



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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 26, 2025

TO: USAID, Deputy Administrator for Management and Resources, Kenneth Jackson
USAID, Acting Chief Financial Officer, Douglas A. Pitkin

FROM: USAID OIG Africa Regional Office, Audit Director, Ryan Werner /s/

SUBJECT: Financial Audit of USAID Resources Managed by TradeMark Africa Limited in Multiple Countries Under Cooperative Agreement 72062322CA00002, July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024 (Report No. 4-623-25-132-R)

This memorandum transmits the final audit report on USAID resources managed by TradeMark Africa Limited (TMA) under East Africa Economic Recovery and Reform Activity in Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Ethiopia, Somaliland, Tanzania and Uganda. TMA contracted with the independent audit firm PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Nairobi, Kenya 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 an external peer review and 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 TMA'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 TMA's internal controls; (3) determine whether TMA 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.

To answer the audit objectives, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (1) audited the schedule of expenditures of USAID awards 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 TMA as incurred from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024; (2) evaluated the control environment, the adequacy of the accounting systems, and control procedures that pertain to

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.

TMA's ability to report financial data consistent with the assertions embodied in each account of the schedule of expenditures of USAID awards; (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 schedule of expenditures of USAID awards; (4) determined the review of the indirect cost rate was not applicable; and (5) reviewed the implementation status of the prior period recommendations. TMA reported expenditures of \$10,792,988 in USAID funds during the audited period.

The audit firm concluded the schedule of expenditures of USAID awards presented fairly, in all material respects, program revenues and costs incurred under the awards for the period audited. The audit firm identified \$86,105 in total questioned costs (\$54,080 ineligible and \$32,025 unsupported); four material weaknesses in internal control; and one instance of material noncompliance. In addition, although we are not making a recommendation for significant deficiencies noted in the report, we suggest that USAID/Kenya and East Africa determine if the recipient addressed the issues noted. The audit firm also issued a management letter.

To address the issues identified in the report, we recommend that USAID/Kenya and East Africa:

Recommendation 1. Determine the allowability of \$86,105 in questioned costs (\$54,080 ineligible, \$32,025 unsupported) on pages 20 and 26 of the audit report and recover any amount that is unallowable.

Recommendation 2. Verify that TradeMark Africa Limited corrects the four material weaknesses in internal control detailed on pages 30 to 37 of the audit report.

Recommendation 3. Verify that TradeMark Africa Limited corrects the one instance of material noncompliance detailed on pages 50 and 51 of the audit report.

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"). 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.