



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

U.S. Agency for International Development

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 16, 2021

TO: USAID/Management/Office of Acquisition and Assistance/Cost, Audit and Support Division, Supervisory Auditor, Eleanor C. Jefferson

FROM: USAID/OIG Middle East and Eastern Europe (ME/EE) Regional Office, Supervisory Auditor, John Vernon /s/

SUBJECT: Audit of the Fund Accountability Statement of HelpAge International Under Multiple USAID Awards for the Year Ended March 31, 2019 (8-000-22-007-R)

This memorandum transmits the final audit report on the fund accountability statement of HelpAge International under the following awards:

Award Name (Type)	Award Number	Period	Sub-implementer
Training the humanitarian sector to deliver age and disability inclusive humanitarian assistance program (closeout) (award)	AID-OFDA-G-16-00210	April 1, 2018 to April 30, 2018	n/a
Emergency assistance and protection to vulnerable conflict-affected older men and women in Dontesk and Luhansk Oblasts program (closeout) (grant)	AID-OFDA-G-17-00134	April 1, 2018 to April 12, 2018	n/a
Building resilience to natural hazards in central Vietnam program (closeout) (subgrant)	-	April 1, 2018 to September 30, 2018	HelpAge International

Award Name (Type)	Award Number	Period	Sub-implementer
Emergency protection-based support to conflict affected older women and men in the GCAS locations of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts program (award)	720FDA18GR00045	April 25, 2018 to March 31, 2019	n/a

The auditee contracted with the independent certified public accounting firm Sayer Vincent LLP to conduct the audit. The audit firm stated that it performed its audit in accordance with U.S. Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and USAID Financial Audit Guide for Foreign Organizations. However, it did not have an external quality control review program and a continuing education program that fully satisfies the standards' requirements. The audit firm explained that the United Kingdom does not offer such a review program. With regards to the continuing education program, the audit firm stated that its current program provides for at least 75 hours of continuing education and training every two years. The audit firm is responsible for the enclosed auditor's report and the conclusions expressed in it. We do not express an opinion on the auditee's fund accountability statement; the effectiveness of its internal controls; or its compliance with the awards, laws, and regulations.¹

The audit objectives were mainly to: (1) express an opinion on whether the fund accountability statement for the period audited was presented fairly, in all material respects; (2) evaluate the auditee's internal controls; and (3) determine whether the auditee complied with the awards terms and applicable laws and regulations. To answer the audit objectives, the auditors performed the subject financial audit that covered \$843,345 in USAID expenditures from April 1, 2018, to March 31, 2019.

The audit firm expressed an unmodified opinion on the fund accountability statement and did not identify any questioned cost. The audit firm did not identify any material weaknesses in the internal control or any material instances of noncompliance with the awards terms and applicable laws and regulations. Further, the audit firm said that there are outstanding balances on closed award numbers AID-OFDA-G-16-00210 and AID-OFDA-G-17-00134 of \$1,529 and \$4,245, respectively-calculated from the fund accountability statement figures. In its management letter, the audit firm disclosed overcharged staff pension contributions of \$44. Since the sum of these three amounts (\$5,818) did not exceed the OIG's established threshold of \$25,000 for making a recommendation, we are not making one. Nevertheless, we suggest

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.

that USAID determine the allowability of the \$5,818 in outstanding balances and recover any amounts determined to be unallowable. The audit firm issued a management letter.

During our desk review, we noted minor issues which the audit firm should address in future audit reports. We presented these issue in a memo to the USAID Chief Financial Officer dated November 16, 2021.

The report does not include any recommendations for your action.

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”).