



**DEFINITIONS**



**SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

- any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another

**ZERO TOLERANCE  
FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE**

United Nations, 2009, ST/SGB/2003/13



**SEXUAL ABUSE**

- the actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions

**ZERO TOLERANCE  
FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE**

United Nations, 2009, ST/SGB/2003/13



**SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

- any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offence or humiliation
- the manifestation of a culture of discrimination and privilege based on unequal gender relations and other power dynamics
- may involve any conduct of a verbal, non-verbal or physical nature, including written and electronic communications

**ZERO TOLERANCE  
FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE**

United Nations, 2019, ST/SGB/2019/8

**PRINCIPLES**

- Zero-tolerance policy towards Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)
- SEA – attempted and/or actual – is unacceptable behaviour and prohibited for all implementing partners
- UNEP does not partner with entities that fail to address SEA
- Retaliation against anyone who reports SEA is prohibited
- UNEP places the human rights, interest and needs of victims at the centre of its efforts
- UNEP adopts a victim-centred approach in response to SEA
- SEA threatens the lives of the people that we serve and protect including, through implementing partners
- In cases of SEA involving children, all decisions are made considering the best interest of the child

**PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

- **ANY** sexual activity with children (persons under the age of 18) regardless of the local age of consent
- Transactional sex: sexual activity with anyone in exchange for money, employment, preferential treatment, goods or services or food
- Withholding due services or blackmailing for sex
- Sexual activity with prostitutes, even when it is legal in the country
- Using a child or adult to procure sex for others
- Rape or attempted rape
- Threats of unwanted sexual acts
- Unwanted kissing, touching, grabbing, or rubbing
- Threats of sexual exploitation

## Statement on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) for Implementing partners



### YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Always treat the local population with respect and dignity
- Promptly report SEA
- Comply with the provisions of any cooperative agreement concluded with UNEP
- Undertake training to build capacity to prevent and respond to SEA.

### WHO IS INVOLVED?

- Perpetrator: Implementing partner personnel or implementing partner subcontractors
- Victim: Person sexually exploited, abused or harassed
- Beneficiaries of assistance in any implementing country
- Members of a local community or displaced population situations

### REPORTING SEA

**\*You can report allegations of sexual misconduct anonymously**

If you have knowledge of SEA, you must report to one of the following:

- Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) [hotline](#) or [oioshotline@un.org](mailto:oioshotline@un.org)
- UNEP Executive Director

**\*All reports should be made in good faith**

**\*Strict confidentiality for all reports**

### UNEP RESPONSE

#### Actions to address allegations:

- Terminate cooperative agreement with UNEP
- Investigation
- Red flagging implementing partner for no further cooperation

### TRAININGS

#### The following trainings are available:

- ✓ [Inter-Agency Standing Committee \(IASC\) Learning package](#). Instructor led
- ✓ [Prevention of SEA UNICEF](#). Self-paced
- ✓ [Free Guide to Responding to Sexual Violence in the Aid Workplace](#), access by smartphones, Disaster Ready
- ✓ [Free Guide to Caring for Sexual Assault Survivors](#), access by smartphones, Disaster Ready
- ✓ [Course materials for PSEA](#)