Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Guide and Toolkit

The full document “Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA): A Practical Guide and Toolkit for UNICEF and Partners” (69 pages) can be downloaded here. Below we provide an overview of the guide and toolkit.

Objectives

The Toolkit is designed to strengthen the capacities of organizations in fulfilling their responsibilities to prevent and respond to SEA. It specifically aims to:

- Increase organizations’ understanding and support of PSEA,
- Support organizations in strengthening their systems on PSEA,
- Improve coordination, communication and coherence among UNICEF, partners and other relevant actors relating to PSEA,
- Contribute to improved accountability towards affected populations.

Structure

The Toolkit’s structure enables organizations with different capacities and needs to focus on the aspects of PSEA that require the most urgent attention. Its seven sections are:

- Organizational Self-Assessment: includes a set of core standards and accompanying indicators to help organizations identify their strengths related to PSEA and areas where improvements are needed.
- Foundations: presents relevant definitions, policies and standards.
- Prevention: provides guidance on organization-wide policies and procedures, training for personnel, and risk assessment, mitigation and prevention in all programming efforts.
- Reporting: provides guidance on internal and external reporting mechanisms to enable or facilitate prompt and confidential reporting.
- Assistance: provides guidance on facilitating immediate, professional survivor-centered assistance and follow-up, either directly or through referral to other service providers.
- Investigation: provides guidance on ensuring prompt and adequate investigations and follow-up.
- Toolkit: contains a set of practical tools, such as sample forms, templates, and checklists.

Throughout these sections, the Toolkit emphasizes the need for organizations to engage beneficiaries and local communities in all their PSEA efforts, given that they are most directly affected by these abuses and have unique knowledge and skills.