

## PSEA Network, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

### Key Messages for AID WORKERS and the Community People on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

#### Awareness-raising messages in the context of the Rohingya Refugee Response



**ZERO TOLERANCE FOR  
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE**

**KNOW THE RULES: There is NO EXCUSE!**  
Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) is an unacceptable behavior and prohibited conduct for all personnel working for the United Nations and other humanitarian organizations.

For more information on sexual exploitation and abuse, please visit the Cox's Bazar PSEA Network webpage at Rohingya Refugee Response website.



**SILENCE IS NO EXCUSE!**  
If you have suspicion or knowledge of sexual exploitation and abuse, you must report it to the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) focal point.

In 2023 the PSEA Network compiled a set of key messages for the aid workers and the community people. The compilations of the messages have the objective of catering to the information needs of different groups, i.e., refugees, individual aid workers and organizations engaged in the Rohingya refugee response.

### 1. Sample key messages for all

- All kinds of humanitarian and development aid or assistance are free. No sexual or other favor can be requested in exchange for assistance.
- All humanitarian and development organizations have a policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse.
- Any case or suspicion of sexual exploitation and abuse should be reported.

### 2. Sample key messages for aid workers

- Aid workers must treat everyone with respect.
- Aid organizations must encourage everyone to report abuse.
- Aid workers are not allowed to ask for or accept bribes for aid.
- Aid workers are not allowed to have sexual relationships with refugees and community members that they are supporting.
- Aid workers are not allowed to ask for or accept bribes or any favors in exchange of employment.
- Aid workers must never pay for sex. Aid workers must never have sexual relationships with anyone under 18 years of age, even if it is legal in the country.
- Aid organizations encourage complaints.
- There are safe ways to complain.
- Aid organizations encourage complaints. Do you know how to make a confidential complaint in your organization?
- Aid workers must never harass anyone, especially not people receiving assistance.
- Aid workers must never exchange aid for sex.
- Aid workers must never exchange sex for employment.
- As an aid worker, you cannot encourage or accept sexual advances from the beneficiaries. If you find out about such instances, you must report it to your organization / the authorities.
- As an aid worker, you cannot expect anything in return for helping, including any intimate contact with refugees.
- Make sure the accommodation is safe for women and children, so that they can be free of abuse and harassment.
- What's your response? Learn what steps to take if you become aware of exploitation or abuse

### 3. Sample key messages for the community people

#### **Assistance/Aid is always free**

No one can demand: • Money • Favors • Sexual relationships.

For any assistance or services that you receive

#### **Every person has the right to be free from harm, exploitation, and abuse.**

If you are worried about the safety of yourself or someone you know, you have the right to report.

We will support you.

#### **Aid workers and service providers do not tolerate sexual exploitation and abuse.**

- The victim is never to blame.

- The victim has the right to report and to seek help.
- The victim's safety and dignity will be our priority.

### **You have the right to protection**

You should know:

- Communities have the right to assistance and services without being subjected to sexual exploitation and abuse.
- Aid workers and their partners are not allowed to engage in sexual relationships with beneficiaries of assistance and services.
- Reporting will never prevent you from getting the help and support that you need

### **You have the right to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse**

- No one can demand sexual relationships for assistance and services.
- Reporting abuse and exploitation will not prevent you from receiving aid.
- We will listen to you and support you in getting help.

### **It's never the survivor's fault**

- The survivor is never to blame
- Service providers do not tolerate sexual exploitation and abuse
- People's safety and dignity is the priority

### **You can report concern or suspicion of harm or abuse**

- If you feel unsafe or wish to report a concern, please report to us.
- Reporting will not prevent you from receiving assistance.

### **You have the right to protection and services**

- If you know or suspect that abuse is happening, you have the right to report it and seek help
- Reporting will not prevent you from receiving assistance

### **We will listen to you**

- You have the right to report a service provider if they harm or upset you
- Any complaint you make will be confidential
- Your safety is our priority