



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** October 18, 2021

**TO:** USAID/Zimbabwe, Acting Mission Director, Anne Murphy

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

**SUBJECT:** Financial Closeout Audit of USAID Resources Managed by Organization for Public Health Interventions and Development in Zimbabwe Under Multiple Awards, October 1, 2019, to March 31, 2021 (Report No. 4-613-22-005-R)

This memorandum transmits the final audit report on USAID resources managed by Organization for Public Health Interventions and Development (OPHID) under the following awards: 1) Families and Communities for the Elimination of HIV (FACE-HIV), cooperative agreement AID-613-A-12-00003 from October 1, 2019, to March 31, 2021; and 2) Cervical Cancer Screening and Testing (C-CAST), cooperative agreement 72061319CA00001 from October 1, 2019, to November 13, 2019. OPHID contracted with the independent certified public accounting firm Grant Thornton, Harare, Zimbabwe, 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 OPHID'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 OPHID's internal controls; (3) determine whether OPHID 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.

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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, Grant Thornton (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 OPHID as incurred from October 1, 2019, to March 31, 2021; (2) evaluated the control environment, the adequacy of the accounting systems, and control procedures that pertain to OPHID'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. OPHID reported expenditures of \$9,475,630 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 \$100,036<sup>2</sup> in total ineligible questioned costs. The audit firm identified no material weaknesses in internal control; and two instances of material noncompliance. In addition, although we are not making a recommendation for significant deficiencies noted in the report, we suggest that USAID/Zimbabwe determine if the recipient addressed the issues noted. Given that this audit is a closeout, we will not make a recommendation for the material instances of noncompliance identified in the report as we have no knowledge of ongoing agreements with the recipient.

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 October 18, 2021.

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

**Recommendation 1.** Determine the allowability of \$100,036 in ineligible questioned costs identified on pages 17, 40, and 43 of the audit report and recover any amount that is unallowable.

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> \$86,374 questioned cost relating to the unallowable exchange rate loss + \$13,662 ineligible intermediated money transfer tax = \$100,036