

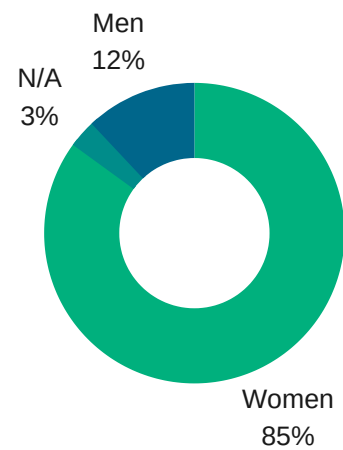
DIGNA BASELINE SURVEY SUMMARY

PREVENTING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE

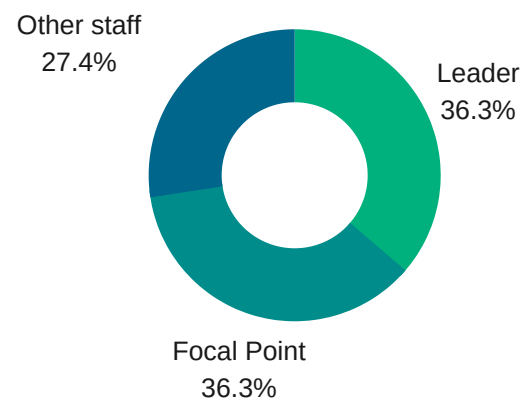


In October 2020, Digna conducted a baseline survey of Canadian international development and humanitarian organizations (IDHOs). 49 organizations from across Canada provided their insights on the current state of PSEA in the sector. The results reveal that overall organizations have made progress in their commitments to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse. However, there are many aspects that still need attention. Digna will use the data to design a capacity building framework that includes upcoming trainings and information sharing opportunities to support organizations to reduce the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse.

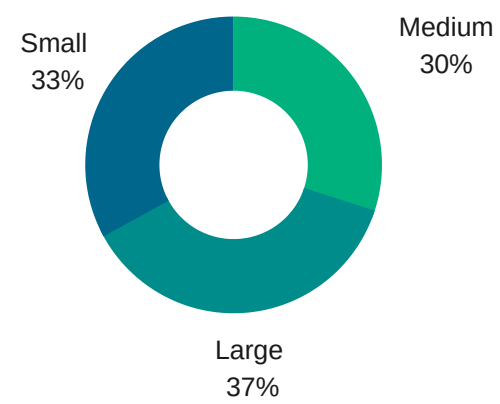
WHO RESPONDED?



GENDER



ROLE IN ORGANIZATION



SIZE OF ORGANIZATION

THE STRENGTHS BY ORGANIZATION SIZE



Small organizations (<10 staff) tend to do better with:

- Developing and implementing gender-responsive PSEA policies and practices systematically in their organization
- Establishing survivor-centered organizational reporting and response systems and procedures

Medium-sized organizations (11-29 staff) tend to do better when:

- Conducting training, raising awareness, and communicating on sexual exploitation and abuse prevention with their partners
- Engaging in coordination of PSEA and response internationally

Large organizations (30+ staff) tend to do better in:

- Seeking to foster organizational change and leadership on sexual exploitation and abuse
- Developing mechanisms for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of sexual exploitation and abuse prevention and response

THE GOOD:



- Awareness levels of PSEA Concepts and requirements are high.
- Almost 90% of respondents feel they can prevent sexual exploitation and abuse in their organizations with a moderate/high degree of confidence. The confidence level is even higher within small organizations.
- Most respondents have at least one PSEA focal point within their organization.
- Most organizations (76%) have conducted an analysis of sexual exploitation and abuse prevention measures for their organization.
- Over 50% of organizations are making some progress implementing organizational change and leadership on SEA.

THE NOT GREAT:



Working with partners

- Only 12% of organizations have fully implemented training, awareness and PSEA prevention with partner organizations.
- Over 40% of respondents do not know if their partners have systems to inform program participants/recipients of their rights to be protected from SEA.

Other

- Low knowledge of international accountability frameworks such as Development Assistance Committee (DAC) accountability framework, Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Minimum Operating Standards on PSEA, and national frameworks specific to countries of operation.
- Systematic implementation of gender-responsive PSEA practices and policies

DIGNA BASELINE SURVEY RECOMMENDATIONS

PREVENTING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE



FOR CANADIAN ORGANIZATIONS:



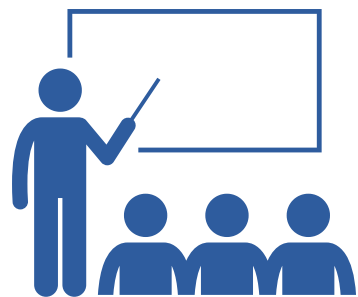
- Evaluate the organizational capacity in terms of resources, expertise, and contextual knowledge needed for all programs and activities.
- Strengthen gender-responsive policies related to PSEA, train staff regularly and conduct systematic reviews of implementation plans.
- Open dialogue and learning with current and potential partners on their perceptions, experiences, and abilities of preventing and addressing sexual exploitation and abuse.
- If possible, include PSEA in budgets so human and program resources are adequately prioritized.

DIGNA'S AREAS OF FOCUS WHEN SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS:



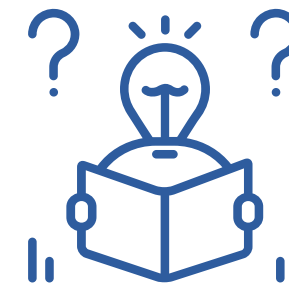
- Help organizations assess their PSEA needs and decide on their priorities.
- Work with heads of organizations on sexual exploitation and abuse sensitization, organizational change and leadership.
- Targeted initiatives with PSEA focal points within organizations.
- Facilitate learning on all aspects of the PSEA cycle, international PSEA frameworks and the importance of adhering to them.
- Provide support to organizations that work with partners to fully implement their PSEA plans globally in context-specific ways.
- Dialogue and liaison with the government of Canada (GAC, consular and embassies).

PRIORITY TRAINING TOPICS AND RESOURCES NEEDED:



- Working in partnership
- Policies and code of conduct development
- Survivor centered response and support mechanisms
- Investigations Recruitment and HR practices
- Reporting, monitoring and evaluation of PSEA
- Sector-specific considerations and PSEA best practice (i.e. health, education, livelihoods, water/sanitation, etc.)
- Train-the-trainer approaches for maximum impact in operations and partnerships

OTHER AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION:



- Supporting organizations to ensure their policies, practices and mechanisms are safe, confidential, adequate, accessible, and effective.
- Providing human and financial resources for:
 - reporting mechanisms and processes
 - investigations
 - monitoring and reporting
- Learning around digital technologies and leveraging innovations in this space
- Including indigenous perspectives and leadership, in addition to holistic, intersectional and survivor-centered approaches

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