UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME Office of Audit and Investigations



AUDIT

OF

SUPPORTING THE RULE OF LAW AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE,
HEBRON COURTHOUSE BUILDING
(Directly Implemented Project No. 57409, Output No. 77024)

IN

UNDP PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE (PAPP)

Report No. 2521

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United Nations Development Programme Office of Audit and Investigations



Report on the Audit of Supporting the Rule of Law and Access to Justice, Hebron Courthouse Building implemented by UNDP Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP) (Project No. 57409, Output No. 77024) Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI), through Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. (the audit firm), from 6 to 22 June 2022, conducted an audit of Supporting the Rule of Law and Access to Justice, Hebron Courthouse Building (Project No. 57409, Output No. 77024) (the Project), which is directly implemented and managed by the UNDP Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP) (the Office). The last audit of the Project was conducted by OAI, through Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. in 2020 and covered project expenses from 1 January to 31 December 2019.

The audit was conducted in accordance with the International Standards of Auditing (ISA), the 700 series. The audit work covered financial transactions as well as internal controls and systems for the purpose of expressing an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material aspects, the Project's operations, as well as assess compliance with UNDP regulations, rules, policies and procedures and donor agreements. The audit covered the Project's Combined Delivery Report, which includes expenses for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021 and the accompanying Funds Utilization statement¹ as of 31 December 2021. It also reviewed the relevant systems, procedures and practices in place as they relate to the Project, in the areas of governance, programme, and operations. The audit did not include expenses processed and approved by other UNDP offices (such as UNDP Regional Centres and UNDP Headquarters). The audit did not cover the Statement of Assets as no assets were held by the Project. In addition, the audit did not cover the Statement of Cash as no separate bank account was established and maintained for the Project.

The audit was conducted under the general supervision of OAI in conformance with the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* of The Institute of Internal Auditors (The IIA).

Overall audit rating

Based on the audit report submitted by the audit firm, OAI assessed the management of the Project as **fully satisfactory**, which means, "The assessed governance arrangements, risk management practices and controls as applicable to the Project's financial statements 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." The details of the audit results are presented in the table below:

Project Expenses*	
Amount (in \$ '000)	Opinion
6,157	Unmodified

¹ The Funds Utilization statement includes the balance, as at a given date, of five items: (a) outstanding advances received by the project; (b) undepreciated fixed assets used at the project level; (c) inventory held at the project level; (d) prepayments made by the project; and (e) outstanding commitments held at the project level.

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* Expenses recorded in the Combined Delivery Report were \$6,452,154. Excluded from the audit scope were expenses processed and approved by other UNDP offices (\$294,942).

The audit did not result in any recommendations.

Implementation status of previous OAI audit recommendations:

The previous audit (Report No. 2249, issued on 17 August 2020) did not result in any recommendations.

Management comments and action plan

Comments and/or additional information provided have been incorporated into the report, where appropriate.

Brett Simpson Officer-in-Charge Office of Audit and Investigations