

Internal Audit and Investigations Group

Internal audit and investigations activities in 2021

Annex 2

Open agreed actions older than 18 months as at 31 December 2021

Functional area / audit recommendation description

Project management

1. Undertake a vetting process for local grant advisors as the new operational instruction allows for important decisions to be made by these advisors without necessarily addressing segregation of duties or conflicts of interest; and prepare guidance for practical application in order to help field offices differentiate between the grant modality and contracts for services which are solicited through procurement.

(Report on the review of the Peace and Security Cluster - Grants Management, IAIG/8402/03)

2. Include detailed guidance in the current operational instruction for Grant Support specifying the circumstances where grant support agreements can be amended, including thresholds at which a new call for proposals is required.

(Report on the review of the Peace and Security Cluster - Grants Management, IAIG/8402/08)

Procurement

3. Ensure that market research is timely and properly performed at the procurement planning phase before deciding on the method of solicitation and type of competition. Ensure that the solicitation process is properly managed, including complete information in solicitation documents, selection of the most appropriate solicitation method, and compliance with the minimum solicitation periods. Strengthen the knowledge of the procurement officials and practitioners on the sourcing of vendors for small value procurements, and their ability, in particular, to manage potential conflicts of interest within the procurement environment, as well as to understand 'cumulative amounts' when determining the level of delegation of authority required for clearance. Ensure that the evaluation of offers is conducted according to the requirements of the solicitation documents and clearly documented in the evaluation report.

(Internal audit report of the Cambodia Operational Hub, IAIG/9002/09)

4. Ensure proper diligence in the issuance of purchase orders in accordance with the UNOPS procurement manual, and ensure that all commitments covering the full value of the agreements are raised as soon as contractual obligations have been signed and within the duration of project implementation. Ensure that a contract amendment is signed by UNOPS and the supplier stating the contract phase finalization per portion of the works/services completed and for any change to the originally agreed terms and conditions. Ensure that every award document specifies the decision taken by the Procurement Authority and that it contains the approver's designation, date and name. Develop and implement a document control and management system consistent with the requirements of the procurement manual and OI.LG.2018.03 on Document Retention. Ensure corrective actions are undertaken on existing retroactive and post facto cases as well as the overstatement of liabilities pertaining to contingencies included in the purchase orders.

(Internal audit report of the Cambodia Operational Hub, IAIG/9002/10)

Total number of aged audit recommendations: 4