

## Visiting an SOS Children's Village

- Our children's villages are not meant to facilitate a high frequency of visitors; we therefore request that all requests be arranged in advance with the relevant national SOS Children's Village association.
- According to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, all children have the right to privacy, as adults do. When visiting a village, please be aware that this is their home, not an exhibition area.
- Visitors must abide by the SOS Children Villages Child Protection Policy, which aims to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation in its programs and activities.
- In the interest of privacy we request that visitors refrain from recording images of any kind.
- General guidelines contained in our Child Protection Policy also require any information relating to a child must adhere to the following:
  - *When producing publicity material featuring a child, we ask both the child and his or her legal guardian (or at least an adult caregiver of the child) for permission to do so.*
  - *We do not actively ask children to do or say anything that might make them feel displayed as 'objects of pity' (e.g. to speak about their past or ask for donations).*
  - *We handle children's names carefully, especially in connection with sensitive information about the same children, e.g. the family background, their medical condition, disability or negative behaviour.*
  - *We act with caution when it comes to combining textual and visual information whenever a text includes sensitive information about a child and whenever a photo or video track shows sensitive aspects of a child's life and reveals his or her identity.*
- Children do not like visitors asking about their past histories or lives.
- Children are burdened when large groups visit, preferred are groups of 5 or less.
- Children prefer visitors to wear casual clothing.