



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

July 30, 2025

## ***USAID OIG's Gaza-Related Oversight Work***

The USAID Office of Inspector General is statutorily mandated to provide independent oversight of USAID and other agencies performing foreign assistance programs. **We do not set policy or award funds, but our independent oversight work is designed to inform those who do.** Oversight of aid to Gaza has been top priority since the influx of humanitarian assistance following Hamas' October 7, 2023, terrorist attacks in Israel.

We have consistently cautioned Federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and UN agencies of the risk of aid being diverted to Hamas and other U.S.-designated terrorist organizations. This includes investigations of United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) officials associated with Hamas who participated in the October 7, 2023, terrorist attacks in Israel, including in the murder of Israeli and American citizens. This investigative work continues. **In addition, we have received and are investigating credible allegations of Hamas interference, diversion, and theft of humanitarian aid in Gaza, as well as allegations of smuggling contraband into Gaza through humanitarian aid shipments.**

When it comes to advancing our investigations, particularly involving UN agencies, we do not take "no" for an answer. After the UN's Office of Internal Oversight Service (OIOS) refused to share an unredacted copy of its investigation with us, we sought and obtained the information we needed for our UNRWA investigation through other sources, methods, and diplomatic channels. We are still pressing OIOS to obtain the unredacted copy.

In addition to our investigative work, we have reported on inefficiencies, delays, and constraints in the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Gaza, including in the Joint Logistics Over the Shore (JLOTS) program, otherwise known as the Gaza pier. Our ongoing audits of programming in Gaza are designed to inform policymakers on potential waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in these programs.

USAID OIG will continue to investigate allegations of diversion, fraud, product substitution, smuggling, and other misconduct compromising lifesaving humanitarian assistance intended for civilians in Gaza

### **Gaza-Oversight Products**

- *November 2023:* USAID OIG [alert](#) to NGOs, UN agencies, and contractors noting that it is USAID OIG's investigative priority to prevent the diversion of humanitarian assistance to Hamas and reminding aid agencies of fraud schemes to look out for, as well as avenues to report misuse of funding.
- *May 2024:* USAID OIG [alert](#) to NGOs, UN agencies, and contractors identifying their responsibility to report instances of illicit funding to UNRWA.
- *July 2024:* USAID OIG [report](#) identifying shortcomings and vulnerabilities in USAID oversight mechanisms to prevent aid diversion, including vetting of aid organization staff, lack of self-reporting by UN agencies, and contractual clauses that prevented USAID from obtaining information regarding prospective contractors' past relationships with terrorist organizations.
- *April 2025:* USAID OIG's UNRWA [investigation](#) and referral to the Department of State Suspension/Debarment Officer (ongoing).

## Completed and Ongoing Audits, Inspections, and Evaluations

[USAID OIG's Gaza-related oversight \(general site\)](#)

### Complete

[USAID's Gaza Response: External Factors Impaired Distribution of Humanitarian Assistance Through the JLOTS Maritime Corridor](#)

- We found that external factors impaired USAID's efforts to distribute humanitarian assistance to Gaza through the JLOTS maritime corridor. Due to structural damage caused by rough weather and high seas, the pier operated for only 20 days and was decommissioned on July 17, 2024. In addition, security and access challenges plagued aid distributions once on shore. As a result, USAID fell short of its goal of supplying aid to more than 500,000 Gazans each month for 3 months and, instead, delivered enough aid to feed 450,000 Gazans for 1 month.

### Ongoing

[Audit of Partner Vetting in West Bank and Gaza](#)

- We initiated this audit following congressional and other stakeholder concerns about the Agency's ability to vet, screen, and prevent terrorist organizations or individuals engaged in terrorist activity from working for USAID-funded implementing partners or receiving other forms of USAID-funded assistance.
- We are looking at whether (1) USAID's antiterrorism policies and procedures for vetting individuals and groups receiving USAID-funded humanitarian assistance in West Bank and Gaza aligned with established vetting and risk management criteria and (2) USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) implemented antiterrorism requirements for humanitarian assistance activities in West Bank and Gaza.

[Inspection of the Health Supply Chain for USAID's Gaza Response](#)

- We are looking at whether USAID (1) ensured pre-award requirements related to the supply chain of pharmaceuticals and other health commodities for Gaza were fulfilled and (2) monitored award implementation related to the supply chain of pharmaceuticals and other health commodities for Gaza.

[Audit of USAID's Controls Over Cash Assistance in the West Bank and Gaza](#)

- We are looking at whether USAID had processes in place for assessing, mitigating, and monitoring selected fraud risks in cash assistance awards to NGOs in the West Bank and Gaza.

[Audit of USAID's Management of the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance Warehouse in the United Arab Emirates](#)

- We are looking at how USAID designed and implemented policies, procedures, and practices to manage humanitarian assistance supplies warehoused in the United Arab Emirates.
- The USAID warehouse in the United Arab Emirates, referred to as "the Dubai warehouse," is the largest of the BHA warehouses with nonfood items. Between October 2022 and May 2024, BHA used supplies valued at approximately \$8.1 million from the Dubai warehouse to respond to 16 crises through 46 shipments. For example, in April 2024, BHA shipped 171 metric tons of high-energy biscuits valued at \$273,600 to Gaza through the maritime corridor as part of its response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in the region.

USAID OIG's Gaza-related investigative and audit work are active and ongoing. For more information, or if you would like to schedule a briefing, please contact OIG Senior Advisor and Legislative Affairs Director Adam Kaplan at [adamkaplan@oig.usaid.gov](mailto:adamkaplan@oig.usaid.gov).