Minutes of the PSEA focused Task Team Meeting, 10th of June 2016

1. PSEA in the world Humanitarian Summit

Side event on PSEA
Organised by IOM and Interaction, the side event was finally accepted thanks to advocacy by DG Swing and Interaction. It was very well attended with 60 people expressing the urgency to address SEA.
Panel: IOM Interaction OHCHR ECHO, Government of Canada and US Government
Key themes:
- Humanitarian Architecture: Importance of leadership responsibility for SEA. Need to build trust and open dialog amongst agencies including national stakeholders to facilitate efficient coordination.
- Despite the progress linked with the IASC 2015 statement, awareness is still need to be raised.
- How do we transform the very good policy we have into practice? How do we constantly challenge the excuses we use for why we are not succeeding?
- How do we move from institutional commitments to real change?
- How could donors play a key role with a long term strategic approach to funding?

Next steps:
ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs side event on PSEA end of June, building on the WHS side event
Action:
- ✓ *Tristan Burnett IOM will circulate the short summary of the event and confirm the names of the 6 speakers*
- ✓ *PSEA language will be included in the ECOSOC resolution: The language has been introduced by the government of Canada and governments are in the process of negotiating around it. It has been inspired by what has been formerly used in the context of peace keeping. This is the first time PSEA will be included in the ECOSOC humanitarian resolution.*
- ✓ *Task team members are invited to email Tristan to suggest specific points that could be discussed by the panelists (Participants to the meeting suggested for instance to mention funding for PSEA)*

PSEA related commitments during the session "People at the center"
While PSEA was not specifically mentioned during the session, one commitment on PSEA was part of the commitment platform. It was signed by 77 organisations
Actions :

- ✓ *The task team could play a role to follow up on the commitments signed by organizations, hoping that the leadership are aware and back up the signature.*
- ✓ *UN agencies should ask their NGO partners to also commit to PSEA, and include concrete outputs in their operational strategies*
- ✓ *The summary of the session will include a part on PSEA*

2. Update on the PSEA session during the Humanitarian Coordinators' retreat

31st of May: closed door session with HCs to discuss responsibilities and challenges affecting the operations. The IASC Principals statement on PSEA from Dec 2015 specifically mentioned the HC responsibilities on PSEA [1]
- PSEA will from now on be a standing agenda item on the HC's retreat.
- Reporting responsibility related to PSEA has been added onto the HC compact to the ERC
- Presentation by Jane Holl Lute (UN special Coordinator on Improving the UN response to SEA), DG Swing as IASC Champion on PSEA; supported by the ERC, and the Head of the Emergency director's group, and OHCHR.
- While the responsibility has been added to the HC TORs, operational agencies need to understand that they have to cooperate actively, know their internal policies, and how to interact with other agencies on SEA

Actions :

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[1] *Reinforce the responsibilities on PSEA for the Humanitarian Coordinator role, in order to ensure that PSEA has a clear place within the humanitarian architecture and IASC system-wide responsibility for developing PSEA strategies and action plans is institutionalized. Coherent with existing PSEA responsibilities as Resident Coordinator, this would include developing complaints mechanisms, ensuring that survivors have access to appropriate immediate and longer-term assistance, coordinating inter-agency allegation referrals, reporting regularly to the Emergency Relief Coordinator on PSEA in relation to humanitarian operations, and including PSEA as a standing agenda item at the HC annual meeting.*

✓ *UNDP has taken the lead in the UN High Level Committee on Management regarding strengthening the role of the RC on PSEA (based on SG report) and has spoken with the UN Development Operations Coordination Office (UN DOCO). Harmonization is needed with language used for the HCs' enhanced responsibilities on PSEA since all HCs are currently double hatted (HC/ RC).*

3. Update on the Global SOPs/ the CBCM Best Practice Guide

The Global SOPs on interagency collaboration and joint complaints mechanisms was endorsed by the IASC principals on June 7th, along with the CBCM best practice guide, which is the operational guidance including the lessons learned from the IASC pilot project and other projects implemented in the past.

Actions :
- *Members to contribute to the annexes by sharing examples of:*
  - *Security Risk Assessment*
  - *Survivor Needs Assessment*
  - *Victim Assistance Referral Pathway*
  - *Feedback Form to Complaints/Survivors (intended to standardize and log on record the CBCM's communications with complainants/survivors)*

4. Update on our PSEA workplan

Objective 3.2 How to operationalise the recommendations for preventing the re-recruitment of individuals disciplined for SEA

In 2013, IASC Task force drafted the attached report "Challenges and options in improving recruitment processes in the context of PSEA". The report includes 14 recommendations for the UN agencies, and six recommendations for NGOs. It was endorsed by the IASC Principals in 2013, but lacked an agreement on a way to actually move forward and monitor progress. Agencies faced internal resistance from legal and HR departments to implement some recommendations, highlighting issues on data protection and confidentiality, or on the complexity to carry out criminal background checks for instance, when staff is moving from duty stations.

The last recommendation on information sharing between agencies to prevent re recruiting of SEA offenders was one of the 4 recommendations to be worked on by the High Level Committee Management of the UN. Under the Special Coordinator Jane Holl Lute, discussions are taking place to have a global database "clearinghouse" of SEA, including information on people involved, which then could be used as the tool for prevention of re-recruitment. The report of the Special Coordinator is being drafted and includes language on vetting and recruitment

Actions:
- ✓ *Support agencies and NGO to actually implement the soft recommendations in the 2013 report, and share good practices or examples of what they have put in place to inspire others. This of course should be done in a complementary manner to the work that is already being carried out by the different groups working under Jane Holl Lute*
- ✓ *Capitalize on the work done by the group of NGOs within the task team in 2013 and see how far the task team could support some of the challenges faced by NGOs to actually implement the recommendations included in the 2013 report. Circulate again the "Tools and resources to guide NGOs through implementing preventative measures, including good practice examples". The NEAR network will explore the recommendations with its members*
- ✓ *Get an update from UNDP, who had initial contact with Interpol on a database of offenders in 2013*

Objective 3.4 Support issues raised following the CBCM pilots and during the discussion on global SOPs

Countries increasingly request support through the task team helpdesk to set up PSEA networks. Many questions coming up are very similar, most will be answered by the CBCM best practice guide and its operational annexes. One specific aspect relates to funding, and how to raise funds for a full time coordinator position, as recommended by the pilot projects evaluations. The position should ensure the linkages with AAP to avoid fragmentation and should be accompanied by measures to ensure sustainability. It could be covered by individual's agencies core funds or funding could be requested from donors, using the CBCM guide as advocacy tool.

Questions raised:
- ✓ *Can pool fund be accessed for this position?*

5. Additional Updates on PSEA work

- **PSEA and harassment:**
  Several countries have been asking on how to build upon the structures put in place against harassment in the work place and use them for PSEA.
  Communities World Service has for instance built its PSEA policy and response strategy upon the same complaints mechanisms that had been set up for sexual harassment after the specific legislation initiated by the civil society was passed by the Pakistani government.
  The relationship between SEA cases and sexual harassment cases has been raised in different forums included the WHS, with suggestions that the level of sexual harassment could also be used as risk indicator of the level of SEA.
  Actions:
    - ✓ *Task team members to volunteer and draft a one-pager on the differences and overlaps between SEA, Sexual Harassment and SGBV, taking into account the taxonomy developed by the office of the Special coordinator Jane Holl Lute.*

- **How to implement PSEA measures when working remotely in areas with limited access:** see blog
  http://www.chsalliance.org/news/blog/remote-sea-investigations

- **PSEA webinar in collaboration with the STAIT team:** DG Swing and UNICEF representative /HCT focal point for PSEA Central African Republic presented on PSEA in a webinar organised on May 11th. 500 people registered, and almost 400 were online. One more webinar will be organized in French and more information will be sent to our members beforehand.

6. Save the Dates
- **Next IASC AAP PSEA meeting focusing on PSEA: August 12th, 3PM-4.30 PM Geneva time.**
- **Next IASC AAP PSEA TT meeting on July 8th 3PM-4.30 PM Geneva time.**

List of Participants

Organisation	Name
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CHS Alliance	Karen Glisson
Community World Service	Shama Mall
FAO	Bruna Bambini
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The NEAR Network	Smurti Patel
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