

Plan International Counter Fraud Report FY17 - Quarter 4

Date	Location	Allegation	Resolution	Initial loss (EUR)	Funds recovered (EUR)	Net loss (EUR)	Lessons learned and actions
Aug-16	East and Southern Africa	Discrepancies between financial records and the completed construction of a classroom project raised suspicion of fraud by the contractor and Plan International staff.	An investigation showed that an accounting error had been made. The allegation of fraud was not substantiated.	0	n/a	0	Improved oversight of financial recording is required.
May-16	Asia	A local implementing partner was provided with sub-standard school equipment by a local vendor who then disappeared.	The school equipment was replaced by the vendor with proper standard items. The vendor was blacklisted.	1,609	1,609	0	The partner was advised about approved supplier processes.
2016	East and Southern Africa	Staff from an implementing partner alleged that the partner organisation was providing falsified activity documentation to Plan International.	Fraud was substantiated and the partnership contract was cancelled.	10,635	10,635	0	Partner assessment processes were revisited.
Feb-17	East and Southern Africa	A Plan International staff member was suspected of paying only part of a transport allowance for officials to attend an event and retaining the difference.	Fraud was substantiated and the staff member was dismissed.	25	25	0	Improved monitoring of staff advances is required.
Nov-16	West and Central Africa	The president of a community implementing committee stole funds intended for beneficiaries and falsified expenditure on school kits.	The funds were returned by the community. The people involved were blacklisted from further involvement with Plan International and reported to the police.	1,610	1,610	0	Committee oversight is required.
Jan-17	Asia	A hotel owner alleged that a Plan International staff member obtained false receipts for an event, borrowed money from him and failed to repay it.	The allegation was not substantiated and was believed to be malicious.	0	n/a	0	n/a

Jan-17	East and Southern Africa	Plan International staff failed to supply community facilitators with books and seeds for sponsored families leading to financial discrepancies.	The fraud was substantiated, the staff involved were dismissed and all funds were recovered.	1,850	1,850	0	Improved beneficiary contact was introduced.
Feb-16	Asia	Plan International staff obtained a false invoice from a hotel for an event. Private arrangements were made to repay the hotelier.	Fraud was substantiated but there was no monetary loss to Plan International. Staff members involved received a final written warning.	0	0	0	n/a
Feb-17	East and Southern Africa	A forged letter supporting an employment visa application was submitted to the Canadian Embassy in Nairobi from elsewhere in the region with a Plan International letterhead and stamp.	There was no evidence of involvement from Plan International staff members. The Canadian Embassy is dealing with the issue.	0	n/a	0	n/a
Mar-17	West and Central Africa	Local partners sold excess building materials from a Plan International project for personal gain.	Funds were returned and the people in question were blacklisted from further involvement with Plan International.	320	320	0	Improved monitoring of community funds was introduced.
Oct-16	Asia	A liquidation report from an implementing partner showed false signatures for receipt of per diems leading to a suspicion of fraud.	Fraud was substantiated and the recovery of funds is being sought. The partnership has been terminated.	280	0	280	Partner assessment processes have been revisited.
Oct-16	Asia	A financial review indicated that an implementing partner had overcharged for fuel and kept meeting participation fees.	Fraud was substantiated, the lost funds were recovered and the partnership was terminated.	250	250	0	Partner assessment processes have been revisited.
Mar-17	Asia	Plan International staff members allegedly retained cash meant for a contractor to undertake construction work.	An investigation showed that cash had been retained by Plan International staff members for personal use. One staff member was dismissed and another received a final warning.	0	n/a	0	Project monitoring was improved.

Feb-17	Asia	A staff member alleged that other staff members were taking funds for a project and sharing them between themselves.	An investigation proved the allegation and 2 staff members were dismissed.	265	n/a	265	Cash monitoring processes were reviewed.
Mar-17	West and Central Africa	Staff from an implementing partner failed to pay per diems to community beneficiaries and retained funds.	An investigation substantiated the fraud. The partner organisation dismissed the staff concerned and returned the lost funds. The partnership continues.	476	476	0	The partner organisation was assisted to improve its controls.
2016	Asia	A Plan International staff member was alleged to have taken a bribe to release a payment to a vendor.	The allegation was not substantiated and appears malicious.	0	n/a	0	n/a
Mar-17	East and Southern Africa	A complaint from a film production company alleged an unfair procurement process.	A review of the film procurement process identified short lead times but no favouritism. Correct lead times were reinstated.	0	n/a	0	Procurement processes were reviewed.
Mar-17	West and Central Africa	A third party impersonating Plan International was registering beneficiaries for a fee.	The case was reported to local law enforcement authorities.	0	n/a	0	n/a
Mar-17	East and Southern Africa	An anonymous email to a local manager alleged that Plan International staff were selling relief items in a refugee camp and other staff were fraudulently hiring their own vehicles to Plan International.	Both allegations were substantiated and 4 staff members were dismissed.	1,767	1,767	0	The anti-fraud policy was re-emphasised to all staff at the location.
Mar-17	West and Central Africa	Plan International staff failed to deposit Plan International funds and kept them for personal use.	The staff member was dismissed and all funds were recovered.	947	947	0	The anti-fraud policy was re-emphasised to all staff at the location.

Apr-17	West and Central Africa	A supplier alleged that a procurement process had been fixed by Plan International staff and that paying bribes were necessary to get business.	No evidence was found that the procurement process was fixed. However, a Plan International staff member was found to have tried to extort money from the supplier through withholding due payments. The staff member resigned prior to the investigation.	0	n/a	0	Closer monitoring of procurement processes is required.
Various	Europe	A review of bank transactions revealed several credit card donations were recalled as they were coming from a compromised card. Each recall was charged €10 by the bank.	IT security payment methods were strengthened.	150	0	150	Fraud awareness was improved.
May-17	Asia	An internal audit by an implementing partner uncovered false expense claims by 2 of their staff and misuse of staff and transport resources.	The partner dismissed culpable staff. All funds were returned.	417	417	0	The partner was assisted to improve their controls.