

Under the auspices and oversight of the Refugee Coordination Forum, the Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) was established in Slovakia as the primary body for technical-level coordination on PSEA in the refugee response. The PSEA Task Force is responsible for implementing coordinated activities between members to minimize the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse committed by aid workers, ensure response that is effective and in line with the victim-centered approach when incidents do arise, and raise awareness of PSEA in Slovakia.

- MAY** **Launch of the inter-agency PSEA Task Force in Slovakia**, chaired by UNHCR
- JUN** **A 4-session online workshop on PSEA is co-facilitated by HRL, IFRC, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF and WHO**, between June and August, aiming to:
  - 1 Reach out to local NGOs, refugee-led organizations and state actors participating in the refugee response in Slovakia;
  - 2 Generate a common understanding on PSEA;
  - 3 Map out local capacities;
  - 4 Generate support to build PSEA capacities.
- AUG** As an outcome of the online workshop, members agree on the **PSEA Task Force Terms of Reference** (available in [English](#) and [Slovak](#)) and the **Action Plan for 2022** (available in [English](#) and [Slovak](#)).
- SEP** **Standard Terms of Reference of the PSEA Focal Points in Slovakia** (available in [English](#) and [Slovak](#)) are endorsed by the PSEA Task Force members.  
 A refugee-led organization based in Bratislava, **Sme Spolu**, is awarded the **Interagency Community Outreach and Communication Fund on PSEA**.
- NOV** **The first Inter-agency Training of Trainers on PSEA in Slovakia** is held in Bratislava on 14, 15, 16 November. The three-day event, organized by UNHCR and co-facilitated with IOM, UNICEF and WHO, takes into account requests and inputs from PSEA Task Force members with regard to best approaches to conduct capacity building activities on PSEA.
- DEC** **The Slovak National Centre for Human Rights (SNCHR) agrees to co-chair the PSEA Task Force** starting from January 2023.  
**Gender Based Violence referral pathways are available** to the PSEA Task Force members.  
**A draft of the Inter-agency Standard Operating Procedures for processing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse complaints** is circulated for technical review by PSEA Task Force members.  
**Progress against the 2022 Action Plan** is evaluated (available in [English](#)).

**...IN THE MEANTIME...**  
 (continuous and ongoing actions):

- PSEA Task Force members have been sharing information about PSEA with the refugee community, through awareness raising activities, on social media, through the dissemination of printed materials, etc.
- Several training, capacity building and awareness raising activities on PSEA are organized by PSEA Task Force members, both individually and jointly.
- Organizations have been sharing their experience and lessons learned on the best ways to address this topic in a sensitive manner, both with the refugee community, and among staff.
- Relevant resources are regularly being made available on the PSEA Task Force Sharepoint, and/or the Data Portal, in the relevant languages for easier fruition.
- Thematic discussions have been held at the meetings of the PSEA Task Force on topics that members expressed an interest in, e.g. mandatory reporting, strategies for conducting capacity building on PSEA with aid workers and awareness raising activities with refugees, etc.
- Organizations working in partnership with UN agencies have been undergoing PSEA capacity assessment procedures and received support as needed, to strengthen internal safeguarding policies and processes.



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**PRIORITIES FOR 2023:**

- Organizations operating in the refugee response continue to engage in training, capacity building, awareness raising activities on PSEA.
- RRP partners endorse the Inter-agency Standard Operating Procedures for processing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse complaints.
- Building on the expertise of SNCHR, awareness is increased on topics related to sexual harassment and discrimination.