

## CHILD AND ADULT SAFEGUARDING BEHAVIOUR PROTOCOL

The protection of vulnerable children and adults in World Vision's programs is essential to all aspects of our work. A core element of everything we do is our commitment of not harming beneficiary children and adults, respecting the beneficiaries' rights and defending their best interests as a major consideration in any actions and decisions.

Therefore, Suppliers and/or Affiliates and their staff (i.e. World Vision partners, suppliers, contractors, consultants, and/or volunteers), shall behave in ways that protect children or adult beneficiaries, prevent sexual exploitation and abuse, and prevent any other intentional or unintentional harm to the people WV serves or works amongst.

All Suppliers and Affiliates abide by these protocols in their activities with WV, for all children anywhere and for all adult beneficiaries. In regards to safeguarding, WV uses a broad, working definition of 'beneficiary' to include not only direct beneficiaries of a particular project, but also any child or adult who might suffer harm caused by Suppliers or Affiliates as part of conducting business with WV where WV has programme presence.

### **Acceptable Behaviour – Suppliers and Affiliates (and their staff):**

- a) create and maintain an environment which prevents sexual exploitation and abuse of children and adult beneficiaries and promotes the implementation of these Behaviour Protocols;
- b) are careful about perception and appearance in their language, actions and relationships with children and vulnerable beneficiaries. Their behaviour—including in person and on digital platforms, both online and offline—demonstrates a respect for children and adult beneficiaries and their rights;
- c) ensure that all physical and online contact with children and beneficiaries is appropriate in the local culture;
- d) use positive, non-violent methods to manage children's behaviour;
- e) accept responsibility for personal behaviour and actions as a representative of the organisation;
- f) are always accountable for their response to a child's behaviour, even if a child behaves in a sexually inappropriate manner; adults avoid being placed in a compromising or vulnerable position with children;
- g) where possible and practical, follow the 'two-adult' rule while conducting WV work, wherein two or more adults supervise all activities that involve children, and are visible and present at all times;
- i) comply with safeguarding related investigations (internal and external) and make available any documentary or other information necessary for the completion of the investigation;
- j) comply with applicable data privacy laws and with relevant WV data privacy and information security policies, including WV digital child safeguarding protocols, when handling any personal data about individual children or adult beneficiaries, noting in general that collecting or using such data must be limited to the minimum necessary, and that such data must be maintained and transferred in a secure, confidential manner;
- k) immediately report through established reporting mechanisms any known or suspected safeguarding incident or breach of this Policy by a WV employee or affiliate, or a humanitarian aid worker from any other agency. 'Humanitarian aid worker' includes all paid employees, volunteers, contractors, and other affiliates of organisations providing emergency relief or development aid. Such organisations include UN agencies, INGOs, LNGOs, and CBOs.

**Unacceptable Behaviour – Suppliers and Affiliates (and their staff) do not:**

- a) behave in an inappropriate physical manner, or develop a sexual relationship with a child (under 18 years old), regardless of the country specific legal age of consent or age of majority. This also includes consenting or condoning the above behaviour (including fostering or condoning child marriage (under 18 years old));
- b) develop or seek a sexual relationship with any beneficiary of any age; such relationships are not acceptable and will not be tolerated since they are based on inherently unequal power dynamics. Such relationships undermine the credibility and integrity of WV's humanitarian aid or development work;
- c) sexually exploit or abuse any beneficiary (adult or child); such behaviour constitutes an act of gross misconduct;
- d) exchange money, employment, goods, or services for sex (including sexual favours, other forms of humiliating, degrading, or exploitative behaviour, or hiring sex workers) or other exploitative demands is strictly prohibited. This includes exchange of assistance that is already due to beneficiaries;
- e) fondle, hold, kiss, hug or touch children or adult beneficiaries in an inappropriate or culturally insensitive way;
- f) use language, make suggestions or offer advice to a child or adult beneficiary which is inappropriate or abusive, including language that causes shame or humiliation, or is belittling or degrading;
- g) spend excessive or unnecessary time alone with a child or adult beneficiary, away from others or behind closed doors or in a secluded area;
- h) condone or participate in behaviour with children or adult beneficiaries which is illegal, unsafe or abusive; including harmful traditional practices, spiritual or ritualistic abuse;
- i) hire children in any form of child labour (including as "house help") unless it is within the best interest of the child and in alignment with local law and international standards ('Child labour' is work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children, or that interferes with their schooling. 'Child work' in contrast may be beneficial if permitted by International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions and puts the child's interests ahead of any benefits gained by adults.);
- j) hit or use other corporal punishment against a child while the child is in WV care or the WV employee or affiliate is conducting WV work;
- k) take a child alone in a vehicle for WV work, unless it is absolutely necessary, and with parental/guardian and managerial consent;
- l) misuse or be careless with personal data about individual children or adult beneficiaries;
- m) communicate with a child in WV's program areas via digital platforms (e.g. Facebook, Twitter), via mobile technology (e.g. texting, Whatsapp, Skype), or online without consent and knowledge of his/her parents. Further, WV employees or affiliates never communicate on mobile, digital or online platforms with children or adult beneficiaries in ways that are inappropriate or sexual;
- n) stay silent, cover up, or enable any known or suspected safeguarding incident or breach of Safeguarding Policy by a WV employee or affiliate.

Check this box if you agree to the statement: I have read, fully understand, and agree to comply with World Vision's Child and Adult Safeguarding Behaviour Protocols above.

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Print name and Title of Supplier Representative

Signature

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Company / Supplier Name

Date