# POLAND PSEA - AAP Network MEETING

Meeting Minutes - 26 September 2025

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| **Meeting subject:** | PSEA-AAP Network meeting |
| **Time/ location:** | 26 September, 11-12:30 am |
| **Chaired by:** | IOM, UNHCR, Towards Dialogue |
| **Participants:** | - Care, Plan international, IOM, UNHCR, Towards Dialogue, Feminoteka, Vela Foundation, Habitat for humanity, IB Polska, UNICEF, Logos, Adra<br>- 35 participants: 26 online and 7 in person |
| **Updates from Network members:** | - PSEA/AAP network: during the summer break, co-chairs worked on PSEA SOPs (Pool of Investigators and Referrals as well as updating the complaint handling bodies) and on preparing the PSEA training on the 24th of September.<br>- Changes of co-leadership: Sarah left UNHCR, Miriam and Karolina will be new UNHCR co-chairs together with Anna from IOM (no change) and Olena from Towards Dialogue (no change).<br>- IOM: worked on PSEA awareness raising to groups of beneficiaries in shelters (outside Warsaw, remote locations) geared towards violence prevention. Ukrainians reported that they do not approach national law enforcement in Poland. IOM engaged police on violence prevention, good cooperation noted. IOM distributed dignity kits, also for survivors of GBV. IOM also reached out to refugees at OFF Reception centers for PSEA awareness. IOM designed the PSEA awareness sessions around "storytelling" and uses video as an entry point for a discussion on SEA – approaching the topic from a position of an empowered bystander rather than a "victim".<br>- Care: Toolkit for health professionals is being developed for health personnel in hospitals. The toolkit will be shared/rolled out across Poland. Care also started a project on case management in the Podkarpackie region. Cooperation with Towards Dialogue is ongoing. Care is also working with the Ministry of Family, Labor and Social to develop a series of online training courses (for integration center staff). This was done in partnership with other agencies. Training modules cover safe-guarding (including PSEA, assistance of survivors of GBV, working with Roma clients, LGBTIQ+). There will also be a website dedicated to this. Link will be shared.<br>- Towards Dialogue: Worked on GBV training for beneficiaries in different locations with children and older people (interactive). Materials can be shared. TD also works on referral pathways. Also, a training was done with Ocalanie foundation for children from between 6 to 12 years old. Very high interest in the training from shelter coordinators but also from children and their parents. Trainings will be done until the end of the year. Agencies can also reach out if they want to do joint training in shelters. TD also organizes trainings for shelter coordinators. |

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| | - GBV sub-sector updates: Joint campaign for 16 days of activism being developed. A small task force was created. Municipalities should be involved as well.<br>- UNHCR: highlighted the "one refugee" approach.<br>- **Action Point: available notes/awareness materials on PSEA to be shared by agencies in different languages (repository to be created for PSEA/AAP network members).** |
| **Presentation on the barriers to SEA reporting in Poland (CARE Poland)** | - Background: the research was done jointly by IRC, Plan International, ITAR and Care. There is a need to increase the level of PSEA safeguarding reporting. During the survey, SEA was not mentioned as a primary concern to refugees.<br>- Report available online and in paper copy: Research on barriers to SEA reporting - OneDrive<br>- Drivers (reporting barriers): Lack of awareness about rights, language barriers, limited knowledge of reporting process (System-level drivers) and mechanisms, fear of losing access to aid, fear of retaliation, Trauma (Psychological drivers), Stigmatization and shame as well as mistrust in authorities (Community-based drivers)<br>- Recommendations noted in the report e.g. National strategy should be set up for PSEA. Awareness raising materials need to be developed with participants or improved. Aid recipients need to have better access to information. Victim/survivor centered approach should be operationalized. Resourcing of PSEA should be prioritized at country level. PSEA coordinators need to be deployed to priority contexts. Organizational culture needs to be changed for long lasting change. Move from compliance to a culture of safeguarding, modelled by champions (e.g. PSEA Network). Allocate funding to PSEA.<br>- Discussions: Plan International: glad to be part of this joint effort. PSEA should be a priority and not just a "ticker". Safeguarding should be at the center in what we do. Recommendations are welcomed by the Network agencies and we will further try to operationalize them, also with other initiatives of the Network that have already started. Importance of building on low hanging fruits. Absence of public actors is a gap. Network trained polish police and joint project with Interpol.<br>- **Action Point:** Task force should be set up to discuss the recommendations/operationalize them. We can pool our funding together until end of the year.<br>- **Action Point:** PowerPoint will be shared on the Operational Portal here: https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/314?sv=54&geo=10781<br>- **Action point:** Head of Agencies should be informed about the PSEA report. |
| **Review and endorsement of the Network's SOPs** | - Two SOPs of the PSEA/AAP network were updated/revised: Pool of Investigators and Inter-Agency Referrals for SEA Allegations as well as the complaint handling form (included in the referral SOP): 1. SOPs for Interagency Referrals for SEA Allegations and 2. SOPs on the Pool of Investigators. The complaint handling body document is found here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/u/2/d/1QLMqWlY29vrXupdx4J5kN8tOaFpC-e-PDx_cgvE8JlA/edit?gid=0<br>- **Action Point:** PSEA/AAP network members to share feedback on all documents by the 30th of September. Then, the SOPs will be endorsed. |

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| | - **Pool of investigators:** Training could be done again but depends on funding available (pool of funding could be created together). UNICEF and IOM have some funds available as well as some other PSEA-AAP Network partners. Care also has trained a pool of investigators. The Network will look at both lists and also check in with investigators during a follow-up meeting to see if they are still available and interested in being a part of the pool. Information will be shared. |
| **Feedback on the PSEA training** | - In total, 83 participated from UN, NGO, local authorities.<br>- Training materials were uploaded on the operational portal: Document - Poland: PSEA - AAP Network - training presentation for RRP organizations<br>- Additional training: agencies to revert if other PSEA trainings need to be organized e.g. in Krakow or other locations. Also, an AAP refresher training might be organized. |
| **Inter-Agency** | **2026 RRP Mid-Point Validation Exercise**<br>- As you may recall, the current RRP covers the period from **1 January 2025 to 31 December 2026**. While the data and narrative for 2025 will remain unchanged, we will undergo a revision exercise that will provide an important opportunity to **review and update the 2026 components** of your submission to the RRP. Specifically, you will be asked to revise your organization's **budgetary figures, planned activities, and targets** for 2026 via an **ActivityInfo** form, were the information that you had previously submitted will be present. This validation process is particularly important given the **global funding constraints** and the **significant budgetary reductions** that most partners have experienced. Ensuring that the 2026 RRP reflects realistic and up-to-date planning is essential for maintaining the credibility and effectiveness of the coordinated response. In addition to updating operational data, this exercise allows for:<br>• **Confirmation of your participation** as partner for 2026 RRP;<br>• **Withdrawal of partners** who do not plan to implement activities next year;<br>• **Removal of inactive partners**, i.e. those who have not reported in 2024 and 2025;<br>• **Inclusion of new partners** who have contributed to the response or intend to do so in 2026.<br>**Next Steps:**<br>• By the end of this week, you will receive access to the **ActivityInfo form** for updating your 2026 data. Attached we are sharing **ActivityInfo Guidelines**, which provide further details on the process and technical instructions.<br>• We kindly ask all partners to complete the form **no later than 10 October**.<br>- Your active participation in this exercise is crucial to ensuring that the updated RRP remains a relevant and effective tool for advocacy, coordination, and resource mobilization for the refugee response.<br>- Should you have any questions or require support during the process, please do not hesitate to contact the Inter-Agency team: kaplon@unhcr.org |
| **AOB** | - All PSEA-AAP network members are asked to update the contact sheet: **fill in the table**<br>- Minutes will be shared on the operational portal here: https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/314?sv=54&geo=10781 |