UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME Office of Audit and Investigations



AUDIT

OF

UNDP PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT (Directly Implemented Project No. 60507)

> Report No. 1275 Issue Date: 21 February 2014



Report on the audit of UNDP Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (Project No. 60507) Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI), from 1 October to 10 November 2013, through Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. (the audit firm), conducted an audit of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Project No. 60507 (the Project), which is directly implemented and managed by the UNDP Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (the Office). The last audit of the Office was conducted by OAI in 2010.

The audit firm conducted a financial audit to express an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material aspects, the Project's operations. The audit covered the Project's Statement of Expenditure (Combined Delivery Report) for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2012.

The audit was conducted under the general supervision of OAI in conformance with the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing*.

Audit results

Based on the audit report and corresponding management letter submitted by the audit firm, the results are summarized in the table below:

Project Expenditure			Project Assets		
Amount (in \$ '000)	Opinion	NFI (in \$ '000)	Amount (in \$′000)	Opinion	NFI (in \$ '000)
777	Qualified	8	N/A	N/A	N/A

NFI = *Net Financial Impact*

The audit firm qualified its opinion on project expenditure due to a difference of \$8,063 between the amount reported in the Combined Delivery Report and the amount reported in the transaction file. The difference was due to a system error.

Key recommendations:

The audit did not result in any high (critical) priority recommendations. There is one medium (important) priority recommendation, which means, "Action is required to ensure that UNDP is not exposed risks that are considered moderate. Failure to take action could contribute to negative consequences for UNDP." This recommendation includes actions to address an output error in the financial management system.



Management comments and action plan

The Special Representative accepted the recommendation and is in the process of implementing it. Comments and/or additional information provided have been incorporated into the report, where appropriate.

