



AWARENESS SESSION FOR FAMILIES		180MN
GOALS	Empower local communities in the reduction of children's exposure to Sexual Exploitation and Abuses risks	
GLOBAL RESULTS	Participate to establish a more equal power ratio between local communities and the aid systems by giving local communities relevant information and tools.	
MATERIALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- paper board and markers (different colors);</li> <li>- sanitary material (COVID related) if needed;</li> </ul>	
HUMAN RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- women and men (mixed staff);</li> <li>- at least 1 person for 5 participants;</li> <li>- a maximum of 15 participants (3 staff members);</li> <li>- an additional person in case of a referral.</li> </ul>	
PLACE	See "DO NO HARM POLICY" (in PSEA - HOW TO ACT IN CBA ACTIVITIES document)	
NOTA BENE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All session time is given on an indicative basis. Of course it is possible to take more time for each awareness session step, depending on the time dedicated to it. It is also possible to divide the awareness session in several sessions to take more time to deliver messages and to interact with participants.</li> <li>- The entire session is a complete awareness session and could be conducted as such in case any focus group session has been organized with local communities before. Nevertheless, to be as relevant as possible, this</li> </ul>	

	awareness session has to be adapted depending on the focus groups sessions results (example : some parts of the following awareness will be useful, when some parts will have to be prioritized, etc.).
<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	Every family member should attend the awareness session : parents (or other legal guardians for children representatives) and children from 5 to 18 years old. Adapt the level of information and the concept used regarding participants (young children or adolescents). Try to make groups with same aged children .

INTRODUCTION TO AWARENESS SESSION		5 MIN
<b>GOALS</b>	Introduce the work that will be done during the awareness session and the way the awareness session will be conducted.	
<b>INFORMATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People in charge of the focus group present themselves and ask participants to present themselves ;</li> <li>- They thank participants for their participation in this focus group and for the time they are dedicating to the activity ;</li> <li>- This awareness session is a step of the project called "Enter the Fight", which aims to raise awareness and train local communities to SEA risk committed by humanitarian workers;</li> <li>- Trainers explain that they are well aware of the sensitive aspect of the subject, that is why they inform participants that they are not obliged to talk if they do not feel comfortable. They remind participants that any information given during the focus group will be strictly confidential, and the idea is to discuss this subject as a group. Participants are not obliged to speak about personal experiences, the idea is to talk in a general way. Safe and calm places are open to participants in order to talk about personal experiences if they need it.</li> <li>- If you want to take photos during the session ask participants if they consent beforehand.</li> <li>- Explain you have a place next to the training room for private discussions if any participant would like to talk one-on-one during the focus group session. If you are uncomfortable with any ideas, concepts or information, feel free to speak up.</li> <li>- At the beginning of every activity, explain to the whole group of participants the objectives and goals of the session, and the results you are looking for.</li> </ul>	

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Tell the participants that if they have any questions or comments before the session starts, they are welcome to share them.</li></ul> |
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<b>ACTIVITY N°1</b>	<b>UNDERSTAND THE RISK (PREVENTION)</b>	<b>45MN</b>
<b>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES</b>	Empower participants by giving them definitions and help them to understand SEA.	
<b>SPECIFIC RESULTS</b>	Participants get the right information and key messages about SEA risks and are empowered on this notion.	
<b>MATERIAL NEEDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- paper board and markers (different colors);</li> <li>- sanitary material (COVID related) if needed;</li> </ul>	

### CONDUCTING THE SESSION

#### **WHAT IS SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (SEA) ?**

##### **\*Parents and children activity\***

- a) **Ask adults and children** they know what SEA means. Explain to participants they can answer with single words, also as sentences, concepts, situations, ... *As for any activities, trainers need to encourage participation but not to force participants into it. To facilitate participation, trainer can ask all the participants, or at least children to raise their hand before they speak;*
- b) **Write down on a paperboard** participants' key words and answers, and give participants the definition of SEA : Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) relates to the behavior of NGO staff towards members of local communities, implying acts of sexual exploitation and abuse, which are considered as any behaviour that intends to harm someone in a sexual way. Therefore violence could involve physical force, but could also be verbal, psychological, economical, social ... Violence could be exerted through physical ways (be in front of another person), or dematerialized ways (sending messages ...);
- c) **Explain to children** adapting the definition. Add an example for them to understand better the concept : a humanitarian worker asking you a kiss in exchange of a candy is a SEA;

- d) **Explain to the whole** that many people can be victims of SEA : women, men, and also children. Ask the group beginning with the kids: how do you feel about it ? Support participants in their answer and create a real discussion allowing everyone to express themselves about this dreadful topic;
- e) **Explain to every participant** that In this awareness session we will focus on ways to reduce children's exposure to the sexual exploitation and abuse perpetrated by aid workers. Every instance of such abuse is a gross violation of children's rights and a betrayal of human rights.
- f) **Ask them** if they have any comments, remarks, questions, ...

## **PROTECTION TO SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (PSEA) WITHIN CHILD PROTECTION**

### **\*Parents and children activity\***

- a) **Ask the whole group, beginning with children** : do you know what child protection is ? Write down on a paperboard participants' key words and answers, and discuss it with the whole group of participants;
- b) **Give to participants the UNICEF definition** : *'child protection' refers to preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse against children – including commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking, child labour and harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation/cutting and child marriage. Violations of the child's right to protection take place in every country and are massive, under-recognized and under-reported barriers to child survival and development, in addition to being human rights violations. Children subjected to violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect are at risk of death, poor physical and mental health, hiV/AidS infection, educational problems, displacement, homelessness, vagrancy and poor parenting skills later in life.*
- c) **Give children an easier definition to understand**
- d) **Ask the participants beginning with children**: what do you think about this definition ? Do they understand it, have any comments, remarks ...
- e) **Ask the whole group, again beginning with children**: do you know what PSEA (Protection to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) is ? Write down on a paperboard participants' key words and answers, and discuss it with the whole group of participants;
- f) **Give to participants** the UNHCR definition "*Protection to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse*" refers to standard operating procedures which are in

*place for submission and receipt of complaints, reporting, investigation and victim assistance for survivors/victims of sexual exploitation and abuses perpetrated by aid workers or people belonging to the humanitarian system".*

- g) **Give children an easier definition to understand**
- h) **Ask the participants beginning with children** : what do participants think about this definition ? Do they understand it, have any comments, remarks ...
- i) **Explain to parents that** PSEA is part of Child protection, as a sub-category, and therefore has to be treated as such. Indeed, parents or any legal representative or guardian are deeply involved in child protection, as therefore in their protection to SEA. NGO also have an important role in child protection and defense, especially when it comes to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.
- j) **Ask them** if they have any comments, remarks, questions, ...

## **WHAT DOES CONSENT MEAN TO YOU ?**

### **\*Parents and children activity\***

- a) **Ask the whole group, beginning with children** : do you know what consent is ? Discuss and write down every comments, remarks, and key messages in the paperboard;
- b) **Show them icons and images** and give them the following definition and check out with the whole group relation between their common definition of consent and this one : "To be effective, consent has to be free, prior and informed, that is given voluntarily and absent of **coercion, intimidation or manipulation**, sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities, and with awareness considering every element which could enlighten the situation."
- c) **Give children an easier definition to understand**

- d) **Ask the whole group, beginning with children** : do you know the difference between a kid and an adult regarding consent ? Discuss and write down every comments, remarks, and key messages in the paperboard;
- e) **Give the following information** : the age of consent is the minimum age at which an individual is considered legally old enough to consent to participation in sexual activity.
- f) **Ask the whole group, beginning with children : do you know** how old you need to be to be considered as an adult in Lebanon ?
- g) **Give the following information** : in Lebanon the Age of Consent is 18 years old. This age is the same as for the UN, every NGO and all humanitarian workers. Therefore, it is important to note that all forms of sex with children below the age of consent are illegal. A child cannot be considered to have voluntarily taken part in a sexual act, and all forms of penetrative sex with a child are rape.
- h) **Ask them** if they have any comments, remarks, questions, ...

## **WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THOSE CASE STUDIES ?**

### **\*Parents and children activity\***

**Nota bene** : Take the time needed to discuss every case study with participants and do not rush into it. Let people talk about the experiences or stories they know or heard about if they want to. Listen to them and take notes, those are special moments when it is possible to really discuss with participants about complicated matters and have clues understanding the local context. Before the activity, explaining some case study can be really disturbing and we can stop it if necessary. State the different situations and agree with parents and guardians which ones will be discussed.

- a) **Ask first the children and after the parents to give their answer** : is it sexual exploitation and abuse ?
- **A taxi for a hospital proposing candy in exchange for showing his penis to a group of young boys** : this is a sexual assault
  - **An aid worker saying to a young girl in a settlement that she is beautiful** : this is verbal abuse. Humanitarian workers should never cross the border with people they are working with. If this is happening more than one time, it is harassment.
  - **An aid worker proposing dollars to touch children** : this is a sexual exploitation and assault

- b) **Take time to run the discussion.** Do participants have any comments, remarks, questions ?
- c) **Ask first the children and after the parents to give their answer** : is it consent ?
- **A landlord asking to a young girl to kiss him** : this is a sexual abuse
  - **An aid worker with a kid on his knees** : people could feel uncomfortable or not with this. The important statement is : when you feel uncomfortable it means that something is wrong, not right. This is one of the first alerts. For example if you are uncomfortable with the situation represented in this case study, you should ask the aid worker to let go of the kid and explain to him that he should not do that anymore without the consent of the legal representative. **Indeed, parents or any legal representative or gardien is deeply involved in child protection, notably protection to SEA.**
- d) **Take time to run the discussion.** Do participants have any comments, remarks, questions ?

## WHO ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE TO SEA ?

- a) **Explain** who are the most vulnerable groups to SEA (diagnosis and focus group results) : girls and boys (mainly girls) orphans ...
- b) **Add this information** : Already vulnerable children are particularly at risk of sexual abuse and exploitation by peacekeepers and aid workers. These include orphans and children separated from their parents; those from especially poor families; children who are discriminated against; children displaced from their home communities; and children from families who depend on humanitarian assistance. The particular risks to already vulnerable children should be considered when identifying ways to prevent the abuse from happening and for targeting support services to victims. Identified orphans, children separated from their parents, children with a quantity of responsibilities at home regarding safeguarding, unsupervised children, unsupported by their own. are the most likely to be abused. Parents are the main protectors and providers for children.
- c) **Explain that the third consideration** is “full and entire physical and mental capacity”. : Persons with physical and/or mental disabilities are generally more vulnerable to SEA because they are considered more dependent on aid. It is more complicated to be sure that consent is free, prior and informed for persons with mental/physical mentalities because of a lack of full and entire capacities.
- d) **Take time to run the discussion.** Do participants have any comments, remarks, questions ?

## WHO ARE THE ABUSERS / PERPETRATORS ?

1. **Clarify the definition** of the term “perpetrator” for the adults : *a person who carries out a violent or harmful act, who is in a position of real or perceived power, decision-making and/or authority and can thus exert control over their victims ; When it comes to SEA, perpetrator is understood as any person belonging to humanitarian system and perpetrating sexual violence to any member of local community receiving the aid.*
2. **Clarify the definition** for the younger participants;
3. **Discuss with participants** : humanitarian workers are not all bad, far away from that. But like in every career, every country, every part of the world, there are bad people who think only to their one person without thinking of the consequences of their actions. Your trust is to be earned, and that is true for adults and children. That is why when you do not feel comfortable with someone or something you should say it to an adult you trust, and he/she will report to the right institution to stop the person if he/she is dangerous.
4. **Take time to run the discussion.** Do participants have any comments, remarks, questions ?

## KEY MESSAGES

When all concepts and definitions are clear for participants, **provide them with the following key messages :**

1. What are the key messages you would like to receive during the awareness session ? Write down on the paperboard any proposal from the group of participants and discuss it with them;
2. What about those key messages ? Ask participants to validate or invalidate. If they invalidate, they should explain why;
  - **Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings**, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Human rights include the right to life, liberty, independence, physical and mental integrity and many more as the right to dispose of one's own body (cf. UN). SEA is a violation of human rights ;

- **Any person living on Lebanon soil, is subject to the Lebanese laws which condemn sexual harassment, assaults and abuses.** LEBANESE LAW 422 punishes physical assault against children. Every person hurting a child in any way, through either sexual or non sexual violence, has a penal responsibility and incurs jail sentence (4 years) and an economical penalty up to 50 times 100 USD. Rape perpetrators will incur sanctions irrespective of the age of the victim : a marriage will not erase the legal penalty of the perpetrator.
- **Consent** : it is mandatory to consider that there is no consent possible under 18 for boys and girls;
- **Aid workers are here to help and protect**, they have no right to ask for anything in exchange for the aid they are providing, it is simply illegal and contrary to organizations' internal SOP. People have the right to assistance, no one can take this from them. No aid worker can ask any favour of any kind from a beneficiary;
- **Child Sexual Exploitation and abuse** (SEA) as well as any other type of child violence or abuse are unacceptable. People and communities have the legal and moral responsibility to **refuse and report** any sign and type of assaults, violences and harassment;
- **A child will never be considered as responsible, as any person who is considered dependent;**
- **A victim should never need to exchange sexual or other favours** to receive any kind of humanitarian or development assistance, employment, goods or services. If someone experiences any kind of sexual violence or abuse, it is never their fault but the one of the person who commits this act;
- **All reporting will be treated safely and confidentially.** Reporting will not prevent you from getting assistance or services;
- If you experience any form of sexual exploitation and abuse, you have the right to access protection, medical, psychosocial and other support;
- All reports of misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse, are taken extremely seriously and will be independently investigated. If proven, severe sanctions will be taken against perpetrator;
- The safety, protection and wishes of the victim of sexual exploitation and abuse is central in any investigation process;
- **Sexual activity by aid workers** with anyone under the age of 18 is prohibited, regardless of consent ;

- **People responsible for children have the duty to be informed** about services and assistance being provided in their living area, to complain and to report any inappropriate behavior, sexual exploitation or abuse by any humanitarian or development worker, regardless of who they work for. Therefore they should ask NGO to train them about those subjects;
- **People responsible of children have the duty to protect them from any kind of violence of any sort;**
- **NGO have the duty to provide protection, medical, psychosocial and other support ;**
- These rules apply to all UN, national and international NGO staff, partners, consultants, community volunteers and contractors.

3. **Take time to run the discussion.** Do participants have any comments, remarks, questions ?

ACTIVITY N°2	MITIGATION	30MN
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	Empower participants by giving relevant information to local communities concerning possibilities to mitigate the SEA risks.	
SPECIFIC RESULTS	Participants get information concerning mitigation of SEA risks.	
MATERIAL NEEDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- paper board and markers (different colors);</li> <li>- sanitary material (COVID related) if needed;</li> </ul>	
<b>CONDUCTING THE SESSION</b>		
<p><b>WHEN AND WHERE CAN SEA OCCUR ?</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>*Parents and adolescents only*</b></p>		

a) **Introduce** those general information to the whole group and discuss it with participants :

- When children are alone without their guardian or someone of trust to watch out for them : SEA risk increases. Therefore those sectors could be considered as particularly at risk : education, health, basic needs, and protection. However those are really important for children development, and they never should be cut out from it. Nevertheless, it is important to be more careful and act to mitigate as much as possible SEA risk;
- When children have an important mental load;
- Crisis or local instabilities increase SEA risk, especially because people can be in higher needs, confused, or because plenty of new humanitarian workers are coming. As it was the case for the Beirut blast for example;
- There is also some moments in the day or the year where SEA risk rises : at night or during the winter season where there is less light and more indoor activities;
- All indoor activities,
- Distribution;
- Move and travel ;
- SEA can occur at home, inside the neighborhood or settlement, as well as outside.

b) **Present focus groups results** if you made focus groups :

- People have to be aware that SEA is linked to aid sectors : *protection, shelter, wash, food security, education, livelihood and social cohesion, basic needs, access to energy, health*, and to the nature of specific aid activities (*referral / distribution / assessment / case management / consultation / focus group / emergency intervention / training and awareness session / food for work / cash for work / cash distribution / PSS session / class / intervention*). In these activities, not only humanitarian aid workers are concerned by SEA : people employed by NGO (example : taxi drivers, shopkeepers, ...) are also considered as part of the humanitarian system, and that is why they are also targeted as potential perpetrators.
- SEA can occur at home (tent/building), in the settlement, and outside the settlement (roads, other neighbourhoods, etc.). The most risky situation regarding SEA is being alone in a close space with a humanitarian aid worker (man especially), mostly if the situation implies material or monetary exchanges.

c) **Take time to run the discussion.** Do participants have any comments, remarks, questions ?

## **HOW CAN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY MITIGATE SEA RISK ? NGO OBLIGATION**

**\*Parents and adolescents only\***

- a) **Introduce the fact that**, because SEA concerns NGO work and intervention, it is possible to ask NGO to adapt their interventions and activities to the will of the local community. It is really important to reinstate the power ratio between local communities and NGO. Trust is not obvious, and it has to be earned. **Introduce** those general information to the whole group and discuss it with participants :
- At any time a new NGO comes, local communities should ask for the PSEA channel report information, also to have training on it. This is a way to ensure that people get reliable information, but also to show that the community is empowered and people know about their rights and PSEA procedures. Normally every local organization and NGO intervening in the humanitarian system, helping local communities has to ensure that a safe, confidential, transparent, and accessible complaints system is established so that all potential complainants know where and how to submit a complaint.
  - Ask to have a PSEA focal point who comes in person for people to know him/her ;
  - Ask for mixed staff gender when it comes to work inside the tent, or case management. Ask for woman workers when it is case management related to gender (PSEA, GBV, sexual discussions and issues, ...);
  - Ask to reduce the NGO staff intervention frequency inside apartment or tent and ask for one full intervention ;
  - At any time a new NGO comes, local communities, through the shawish for example, should ask the NGO to give the following information : do they have a reporting channel for PSEA ? Who is your PSEA focal point ? Who is your child protection focal point ? Local communities should also ask for a quick training on how their referral mechanism is working. This is a way to ensure that people get reliable information, but also to show that the community is empowered, know about its rights, ways to report and refer any kind of issues through humanitarian procedures ;
  - Ask for mixed staff gender for any kind of intervention. Ask for woman workers only when it is case management related to gender (PSEA, GBV, sexual discussions and issues, ...);
  - Be clear on "harmless behaviours" you agree or do not agree with regarding children : do not take any child on your knees during an activity, do not touch the head of a child, ...
  - Professionals may need to be alone with a child in order to talk to him or examine him (doctor): ask if it is really necessary, analyze the situation, ask for two persons (at list when there is only a man) to stay there - reducing the risk only by asking question, showing you know the risk, you are aware and you will respond if something happens. Really make sure it is necessary.
- b) **Present focus groups results** if you realized focus groups

c) **Take time to run the discussion.** Do participants have any comments, remarks, questions ?

## **HOW CAN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY MITIGATE SEA RISK ? COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT**

a) **Introduce** those general information to the whole group and discuss it with participants :

- Take time to explain to participants that it is really important to be aware that the local community, by itself, can mitigate SEA risks.
- Give the following points :
  - do not go out alone by night / be always accompanied if you have to move by night ;
  - not be alone when NGO staff is intervening in your place ;
  - refuse any kind of retribution/baksheesh if it is not justified and consider any preferential treatment as dangerous : (example - one more food box if you are the only one to receive an additional one, mostly if you are part of a vulnerable group) ;
  - report any behaviour that seems inappropriate, for yourself or for other persons (example - a humanitarian aid workers hand on the shoulder of a woman/girl, etc.) ;
  - Avoid behaving in a way that could increase danger (example - do not go alone by night to buy something or join someone you know such as a friend or family member even if it reduces your freedom of movement;
  - organize yourself if you feel that the NGO proposition could be unsafe for you (example - go with someone of your family or friends to a distribution point, avoid to take alone a taxi a NGO is proposing) ;
  - Be confident in women and girls as experts in contextual safeguarding and actively engage vulnerable groups and people in their own safety and lifeguarding mechanisms.
  - Ask children to stay together during their travels (school, shop, ...);
  - Do not let children outside without supervision or late at night;
  - Avoid giving a mental load to children : a child stays a child. Too much responsibility could lead a child to accept SEA behaviours to protect his/her family.

b) **Present** focus groups results if you realized focus groups;

c) **Take time to run the discussion.** Do participants have any comments, remarks, questions ?

ACTIVITY N°3	PREPAREDNESS	30MN
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	Empower participants by giving them relevant information and proposals to the local community in order to prepare it for SEA risks.	
SPECIFIC RESULTS	Participants get tools and information to prepare itself to SEA risks.	
MATERIAL NEEDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- paper board and markers (different colors);</li> <li>- sanitary material (COVID related) if needed;</li> </ul>	

### CONDUCTING THE SESSION

#### FAMILY TALKING

#### \*Parents and children activity\*

1. **Ask the whole group participants** : are you used to discussing with your children ? What are the matters you are discussing the most ? Are you discussing their private life, for example what they are doing when they are at school, or playing outside, ... ? Write down on the paperboard key words from the group of participants and discuss it with them;
2. **Explain to the whole group** : discuss regularly with kids and adolescents, even about everyday life subjects will help them express themselves. Understand that when you feel matters are really complicated to discuss with a closed family because it concerns privacy and intimacy you do not usually share with your closed ones.
3. **Discuss with participants** : which subjects they struggle to discuss together ? Do they discuss sexuality, rights, gender, danger they can encounter, body's changes, ... ? Those subjects are really important to discuss with people you trust and who are raising you. It is normal being uncomfortable talking about certain subjects with your children. If you really feel without the capabilities to discuss certain matters, help your children find someone else to discuss about it (psychologist, teacher, ...)
4. **Discuss with the participants** : what information do you usually give them regarding matters you consider as dangerous for them ? (...)
5. **Explain to children** it is really important for them to learn how to express themselves out loud for every matter, especially when they do not feel well,

when they are uncomfortable, when they have been hurt, etc. Make an exercise for the kids saying "No", (...) Explain to parents it is good to have a child who expresses and they should do again the exercise and talking moment at home.

6. **Take time to run the discussion.** Do participants have any comments, remarks, questions ?

ACTIVITY N°4	DISASTER	30MN
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	Empower participants by giving them relevant information and key messages concerning SEA acts.	
SPECIFIC RESULTS	Participants get information concerning SEA acts.	
MATERIAL NEEDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- paper board and markers (different colors);</li> <li>- sanitary material (COVID related) if needed;</li> </ul>	
CONDUCTING THE SESSION		
<p><b>SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>*Parents and children activity*</b></p> <p>a) This subject could be very uncomfortable to talk about for people that may have experienced this situation : prevent people from the sensitive content of this part;</p> <p>b) <b>Explain to participants</b> you will discuss what exactly happens to victims/survivors of sexual exploitation and abuse. SEA includes a lot of different ways to harm physically, psychologically, ... someone. The following violences are the ones that happen the most : trading sex for foods and other non monetary items or services, forced sex / rape, verbal sexual abuse / use of indecent word, prostitution: you pay for sexual activity , forced pornography, sexual slavery, sexual assaults, people trafficking, harassment, cyber exploitation , physical abuse;</p> <p>c) <b>Trainer needs to explain all those concepts to the kids</b> : if someone forced you and hurt you, you should go to the hospital, ask your parents or guardian for it, if someone says to you words that make your uncomfortable, if someone proposes to give you money or gifts in exchange for something else refuse and directly report to your parents, teacher, an adult you trust;</p> <p>d) <b>Discuss</b> with participants about those SEA and what the direct consequences of being a SEA victim are;</p> <p>e) <b>Remind the participants that</b> a child is never considered responsible;</p>		

f) **Explain to children and adults** : Why could it be difficult to identify and therefore why is it under reported? It can be difficult to identify, as for people with mental illness or disabilities. Also children could be ashamed of what happened to them, or they simply did not understand : importance of family discussion. If you see any change in your child behaviour, discuss why.

g) **Explain** : when a child is a SEA victim, his/her legal guardian has the duty to report, this is not a choice.

7. **Ask participants** if they have other suggestions, comments, remarks, questions,...

ACTIVITY N°5	RESPONSE	45MN
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	Empower participants by giving them information that match local situations, relevant regarding the local context, and which bring practical solutions for victims, witnesses, and communities.	
SPECIFIC RESULTS	Participants get relevant information regarding the context they live in and relevant tools to react after SEA.	
MATERIAL NEEDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- paper board and markers (different colors);</li> <li>- sanitary material (COVID related) if needed;</li> </ul>	
<b>CONDUCTING THE SESSION</b>		
<p><i>This session has to be prepared regarding the participant comments/proposals collected during the previous focus group (focus group n°3 - activity n°5). Remind that knowing this information is a way to reinforce capacities and knowledge on the humanitarian system, as well allow victims and witnesses to identify the right pathways to make a referral.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>*Parents and adolescents only*</b></p> <p><b>a) What is a referral ?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Explain to the whole group participant</b> that normally every local organization and NGO intervening in the humanitarian system, helping local communities has to ensure that a safe, confidential, transparent, and accessible complaints system is established so that all potential complainants know where and how to submit a complaint. The following complaints handling process is established to receive allegations, assess and refer for immediate assistance, separate SEA from non-SEA allegations, refer all complaints for further action including investigation, and offer follow-up ;</li> <li>- <b>Remind the participants</b> that normally, all reporting will be treated safely and confidentially. Reporting will not prevent you from getting assistance or services. All reports of misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse, are taken extremely seriously and will be</li> </ul>		

independently investigated. If proven, severe sanctions could be taken against perpetrators. The safety, protection and wishes of the victim of sexual exploitation and abuse is central to any investigation process. During the referral you have the right to keep your identity secret and it is only with your consent that the NGO will proceed to a case management. As a witness, you have the right to be protected by the NGO ;

- **Explain to the participant** that referrals have to enable victims to receive social, economical, sanitary, legal, psychological aid ; On the contrary, referrals cannot ensure to punish the perpetrator, but it still remains the way to pursue the perpetrator in order to punish him/her.

**b) How do referrals work? Explain each step of a referral mechanism :**

- SEA complaints will come to the PSEA Focal Points via multiple entry points : protection focal points, CP Focal points, GBV focal points, info-Hubs, feedback and information centres, help desks, hotlines, and other complaint and feedback mechanisms ;
- The PSEA Focal Points will analyse the case and send the complaint to the respective investigative unit for follow-up and will ensure that the victim will be provided with immediate referral to the relevant services liaising with the GBV Focal Point ;
- The PSEA Focal Point will as well share information related to the case with the PSEA Network Coordinator. In the event the PSEA Focal Point is unknown, or it is not possible to trace the concerned agency, the complaints must be reported to the PSEA Network Coordinator while ensuring timely and adequate referral for immediate assistance for the survivor. The PSEA Network Coordinator will gather the relevant information to understand the nature of the complaint and the concerned agency and will then redirect the complaint to the relevant PSEA Focal Point.
- During the intake process with in-person complainants, the person receiving the complaint shall respect the wishes, choices, rights, and dignity of the complainant when reporting on behalf of them.
- It is not the responsibility of the staff member to determine whether or not a complaint is true or has sufficient information for investigation. It is his/her responsibility to gather the relevant information from the complainant and ensure that the allegation is sent to the PSEA Focal Point or PSEA Network Coordinator for referral to the appropriate unit in the concerned agency via the NGO process.

**c) Where should victims refer in case of SEA ?**

- If your life or the life of someone else is directly threatened
  - Immediately call emergencies if you can : Red Cross (140), Fire department (125), Lebanese Civil Defense (175) or Police department (112);
- If you have been victim of SEA or you have witnessed any kind of SEA you can :
  - Make a direct referral (face to face) to the PSEA focal point of the organization if you know her/him;

- Make a direct referral (face to face) to another PSEA focal point if you know one - in priority PSEA focal point from national protection organization as Abaad or Kafa, and Himaya when it comes to child protection;
- Make a direct referral (face to face) to any an aid worker you trust;
- Call a hotline : PSEA National Network (give the number) - NGO PSEA network (Abaad safe line +961 81 78 81 78 / for complaints +961 81 696575 - PSEA national network number to add - Kafa helpline : 03 018 019). **Precise that** normally all hotlines are free. Himaya Central and West Bekaa : 71 802 883)
- **Call 1745** which is a specific hotline for survivors directly linked to the police station. This line is not free !

#### d) How does a hotline work ?

- The operator introduces himself/herself and explains that he/she will have the obligation to report the case to the Network and a senior manager, but without sharing personal information. In any case, the person should not have to give any personal information if he/she doesn't want to.
- The operator gives several options corresponding to a form and depending of the case : to receive support from an aid worker, Clinical Rape Management if the sexual assault occurred less than 72 hours ago, or other services.
- Reach the organization and talk about the case and check with the focal point if there is a channel. The organization where the perpetrator is coming from should work the case, they are in debt to the survivor.

***Issue :** The hotline could be busy. There are various reasons : plenty of calls, time dedicated by humanitarian staff to people calling, people calling for other complaints than SEA situations,... But, it is really important to persevere and to wait to have someone responding to your call. ### Helpline is always busy, and even more than usual during lockdown periods. Therefore it is needed to raise awareness on the importance to stay on line, to call back or to reach a frontliner directly on the field.*

#### e) How does case management work ?

- Victims have the choice and need to give their consent for referrals and case management to humanitarian authorities ;
- Victims have to be informed by the focal point if they have to make referrals through other members of the organization ;
- As soon as the victim provides their consent, the focal point has immediately to contact service providers by phone. Additional information can later be provided by e-mail using the IA referral form. As an adult, and if the victims are not aware of the situation, are at risk of being hurt or hurt someone else, they will be referred in any case. Children have to be referred in any case to ensure their best interest ;
- Victims have to provide consent. Humanitarian staff has to respect your choice and provide victims with hotlines for communities explaining that you can seek help through these hotlines anytime. If victims are a survivor of rape, sexual violence or physical violence, or if there is still an immediate risk on your safety, humanitarian staff should sensitize victims again on the risks for your life and health. If you

were subjected to rape and are unwilling to be referred to case management partners but willing to seek medical assistance, humanitarian staff have to contact directly health facilities and organize an appointment with you ;

- In order to keep confidentiality, victims interlocutor has to destroy all information you gave to him or keep it in locked place ;
- Case management could lead to a proposal to move on in another place, an economic aid, a psychological support, legal support, ...: case management has to bring to the victim any help to recover from the traumatic experience he/she is going through.
- The time for a case management process depends on the case : on the support you will need and ask for, the time you will agree to take, the circumstances victims are facing. In general, three months are needed. Victims have the right to be followed as long as they want, with no time limit. To go through the end of the legal process, it could take a long time ;

**f) Legal pursue**

- **The NGO which the perpetrator is related to** : all reports of misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse, are taken extremely seriously and will be independently investigated. Indeed NGO need proof to take action against the perpetrator. If proven, severe sanctions will be taken against the perpetrator : he will lose immediately his job, and be recorded in the humanitarian sector as dangerous and unemployable. It even happens that NGO press charges against the perpetrator;
- In the case of pursuit, the chances to go to the end of the legal process are thin : victims just give up because the procedure could be terribly long and morally exhausting. But, if the victim feels to do so, she/he has to take the opportunity because one success will create a jurisprudence, setting a precedent which will help other victims in their recovery process. Even if the procedure is complicated and the chance thin, remember that every person living in Lebanon is under Lebanese law : do not take the law into your own hands;
- Any kind of sexual violence is not easy to prove. Nevertheless it is possible to go through a legal process and have the perpetrator punished for what they have done. Unreporting and not pursuing do not help victims but help perpetrators. Victims need to be supported. Moreover, the perpetrator will often make more than one victim : report and pursue contribute to the safety of all;

g) Do participants have other ideas, suggestions, comments, remarks, ... ?

**HEALTH INFORMATION**

a) **Clinical Management of Rape (CMR)** : a specific medical protocol dedicated to rape survivors. Give the following key messages :

- Rape is a violent physical and psychological damage to the body. To be taken care of, victims need to be taken in a CMR center as soon as possible, and this has to be considered as a vital emergency;

- The main purpose of the examination of a rape survivor is to determine what medical care should be provided. Nevertheless, it is also to gather forensic evidence to pursue the perpetrator. Therefore proofs of assaults are important : victims need to reach a medical facility (CMR if possible) 72 hours maximum after the assaults to gather forensic. If you passed the 72 hours you still have to bring the victim to a medical facility for him/her to be examined. Victims should not shower as water erases proofs, and bring their clothes in a bag with them to the medical facility : proof can be collected on clothes;
- There is a specific medical protocol medical staff have to follow : discussion with health worker, examination, prescription of a treatment, counselling, and follow-up care ;
- The health worker has to obtain the consent of the victim to begin the examination. Health worker have to present to the victim a consent form to fulfil and sign ;
- Health workers have to belong to the same gender of the victim (if the victim is a girl, the health worker should be a woman). If not, victim, or her/his guardians should ask and impose it to begin the procedure;
- Health workers have to explain to the victim what is going to happen during each step of the examination, why it is important, what it will tell you, and how it will influence the care you are going to give ;
- All the process and the examination findings will be kept confidential unless the victim decides to press charges against the perpetrator.

b) **Physical or psychological emergency support**

- Explain that any kind of physical abuse needs assistance, that is why victims have to go to medical structures : (see map with localization and phone numbers).
- Any kind of psychological abuse linked to SEA needs assistance too. Victims could call the Abaad NGO safe line (+961 81 78 81 78). Staff of this NGO will refer the victim to safe places ("secret" places, people know about these places only by calling this safe line as a SEA victim). Safe places are managed by two GVB and SEA specialized NGOs (Abaad and Intersos).

c) **Other medical support** : give inputs about health facilities around the community.

8. **Ask participants** if they have other suggestions, comments, remarks, questions,...

ACTIVITY N°6	RECOVERY	15MN
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	Empower local communities by giving them relevant information concerning possibilities to recover from SEA.	
SPECIFIC RESULTS	Participants get relevant information possibilities (actors to contact, possible support, etc.) to recover from SEA.	
MATERIAL NEEDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- paper board and markers (different colors);</li> <li>- sanitary material (COVID related) if needed;</li> </ul>	
CONDUCTING THE SESSION		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>What are the possibilities to recover from SEA ?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To be supported after SEA is a personal choice. Recovering is a long process, in which the family of the victim can play an important role.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>		

<b>CONCLUSION</b>		<b>10MN</b>
<b>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES</b>	Conclude the session	
<b>CONDUCTING THE SESSION</b>		
<p><b>CONCLUSION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trainer concludes the awareness session ;</li> <li>- Trainer invites participants for last questions and remarks ;</li> <li>- Participants evaluate the training (cf. expectations of the training from the participants of the first day training) ;</li> <li>- Distribute leaflets (5) to participants.</li> </ul>		