

Introduction to safeguarding – RSH South Sudan



This infographic is based on the Introduction to safeguarding webinar by the RSH South Sudan hub.
To access the Q&A write-up, please [click here](#). To view the video recording, [click here](#).

Safeguarding in international development and humanitarian work is about addressing the harm and abuse caused by civil society organisations (CSOs) to its staff and anyone who interacts with the CSO, for example programme participants or community members.

Safeguarding in international development and humanitarian work is not about preventing violence and abuse that occurs within society, e.g. Gender-based Violence or violence against children

However, concerns of this nature can be reported or referred to authorities and services as part of the organisation's safeguarding work.

The harm and abuses caused by CSOs can include:



Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEAH)



other harms and abuses (for example neglect, physical or emotional harm)



bullying and harassment in the workplace

All harm and abuse caused by a CSO is likely to be considered as against the organisation's code of conduct. Many organisations have a particular focus on SEAH as they are considered the gravest violations.

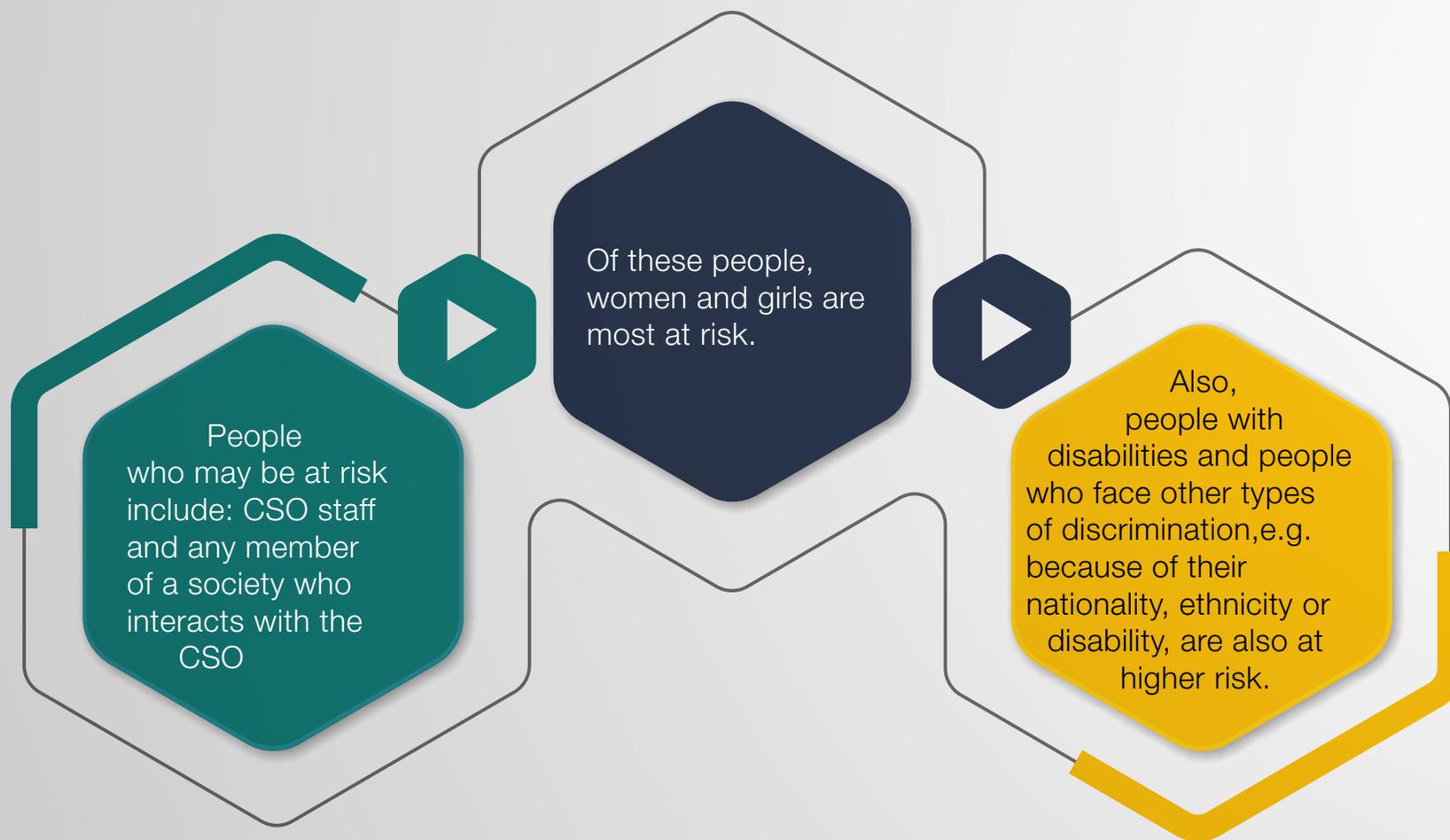
**Harm and abuse
caused by CSOs
result from:**

Abuse
perpetrated
by staff

Unsafe
communications
and media

Unsafe programmes

Who is at risk of SEAH?



Safeguarding

describes the measures that address abuse and harm that is caused by CSO staff, programmes and communications.

PSEA

(Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) and PSEAH (Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment) are also terms used to refer to measures taken to protect people from sexual exploitation and abuse by CSO staff and programmes. PSEA does not include sexual harassment.

Safeguarding (or PSEAH) measures need an organisation-wide approach.

They can be separated into three areas: prevention, reporting and response.

Prevention

- Building a safe organisational culture
- Creating policies, procedures and a code of conduct
- Safeguarding risk management
- Safe recruitment
- Staff safeguarding training
- Designing and delivering safe programmes with community members
- Gathering consent and making stories authentic and empowering.

Reporting

- Creating a system for all staff to report abuse, and for the organisation to respond
- Creating community-based complaints mechanisms so that anyone who interacts with your CSO can report abuse or suspicions of abuse, and for the organisation to respond.

Response

- Providing immediate response to an incident of abuse
- Preparing for and managing investigations
- Delivering investigations where trained staff are in place.