

What is safeguarding

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Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub



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Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub

- The Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub is an FCDO-funded initiative, providing capacity support on safeguarding to smaller and less resourced CSOs and NGOs
- Support includes a website with a resource library and Safeguarding Consultants Directory, as well as webinars and podcasts on safeguarding issues. We also run a mentorship programme and have developed an e-learning programme
- The RSH also has hubs in Nigeria, South Sudan and Ethiopia (and soon to be opening in the MENA region), providing context-specific support that is available in local languages



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What is safeguarding

Definitions

- In our sector, it means ‘protecting people who come into contact with our staff or programmes from harm caused by us’
- ‘Harm’ can include physical, emotional or sexual exploitation, harassment or abuse
- This can be harassment, abuse or exploitation by staff and associated personnel, or harm caused by poor design and implementation of programmes
- Many organisations now include workplace harassment, exploitation and abuse in this definition (eg. ‘staff on staff’)

What is safeguarding

Examples of safeguarding concerns could be

- Staff working in a programme with children are physically abusive towards them
- A staff member exploits members of the community by asking for sex in exchange for assistance
- Poor programme design puts women and girls at risk of assault from others in their family or community



International safeguarding standards



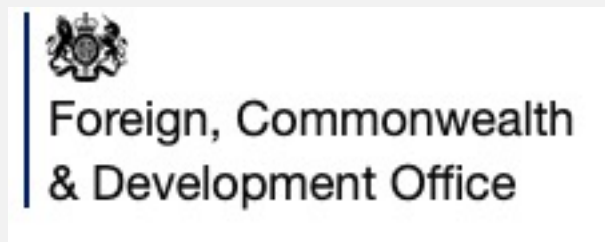
Core Humanitarian Standard
PSEAH Index



Keeping Children Safe Standards



IASC MoS for PSEA



DfID Due Diligence



How does safeguarding relate to security?

Security assessments can identify issues relevant to safeguarding

- For example, security assessments may identify safeguarding risks that can feed into safeguarding policy and safer programme design

Security incidents can include safeguarding concerns

- For example, if a security incident includes sexual assault, or involves children/vulnerable adults

Safeguarding concerns can create security issues

- For example if a staff member is accused of sexual exploitation, the community may retaliate against them/the organisation



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How should safeguarding and security work together?

Ideally, from the earliest opportunity!

- Agree protocols beforehand
- Include safeguarding in security assessments, and vice versa
- If a security incident involves potential safeguarding concerns, seek advice from safeguarding experts
- Safeguarding cases should include security in case management teams where there are security concerns



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Key points to bear in mind

Preparedness with safeguarding team

- Agree protocols
- Identify potential threats in programme design & delivery
- Map security support options for survivors and others involved

How to react to disclosures or incidents

- Listen or observe. Document details as soon as you can, and refer to your safeguarding team

Survivor-focused approach

- The survivor's wishes, safety, and well-being remain a priority in all matters and procedures

Thank you

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Useful resources

Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub:

<https://safeguardingsupporthub.org/>

CHS PSEAH Index:

<https://psea.interagencystandingcommittee.org/>

Keeping Children Safe:

<https://www.keepingchildrensafe.global/>

IASC PSEA Portal:

<https://psea.interagencystandingcommittee.org/>

GISF Managing Sexual Violence Against Aid Workers:

<https://gisf.ngo/resource/managing-sexual-violence-against-aid-workers/>



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