



AUDIT

OF

UNDP COUNTRY OFFICE

IN

GUINEA

Report No. 1146

Issue Date: 20 February 2014

(REDACTED)

Report on the audit of UNDP Guinea Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) conducted an audit of UNDP Guinea (the Office) from 4 to 18 November 2013. 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 and strategic management (organizational structure and delegations of authority; leadership, ethics and values; risk management, planning, monitoring and reporting; and financial sustainability);
- (b) United Nations system coordination (development activities, the Resident Coordinator Office and Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers);
- (c) programme activities (programme management, partnerships and resource mobilization, and project management); and
- (d) operations (human resources, finance, procurement, information and communication technology, general administration, and safety and security).

The audit covered the activities of the Office from 1 January 2012 to 31 August 2013. The audit did not cover the role of UNDP in "One UN" because this was not yet applicable in the Country. The Office recorded programme and management expenditures totalling \$35 million. The last audit of the Office was conducted by OAI in 2007.

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**, which means "Internal controls, governance and risk management processes were generally established and functioning, but needed improvement. One or several issues were identified that may negatively affect the achievement of the objectives of the audited entity." This rating was mainly due to weaknesses in the procurement area, project monitoring and closure, and management of finance and human resources.

Key recommendations: Total = 9, high priority = 0

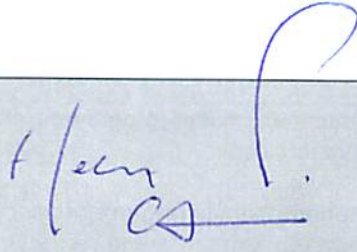
The audit did not result in any high (critical) priority recommendations. There are nine medium (important) priority recommendations, which means "Action is required to ensure that UNDP is not exposed to risks that are considered moderate. Failure to take action could contribute to negative consequences for UNDP." These recommendations include actions to address: non-submission of procurement cases to procurement committees, delays in implementing the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers, weak monitoring of donor reports, the absence of the Regional Bureau's authorization for direct implementation, and incomplete and untimely project closure.

There was one issue related to the collection of the Government Local Office Cost contributions that was caused by factors beyond the control of the Office (see Issue 1).

Management comments and action plan

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

Issues with less significance (not included in this report) have been discussed directly with management and actions have been initiated to address them.



Helge S. Osttveiten
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