

SPOTLIGHT ON

Key learning points from the
Monitoring safeguarding
practice in research podcast



RESOURCE
& SUPPORT
HUB




Background

The aim of the Spotlight On series is to provide a deep dive into an innovative area of practice in safeguarding in the international aid sector.

Dr. Bintu Mansaray is a medical doctor, a paediatrics public health specialist and a social science researcher. She lives in Sierra Leone, where she currently works as the Lead Research Consultant at the Institute of Gender and Children's Health Research, and leads a project exploring the sexual and reproductive health access of survivors of human trafficking.

To listen to the Monitoring safeguarding in research podcast, [click here](#).





The word safeguarding is new, but the concept is not. Find out how people explain safeguarding where your research is taking place.

How can
we make
people safer in
research?

Ask them what
makes them feel
safe – they will
know best.

Consider the location of research –
not everyone feels safe where they
are living.

Monitoring safeguarding in research

Consider a questionnaire on safeguarding to find out if people felt safe during the research. See the example from [Dr. Mansaray's study](#).

Introduce the idea of a questionnaire from the beginning.



Ensure people know it's optional.

Make sure you have contact details ready for services that can help in case people disclose safeguarding concerns.

Don't forget data collectors

Data collectors are often also at risk of safeguarding issues
They can be the ones in research with less power.



Consider the following safeguarding measures:

- Give adequate notice ahead of data collection.
- Ensure transport is safe – and drivers are vetted.
- Ensure they are not collecting data during seasons of flooding, or in other hazardous conditions.
- Make sure they are not collecting data late at night.
- Be aware of Ramadan – if people are fasting, make sure they are not working late and unable to break their fast.