



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

U.S. Agency for International Development

June 27, 2024

The Honorable Chris Coons
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations

The Honorable Gary Peters
Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations

The Honorable Michael McCaul
Chairman
House Committee on Foreign Affairs

The Honorable Ben Cardin
Chairman
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

The Honorable James Comer
Chairman
House Committee on Oversight and
Accountability

Dear Chairs,

Pursuant to the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (P.L. 118-47) and the accompanying Senate Report (S. Rpt. 118-71), I am reporting on the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Office of Inspector General (USAID OIG) “staffing and funding needs for ensuring continuity of oversight related to Afghanistan following the sunset of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR).” In sum, USAID OIG will not require additional staffing or resources to continue its oversight of USAID-funded programming in Afghanistan after SIGAR sunsets.

Oversight of USAID assistance to Afghanistan is a part of our regular audit, inspection, and evaluation planning process. In March 2024, we completed an evaluation that reviewed USAID’s role in the evacuation and relocation of staff working for its implementing partners during the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021. That evaluation also reviewed USAID’s risk management procedures to determine if they were effective in preparing the Agency for carrying out its role in the evacuation.¹ Additionally, we have an ongoing audit of USAID’s efforts to safeguard implementers and their activities in Afghanistan, which will include an assessment of the Agency’s oversight of implementer efforts to mitigate Taliban interference in USAID-funded assistance awards. These two assessments are in addition to the over 250 reports USAID OIG has issued on the Agency’s programming in Afghanistan since 2008, including nearly 50 performance audits that resulted in over 300 recommendations to USAID.

¹ USAID Evaluation, [Withdrawal From Afghanistan: USAID Faced Challenges Assisting in the Evacuation and Relocation of Implementer Staff](#) (E-306-24-001-M), March 2024.

We also continue to provide statutorily mandated [quarterly reports on Operation Enduring Sentinel](#) (OES) in collaboration with the Offices of Inspector General for the Departments of Defense and State under the Lead IG framework for Overseas Contingency Operations. The OES reports require consistent engagement with USAID on its programming in Afghanistan.

Additionally, our criminal investigators have met with SIGAR staff to discuss SIGAR's open investigative cases and determined that we would not need additional resources to transfer open cases with a USAID-funding nexus from SIGAR to USAID OIG after SIGAR's sunset. We also have a dedicated team of criminal investigators responsible for investigating allegations of misconduct related to USAID's programming in Afghanistan and continue to work with the Department of Justice to hold individuals and organizations accountable for misuse of USAID funds.

USAID OIG will continue to provide aggressive, independent oversight of USAID programming in Afghanistan, relying on our organization's expertise in conducting oversight in complex security environments, relationships with USAID-funded international and nongovernmental organizations operating in Afghanistan, and direct access to USAID's documents, systems, and personnel. Moreover, we look forward to working with Congress on Afghanistan-related oversight as issues arise.

Thank you for your continued support of USAID OIG's oversight mission and your interest in our work. If you have any questions, please contact Kaylan Swartz, Director of Legislative and Public Affairs, at kaswartz@usaid.gov or (202) 344-5812.

Sincerely,



Paul K. Martin
Inspector General

cc: The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations

The Honorable Barbara Lee
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations

The Honorable James E. Risch
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

The Honorable Rand Paul
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Gregory Meeks
Ranking Member
House Committee on Foreign Affairs

The Honorable Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member
House Committee on Oversight and Accountability