

UPDATE ON PSEA

First Edition

In March 2018, the Ethics Office was appointed WFP Organizational Focal Point for PSEA and became responsible for overall coordination of PSEA efforts globally. Since then, the Ethics Office has been facilitating a multi-disciplinary approach to PSEA, including identifying good practices, supporting interagency coordination and UN coherence, and providing advice and guidance to employees on SEA prevention and response.

This is the first of the Ethics Office series on PSEA, which will provide regular updates.

Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

2018 Key Highlights

- ⇒ **More than 40 consultations** were held by the Ethics Office with key internal and external stakeholders (at HQs and with RBs, several COs, Inter-Agency Standing Committee PSEA Task Team Coordinator, UN Office of the Special Coordinator on improving UN response to sexual exploitation and abuse, other UN agencies and NGOs) to identify successes, challenges and priorities in the implementation of PSEA measures and initiatives
- ⇒ The administration of **PSEA Focal Points network**, consisting of 278 main focal points and alternates appointed, was assumed by the Ethics Office
- ⇒ A **PSEA Advisory Group** was established to share achievements and knowledge, promote peer-learning, provide advice to and enhance PSEA Focal Points capacities to fulfil their roles.
- ⇒ **66 advice and guidance** were provided by the Ethics Office related to PSEA
- ⇒ WFP Executive Director was officially invited to join the **United Nations High-level Steering Group on SEA**, which is responsible for overseeing the UN system's response to SEA and ensuring and aligning a system-wide approach to SEA
- ⇒ WFP Assistant Executive Director, Valerie Guarnieri, was part of a **public information video** messaging campaign on UN efforts to combat SEA, presented in key areas throughout the 2018 General Assembly
- ⇒ Together with other UN entities and UN Member States Representatives, WFP signed a **Collective Statement** to reaffirm the continued commitment to support efforts to combat SEA



WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- ⇒ **WFP-wide PSEA Awareness Campaign**
- ⇒ **Online survey for PSEA Focal Points.** The survey was completed by 130 PSEA Focal Points. Its results provided valuable insights into key challenges that PSEA Focal Points face to support PSEA efforts in their operations
- ⇒ **First PSEA Advisory Group consultation.** The Consultation, held in September 2018 in Rome, brought together members from each of the six RBs, 11 key COs and relevant HQ stakeholders, and provided a critical platform for understanding PSEA challenges and gaps
- ⇒ **Participation in a donor-led event on PSEA.** Representatives from NGOs, UN entities (including WFP), private sectors and SEA survivors convened to commit to better prevent, listen and respond to SEA
- ⇒ **PSEA half-day session at the Annual Partnerships Consultation.** Panel discussions, moderated by AED, Valerie Guarnieri, and featuring speakers from key NGOs, NGO consortiums, and the IASC, focused on raising awareness in communities and creating opportunities to report SEA, and ensuring accountability to people affected by SEA

WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON

- ⇒ Development of an **WFP PSEA Strategy (2020 - 2022)**. The Strategy proposes a three-year plan to significantly enhance prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse, across the Organization. The strategy is informed by the findings of robust consultations, surveys, and internal and external collaboration
- ⇒ Development of the first ever **online course for PSEA Focal Points**
- ⇒ Review and update of **PSEA Focal Points Terms of Reference**
- ⇒ Continued participation in the Executive Board and WFP Management Sub Working Groups on Safeguarding against sexual harassment and sexual exploitation
- ⇒ Continued participation and increased engagement in the **IASC Senior Focal Point Meetings**, in the **IASC Results Group technical -level** and in the **UN SEA Working Group**
- ⇒ Opportunities to collaborate across the greater UN system

PSEA IN ACTION

South Sudan Country Office - PSEA Action Plan

The WFP South Sudan Country Office has developed a PSEA Action Plan for 2018-2020. The Action Plan focuses on the national implementation of WFP Policy on PSEA, taking into consideration the complexities within which humanitarian assistance is delivered. The Action Plan was spearheaded by the Gender and Protection Unit and endorsed by the Country Director with implementation execution supported by the Senior PSEA Focal Point - Deputy Country Director (Operations).

The Action Plan provides high level commitment to ensuring a structured, resourced and transparent implementation of the Policy on PSEA, focusing on the following key areas: i) Policy and Procedure; ii) Management and Coordination; iii) Prevention Protection and Response; and iv) Monitoring, Learning and Reporting. Implementation to date has seen reinvigoration of the coordination amongst WFP, UN and Cooperating Partners, and technical support to partners to advance their SEA safeguarding activities.



Photo credits: WFP/Charlie Musoka; WFP/Giulio D'Adamo

PSEA at a Glance
First Edition

