



## About OECD

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international organisation that works to build better policies for better lives. Its goal is to shape policies that foster prosperity, equality, opportunity and well-being for all. The OECD is made up of 36 member countries, a secretariat in Paris, and committees. It draws on almost 60 years of experience and insights to better prepare the world of tomorrow.

Together with governments, policy makers and citizens, the OECD works on establishing international norms and finding evidence-based solutions to a range of social, economic and environmental challenges. From improving economic performance and creating jobs to fostering strong education and fighting international tax evasion, the OECD provides a unique forum and knowledge hub for data and analysis, exchange of experiences, best-practice sharing, and advice on public policies and global standard-setting.

## The Requirement

The OECD recognised the need to support their female travellers who are often travelling to culturally diverse regions and in geo-politically complex situations. Due to the diversity of the teams deployed, everybody had the propensity to be a minority depending on the region they are travelling to so it was important that any support given was culturally sensitive and unique to each specific individual.

## The Solution

Maiden Voyage delivered a series of full-day workshops, in conjunction with the internal security team, at the OECD Headquarters in Paris. The sessions covered subjects such as preparation and planning, medical and pregnancy, sexual assault, safe ground-transportation, safe meetings and leisure time, hotel safety, predator psychology, conflict resolution, assertiveness screening, self-defence and social media and safety.

The workshops were made available to a mixed audience whilst focusing on some of the specific issues faced by women and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

## The Results

As well as the formal delivery of the training material, the sessions provided an increase in exposure of the security team and resources to the travelling community. A safe space was created for delegates to share often very personal and sensitive experiences with their colleagues in the spirit of mutual support and empowerment. Whilst delegates benefited from the course material, they were also able to build a support network from across the OECD and to identify colleagues who either originated from or had first-hand experience of the regions that they were travelling to and to help them to understand the inherent risks and cultures.

## Feedback

"The training provided very relevant, real life examples. Using scenarios really empowered me to become a more conscious traveller"

"It really created awareness on things that I just hadn't thought about before."

"I very much enjoyed the illustrative real-life examples, the self-defense and importance of pre-planning"

"Excellent, pragmatic advice across a broad range of topics"

"I enjoyed hearing examples of different risks – after all, you don't know what you don't know!"

"Excellent summary of travel safety tips for women"

"This really helped open conversations with colleagues on something that wouldn't usually be discussed."

"I found hearing examples of 'risky situations' really beneficial"

"I gained awareness on issues that I normally overlook when planning a trip"

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For more details about the Maiden Voyage Diverse Traveller Training, please contact [carolyn@maiden-voyage.com](mailto:carolyn@maiden-voyage.com) or [erica@maiden-voyage.com](mailto:erica@maiden-voyage.com). Or give us a call at +44 113 3149000.

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