



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** July 14, 2021

**TO:** USAID/Zambia, Mission Director, Sheryl Stumbras

**FROM:** USAID OIG Africa Regional Office, Assistant Director, Matthew Rathgeber /s/

**SUBJECT:** Financial Audit of USAID Resources Managed by Society for Family Health in Multiple Countries Under Multiple Awards, January 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020 (Report No. 4-611-21-076-R)

This memorandum transmits the final audit report on of USAID resources managed by Society for Family Health (SFH) under the following awards: 1) cooperative agreement AID-611-A-15-00001, Sexual and Reproductive Health (SARAI) in Zambia, January 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020 (closeout); and 2) Subaward AID-OAA-A-13-00088, Expanding Effective Contraceptive Options (EECO) in Malawi, Zambia, Madagascar, and Nigeria under Woman Care Global International, January 1 to December 31, 2019. SFH contracted with the independent certified public accounting firm BDO, Lusaka, Zambia, 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 SFH's fund accountability statement; the effectiveness of its internal control; or its compliance with the award, laws, and regulations.<sup>1</sup>

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 SFH's internal controls; (3) determine whether SFH complied with award terms and applicable laws and regulations; and (4) review the implementation status of the prior period recommendations.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

To answer the audit objectives, BDO (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 SFH as incurred from January 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020; (2) evaluated the control environment, the adequacy of the accounting systems, and control procedures that pertain to SFH'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; and (4) reviewed the implementation status of the prior period recommendations. SFH reported expenditures of \$3,330,126<sup>2</sup> 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, except for \$24,670 in total ineligible questioned costs; one material weaknesses in internal control; and three instances of material noncompliance. Since the questioned costs did not meet the OIG's established threshold of \$25,000 for making a recommendation, we are not making a recommendation for the questioned costs and the related internal control finding. Nevertheless, we suggest that USAID/Zambia determine the allowability of the \$24,670 in questioned costs and recover any amount determined to be unallowable. In addition, although we are not making a recommendation for significant deficiency noted in the report, we suggest that USAID/Zambia determine if the recipient addressed the issues noted.

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 July 14, 2021.

To address the issues identified in the report, we recommend that USAID/Zambia:

**Recommendation I.** Verify that Society for Family Health corrects the three instances of material noncompliance detailed on pages 33 to 36 of the audit report.

We ask that you provide your written notification of actions planned or taken to reach management decision.

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").

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<sup>2</sup> Total costs for SARAI project per the fund accountability statement (FAS), \$3,152,495 + total costs for the EECO project per the FAS, \$177,631 = \$3,330,126