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As an international NGO and an accredited academic institution, World Learning and SIT recognize their privilege in serving students and other participants through a diverse range of programs that aim to empower individuals and institutions to effect positive change in the world. Therefore, World Learning and SIT prioritize the well-being and safety of our program participants, some of whom are vulnerable individuals. In addition, World Learning and SIT recognize that organizations implementing programs for children have a special duty of care towards the children with whom they work.

For ease of reference, a few key terms from the Policy are:

“Participant” is defined as “Anyone participating in World Learning/SIT programs as a beneficiary or directly receiving material support from World Learning or a World Learning agent (such as subrecipient or contractor). This includes individuals participating in exchanges or directly receiving education, training or other services from World Learning programs, including SIT students.”

“Related parties” or “related individuals” includes World Learning/SIT Board members, visitors, host family members, program mentors, consultants, donor representatives who interact with participants and beneficiaries and visitors, as well as the employees and individuals of entities that have entered into a partnership, contractor, or subaward agreements with World Learning/SIT. A “child” or “minor” means anyone under the age of 18. “Undergraduate Participant” means a participant in a World Learning/SIT run program for undergraduates such as Study Abroad or GDE programs for undergraduates.

- Conduct myself in a manner consistent with World Learning’s/SIT’s values, including complying with World Learning’s Safeguarding Policy.
- Treat all participants with respect, regardless of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status.
- Proactively and diligently take reasonable action to protect participants from harm.
- Prioritize the safety and well-being of participants.
- Act in accordance with health, safety, and security guidelines and endeavor to safeguard participants, including online.
- Report immediately any safeguarding incidents, violations of World Learning’s Safeguarding policy, or allegations of such in accordance with the Reporting Requirements in this policy.
- Disclose to World Learning/SIT any civil judgement or criminal conviction that relates to allegations made against me of sexual harassment, exploitation or abuse or neglect of anyone, including minors.

- Obtain consent before photographing participants in accordance with World Learning and SIT Photography Guidelines. World Learning/SIT employees and consultants will use World Learning's Photo Release form when applicable.
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