

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)
Victim/Survivor Centered Approach
Definition & Principles

What is the IASC PSEAH Championship?



- Beginning in 2011, the IASC established a political/advocacy role to foster change in the Humanitarian Sector to better prevent sexual exploitation and abuse
- Andrew Morley, WVI's President and CEO and SCHR Chair is the first non-UN leader to hold the position beginning in February of 2022



[IASC Champion on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment | IASC \(interagencystandingcommittee.org\)](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org)

SCHR Championship Priorities



Priority 1: The Champion will lead the IASC to agree upon a joint definition of a victim/survivor centred approach

Priority 2: The Champion will support the development of an institutionalised five-year project to centrally identify and deploy IASC PSEA coordinators to the 15 highest risk contexts and mobilise political support and additional donor funding for it.

Priority 3: The Champion will lead the continued process of culture change started under the UNHCR and UNFPA Championships, building on the existing work of SCHR to ensure that the sector actively evidences a zero-tolerance approach for inaction on SEAH

What's been achieved so far?

- The development and endorsement of the Victim/Survivor Centered Approach definition & principles by IASC Deputies in May 2023
- The OCHA/NorCap PSEACap was approved in November as the global coordinating mechanism for employment and deployment of PSEA coordinators to the 15 highest risk contexts.
- A number of articles, simulations, panels completed to raise awareness of ongoing culture challenges in the sector.
- SCHR has commissioned a grey literature review. This approach will enable us to quickly assess the existing literature and extract relevant findings. The results of this review, including recommendations, will be published, offering an additional perspective on our current culture and practices.

Priority 1: Victim/Survivor Centered Approach

Definition & Principles

- A 2021 **IASC External Review** found inaction, poor practice and confusion around what constitutes a Victim/Survivor centered approach.
- **The VCA emphasizes an end-to-end approach from prevention to redress**, using simple, non-technical language to ensure it is accessible to all humanitarian leaders and managers.
- It builds on and is consistent with previously issued guidance such as the *Interagency Minimum Standards for GBV in Emergencies Programming (2019)*

Definition

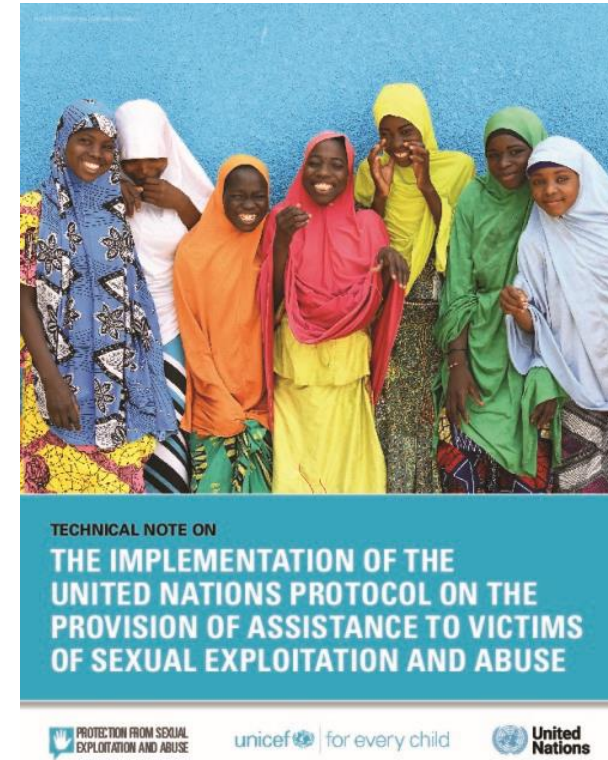
A victim/survivor-centred approach places the rights, wishes, needs, safety, dignity and well-being of the victim/survivor at the centre of all prevention and response measures concerning sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) and sexual harassment (SH).

Principles & Key Actions

- Safety, security and wellbeing
- Confidentiality
- Dignity & Respect
- Non-discrimination and Inclusion
- Ask, listen & engage
- Transparency and information
- Informed consent/choice
- Support & assistance
- Redress
- Feedback
- Provisions on Child Victims

What's Next?

- Additional Resources: UNICEF Technical Note 2.0, Mandatory Reporting FAQs, CHS Alliance Foundational Paper
- Expert Panel on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment Investigations to meet a Victim/Survivor Centred Approach



Additional Resources:

1. GBV AoR/UNFPA, *Interagency Minimum Standards for GBV in Emergencies Programming* (2019)
2. Chief Executives Board (CEB) Taskforce on Addressing Sexual Harassment Within the Organizations of the United Nations System, *Advancing a Common Understanding of a Victim-centred Approach to Sexual Harassment within the Organizations of the United Nations*
3. *United Nations Protocol on the Provision of Assistance to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse* (2019)
4. UNICEF, *Technical Note on the Implementation of the United Nations Protocol on the Provision of Assistance to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse* (2021)
5. OECD, *Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Recommendation on Ending Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment in Development Co-operation and Humanitarian Assistance: Key Pillars of Prevention and Response*
6. UNHCR, *Policy on a Victim-Centred Approach in UNHCR's Response to Sexual Misconduct*
7. Office of the Victim's Rights Advocate, *Victim's Rights Statement*
8. InterAction, *Core Standards for Survivor-Centered Support of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment*
8. *Policy on Integrating a Human Rights-Based Approach to United Nations Efforts to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse*
9. CHS Alliance, *Foundational Paper on Victim/Survivor-Centred Approach to Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment in the Aid Sector*