



**TRAINING REPORT ON PROJECT CLOSEOUT MEETINGS WITH COMMUNITY PSEA STAKEHOLDERS
HELD ON 25TH DECEMBER, 2022**



Type of Training: Training for Community PSEA Stakeholders

Number of participants: 50 (30M; 20F)

Duration of Training: 2 days

Project Name: Interagency Community Outreach and Communication Fund on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

Activity Location: Mandeq Café and Restaurant, Dhobley

Name of Facilitator: DRA Field Staff



Date of submission: 25th December, 2022

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Introduction

Danwadaag Relief Alliance (DRA) in partnership with ICVA is implementing an Interagency Community Outreach and Communication on Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) in Dhobley, Somalia. The six month outreach project's aim is to promote principled and effective humanitarian action through the development and dissemination of PSEA outreach and communications materials.

DRA works with Internally Displaced Persons in Southern Somalia since 2015. The organization was born with an aim of providing humanitarian assistance, saving lives, alleviate suffering and restoring dignity to the Somali people. At the very core of our operations is the protection and upholding the rights and dignity of girls and women.

With the ICVA-funded PSEA Awareness Raising Project coming to a close, DRA held a project closeout meeting with community PSEA Stakeholders who were involved throughout the project's duration. The meeting was held on 25th December 2022 at Mandeq Café and Restaurant in Dhobley, Somalia. A total of 50 participants were present (20 Female; 30 Male).

Activity Rationale

The purpose of the project closeout meeting was to formally conclude the PSEA Awareness-raising Project. It was also held to give the project team and community stakeholders an opportunity to review the project's overall performance, assess its impact and make recommendations for future projects.

The DRA team gathered all key data about the project and compressed it into a short presentation. The presentation included all activities conducted so far and how the stakeholders were involved at each level, as well as the achievements. This was done with the aim of closing out activities at the community level and to create a platform for the stakeholders to provide feedback and give their own evaluation of the project.

Description of Target Participants

This activity targeted selected Community PSEA Stakeholders, who included community gatekeepers, opinion holders and elders. The Community PSEA Stakeholders were previously involved in past training activities with community gatekeepers and community PSEA Stakeholders who championed community conversations on PSEA. The training targeted 50 individuals (20 Female; 40 Male) who come from within the project target community in Lower Juba.

Activity Objectives

The following were the specific objectives of the training workshop:

- To emphasise the need for community stakeholders to champion PSEA efforts at the grassroots level
- To verify that the PSEA awareness-raising project met its objectives and deliverables
- To identify and share lessons learned at the community level with regards to PSEA
- To obtain feedback from the community which will help improve future projects



Participant Expectations

The PSEA Community Stakeholders expressed their expectations from this meeting which include:

- Finding out whether the project will be renewed
- Identifying next steps as a community and in collaboration with DRA beyond the project's time period

Activity process

Introduction and Setting the Environment

The facilitator welcomed all participants to the training session on the first day of the workshop, introduced himself and encouraged a volunteer-led ice-breaking activity to put all participants at ease. Each participant then introduced themselves and the role they play within the community, as well as the role they played within the project.

Norms Established

Before commencing the meeting, participants agreed on rules and norms to govern the training for the two days. The following were agreed upon unanimously:

- That participants will switch off their phones/ place them on silent mode during sessions
- That participants would keep time
- That participants would respect each other's opinions
- That participants would participate in sharing feedback
- Participants would seek permission if they need to go out mid-session

Further, as part of the preliminary activities, participants designated a chairperson, icebreaker and a timekeeper from amongst themselves.

Materials used

Materials used in the dissemination of this training included:

- Flip charts
- Mark pens
- Notebooks and pens- Issued out to each participant for note taking
- Banner – Containing information about project name, donor, partner organization and activity name

Activity Approach

The session began with a word of prayer from one of the participants after which the facilitator welcomed the participants. He proceeded to then introduce DRA and ICVA, highlighting the project's mandate, goals, objectives and programmatic areas as well as the expected outcomes. The participants' roles in the project were clearly discussed and shared. Agendas covered during the meeting included:

- Recap of PSEA topical issues covered during previous training activities
- Presentation of the project and activities implemented by DRA so far



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- Challenges faced during project implementation
- Recommendations and hand-over of the project to the community

Approaches used to impart knowledge and foster learning included:

- Facilitator-led session
- Open discussion sessions for experience sharing and group learning
- Plenary discussions
- Energizers to keep the momentum going

Meeting Proceedings

The facilitator went through the purpose of the meeting, and presented the findings and recommendations of the PSEA awareness-raising project, which aimed to educate and empower community members of Lower Juba to prevent and report incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Participants were taken through the project's overview and the role of DRA as well as the partner organisation's role in it. The facilitator also reminded participants of the roles they played and the reason they were involved in the project. He listed all activities carried out within the project such as community meetings, workshops, trainings and messaging disseminated. After this, participants were given the opportunity to share their experiences and knowledge gained through the project.

One participant shared that they have gained a deeper understanding of PSEA at their community and is particularly keen in ensuring that vulnerable members are prioritized during distribution of items in their village. Another shared their gratitude on having PSEA messaging through the radio as they served as a helpful tool for awareness creation at a larger scale.

Best practices as shared by the participants include:

- The use of community conversations to mainstream PSEA related discussions at the community level was applauded by all as a practice which will continue even after project closure.
- Dissemination of messaging through a mobile unit through the villages was also echoed by several participants as an activity that reached and resonated well with community members

Recommendations shared by participants included:

- Providing additional training as the stakeholders feel that they will need refresher trainings on PSEA to keep up with the changing humanitarian landscape
- Participants shared that there is need to improve and strengthen communication and collaboration between stakeholders at the community, national and international level to fully eradicate SEA in Lower Juba
- It was also shared that community PSEA stakeholders will continue to strengthen efforts to establish local reporting mechanisms for SEA incidents, which will be crucial in strengthening the reporting mechanism for incidents of PSEA



As for the next steps after the project's closure, it was agreed that the stakeholders will continue to champion efforts to raise awareness on PSEA and to strengthen community-based reporting systems, and that community conversations will continue to cover PSEA related topics.

Closing Ceremony

To conclude the day's meeting, the chairperson expressed appreciation for the project, ICVA, DRA and the facilitator and the community unanimously agreed to carry on forward with championing PSEA messaging at the community level. The day's meeting came to a close.

Conclusion

Overall, the PSEA awareness-raising project was successful in increasing knowledge and understanding of PSEA among community members and identifying areas for improvement. However, there remains a lot of ground to cover to ensure that the community is fully equipped to prevent and report incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse in Lower Juba.

The project team thanked the community stakeholders for their participation and support throughout the project. DRA looks forward to continue efforts to address recommendations given by the community and to continue improving the community's ability to prevent and respond to PSEA.



ANNEXES

Annex 1: List of participants

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Annex 2: Activity Photos



Photo 1&2: Meeting in session