



CBI's Digital Series:

Private Sector's Role in Accountability to Affected Populations and Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

6 April 2021



Session objectives

- To facilitate awareness of how private sector can promote accountability and inclusion at an operational level in disaster risk management and humanitarian actions;

- To introduce the importance of protection against sexual exploitation and abuse in disaster management, as well as the six core principles relating to sexual exploitation and abuse for the private sector; and,

- To consult on guidance notes and check-lists on accountability to affected populations and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse, particularly on what is needed to finalize the tools for the practical use of the private sector entities.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

A Connecting Business initiative
Digital Series for the Private Sector



SESSION OUTLINE

- What is 'Accountability to Affected Populations'?
- Why the need for it?
- How to promote accountability to affected populations in private sector humanitarian activities?



ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

Accountability to affected populations (AAP) is defined as the active commitment of humanitarian organisations to **use power responsibly by taking account of, giving account to, and being held to account** by the people that these organisations are seeking to assist (IASC, 2015).

WHY THE NEED FOR IT?

Accountability to affected populations ensures that **affected people are placed at the centre** of an organisation's mandate and humanitarian programming.



Figure 1: The Three Dimensions of Accountability (IASC)

THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Having a **shared understanding of accountability** can help make private-humanitarian sector collaboration **more effective and sustainable.**



Photo Credit: UNDP Bangladesh/Fahad Kaizer

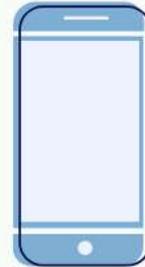


Photo Credit: OCHA

This shared framing of accountability can also aid private sector humanitarian actions become **more strategic** as they commit to use power—or in the context of the private sector action, **resources and decision-making capabilities, responsibly.**

ACTIVITY: Word Cloud

“Who are ‘the most affected people’ for your organization?”



- Grab your phone
- Go to www.menti.com
- Use the code 8480 6268



How can the individual companies, corporate foundations, business chambers and private sector networks practice accountability to affected populations?

PREPAREDNESS

- Risk Assessment
- Minimum Preparedness Actions
- Contingency Planning

RESPONSE

- Needs Assessment
- Response Planning
- Resource Mobilization
- Response Monitoring

Suggested Actions on **Accountability to Affected Populations** for Emergency Preparedness Activities

People-centered approach to risk assessments



- Expand the risk assessment to include **employees and their families, your customers or concession area, and the bigger community in which the company operates in.**
- Practice the use of **Sex, Age and Disability Disaggregated Data (SADDD)**

Information provision and inclusion during minimum preparedness actions



- Build a **directory of community focal points** and involve them in company exercises and scenario planning.
- Include **information provision for affected people** in corporate crisis communication strategies.

Participatory approaches in contingency planning



- Build a **common understanding of “affected people”** in line with the mandate of the enterprise, the local business chamber or private sector network.
- Include **external coordination with community focal points** in your business continuity and crisis management plans.

Suggested Actions on **Accountability to Affected Populations** for Emergency Response Activities

Needs Assessment and Analysis



- Include questions to **help identify information needs, existing local capacity, protection concerns, preferred solutions to needs, and preferred ways to provide feedback and complaints.**
- Make sure to **validate the results of the needs assessment** through complaints and feedbacks mechanisms.

Response Planning



- Design as part of corporate or the chamber's/network's crisis communication strategies a **communications plan for disseminating messages on what has been delivered (in terms of assistance) and what lies ahead.** Include information on what has been done with the complaints and feedback received.

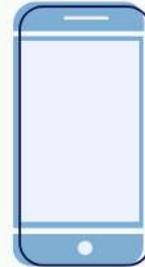
Resource Mobilization and Response Monitoring



- Where relevant, **form a distribution committee and/or consultative group** that includes local community representatives.
- **Invite local community representatives** to take part in monitoring process

ACTIVITY

“What other suggested actions should we include?”



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Key Resources on Accountability to Affected Populations

- The [IASC Accountability and Inclusion Resources Portal](#) is a go-to place for practitioners to better understand how to ensure responses are accountable and inclusive by making tools, guidance, policy, standards and advice more accessible
- [Menu of Accountability to Affected Populations \(AAP\) related questions for multi-sector needs assessments](#) (IASC AAP/PSEA Task Team and REACH, 2018) which organisations can choose from and adapt for their activities before and during the response phase.
- Watch: [The importance of community engagement during a crisis](#) (OCHA, 2017)
- [Core Humanitarian Standards \(CHS\)](#)

Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

- **Based on the IASC methodology, adopted for the private sector**
- **Please make sure you are participating to the training in an environment where you feel comfortable discussing the topic**
- **If you feel uncomfortable about discussing a topic it is completely ok to only listen**



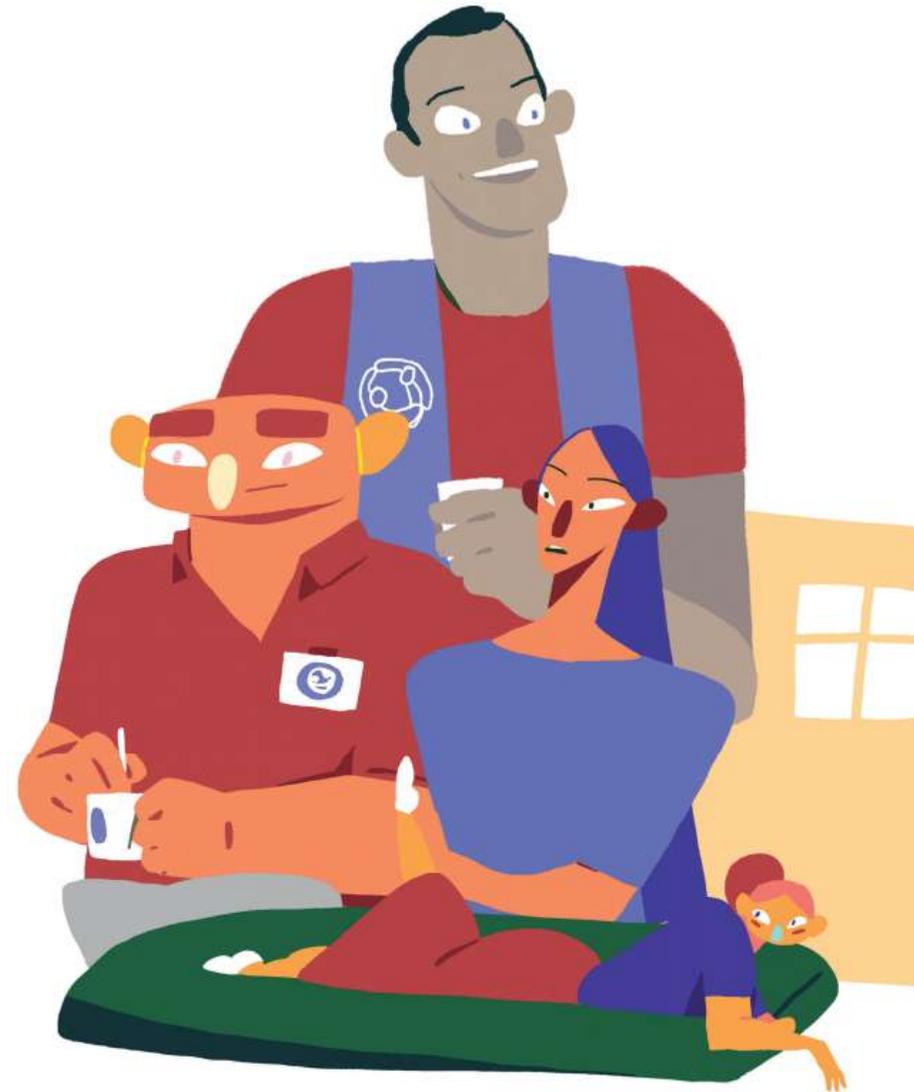
What is Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse ?

- PSEA supports the vision of a humanitarian environment in which **people caught up in crises** feel safe and respected, and in which **workers themselves** feel supported, respected and empowered to deliver such assistance in working environments free from sexual harassment.
- PSEA is a responsibility of all actors and workers engaged in disaster management.



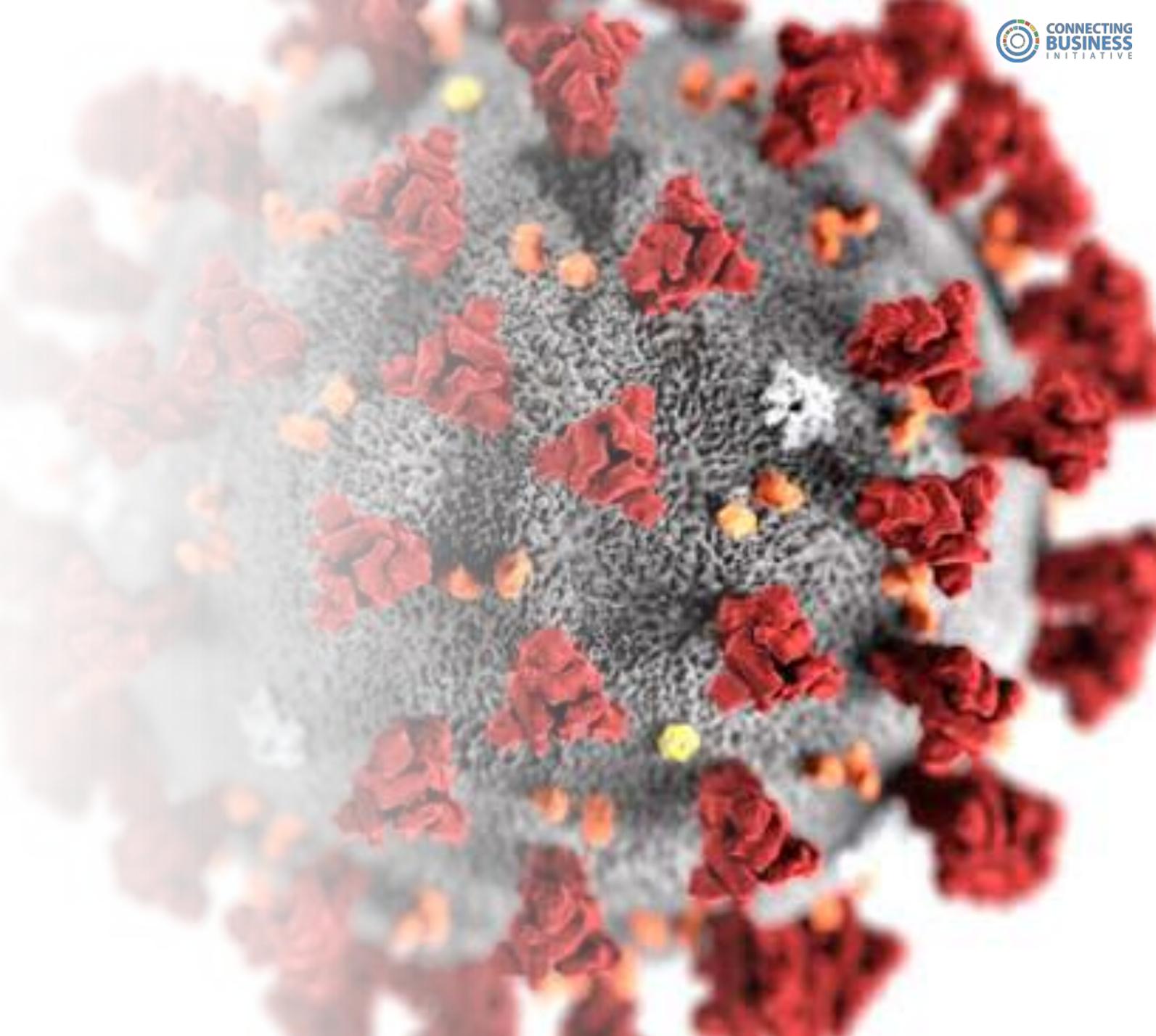
The private sector role in Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

- Private sector is in **key position** to ensure PSEA and protection of communities in which they operate.
- Sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian contexts constitute acts of gross misconduct and are grave **violations of rights of the people affected by crises** and of the responsibility to do no harm.
- It is also a serious reputational damage to the entity whose staff is involved in such acts, including for its partners.
- The ["Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework](#)

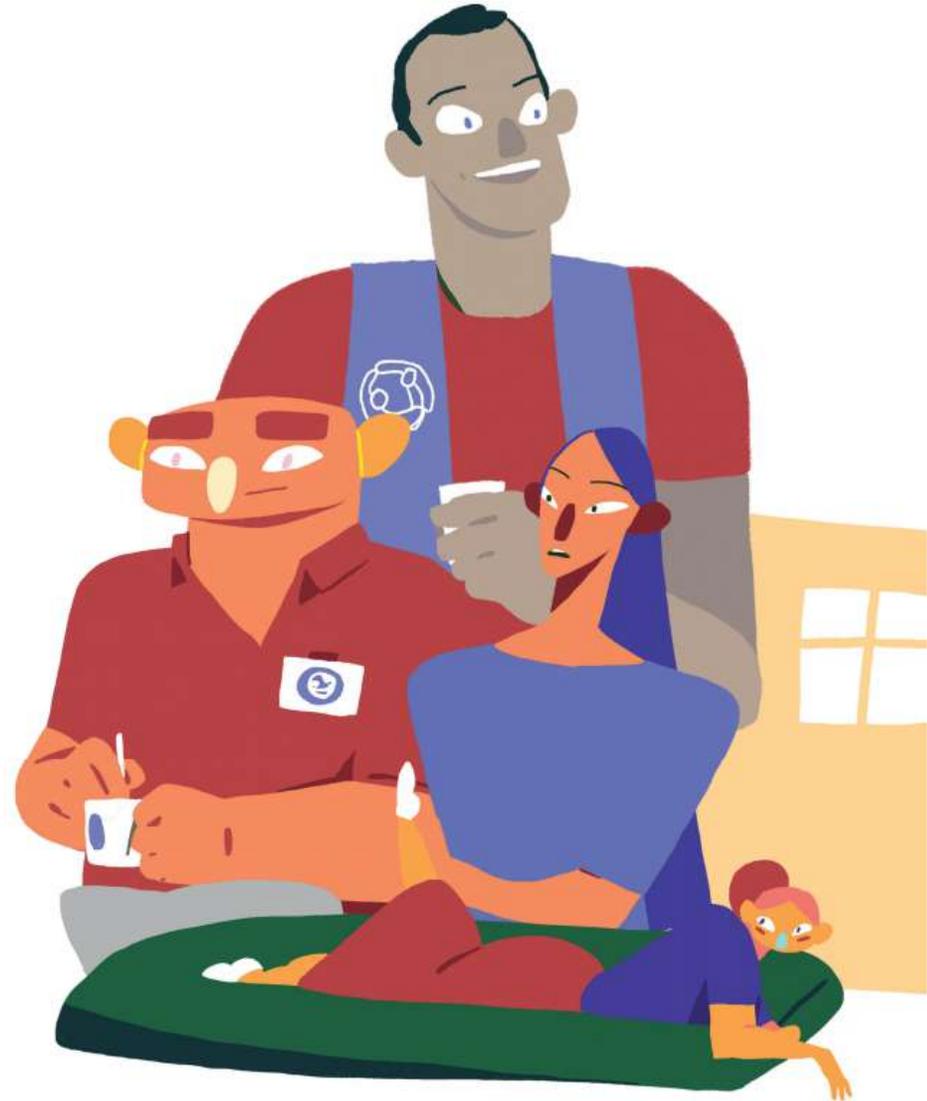


Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and COVID-19

- Disruption to livelihoods, public services and the freedom of movement can exacerbate SEA risks for already-vulnerable populations.
- The use of isolation measures may limit access to information on PSEA, and restrict the access of SEA victims to reporting channels.
- The crisis does not create new responsibilities; rather, **the COVID-19 pandemic should strengthen existing PSEA commitments.**



Case study



Case study analysis

- Who is the victim?
- Who holds power over the victim?
- Is there any misconduct involved in the story?



CASE STUDY ANALYSIS

Demystifying the position and actions of each actor



AFRIDA

LIMITED POWER

-
- Is the victim



ABEL

- Position of power
- Status as a relief worker
- Has the power to say no
- Has sex with a beneficiary and a minor
- Providing more services in exchange for sex



LARA

- Has peer influence
- Pushes her friend to offer sex in exchange of additional services



FAUSTIN

- Position of power
- Status as a relief worker
- Has the power and obligation to report misconduct
- Wants to solve the issue alone

CORE PRINCIPLES

RELATING TO SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (SEA)

1

SEA constitute acts of gross misconduct and should be considered as grounds for termination of employment.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

2

Sexual activity with children (< 18 yrs) is prohibited.

NO SEX WITH CHILDREN

3

Exchange of money, employment, goods or services for sex is prohibited, including hiring prostitutes.

DON'T HIRE/BRIBE ANYONE FOR SEX

4

Any sexual relationship with beneficiaries that involves improper use of position is prohibited.

NO SEX WITH BENEFICIARIES

5

All actors part in humanitarian operations need to report any concerns regarding SEA by fellow workers.

ALWAYS REPORT SEA

6

The humanitarian actors, incl. private sector, are encouraged to create and maintain an environment which prevents SEA.

DISCOURAGE SEA AROUND YOU

IASC Six Core Principles Relating to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (12 September 2019)

THE VICTIM'S EXPERIENCE

THE IMPACT OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Visible harm



Invisible harm

CASE STUDY ANALYSIS

What actions should some of the characters have taken?



ABEL

—
POSSIBLE ACTIONS

- Say no to Afrida

POSSIBLE IMPACT

- Not committing SEA



LARA

—
POSSIBLE ACTIONS

- Not push her friend
- Ask for support/advice

POSSIBLE IMPACT

- Abel not having an opportunity to take advantage of Afrida



FAUSTIN

—
POSSIBLE ACTIONS

- Report

POSSIBLE IMPACT

- Disciplinary measures for Abel

SPEAKING UP

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

Your company's

Obligation to report SEA
as per processes in place



Partnering UN agency

Responsibility to collaborate
and be part of the solution

*If you suspect Sexual Exploitation and Abuse,
you must report it.*

Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

Guidance Note for Private Sector

- **Six Core Principles** Relating to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in the contexts in which the private sector operates
- **COVID-19**
- **Case example** (GSMA)
- **Resources at the national level**
- **Further materials for training purposes**
- **How to report** sexual exploitation and abuse?

Private sector as part of the solution!

Key points to consider for the private sector

Take a stand through the Company Policy:

- Consider ***PSEA as part of the company policy***, to ***company codes of conduct and in general contract conditions*** for staff and subcontractors/suppliers

Education and reporting:

- Consider to designate ***a protection focal point*** at your company and to ***establish a company reporting channel***
- Consider ***strengthening the information on PSEA for the company staff involved in disaster operations*** (information on how in the guidance note); Consider to ***strengthen the awareness of all staff members on their obligation to report***
- Consider strengthening the ***communication between the*** company and external partners (e.g., government, civil-society) regarding commitments on the PSEA
- Consider establishing or strengthening the ***internal SEA investigation procedures***

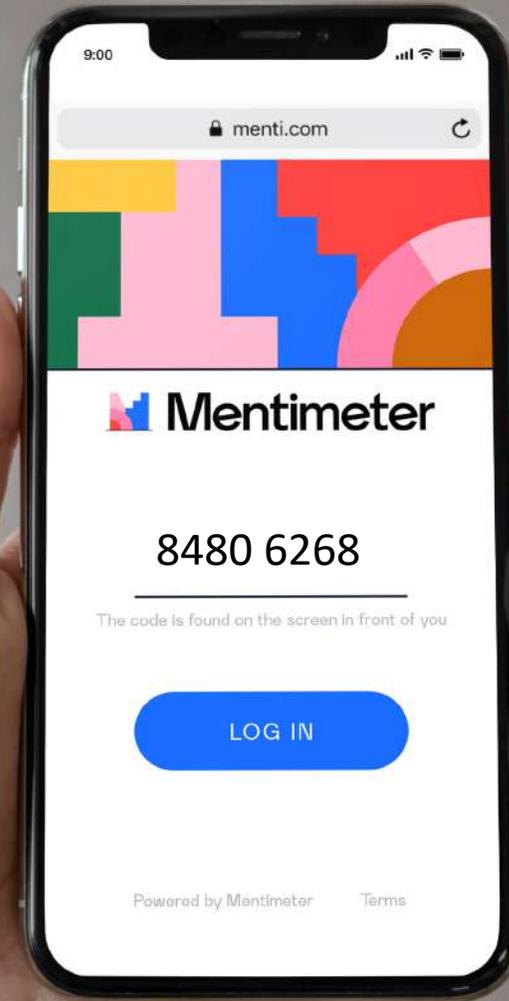
Lend unique business capacities to combat SEA

- Consider strengthening the availability of information on existing services to SEA victims
- Other ways connected to the company core activities

Consultation

Mentimeter questions:

- What is already in place at your company / network, or in your disaster management operations?
- Would you have any comments or improvements for the guidance note for it to be more useful for the private sector?



Next Steps

- The CBI Secretariat will be available to support member networks in taking the theme forward with their private sector members and partners.
- The guidance notes will be shared with CBI member networks after this session for inputs. We would welcome your feedback by **Friday, 23 April**.
- We will continue to consult with you as to what support you might need to convey this to your members and other private sector partners, and to build capacity and awareness and to develop practical next steps.



Q&A

CBi Focal Point:

Accountability to Affected Populations

Florian Rhiza Nery

florian.rhiza.nery@undp.org

Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

Maria Kontro

maria.kontro@undp.org

Thank you!



connectingbusiness.org



connectingbusiness@un.org



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