INHOPE
Statistics
2018

June 2019

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Introduction

Online distribution of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) is a rapidly expanding global problem and the INHOPE Network is at the lead in facing this challenge. This report is a reflection of what INHOPE has seen during 2018.

INHOPE is a global network of Hotlines combating online Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) with 46 Hotlines in 41 countries. Hotlines enable the public to report online material, including potential CSAM that they suspect to be illegal. The Hotline will review and investigate each report. If confirmed as illegal, they work with partner Hotlines in the network, law enforcement and industry to get the content removed as rapidly as possible from the internet.

The primary tool used to achieve this task is the ICCAM system, which allows for instant cross-border exchange of CSAM reports between Hotlines across the globe. From the data gathered through ICCAM and published in this report, it is noted that:

- The volume of reports being handled by INHOPE Hotlines is increasing
- The distribution and redistribution of new and previously seen CSAM is growing
- Hotlines are having a significant impact on the issue

This report demonstrates the scale and proliferation of online CSAM across the globe during 2018 and the success of the INHOPE Network in facing this challenge.

For information on INHOPE and its Hotline network see www.inhope.org

Key figures

- 155,240 CSAM related reports were exchanged via ICCAM
  An increase of almost 80% on 2017
- 337,588 alleged CSAM related images and videos were processed via ICCAM
  An increase of 30% on 2017
- 223,999 images and videos were assessed as illegal
- 58% were removed from the internet in less than 3 days
- 91% involved children under 13 years of age
- 80% of victims were female
- 84% of the content was hosted on image hosting services

Note: A glossary of terms can be found at the end of this report

Network overview - 2018

2018 INHOPE NETWORK

Total number of ICCAM reports forwarded	155,240
Total number of images and videos assessed	337,588
Total number of illegal images and videos	223,999

Notice and Takedown

Reporting to ISPs

93% was reported to ISP in less than three days

93%

3%
4%

● 0-3 days ● 4-6 days ● 7+ days

Reporting to LEAs

87% was reported to LEA in less than three days

87%

4%
9%

● 0-3 days ● 4-6 days ● 7+ days

REPORTS WORLDWIDE

58% was removed from the Internet in less than three days.

58%
14%
28%

● 0-3 days ● 4-6 days ● 7+ days

Victim age and gender profile

Age
- ~0-2
- ~3-13
- ~14-17

2% 89% 9%

Gender
- Both
- Girl
- Boy

3% 80% 17%
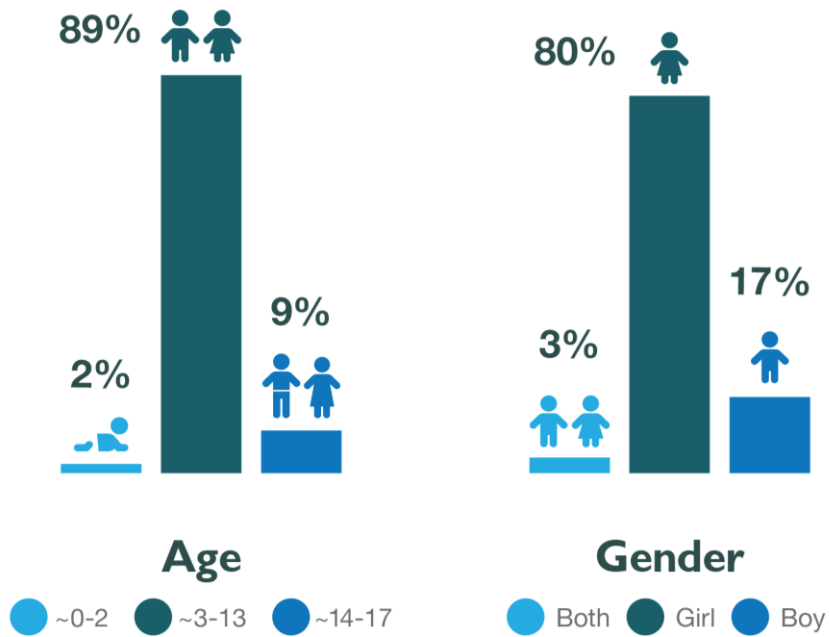
Services being used to host CSAM

Website 5%

File host 7%

Image host 84%

Banner site 1%

Forum 1%

Others 2%
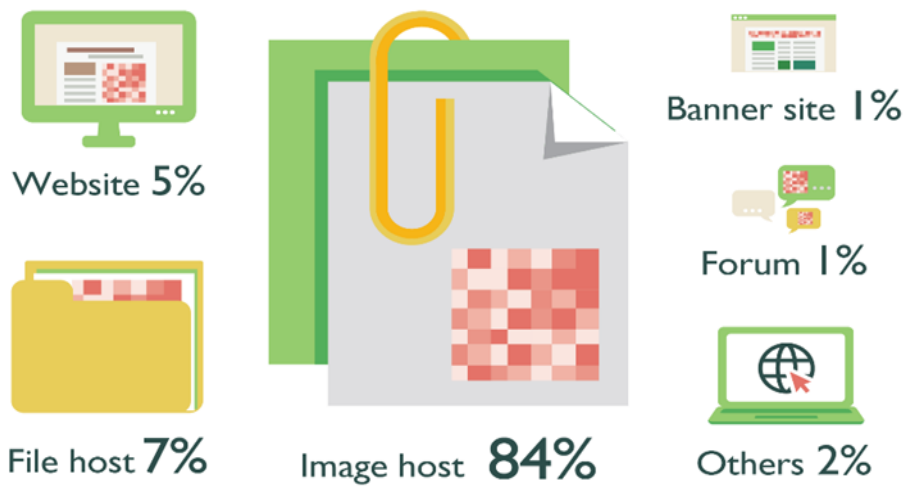
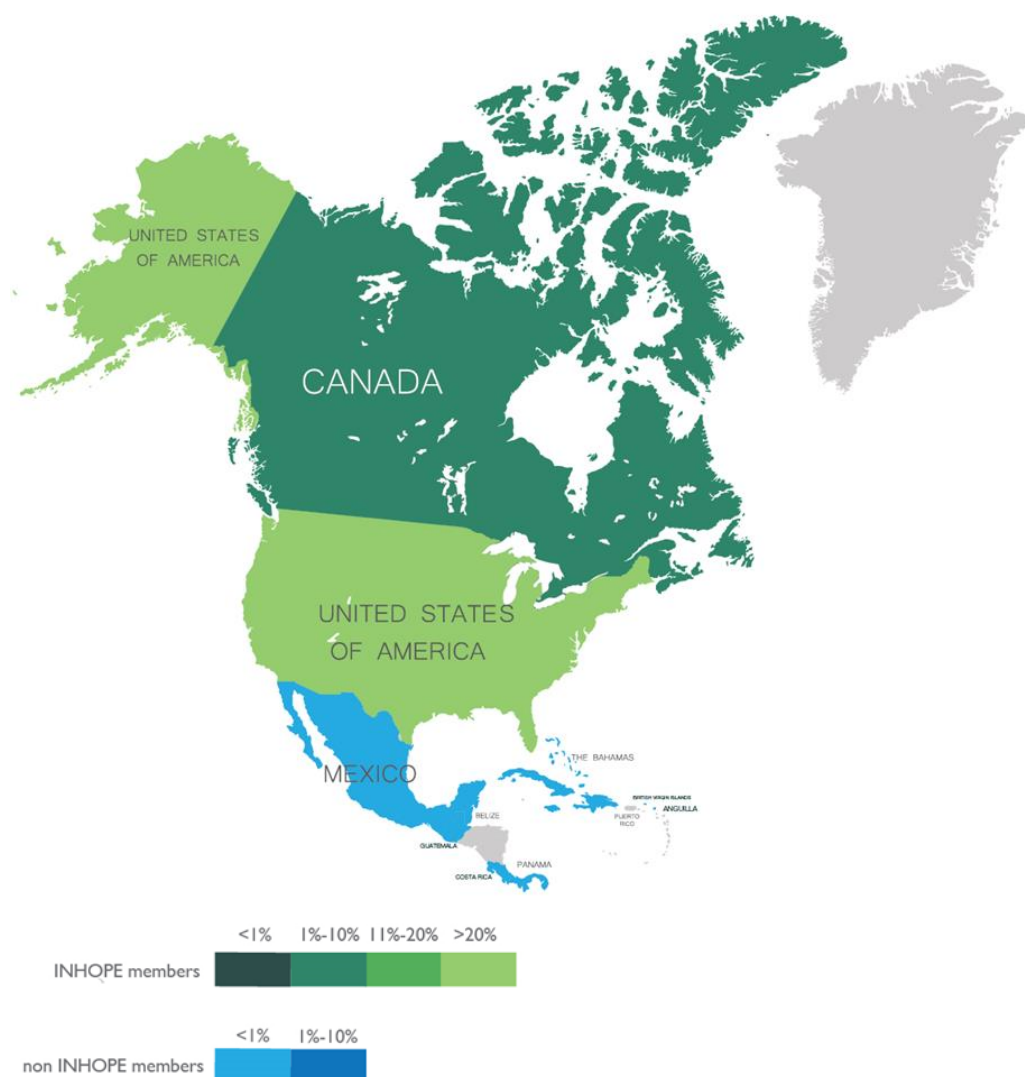# ICCAM hosting patterns - the global hosting picture
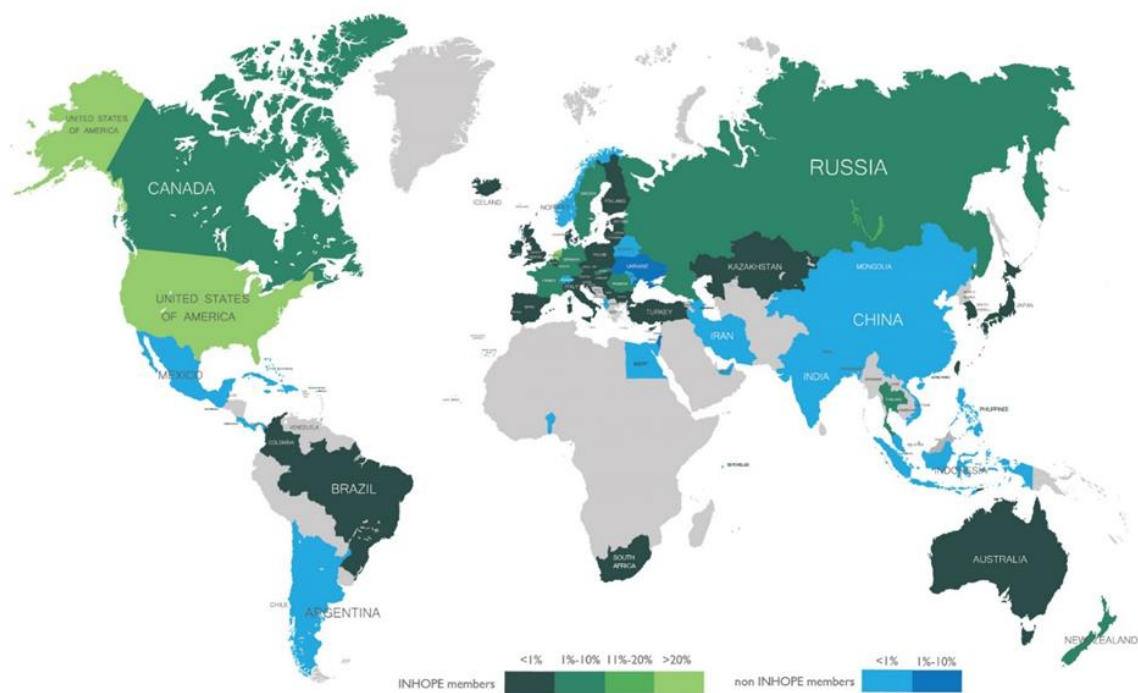
Hosting countries

- Netherlands 44%
- United States of America 25%
- Russian Federation 9%
- France 6%
- Slovakia 5%

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ICCAM Hosting Patterns – Regionalisation
North America

United States: In 2018, NCMEC's CyberTipline received more than 18 million reports from US based companies about US hosted CSAM. Many US based companies search for and remove CSAM from their own services. They then report the CSAM incidents to NCMEC. This process means that CSAM is often identified and removed before either the public or Hotlines ever become aware of it.
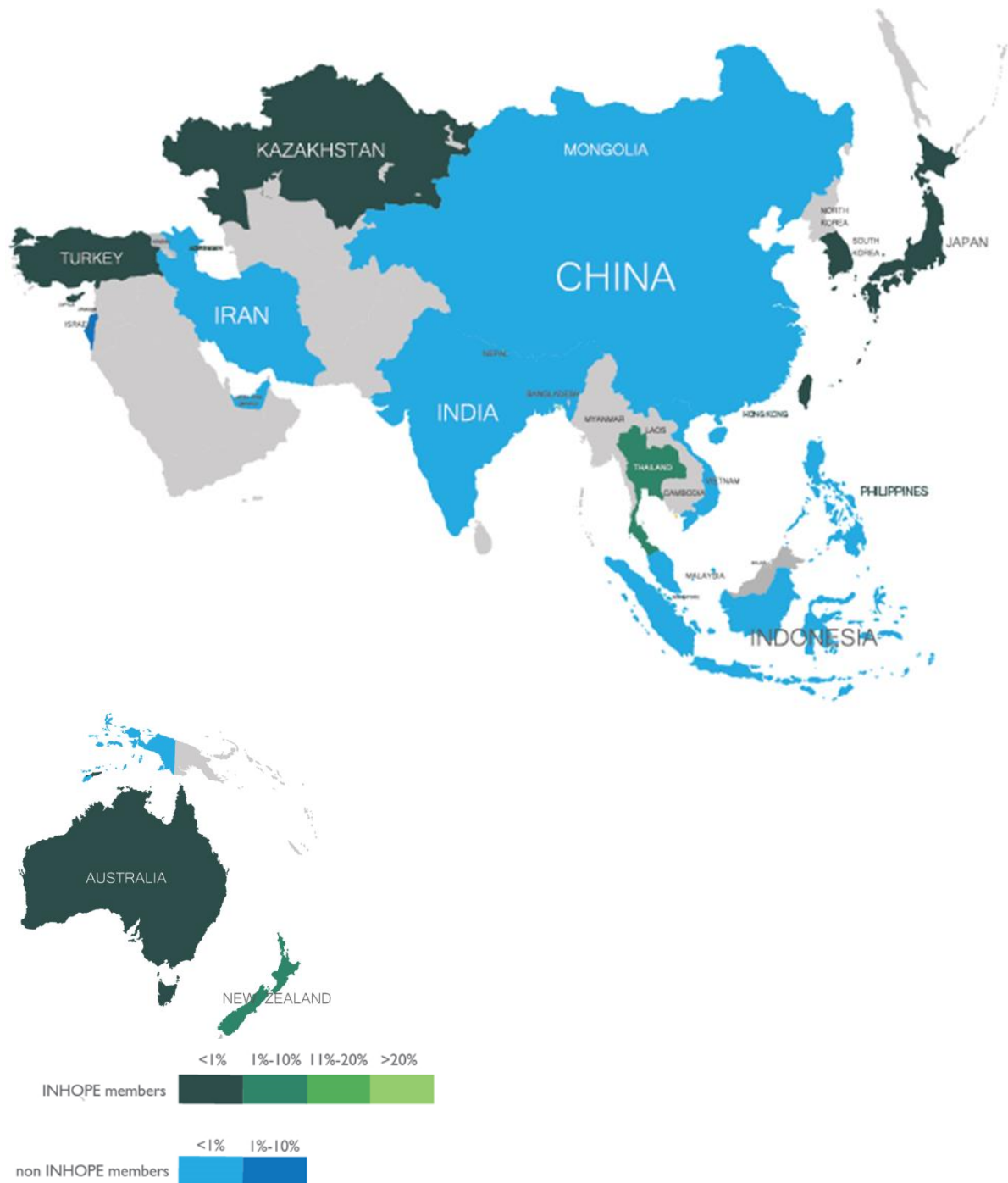
NCMEC does not use ICCAM in these instances because the content has already been removed from the internet. These reports are also shared by NCMEC with Law Enforcement Agencies around the world.
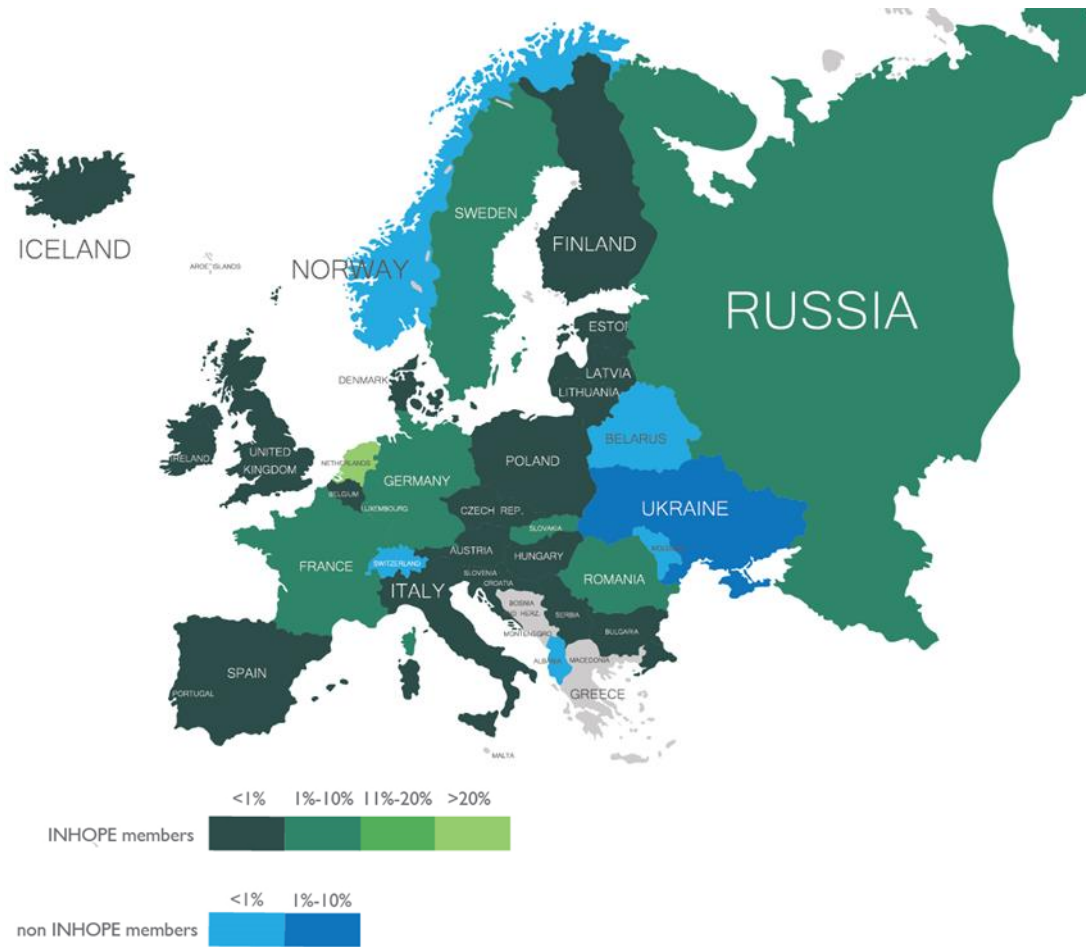
South America

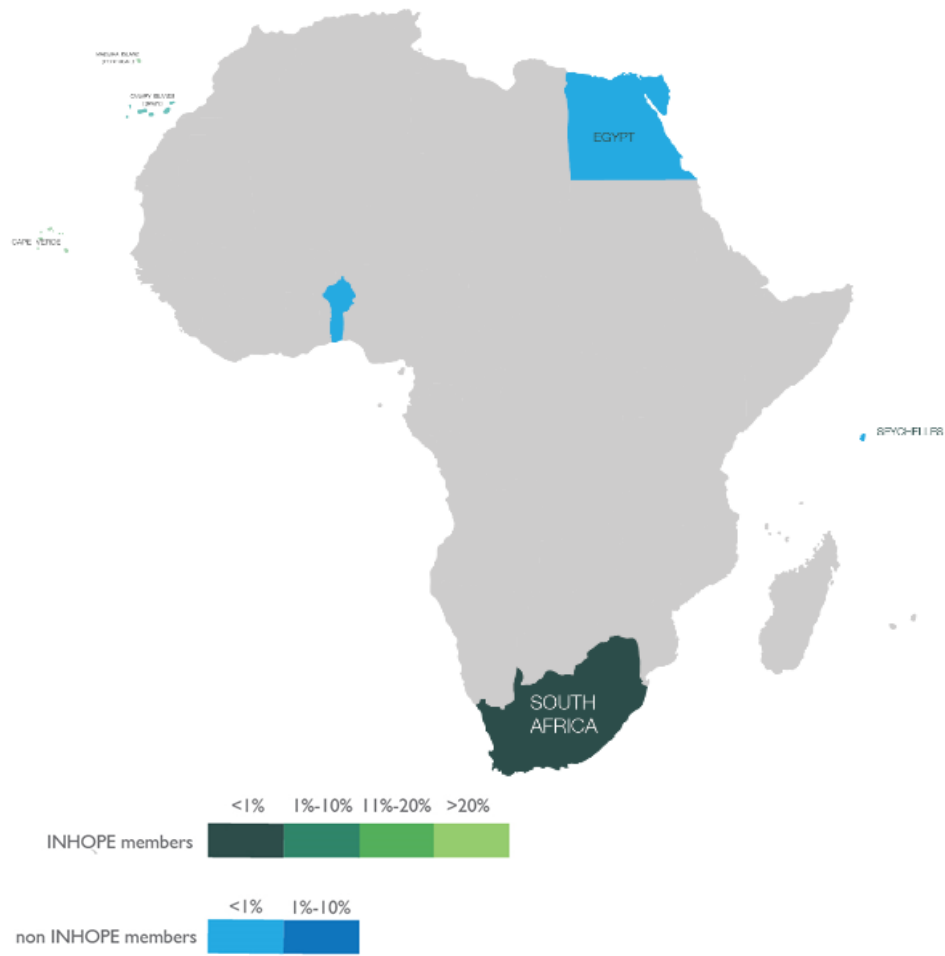## Asia and Oceania

Hosting countries in Europe

- Netherlands 75%
- France 10%
- Slovakia 8%
- Germany 1%
- Romania 1%
- Luxembourg 1%

Africa

INHOPE members

                  <1%   1%-10% 11%-20% >20%

non INHOPE members

                  <1%   1%-10%

Glossary

- **CSAM** stands for Child Sexual Abuse Material.
- **ICCAM** is INHOPE's secure software solution to collect, exchange and categorise reports of child sexual abuse material. ICCAM is used by INHOPE Hotlines in different jurisdictions (countries) and INTERPOL. The name ICCAM is derived from the phrase 'I see child abuse material.'
- A **report** in ICCAM can be described as a URL that has been reported to a Hotline with potentially illegal images and videos. One report can contain an unlimited number of images and videos.
- **Forwarded ICCAM Reports:** When a Hotline receives a report, an analyst reviews the report to determine whether it is illegal. If it is suspected to be illegal CSAM, the analyst traces its hosting location and accordingly forwards the URL to the Hotline in the hosting country. The forwarding takes place within INHOPE's secure platform ICCAM.
- **Assessed images & videos:** In order to determine the illegality of images and videos on a particular URL, an analyst has to review everything that is found on the reported URL. Assessed Images and Videos refers to all the images and videos that have been found on the reported URL.
- **Illegal images & videos** refers only to those that have been classified as illegal at least by one INHOPE Member Hotline.
- **Notice and Takedown (NTD)** is the time from when a hotline receives a report to the time a hotline reports it to Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA), Internet Service Providers (ISP) and ultimately that the instance of the content is removed from the internet
- **CSAM removed** is recorded when a hotline analyst confirms that the instance of the image and/or video has been removed from the internet.
- **ISP** stands for Internet Service Provider
- **LEA** stands for Law Enforcement Agency

Further information

For any further information or clarification please contact:

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