

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**  
**Office of Audit and Investigations**



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

**AUDIT**

**OF**

**UNDP COUNTRY OFFICE**

**IN**

**MALI**

**Report No. 2090**  
**Issue Date: 6 August 2019**

## Report on the Audit of UNDP Mali Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) conducted an audit of UNDP Mali (the Office) from 23 April to 7 May 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 to 31 December 2018. The Office recorded programme and management expenses of approximately \$47 million. The last audit of the Office was conducted by OAI in 2016.

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/major improvement needed**, which means “The assessed governance arrangements, risk management practices and controls were established and functioning, but need major improvement. Issues identified by the audit could significantly affect the achievement of the objectives of the audited entity/area.” This rating was mainly due to weaknesses in asset management.

**Key recommendations:** Total = 9, high priority = 1

The nine recommendations aim to ensure the following:

Objectives	Recommendation No.	Priority Rating
Achievement of the organization’s strategic objectives	1, 2, 3, 6	Medium
Reliability and integrity of financial and operational information	4, 5	Medium
Safeguarding of assets	7	High
Compliance with legislative mandates, regulations and rules, policies and procedures	8, 9	Medium

For high (critical) priority recommendations, prompt action is required to ensure that UNDP is not exposed to high risks. Failure to take action could result in major negative consequences for UNDP. The high (critical) priority recommendation is presented below:

Weaknesses in asset management (Issue 7)

The Atlas Asset Management Module was not updated, and there were inconsistencies in the codification of locations in Atlas and Iris (asset management module developed by the Office). In addition, obsolete assets were not timely disposed.

Recommendation: The Office should reinforce monitoring and oversight over assets by: (a) developing a comprehensive list of all assets used and controlled by the Office (including an update of locations) and reconciling it with the Atlas asset records; (b) reinforcing the coordination and oversight role of the Asset Manager of the Office to ensure that assets are correctly tracked and recorded; and (c) disposing obsolete and not-used assets in a timely manner.

**Implementation status of previous OAI audit recommendations:** Report No. 1569, 19 May 2016.

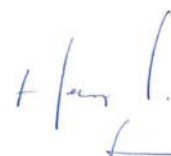
Total recommendations: 11

Implemented: 11

### 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 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 Osttveiten

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