



Ruud Lubbers, the former head of UNHCR, seen here with young Liberian refugees in 2003, questioned the findings of a report into the sexual exploitation of girls

DESIREY MINKOH/GETTY IMAGES

TIMES INVESTIGATION

How charities have dealt with scandal

Tuesday May 29 2018, 12.01am BST, The Times

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UNHCR

Allegation Implicated in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea.

Response Took “specific preventive and remedial actions”; alerted NGOs; investigation by UN’s Office of Internal Oversight; but Ruud Lubbers, the high commissioner, downplayed report.

Today 130 allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse received 2012-18 (28 involving children); 57 investigations started, 11 cases substantiated.

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

Allegation Implicated in Sierra Leone, Guinea.

Response “No evidence to support” allegation against one named worker but report “triggered action on the ground and policy revisions”.

Today Two child protection complaints in past five years leading to dismissals.

ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

Allegation Implicated in Guinea, Liberia.

Response “Staff were not directly implicated in allegations of sexual harassment and abuse”; policies overhauled to stamp out abuse of power by aid workers.

Today 19 sexual harassment and exploitation cases reported 2012-17 leading to “disciplinary measures, dismissals or contracts not being renewed”.

MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES

Allegation Implicated in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone.

Response Undertook “rigorous process to try to identify these people” but allegations were “very vague” and not possible to trace alleged perpetrators; report a “turning point” in tackling issue.

Today Three child protection complaints received in past five years; three dismissals.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

Allegation Implicated in Liberia.

Response Three workers dismissed; safeguarding training for all staff.

Today 577 safeguarding reports since 2013; high number reflects extensive monitoring and confidence in reporting systems.

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MERLIN

Allegation Implicated in Sierra Leone.

Response Charity merged with Save the Children in 2013 and records cannot be traced.

Today N/A.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES

Allegation Implicated in Guinea.

Response Internal review found no evidence of abuse by Red Cross staff; new code of conduct in 2003.

Today “We have recently been made aware of a possible safeguarding incident. We are concerned that this may not tell the whole story.”

CARE INTERNATIONAL

Allegation Implicated in Guinea.

Response Conducted investigation but no staff member with name supplied.

Today 13 sexual exploitation reports in 2017; eight substantiated; seven staff dismissed and one resigned; “an emerging area of transparency in our sector”.

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE

Allegation Implicated in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone.

Response Dismissed workers whose involvement was confirmed; since 2003 has dedicated staff to deal with sex abuse/harassment.

Today 18 cases of sexual harassment and exploitation substantiated in 2017; “disciplinary actions were taken including staff terminations”.

AMERICAN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

Allegation Implicated in Guinea.

Response First NGO to send investigator to Guinea; found “no specific evidence” of staff involvement but concluded that abuse was widespread.

Today “Strong zero tolerance policy”, advises other NGOs on tackling the issue; three child protection cases investigated in past five years.

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INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS**Allegation** Implicated in Sierra Leone.**Response** "We were aware of the report"; takes such allegations "very seriously".**Today** 11 reports of sexual exploitation by staff in 2017; five people dismissed and several investigations continuing.**NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL****Allegation** Implicated in Sierra Leone.**Response** One staff member fired.**Today** 17 allegations of sexual harassment or abuse received in 2017 compared with five in 2016; "we are aware that the real number is likely to be higher due to underreporting".**GIZ (GERMAN CORPORATION FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION)****Allegation** Subsidiary GTZ implicated in Guinea.**Response** Own investigation found allegations could not be proved; set up new systems for training, investigating and reporting of incidents.**Today** Has anonymous reporting facility and independent ombudsman to deal with cases.*Two agencies did not respond to requests for comment*

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Danielle haas



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RedController

29 MAY, 2018

...

You just couldn't make this stuff up. I suppose we'll just have to believe these charities after all the efforts they've put into their investigations and evidence does get lost when charities amalgamate I suppose, like filing cabinets go missing and people move around so much in those big SUVs they...[See more](#)

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OliveMustache

29 MAY, 2018

...

Absolutely disgraceful

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Grumpy Pensioner

29 MAY, 2018

...

I feel so relieved that only a few of these abusers were fired. Charity starts at home... After all, the victims are only young black girls ! I take it these abusers were financially rewarded for termination of whatever contracts they were on, NOT black listed, and in all probability, provided with ...[See more](#)

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RedPlane

29 MAY, 2018

...

Cynical is sometimes, in fact more often than not, right.

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29 MAY, 2018

...

Clearly something wrong with selection processes The image I have is that perverts are attracted to the voluntary sector because of inadequate vetting procedures

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29 MAY, 2018

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What about Christian Aid?

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"How charities have dealt with scandal" is the headline
...This should be a short read, then.

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29 MAY, 2018

...

The church protested and denied and covered up as more and more shocking truths were revealed. The extent of the hypocrisy is almost beyond belief, and maybe if we didn't have the example of the predator priests we might find it harder to believe the majority of do gooders do anything but. The tru...[See more](#)

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