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



**AUDIT** 

OF

**UNDP COUNTRY OFFICE** 

IN

**ANGOLA** 

Report No. 2228

Issue Date: 1 March 2021



### Report on the Audit of UNDP Angola Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) conducted an audit of UNDP Angola (the Office) from 16 to 30 November 2020. 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
- (b) Development activities
- (c) Operations procurement, finance, human resources, administrative services, information communication and technology (ICT)

The audit also addressed performance audit questions during the review of the following areas:

- (a) Development activities:
  - i. Was the office on target in implementing its CPD and projects as planned?
  - ii. Was the achievement of planned results adequately monitored?
- (b) Procurement:
  - i. Did procurement processes result in the contracting of required services and products at best value for money with fairness, transparency, and integrity?
  - ii. Were procurement processes conducted in a timely manner?
- (c) Human resources:
  - i. Were recruitment activities conducted timely?
  - ii. Were best qualified individuals selected and recruited?

The audit covered the activities of the Office from 1 January 2019 to 30 September 2020. The Office recorded programme and management expenses of approximately \$36.8 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*. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the audit was conducted remotely. Scope limitations due to the nature of the remote audit related to the following activities:

- (a) A review of original supporting documentation could not be carried out, and therefore the audit team relied on scanned copies of documents provided by the Office for all audit areas reviewed.
- (b) Meetings with Office staff and personnel were carried out virtually, which limited the audit team's understanding of the Office's working environment.
- (c) Project visits (location, site visits, meeting with counterparts/beneficiaries) were not conducted.
- (d) A physical verification of assets was not performed.
- (e) Safe and petty cash contents were not verified.
- (f) The ICT area was not reviewed on-site.

#### Overall audit rating

OAI assessed the Office's performance as **satisfactory/some improvements 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 weaknesses in project management, procurement, and recruitment processes.

## United Nations Development Programme Office of Audit and Investigations



Key recommendations: Total = 5, high priority = 0

The audit did not result in any high (critical) priority recommendations. There are five 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 five recommendations aim to ensure the following:

Objectives	Recommendation No.	Priority Rating
Achievement of the organization's strategic objectives	1, 2	Medium
Effectiveness and efficiency of operations	4, 5	Medium
Compliance with legislative mandates, regulations and rules, policies, and procedures	3	Medium

#### Management comments and action plan

The Resident Representative accepted all of the 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.

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