

Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

What is PSEA?

*“The term **“sexual exploitation”** means 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.” The term **“sexual abuse”** refers to sexual behavior engaged by force, constraint or within a dynamic of unequal power; the suggestion of such behavior also constitutes sexual abuse”.*

PSEA represents all efforts put into place to prevent such abuses from occurring.

Why is it important to our work?

- **Sexual Exploitation and Abuse** represents a catastrophic failure in the protection of beneficiaries.
- SEA harms those whom World Vision is mandated to serve by posing a direct threat to the community’s social net and security.
- SEA undermines the reputation of our work and organization as well as the relationship of trust and accountability which we strive to maintain with the communities.
- SEA goes against WV code of conduct for staff; under the code staff are required to report incidents relating to other staff but also to make efforts in preventing such occurrences in the communities.
- Most importantly, SEA violates universally recognized international legal norms and standards.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Children are some of the most vulnerable groups of beneficiaries, we therefore ask that you pay special attention to situations where they are involved.
- Although we focus on sexual exploitation and abuse, other forms of abuse of power, such as financial exploitation, do exist and **can affect all beneficiaries** regardless of their age or gender. We must work to prevent, monitor and respond to this kind of abuse as well.

What is my responsibility, as a staff member, in addressing/reporting SEA?

- **Understanding** what **Sexual Exploitation and Abuse** is.
- **Staying** alert and being able to identify it when it happens.
- **Reporting** any case of sexual exploitation you witness or hear about in the field **immediately** (i.e. beneficiaries being asked for sexual favors in exchange for WV goods or acceptance into WV programs, by staff or camp comity members) to **HR** when it involves WV staff and to the **Protection Team** when it involves all others (i.e: camp committee member, landlord, ...etc).
- **Encouraging** beneficiaries to speak-out and report any such cases in their communities by using the complaints mechanism developed by the HAT team.

I acknowledge that I have attended training on PSEA and that I have read and understood the principles in this document as an employee, contractor or visitor of World Vision.

Staff or Visitor Name

Signature

Date