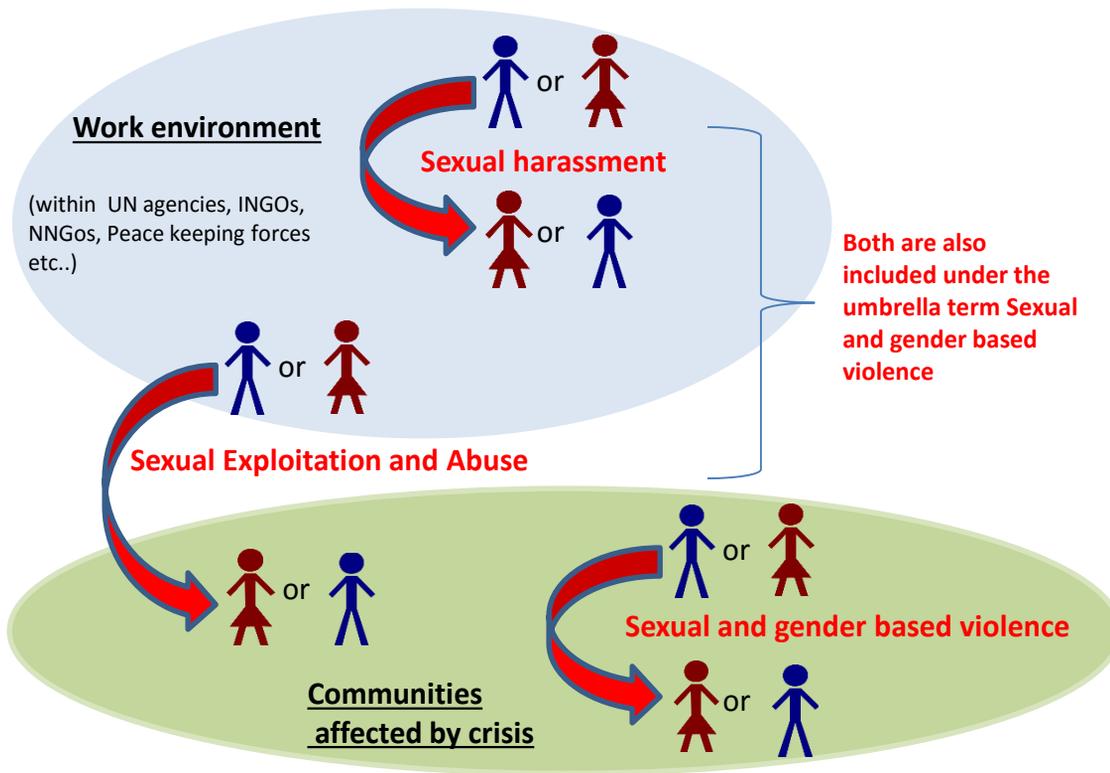


Understanding the differences between Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Sexual Harassment and Sexual and Gender Based Violence



Comment: in the 3 cases, the survivor and the perpetrator can be man or woman, ie there can be for instance sexual harassment by a man on a man

You need further clarifications? Our helpdesk is there for you:
helpdesk-aap-psea@unhcr.org

Definitions

Sexual and Gender based violence

An umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially-ascribed differences between males and females (i.e. gender). It includes acts that inflict physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion, and other deprivations of liberty. *(source : IASC 2015.Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action)*

Sexual Abuse

The actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions. All sexual activity with a minor is considered as sexual abuse. *Comment: "Sexual abuse" is a broad term, which includes a number of acts described below, including "rape", "sexual assault", "sex with a minor", and "sexual activity with a minor".*

Sexual Exploitation

Any actual or attempted abuse of position of vulnerability, differential power or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another. *Comment: "Sexual exploitation" is a broad term, which includes a number of acts described below, including "transactional sex", "solicitation of transactional sex" and "exploitative relationship".*

Sexual Harassment

Any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favour, verbal or physical conduct or gesture of a sexual nature, or any other behaviour of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offence or humiliation to another. Sexual harassment may occur when it interferes with work, is made a condition of employment or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment. It can include a one-off incident or a series of incidents. Sexual harassment may be deliberate, unsolicited and coercive. Both male and female colleagues can either be the victim or offender. Sexual harassment may also occur outside the workplace and/or outside working hours. *(source : UNHCR Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment, and Abuse of Authority)*

Comment: Sexual Harassment does not necessarily imply a sexual act. If there is a sexual act, it might be considered sexual assault.