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Annual update on progress in implementing the recommendations from the strategic evaluation on WFP's work on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse

Executive summary

A strategic evaluation of WFP's efforts on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse was commissioned by the Office of Evaluation in 2023. The evaluation covered the period from March 2017 to October 2023 and examined WFP's adherence to norms and standards relating to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, the effectiveness of related practices, coherence across partnerships, and the factors enabling or constraining corporate efforts in this area.[1]

The evaluation produced six recommendations, each supported by sub-recommendations detailing actionable steps for implementation. WFP management's response includes 45 distinct actions to operationalize these recommendations.

Following internal consultations with relevant units, WFP committed to providing updates to the Board three times a year: two oral updates and one written update. The first written update was provided in June 2025. This document constitutes the second written update.

In alignment with these efforts and following the establishment of a unit dedicated to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse within the Office of the Executive Director in January 2025, responsibility for reporting to the Board on all matters related to this issue, including progress on the implementation of the evaluation recommendations, now lies with that unit.

[1] The report on the strategic evaluation is available at: https://www.wfp.org/publications/strategic-evaluation-wfps-protection-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse.

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Draft decision*

The Board takes note of the annual update on progress in implementing the recommendations from the strategic evaluation of WFP's work on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (WFP/EB.A/2026/9-A).

* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the decisions and recommendations document issued at the end of the session.

Introduction

1. In accordance with the reporting arrangement endorsed by the Executive Board Bureau, WFP is required to provide the Board with an annual written update on the implementation of the recommendations stemming from the strategic evaluation on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). These updates are to be presented at the annual sessions of the Board under agenda items addressing organizational and administrative matters in June 2025, June 2026 and June 2027.

2. The present document constitutes the second written update to the Board. It reflects contributions and actions undertaken by multiple WFP offices. As indicated in the first written update in June 2025, these reports also include updates on WFP's corporate work on PSEA beyond the implementation of the evaluation recommendations. It also provides an overview of activities undertaken in connection with the Executive Director's designation as Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Champion on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (PSEAH) for 2024–2025.

Background

3. Effective 1 January 2025, the Ethics Office ceased to serve as the organizational focal point for PSEA, and a dedicated PSEA Unit was established within the Office of the Executive Director, under the leadership of a director appointed in November 2024 for a one-year period. The unit is tasked with strengthening organizational commitment and accountability and ensuring adequate capacity and resources to enhance the effectiveness of WFP's PSEA efforts.

4. As of November 2025, the PSEA Unit comprises one senior PSEA advisor on a fixed-term contract (who is also the head of the unit); two other staff members on fixed-term contracts;[2] one junior professional officer; and one consultant. Additional short-term support is engaged for specific projects, subject to the availability of financial resources.

5. In addition to its headquarters capacity, the PSEA Unit operates in close coordination with a decentralized network of more than 600 employees in WFP's regional and country offices who serve as PSEA focal points alongside their other duties. Deputy country directors or other senior staff reporting to the country director serve as senior PSEA focal points, while technical focal points are typically specialists in gender, protection and inclusion (GPI). While there are no dedicated PSEA positions at the regional level, the newly established regional GPI advisors provide technical support and reinforce PSEA expertise in coordination with the PSEA Unit.

Status of the implementation of the strategic evaluation's recommendations and progress towards achieving the actions set out in the management response

6. A total of 45 actions were included in WFP management's response to the PSEA evaluation.[3] Thirty-three of those actions were due to be completed by the end of 2024 and 12 in 2025 and beyond.

   - Of the actions with a 2024 deadline, 90 percent are completed (30 actions are closed and 3 remain open).

[2] Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Senior Advisor (P-5), PSEA Officer (P-3), PSEA Officer/Partnerships Specialist (P-3).

[3] "Management response to the recommendations in the summary report on the strategic evaluation of WFP's work on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse" (WFP/EB.A/2024/7-B/Add.1).

- Of the actions due in 2025, 75 percent are completed (nine actions are closed and three remain open).
- In summary, 39 actions are closed and 6 are open, representing an overall implementation rate of 86 percent.[4]

7. Three of the six main recommendations, namely recommendations 1, 4 and 6, have been closed.[5]

A. Recommendation 1: Urgently invigorate and strengthen the commitments to, and accountability for, PSEA across WFP by appointing a cross-organizational task force […] (Priority: High. Overall deadline: Fourth quarter of 2024. Status: Closed)

8. Recommendation 1 includes two sub-recommendations with eight related actions. Seven actions have been closed; one has been made obsolete/overtaken by events.

Sub-recommendation 1.1: Develop terms of reference for a WFP-wide PSEA task force […] (second quarter of 2024)

9. **Actions 1 and 2 (closed – reported in the 2025 update[6]).** In 2025, the terms of reference for a WFP-wide PSEA task force were formalized through an Executive Director's circular published in March 2026.[7]

10. **Action 3 (closed).** In 2025, WFP developed a four-year strategy on PSEAH[8] in order to align with international best practices in that area. The strategy, which was endorsed in January 2026, was jointly developed by the PSEA Unit and the Staff Relations Branch in the Human Resources Division in coordination with other relevant units and divisions across the organization. The strategy is accompanied by a detailed implementation plan for 2026 and 2027. On the basis of recommendations by the Policy Committee, the implementation plan covers a two-year period, aligning with corporate planning cycles.

Sub-recommendation 1.2: Using the logic model presented in the evaluation report as the starting point, develop a PSEA implementation plan for 2024–2026 […] (fourth quarter of 2024)

11. **Action 4 (obsolete/overtaken by events – reported in the 2025 update).** This action originally envisaged the development of a PSEA strategy under the Ethics Office. Due to the organizational restructuring, WFP prioritized the development of a comprehensive corporate strategy on PSEAH. See action 3 above for more details.

12. **Action 5 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** In 2024, the completion of the PSEA Self-Assessment Checklist was made a mandatory component of the annual Executive Director's assurance exercise.[9] As a result, there was an 18 percent increase in the completion of the self-assessment checklist by country offices in 2024 and a 100 percent completion rate was achieved in 2025. Analysis of results at the country and global levels

[4] These data are based on the latest report generated by the new risk and recommendation tracking tool (R2) platform as at 8 April 2026. The R2 platform is the corporate governance, risk and compliance platform used by WFP to monitor progress in the implementation of recommendations issued in evaluation reports.

[5] A recommendation is considered closed when all related actions have been completed.

[6] "Annual update on progress in implementing the recommendations from the strategic evaluation of WFP's work on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse" (WFP/EB.A/2025/9-A).

[7] WFP. 2026. Executive Director's circular OED2026/007 *Interdisciplinary Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Interdisciplinary PSEA Technical Working Group*.

[8] WFP. 2026. *WFP Strategy on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, and Sexual Harassment, 2026–2029* (internal document).

[9] See footnote no. 49 of the *Management review of significant risk and control issues, 2024* and paragraph 10 of the *Executive Director's statement on internal control 2024*.

has been conducted and shared with country offices to inform the design and planning of PSEA-related activities.

13. **Action 6 (closed).** The PSEA Unit developed an internal communications strategy covering the period 2026–2027 to strengthen awareness and understanding of PSEA across the organization.

14. **Action 7 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** In accordance with the directive issued through the United Nations Partner Portal on 30 August 2023, WFP has made it mandatory for all cooperating partners to complete the PSEA capacity assessment module. Throughout 2025, WFP continued to promote the integration of PSEA considerations into partnership agreements.[10]

15. **Action 8 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** In 2025, PSEA was established as a mandatory element in the design of country strategic plans (CSPs). Relevant guidance has been included in the CSP template, the annual country report manual and the annual performance report.

B. Recommendation 2: In line with international obligations on PSEA, and within available resources, commit sufficient capacity and resourcing at headquarters, regional bureaux and country offices for effective PSEA (Priority: High. Overall deadline: Fourth quarter of 2024. Status: Open)

16. Recommendation 2 includes four sub-recommendations with ten related actions, of which two are open and eight are closed.

Sub-recommendation 2.1: Strengthen and elevate the formalized PSEA capacity and structure at the headquarters level by ensuring that the most senior PSEA post reports directly to the Chief of Staff or the Deputy Executive Director [...] (fourth quarter of 2024)

17. **Action 1 (open).** In 2025, the PSEA Unit collated WFP country-level PSEA action plans and budgeting practices to inform the development of standardized approaches to planning and budgeting for PSEA-related activities at the country office level. Guidance is expected to be finalized in the second quarter of 2026. The finalization of this guidance has required additional time due to the organization-wide realignment and evolving resource considerations, which make it important to ensure that the updated content accurately reflects current operational realities and remains aligned with broader institutional priorities, including work on CSPs.

18. **Action 2 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** A dedicated PSEA Unit was established within the Office of the Executive Director in January 2025.

Sub-recommendation 2.2: Immediately update the performance and competency enhancement (PACE) system to include PSEA responsibilities for all country directors, deputy country directors, regional directors, deputy regional directors, heads of programme, PSEA focal points and other relevant staff [...] (fourth quarter of 2024)

19. **Action 3 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** As of January 2025, the mandatory goals and key performance indicators for WFP country directors have been revised to reinforce a culture of integrity, accountability and safety in country offices, ensuring full compliance with WFP's Code of Conduct and PSEA standards.

[10] In collaboration with United Nations partners, WFP launched a new e-learning course on the PSEA capacity assessment module on the United Nations Partner Portal, accessible to non-governmental and civil society partners. There was a rapid uptake among WFP partners, with more than 1,200 learners enrolling in the course in the week following its launch.

20. **Action 4 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** In 2025, the Director of the PSEA Unit issued a written communication to the technical PSEA focal points, which included a list of recommended PSEA activities and responsibilities to be incorporated into focal point PACE assessments. This information continues to be shared during onboarding sessions for new PSEA focal points.

21. **Action 5 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** As of January 2025, managers are assessed on their adherence to and promotion of PSEA commitments. The mandatory goals and key performance indicators for managers now include specific references to PSEA.[11]

22. **Action 6 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** In 2024, a paragraph was added to the entrustment letters of both country directors and regional directors, outlining their PSEAH responsibilities.[12]

Sub-recommendation 2.3: As part of the 2024 organizational restructuring process, carry out workforce planning to ensure sufficient capacity across WFP and include PSEA roles and responsibilities within all relevant job descriptions to clarify staff responsibilities for the prevention of and response to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in how they do their jobs (fourth quarter of 2024)

23. **Action 7 (closed).** In line with actions 5 and 6 responding to sub-recommendation 2.2, the Human Resources Division identified and revised relevant job profiles to incorporate PSEA roles and responsibilities.

24. **Action 8 (closed).** In 2025, a PSEA advisor from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation was deployed to the Sudan country office through the standby partner roster, completing the assignment in April 2026. The deployment was supported in a technical capacity by the PSEA Unit. The unit also deployed an expert on a two-week PSEA capacity support mission to Ethiopia to facilitate greater engagement with WFP employees, partners and communities. In 2025, WFP has also been engaged in the Inter-Agency PSEA Capacity Project (PSEACap) roster, which is a joint initiative managed by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Norwegian Refugee Council to strengthen inter-agency coordination, leadership, and accountability on PSEA in humanitarian operations. As a member of the PSEACap Advisory Group, WFP also facilitated expert deployments.

Sub-recommendation 2.4: Further strengthen the PSEA focal points network, redouble training, reinvest in the community of practice and facilitate experience-sharing (fourth quarter of 2024)

25. **Action 9 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** This action was closed in 2024. In 2025, despite funding constraints the PSEA Unit continued to support regional and country offices in strengthening PSEA capacity. In collaboration with Empowered Aid, a participatory research initiative focused on preventing SEA in aid delivery based at the George Washington University, a one-day training package on PSEA in emergencies was developed and piloted with 28 participants from the Kenya, Somalia and the Sudan country offices and

[11] Further details are provided in the 2025 report (WFP/EB.A/2025/9-A), issued in May 2025.

[12] The paragraph reads as follows: "Country directors: in addition, as a leader of your country team you have a heightened responsibility to take all reasonable measures to ensure protection against sexual exploitation, and sexual abuse and harassment (PSEAH). You must lead by example, by strictly adhering to the standards of conduct, creating and maintaining an environment that prevents exploitation and abuse, ensuring all employees are trained in protection, and assigning a PSEAH focal point at the deputy country director level. Furthermore, all alleged incidents must also be referred immediately to the Office of Inspections and Investigations. Regional directors: in addition, as a leader of your regional team you have a heightened responsibility to take all reasonable measures to ensure protection against sexual exploitation, and sexual abuse and harassment (PSEAH). You must lead by example, by strictly adhering to the standards of conduct, creating and maintaining an environment that prevents exploitation and abuse, ensuring all employees are trained in protection, and assigning a senior WFP employee as the PSEAH focal point, preferably at least at the P-4 level or equivalent. Furthermore, all alleged incidents must also be referred immediately to the Office of Inspections and Investigations".

the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office. The training package provides WFP personnel deploying to emergencies with key tools and resources to identify and mitigate SEA risks in emergency settings. An online version of these training materials was subsequently integrated into WFP's corporate emergency e-learning pathway, reaching all staff deploying to emergency responses.

26. In addition, more than 45 PSEA information and training sessions were conducted for personnel in WFP's country and regional offices in 2025.

27. **Action 10 (open).** A comprehensive stand-alone guidance note for technical and alternate PSEA focal points on safe and confidential referral processes for victims/survivors of SEA is under development and is expected to be finalized by the third quarter of 2026. The draft circulated to technical PSEA focal points in June 2025 is being revised to reflect changes in the operating environment, including significant funding constraints affecting service providers as well as the reduced functionality of the PSEA networks that previously supported WFP's access to assistance and services for victims and survivors.

C. Recommendation 3: Build on the opportunity presented by the IASC Championship on PSEA and sexual harassment to enhance the visibility, priority and clarity of PSEA for WFP (Priority: High. Overall deadline: Fourth quarter of 2024. Status: Open)

28. Recommendation 3 includes four sub-recommendations with nine related actions, of which six are closed and three are open.

Sub-recommendation 3.1: Convene senior management at the headquarters, regional and country levels to engage in annual facilitated reflections on organizational culture, abuse and exploitation of power. […] (second quarter of 2024, continuing through annual reporting)

29. **Action 1 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** This action was closed in 2024. In 2025, PSEA country briefs continued to be prepared for the Executive Director ahead of each country visit, during which the Executive Director dedicated time to engaging with staff and management on PSEA issues. PSEA sessions continued to be included in induction programmes for new country directors, deputy country directors and heads of field offices.

30. **Action 2 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** WFP's Interdisciplinary Committee, established under the Executive Director's circular OED2022/004 and chaired by the Assistant Executive Director for Workplace and Management, did not convene in 2024 or 2025.

31. **Action 3 (open).** No global management meeting was held in 2024 or 2025. WFP continues to explore opportunities to facilitate senior-level reflections on organizational culture throughout the year. This includes the introduction of a question in the annual Executive Director's assurance exercise to assess country office leadership engagement in facilitating discussions on PSEA with WFP personnel.

32. **Action 4 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** See activities described under action 1 above.

Sub-recommendation 3.2: Issue senior management advisories and guidance in the following areas: clarification that prevalence of SEA reporting is indicative of a well-functioning system; operationalization of the victim/survivor-centred approach; and underlying causes of SEA, namely power imbalances and organizational culture. (second quarter of 2024, continuing through annual reporting)

33. **Action 5 (open).** This action will be closed following issuance of the updated Executive Director circular on PSEA, which includes new advisories, in 2026.

34. **Action 6 (open).** See updates reported under sub-recommendation 2.4, action 10.

Sub-recommendation 3.3: Lead IASC initiatives to operationalize a victim/survivor-centred approach (Fourth quarter of 2024)

35. **Action 7 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** Established in August 2024, the PSEA Advisory Group brings together 13 locally led non-governmental and civil society organizations working in settings with high SEA risk identified through the IASC SEA Risk Overview.[13] The advisory group continued to amplify local voices in global forums, shaped policy tools and strengthened national PSEA networks. In 2025, members of the group participated in 10 global events, contributing to the development of global PSEAH policy and standards. They also provided inputs to field tools designed to facilitate the delivery of safe and high-quality assistance, and to the update of the technical note supporting implementation of the United Nations protocol on the provision of assistance to victims of SEA. At the country level, advisory group members actively supported PSEA networks and coordination mechanisms.[14]

Sub-recommendation 3.4: Require country offices to include an all-staff dialogue on PSEA in self-assessment processes as part of planning and regular and mid-year/end-year management reviews (fourth quarter of 2024)

36. **Action 8 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** As part of the annual review of its corporate risk catalogue, WFP has strengthened the PSEA-related risk descriptions under the operational and fiduciary sections of the 2025 catalogue (3. Lack of Beneficiary Protection and PSEA/7. Suboptimal Operational Assurance).

37. **Action 9 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** See updates reported under recommendation 1, sub-recommendation 1.2, action 5.

D. Recommendation 4: Develop a PSEA policy and accompanying strategy by 2026 to formally affirm and elevate WFP's commitment to PSEA and to ensure that PSEA considerations fully inform the next strategic plan (Priority: Medium. Overall deadline: 2026. Status: Closed)

38. Recommendation 4 includes one sub-recommendation with two related actions. One action is closed and one action has become obsolete.

Sub-recommendation 4.1: Develop a WFP policy on PSEA. […] (fourth quarter of 2024)

39. **Action 1 (obsolete/overtaken by events – reported in the 2025 update).** At its first meeting, held in 2025, the PSEA task force affirmed that the current Executive Director's PSEA circular provides an adequate normative framework. The Executive Director's circular on PSEA is currently under review and a revised circular is expected to be issued in 2026.

40. **Action 2 (closed)** See updates reported under sub-recommendation 2.4, action 9 and sub-recommendation 3.1, action 1.

E. Recommendation 5: Enhance the links between SEA risk assessment, programme design and implementation (Priority: Medium. Overall deadline: Second quarter of 2025. Status: Open)

41. Recommendation 5 includes three sub-recommendations with 12 related actions. Ten actions are closed and two are open.

[13] Further information on the membership of the Group and its activities is available at: PSEA Advisory Group.

[14] Further information on the achievements of the Group can be found in the WFP Championship Report 2024–2025.

Sub-recommendation 5.1: Integrate SEA risk assessment into WFP's operational instruments and procedures so that it becomes an automatic part of WFP's work. […] (second quarter of 2025)

42. **Actions 1 and 2 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** In 2025, a non-mandatory assessment checklist[15] was developed to evaluate the PSEA capacities of financial service providers (FSPs) partnering with WFP. After testing in Afghanistan, the checklist was revised and integrated into the FSP onboarding package, using simple, private-sector-adapted language to strengthen PSEA safeguards.

43. **Action 3 (closed).** WFP strengthened the integration of PSEA across the programme cycle. PSEA considerations were strengthened in cash-based transfer (CBT) guidance and operational manuals. References to PSEA were incorporated into guidance for FSPs, and training resources were developed to reinforce SEA safeguards in CBT operations.[16] References to PSEA were made more explicit in monitoring tools through revisions to the monitoring and evaluation manual and the development of a package of complementary materials for workshops. A PSEA in emergencies workshop package was also developed, and PSEA considerations were incorporated into WFP's new guidance on targeting.[17]

44. **Action 4 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** Guidance has been developed to support the implementation of recommendation 1.2 on the integration of PSEA into CSPs and the strategic programme review process.

Sub-recommendation 5.2: Regularly review the appropriateness of community feedback mechanisms in response to operational or contextual barriers and to enhance their utility, safety and accessibility for SEA victims (second quarter of 2025)

45. **Actions 5, 6, 7 and 8 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** An Executive Director's circular[18] sets minimum monitoring requirements to enhance accessibility and standardize case intake, escalation and resolution. A technical note on handling allegations of misconduct[19] – developed jointly by the Analysis, Planning and Performance Division, the Risk Management Division, the PSEA Unit and the Office of Inspections and Investigations and published in October 2025 – has further strengthened SEA case management. Annual monitoring of community feedback mechanism procedures and staff training is also helping WFP to assess its overall capacity to manage SEA cases.

Sub-recommendation 5.3: Conduct an assessment of the risk profiles and capacity needs of current partnerships to understand how WFP should customize its approach at the country level and with different types of partners […] (second quarter of 2025)

46. **Action 9 (closed).** WFP continues to roll out the non-mandatory PSEA assessment checklist for FSPs. See sub-recommendation 5.1, actions 1 and 2, for further details.

[15] FSP PSEA assessment tool (internal).

[16] For further information, see the Responsible Cash Programming Toolkit, developed by WFP in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

[17] For further information, see: WFP Assessment and Targeting Unit (APP-FA) – Inclusive targeting and prioritization processes.

[18] Executive Director's circular OED2024/006, *Minimum Monitoring Requirements (MMRs) and Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) Standards in WFP Country Offices*.

[19] *CFM guidance on handling allegations of misconduct* (internal document).

47. **Action 10 (closed – reported in the 2025 update).** A clause on PSEA is already included in WFP contracts[20] with standby partners.

48. **Action 11 (open).** An analysis and initial mapping of existing materials on SEA risk identification and mitigation for third-party monitors and private sector partners is ongoing.

49. **Action 12 (open).** WFP is reviewing the programme cycle to identify areas for collaboration with community leaders in order to strengthen SEA risk identification, mitigation and prevention. In 2025, following extensive consultations with relevant technical teams, a draft code of conduct for community-based structures established by WFP was developed; that draft code of conduct will be piloted and finalized in 2026.

F. Recommendation 6: Ensure that WFP's role and contributions to inter-agency efforts are commensurate with WFP's operational size and strength, to support the development of PSEA global goods. (Priority: Medium. Overall deadline: Fourth quarter of 2025. Status: Closed)

50. Recommendation 6 includes two sub-recommendations and four actions. All actions are closed.

Sub-recommendation 6.1: Reinforce WFP's role in PSEA within inter-agency partnerships by seeking opportunities to support inter-agency networks and action plans at the country level and providing support to activities agreed by the United Nations country teams/humanitarian country teams in the annual action plans (fourth quarter of 2025)

51. **Action 1 (closed).** As IASC PSEAH Champion for 2024 and 2025, the Executive Director engaged with IASC leaders to strengthen advocacy and promote PSEA, ensuring that these issues were systematically considered in emergency operations. This was further strengthened on the ground through sustained engagement with PSEA coordinators in humanitarian country teams. A dedicated PSEAH session at the IASC Principals' Meeting in June 2025 resulted in renewed leadership commitments to maintaining PSEAH as a central element of the humanitarian reset. At the October 2025 meeting, the Principals took stock of progress on their organizational PSEAH commitments. The Executive Director also engaged with cooperating partners and non-governmental organizations working in the field, recognizing their critical role in eliminating SEA. Within WFP, PSEA has been established as a formal compliance responsibility for senior leadership in country operations, reinforcing its place within WFP's broader duty of care.[21]

Sub-recommendation 6.2: Leverage WFP's position and opportunity within global leadership platforms (e.g. the food security and livelihoods, logistics and emergency telecommunications clusters; the private sector partnership portfolio; and CBTs) to ensure that PSEA is part of the approach and coordination efforts. […] (fourth quarter of 2025)

52. **Action 2, 3 and 4 (closed).** Under the IASC PSEAH Championship, WFP supported the identification and promotion of good practices across the cluster system and the development of guidelines and resources to mitigate SEA risks in humanitarian assistance, including CBT programmes. WFP, in collaboration with Empowered Aid, engaged key clusters, including the food security and livelihoods, shelter, health, logistics and emergency

[20] Article XVI, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, is included on page 14 of the current standby partner agreement template. In addition, as soon as they are accepted, partners and employees are given access to the Standby Induction page on WeLearn where the PSEA training is posted, along with training on BSAFE, fraud, ethics, cyber security and abusive conduct. If urgency prevents training from being undertaken prior to standby partner deployment, then it must be done before the second week of deployment. All the necessary links to resources and reporting are on the induction page. In addition, the Speak up! toolkit has been digitized as a resource for employees.

[21] Further details of protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment activities undertaken in the context of the Championship are provided in the *IASC Championship report 2024–2025*.

telecommunications clusters, to develop a SEA risk mapping and mitigation package.[22] The first of its kind, the package includes accessible evidence-based tools designed to strengthen system-wide safeguards and ensure safe, dignified access to assistance. It was endorsed by the IASC in October 2025 and marks a major step towards system-wide accountability for PSEA. In 2025, the tool was piloted in several emergency operations, including in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Myanmar, Somalia and South Sudan.[23]

Observations and conclusions

53. With an overall implementation rate of nearly 86 percent (as at April 2026) and three recommendations closed, WFP is on track in its follow-up to the recommendations stemming from the PSEA evaluation.

54. In 2025, the remaining actions under the management response primarily related to the development of operational guidance to support consistent implementation across country offices. These actions are aligned with the corporate direction established under the 2026–2029 PSEAH strategy, which provides WFP with a unified framework that brings together policy, prevention, reporting and response and clarifies leadership responsibilities across functions.

55. WFP remains committed to fully integrating PSEA into its operations. Progress in 2026 will depend on the availability of sustained and adequate funding, and WFP will continue to prioritize high-impact actions.

56. Dedicated resources remain essential for operationalizing PSEA commitments at the field level, particularly to support staff and partner capacity to prevent and mitigate SEA and to facilitate reporting and referral to services for victims and survivors. WFP's commitment to PSEA remains firm. Upholding the safety and dignity of the people served by WFP is a central duty guiding all the organization's work. WFP looks forward to continued dialogue and constructive engagement to address outstanding challenges and gaps.

[22] For further details, see Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) Risk Mapping & Mitigation Package for Clusters.

[23] See the *IASC Championship report 2024–2025*.

Acronyms

CBT	cash-based transfer
CSP	country strategic plan
FSP	financial service provider
GPI	gender, protection and inclusion
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
PACE	performance and competency enhancement
PSEA	protection from sexual exploitation and abuse
PSEACap	PSEA Capacity Project
PSEAH	protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment
SEA	sexual exploitation and abuse