



INTERPOL



Global Safeguarding

*“Where vulnerability meets power:
Interpol's operation to tackle abuse and exploitation
in the global aid sector”*

*2022 DALLAS CACC
8 – 11 August 2022
Dallas – Sheraton Hotel*

- **Unprecedented demand**
- **Incredible scale**
 - Top five governments spending \$115 billion
- **Development projects**
- **Emergency responses**
- **Large and small agencies**
- **Ambivalence toward law enforcement**

*“Every war is a war
against children”*





- Witness death, injury, rape, torture
- Experience injury, rape, torture
- Lack of food & clean water
- Lack of access to healthcare & medicines
- Homes destroyed, no safe shelter
- Breakdown of society
- Loss of family members
- Become head of household
- Protective services broken down
- Need to leave village to find work
- Flee to a 'safer' location or IDP camp
- New disabilities and existing disabilities
- Confusion, fear, humiliation, desperation

Common Child Sexual Exploitation in Emergencies



Sex-for-aid



Sex-for-food



Sex-for-medicine



Sex-for-protection



Sex-for-grades



Sex-for-lifts (to school)

“Transactional sex [sex-for-aid] with children is **very common** in the NGO world.

It becomes almost **normal**, and it is very difficult to evidence, as girls will not admit to exchanging sex for food or water”

Mohamad* NGO Humanitarian Adviser, 2016

“We’re sometimes viewed as almost **god-like** in the field – as if we alone can save lives by providing food, water or medicine.

We drive around in these expensive 4x4s and some people will do **whatever** we say...”

Robert*, NGO Logistics Manager, 2016

“If abuse did happen here, we would say nothing, because you have done so much here in this village, we wouldn’t want you to **leave**.”

If the price is this [abuse] of one child, we would say it was a **fair exchange...**”

Jemilah*, mother, SE Asia

“We helped to set up a Protection Committee, gave them training, funding and support. One day a child came to them to report she had been raped.

The committee member said he would protect her, but instead he raped her **again**. When it was found out, senior management said it was not a matter for us, as they were not ‘staff’ and were not covered by Child Safeguarding”

Waseem*, NGO worker, East Africa, 2016

“Our [NGO] drivers would take boys with them on long drives to deliver aid to hard-to-reach areas...everyone knew they were for some sort of **sexual relief**.

It was raised, but the decision was taken at a senior level **not to stop** using those drivers, because we **did not want to slow the humanitarian response**.

It was the humanitarian imperative **vs.** child safeguarding, and the humanitarian imperative won”

“A field manager breached our code of conduct & security regulations. He harassed [adult] women...**nothing** was done.

After he had broken security regulations several times, it was finally reported via security. It then become clear he was also sexually exploiting girls at our guesthouses. The guards were too **scared** to report him. It only came to light because of the security breaches.”

Tom*, NGO Humanitarian Adviser, 2017

“If something bad were to happen to me, like that [abuse], I would tell **no-one**.

Not my parents, no-one. Because my parents would have me **killed”**

Maryam*, 11, Iraq

“The abuser puts pressure on the family, threatens to **dismiss** the child from the NGO services – which means no services for the family, no food, no money, so the family will **not** report this case – of course they won’t”

Piat*, NGO Humanitarian worker, 2016

“I wouldn’t report anything to an NGO. It’s the same here as reporting to the **Police**...it’ll get back to the man involved and he’ll cause trouble for me.

I’ve seen cars set alight as **retribution** for that kind of thing”

Patience*, Mother, East Africa, 2017

“When I was on an emergency response in Haiti, it was well known that one of the senior ex-pats had a couple of local ‘girlfriends’, who seemed pretty **young** – in fact, the rest of the team joked about it.

I felt very uncomfortable, but I was really junior and **didn't say anything**”

Pamela*, NGO Communications Officer, 2017



3% of general male population have some sexual interest in children under 14

1% of general male population have primary sexual interest in pre-pubescent children

One working estimate* is that between **0.05%** and **0.1%** of children directly supported by an NGO or institution are likely to be sexually exploited or abused

“...the UN has in excess of 100,000 staff and Peacekeepers...approximately two-thirds are male...”

If the UN’s staffing profile was similar to the broader population that would mean that there are about 2,000 men with paedophilia tendencies...and the UN wants us to believe that the number of victims is in the hundreds?”



Where Vulnerability Meets Power

Case Study

Why SOTERIA ?



Donate

The New Humanitarian | Journalism from the heart of crises

Aid and Policy News 29 September 2021

Sex abuse scandal rocks World Health Organization, but

Aid and Policy Conflict Environment and

DAILY NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

THE TIMES

Friday February 9 2018 | thetimes.co.uk | No 72453

Only £1 to subscribers £1.60

Top Oxfam staff paid Haiti survivors for sex

● Charity covered up scandal in earthquake zone ● Girls at 'Caligula orgy' may have been under-age

Human eggs grown in lab offer hope to infertile

Tom Whipple Science Editor
Helen Puttick

Human eggs have been grown to

Boss Simon Harris jailed child sex abuse

Ange Kasongo

12 May 2021

London Summit 2018

Fundamental changes in the aid sector

- 1. Ensure support for survivors, victims and whistle-blowers, enhance accountability and transparency, strengthen reporting and tackle impunity.**
- 2. Incentivize cultural change through strong leadership, organizational accountability and better human resource processes.**
- 3. Agree minimum standards and ensure we and our partners meet them.**
- 4. Strengthen organizational capacity and capability across the international aid sector, including building capability of implementing partners to meet the minimum standards**



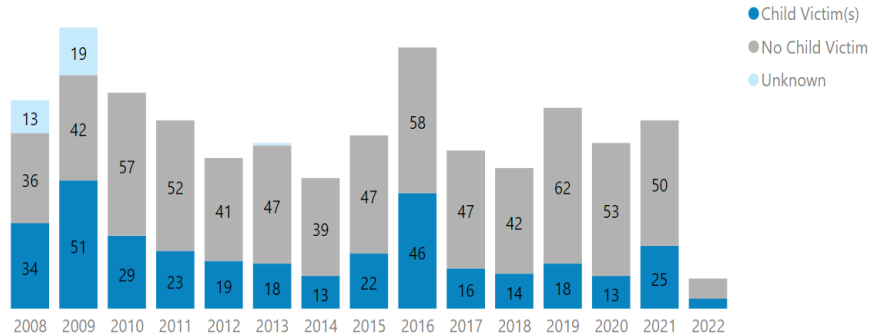
CONDUCT IN UN FIELD MISSIONS

PROFESSIONALISM. EFFICIENCY. INTEGRITY. DIGNITY.

OVERVIEW

Age of victim (by allegation)

This graph provides information on the number of allegations by year, separated by whether the allegation involves child victim(s), only adult victim(s) or whether the age of the victim is unknown.

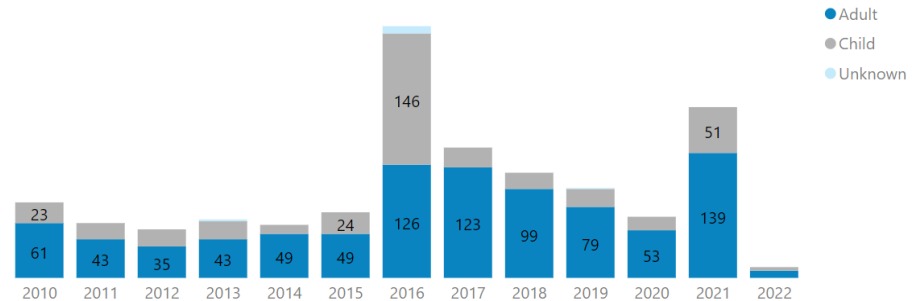


Profile of victims of SEA

IDENTIFIED NUMBER OF VICTIMS

Identified number of victims

This graph provides information on the identified number of victims by year, separating the data into adult victims, child victims and victims whose age is unknown.



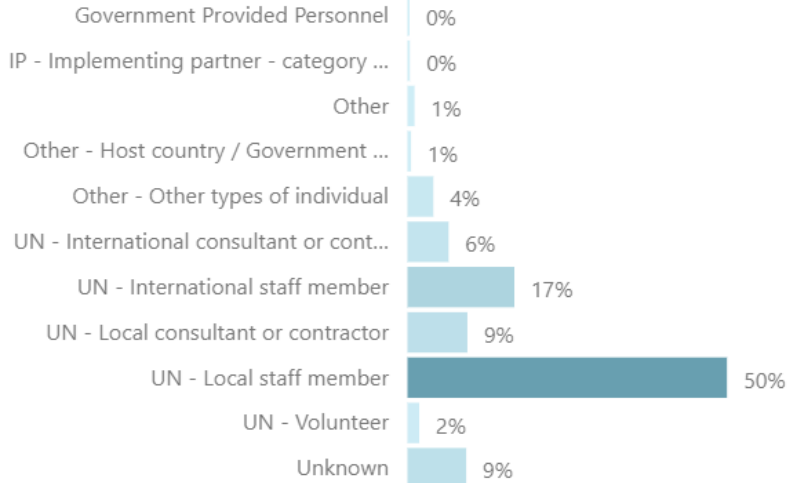
Comparison of number of allegations and identified number of victims (2010 -)

This graph provides information on the total identified number of alleged perpetrators and a comparison with the number of allegations per year.

Year

Where Sex offenders come from

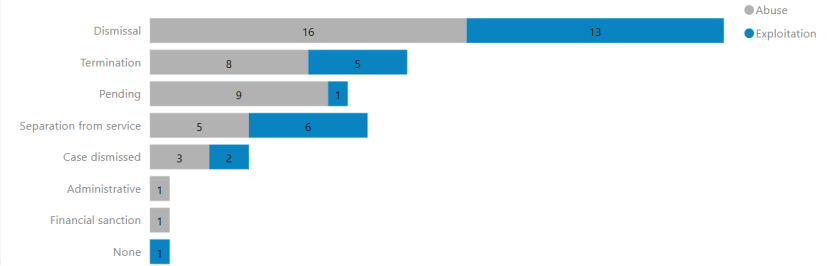
PERPETRATOR CATEGORY OF PERSONNEL



Number of substantiated allegations involving civilian personnel:

70

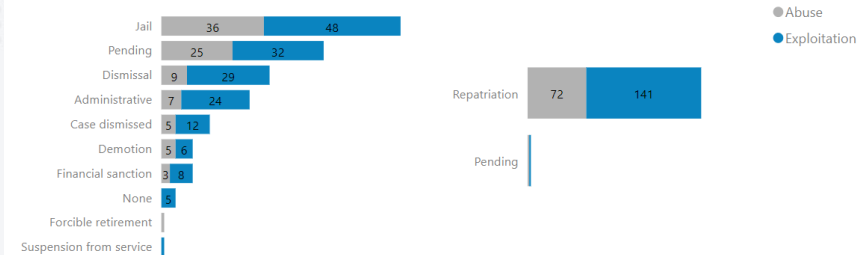
Action taken by the United Nations



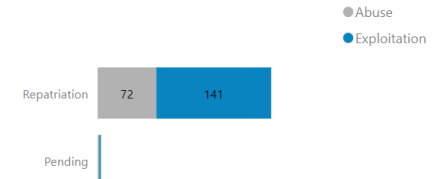
Number of substantiated allegations involving uniformed personnel:

212

Action taken by national governments



Action taken by the United Nations



NON - UN FORCES

11

Allegations

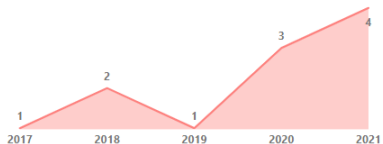
11

Victims

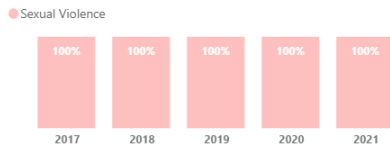
11

Perpetrators

Allegation Count



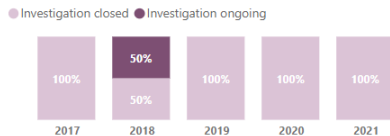
Type of Allegation



Allegation Status



Status of Investigation

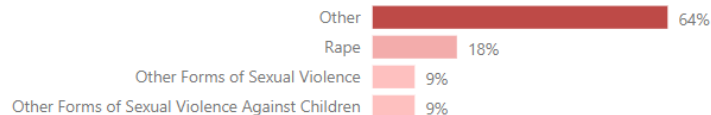


Allegation : Year of Incident



Year	2009	2012	2013	2014	2019	Unknown	Total
2017						1	1
2018						2	2
2019			1			1	1
2020			1	1	1		3
2021	1	1	1	1			4
Total	1	1	3	2	1	3	11

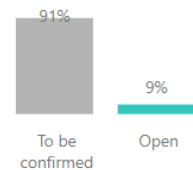
Nature of Allegation



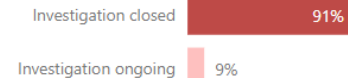
Type of Allegation



Status of Allegation



Status of Investigation



IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS (whose personnel are not under the authority of the UN)

903

Allegations

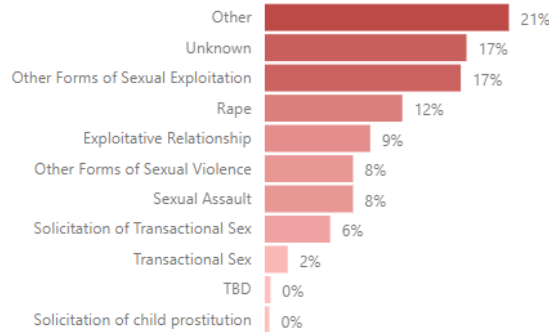
1K

Victims

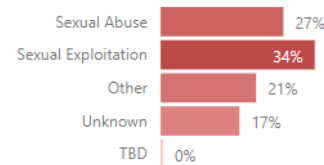
964

Perpetrators

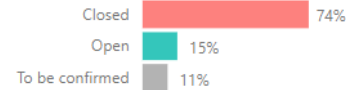
NATURE OF ALLEGATION



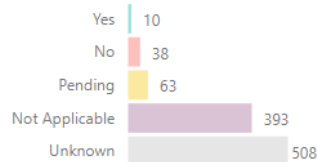
TYPE OF ALLEGATION



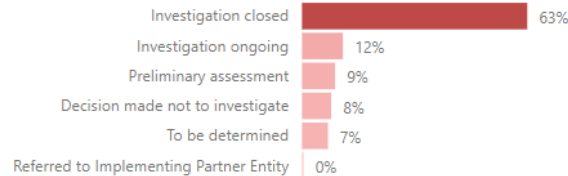
STATUS OF ALLEGATION



PATERNITY ESTABLISHED



STATUS OF INVESTIGATION



IMPLEMENTATION PHASE COMPONENTS

Globally, leveraging INTERPOL tools towards increased understanding and prevention of cases of SEAH through:

Global repository and analysis on SEAH cases

Recruitment-checks mechanism

Global Information Sharing & INTERPOL Notices

Digital Solutions



In pilot countries, contribute to environments conducive to safe and victim-centered referrals to law enforcement by:

Building capacities of law enforcement

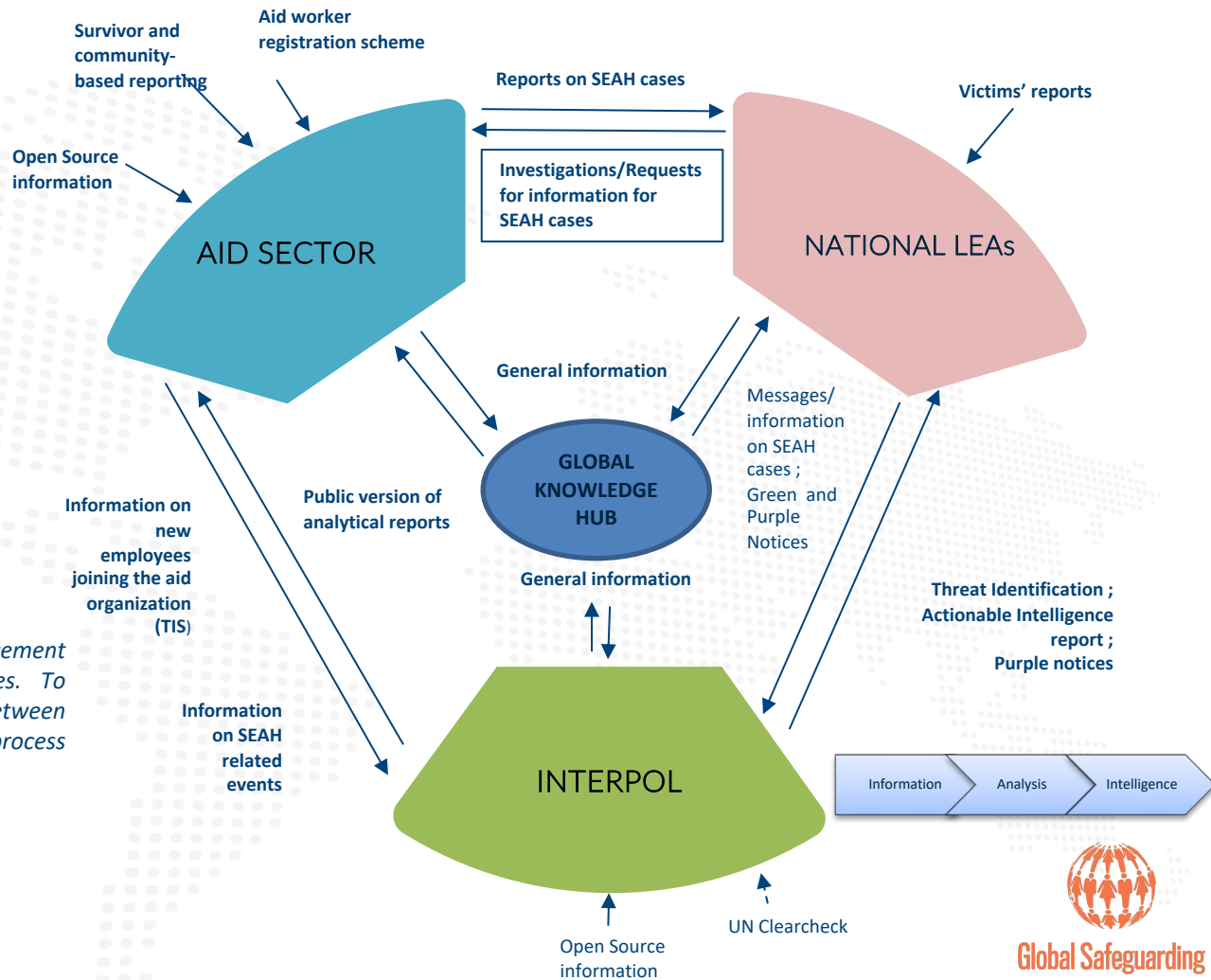
Supporting aid sector actors

Building on and complementing other safeguarding initiatives from IASC, UN, FCDO, etc.

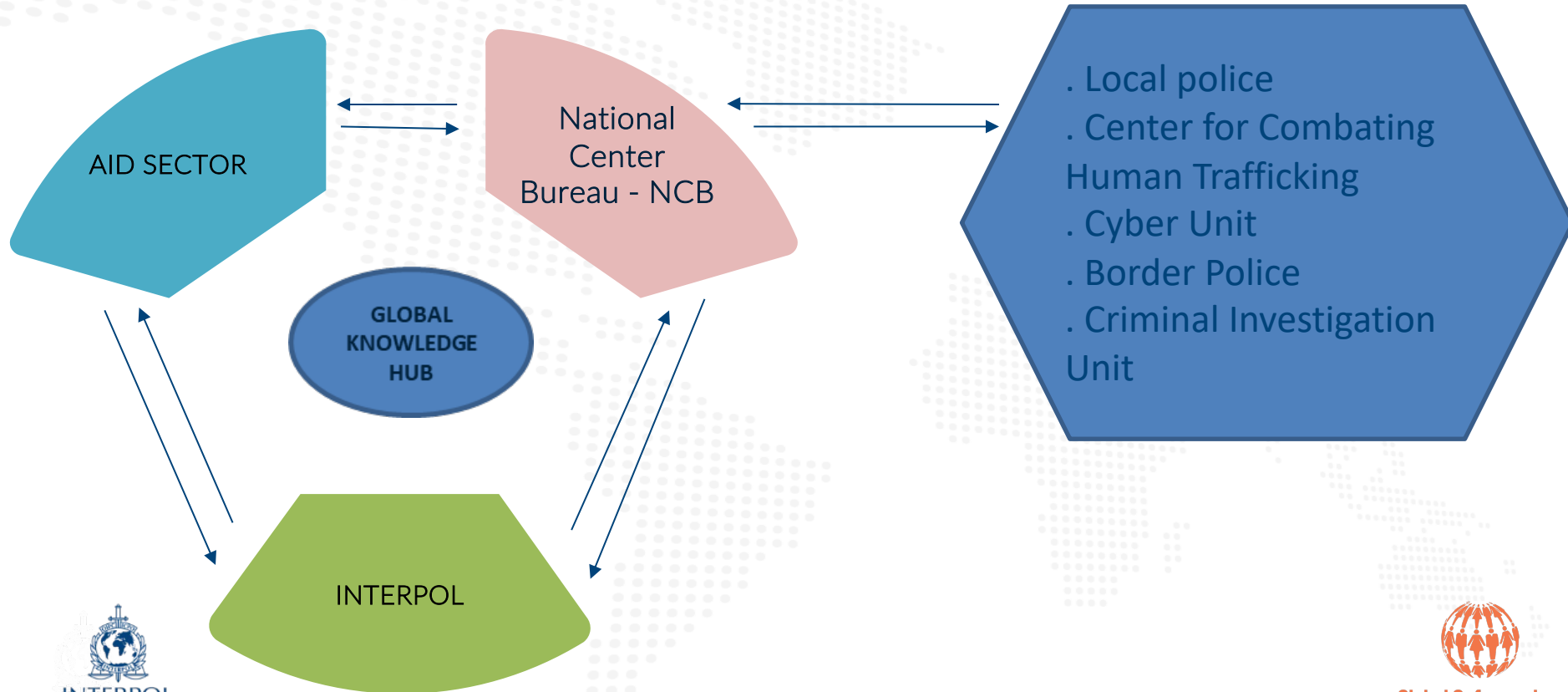
Flows of Information between stakeholders

(The establishment of the relevant legal framework is a prerequisite before any information exchange)

“Information is the lifeblood of policing. INTERPOL stores millions of records from law enforcement entities worldwide in various criminal databases. To identify crime patterns and establish links between perpetrators and investigations, advanced tools to process and analyze this data are used”.



Local Cooperation framework



Project Soteria's cycle



Recruitment Checks

- UN Clear Check
- MDS
- Aid Worker Registration Scheme
- Routine employment checks



Perpetrators of abuse may:

- Lie about their identity
- Falsify their work history
- Falsify references
- Avoid criminal reference checks

Working together these initiatives help keep people safe from sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment

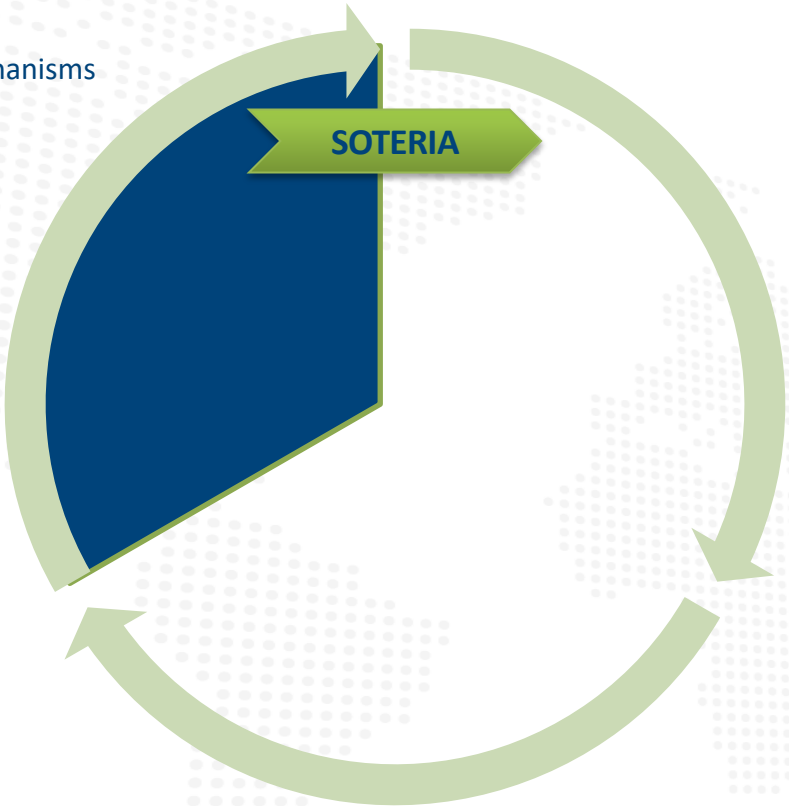
Project Soteria's cycle



Global Safeguarding

Project Soteria's cycle

Report to police
LOOP reporting mechanisms



COMPLEMENTARY APPROACH

SOTERIA

- . Global data base on SEAH
- . Background check
- . Capacity building activities

CHS ALLIANCE and Resource and support Hub

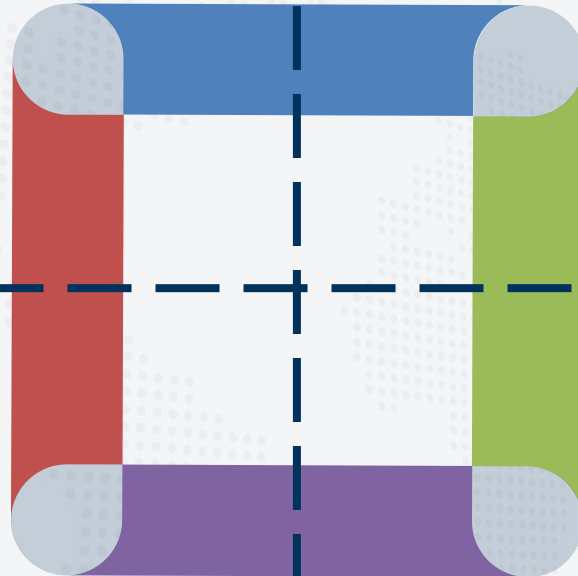
- . Capacity building

Misconduct Disclosure Scheme (MDS)

- . Background check between affiliated aid sector organizations

LOOP response

- . Misconduct reporting mechanism





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Are you listening?

Completing Your Evaluations



INTERPOL



Global Safeguarding

It is important that you complete an evaluation for every presentation that you attended

Your certificate for attending the conference will list only those workshops for which you have completed an evaluation

Thank you

For any questions, please contact:
soteria@interpol.int

ACRO
Criminal Records Office



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office



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