

# System-wide Implementation Strategy for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) in South Sudan 2018 – 2021

## Context of SEA in South Sudan

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) is a key concern in South Sudan. The context of conflict, economic hardship, food insecurity and limited access to basic social services, along with the poor living conditions of the local population, combine to increase the vulnerability to gender-based violence and survival sex. This, with the existence of Protection of Civilians (POC) sites and large presence of peacekeepers and aid workers heighten the exposure to SEA. Community members are not adequately sensitized and mobilized to prevent SEA. The majority of the population is not aware of where and how to make SEA complaints and what the results might be. Amongst staff, personnel and contractors working for peacekeeping and humanitarian aid delivery, there is a low level on knowledge of standards of conduct, policies and procedures on PSEA.

## System-wide Implementation Strategy 2018 – 2021

The South Sudan national PSEA Task Force developed a 3-year (August 2018 – July 2021), US\$ 660,000 system-wide comprehensive implementation strategy on PSEA to guide the design and delivery of interventions directed at preventing, responding to and mitigating the impact of SEA in South Sudan across the humanitarian, development and peace nexus involving peace keeping operations and aid work. The strategy, developed under the leadership of DSRSG/HC/RC through participatory, inclusive and consultative process, involving drafting and internal consultation at UN and NGO Head Office levels in Juba and field level through members of the National Task Force on PSEA that comprises all the UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes, UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) Conduct and Discipline Team (CDT) and international and national NGO representatives. It has received guidance from both UN Global and Field Victims' Rights Advocates as well as received input from the Secretary General's Special Coordinator on improving United Nations Response to SEA.

The Strategy responds to the challenges of SEA in South Sudan while drawing inspiration and guidance from both the *Secretary General's Bulletin on Special Measures for Protection from SEA* (ST/SGB/2003/13) and the "Report on Special Measures for PSEA" contained in his February 2017 Report (A/71/818). This Strategy incorporates these measures and responds to issues raised in the Inter-Office Memorandum from the Chef de Cabinet on Strengthened Preventive Measures to Protect Vulnerable Populations in South Sudan from SEA dated 30 April 2018. The Strategy has also drawn lessons and implementation experiences from the First Strategy on PSEA in South Sudan that was developed in 2016; and it is informed by the comprehensive SEA Risk Management Tool Kit recently developed by the United Nations Department of Peace-keeping Operations and Field Support.

## Guiding principles of the System-wide Implementation Strategy on PSEA

### *System-wide action*

- system wide approach in the humanitarian, development and peace context
- one national PSEA TF linking with UNCT, HCT and SMG
- applicable to all organizations in peacekeeping and aid/development

### *Victim-centered approach*

- respect for victim's choices, rights and dignity, confidentiality
- complaints mechanisms considering potential risks to all parties involved
- accessible and available complaints mechanisms

### *Zero Tolerance for SEA*

- highest standards of conduct for all humanitarian, development and peacekeeping personnel
- no tolerance for SEA with minors, transactional sexual relationship with any vulnerable group or any other form of SEA
- end of impunity to SEA

## Elements of the System-wide Implementation Strategy on PSEA

### *Substantive/programmatic elements*

1. SEA risk identification and risk management
2. Prevention of SEA
3. SEA reporting and response incl. victims' assistance
4. Enforcement and compliance with standards/policies on PSEA

## 5. Strengthened coordination

<b>Output 1:</b> <i>Risks of SEA reduced and systems strengthened to identify manage and mitigate SEA risks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• regular and site-specific context analysis and SEA risk assessment</li><li>• risk mapping and develop site specific interventions</li><li>• regular monitoring of risks and threat analysis</li><li>• mainstream PSEA in all programmes, sectors and humanitarian clusters</li></ul>
<b>Output 2:</b> <i>Social and institutional structures as well as the population are mobilized for prevention of SEA</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• community awareness and outreach campaigns</li><li>• key messages and materials on PSEA</li><li>• community dialogues with local religious, cultural, civic, political leaders</li><li>• regular awareness activities for peacekeepers and aid workers</li></ul>
<b>Output 3:</b> <i>Improved access to reporting mechanism and response services for victims of SEA</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• communities and stakeholders' engagement in establishing CBCM sites</li><li>• capacity building for SEA complaints handling</li><li>• SEA case referral</li><li>• reporting and investigation outcomes follow up</li><li>• establishment of online PSEA database</li><li>• cooperation with Victims' Rights Advocate for assistance</li><li>• partners mobilization for referrals</li></ul>
<b>Output 4:</b> <i>Increased enforcement and compliance with standards/policies on PSEA</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• mandatory yearly internal capacity assessment and action planning</li><li>• internal workplans, code of conduct and guidelines</li><li>• a system for enhanced screening of personnel and good hiring practices</li><li>• mandatory pre-deployment training on PSEA for all staff</li><li>• mandatory refresher trainings</li><li>• SOP updates for SEA case management</li></ul>
<b>Output 5:</b> <i>Improved the effectiveness and efficiency in coordination and management PSEA programmes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• dedicated PSEA Coordinator</li><li>• coordination roles at national and field levels</li><li>• focal points' capacity development for effective coordination</li><li>• inter-agency workplan</li><li>• supervision and monitoring, evaluation, documentation, best practices</li></ul>

### Oversight and coordination

#### 1. Field level Task Force on PSEA:

subnational structures in sites with CBCM, made up of representatives of each UN entity and NGOs, under the auspices of DSRGS/RC/HC reporting to the national TF, responsible for establishing and smooth running of CBCM's and local level coordination of PSEA/CBCM activities

#### 2. National Task Force on PSEA:

directly reporting to UNCT, membership of UN entities, national and international NGO working collaboratively with government structures at national level; coordination and overall support to national and field level actions and provision of policy and strategic advice to UNCT, HCT and SMG

#### 3. UNCT and HCT supervisory functions:

chaired by DSRSG/HC/RC, direct reports by the national TF, approve the annual work plan and fund it through UNCT cost-shared budget

#### 4. Senior Management Group's oversight role:

chaired by SRSG, overall oversight for PSEA, provides policy and strategic direction for PSEA and maintains overall accountability.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

- Monitoring and evaluation plan and tools funded under DSRSG/HC/RC Office's co-shared costs
- Results and Resources Framework and annual inter-agency work plans and reports
- Field level visits, reports to SG, annual review and annual report, baseline study before the end of strategy

### Contacts PSEA Task Force

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