

VDO POLICY STATEMENT ON PREVENTION OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (PSEA)

Vision Development Organization (VDO) is committed to upholding the highest standards of integrity, professionalism, and ethical conduct in all aspects of our work. We recognize the importance of preventing and addressing sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in humanitarian and development contexts. As such, VDO adopts a zero-tolerance approach to any form of sexual exploitation, abuse, or harassment perpetrated by our staff, partners, or associated individuals.

Our Commitment to PSEA

- 1. Zero Tolerance: VDO maintains a zero-tolerance policy towards sexual exploitation and abuse in all its forms. We condemn any behavior that violates the rights, dignity, and well-being of individuals, particularly those who are vulnerable or at risk.
- 2. Prevention and Awareness: We are committed to preventing sexual exploitation and abuse through robust prevention measures and awareness-raising initiatives. VDO provides training, guidance, and resources to staff, partners, and beneficiaries to promote a culture of respect, dignity, and gender equality.
- Protection and Support: VDO prioritizes the protection and support of survivors of sexual exploitation and abuse. We provide accessible and confidential mechanisms for reporting incidents, as well as support services and referrals to survivors to ensure their safety, well-being, and access to justice.
- 4. Accountability and Transparency: We hold ourselves accountable for upholding the principles of PSEA. VDO conducts thorough investigations into allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse, takes appropriate disciplinary action against perpetrators, and cooperates with relevant authorities to ensure accountability and justice.
- 5. Continuous Improvement: VDO is committed to continuous improvement in our PSEA policies, procedures, and practices. We regularly review and update our frameworks to ensure they remain effective, responsive, and aligned with international standards and best practices.

Reporting PSEA Concerns

Any individual who has experienced or witnessed sexual exploitation or abuse involving VDO staff, partners, or associated individuals is encouraged to report it promptly and confidentially. Reports can be made through the following channels:

• Email: communications@vdongo.org

• Phone: +93(0) 728 777 119

All reports will be treated with the utmost seriousness and confidentiality. VDO is committed to conducting thorough investigations, providing support to survivors, and taking appropriate action to address incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Sexual exploitation and abuse are serious violations of human rights and dignity that have no place in our organization or our work. VDO is dedicated to preventing and addressing these abuses, promoting a safe and respectful environment for all individuals, and upholding the principles of integrity, accountability, and transparency in everything we do.