



MOLDOVA

PSEA Network Factsheet

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Background

Moldova hosts over **88,780** refugees from Ukraine. While some people move on to the European Union, arrivals of refugees continue to be registered each day. 85% of people staying in the country are women, elderly persons and children.

Considering the emergency and the scale of the humanitarian needs, risks of sexual exploitation and abuse tend to increase due to prevailing gender norms and dynamics, the profile of the refugee population, barriers to access specialized services and ongoing reliance on humanitarian aid to meet basic needs.

With over **1400 international and national staff*** working to support both development and humanitarian activities in Moldova, protections against sexual misconduct is a foremost priority.



Key Inter-Agency Achievements



225
Humanitarian and development actors trained on PSEA in 2022 (+250 to be trained throughout September)



PSEA Focal Points ToRs developed, and focal points for organizations working on the refugee response in Moldova identified.



1600
Copies of information material in Romanian, Ukrainian and Russian printed and distributed to raise awareness on PSEA.



Annual Work Plan developed by the UN System in Moldova since 2020 complemented by an annual Work Plan of the Refugee Coordination Forum PSEA Network.



Training of green line staff on safe referrals and handling sensitive complaints, including SEA.



Implementing Partners PSEA Capacity Assessments mapped among UN Entities to improve coordination.



SEA Complaint Referral and Assistance to Survivors SOP (implementation workshop to be held in September).



First Training of Trainers on PSEA for National Organizations and NGOs

**Total number of people working for EUBAM, EBRD, IMF, IOM, ILO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNAIDS, UNODC, UNDSS, UN WOMEN, UNOHCHR, WHO, FAO, WB, UNHCR, UNIDO, WFP, UNOPS as to September 2022.*

Objective

The PSEA Network is an independent inter-agency body for PSEA coordination in the context of Refugee Response in Moldova, promoting awareness, prevention, and oversight on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse by international and national personnel of the entities providing services to refugees in Moldova. Every humanitarian and development worker in the country has the obligation to understand their role and responsibilities and ensure refugee and host community members can access humanitarian assistance with dignity and safety. The primary objective of the PSEA Network is to support organizations working in the country to develop capacity on protection against sexual exploitation and abuse, including assistance to survivors.

The PSEA Network aims to:

- Promote **minimum standards** on the prevention and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) by Humanitarian and development organizations in Moldova.
- Ensure timely and coordinated **assistance to survivors** of sexual exploitation and abuse in line with established gender-based violence and child protection referral pathways and Standard Operating Procedures.
- Implement a common approach to the **recording and referral of sexual exploitation and abuse complaints** received through existing confidential channels that are continuously maintained by organizations in Moldova.

Upcoming Activities

Community consultations on SEA and complaints feedback mechanisms (CFM) will take place during October and November. Based on results, PSEA Network and partners improve communication materials and activities on SEA, as well as adaptation of complaint and feedback mechanisms.

Community and service provider awareness on PSEA will be expanded to local refugee coordination forums in Cahul, Gagauzia, Balti and Ungheni to increase awareness on PSEA through messaging and joint-training activities with host communities and local authorities.

Together with the gender-based violence and child protection sub-working, the PSEA Network members will keep working on the integration of SEA activities to existing GBV and CP programmes and procedures.



Participants of the Inter-Agency Training of Trainers on PSEA, July 2022.

Currently, 48 partners are part of the PSEA Network in Moldova with a designated focal point to ensure we all share a common responsibility on preventing, mitigating risk and responding to sexual misconduct:

Accountability for Children • ACTED • Action Against Hunger • Afina • AO CNFACEM • CDA • Centru de Politici și Reforme • Clear Global • CNPAC • Communication for Development • Copil Comunitate Familie • CRS • CWS Global • Foundation for Advancement Moldova • Hecks Eper • Helpage • Helvetas • Homecare • Interaction • International Rescue Committee • Internews • Intersos • IOM • Keystone • Laolalta • La Strada • Médecins du Monde • My Riadom • OSCE • Partnership for every child • People in Need • Pestalozzi Children's Foundation • Plan International • Stimul • UNDP • UNFPA • UNHCR • UNICEF • Union for Equity and Health (UEH) • UN OHCHR • UN RCO • UN Women • USAID • WHO • World Vision International

PSEA Network membership is open to all UN agencies, INGOs, and NGOs operating in Moldova. Membership is also open to representatives of volunteer organizations/networks, community organizations and the refugee communities. Membership to the network is also open to Sector Coordinators to improve two-way coordination between sectors and the PSEA Network: [RCF Partners Information and Contact \(unhcr.org\)](#)

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