Habitat Nepal's Commitment to Safeguarding

Habitat for Humanity Nepal has zero tolerance for exploitative, inappropriate, discriminatory or unfair treatment of those we serve or work alongside. As a non-profit organization committed to eliminating substandard housing and promoting dignity, we recognize that building and sustaining a safe organization requires an unwavering commitment to children, families who partner with Habitat Nepal, community members, partners, volunteers, and our colleagues.

Our commitment

Our commitment to preventing sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (SEAH), abuse of power, discrimination and all forms of harm is absolute. Safeguarding for Habitat Nepal is not a one-time obligation, but an ongoing process that requires humility to continuously learn and improve, courage to speak up and act against harm, and accountability to uphold the trust placed in us by communities across Nepal.

Our Child and Adult Safeguarding Policy reflects our pledge to create and maintain a work and life environment that is safe, productive and respectful for the children and adults we serve

As an organization working closely with communities, we acknowledge the inherent power imbalances that may exist. We are committed to ensuring that this power is never misused and that all interactions are guided by dignity, respect and equity.

Continuous improvement

Habitat Nepal is committed to continuously strengthening its safeguarding systems to align with both global standards of Habitat for Humanity International or HFHI and the Nepali context. Habitat Nepal regularly updates and implements safeguarding policies, procedures and frameworks in alignment with HFHI standards and national laws.

We recognize that safeguarding risks evolve, particularly in contexts such as disaster response, housing reconstruction and community development. Therefore, we remain vigilant and adaptive in strengthening our systems and practices.

We continue to participate in different safeguarding events and communities of practices to continue to strengthen our policies and practices.

Promoting a Speak-Up culture

Habitat Nepal fosters a culture where everyone including staff, volunteers, partners, children and adult community members feel safe, respected, and empowered and are encouraged to report any suspicion or incidents of abuse, exploitation or harassment without fear. The reporting mechanisms are:

1. Email: concerns@habitatnepal.org. Emails sent to this address are received directly by Human Resources department at Habitat Nepal.
2. Toll-free number: 01-5431192/1660-01-3332. This telephone number connects directly to GESI and Safeguarding Specialist at Habitat Nepal.
3. Learn more about Habitat Ethics and Accountability Line or HEAL website: **Habitat Ethics and Accountability Line**.

Habitat Nepal ensures that all the reports are treated seriously, handled confidentially and responded promptly and uphold strict non-retaliation principles for anyone who raises a concern in good faith

We believe that safeguarding is a shared responsibility. Preventing harm and responding effectively requires collective commitment, vigilance, and action from all representatives and stakeholders.