PROTECTION AGAINST SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE

29 February 2024

UNITED NATIONS
MOLDOVA

Regional Refugee Response
For the Ukraine Situation
Moldova

WHAT IS SEA?

Sexual exploitation: Actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.

Sexual abuse: Actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.

SEA also includes sexual relations with a child, in any context, defined as a human being below the age of 18 years.

WHAT IS UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR?

Unacceptable behaviour includes but is not limited to:

- Demanding sex in any context or making sex a condition for assistance.
- Offering money, gifts, or a job in exchange for sex
- Withholding due services or blackmailing for sex
- Hiring sex workers
- Threats or actual unwanted sexual act
- Forcing sex or someone to have sex with anyone.
- Forcing a person to engage in sex work or pornography.
- Unwanted touching of a sexual nature.

* This is not an exhaustive list. Other types of sexually exploitive or sexually abusive behavior may be grounds for administrative action, disciplinary measures, and criminal proceedings.

Sexual exploitation and abuse constitute acts of serious misconduct and are therefore grounds for disciplinary action including summary dismissal, and criminal proceedings

1

Exchange of money, employment, goods, assistance or services for sex, including sexual favors or other forms of humiliating, degrading or exploitative behavior is prohibited.

2

Sexual activity with children (persons under the age of 18) is prohibited, regardless of the local age of consent or majority. Mistaken belief in the age of a child is not a defence.

3

Any sexual relationship between humanitarians and beneficiaries that involve improper use of rank or position **is prohibited**.

4

Where a humanitarian worker develops concerns or suspicions regarding sexual abuse or exploitation by a fellow worker, whether in the same agency or not, he or she has **must report such concerns**.

5

Humanitarian workers are obliged to create and maintain an **environment which prevents sexual exploitation and abuse** and promotes the implementation of their code of conduct.

6

MANDATORY REPORTING

Where a humanitarian worker develops concerns or suspicions regarding sexual abuse or exploitation by a fellow worker, whether in the same agency or not, he or she has must report such concerns via established agency reporting mechanisms.

By calling to UNHCR Helpline
0 800 800 11

By sending an e-mail to
moldova.help@unhcr.org

By filling the Online SEA Complaint Form **http://bit.ly/reportingsea**

By contacting a humanitarian organization that you trust

Please note that you can also add **your organization's reporting mechanism**

ZERO TOLERANCE POCKET CARDS

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

KNOW THE RULES: THERE IS NO EXCUSE!

- At all times we must treat the people we serve with respect and dignity.
- Sexual exploitation and abuse is unacceptable behavior and prohibited conduct for all United Nations, affiliated personnel and RRP partners.
- Sexual exploitation and abuse violates the rights and dignity of people that we are to serve and protect.
- Sexual exploitation and abuse undermines discipline, and damages the reputation of aid organizations.

Reporting in Moldova

SILENCE IS NO EXCUSE!

If you have knowledge of sexual exploitation and abuse you **must** report it to one of the following:

- Inter-Agency PSEA Mechanism http://bit.ly/repostingsea
- Your Organization's Feedback and Complaint Mechanism:
- Your Organization's PSEA Focal Point:

Name:

Phone:

E-mail:

VICTIM ASSISTANCE:

- **ALL VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE ARE ENTITLED TO SAFE AND CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE**
- If the victim is a child, special considerations for the protection and support to the child are needed.
- Treat the victim with respect and dignity, and direct or assist the victim for support to your organization's PSEA Focal Point, PSEA Coordinator, GBV Sub-Working Group Co-Leads.
- Where immediate medical assistance is needed, refer the victim to the nearest medical centre.

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- Your Organization's Feedback and Complaint Mechanism:

Include here your organization's reporting mechanism

- Your Organization's PSEA Focal Point:

  Name:

  Phone:

  E-mail:

Your organization's PSEA Focal Point Name

PSEA Focal Point's work phone number to be contacted

PSEA Focal Point's work email address

VICTIM ASSISTANCE:

- **ALL VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE ARE ENTITLED TO SAFE AND CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE**
- If the victim is a child, special considerations for the protection and support to the child are needed.
- Treat the victim with respect and dignity, and direct or assist the victim for support to your organization's PSEA Focal Point, PSEA Coordinator, GBV Sub-Working Group Co-Leads.
- Where immediate medical assistance is needed, refer the victim to the nearest medical centre.

Please avoid including personal phone numbers and email address

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THANK YOU

Please feel free to contact us:

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