



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL U.S. Agency for International Development

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 24, 2025

TO: USAID/Dominican Republic, Acting Mission Director, Robert Clink

FROM: Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Regional Office, Audit Director, Hannah Maloney /s/

SUBJECT: Closeout Financial Audit of the Civil Society Action for Security and Justice Activity, Managed by Participación Ciudadana in the Dominican Republic, Cooperative Agreement AID-517-A-15-00006, October 1, 2021, to December 31, 2022 (I-517-25-035-R)

This memorandum transmits the final audit report on the Civil Society Action for Security and Justice Activity. Participación Ciudadana contracted with the independent audit firm Campusano & Asociados, S.R.L. to conduct the audit. The audit firm stated that it performed its audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. However, it did not have an external peer review or a continuing professional education program that fully satisfy the standards' requirements. The audit firm is responsible for the enclosed report and the conclusions expressed in it. We do not express an opinion on Participación Ciudadana's schedule of expenditures of USAID awards; the effectiveness of its internal control; or its compliance with the award, laws, and regulations.¹

The audit objectives were to (1) express an opinion on whether the schedule of expenditures of USAID awards for the period audited, was presented fairly, in all material respects; (2) evaluate Participación Ciudadana's internal controls; (3) determine whether Participación Ciudadana complied with award terms and applicable laws and regulations; (4) determine if cost-sharing contributions were made and accounted for by Participación Ciudadana in accordance with the terms of the agreement; and (5) determine if Participación Ciudadana has taken adequate corrective action on prior audit recommendations. To answer the audit objectives, the audit firm reported that they assessed and tested the internal controls related to the project; assessed and tested compliance with applicable laws, regulations, the agreement's provisions; and reviewed project expenditures. The audit covered \$2,190,054 of USAID expenditures for the audited period.

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.

The audit firm concluded the schedule of expenditures of USAID awards presented fairly, in all material respects, program revenues and costs incurred under the award for the period audited.

The audit firm identified one internal control significant deficiency, and one instance of material noncompliance related to an excess in the budget execution assigned to the subrecipient Fundación Institucionalidad y Justicia, Inc. (FINJUS). The audit firm issued a management letter which included minor internal control deficiencies and immaterial instances of noncompliance.

The audit firm stated that based on their review, nothing came to their attention that caused them to believe that Participación Ciudadana did not fairly present the cost sharing contributions schedule, in all material respects, in accordance with the basis of accounting used to prepare the cost sharing contributions schedule.

The audit firm stated that the recipient has not taken adequate corrective actions to address one prior audit report recommendation.

During our desk review, we noted one area for improvement which the audit firm should address in future audit reports. We presented this area in a memo to the controller, dated July 24, 2025.

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

Recommendation 1. Verify that Participación Ciudadana corrects the one instance of material noncompliance reported on page 34 of the audit report.

We ask that you provide your written notification of actions planned or taken to reach a 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"). In addition, USAID OIG has determined that this transmittal memo and the enclosed report are not subject to notification and reporting requirements under Section 5274 of the National Defense Authorization Act.²

² The James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 Pub. L. No. 117-263, § 5274. Please direct related inquiries to oignotice_ndaa5274@usaid.gov.