



MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 27, 2020

TO: USAID/Brazil Mission Director, Ted Gehr

FROM: USAID OIG Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Regional Office, Senior Auditor, John Vernon /s/

SUBJECT: Financial Audit of the Indigenous Communities and Other Key Actors Better Protect Indigenous Lands and Other Natural Resources Program in Brazil, Managed by Equipe de Conservação da Amazônia, Agreement AID-512-A-17-00007, January 1 to December 31, 2019 (9-512-20-042-R)

This memorandum transmits the final audit report on the Indigenous Communities and Other Key Actors Better Protect Indigenous Lands and Other Natural Resources Program. Equipe de Conservação da Amazônia (ECAM) contracted with the independent certified public accounting firm Nexia Teixeira Auditores to conduct the audit. The audit firm stated that it performed its audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards and USAID Financial Audit Guidelines for Foreign Organizations. However, it did not have an external peer review because such program is not offered in Brazil. The audit firm is responsible for the enclosed report and the conclusions expressed in it. We do not express an opinion on ECAM's fund accountability statement; the effectiveness of its internal control; or its compliance with the award, laws, and regulations.¹

The audit objectives were to (1) express an opinion on whether the fund accountability statement for the period audited, was presented fairly, in all material respects; (2) evaluate ECAM's internal controls; (3) determine whether ECAM complied with award terms and applicable laws and regulations; and (4) determine if cost-sharing contributions were made and accounted for by ECAM in accordance with the terms of the agreement. To answer the audit objectives, the audit firm reported that they assessed and tested the internal controls related to

¹ We reviewed the audit firm's report for conformity with professional reporting standards. Our desk reviews are typically performed to identify any items needing clarification or issues requiring management attention. Desk reviews are limited to review of the audit report itself and excludes review of the auditor's supporting working papers; they are not designed to enable us to directly evaluate the quality of the audit performed.

the project; compliance with applicable laws, regulations, the agreement's provisions; and reviewed project expenditures. The audit covered \$944,215 of USAID expenditures for the audited period.

The audit firm concluded the fund accountability statement presented fairly, in all material respects, program revenues and costs incurred under the award for the period audited.

The audit firm did not identify any material weaknesses in internal control or instances of material noncompliance with applicable laws, regulations, and agreement terms. The audit firm issued a management letter which included minor internal control deficiencies.

The audit firm stated that based on their review, nothing came to their attention that caused them to believe that ECAM did not fairly present the Cost Sharing Contributions Schedule, in all material respects, in accordance with the basis of accounting used to prepare the Cost Sharing Contributions Schedule.

Based on the results of the desk review, OIG is not making any recommendation to USAID/Brazil.

OIG does not routinely distribute independent public accounting reports beyond the immediate addressees because a high percentage of these reports contain information restricted from release under the Trade Secrets Act, 18 U.S.C. 1905 and Freedom of Information Act Exemption Four, 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4) ("commercial or financial information obtained from a person that is privileged or confidential").