UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME Office of Audit and Investigations



AUDIT

OF

UNDP COUNTRY OFFICE

IN

PAKISTAN

Report No. 2082

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Report on the Audit of UNDP Pakistan Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) conducted an audit of UNDP Pakistan (the Office) from 19 March to 4 April 2019. The audit aimed to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the governance, risk management and control processes relating to the following areas and sub-areas:

- (a) governance (leadership, corporate direction, corporate oversight and assurance, corporate external relations and partnership);
- (b) programme (quality assurance process, programme/project design and implementation, knowledge management);
- (c) operations (financial resources management, ICT and general administrative management, procurement, human resources management, and staff and premises security); and
- (d) United Nations leadership and coordination.

The audit covered the activities of the Office from 1 January 2018 to 28 February 2019. The Office recorded programme and management expenses of approximately \$74 million. The last audit of the Office was conducted by OAI in 2017.

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

Overall audit rating

OAI assessed the Office as **partially satisfactory/some improvement needed**, which means "The assessed governance arrangements, risk management practices and controls were generally established and functioning but need some improvement. Issues identified by the audit do not significantly affect the achievement of the objectives of the audited entity/area." This rating was mainly due to project documents and results frameworks not being updated, weaknesses in programme assurance monitoring, and non-compliance with policies regarding the hiring of individual contractors.

Key recommendations: Total = $\mathbf{3}$, high priority = $\mathbf{0}$

The audit did not result in any high (critical) priority recommendations. There are three medium (important) priority recommendations, which means "Action is required to ensure that UNDP is not exposed to risks. Failure to take action could result in negative consequences for UNDP."

The three recommendations aim to ensure the following:

Objectives	Recommendation No.	Priority Rating
Achievement of the organization's strategic objectives	1	Medium
Compliance with legislative mandates, regulations and rules, policies and procedures	2, 3	Medium

Implementation status of previous OAI audit recommendations: Report No. 1762, 31 March 2017.

Total recommendations: 10 Implemented: 10

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Management comments and action plan

The Resident Representative accepted all three recommendations and is in the process of implementing them. Comments and/or additional information provided have been incorporated in the report, where appropriate.

Low risk issues (not included in this report) have been discussed directly with management and actions have been initiated to address them.

Helge S. Osttveiten Director

Office of Audit and Investigations