



## Fact sheet on the Secretary-General’s initiatives to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse

**Background:** In March 2017, the Secretary-General outlined a comprehensive four-pronged strategy<sup>1</sup> to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse across the United Nations system.<sup>2</sup> The elements of the strategy are to: (a) prioritize the rights and dignity of victims; (b) end impunity through strengthened reporting and investigations, including clarifying limitations on the United Nations to achieve criminal accountability; (c) engage with civil society and external partners; and (d) improve strategic communication for education and transparency. In the implementation of this strategy, the Secretary-General focused on putting the United Nations “own house in order”—putting in place mechanisms under his authority. In March 2018, the Secretary-General provided an update<sup>3</sup> on the implementation of the strategy and this was further reviewed in March 2019<sup>4</sup>.

To enhance coordination and ensure sustained high-level attention on the issue, the Secretary-General extended the mandate of the Special Coordinator to Improve the United Nations Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse until 31 December 2019. Her role is to coordinate the implementation of the strategy throughout the United Nations system and ensure a harmonized approach through the development of aligned mechanisms and procedures, standardized protocols and tools.

Below are some key initiatives undertaken or built upon in accordance with the Secretary-General’s commitment to combat sexual exploitation and abuse since 2016.

### Prioritizing the rights of victims

Initiative	Status
1. Secretary-General appointed first <b>Victims’ Rights Advocate</b> at the Assistant Secretary-General level to strengthen the support that the United Nations gives to victims and ensure that a victim-centered approach is integrated into prevention and response	Appointment August 2017; action plan December 2017; work ongoing
2. Field visits conducted by the <b>Victims’ Rights Advocate</b> to gain a <b>first-hand understanding of how United Nations actors operate on the ground</b> to assist and support victims of sexual exploitation and abuse, and make recommendations for further action	Central African Republic, October 2017; South Sudan, December 2017; Haiti, April 2018; Lebanon, August 2018; and Jordan, September 2018
3. Establishment of inter-agency working group to facilitate a more timely and effective resolution of <b>outstanding paternity/child support claims</b> arising from sexual exploitation and abuse	Working group established June 2018; ongoing
4. Mapping of <b>victims’ rights approaches/services</b> : in line with the Secretary-General’s instruction in his 2018 report (A/72/751, para. 28), the Victims’ Rights Advocate is undertaking a pilot mapping of victims’ rights approaches and/or services (prevention, medical,	Project commenced August 2018; ongoing

<sup>1</sup> See [A/71/818](#) and [A/71/818/Corr.1](#).

<sup>2</sup> As part of the strategy to ensure high level engagement in the relevant entities across the UN system, in 2016 a high-level steering group was established including the Chair, Chef de Cabinet; the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support; the Under-Secretary-General for Management; the Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications; the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations; the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel; the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict, Sexual Violence in Conflict, and Violence against Children; the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator; the Administrator of UNDP; the Executive Director of UNICEF; the High Commissioner for Refugees; the Executive Director of UNFPA; and the Executive Director of UN-Women. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services participates as an observer.

<sup>3</sup> See [A/72/751](#) and [A/72/751/Corr.1](#).

<sup>4</sup> See [A/73/744](#).





psychosocial and legal assistance, livelihood support, accountability) available across the United Nations system and beyond. This will build on existing work and provide a clear <b>overview of gaps, overlaps, lessons learned and good practices</b> to inform the development of additional tools, policies and programmes	
5. <b>Field Victims' Rights Advocates</b> appointed in the four peacekeeping operations with the highest number of allegations: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic, Haiti and South Sudan. Their role is to ensure that a victim-centered, gender- and child-sensitive and non-discriminatory approach is integrated into all activities to support and assist victims in those countries	Appointment completed September 2017; work ongoing.  Three dedicated positions were approved by the General Assembly in July 2018.
6. Secretary-General and the <b>Victims' Rights Advocate met</b> confidentially and directly <b>with victims</b> of sexual exploitation and abuse	October 2017; ongoing
7. <b>CDS launched Centralized tracking tool for provision of victim assistance</b> in all peace operations	Rolled out fourth quarter 2018; ongoing
8. <b>Protocol on the provision of assistance to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse</b> developed and field-tested by CDS and UNICEF. It provides guidance on the roles and responsibilities of United Nations actors in the field to ensure coordinated and immediate victim assistance	Field testing began January 2017; the protocol will be updated based on the testing and will incorporate roles of the Victims' Rights Advocate and the Field Victims' Rights Advocates.
9. <b>Trust Fund</b> established in 2016 to provide resources to support victim assistance services and projects <a href="https://conduct.unmissions.org/remedial-trust-fund">https://conduct.unmissions.org/remedial-trust-fund</a> <b>MONUSCO project:</b> <a href="https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/monusco-launches-projects-to-assist-victims-of-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse">https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/monusco-launches-projects-to-assist-victims-of-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse</a> <a href="https://monusco.unmissions.org/en/kivus-victims-and-survivors-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse-take-their-destiny-hand">https://monusco.unmissions.org/en/kivus-victims-and-survivors-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse-take-their-destiny-hand</a>	As at August 2018, the balance of the fund is some \$2 million. Projects have been launched or are being developed in the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Liberia and South Sudan.
10. OHCHR led development of a <b>United Nations policy on a human rights-based approach</b> to sexual exploitation and abuse	Expected completion second quarter 2019

**Risk mitigation and ending impunity**

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Status</b>
1. <b>Secretary-General's high-level meeting</b> on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse held <b>on the margins of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly</b> with Heads of State and Government, regional organizations, civil society and United Nations leadership	18 September 2017
2. <b>Voluntary compact</b> on measures for preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse established <a href="https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/voluntary-compact">https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/voluntary-compact</a>	Ongoing; 101 Member State signatories





<p>3. Development and distribution to all United Nations entities with a field presence of the <b>“no excuses card” prototype</b>, which sets out the standards and obligations to prevent and report in all official and some local languages. The prototype can be customized to meet the needs of individual organizations <a href="http://dag.un.org/handle/11176/400598">http://dag.un.org/handle/11176/400598</a></p>	<p>Completed November 2017; distribution ongoing</p>
<p>4. <b>Mandatory prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse training and e-learning</b> required of all peacekeeping, Secretariat, IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNRWA, UN-Women, and WFP personnel</p>	<p>For peacekeeping since 2016, for Secretariat and other entities since 2017, and UNOPS since 2019; training ongoing</p>
<p>5. <b>Instituted annual management letter 2017</b> requiring heads of funds and programmes to certify to their governing bodies and the Secretary-General that they reported all credible allegations and the training offered<sup>5</sup></p>	<p>Completed January 2018</p>
<p>6. <b>Management letter 2018</b>, in which the Secretary-General urged members of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to submit 2018 certifications<sup>6</sup></p>	<p>Issued December 2018</p>
<p>7. <b>Action plans/risk mitigation strategies</b> submitted to the Secretary-General by all entities with field operations and programmes</p>	<p>April 2017: 35 submitted August 2018: 37 submitted</p>
<p>8. Development of <b>guidelines on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2272</b> (2016) addressing sexual exploitation and abuse in peace operations <a href="http://undocs.org/S/RES/2272(2016)">http://undocs.org/S/RES/2272(2016)</a></p>	<p>Operationally effective July 2016</p>
<p>9. Collaboration with the <b>African Union</b> for the finalization of the <b>African Union Policy on Conduct and Discipline for Peace Support Operations (PSOs)</b> <a href="http://www.peaceau.org/uploads/20082018-final-draft-au-policy-for-conduct-discipline-in-pso-copy.pdf">http://www.peaceau.org/uploads/20082018-final-draft-au-policy-for-conduct-discipline-in-pso-copy.pdf</a> and the <b>African Union Policy on the Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse for PSOs</b> <a href="http://www.peaceau.org/uploads/english-final-sea-policy-for-au-psos.pdf">http://www.peaceau.org/uploads/english-final-sea-policy-for-au-psos.pdf</a> (French <a href="http://www.peaceau.org/uploads/fr-final-sea-policy-for-au-psos.pdf">http://www.peaceau.org/uploads/fr-final-sea-policy-for-au-psos.pdf</a>)</p>	<p>African Union adopted policies in November 2018</p>
<p>10. DPO OMA released “The <b>Military Aide Memoire</b>: Commanders’ guide on measures to combat Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in United Nations military” <a href="http://dag.un.org/handle/11176/400745">http://dag.un.org/handle/11176/400745</a></p>	<p>September 2017; Updated May 2018</p>
<p>11. CDS developed a <b>sexual exploitation and abuse risk-management toolkit</b> <a href="https://conduct.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/dpko-dfs_sea_risk_toolkit_28_june_2018_modified.pdf">https://conduct.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/dpko-dfs_sea_risk_toolkit_28_june_2018_modified.pdf</a></p>	<p>Launched June 2018; under implementation</p>

<sup>5</sup> 2017 Certifications provided by ITC, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNRWA, UN Women, UNU, and WFP.

<sup>6</sup> 2018 Certifications provided so far by FAO, ICAO, IFAD, IOM, ITC, ITU, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFCC, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNOPS, UNRWA, UN Women, UPU, WFP, WHO, WMO and The World Bank.





12. Development of an electronic tool, “ <b>Clear Check</b> ”, <sup>7</sup> an electronic tool aimed at preventing UN personnel dismissed for substantiated allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse, or who left the Organization while an investigation was pending from being deployed or reemployed within the system	Launched 28 June 2018
13. <b>Incident reporting form</b> (and associated guidance) to ensure uniformity in the collection of information first reports	July 2017
14. Field testing of the <b>Incident Reporting Form</b> in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	January 2018; Ongoing
15. Roll out of <b>Incident Reporting Form</b> to Jordan and Central African Republic	January 2019
16. Development of an <b>electronic tool to report sexual exploitation and abuse allegations</b> ( <i>iReport SEA Tracker</i> ) to facilitate alignment of data and tracking of investigations	March 2019
17. Development and endorsement of <b>system-wide uniform policy on balancing the disclosure</b> of information to national authorities with principles of confidentiality when receiving and handling allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse by persons acting under a United Nations mandate	Finalized 2017; to be promulgated as a Secretary-General’s bulletin in 2019
18. Development of harmonized <b>guidelines for investigations of sexual exploitation and abuse</b> for UN investigative bodies	Second quarter 2019
19. OIOS, CDS and DPO/ITS provides training for military national investigation officers (NIOs). Training funded by the U.S.	2018 – Four trainings conducted (55 military officers from 17 TCC) 2019 – two trainings forecasted
20. Adoption of formal/informal <b>community-based complaint mechanisms in all humanitarian and peace operations</b> for receipt of allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse <a href="https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/accountability-affected-populations-including-protection-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/documents-50">https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/accountability-affected-populations-including-protection-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/documents-50</a>	Established 2016, rolled out to all United Nations entities March 2018  Translation completed (English, French, Spanish)
21. United Nations finalized and circulated to all agencies, funds and programmes the <b>protocol on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse involving implementing partners</b> (led by UNICEF and UNFPA)	March 2018 Translations of Protocol completed (Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish)
22. All <b>United Nations staff job openings, Letters of Offer (LOO) and Letters of Appointment (LOA)</b> now have a <b>special notice</b> for detailing the values and standards of conduct required of members and the consequences of failing to achieve these standards	Completed 2017; ongoing
23. <b>Staff members required to acknowledge in writing</b> , upon entry, reassignment and yearly, their knowledge and understanding of United	Completed 2017; ongoing

<sup>7</sup> The United Nations entities participating in the screening tool are: all Secretariat entities, FAO, IAEA, IFAD, IMO, IOM, IRMCT, ITC, ITU, UNAIDS, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFCCC, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNOPS, UNRWA, UN-WOMEN, UPU, WFP, WHO, WIPO, and WTO.





Nations standards of conduct, particularly regarding sexual exploitation and abuse, and the consequences for violating them	
24. All UN <b>contract for contractors</b> (consultants, day workers, individual contractors) come with <b>general conditions</b> that the contractor shall comply with the standards of conduct set forth in the Secretary-General's Bulletin, ST/SGB/2003/13	Completed 2017; ongoing
25. <b>Reissuance of 2016 Note Verbale</b> on the <b>repository of national military laws</b> on sexual exploitation and abuse <a href="https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/standards-of-conduct">https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/standards-of-conduct</a>	August 2018; 56 legal frameworks
26. Issuance of <b>2019 Note Verbale</b> on the <b>repository of national police laws repository</b> on sexual exploitation and abuse	January 2019; 1 legal framework
27. Review of options for <b>harmonization of standards and procedures</b> for non-United Nations international forces authorized under a Security Council mandate	Ongoing

### Engaging with civil society and external partners

Initiative	Status
1. <b>Formal/informal meetings</b> with civil society stakeholders	2017 – three formal meetings; 2018 – 10 meetings
2. Establishment of a <b>Civil Society Advisory Board</b> , comprising leading civil society figures and experts, to provide the Secretary-General with advice on measures to strengthen prevention of and response to sexual exploitation and abuse	19 February 2019
3. <b>WFP, UNICEF and UNHCR</b> respectively engaged in discussions on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse with Civil Society to strengthen prevention and response by raising awareness and trust to report sexual exploitation and abuse in communities, and enhancing accountability and care to people affected	2018

### Improving strategic communications for education and transparency

Initiative	Status
1. Development of a <b>glossary (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.)</b> on sexual exploitation and abuse in the context of the United Nations in English <a href="https://hr.un.org/materials/un-glossary-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse-english">https://hr.un.org/materials/un-glossary-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse-english</a> and French <a href="https://hr.un.org/materials/glossaire-sur-1%E2%80%99exploitation-et-les-atteintes-sexuelles-glossary-sea-french">https://hr.un.org/materials/glossaire-sur-1%E2%80%99exploitation-et-les-atteintes-sexuelles-glossary-sea-french</a>	Initiated 5 October 2016; Updated 24 July 2017
2. <b>Circle of Leadership on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations operations</b> comprising Heads of State and Government willing to make a visible personal commitment to end impunity for sexual exploitation and abuse <a href="https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/circle-leadership">https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/circle-leadership</a>	Ongoing; members are 72 current and former heads of State/ Government





<p>3. Issuance of a <b>Collective Statement of the Members of the Secretary-General's Circle of Leadership</b> on the Prevention of and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in United Nations Operations <a href="https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/collective-statement-members-secretary-general-circle-leadership">https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/collective-statement-members-secretary-general-circle-leadership</a></p>	<p>September 2018; endorsed by 49 heads of States/Government and 23 UN entities</p>
<p>4. <b>Meetings</b> convened by the Special Coordinator and co-sponsored by representatives of the Heads of State and Government who are members of the Circle of Leadership to share <b>good practices and initiatives</b></p>	<p>2018 – May, June, July and 17 and 30 August 2019 – second quarter</p>
<p>5. <b>Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse website</b> launched and enhanced to include agencies, funds and programmes <a href="http://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/">www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/</a></p>	<p>Created July 2017; updated regularly</p>
<p>6. To improve transparency, each quarter the Special Coordinator <b>reports on allegations</b> received by all United Nations entities mandated to report to the General Assembly <a href="https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/quarterly-updates">https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/quarterly-updates</a></p>	<p>Recurrent every quarter; ongoing</p>
<p>7. United Nations produced and aired a film showing the work of the <b>community-based complaint mechanisms</b></p>	<p>September 2017</p>
<p>8. Development of a <b>web-based mobile application</b>, pro bono by Ericsson, featuring digitized UN SEA training materials</p>	<p>Expected second quarter 2019</p>
<p>9. <b>UNICEF</b> developed a PSEA mobile app for all personnel with information on how to report and respond to allegations of SEA.</p>	<p>Expected second quarter 2019</p>
<p>10. <b>CDS</b> launched new website with a live database of allegations, an <b>online reporting</b> form and a subscription service for database updates <a href="https://conduct.unmissions.org/sea-data-introduction">https://conduct.unmissions.org/sea-data-introduction</a> French <a href="https://conduct.unmissions.org/fr">https://conduct.unmissions.org/fr</a></p>	<p>January 2017 Translated December 2018</p>
<p>11. All peacekeeping missions, as part of their <b>communications strategy on sexual exploitation and abuse</b>, conduct outreach activities to inform communities of the risks of sexual exploitation and abuse and the reporting mechanisms using direct outreach, theatre, radio, television programming and SMS-based and social media campaigns, as well as specific outreach to local media</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>12. <b>UNDP, UNHCR and UNFPA</b> launched <b>websites</b> containing information and resources on protection of sexual exploitation and abuse <a href="http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/accountability/combating-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse.html">http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/accountability/combating-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse.html</a> <a href="http://www.unhcr.org/our-fight-against-sexual-exploitation-abuse-and-harassment.html">http://www.unhcr.org/our-fight-against-sexual-exploitation-abuse-and-harassment.html</a> <a href="https://www.unfpa.org/protection-sexual-exploitation-sexual-abuse-and-sexual-harassment">https://www.unfpa.org/protection-sexual-exploitation-sexual-abuse-and-sexual-harassment</a></p>	<p>2018</p>





<p>13. Bilingual (English/French) <b>social media campaign “Honouring our values”</b> on efforts in the field and at HQ to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse including quote cards and videos of personnel, responders, Member States and community members on UN Peacekeeping, USG DPO and respective peacekeeping missions’ social media platforms (Facebook and Twitter <a href="#">#HonouringOurValues</a> ) <a href="https://trello.com/b/8dsqvTYY/sexual-exploitation-and-abuse">https://trello.com/b/8dsqvTYY/sexual-exploitation-and-abuse</a></p>	<p>Launch March 2018; ongoing</p>
<p>14. Public information <b>video messaging campaign</b> on United Nations efforts to combat sexual exploitation and abuse, featuring the UN System approach to the Secretary-General’s strategy to prevent and respond to SEA (commitments from: Secretary-General, Special Coordinator, VRA, DFS, DPKO, IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, UN-Women, WFP, and Field: MONUSCO, Civil Society-MINUSCA) <a href="http://webtv.un.org/watch/player/5846468853001">http://webtv.un.org/watch/player/5846468853001</a></p>	<p>September 2018 and presented during the 2018 General Assembly weeks</p>
<p>15. Public information campaign on combatting sexual exploitation and abuse, developing and issuing a <b>UN stamp</b> to raise awareness on the importance of speaking out to end sexual exploitation and abuse.</p>	<p>Launched March 2019</p>

**Additional**

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Status</b>
<p>1. <b>System-wide survey</b> for United Nations personnel at field duty stations with humanitarian and peace operations. Results of <b>survey disaggregated and shared</b> with heads of participating entities</p>	<p>Baseline survey: 2016; Second survey: 2017; Third survey: 2018; Fourth survey: May-June 2019</p>
<p>2. <b>System-wide</b> sexual exploitation and abuse <b>resources mapping</b> designed to assess the resources (human and financial) currently dedicated to activities related to the prevention of and response to sexual exploitation and abuse</p>	<p>Commenced January 2019; ongoing</p>
<p>3. <b>Gender study</b> on the causes and consequences of sexual exploitation and abuse to inform the development of strategies and responses</p>	<p>Concept finalized in February 2018; engaged in outreach for funding</p>
<p>4. The <b>UNDP</b> Administrator has requested all country offices to develop and implement a comprehensive action plan to prevent and respond sexual exploitation and abuse.</p>	<p>Completed 30 September 2018</p>
<p>5. <b>UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS</b> jointly retained an external independent review of their Sexual exploitation and abuse and Sexual harassment policies and procedures</p>	<p>Initiated fourth quarter 2018; ongoing</p>
<p>6. <b>UNFPA</b> appointed a <b>senior focal point for Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse at the Assistant Secretary-General level</b>, who is assisted by a full-time Coordinator and an ad-hoc inter divisional working group at the directors’ level</p>	<p>September 2018</p>
<p>7. <b>UNFPA leads training for PSEA focal points</b>, invitation extended to interested Entities</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>





<p>8. <b>UNHCR</b> reinforced its safeguarding structure, which includes investigative, legal, ethics and staff welfare functions, through additional resources and training. Also, <b>UNHCR</b> appointed a <b>Senior Coordinator (director)</b> to lead its work on sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment. The Senior Coordinator reports to the Deputy High Commissioner, who chairs an emergency task force on sexual exploitation and abuse with director-level membership, and is supported by a cross-functional Working Group</p>	<p>March 2018</p>
<p>9. <b>UNHCR</b> released its <b>sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment strategy</b> and action plan taken forward by cross-divisional teams at Headquarters and in the field <a href="http://www.unhcr.org/5b2cb6284">http://www.unhcr.org/5b2cb6284</a></p>	<p>May 2018</p>
<p>10. <b>UNHCR</b> consolidated its network of 380 PSEA Focal Points who support PSEA programming and activities on the ground and interact and share good practices through an online platform</p>	<p>July 2018; ongoing</p>
<p>11. <b>UNHCR</b> concluded a survey across 41 operations to collect information on the most used communication systems and what challenges exist in collecting, using, and responding to feedback from persons of concern with a view to strengthen <b>community-based complaints and feedback mechanisms</b></p>	<p>September 2018</p>
<p>12. <b>UNICEF</b> Executive Director issued a public statement on her commitment to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and launched an independent review of UNICEF’s response <a href="https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unicefs-position-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse-and-sexual-harassment">https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unicefs-position-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse-and-sexual-harassment</a></p>	<p>February 2018</p>
<p>13. <b>UNICEF</b> completed two internal independent reviews on sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment as part of its work to strengthen a zero-tolerance environment. A UNICEF Management Response to the to the Independent Panel Review on PSEA has endorsed all the recommendations in the independent review. The findings from both reviews have been made public, as well as UNICEF’s management response to PSEA <a href="https://www.unicef.org/evaluation/index_102739.html">https://www.unicef.org/evaluation/index_102739.html</a></p>	<p>September 2018</p> <p>Management response released December 2018</p> <p>Update to the Executive Board on progress to date in January 2019</p>
<p>14. <b>UNICEF</b> allocated internal resources to scale up PSEA and launched a PSEA results monitoring framework to support country-level implementation working closely with its 5 Regional Offices to support PSEA Focal Points in all humanitarian contexts</p>	<p>September 2018; ongoing</p>
<p>15. <b>UNICEF</b> revised its programme cooperation agreements and conducted global training for all regional and country offices and partners on the United Nations Protocol on Allegations of SEA involving Implementing Partners. A toolkit for partners is under development</p>	<p>June 2018; ongoing</p> <p>Translated in 5 UN Languages</p>







16. <b>UNOPS</b> established a <b>working group on sexual exploitation and abuse to coordinate internally</b> to ensure smooth and effective implementation of its PSEA action plan	December 2018
17. <b>UNRWA</b> established a <b>task force on sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment</b> to find innovative ways to ensure that the Agency meets the Secretary-General’s and Chief Executives Board initiatives, standards and reporting requirements	February 2018
18. <b>UN-Women</b> developed and issued a <b>sexual exploitation and abuse/sexual harassment handbook</b> providing a comprehensive overview of the applicable policies and procedures	June 2018
19. <b>WFP</b> established an <b>ad hoc joint Management and Executive Board Committee</b> on sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment and whistleblower protection	Ongoing
20. <b>WFP</b> established a Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Advisory Group with key stakeholders from each operational region, to provide a learning and knowledge sharing platform and strengthen WFP Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Focal Points capacity to fulfil their role	First consultation held September 2018; ongoing
21. <b>WFP</b> consolidated its network of more than 250 PSEA Focal Points, who support PSEA activities at the field level and is updating PSEA Focal Points Terms of Reference. The first WFP online training and accompanying toolkit for PSEA Focal Points is also under development	Ongoing

### Inter-Agency Standing Committee initiatives

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) is the primary coordination mechanism to facilitate coherent and timely international response to emergencies and to formulate policy for strengthened humanitarian action. Established by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 46/182 in 1991, the IASC includes UN agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, non-governmental organizations and the World Bank. IASC members have individual mandates but are united by the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, and independence. The IASC produces system-wide policy, guidance and tools to harmonize and improve the collective response.

Initiative	Status
<p>1. Executive Director of <b>UNICEF</b> appointed <b>Inter-Agency Standing Committee Champion</b> on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment for the humanitarian sector until June 2019 to be succeeded by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees until June 2020.</p> <p>In this capacity, UNICEF Executive Director Fore has outlined PSEA priorities that she will focus on in her Championship capacity (in a letter to Principals in September); convened IASC Senior Focal Points to advance PSEA priorities, including scaling up country-level PSEA implementation (November 2018); and presented a proposal for accelerating PSEA at country-level that was endorsed by IASC Principals (December 2018). A PSEA gap analysis across humanitarian countries is underway, together with the development of a country-</p>	<p>June 2018 IOM – June 2011 to June 2018</p> <p>March 2019, ED Fore will re-convene IASC Senior Focal Points around a call for action to scale up PSEA across all humanitarian and refugee response countries.</p>





level framework, to inform implementation of the country-level package, including the allocation of resources by IASC members	
2. <b>IASC Six Core Principles</b> on Sexual Conduct for Humanitarian Workers published in 50 languages <a href="https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/focal-points/documents-public/plan-action-and-core-principles-codes-conduct-protection-sexual-abuse">https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/focal-points/documents-public/plan-action-and-core-principles-codes-conduct-protection-sexual-abuse</a>	2002, under revision, additional translations ongoing
3. <b>IASC Champions’ Strategy</b> on Protection from and response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment outlines vision, strategy and priorities until June 2020 as agreed between the ERC, UNICEF and UNHCR and endorsed by the IASC Principals <a href="https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/iasc-senior-focal-points-sexual-exploitation-abuse-and-harassment/content/strategy-protection-and">https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/iasc-senior-focal-points-sexual-exploitation-abuse-and-harassment/content/strategy-protection-and</a>	November 2018
4. <b>Emergency Relief Coordinator</b> communicates IASC Champions Strategy to all humanitarian coordinator, underlining the responsibility to deliver the strategy in their countries, including through country-based PSEA networks	November 2018
5. <b>IASC and UN Chief Executives Board Task Force</b> on addressing Sexual Harassment co-organize a <b>meeting of investigatory bodies</b> on Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment to harmonize approaches to investigation and strengthen system-wide capacity	November 2018
6. <b>Fund established to provide rapid grants to IASC</b> organizations and partners who lack access to sufficient investigations capacity, managed by OCHA	June 2018
7. <b>IASC endorses Minimum Operating Standards for Protection from SEA (MOS-PSEA)</b> and Guidelines to implement them <a href="https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/3_minimum_operating_standards_mos-psea.pdf">https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/3_minimum_operating_standards_mos-psea.pdf</a> <a href="https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/protection-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/documents-public/guidelines-implement-minimum-operating">https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/protection-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/documents-public/guidelines-implement-minimum-operating</a>	2013, currently under revision
8. <b>IASC endorses global standard operating procedures for inter-agency cooperation in community-based complaint mechanisms</b> in humanitarian operations to receive allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse and publishes <b>best practice guide</b> <a href="https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/node/17836">https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/node/17836</a> <a href="https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/node/17906">https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/node/17906</a>	Endorsed 2016; ongoing
9. The <b>IASC Task Team on Accountability to Affected Populations and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse</b> manages a website of resources, training and guidance <a href="http://www.pseataaskforce.org/">http://www.pseataaskforce.org/</a>	Updated regularly
10. <b>IOM launched a project to strengthen the humanitarian community’s collective ability</b> to reduce and effectively respond to	Established 2016; ongoing





sexual abuse and exploitation by aid workers, and to strengthen inter-agency PSEA leadership and coordination. Having developed and rolled out the 2016 IASC Toolkit <sup>8</sup> , IOM is providing technical assistance to Humanitarian Country Teams and PSEA Networks	
11. <b>IOM</b> to build off the humanitarian gap analysis through consultation with in-country PSEA Networks	Ongoing
12. <b>IOM</b> launches a 2-phase initiative to build a talent pool of potential PSEA Coordinators by developing a training package and tools to meet the rising demand for dedicated in-country coordinators	Consultation phase: May 2019; Training phase: Summer 2019
13. <b>IOM</b> informs the global dialogue on inter-agency PSEA implementation based on the lessons learned from rolling out the 2016 IASC PSEA Toolkit, at the request of the IASC Principals, and will bundle its experiences to share among field and global colleagues	Third quarter 2019
14. <b>IOM</b> conducted in-country trainings and regional trainings of trainers for <b>inter-agency community-based complaint mechanisms</b> , aimed at capacitating PSEA Network Co-Chairs and Coordinators <sup>9</sup>	2017-2018
15. <b>IOM deployments on request to support or establish protection from sexual exploitation and abuse</b> collective in-country initiatives	2017 – Bangladesh; 2018 - Syrian Arab Republic
16. Training for Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) on their institutional and collective prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse roles (to be developed into generic HCT guidance package)	Somalia 2018
17. As lead agency for gender-based violence (GBV), UNFPA is conducting a multi-agency GBV mapping of services (referral pathway) available to victims and prevention of sexual of sexual exploitation of abuse	Initiated late 2018; to be completed third quarter 2019

<sup>8</sup> The 2016 toolkit includes the Best Practice Guide on Inter-Agency Community-Based Complaint Mechanisms, and the Global Standard Operating Procedures on Inter-Agency Cooperation in Community-Based Complaint Mechanisms.

<sup>9</sup> In-country trainings were in Chad, Iraq, Lebanon, Malawi, Nigeria, Turkey (refugee response and cross-border Syrian Arab Republic response) and Yemen. Regional trainings of trainers were in Eastern Africa (June 2018), Middle East and Northern Africa (July 2018), and Western-Central Africa (Sept 2018).

