The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task Force on Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) was created by the IASC in July 2012.

The IASC Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) by humanitarian workers was established in January 2012.

Since January 2014, these 2 tasks force were combined as the IASC AAP/PSEA Task Team.

**Background**

**Accountability to affected populations** is an active commitment to use power responsibly by taking account of, giving account to, and being held to account by the people humanitarian organisations seek to assist.

**Sexual Exploitation and Abuse** of affected community members by anyone associated with the provision of aid constitutes one of the most serious breaches of accountability. It is also a serious protection concern and erodes the confidence and trust of affected communities and the host country in all those providing assistance.

**Task team objectives**

- Foster a culture of accountability and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse at all levels of the humanitarian system.
- Encourage institutionalization of AAP and PSEA within humanitarian organizations, including local and national NGOs, INGOs, Red Cross Red Crescent movement and UN Agencies.
- Support operationalization of AAP and PSEA at collective level as well as individual agency level.

**3 workstreams in the 2016/2017 workplan**

**Work Stream 1**
- Capturing and sharing good practice on AAP and PSEA
  - 1.1 Provision of remote technical support
  - 1.2 Generate evidence on impact of AAP/PSEA
  - 1.3 Maintain a user friendly and updated information repository

**Work Stream 2**
- Support to Operationalization of AAP/PSEA
  - 2.1 Provision of direct technical assistance on AAP/PSEA
  - 2.2 Provision of recommendations on AAP/PSEA placement within humanitarian procedures and processes in the field

**Work Stream 3**
- Inter-agency collaboration on PSEA
  - 3.1 Ensure the PSEA workstream complements other PSEA-related initiatives
  - 3.2 Strengthen investigation and protection responses to SEA allegations
  - 3.3 Incorporate lessons learned from the PSEA CBCM pilot project into the revised IASC CAAP
  - 3.4 Support issues raised following the CBCM pilots and during the discussion on global SOPs
  - 3.5 Interagency awareness campaign
You have a question? You need technical advice on AAP or PSEA? You are looking for best practice?
Email: helpdesk-aap-psea@unhcr.org

Structure

• The task team is co-chaired by a UN agency and an NGO. The role of co-chair is to:
  ✓ Steer the Work Plan implementation and Chair meetings
  ✓ Advance broader objectives on AAP and PSEA
  ✓ Link with Senior Focal Points IASC Champions and with other Task Teams and Reference groups
  ✓ Represent the Task Team externally, including speaking on behalf of the Task Team
  ✓ Advocate for greater inclusion at global level of national actors

• Task team members participate in monthly meetings to update the group on progress achieved on each workplan objective. PSEA focused meetings alternate with meetings on both AAP and PSEA.

• Task Team Meetings are held in Geneva, with the possibility to call-in. Agendas are based on suggestions from Task Team members and determined by the Co-Chairs.

• The Task Team Coordinator support the group of organisations involved in delivering on each objective

Accountability

The 84th IASC Working Group in March 2013 agreed that Task Teams are to be “accountable to the IASC Working Group.”

An IASC Working Group Sponsor should work closely with the Task Team to meet its objectives and ensure links with the IASC Working Group. the IASC Secretariat follows each of the IASC subsidiary bodies, and the task team reports every six months to the IASC working group on progress on its workplan.

Participation

Participation is open to all interested humanitarian organisations, especially operational agencies. The task team brings together NGOs, UN, IOM, the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, and other national and international organisations on an equal footing.

Participants may also be non-IASC or development actors. Participants are expected to actively contribute to the work of the Task Team and take on responsibilities to advance the Task Team’s work. Participants represent their organisations and, where applicable, ensure that their IASC Working Group, Emergency Directors Group or IASC Principal representatives are regularly briefed on the Task Team’s work and progress. Experts, donors, and/or governments, may be invited as observers to provide technical input or to discuss certain relevant issues, when needed.

• The task team has seen an increase in active members with an average 35 participants in each monthly meeting.
• The task team mailing list includes 195 recipients from 67 organisations
• The IASC AAP PSEA TT has reached out to several national stakeholders to ensure stronger participation of local organizations in the Task Team at the global level

Breakdown of the 64 organisations on the mailing list

Donors  IFRC/ICRC  Networks  NNGO  INGO  UN/IOM

15  3  8  4  31

Currently the task team is co chaired by UNHCR and OFADEC

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All meeting documents and key publications are uploaded on the IASC website: https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/accountability-affected-populations-including-protection-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse

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