

Horn of Africa Peace Network (HAPEN)

## **Interagency Community Outreach and Communications Fund on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)**

### **Guide for Mobile Campaigns in Kismayo**

#### **Key Messages/Agenda of mobile campaigns**

- Understanding PSEA
- Right to be safe from harm and abuse
- Reporting violations and suspicion of harm and abuse
- Community protection and services
- Overcoming cultural, traditional and religious biases that relate to reporting abuse and seeking help

#### **ABSTRACT**

Happen plans mobile campaigns covering at least 40 IDP camps in Kismayo. The campaign needs to engage communities on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) ways that are non-threatening, accessible to all groups and culturally and religiously appropriate. This guidance also draws on recognized international practices and good practices relating to PSEA.

A communication team will have a microphone, loud speaker and a car for mobility.

#### **RATIONALE**

Engaging communities and communicating PSEA-relevant information is one of the key PSEA measures and one of the eight Minimum Operating Standards for PSEA defined by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), considered the most widely used international PSEA standards.

Happen has an opportunity to ensure that the communities it works with can access timely, relevant, appropriate and context-specific information about behavior exhibited by its own staff and all aid workers in general.

## CONTEXT

Discussion about sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) is uncommon in communities where there is sensitivity around such issues while PSEA awareness-raising is fundamental to preventing staff from causing harm and to enable communities to report allegations of misconduct. Community awareness will promote collective responsibility toward PSEA among aid actors in the community. During the campaigns, mobile team will check whether communities have been targeted with the same messages and questions leading to fatigue.

## KEY MESSAGES

At a minimum, community members should expect the following information from campaign team:

- Aid is always free – Communities have the right to humanitarian assistance without being subjected to SEA. Aid should never be given in exchange for sexual, financial, social or political gain.
- Definition of SEA
  - **Sexual exploitation** refers to any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting financially, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another. **Sexual abuse** is the actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.
- How and where to report complaints – To report any issues or concerns related to staff misconduct, including sexual abuse, information should include:
  - The right of community members to give feedback or make complaints. Doing so will not negatively affect their access to humanitarian assistance or project participation.
  - The available reporting channels, e.g. hotline, email of protection focal point, Ministry of Women Affairs, Camp Chairmen, Police Station, etc.
  - Assurances about safety, confidentiality and dignity of complainants, including how complaints should be handled.
  - The expected timeframes, for example, when people using reporting mechanisms can expect a response to their complaint.
- Referral – What services are available in Kismayo to support people who have experienced harm, and how to access them.
- All actors have an obligation to prevent and address such acts, and protect witnesses, victims and survivors.

## **APPROACH**

Pre-recorded messages will be played as the car moves slowly around the camps. The team will also take over the microphone within the camps and on the streets whenever there is a need to engage small groups of people. No large crowds should be allowed. During the campaigns, IEC materials will be distributed. Language will be simplified to make the messages understandable to all groups of people including the young, parents, elderly and the disabled.