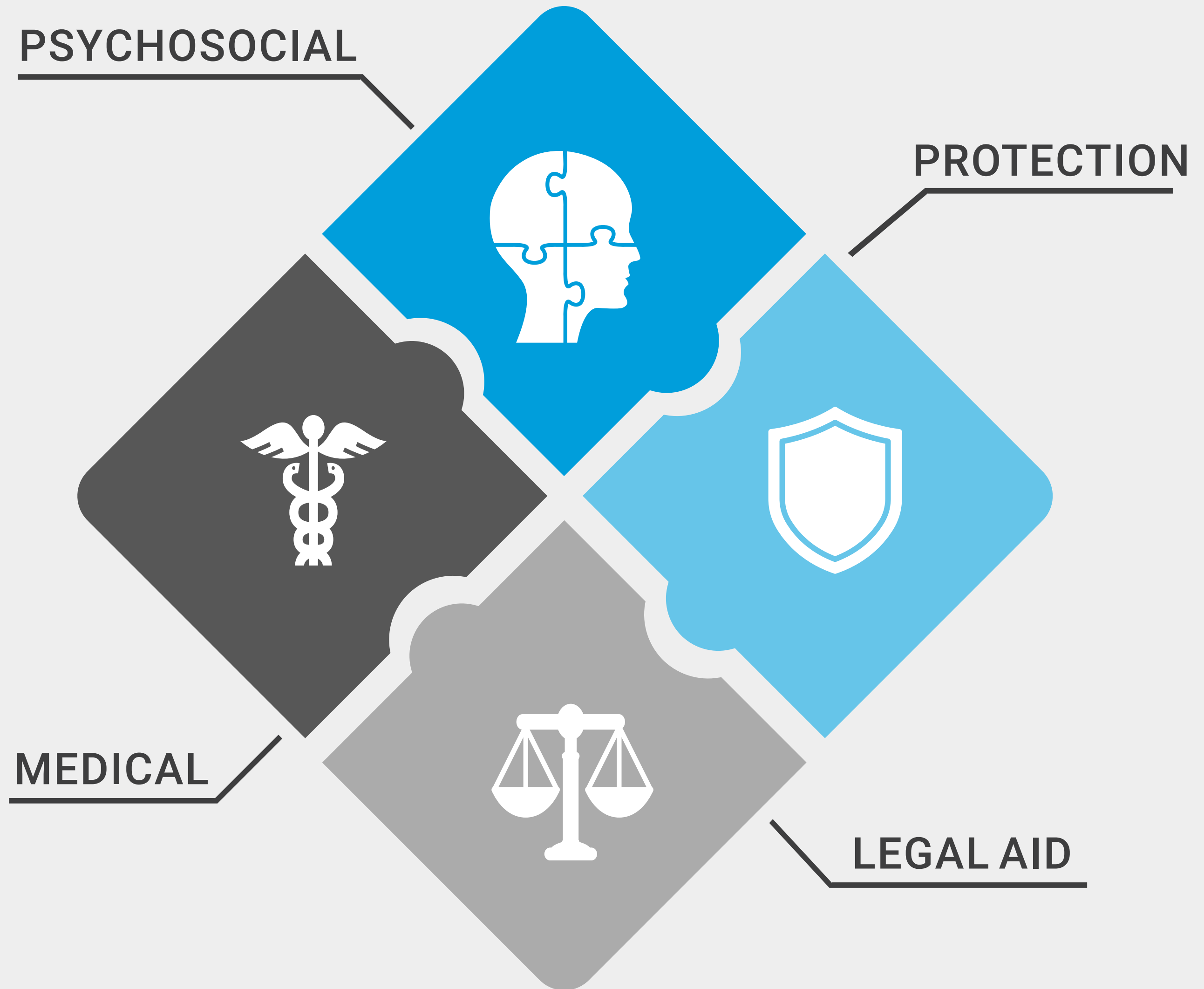


## GAPS

Victims of sexual exploitation and abuse are referred to services which encompass medical, psychosocial, protection and legal aid. However, there are often gaps ...

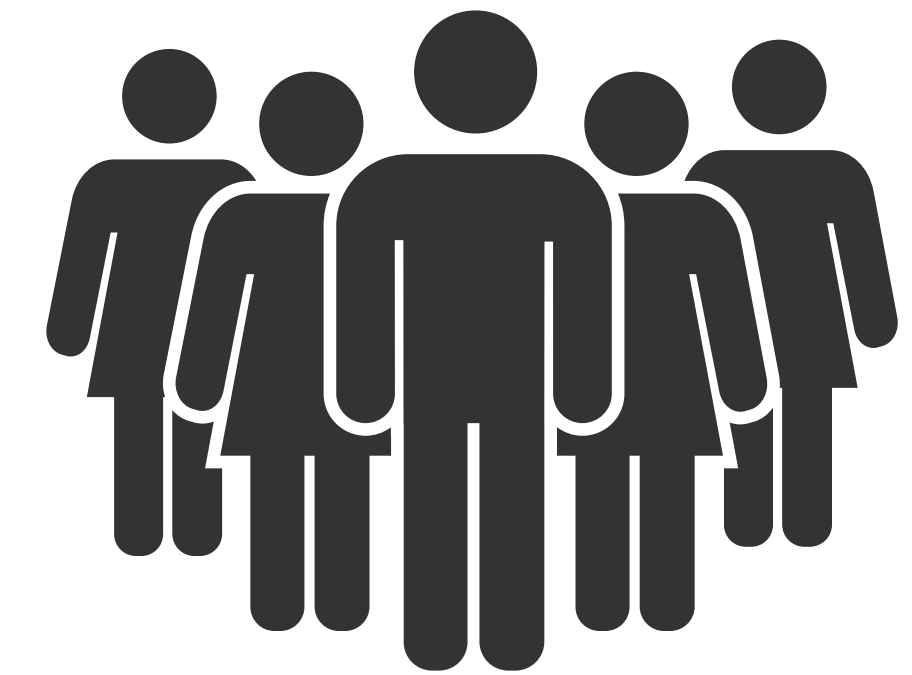


## HEIGHTENED RISK FACTORS AND LACK OF REPORTING ARE SERIOUS CHALLENGES FOR VICTIMS SEEKING ASSISTANCE AND REDRESS.



The power imbalance between United Nations staff and related personnel and victims.

Fear of reporting because of lack of trust.

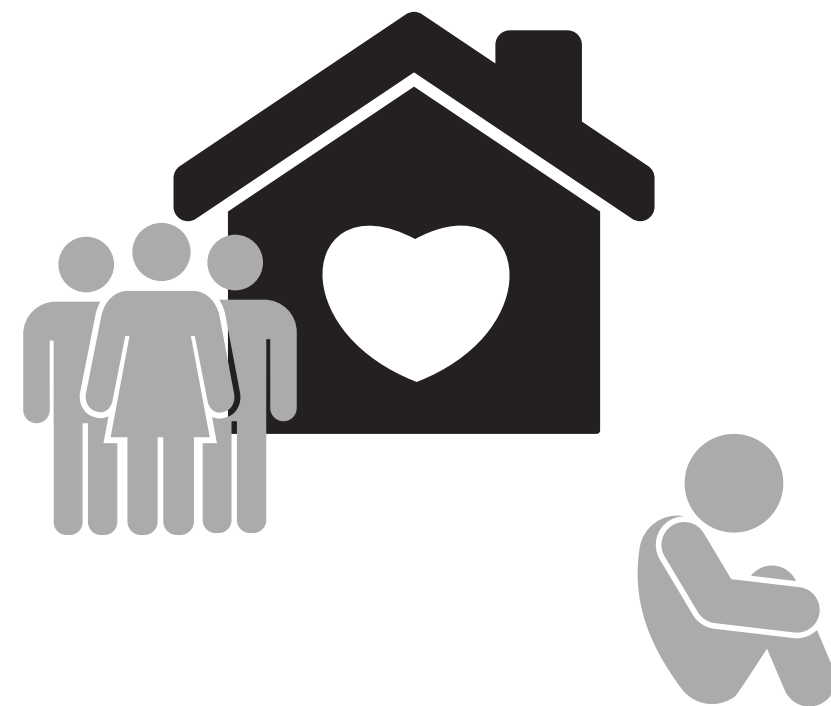


Lengthy administrative or other procedures and unfavourable outcomes which risk repeating victimization.



Deeply entrenched cultural taboos, traditions and stereotypes relating to women present serious barriers that deter victims from reporting allegations.

## REFERRAL FOR ASSISTANCE CAN BE SLOW AND INCONSISTENT



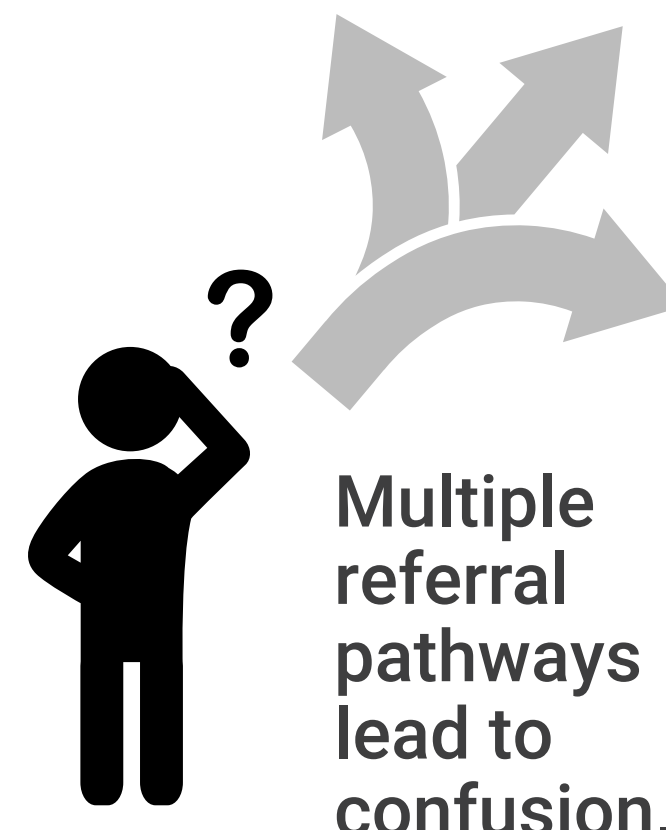
Available services and support for victims of sexual and gender-based violence may not take account of the specific needs of victims of sexual exploitation or abuse.



The referral processes can be slow.



Not all countries have a uniform process for referral.



Multiple referral pathways lead to confusion.

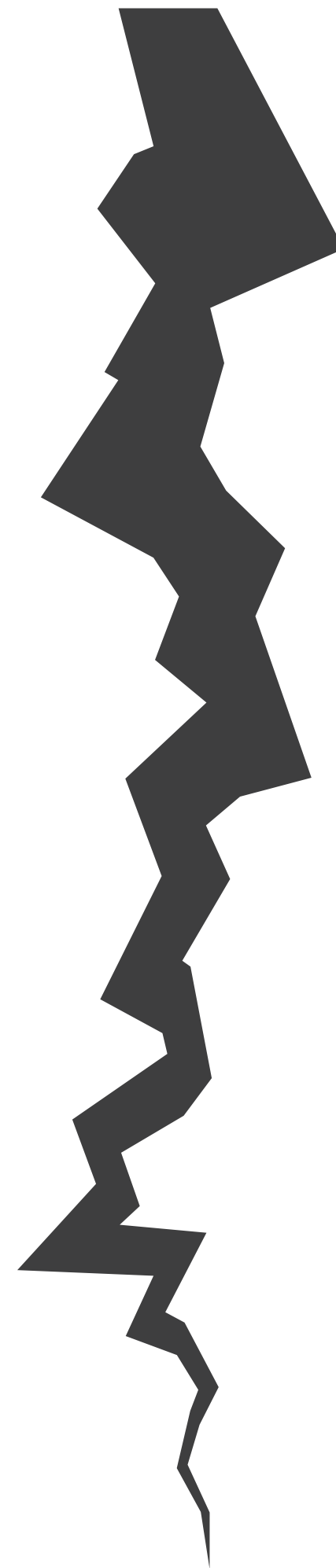


Risk of retaliation reprisals or inducements not to report.

## THE ABSENCE OF A SYSTEM-WIDE AND UNIFORM METHOD TO TRACK ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO VICTIMS MEANS THEY MAY FALL THROUGH THE CRACKS



Multiple databases are operational which makes it difficult to track victims and the support they receive and keep them informed of their options.



The Victim Assistance Tracking system is only operational in mission settings.

## IN MOST COUNTRIES MAPPED, FEW DEDICATED SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE BY UNITED NATIONS PERSONNEL WERE IDENTIFIED





# Barriers to availability and accessibility of services for assistance



United Nations  
Victims' Rights  
Advocate

## MANY VICTIMS FACE RESTRICTIONS IN ACCESSING SERVICES.

In Kenya, facilities, especially in rural areas, may be poorly equipped, and the training of service providers and quality of care provided are not consistent.

In Lebanon, victims with irregular residency are unable to access public services such as education and health care and often fear being arrested.

For people with irregular immigration status, such as in Colombia, Greece, Kenya, and Lebanon, access to services may be complex.

In some countries, including Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan, services are not available throughout the country and there are large areas where there are no services at all, often owing to the presence of armed groups.



In all countries mapped, there is a lack of services available for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex victims.

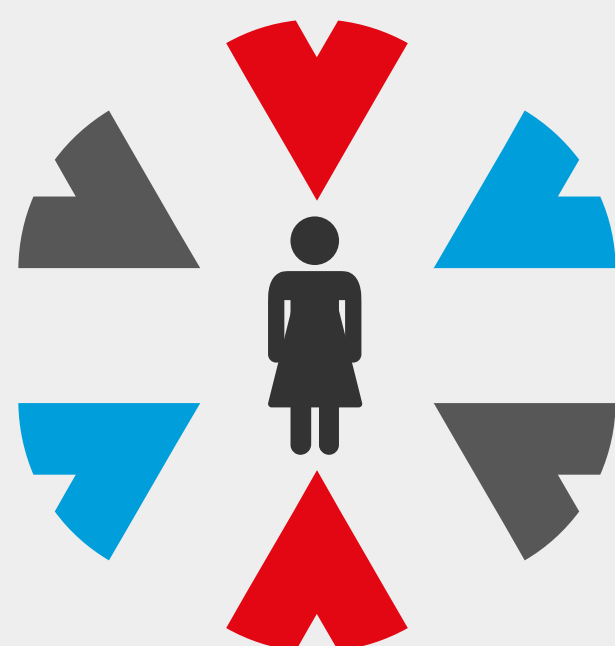


Lack of flexible and immediately available funding may prevent victims from receiving timely assistance.

# Conclusion



It is essential that assessment is based on the views and feedback of victims themselves, so that assistance to them really addresses their needs. This ensures that victims are truly at the centre of the United Nations efforts to combat sexual exploitation and abuse.





Seek victims' feedback to reinforce victims' assistance and support.



Adopt a system-wide tracking and monitoring mechanism for victims' assistance, including details on referrals for assistance, assistance received and information on service providers.



Create a contingency fund to facilitate victims' support and assistance, including through exploring opportunities for joint fundraising by United Nations Country Team members.



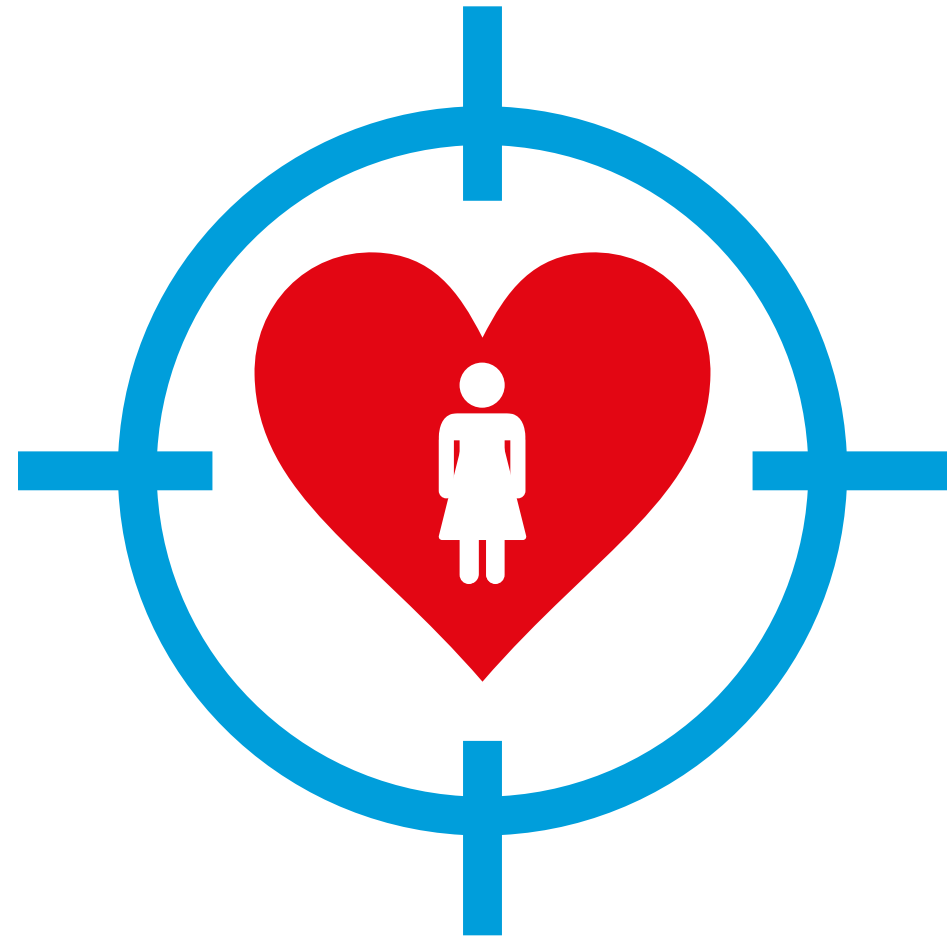
Create or strengthen a PSEA Task Force/Network supported by dedicated and trained PSEA Coordinators in order to guarantee that victims receive appropriate assistance.



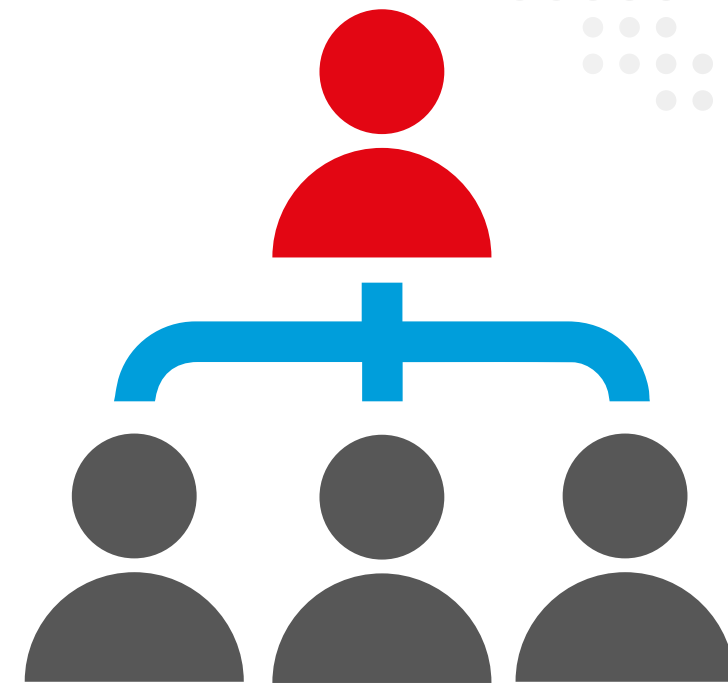
# Recommendations



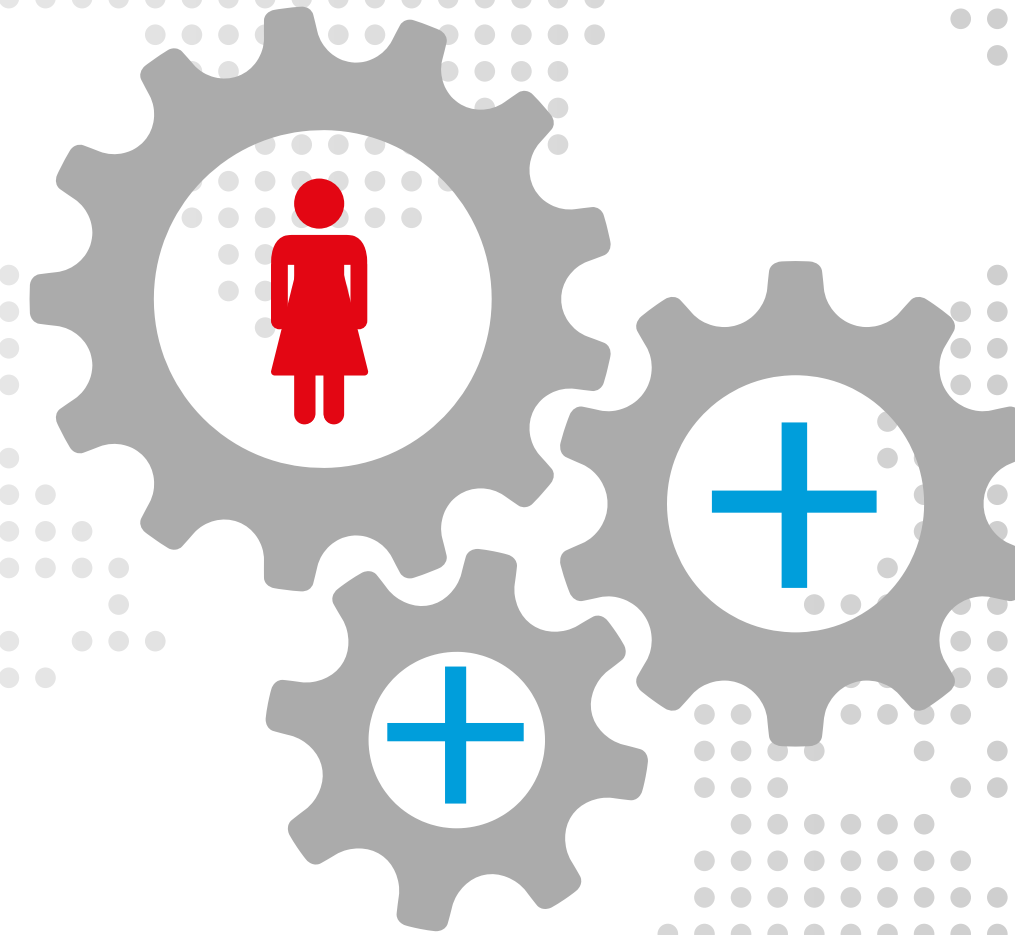
United Nations  
Victims' Rights  
Advocate



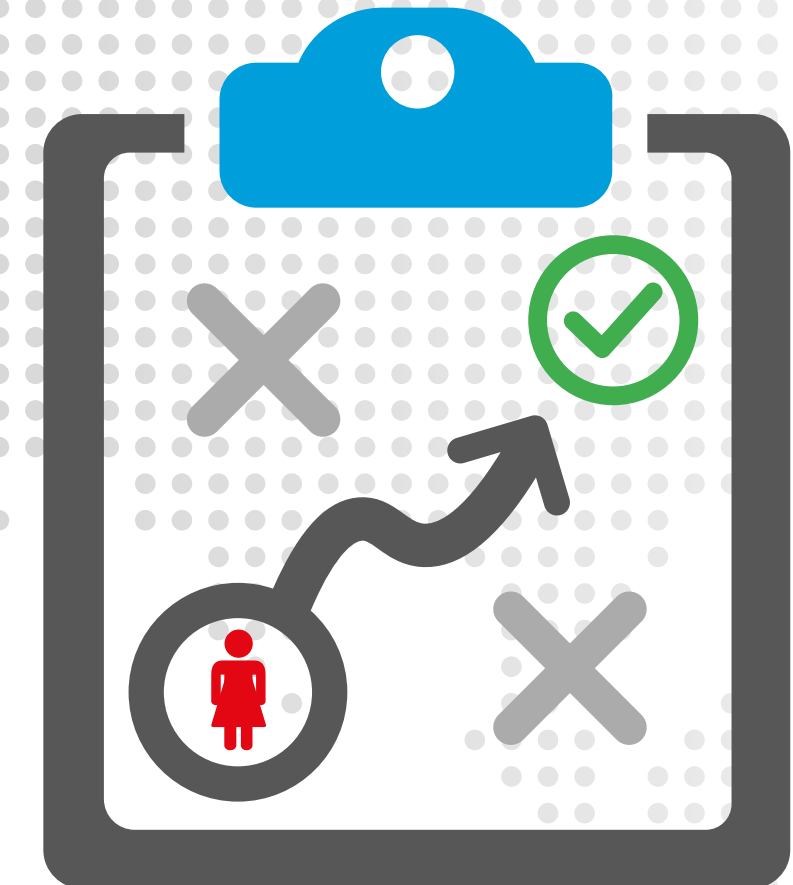
Designate system-wide  
Victims' Rights Focal Points  
to engage with victims  
directly and keep them  
abreast of their cases



Create additional Field Victims'  
Rights Advocates and Senior  
Victims' Rights Officers in the field.



Develop dedicated services  
for victims of sexual  
exploitation and abuse to  
supplement existing  
services.



Develop a system-wide  
strategy on protection  
from sexual exploitation  
and abuse and a  
coordinated referral  
mechanism for victims'  
assistance.