



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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 15, 2025

TO: USAID/West Bank and Gaza, Mission Director, Amy Tohill-Stull

FROM: Middle East and Eastern Europe Regional Office, Acting Audit Director, Esther Park /s/

SUBJECT: Close-Out Audit of the Schedule of Expenditures of Catholic Relief Services, Envision Gaza 2020 in West Bank and Gaza, Cooperative Agreement AID-294-A-16-00002, from April 21, 2023, to December 31, 2023 (8-294-25-026-N)

This memorandum transmits the final audit report on the schedule of expenditures of Catholic Relief Services, Envision Gaza 2020 program in West Bank and Gaza, Cooperative Agreement AID-294-A-16-00002, from April 21, 2023, to December 31, 2023. USAID/West Bank and Gaza contracted with the independent audit firm Mazars to conduct the audit. The audit firm stated that it performed its audit in accordance with U.S. Government Auditing Standards. However, it did not have an external quality control review program that fully satisfies the standards' requirements because professional organizations in West Bank and Gaza do not offer such a program. The audit firm is responsible for the enclosed report and the conclusions expressed in it. We do not express an opinion on Catholic Relief Services' schedule of expenditures of the USAID award; the effectiveness of its internal controls; or its compliance with the award, laws, and regulations.¹

The audit objectives were mainly to: (1) express an opinion on whether the schedule of expenditures of the USAID award for the period audited, was presented fairly, in all material respects; (2) evaluate Catholic Relief Services' internal controls; and (3) determine whether Catholic Relief Services complied with the award terms and applicable laws and regulations. To answer the audit objectives, the audit firm conducted the subject financial audit that covered \$7,919,526 from April 21, 2023, to December 31, 2023.

The audit firm concluded the schedule of expenditures of USAID award presented fairly, in all material respects, program revenues and costs incurred under the award for the period audited. The audit firm did not identify any material weaknesses in internal controls or any material instances of noncompliance with the award terms or applicable rules and regulations.

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 stated that the Catholic Relief Services complied with Executive Order 13224—Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions With Persons Who Commit, Threaten To Commit, or Support Terrorism.

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 August 15, 2025.

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”). 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.