



## **PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (PSEA) POLICY**

## 1. Our values and principles

This policy is concerned with the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) of adults (anyone over the age of 18). This includes direct or indirect beneficiaries of our programming, adults in the wider communities in which we work and those who come into contact with Y-PEER SOMALIA or our representatives.

Y-PEER SOMALIA has a “Zero Tolerance” approach to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and does not allow any partner, supplier, sub-contractor, agent or any individual engaged by Y-PEER SOMALIA to engage in any form of sexual abuse or exploitation against vulnerable or other adults associated with its work. All adults have the equal right to protection regardless of any personal characteristic, including their age, gender, ability, culture, racial origin, and religious belief.

This policy applies to all persons working for us or on our behalf in any capacity, including employees at all levels, directors, officers, agency workers, seconded workers, volunteers, interns, agents, contractors, external consultants, third-party representatives, suppliers and business partners. It applies during or outside of working hours, every day of the year.

## 2. What is Sexual Exploitation and Abuse?

**Sexual Exploitation and Abuse** refers to all forms of inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature. This includes, but is not limited to:

Exchanging money, employment, goods or services for sex, including sexual favours or other forms of humiliating, degrading, or exploitative behavior;  
Sexual activity with commercial sex workers in countries where Y-PEER SOMALIA is delivering programming whether or not prostitution is legal in the host country; and  
Use of a child or adult to procure sex for others.

### Definitions of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse:

<b>Sexual</b>	The threatened or actual physical intrusion of a sexual or sexualized nature,
<b>Abuse</b>	including inappropriate touching, by force or under unequal or coercive conditions, sexual assault and rape. It may also include threatened or actual non-physical intrusion (unwanted and/or uninvited exposure to pornography, texts, images, and so on, the sharing of images, texts and so on, demands for sexualized photographs etc.).

<b>Sexual Exploitation</b>	Any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, trust, or dependency, for sexual or sexualized purposes. This includes the offer or promise of monetary, social, political benefits as an incentive or form of coercion.
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<b>Sexual favors</b>	Any sexual or sexualized acts, in exchange for something such as money, goods, services, opportunities and so on. Also includes demands for inappropriate photographs, filming, and exposure to pornography and so on.
<b>Grooming</b>	The cultivation of emotional relationships with those in positions of vulnerability or inequitable power, with the intention of manipulating these relationships into
<b>Zero Tolerance</b>	sexualized dynamics in the future At Y-PEER SOMALIA, we have a culture of zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and mistreatment, including Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying. This means that every single concern is fully responded to and where necessary prompt action (including conducting an investigation and taking dispensary action, if applicable) is taken. It means that we will hold our people to account against the same standards and subject them to the same processes, as everyone else regardless of their position or reputation within the organization.

Sexual exploitation and abuse are a violation of fundamental human rights. It can also be a criminal act. Y-PEER SOMALIA committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business dealings and relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure the exploitation and abuse of adults is not taking place anywhere in our own business or in any of our supply chains or partnerships. Y-PEER SOMALIA is committed to ensuring there is transparency in our own business and in our approach to preventing and responding to any safeguarding violations against adults throughout our supply chains, and relationship with third parties. In addition we are committed to ensuring our approach is consistent with our national and international disclosure obligations, and shall comply with all applicable laws, statutes, regulations and codes from time to time in force, including:

1. All relevant Somalia laws related to protection from sexual abuse, violence and harm, and those outlining measures for reporting known or alleged cases of abuse;
2. Applicable laws in the countries where Y-PEER SOMALIA operates; and
3. UN Secretary General’s Bulletin: Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

Where the guidance in this policy conflicts with any applicable laws or regulations, the higher standard must be observed at all times.

### 3. Our approach to preventing the abuse and exploitation of adults

Y-PEER SOMALIA committed to preventing the sexual exploitation and abuse of adults, including through the following means:

**Awareness:** Ensuring that all staff, representatives and third parties connected to Y-PEER SOMALIA are aware of the high standards of behavior and conduct expected of them to protect adults from any form of sexual abuse and exploitation in their private and working lives.

**Prevention:** Ensuring, through awareness and good practice, that staff and those who work with Y-PEER minimize the risks of any form of sexual exploitation and abuse, including but by no means limited to conducting relevant vetting and background checks of staff as part of their recruitment process.

**Reporting:** Ensuring that all staff and those who work with Y-PEER SOMALIA are clear on what steps to take where suspicions or concerns arise regarding allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse of adults in vulnerable populations where we work.

**Responding:** Ensuring that immediate action is taken to identify and address reports of sexual exploitation and abuse and ensure the safety and well-being of the person being sexually exploited or abused.

**To help you identify SEA incidents the following are examples of prohibited behaviour:**

- a. Engaging in relationships, which could be an abuse of trust, are abusive and/or exploitative.
- b. Your employees engaging in commercial sexual exploitation of a person, for example a hotel employee facilitating sexual abuse by hotel guests.
- c. Sexual assault.
- d. Forcing sex or someone to have sex with anyone.
- e. Forcing a person to engage in prostitution or production of pornography.
- f. Unwanted touching of a sexual nature.

## 4. The commitment we expect from you

Y-PEER SOMALIA expects the same high standards from all of our partners, contractors, suppliers and all third parties working with or for Y-PEER SOMALIA, including taking measures to prohibit their staff and representatives from engaging in any sexual exploitation and abuse in their working and person lives.

- a) You must have a zero-tolerance policy on SEA and take all measures available to you to prevent and respond to any actual, attempted or threatened of sexual exploitation or abuse involving Y-PEER SOMALIA staff or representatives, or your organization's employees or representatives that arises during performance of the terms of this Agreement.
- b) You must ensure that your staff members and those working with Y-PEER SOMALIA control are fully aware of this policy and encourage them to report incidents of suspected, or actual, concerns of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse involving Y-PEER SOMALIA staff or representatives, or your organization's employees or representatives that arises during performance of the terms of this Agreement.
- c) You must **immediately report** any suspicion or incident of sexual exploitation or abuse occurring in Y-PEER SOMALIA, your organization or sub-contractor in relation to your business partnership with Y-PEER SOMALIA Failure to report will be treated as serious and may result in termination of any agreement with Y-PEER SOMALIA
- d) When you or any staff working for Y-PEER SOMALIA under your control suspect or become aware of a safeguarding concern in relation to work for Y-PEER SOMALIA, you are obliged to:-
  - Act quickly and immediately report suspicions or knowledge of a safeguarding concern or incident to a relevant contact at Y-PEER SOMALIA (which could include the PSEA Focal Point, the Y-PEER SOMALIA Executive Director / management teams).
  - Keep any information confidential between you and the person you report this to.
- e) You will cooperate with Y-PEER SOMALIA any investigations of concerns reported under this Agreement, and keep Y-PEER SOMALIA promptly updated on any concerns reported under this Agreement, including but not limited to actions taken by you in response.

### Contact information

I further declare that I will observe and uphold Youth Peer Education Network's position on fraud. Also, during my association with Youth Peer Education Network, I will promote the culture of honesty, accountability, integrity, and professionalism. I undertake to inform the designated officer through the provided channels including [hotline@Y-PEER SOMALIAso.org](mailto:hotline@Y-PEER_SOMALIAso.org) about any issue or suspicion of malpractices at the earliest possible stage.

website ([www.ypeerso.org](http://www.ypeerso.org)) or by calling the Y-PEER SOMALIA at 0905297012. Concerns may be submitted anonymously. Because it is impossible to seek additional information from a Reporting Individual about anonymous reports, it is essential that such reports contain as much specific information as possible.