

# SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE & SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE: A TOOLKIT

## INTRODUCTION:

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) are widespread international human rights violations that exist in and are often exacerbated in emergencies. Action Against Hunger has a role to play in preventing, mitigating and addressing GBV and SEA in order to provide effective programming and remain accountable to its beneficiaries and staff.

The purpose of this toolkit is to provide Action Against Hunger staff with the basic knowledge and understanding of SGBV and SEA. The toolkit has four main sections:

- I. Key Terms
- II. Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)
- III. Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)
- IV. Where to Find More Resources

This toolkit is a living document that will be continually updated with new relevant tools and guidance become available.

## SECTION I: KEY TERMS

The following outlines the definition of SGBV and SEA for Action Against Hunger.

### SEXUAL & GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV):

Any harmful act perpetrated against a person's will and motivated by gender norms and unequal power relationships between men and women. Includes acts that inflict physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty.

### EXAMPLES:

Examples of SGBV include:

- Intimate partner violence
- Feticide
- Sexual exploitation and abuse

### SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (SEA):

SEA is a type of SGBV. Sexual exploitation includes any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes. This includes, but is not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.

Sexual abuse is the actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature (either by force or under unequal or coercive conditions), including inappropriate touching.

### EXAMPLES:

Examples of SEA include:

- Sexual assault
- Sexual harassment
- Recording videos or images of sexual activity, nakedness, or intimate body parts without permission

## SECTION II: SEXUAL & GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV)

### TRAINING RESOURCES:

#### 1. Managing GBV in Emergencies – UNFPA (2012)

Overview: This is a self-paced four module e-learning course and companion guide that provides essential information on SGBV programming in emergencies. A companion guide complements e-learning modules that can also be used as a standalone learning tool.

How can this help us? These training materials focus on a number of issues with SGBV that are relevant for Action Against Hunger staff. This includes an introduction to SGBV key concepts, methods to prevent SGBV and methods to respond to SGBV in programming.

The training materials can be accessed through UNFPA's website, [here](#).

#### KEY SECTIONS

**Module 1:** Introduction to GBV Programming

**Module 3:** Prevention of GBV

**Module 4:** Response to GBV, best practices and different approaches

### TOOLS & GUIDANCE MATERIALS:

#### 2. Guidelines for Integrating GBV Interventions in Humanitarian Action – IASC (2015)

Overview: This is a key resource produced by the Inter Agency Standing Committee (2014) that provides the “do’s and don’ts”, as well as suggested actions to prevent and mitigate gender based violence. The document is structured in three different sections, but the most relevant for Action Against Hunger is Part Three – Thematic Area Guidance. In this section, specific tips and tools are available for Food Security and Agriculture, Livelihoods, Nutrition, Health and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).

How can this help us? This document is a key resource that is commonly referenced in the humanitarian sector. The step to step guide and tools provided are also key in ensuring SGBV considerations are mainstreamed in all programs.

This document can be found on the IASC website, [here](#).

#### KEY SECTIONS

- Food Security (pg. 121)
- Livelihoods (pg. 203)
- Nutrition (pg. 223)
- WASH (pg. 281)
- Health (pg. 141)

### 3. Handbook for Coordinating GBV Interventions in Humanitarian Settings – Global Protection Cluster (2010)

Overview: This handbook is intended to be a quick-reference tool that provides practical guidance and specific actions to be taken when establishing and implementing a SGBV coordination mechanism in an emergency. Based on the IASC Guidelines, it also provides an overview lessons learned, good practices and new resources.

How can this help us? This handbook provides a number of good practices that are relevant for Action Against Hunger's work and give good examples for how to mitigate, prevent and address SGBV. This document can be accessed, [here](#).

#### KEY SECTIONS

- Section 1 – Basic concepts
- Section 4 – “When” and “How” to implement GBV coordination mechanisms

### 4. Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies

Overview: The Call to Action is a commitment by all humanitarian partners to change how we work so that every humanitarian response provides safe and comprehensive services for those affected by SGBV and mitigates SGBV risk.

How can this help us? The Call to Action consists of both a roadmap and action plan. The roadmap can be used as a guide for all humanitarian actors to coordinate to end gender-based violence in humanitarian crises. The corresponding action plan outlines concrete steps that can be taken to change policies, systems, and mechanisms we use to respond to emergencies to end SGBV.

#### KEY SECTIONS

**Roadmap:** How humanitarian actors can coordinate

**Action Plan:** Concrete humanitarian actors can take in the next five years

The roadmap and action plan can both be found [here](#), on the Women's Refugee Commission website.

#### Short Videos

##### [We Are All Women – UN Women \(2016\)](#)

A two minute video is a campaign to raise awareness on the consequences of the violence that takes place every day against women all over the world.

##### [Gender Based Violence in Emergencies – Save the Children \(2017\)](#)

This three minute video provides an overview of gender based violence and how an organization can mitigate, prevent and respond to GBV in humanitarian crises.

## SECTION III: SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (SEA)

### TRAINING RESOURCES:

#### 1. PSEA Basics Training Guide – InterAction (2013)

Overview: This training guide was developed to provide non-governmental organizations with three training modules that focus on the basics to prevent SEA.

How can this help us? The three modules in the training guide focus on everything from PSEA basics, reporting systems and community based complaint systems. The modules provide simple exercises to help individuals understand the complex topic.

The training materials can be found on InterAction’s website, [here](#).

#### KEY SECTIONS

Module 1: PSEA Basics

Module 3: Community Based Complaint Systems

### TOOLS & GUIDANCE MATERIALS:

#### 2. Best Practice Guide Inter-Agency Community-based Complaint Mechanisms: Protection Against SEA – Consortium (2016)

Overview: This document provides guidelines on how to create a community-based complaint mechanism to prevent SEA. The document is organized in five sections focused on everything from ensuring support and engagement in the mechanism to raising awareness of SEA to monitoring and evaluating the complaint mechanism.

How can this help us? This document provides valuable step-by-step guidance on many question related to preventing, mitigating and addressing SEA in Action Against Hunger’s programs.

This document can be found on the IASC website, [here](#).

#### KEY SECTIONS

Section C: PSEA Awareness-Raising (pg. 83-94)

Section E: Monitoring and evaluation of the CBCM (pg. 123-131)

### 3. Step by Step Guide to Addressing SEA – InterAction (2016)

Overview: This short document is a step by step guide on developing policies and procedures to prevent and respond to SEA.

How can this help us? This guide goes through everything from the minimum that should be met in addressing SEA in the sector, to identifying reporting mechanisms and how to respond to SEA. Further, the document also provides a checklist on how to prevent and respond SEA (Annex IV) that can be adapted to our contexts.

#### KEY SECTIONS

**Page 10 - 23:** Developing Policies & Procedures (codes of conduct, prevention and response)

**Annex IV:** SEA Prevention & Response Checklist

This document can be accessed through the InterAction website, [here](#).

#### Short Videos

##### To Serve With Pride: Zero Tolerance for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by Our Own Staff (2016)

This 20 minute video was made to raise awareness among the UN and other organizations about the impact of acts of sexual exploitation and abuse on individuals and communities.

## SECTION IV: WHERE TO LEARN MORE

Do you want to learn more? There are a number of key working groups and other networks committed to preventing, mitigating and addressing SGBV and PSEA. Below are a few that may be helpful.

PSEA Task Force

Report the Abuse

Call to Action on  
Protection for GBV  
in Emergencies

GBV Area of  
Responsibility  
Working Group

Do you have questions specific to Action Against Hunger? Reach out the [Gender Unit](#) for more information.