**Interagency Community Outreach and Communication Fund on**

**Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)**

**CALL for PROPOSALS**

**June 2021**

Raising community-awareness on the risks of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) committed by aid workers and available reporting channels is critical to **preventing of SEA**, as well as to ensuring that victims know where and how to **safely report SEA** when it does take place. Due to the existence of gaps in communication and outreach as well as in appropriate rights-based messaging, local stakeholders have underlined the need for effective, updated i**nformation, education and communication (IEC) materials on PSEA** that are tailored to local cultural contexts, operational realities, the groups that are most at risk, and which take into account, among others, levels of literacy, languages, age and capacity. To support NGOs in meeting these needs, UNHCR and ICVA have jointly launched the PSEA Outreach and Communication Fund. This Fund will **provide rapid, targeted financial support to NGO**s to develop and disseminate PSEA outreach and communication materials, and to **make available to all IASC members and the wider sector the materials developed through the Fund** for their further use or adaptation.

According to the [UN](https://undocs.org/ST/SGB/2003/13), “sexual exploitation” means any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another. Similarly, the term “sexual abuse” means the actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.” **We understand SEA as acts perpetrated by aid workers or people associated with aid organisations against the people that they are supposed to protect or provide aid to.**

The Fund was stablished by ICVA and UNHCR in 2020 as an initiative of the [UNHCR High Commissioner’s IASC Championship on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/iasc_hc_grandi_championship_priorities_and_initiatives_-_september_2019.pdf). You can read more about the Fund [here](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/psea-community-outreach-and-communication-fund).

**PROPOSED ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

***Who can apply?***

NGOs, particularly those that may have limited financial capacity to develop outreach and communication materials on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). NGOs contributing to humanitarian responses are encouraged to apply.

NGO fora or networks can apply as well, or one of their members can apply on their behalf.

**Large global organisations will not be considered for this fund.**

***What can the funds be used for?***

The funds can be used to develop or adapt context-specific PSEA outreach and communication materials targeting communities, such as:

* **Awareness-raising materials** **(including print, video or audio) that explain core concepts,** such as what can constitute “sexual exploitation and abuse’; the obligations of all actors to prevent and address such acts; protect witnesses, victims and survivors and clarify that protection, assistance and access to solutions are never conditional on sexual favours or relationships;
* **Materials (including print, video or audio) that share information on where to safely report and seek help**, in line with established complaints and feedback mechanisms (CFMs) and referral pathways;
* **Community engagement tools**, such as outlines and facilitators guides to lead community dialogues, role plays or focus group discussions that increase awareness on SEA risks, and the rights of communities and people affected by crises to receive protection and assistance free from sexual exploitation and abuse; and
* **Other appropriate PSEA information, education and communication (IEC) materials, tools and approaches**, as relevant to the local operational and cultural context.

The grants can also be used to adapt or translate existing PSEA outreach materials that are currently not appropriate to target communities where the applicant is working or not available in local languages.

All materials developed under the grants will be “open source” and publicly available for the benefit of other humanitarian actors and communities.

Selected grantees will receive technical support during the design process.

***Size of allocation and timeframe for completion***

* Grants of USD $20,000 will be awarded to NGO applicants.
* The timeframe for program implementation can be up to 4 months from the time the funds are received.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Applications should include a budget outlining project expenditure, accompanied by a narrative project proposal which includes the following elements:

* **Problem statement**, including a description of the risk factors for SEA in the operational setting where the project will be implemented.
* **Description of deliverables** and how these will mitigate or address the problem(s) identified.
* **Timeline for implementation of activities,** including the finalisation of deliverables.
* **Description of the community** that the communication materials are designed to reach and how the materials are appropriate to this community.
* **Measures to ensure community involvement and consultation** in project design, implementation and assessment, if relevant. Please describe how the community has been consulted in the drafting of the proposal and how it will be engaged in its implementation and assessment
* If the methodology of the project includes community engagement, please provide a risk analysis and describe how you plan to mitigate the identified risks.
* If your project aims to increase community awareness of SEA reporting channels, please include a description of these channels and how they are meeting the needs of the target community in your current operational context.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Applications would be scored on the basis of an agreed scoring sheet that prioritises the criteria proposed below,

* The project **outlines a clear need** to strengthen communication with communities on PSEA, and **the proposed activities, timeframe and approach are sound in meeting the need identified and contribute to improving PSEA**.
* The applicant shows that the proposed materials are not duplicating existing materials.
* If a local **PSEA network** exists, the applicant will **coordinate and engage with the network** throughout the design and implementation process, including the development of key messages, communication materials and approaches, or is willing to do so. Projects that involve inter-agency messages are welcome.
* It is vital that the applicant ensures that all the materials and tools it develops include **rights-based messages**. This means that messages must avoid stigmatization, victim blaming and the reinforcement of stereotypes in both language and image.
* The project aims to **involve the community** throughout the design and implementation process, including the development of key messages, communication materials and approaches.
* The project acknowledges that different groups within the same community will have different communication needs and capacities.
  + Activities are planned to ensure that the products and approaches developed are appropriate for **communicating with women, men, girls, and boys of diverse backgrounds**, through means that are appropriate and accessible to all groups in a community.
  + **Projects may also target a particular group that has not been adequately engaged** through existing materials and approaches, such as persons with disabilities, amongst others.
* The application contains a **clear and detailed budget** of the costs to implement the project and the budget is appropriate to the scope of work proposed.
* The project is **practical and achievable** in terms of the scope of work proposed, and the time and resources required as well as the skills and capacities of the organisation applying.

The initiative will aim to achieve geographic diversity, with particular attention to projects in MENA, Africa, the Americas and Asia.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Applications will be accepted until **02 July 2021.**

The applications will be reviewed by a Steering Group comprising experts from both NGOs, NGO networks and UN agencies with decisions being sent in July 2021 and grants disbursed shortly after.

**Please send completed applications and questions to:**

[PSEAfund@icvanetwork.org](mailto:PSEAfund@icvanetwork.org)

**Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.**

*NB. This document* *has not been endorsed by the IASC.*

**Interagency Community Outreach and Communication Fund on**

**Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)**

**Application Template**

1. **Problem statement**: (click box to fill; 15 lines limit)
2. *Please include a description of the risk factors for sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) committed by aid workers in the operational setting where the project will be implemented and the current gaps in PSEA outreach efforts.*
3. *Please explain the existing gaps in communication and outreach as well as in appropriate messaging to particular groups that are relevant to the context you work in.*
4. *If your project aims to increase community awareness of SEA reporting channels, please include a description of these channels and how they are meeting the needs of the target community in your current operational context.*

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Description of deliverables:** (25 lines limit)
2. *Please describe the proposed deliverables and explain how these will mitigate or address the problem(s) identified. As appropriate, please provide information on how the deliverables will help to resolve broader gaps in community outreach and communication that have been identified by the PSEA Network or Taskforce.*
3. *Please indicate potential challenges that may arise as a result of proposed project’s delivery or in the process of meeting project objectives. In the context of COVID-19, please describe how the implementation will be carried while respecting measures enforced by authorities and best practices, including mitigation for potential escalation of the pandemic.*
4. *If the methodology of the project includes in-person community engagement, please provide a risk analysis and describe how you plan to mitigate the identified risks. Additionally, if your project aims to increase community awareness of SEA reporting channels, please provide a risk analysis and describe how you plan to mitigate the identified risks, including any risks that may arise from changes to reporting channels or capacities that could fail to meet expectations.*
5. *Please describe how the deliverables will be sustained beyond the project implementation timeline.*

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Timeline for implementation of activities:**

*Please provide the timeline for project activities, including the finalisation of deliverables.*

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| **Project Activities** | **July** | **Aug** | **Sept** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** |
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1. **Description of the community:** (15 lines limit)

*Please describe the target community, or subset of the community, including details on gender, age range, specific needs and characteristics that the communication materials are designed to reach and how the materials are appropriate and inclusive. In particular, applicants are encouraged to describe their approach to reaching women and girls, persons with disabilities and hard-to-reach and marginalized groups.*

Click or tap here to enter text.

**5. Measures to ensure community involvement and consultation:** (15 lines limit)

*Please describe how the community (described in section 4) has been consulted in the drafting of the proposal and how it will be engaged in its implementation and assessment.*

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Details about the organisation:**

**Name of the organisation:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Short description of the organisation (including areas of work; type of aid):** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Type of organisation:** National NGO/Local NGO/small International NGO/NGO forum/other: please specify

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Number of staff and annual budget:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Address:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Website (if existing):** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Person of contact, job title and email address:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Where will the proposed project take place (country/region/area)?** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Language(s) of the deliverable(s):** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Experience of the organisation with PSEA (current policies and systems in place; other PSEA projects):** Click or tap here to enter text.

Please read and tick the boxes:

I understand that this Fund defines sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) as acts perpetrated by aid workers or people associated with aid organisations against the people that they are supposed to protect or provide aid to.

I confirm that my organisation has a PSEA/Safeguarding Policy (please attach to the application) and adequate reporting and complaint mechanisms.

Please attach to the application email proof of accreditation, proof of existing partnerships with known organisations, whether your organisation has a profile in the UN Partner Portal, proof of belonging to a national NGO forum, PSEA policy and any other supporting documents.

**Proposed Budget**

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| **Item** | **Unit** | **Number of Units** | **Unit Cost (USD)** | **Total (USD)** |
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| Total: | | | | 20,000 |

Eligible budget lines: direct programme and personnel costs, related administrative costs, related indirect costs, documentation of project implementation (photos, videos; up to USD 1000). Other budget lines upon request.

**Please send completed applications or questions to:**

[PSEAfund@icvanetwork.org](mailto:PSEAfund@icvanetwork.org)

**Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.**

**Reference Materials**

This section includes reference materials on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) that could be used for the application or as part of the proposed materials to develop (or proposed in simplified forms). There is no expectation that the deliverables will be related to the below resources, but they should not contradict them.

* [Resource Folder](https://icva-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/alon_plato_icvanetwork_org/EkSTbMk6vBNJqZJEORs08MkBoy03YSGiGstmkKaNbNdEDA?e=XekDlQ)
* [IASC Six Core Principles Relating to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, 2019](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/inter-agency-standing-committee/iasc-six-core-principles-relating-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse)
* [Plain-language version of the PSEA Principles translated into 100+ languages](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/15YPpdAmPGzAWsFfEA1fRLHDJd2T7BSY3) (note that these do not reflect the latest update to Principle 4)
* [Interim Technical Note: Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) during COVID-19](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/other/interim-technical-note-protection-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse-psea-during-covid-19-response)
* [IASC Best Practice Guide Inter-Agency Community-Based Complaints Mechanisms, 2016](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/accountability-affected-populations-including-protection-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/documents-50)
* UN PSEA Communication material that can be adopted : <https://trello.com/b/8dsqvTYY/sexual-exploitation-and-abuse>
* “[The language and culture of PSEA](https://www.interaction.org/blog/the-language-and-culture-of-psea/)” workshop outcome report, outlining some key linguistic and cultural aspects to bear in mind
* “[No excuse for abuse](https://www.interaction.org/blog/no-excuse-for-abuse/)” video, available in multiple languages
* [TWB Glossaries](https://translatorswithoutborders.org/twb-glossaries/), including gender- and protection-related terminology in multiple languages
* [Resources in different languages](https://psea.interagencystandingcommittee.org/resources?f%5B0%5D=type_of_publication%3A336) on community engagement on the IASC PSEA website
* [Guidance Note: How to Communicate Safeguarding and PSEA Messages to Communities during COVID-19](https://safeguardingsupporthub.org/documents/guidance-note-how-communicate-safeguarding-and-psea-messages-communities-during-covid-19)