

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Office of Audit and Investigations



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PERFORMANCE AUDIT

OF

THE REGIONAL PROJECT FOR ADVANCING

INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Report No. 1841

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Report on the Audit of the Regional Project for Advancing Inclusive and Sustainable Human Development in Asia and the Pacific Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) conducted a performance audit of the Regional Project for Advancing Inclusive and Sustainable Human Development (SHD) (the Regional Project) in Asia and the Pacific from 24 April to 9 June 2017.

Performance auditing is an independent examination of an entity to assess whether the entity is achieving economy, efficiency and results in the employment of available resources.

The overall audit objective was to establish if the Regional Project reached, or was likely to reach its target outputs to the extent foreseen in the project document. The audit focused on two main questions:

- (a) Was the Regional Project adequately costed and delivered on schedule?
- (b) Has the Regional Project achieved or is likely to achieve its target outputs?

The audit covered project design and implementation from 1 January 2014 to 31 March 2017. This audit was carried out in parallel with the audit of the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, which included a review of the Regional Programme of which the Regional Project is a component (Audit Report No. 1840). This was the first audit of the Regional Project.

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

Overall audit rating

OAI assessed the Regional Project's implementation as **satisfactory**, meaning that "The assessed governance arrangements, risk management practices and controls were adequately established and functioning well. Issues identified by the audit, if any, are unlikely to affect the achievement of the objectives of the audited entity/area."

Key recommendations: Total = 1, high priority = 0

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 to risks. Failure to take action could result in negative consequences for UNDP." The recommendation aims to enhance the overall coherence and design of future regional projects.

The Director of the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific accepted the recommendation and is in the process of implementing it. Comments and/or additional information provided have been incorporated in the report.

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



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Helge S. Osttveiten', is enclosed within a rectangular box.

Helge S. Osttveiten
Director
Office of Audit and Investigations