



Update on PSEA

Second 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 second of the Ethics Office series on PSEA, which will provide regular updates.

Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

2019 Key Highlights

- ⇒ **PSEA training for Cooperating Partners.** WFP has been working with UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF and IASC to adapt an existing IOM training into an interagency tool for partners. The result is strengthened capacity building on PSEA for partners in the field while supporting UN coherence and coordination (estimated finalization December 2019).
- ⇒ **PSEA related advice and guidance.** As of the beginning of December 2019, the Ethics Office has received and responded to **155 requests** for advice and guidance related to PSEA. This is a substantial increase from 2018 where the total was **more than 65 requests** received.
- ⇒ **WFP and UNHCR Joint Regional Workshop for PSEA Focal Points** (Nairobi, October 2019). The workshop brought together focal points from 11 countries for 3.5 days with a focus on improving coordination and fostering synergies for a cohesive approach to preventing and responding to SEA. Erika Jorgensen, WFP Regional Director, and Clementine Awu Nkweta Salami, UNHCR Regional Director, opened the workshop.
- ⇒ **PSEA Focal Point Training.** In June 2019, the Ethics Office launched the first ever Online Training Course for PSEA Focal Points on the WeLearn platform. The course was rolled out to focal points worldwide and includes downloadable tools and training materials to be adapted and used at CO/RB level.
- ⇒ **WFP PSEA Strategy (2020 -2022).** The Ethics Office is working on a Strategy to propose a way forward to significantly enhance prevention and response to SEA across WFP. The strategy is informed by the findings of robust consultations, surveys, and internal and external collaboration.

INTERAGENCY AND DONOR ENGAGEMENT

In recognizing that SEA committed against beneficiaries is an ultimate break of respect and trusts and affects us all in the humanitarian community, the Ethics Office has worked to strengthened coordination and collaboration. The focus has been on more meaningful and streamlined between and among UN system and interagency partners and donors.

UN and Interagency

- ⇒ Participation in global PSEA coordination bodies.
- ⇒ Review and inputs to strategic policy documents and tools, including:
 - IASC Strategy and Action plan;
 - IASC PSEA Principles-revised language: Principle 4; and
 - Incident Reporting Form (IRF).

Donor

- ⇒ Joint Executive Board/WFP Management Working Group and Sub Working Group.
- ⇒ MOPAN: Critical review group for case study on SEA and SH.
- ⇒ UN-wide negotiations on a uniform PSEA/SH clause to be included in the Multi-donor Trust Fund agreement.



INTEGRATION OF PSEA IN WFP INITIATIVES

For PSEA efforts to be effective they should be integrated across WFP. Therefore, the Ethics Office has focused on key initiatives, including:

- ⇒ **Global Food Security Cluster (GFSC).** PSEA session was included in the GFSC Partners' Meeting (November 2019).
- ⇒ **Mitigating risks of abuse in cash assistance Project** (MRAPS- Joint UNHCR and WFP Project). The project involves work with financial service providers (FSPs), traders and national regulators, as well as awareness raising of cash recipients about their rights and capacity building. Integration of SEA throughout the MRAPS toolkit.
- ⇒ **Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFM) Standardization Project (OSZPH).** Integration of PSEA throughout CFM Standardization Project, specifically the Standard Operating Procedures for CFM operators.

PSEA IN ACTION: COLOMBIA COUNTRY OFFICE PSEA AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

In October 2019, the Colombia CO launched an awareness campaign on PSEA, creating materials targeting WFP staff, implementing partners and beneficiaries at the national level.

The campaign process began with an anonymous online survey, sent to 20 key stakeholders at the national and field level. Through the analysis of the findings, it was clear the need to strengthen policy dissemination with affected population and link the campaign with helpline data. As a response, the campaign was developed, a dissemination strategy was defined, and the field and national dissemination began.

The developed tools included a comprehensive **brochure for staff and implementing partners**, as well as a **separate tool targeting beneficiaries**.

To date **more than 5000 individuals** have been directly informed of PSEA across Colombia, including implementing partners, local governments and beneficiaries, both in rural and urban contexts. Due to the success of the campaign, the Colombia CO has been requested to support the development of such a PSEA campaign for all the agencies and international organizations with a presence in the country.



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