



# OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

## U.S. Agency for International Development

### USAID OIG's Active and Ongoing Investigations Involving Misuse of American Taxpayer Dollars

December 2025

#### 350 Ongoing Investigative Matters

##### 141 Active Investigations

##### 25 Preliminary Inquiries into Allegations of Fraud, Corruption, and Diversion to Terrorist Organizations

##### 184 Open Complaints/Allegations Currently Under Assessment

USAID OIG's investigative work to protect hard-earned American taxpayer dollars remains **active** and **ongoing**. Our seasoned Criminal Investigators, digital forensics specialists, and investigative analysts across the globe are working to combat the misuse of U.S. taxpayer dollars spent overseas through fraud, corruption, and diversion to foreign terrorist organizations. Our number of open complaints/allegations increases by the day, due to our active [Hotline](#) which **continues** to receive allegations related to misuse of taxpayer dollars by NGOs, contractors, UN agencies, and government personnel.

Of our active investigations, **41** have been accepted for criminal prosecution by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and **16** have been accepted by DOJ as civil fraud matters.

#### Ongoing Investigations into Diversion of Aid to Hamas and other Terrorist Entities

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, through [Operation Stop the Carousel](#), continues and is designed to prevent the circulation of Hamas members within taxpayer-funded aid programs.

#### Recent Investigative Results



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#### **19 Arrested in Four Countries Related to Visa Fraud, Racketeering, Money Laundering and Related Charges**

USAID OIG was proud to have worked in close coordination with multiple U.S. and international law enforcement partners to disrupt a transnational visa fraud, racketeering, and money-laundering scheme that defrauded thousands of Central and South American nationals seeking to work lawfully in the U.S.. Victims were defrauded of over \$2.5 million dollars.

#### **Non-Profit Organization Defrauded of Over \$700,000 In Foreign Assistance**

A USAID OIG investigation resulted in the indictment of a former country director of a U.S.-funded NGO operating in Haiti for defrauding over \$700,000 in foreign assistance funds.

#### **Arrest Made In 12 Subject Indictment from Business Email Compromise Scheme**

USAID OIG initiated an investigation into allegations that a USAID prime awardee had received fraudulent emails requesting a funds transfer to a new bank from a purported sub recipient grantee based in India, amounting to what is known as a Business Email Compromise (BEC). This led to a federal grand jury in South Carolina returning a 12-count indictment alleging conspiracy, wire fraud, bank fraud, and money laundering against 12 individuals. One of the defendants was recently arrested by federal law enforcement.

#### **Former American Embassy Employee Convicted of Sexually Abusing Minors in Burkina Faso**

USAID OIG contributed to an investigation that led to the conviction of Fode Sitafa Mara, 40, of Takoma Park, Maryland, on four counts of aggravated sexual abuse perpetrated against two minors, one count of coercion and enticement, and one count of obstruction.

#### **USAID OIG's Long-Term International Investigation into Conspiracy to Steal American-Funded Aid Concludes with 2 Indicted, 1 Convicted**

On March 2, 2017, USAID OIG special agents initiated an investigation into alleged diversion of health products from USAID/Kenya's \$650 million Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA) Medical Commodities Program (MCP). In January 2020, USAID OIG shared our preliminary investigative findings from this and another investigation into KEMSA with USAID, revealing fraud and corruption at the highest levels in KEMSA and significant weaknesses in KEMSA's warehouse inventory control and supply chain management system. As a result of these findings, USAID deobligated or reprogramed over \$32 million in funds. In addition, as a result of our investigation, Eric Ndungu Mwangi, 40, a Kenyan national, and Davendra Rampersaud, 42, a Guyanese national, and their associated businesses were charged in a 2021 superseding



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indictment brought by a federal grand jury in the District of South Carolina. The superseding indictment was originally filed under seal to protect the ongoing investigation.

### **Ongoing Investigations into Fraud and Corruption in Foreign Assistance Programs**

#### **Operation Stop the Carousel**

Operation Stop the Carousel is a proactive investigation designed to prevent the circulation of terrorists across international aid organizations receiving U.S. funding in Gaza, including United Nations (UN) and non-government organizations. This Operation will expand OIG's existing investigation into Hamas-linked staff affiliated with UNRWA, which has already referred 19 individuals believed to have supported and/or participated in the October 7, 2023, terrorist attacks for suspension/debarment consideration by the Department of State.

#### **Joint Task Force October 7**

We continue to be engaged with the Attorney General's Joint Task Force October 7 (JTF 10-7), an initiative that will seek justice for the victims of the Oct. 7 terrorist attack and address the ongoing threat posed by Hamas and its affiliates.

#### **Joint Task Force Vulcan**

We are proud to be members of Task Force Vulcan, which is aimed at disrupting, dismantling, and ultimately destroying Mara Salvatrucha, known as MS-13, and Tren de Aragua.

#### **Operation African Star**

We continue to play a key role in Operation African Star, collaborating with international organizations, African law enforcement, CBP, and foreign partners to detect and disrupt the diversion of U.S.-funded pharmaceuticals and medical supplies. These efforts have generated joint investigations, enforcement actions, and new leads. We are focused on protecting donated supply chains to ensure supplies reach intended populations rather than fueling illicit markets.

#### **Ukraine Aid Fraud**

We are investigating allegations of fraud and misrepresentation by a USAID awardee in Ukraine, as well as two fraud schemes within the Direct Budget Support (DBS) program. OIG received allegations that an awardee had knowledge of the fraud and made several internal changes as a result but failed in their reporting obligations. Under the DBS program, the first fraud scheme involves allegations of false disability certifications and subsequent improper disability pension payments, and the second scheme involves the alleged creation of ghost employees and the use of those ghost employees to claim fraudulent reimbursements from DBS.



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#### **Operation Polaris**

OIG initiated a proactive investigation on USAID's use of business class and first-class air travel based on allegations that senior USAID personnel in prior years leveraged medical documentation to qualify for potentially questionable reasonable accommodation waivers.

#### **PEPFAR Fraud**

We are actively investigating allegations of wide-scale fraud involving the volunteer medical male circumcision program funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The investigation has, so far, led to the termination of a \$105 million contract and one mission employee. Approximately \$52 million remained unspent due to the contract termination.

#### **Ethiopia Food Aid Diversion**

Our investigation in Ethiopia has uncovered the diversion of USAID-funded food commodities, routed for sale by elements of the Ethiopian National Defense and Tigray forces. OIG fieldwork revealed World Food Programme knowledge of nonexistent food distribution points. Work continues to hold all perpetrators accountable.

#### **Bid Collusion in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

We are investigating a reported appearance of bid collusion by a USAID awardee in Bosnia and Herzegovina for a USAID subaward to design a vaccine-tracking software program.

For more on USAID OIG's active and ongoing investigative work, please visit our [website](#). If you would like to schedule a briefing, please contact Adam Kaplan [adamkaplan@oig.usaid.gov](mailto:adamkaplan@oig.usaid.gov).