

PRESS RELEASE

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USAID OIG Leader Nicole Angarella Signs Memorandum of Understanding with Ukraine's State Bureau of Investigation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Last week, Nicole L. Angarella, Acting head of USAID's Office of Inspector General (USAID OIG) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State Bureau of Investigation (Ukraine). The MOU will further efforts to ensure oversight and accountability of USAID programming in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Formal execution of the MOU follows visits by USAID OIG officials to the region to advance partnerships and cooperation with Ukrainian anti-corruption officials and international investigative counterparts. The MOU will facilitate the sharing of investigative information regarding allegations of fraud, corruption, and any other illegal activity or misconduct involving USAID-funded programs designed to support Ukraine and the Ukrainian people.

The established relationship with the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) will strengthen USAID OIG's independent oversight of USAID's programming in Ukraine, which includes humanitarian assistance, development programs, and the \$22.9 billion in direct budget support appropriated to support the Government of Ukraine.

"As I've committed to Congress, USAID, and American taxpayers, oversight of USAID's Ukraine response is my office's top priority," said Ms. Angarella. "We welcome the cooperation of Ukraine's State Bureau of Investigation through this MOU to exchange information to detect, disrupt, investigate, and prosecute criminal activity affecting USAID's significant assistance to Ukraine."

"Today Ukraine has clearly stated its goal - to be in the family of European nations. The State Bureau of Investigation carries out systematic progress, introducing the best Western law enforcement practices into its activities," said SBI Director Oleksii Sukhachov. "We appreciate and look forward to furthering our collaborative working relationship with USAID's Office of Inspector General."

Earlier this month, Ms. Angarella executed an MOU with <u>Ukraine's Specialized Anti-Corruption</u> <u>Prosecutor</u> (SAPO).

In July, USAID OIG opened an office at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, where two criminal investigators will be permanently posted. To learn more about USAID OIG's Ukraine work, please visit our <u>Ukraine Oversight</u> page. For press inquiries, please contact <u>OIGLegAffairs@usaid.gov</u>.