FOOD SECURITY SECTOR
PSEA FOCAL POINT

Prepared by: Georgette Al Karnawayta - PSEA Specialist
Care International in Lebanon
AGENDA

- PSEA
- PSEA NETWORK
- PSEA NETWORK-CORE GROUP MEMBERS
- PSEA MAINSTREAMING PRIORITIES UNDER THE LCRP
- ROLE OF THE SECTOR PSEA FP
- PSEA SOPs
- Communication lines
- EXPECTATIONS AND NEEDS
PSEA?

▪ The UN Secretary-General's Bulletin on Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13) entered into force in the UN in 2003.

▪ The need for reinforced action to protect beneficiaries of humanitarian assistance from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) arose from reports confirming that humanitarian and development workers had been responsible for acts of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).

▪ SEA usually refers to acts committed against beneficiaries of humanitarian assistance or members of affected communities.

▪ Sexual exploitation is defined as an actual or attempted abuse of someone's position of vulnerability (such as a person depending on you for survival, food rations, school books, transport or other services), differential power or trust, to obtain sexual favours, including but not only, by offering money or other social, economic or political advantages. It includes trafficking and prostitution.

▪ Sexual abuse means the actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force, or under unequal or coercive conditions. It includes sexual slavery, pornography, child abuse and sexual assault.
IASC (2019) COUNTRY-LEVEL IMPLEMENTATION OF PSEA: 3 PRIORITY OUTCOMES

**Outcome 1.** Every child and adult in humanitarian situations has access to a safe and child-sensitive SEA reporting channel.

**Outcome 2.** Every survivor of SEA receives quality, survivor-centered assistance.

**Outcome 3.** Every child survivor of SEA has their case investigated in a prompt, safe and respectful way.
Understanding Power Imbalances and SEA

Humanitarian aid workers have POWER over beneficiaries.
Source of Power: access and control of resources.
When this power is used negatively, it’s called abuse of power.
What is the PSEA Network:

The Lebanon In-Country Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network has participation from the UN, international and national NGOs and was established to support the collective approach to prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse in Lebanon, in line with international standards and best practices. The Network meets monthly and provides support to organizations to implement PSEA policies.

Working Group Key Contacts: Erica Talentino

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Inter-agency PSEA Network Co-Chair talentino@unfpa.org; +96176482273
PSEA NETWORK-CORE GROUP MEMBERS

UN Women,
UNICEF,
WFP,
UNHCR,
Care International in Lebanon,
Terre des Hommes-Lausanne, and
LHDF (PSEA Officer).
The PSEA Network Co-Chairs: UNFPA, ABAAD, as well as UNIFIL
PSEA MAINSTREAMING PRIORITIES UNDER THE LCRP

- There are five priority areas for PSEA mainstreaming included in the LCRP Inter-Sector Joint Work Plan for 2021, which have been identified through consultation with key stakeholders in the LCRP Inter-Sector in February 2021. These include:

  - Implementation of PSEA Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) across sectors.
  - Integration of PSEA-related messages into awareness-raising activities to foster SEA risk mitigation across all sector interventions, with a focus on interventions considered at higher risk.
  - Capacity building of LCRP partners to mainstream PSEA across their programming through support from the PSEA Network, including providing partners with relevant guidance and support to implement appropriate mechanisms.
  - Strengthening existing partner community complaints and feedback mechanisms to handle SEA complaints,
  - Ensuring that Codes of Conduct include commitments on PSEA are signed by all partner staff, consultants, volunteers, and contractors.
To support the roll-out of the PSEA mainstreaming priorities, each sector will nominate a sector-level PSEA focal point who will work in close collaboration with the Sector Coordinator. Sector PSEA focal points will primarily implement key actions needed to roll out the priorities with sector partners via Sector Working Groups at the national and field levels. These actions include:

- Support the roll-out of PSEA SOPs by delivering presentations and information sharing initiatives to sector partners at regular intervals;
- Support partners to integrate PSEA components within existing community feedback mechanisms (with technical support from PSEA Network as needed);
- Update sector partners on available IEC material produced by the PSEA Network; and
- Link sector partners to PSEA Network training opportunities, guidance and key topic discussions where appropriate.

**The Food Security Sector-PSEA FP:** Georgette Al Karnawayta
Care International in Lebanon, PSEA Specialist, georgette@careliban.org; +961 76 508991
The Lebanon SOPs on PSEA

Why do we have a Lebanon SOPs on PSEA?

- Establish safe and ethical procedures for the handling of SEA complaints among UN Agencies, NGOs and CSOs operating in humanitarian/development response

- Strengthen access to safe, confidential and survivor-centered reporting mechanisms for affected population
PSEA SOPS

- **Coverage:**
  - Roles and responsibilities of key PSEA stakeholders
  - Key principles in preventing and responding to SEA
  - Receiving and assessing SEA complaints
  - Inter-Agency procedures for responding to and referring SEA complaints
  - SEA survivor assistance provision and protection
  - Protection for whistle-blowers and complainants
  - Investigations and feedback
PSEA SOPS

Key Principles

- Confidentiality
- Transparency
- Accessibility
- Partnership
- Survivor Centered Approach
- Participation of affected communities
- "Do No Harm"
- Best Interest of the Child

"Do No Harm" Best Interest of the Child

LEBANON
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES (SOPs)
PROTECTION FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE
PSEA SOPS
MANDATORY REPORTING:

- While reporting SEA is mandatory, this obligation may in practice conflict with the principles of confidentiality and the right of the survivor to choose how they would like to address the incident.

- Agencies and organizations will need to internally reconcile this potential conflict, balancing both the right of the survivor and the safety of the individual and broader community. One possibility is to inform the survivor of the mandate to report SEA, while seeking informed consent to proceed.
PSEA SOPS

KEY STEPS:

- Treat the survivor, or complainant, if different, with dignity and respect, make them as comfortable as possible; always believe the survivor. Use a separate room to ensure privacy.

- Explain to the survivor/complainant the mandatory requirement to report on all SEA allegations. Get the basic incident information about the complaint/incident.
  - Cases where the survivor is the complainant – immediate assessment/referral to services.
  - Cases where the survivor is not the complainant – don’t seek out the survivor

- Ask the complainant how they would prefer to receive further communication/feedback about the case.

- Considerations for female survivors, child survivors, persons with specific needs
Complaint raised by humanitarian/development staff

Complaint raised by survivor/victim

Complaint raised by any other beneficiary/member of affected population

Organization Investigating Unit

GBV/CP service provider

Any agency/organizational CFM

ABAAD hosted inter-agency CFM (Beirut response)

PSEA FP in complaint receiving organization
PSEA FP in organization responsible for investigation
(See SOPs p. 14-15 for details)

Allegation of SEA

Victim assistance Mechanism

PSEA Coordinator/Network Co-Chair

Feedback and outcome of investigation to be fed back to complainant/survivor
Staff member receiving the complaint

Refer to Organizations established CFM or to the PSEA FP of the staff members PSEA FP own Organization (within 24 hrs. upon receipt of the complaint)

PSEA Focal Point

Inform the Organization
PSEA FP should report the incident following the organization’s internal procedures and identify whether the complainant/survivor has received assistance.

Organization should respond
The organization should provide needed support and services and refer the survivor to GBV or CP specialist if capacity is not available through the referral pathways.

The organization/agency of the alleged perpetrator is responsible for applying relevant administrative procedures while an investigation takes place.

Inform the PSEA Network Coordinator or the PSEA Network Co-chairs
Please see Information Sharing Protocol, Annex F, for information to be reported.

Confidential notification sent to the RC/HC by the PSEA PSEA Network or the PSEA Network Co-chairs
This notification does not include identifiable information.
Sector Coordinator will continue to hold the primary responsibility for PSEA mainstreaming within their sectors.

The Sector PSEA focal point will work closely with the Sector Coordinator to support the roll-out of mainstreaming priorities at the field and national levels, including with partners where appropriate and under the guidance of the Sector Coordinator.

The Sector PSEA Focal Point will liaise with the PSEA Network and the PSEA Coordinator for technical guidance when needed.

For Support, Information or clarifications, Please contact us by sending an email
To: georgette@careliban.org
CC: Carla DEGREGORIO: carla.degregorio@wfp.org; Elie.Choueiri: Elie.Choueiri@fao.org
What are your expectations?

What type of support do you need at your organizational/partner’s level to ensure PSEA is well mainstreamed?
THANK YOU