and international news, governments have been addressed and institutes involved within ICA has been forced to take a stance against adoption as way of child trafficking or as a means to change their policy regarding ICA³⁷ influencing in the meanwhile academic research in this field³⁸.

UAI is covering all continents involved in ICA but are currently active in countries or involved in issues within; Belgium, Brazil, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, India, Italy, South-Korea, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, Vietnam etc.

³² http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2007/12/17/2007121761017.html ,

<http://www.slobodnadalmacija.hr/Spektar/tabid/94/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/89802/Default.aspx> ,

³³ <http://reporter.incontxt.nl/seizoenen/reporter-2007/afleveringen/21-10-2007>

³⁴ <http://www.trouw.nl/tr/nl/4324/Nieuws/article/detail/1372801/2007/03/06/adoptie-Afstand-doen-is-voor-altijd-opinie.dhtml>

³⁵ <http://www.volkskrant.nl/vk/nl/2686/Binnenland/article/detail/866177/2007/11/05/Isquo-Adoptiedossiers-kloppen-vaker-niet-dan-wel-rsquo.dhtml> ,

³⁶ <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/1572642/Diplomat-dumps-adopted-daughter.html>

³⁷ http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/Completed_inquiries/2010-13/comcontribformerforcedadoption/submissions

³⁸ <http://www.brandeis.edu/investigate/adoption/responses.html>

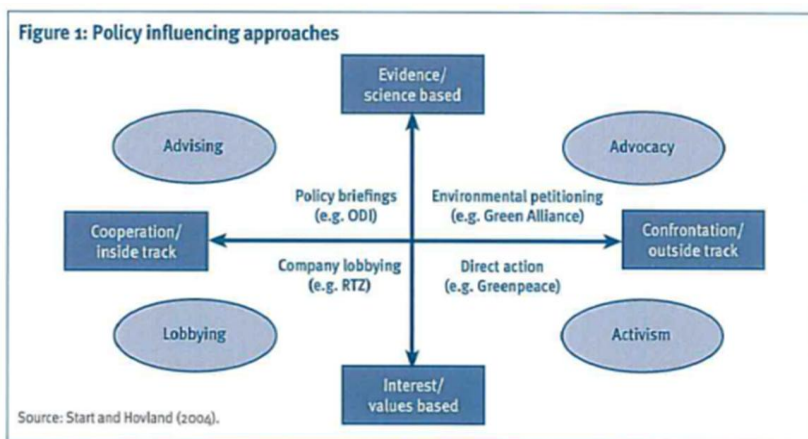
The focus right now is to establish more formal international networks to approach and to penetrate the Hague Convention and to support families, organisations in countries in the brink of delivering children for ICA.

Casestudy IV:

3.1.2. CONCLUSIONS

The above case studies all highlight in different ways the expertise and experience with lobby & advocacy of the alliance members. But why have we come together to jointly work on the goals as described in the Theory of Change (see 3.2.) is explained below.

Besides a shared vision on the issues we want to address, and complementary expertise, skills and resources, there is a more profound reason why we believe that our alliance (in combination with all the partners as mentioned in section D4) will be very effective in its lobby & advocacy efforts: each of the organizations involved contributes to certain parts of the so called ‘policy influencing approaches’ matrix.



Wereldkinderen is very strong in Lobbying at the international level, ICDI is very strong in Advising governments, KESCA and other local partner organizations are strong in Advocacy and Activism as well as Lobby at local and national level. UAI and KESCA’s strongest advocacy instrument is the fact that their own experiences in growing up as adoptees and children in care makes them very convincing and very activist; they are hard to ignore. Other local partners of Wereldkinderen and ICDI are real grassroots organisations who have excellent trackrecords in lobby & advocacy. In other words: our alliance is a force to be reckoned with!

3.1.2. GENERAL

Describe additionally in 500 words or less:

- The position of ‘lobbying and advocacy’ (in terms of staff and resources allocated) in the organisation’s/consortium’s total programme;

I don't know what we should write here exactly. For ICDI it could be something like this:

As described in the Case Study about Pakistan, lobby & advocacy usually is a component of ICDI projects, and is meant to support impact of a larger holistic effort to improve children's lives. Exact numbers in terms of allocation of time and human resources are difficult to give, since this differs per project and within projects in time. On average a fair estimate is that ICDI programme managers spend about 15% to 20% of their time on lobby & advocacy related activities. For the "I AM NOT FOR SALE" alliance we expect this to increase to 30%, as the main focus will be lobby & advocacy.

□ How the planning, monitoring and evaluation system (PME) of the organisation or consortium performed the monitoring, corrective action and measuring of the results of interventions in the area of 'lobbying and advocacy';

Opmerking [AY1]: I am wondering if we could not just refer to how the PME is described in the case studies?

3.1.3. REFERENCES

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3.2 THEORY OF CHANGE

3.2.1. AIMS OF THE ALLIANCE

Our alliance has two main goals:

Inter Country Adoption (ICA)

We want to ensure that **Inter Country Adoption (ICA)** is only used as a real last resort for children without parental and alternative family based care. This to ensure that ICA becomes part of well regulated national child protection systems. We want all stakeholders and governing bodies to know about, be supportive of and to implement safeguards and strong child protection policies to prevent unnecessary adoptions to foreign countries.

Artificial Reproductive Technology & Surrogacy (ARTS)

Secondly, we strive to put (commercial) **ARTS** on the international political agenda by creating awareness about the (rapid!) developments and dangers of the so called Reproductive Industrial Complex (RIC) and the consequences for all involved. The alliance sees an explicit need for lobby & advocacy, raising awareness, sharing information, and training at all levels. Child and women rights should be at the center of the discourse, which is currently dominated by biogenetics and (Western) parents who wish to create and form families.

Discussions on and steps to be taken with regards to the issues of international adoption and surrogacy should not stay within a small group of customer oriented-and depended experts, but need to become part of the international development agenda, with a strong focus on children and women's rights. There is a need for open and extensive national and international ethical debates to set course to the future of Inter Country Adoption and new reproductive practices. Child Rights, Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights of women, (International) Labour Laws, Trade Agreements, and many other aspects which play a role in ending poverty are all extremely relevant in relation to ICA and ARTS. The lobby & advocacy aims of our alliance therefore directly link to and are in line with the aims of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs' "Dialogue and Dissent" framework.

3.2.2. ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION

Inter Country Adoption (ICA)

ICA of children should be seen (by governments and all other stakeholders) as a 'last resort'. The Subsidiarity Principle, as laid down in the Hague Adoption Convention³⁹, stipulates that

³⁹ The Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (Hague Adoption Convention) protects children and their families against the risks of illegal, irregular, premature or ill-prepared adoptions abroad. [Text of Convention](#)

only if children really cannot be placed in foster or adoptive families within the country itself, Inter Country Adoption should be considered.

The number of International adoptions has declined in the last decade⁴⁰, also under the influence of the Hague Convention. Despite this positive trend, there are -growing- concerns.

In several countries, and in particular in Africa⁴¹ where the numbers of ICA have tripled in the last decade, there are still increasing, numbers of children put up for international adoption for whom this should not happen. Because other options like kinship- or foster care or domestic (in-country) adoption have not been considered, or are not yet sufficiently developed. Safeguards to prevent separation of children from their families are inadequate or not implemented.

Worrisome is that local structures, laws, policies and practices are unable to withstand the pressure from pro-adoption movements and lobbyists, like adoption agencies, evangelical organizations backed up by law firms and other NGO's. This creates and maintains an infrastructure to relinquish children to demanding prospective parents in the Global North from poor and unprotected parents from the Global South. The well-known cases, like the one of popsinger Madonna, who adopted a kid from Malawi⁴², are just the tip of the iceberg.

International Artificial Reproductive Technology & Surrogacy (ARTS)

A growing group of infertile Western couples, combined with an also growing, new group of single adults and same sex couples, turn to medical interventions and outsourced gestational carriers (usually meaning poor, young women!) to produce babies for them. This leads to increasing numbers of so called International Surrogacy Arrangements (ISA).

Most countries in the Global North, including The Netherlands, have created clear guidelines for biogenetic reproduction based on ethical norms, social values and legislation. Comparable systems are lacking in many countries in the Global South, what has led to so called "surrogacy tourism" and the "production" of children in clinics using (poor) women. Children have become commodities in a trade relation between rich consumers from the Western world and poor families from socially and economically underdeveloped areas. Even in BRIC countries like India, societies facilitate and legitimize this exploitative labor and a medical multi-billion dollar industry has blossomed. In India alone there are about 3000 fertility clinics officially registered (and another estimated 30.000 not registered!). Often very shady intermediary agencies make arrangements for Western parents. Reported "labor" conditions

40 For figures see for example P. Selman (2012), *Key Tables for Inter-country Adoption: Receiving States 2001-2011 and States of Origin 2003-2011*, available upon request from the author (pfselman@yahoo.co.uk).

⁴¹ Inter-country adoption: an African perspective http://www.orin.org/docs/English%20Version%20Inter-country_Adoption_-_An_African_Perspective_-_EN.pdf

⁴² <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/6054492.stm>

(such as overstimulation to produce eggs, forced caesarians, no aftercare) are creating many health risks for the women involved⁴³.

Child rights and women rights are breached; there is clearly an urgent need for lobby, advocacy and awareness on these practices, and policy and practice measures need to be taken. Well-known international scandals, such as the recent Gammy case in Thailand⁴⁴, where a child produced for surrogacy was diagnosed with Down Syndrome and, while his healthy twin sister was taken back to Australia by the genetic parents, this child was left behind with the surrogate mother, are slowly creating ground to put surrogacy on the international and national political agendas.

This development has to be seen as a new, fast expanding exploitative mechanism whereby the demand side, the rich (Global North) pushes the supply side, the poor (Global South) to rent out bodies for the gratification of their own needs and wishes. There is a clear analogy with sexual exploitation. Arguably this could be called reproductive prostitution.

The (inter)national legal limbo

Dutch embassies are more and more confronted with genetic parents coming to register children born through international surrogacy, without clear guidelines on how to handle this. The Secretary of State of the Ministry of Security and Justice therefore established the *Staatscommissie 'Herijking Ouderschap'*⁴⁵. This committee will report on legal changes needed to regulate multiple parenting and legal status of children born out of surrogacy. This report and the committee's recommendations are expected in May 2016.

LONG TERM GOALS

The overall goals of our alliance are, that by **31 December 2020**:

- **Inter Country Adoption** is fully in line with the standards and provisions of the 1993 Hague Convention and its guidelines.
- **Artificial Reproductive Technology & Surrogacy (ARTS)** has become regulated and is monitored in such a way that it serves the best interest of the child and is in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The intermediate steps to reach these overall goals are the following:

⁴³ See for example <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/the-great-indian-egg-bazaar/>

⁴⁴ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-28686114>

⁴⁵ http://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0035098/geldigheidsdatum_01-06-2014

Goal: Inter Country Adoption is fully in line with the standards and provisions of the 1993 Hague Convention and its guidelines

	International Level	Country Level	Community Level
Steps	<p>All countries from which ICA is taking place have signed and ratified the Hague Convention.</p> <p>An international monitoring system is in place and functional.</p>	<p>The Hague Convention has been ratified by the government and consequences are translated into national policy measures for the child protection system.</p>	<p>Community members receive specific training/education/information on Inter Country Adoption regulations as laid down in the Hague Convention and national law and know how to use this in their daily lives.</p>
	<p>Influential bodies such as UNICEF, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, etc. pay prominent attention to ICA and put it on the international political agenda. ICA is discussed and the Hague Convention and its Guidelines are promoted through international conferences and events.</p>	<p>Relevant staff of child protection agencies and NGOs are trained and skilled in family preservation activities and in the use of the Hague Convention and understand the consequences for daily practice, parent support, child development, and sexual & reproductive health services.</p> <p>At the same time, through an active lobby & advocacy process, influential staff of ministries and government agencies have become supportive to apply the full application of the Hague Convention in their country.</p>	<p>Community members get access to viable income generating activities, and to services like early childhood care and education, Vocational Skills Training, child and social protection services, Life Skills Training for children and youth, Sexual and Reproductive Health Care services, assisted social empowerment projects and other tools to start and maintain their own family support programs.</p>
	<p>Awareness amongst the general, global public is raised on the pros and cons of ICA. This leads to bottom-up pressure towards governments and international bodies.</p>	<p>Relevant staff of ministries, child protection agencies and NGOs are aware of child development issues and specifically the importance of keeping families together.</p>	<p>Community members (children, parents, teachers, community leaders, local policemen, medics and social professionals, etc.) are sensitized to child and women rights through awareness raising activities.</p>

Goal: International ARTS has become regulated and is monitored in such a way that it serves the best interest of the child and is in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

	International Level	Country Level	Community Level
Steps	First steps have been taken to draft international agreements that will regulate ARTS.	The government has formulated and adopted into domestic law rules and regulations concerning ARTS, that fully take into account child and women rights. It has also set in place an effective monitoring system.	Community members, through specific training/education/information sharing activities, are made aware of the consequences of International Surrogacy Arrangements for all involved, and what national laws and regulations are applied with regards to this issue.
	Influential bodies such as UNICEF, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, etc. pay prominent attention to ARTS and put it on the international political agenda. It is discussed and debated through international conferences and events.	Through active lobby & advocacy, influential staff of ministries and government agencies have become supportive to develop rules and regulations for ARTS in their country.	Women get access to viable economic alternatives such as income generating activities, micro credit, Vocational Skills Training options, and good social protection and Sexual and Reproductive Health Care services, and so forth.
	Awareness amongst the general, global public is raised about the consequences of ARTS. This leads to bottom-up pressure towards governments and international bodies to regulate these practices.	Relevant staff of ministries, child protection agencies NGOs, and child and women rights activists are aware of ethical and legal issues and dilemmas related to ARTS Communities of Intended Parents are aware of the impact their desire for a child has on the supply side.	Community members (children, parents, teachers, community leaders, local policemen, etc.) are sensitized to child and women rights through awareness raising activities.

3.2.3. UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS

The following underlying assumptions guide our Theory of Change:

- When the **general public** (and the potential consumers on the "childmarket") would be better informed, and mainstream media would accept and promote an open debate on international adoption and surrogacy, a more considered and better balanced perspective on ICA and the use of ARTS could become a reality. This in turn could urge governments to create better regulations, in which women and child rights would be better observed.
- [The dominance of the bio-genetic industry and the absence of an inter-and multidisciplinary consultation and a monitoring board regarding national and international demographic issues, there does not exist a strong organized and adequate informed network which is able to counter fast and relentless market mechanisms of the new "childmarket"; such as ICA and ARTS. The Alliance is therefore aiming to bring all different expertise together in partnership with the ministry to develop a sound and constructive intelligence group who are able to advice and to act on urgent issues involving ICA and ARTS. This means that academics as well, the bio-medical world needs to collaborate with childrights and womenrights organisations, including stakeholder organizations and media. This all supported by social action research and new emerging child needs perspectives.]
- When governments, service providers, community members, parents, children, are better informed and trained in all aspects (the good and the bad!) of Inter Country Adoption and International Surrogacy, they will be better able to withstand international pressure to relinquish children for ICA and countries are less likely to become places for outsourced reproductive and gestational surrogacy services.
- Our alliance is able to reach all relevant stakeholders at the international level and at country level through effective lobby & advocacy activities. This assumption is well grounded in the fact that our alliance has excellent relations with all relevant stakeholders from the grassroots to the highest international level both with respect to children- and women's rights but also to the research and biogenetic world that is ready to participate in this lobby and advocacy process. This was clearly expressed at the Forum organized in The Hague in August 2014 where all these actors came together.
- Inter Country Adoption and ARTS are going to continue to be areas of concern amongst relevant stakeholders nationally and internationally, thus creating an urgency to the lobby & advocacy efforts of our alliance. Of course our alliance will be actively working towards keeping these issues in the public eye and on the political agenda.
- Lobby & advocacy is most effective when it's part of a larger, holistic strategy to address underlying causes of a problem. Therefore our activities are not limited to only lobby & advocacy, but we also focus on improving child and social protection services and get the child protection systems in place at country and community level. The underlying assumption is, that only specific directed action at all levels can

Opmerking [AY2]: dit hele stukje is nogal vaag en onduidelijk, wat wil je hier precies zeggen?

produce the desired outcomes.

- Another underlying assumption, specifically with regards to our lobby & advocacy, is that it is most effective when it is based and founded on good research data, but also when the experiences and voices of those concerned, are made heard and understood. That's why we give a lot of prominence to organizations that represent groups of adult adoptees and young people who grew up in institutions.

3.2.4. PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS

Our efforts to create change will be supported by the following kinds of interventions, which will be worked out in a more detailed project plan at a later stage.

At the international level

- Extensive social action research to create evidence base for our lobby & advocacy efforts.
- Organize International Conferences and Fora of experts and other relevant stakeholders to discuss study findings and develop an international agenda of change.
- Raise awareness on child and women rights and needs (like the right to an identity and knowing your roots) within the networks of potential/ intended Western parents. Speak at conferences of the gay community, the faith based community and networks of adopters on research findings and engage discussion.
- Targeted lobby and sensitization work with leading INGOs to put the topic on the agenda of the NGO Committee on the Rights of the Child; convince committee members to look at the rights of adopted children and children conceived through ARTS in their country observations.
- Liaise with UNICEF and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to put these issues on the international development agenda in the Netherlands and in countries with a relationship to The Netherlands.
- Further the discussion with members of the Hague Conference on International Private Law on the ratification of The Hague Convention on Adoption and the desirability to regulate ARTS with an international convention.
- Write articles and publish these in relevant magazines such as the international high profile ISS/SSI Geneva Newsletter on Adoption, scientific magazines etc.
- Create content for more mainstream media (newspaper, television, radio) and the new social media, to create public awareness and support.
- Organize the Euradopt Conference (2016 in The Netherlands), bringing together agencies from sending and receiving countries, adopters, adoptees, biological parents and researchers to discuss the future of adoption in a changing society.

At country level

- Develop specific lobby activities targeting key relevant agents for change from government and/or civil society.
- Support Civil Society Organizations in targeted countries in developing appropriate child protection systems and safeguards to prevent institutionalization. Cooperate with other (I)NGO's to create networks of local organizations to exchange knowledge and experience on related issues (like on child marriage, de-institutionalization, supporting foster care, etc.).
- Build capacity of NGO's and networks to lobby and advocate: organize trainings, mobilize beneficiaries (like young people from and in care) to participate in these capacity building events and create networks for peer-to-peer learning and awareness raising.
- Organize in-country seminars with relevant government officials and civil society to create awareness and identify drivers for change.
- Build capacity of child rights and women rights organizations to lobby for their rights and adequate social protection measures to alleviate poverty and ensure employment to maintain families to stay together and meet costs of education and health services.
- Develop and implement national awareness raising campaigns organized through local partner organizations.

At community level

- Sensitization and creating awareness by activities at community level, for example interactive media, community based theatre and other cultural artistic based outreach programs organized by local partner organizations.
- Carry out training activities for community members (women, children, etc.) to increase their skills and knowledge to claim their rights.
- Liaise with strong women or women and child committees/ self-help groups to develop peer-to-peer support activities and engage community discussions around relinquishment of children for adoption and ARTS.
- Liaise with and support women networks (like SAWA in India) that fight for the labor conditions of surrogates and engage discussion about the consequences of involvement in the ARTS industry.
- Identify NGOs and networks at community level who can act as watchdogs to report cases of abuse and exploitation, fraud and coercion and ensure that there are reporting and follow up systems (through helplines, use of SMS

reporting, etc.).

- Set up income generating alternatives and social protection services at community level through local partner organizations.

3.2.5. MEASURABLE PROCESS AND IMPACT INDICATORS

At this stage in the proposal process we will not formulate the exact indicators, as this can only be done once a complete program with activities has been designed. However, we will describe the kinds of SMART indicators we are planning to use. We also want to emphasize that we plan to develop only a few, but meaningful indicators, to keep the PME process manageable and leading to clearly visible impact results.⁴⁶

Sorts of Indicators to be used to measure impact of our lobby & advocacy at the International Level:

In terms of outcomes:

- Ratification of Hague Convention increased with X number of countries.
- Number of inter country regulations on surrogacy adopted between X number of countries.

In terms of outputs:

- Number of international conferences and fora held.
- Numbers of participants at these.
- Numbers of publications on the topics in international media.

Sorts of Indicators to be used to measure impact of our lobby & advocacy at the Country Level:

In terms of outcomes:

- In X number of countries in regulations for Inter Country Adoption and Surrogacy have been formally adopted (an increase of X number of countries).
- Awareness of and support for ICA and ISA regulations amongst relevant government and civil society staff has increased significantly.

In terms of outputs:

- In X number of countries X number of trainings held for X number of social workers, government officials.
- X number of lobby meetings took place with X number of participants.
- Number of national awareness raising campaigns held.

⁴⁶ We would like to stress that we are not trying to avoid the “hot potato” of defining SMART indicators here. It is simply not possible at this stage in the process and therefore would not make sense. However, the examples we give should illustrate and make clear that we are perfectly capable of formulating the right indicators for the kinds of activities we envisage to implement.

Sorts of Indicators to be used to measure impact of our lobby & advocacy at the Community Level:

In terms of outcomes:

- Increased awareness on women child rights amongst X number of targeted community members.
- X number of women have found viable socio-economic alternatives, an increase of X percent as compared to X date.
- Improved social and SRHR protection services in X number of communities.

In terms of outputs:

- Number of community awareness and sensitization activities held.
- Number of community members reached through these activities.
- Number of specific trainings held.
- Number of income generating activities for women set up⁴⁷.

3.2.6. PME SYSTEM

To measure progress on indicators and impact of our lobby & advocacy activities a clear PME system will be set up, which will be comprised of the following parts:

To be drafted by WK.

3.2.7. RELEVANT ACTORS AND THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THEM

The relevant network of the alliance

Opmerking [m3]: Nogmaals, ik vind deze tabelletjes mooi, maar wat ontbreekt is en begeleiden tekst die de verbanden tussen -met name- ons en hen uitlegt.

	ALLIANCE	Networkpartners	Stakeholders	Researchpartners
NETWORK	WERELDKINDER EN	ISS Geneve	Kenya Network of Careleavers	ISS Erasmus university
	Domain area's: ICA & ARTS	Access to agenda of the CRC Committee	Network and support group of and for institutionalised children and young people	Proven track record in international social research on development and poverty alleviation, and empowerment

⁴⁷ We are of course aware that not all indicators directly relate to our lobby & advocacy efforts. We just mention them here because they will be part of our larger programme.

	ICDI Domain areas: Newly emerging needs of children and Social Action Research		United Adoptees International International foundation representing adult adoptees interests socially, legally, and politically within ICA	University Leiden Pedagogical expertise on ICA and child development
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The relevant socio-economic drivers within ICA & ARTS

	KEYPLAYERS	Facilitators	Media	Academia
REPRODUCTIVE INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX	CONSUMERS	Banks, financing private loans to access the ICA/ARTS channel. Religious communities and Churches in the USA create special funds to help prospective parents to adopt.	Portraits consumer group as victims or prospective (should be the rightful) 'parents' in need.	Supports the need of 'would be' (prospective) parents by publishing positive outcomes on child development once adopted.
	ICA Industry	Adoption agencies and recruiting/field agents on the ground.	Portraits adoption as a rescue story and children without a chance.	Criticizes the industrial effect of adoption, but focus on development of children's lives, the saved body.
	ARTS industry	Bio-genetic industry and progressive political parties. Especially the ones who have the LBGTQ lobby as their electorate.	Portraits ARTS as a new technical tool to get children.	Focuses on the reproductive side and legitimize ARTS as a neutral medical intervention.
	Society	Drivers (celebs aso) carry out the concept of controlled creation of child lives and to help vulnerable women to earn their income.	Portraits alternative childbirth and adoption as a matter of altruism.	Supports fact finding positive results of children born out of ARTS or Adoption.
	Politics	Facilitates consumer demand for children by law and regulations.	Takes only a legal standpoint in debates and refuses ethical discourse.	Governments and academia keep each other in limbo due to the conflict of interests raised by financial and political interests.

The relevant network of the Netherlands Ministry of FA for the alliance

	MoFaT	Foreign relations	Corps Diplomatique	Governance & Political relations
ALLIANCE	Partnering in policy development and execution.	Information, education and cooperation with national and local organization and institutes.	Informing CD about actual developments and necessary change of approaches in order to achieve best results for all involved.	Explanatory partner of the several Conventions and treaties to be met. Assistance to involved parties to help them to develop thorough and practical understanding of the topics and situation within their country.

3.2.8. OUR ROLE AND THE PROPOSED ROLE OF THE MINISTRY

Our alliance, including the international and national networks that will be involved, sees a role for itself at all levels, from community, to country, to the international level.

This role entails amongst other:

- boosting lobby & advocacy efforts on Inter Country Adoption and International Surrogacy at country and international level.
- inspiring lobby & advocacy efforts on the subject matter through research and peer-to-peer lobby.
- organizing with partners national and international awareness raising campaigns on the issues.
- informing, strengthening and creation of networks of relevant stakeholders.
- Strengthening the links between policy, research and practice at all levels.
- training and capacity building of organizations and agencies involved in the issues.

Our alliance would like to cooperate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the following ways:

- facilitation of meetings, trainings, etc. at country level through support from embassies.
- advice from embassies on how to reach and target key governmental and/or other stakeholders at country level.
- support of the Ministry when organizing international meetings/conferences.

- willingness of and active steps by the Ministry to get the topics (ICA and ISA) on the political agenda

Of course all of the above are things that would need to be discussed and negotiated with the Ministry. We realize there may be limitations to what the Ministry could do and we are open to any suggestions and ideas.

3.2.9. KEY FACTORS FOR SUCCESS AND POTENTIAL RISKS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Risk	Probability	Potential impact on activities of alliance	Mitigation Measures (if necessary)
International and national political developments distract attention away from ICA and/or ARTS.	Moderate	Moderate	One of the key activities of our alliance will be to get and keep these issues on the international and national agenda's through vigorous lobby & advocacy activities and media campaigns.
We work with a large network. There is a risk that we won't be able to hold all the strings together.	Moderate	High	Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) will be drafted and signed with all partners mentioned under D4. Similar agreements will be made at country level with stakeholders. Next to this a lot of time and energy will be invested in relationship management.
Key stakeholders (at all levels) are unwilling to listen to our message and don't act on the issues of ICA and ARTS	Low	High	Of course this is a risk for any lobby & advocacy organization. Our extensive experience in approaching key stakeholders, our extensive network and our ability to make the issues relevant, should ensure that we counteract this risk.
All disciplines involved in the field cannot agree on	High	Moderate	Conferences and seminars are an

actions to be taken.			important activity in the programme for cross over learning and development of opinions. Because ARTS are so far mainly dominated by biogenetics, the women and child rights world will need to catch-up on information. We will collect all information and make this accessible for all involved.
The counter lobby for ICA and ARTS is strong and will put partners under pressure.	High	High	The network partners are familiar with this movement and have experience in countering this. Evidence based argumentation is necessary and partners will be fed with clear lobby points with background information and training in lobby and advocacy by specialists.
Increased social tension in the communities directly involved in ICA and/or ARTS as this may directly involve their own lives.	Moderate	High	Our aim is to change certain practices and this may negatively affect some people's positions and livelihoods. This will require a lot of sensitivity from our part, but we and our local partners have years of experience in this. Viable economic alternatives and services will be created, which should also help.
Members of The Hague Conference are unwilling to put together a group of experts to discuss ARTS	Low	Low	Based on the study of the Secretariat of the Hague Conference the issue is put on the agenda of the Council of members in May 2015. If they decide that the issue is not

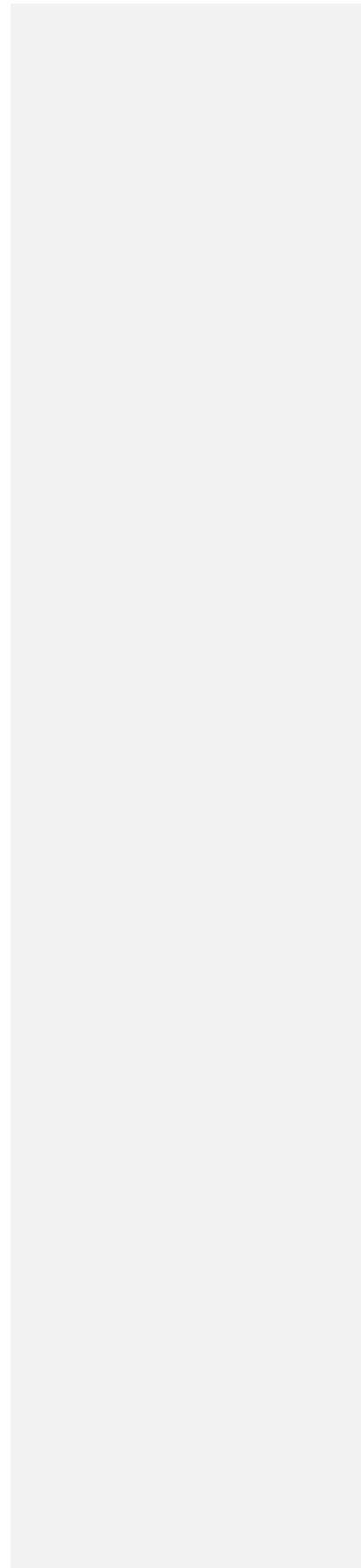
			important enough, international regulation will not be possible within the project period. We will not wait until 2016 with putting the issue on the international agenda to show the urgency.
Legal change in countries is a slow process what may hinder the implementation of The Hague Convention or regulation of ARTS.	Moderate	Low	We will need to set the target such that outcomes are feasible and that may mean that not all target countries will have reached full legal regulation. It is important that our lobby and advocacy activities have resulted in policy change. We will put in place sufficient intermediary evaluations to keep track of progress.
Conflicts arise between alliance members	Low	High	Tasks and responsibilities of alliance partners have been defined in a signed agreement, in which also measures to be taken should a conflict arise have been formulated.
Fraudulent practices occur in partner organizations of alliance members	Low	Moderate	Wereldkinderen and ICDI have longstanding relations with local partner organizations and have stringent anti-fraud and anti-corruption policies in place and are not afraid to act on these when necessary.

Key factors for success of our alliance will be:

- Our alliance has a **strong and broad network** and comprises all key actors (from young people and grassroots organisations to high level research institutes and international bodies) in the field of international adoption and surrogacy.
- One of the most unique features of our alliance is the use of **peer-to-peer influencing** in our lobby & advocacy efforts. At all levels, experiences related by those who “lived the tale” will form a powerful tool to convince policy makers and other stakeholders that ICA and ARTS need attention and regulation.
- The topic of **ARTS is a hot issue in the media**. Reports on excesses and scandals make the general public more and more aware of the issue and there is a growing demand for solutions and an international debate. These developments clearly open doors for our lobby and advocacy activities and we intend to make full use of this.
- The partners in the alliance are **flexible and used to act and adjust quickly in an international complex environment**. Both Wereldkinderen and ICDI have a proven trackrecord in working effectively with a range of partners and achieving results. The fact that there are only two partners in the core-alliance, will help maintain flexibility and counter-act unnecessary bureaucracy.

3.2.10. GRAPHIC DEPICTION OF THE THEORY OF CHANGE

IV. APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE



V. COMPULSORY APPENDICES

V. Appendices:

- 1.1 Constitution (Statuten) Vereniging Wereldkinderen
Constitution (Statuten) Stichting International Child Development Initiatives
- 1.2 Annual Accounts
- 1.3 Partnership agreement Agreement
- 1.4 Annual reports Wereldkinderen 2011, 2012, 2013

See <http://www.wereldkinderen.nl/pageid=341/Jaarverslag.html>

Annual report ICDI 2011

Annual reports 2012 and 2013 via link

http://www.icdi.nl/publications/year_reports

- 1.5 Auditor report and management letter Wereldkinderen and ICDI
- 1.6 Track record comprising cases and referees
- 1.7 Theory of Change
- 1.8 Partos 9001 Certificate and report of the auditor.
- 1.9 Reference list and reference documentation