Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

Ted Chaiban, Director, Programmes
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Reporting of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

• “Notification Alert” – 24-hour escalation from country office to executive level.

• Incident management/reporting tools under development – U-Report.

• Community-based complaint mechanisms – 7-country roll-out (2017); ongoing priority. (2018)
Victim assistance

• **Services/support to victims** – based on needs; package includes basic material, psychosocial, medical, school reintegration and/or livelihood support, legal.

• **UN Victim Assistance Protocol** – field-tested in 4 countries in 2017, for broader roll-out in 2018; collaboration with UN Victims’ Rights Advocate.
Investigations
(Also addressed by DHR)

• **Investigator training** - additional training on child-interviewing underway.

• **Collaboration with UN Office of Internal Oversight Services**
  - strengthened coordination for referrals for investigation.

• Psychosocial support to victims, before and after investigations.
SEA Cases

• **Accountability** – 2017: 4 SEA allegations involving UNICEF staff, 4 SEA allegations involving implementing partners; 2018 Q1: 1 SEA allegation involving UNICEF staff; 3 SEA allegations involving implementing partners.

• **Victim Assistance** – mid-2015 to now – more than 245 cases of assistance to child victims of SEA.
Prevention and Risk mitigation

• UNICEF Personnel: Vetting, training, re-attestations

• Implementing Partners:
  • **UN Protocol on SEA Allegations involving Implementing Partners** – UNICEF co-led; endorsed by the UN High Level Steering Group on SEA; Protocol sets new standards for UN partners on SEA prevention, reporting, investigations, corrective action.
  
  • **UNICEF implementation of the Protocol** – immediate steps include updated partnership agreements, screening checklist and toolkit for partners, training, field monitoring.

• Risk assessment and mitigation (under development):
  • Adaptation of **IASC GBV Guidelines** and related tools for SEA risk assessment and mitigation, including in camp settings.
UNICEF engagement in a system-wide approach on PSEA

UN SEA Working Group,

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC): AAP/PSEA Task Team

Inter-agency PSEA Networks and systems at field level: Ongoing technical support
Progress review and next steps:

• Independent review of UNICEF’s work on PSEA (July 2018)

Gaps, challenges and approaches:

• **Culture change:** internal and external studies; encouraging ‘speak up’ culture

• **Personnel, partner and programme risk mitigation:** better vetting of UNICEF personnel; partner risk assessment and capacity building; PSEA-conscious programming

• **Internal and external coordination:** internal formalizing of roles and improved information-sharing; stronger inter-agency field engagement (esp. humanitarian)

• **Strengthening internal and external reporting:** better internal systems, clearer expectations of partners and their personnel, better information for beneficiaries

• **Promotion of a victim-centered approach,** including “do no harm” principle
Thank You