



**WFP EVALUATION**



World Food Programme

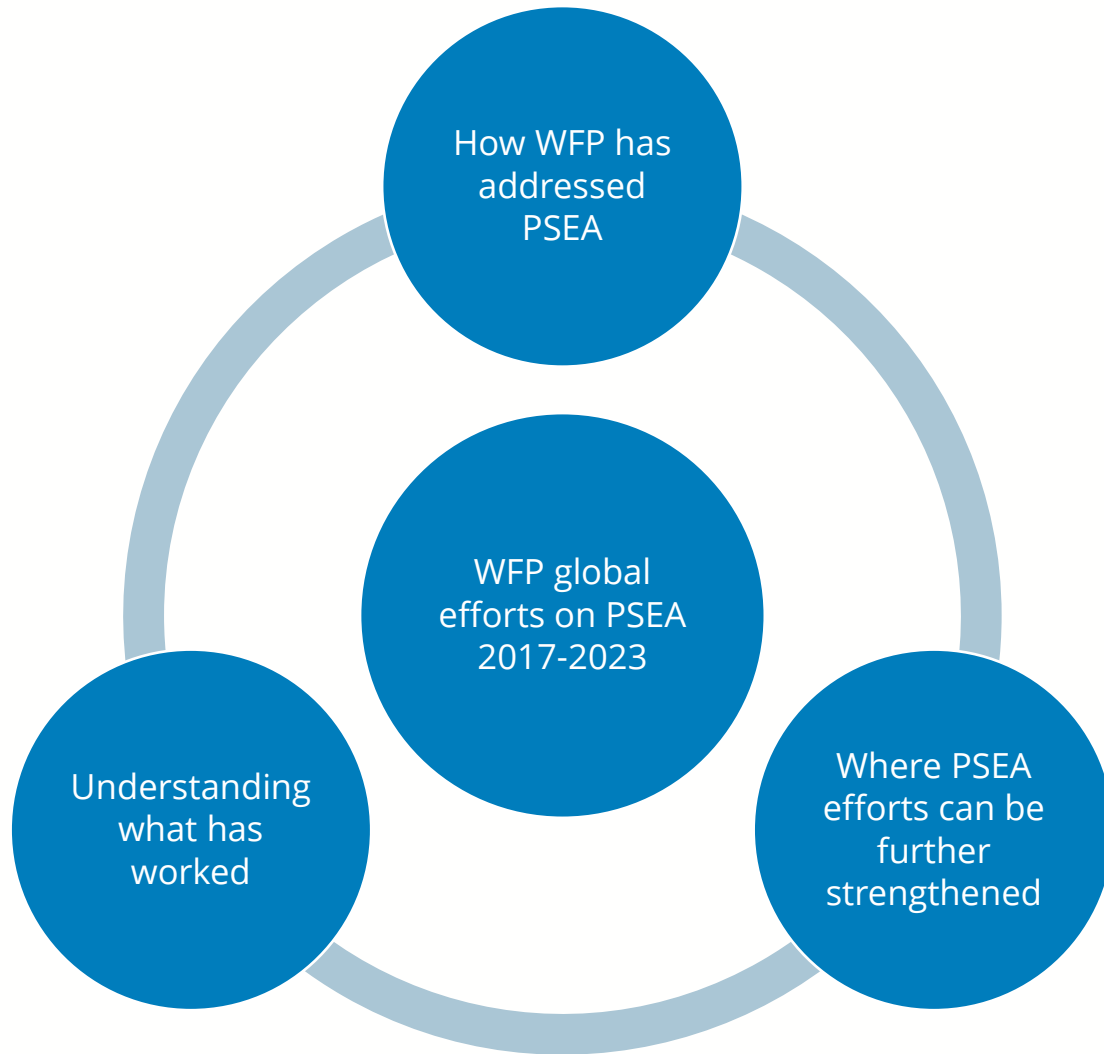
SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# Strategic Evaluation of WFP's Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

May 2024

Round table on evaluation reports

# Evaluation context and scope



## Focusing on key dimensions of PSEA



**Norms and standards**



**Internal capacities and resources**



**Partnerships and networks**



**Management and leadership**

# 1. How relevant are WFP's policies and strategies for guiding PSEA?



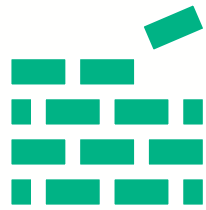
Overall, WFP is in step with system wide commitments on PSEA:

- **Explicit commitment to integrate PSEA in WFP Strategic Plan (2022-2025)**
- Increasing **inclusion of PSEA** in CSPs and WFP policies
- **Significant administrative and managerial update of PSEA commitments** with 2023 ED Circular

However:

- Greater clarity on **zero tolerance to inaction** and **the victim centred approach** is needed
- In contrast with some other UN Agencies, **WFP lacks a clear strategy or implementation plan** for PSEA commitments

## 2. How do WFP systems and structures facilitate action and learning on PSEA?



- **Progress on PSEA driven by Ethics Office** with PSEA focal points in country offices and regional bureaux
- **High levels of compliance** with PSEA requirements for training and clauses in contracts
- **Guidance** developed for PSEA
- **PSEA indicators** introduced in corporate results framework



- **Limited human and financial resources**
- **Limited data for decision making** at country or regional levels
- Community feedback mechanisms **not always suited for highly sensitive cases**
- **Absence of SEA reports does not trigger enquiry** into whether reporting channels are accessible or fit for purpose

### 3. How does WFP strengthen external coherence on PSEA for improved implementation?



**Increased technical and resource contributions in UN and inter-agency platforms**

Interagency work to assess PSEA capacity of cooperating partners -- limited capacity for follow-up

**Strong compliance with contractual requirements** in partnerships



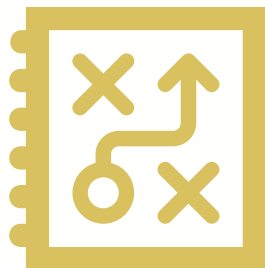
Not yet fully realised **leadership capacity in clusters** to broaden awareness of SEA risk and PSEA compliance

Uncertainty over **PSEA obligations within government partnerships**

**SEA risk exposure** through other partnerships may be underestimated

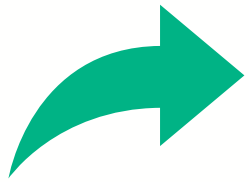


## 4. Is WFP programming delivering on its PSEA commitments?



- **PSEA is not yet systematically operationalized within WFP**
- SEA reporting is not proportional with WFP footprint or expenditure
- Delivery of PSEA commitments has been affected by:
  - **Limited time and resources** for PSEA focal points
  - **Staff confidence** in PSEA measures
  - **Perception that investigations remain protracted**
  - **Need for contextualization** of PSEA approach
  - **Lack of consolidated reporting and use of data** on PSEA

## 5. How is WFP PSEA capability responsive to a changing operational environment?



- Leadership through IASC PSEA Championship
- Commitment to Victim Centred Approach
- Promoting culture change
- Mandatory PSEA training for all staff

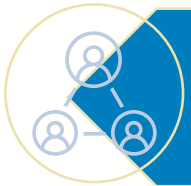


- Resourcing and support to victims
- Mechanisms, capacity, and resources for PSEA in priority contexts.
- Considering SEA risk amidst resource uncertainty
- Inclusion of PSEA in donor dialogue

# Conclusions



WFP broadly in line with system-wide commitments on PSEA



WFP has built PSEA capacity, spearheaded by Ethics Office



Increasing visibility in inter-agency PSEA forums



Understanding of PSEA commitments and SEA not fully embedded



Change needed to reduce SEA risk exposure and enhance confidence in PSEA measures



# Recommendations

In the immediate term:



1. Appoint cross-organizational task force to operationalize the 2023 ED Circular
2. In line with international obligations on PSEA, and within resourcing available, commit sufficient capacity and resourcing for effective PSEA
3. Build on the IASC Championship to enhance the visibility, priority, and clarity of PSEA for WFP



# Recommendations

In the medium-term:

4. Develop a PSEA Policy and accompanying Strategy by 2026
5. Enhance the links between SEA risk assessment, programme design and implementation.
6. Ensure that WFP's role and contributions to inter-agency efforts are commensurate with WFP's operational size and strength

