



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 12, 2021

TO: USAID/West Africa, Regional Director, Daniel Moore

FROM: USAID OIG Africa Regional Office, Audit Director, Rob Mason /s/

SUBJECT: Financial Audit of USAID Resources Managed by Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel Under Multiple Awards, January 1 to December 31, 2019 (Report No. 4-624-21-057-R)

This memorandum transmits the final audit report on USAID resources managed by Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) under the following awards:

Award Name (Type)	Award Number	Implementation Letters	Audited Period
CILSS Headquarters Programs (DOAG grant)	624-008-06-01	IL#33	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2019
		IL#34	Jan. 1 – Dec 31, 2019
CILSS/INSAH Programs and CILSS/AGRHYMET Programs (DOAG grant)	624-DOAG-15-02	624- DOAG-15-02-DOAG IL#01	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2019
		624- DOAG-15-02-DOAG IL#02 (closeout)	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2019
		624- DOAG-15-02-DOAG IL#03 (closeout)	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2019
USAID SERVIR (standard grant to PIO)	1865-SERVIR-001	SERVIR	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2019

CILSS contracted with the independent certified public accounting firm Audit and Management Consulting Services (AMCS), Dakar, Senegal, to conduct the audit. The audit firm stated that it performed its audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards (GAGAS). However, it did not have continuing professional education and an external peer review that fully satisfied the requirements of GAGAS. The audit firm is responsible for the enclosed report and the conclusions expressed in it. We do not express an opinion on CILSS'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 CILSS's internal controls; (3) determine whether CILSS complied with award terms and applicable laws and regulations; (4) review the indirect cost rate; and (5) review the implementation status of the prior period recommendations.

To answer the audit objectives, AMCS (1) audited the fund accountability statement for the award including the budgeted amounts by category and major items and the revenues received from USAID for the period covered by the audit and the costs reported by AMCS as incurred from January 1 to December 31, 2019; (2) evaluated the control environment, the adequacy of the accounting systems, and control procedures that pertain to CILSS's ability to report financial data consistent with the assertions embodied in each account of the fund accountability statement; (3) identified the award terms and pertinent laws and regulations and determined which of those, if not observed, could have a direct and material effect on the fund accountability statement; (4) determined that the review of the indirect cost rate was not applicable; and (5) reviewed the implementation status of the prior period recommendations. CILSS reported expenditures of \$3,588,677 in USAID funds during 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 identified no questioned costs; no material weaknesses in internal control; and no instances of material noncompliance. In addition, although we are not making a recommendation for significant deficiencies noted in the report, we suggest that USAID/West Africa determine if the recipient addressed the issues noted.

Accordingly, we are not making any recommendations.

During our desk review, we noted several minor issues which the audit firm will need to address in future audit reports. We presented these issues in a memo to the controller, dated May 12, 2021.

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").

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.