

Plan International Counter Fraud Report FY19 - Quarter 1

Date	Location	Allegation	Resolution	Initial loss (EUR)	Funds recovered (EUR)	Net loss (EUR)	Lessons learned and actions
Oct-17	Americas	A Plan International staff member liquidated a cash advance but failed to pay accommodation invoices to a supplier.	An investigation showed the staff member delayed making the payment but no loss or fraud was substantiated. The staff member was issued with a warning and given a suspension.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Oct-17	Americas	Financial reporting showed possible inflated payments.	The discrepancy was identified as an error due to negligence not fraud. A staff member was issued with a warning and a suspension.	30	30	0	No further action was taken.
Oct-17	West and Central Africa	A letter from a third party was received alleging collusion between Plan International staff members with partners to misappropriate project funds.	The allegations were not substantiated.	0	0	0	Remedial control measures were recommended on weaknesses identified around management and project management.
Nov-17	East and Southern Africa	A monitoring visit to a partner organisation implementing a Plan International project revealed suspicions of procurement fraud and non-payment of invoiced salaries.	Fraud was substantiated. All lost funds were recovered and the partnership was terminated.	2,791	2,791	0	No further action was taken.
Dec-17	Asia	An allegation was made that Plan International funds had been misappropriated by an implementing partner.	Inadequately supported payments were confirmed but fraud was not substantiated. Recovery of the lost funds was deemed impractical.	4,867	0	4,867	A new partnership assessment was conducted. Pre-payment requirements for partners were revisited.

Feb-18	East and Southern Africa	A suspicion was raised that some Plan International staff members were hiring out their vehicles to taxi companies used by Plan International in exchange for business.	An undeclared conflict of interest was identified. Disciplinary action was taken against the staff members concerned.	0	0	0	Remedial measures were recommended such as a review of controls and payment processes for taxi services.
Mar-18	Americas	A Plan International staff member was suspected of underpaying community training facilitators and retaining the difference.	Fraud was substantiated. The staff member resigned prior to an investigation but the misappropriated cash advance was recovered.	347	347	0	No further action was taken.
Mar-18	West and Central Africa	A Plan International staff member was alleged to be cashing Plan International cheques made out to themselves.	No fraud was identified by an investigation.	0	0	0	Remedial measures for breaches of procedures were implemented.
Mar-18	West and Central Africa	A whistleblower report alleged corruption in a recruitment process.	Recruitment irregularities were substantiated rather than corruption. Warnings were recommended to staff members involved.	0	0	0	Remedial actions to strengthen controls on recruitment were made.
Apr-18	East and Southern Africa	A Plan International staff member was suspected of procurement fraud and a conflict of interest.	An investigation confirmed a conflict of interest and showed that partner documents had been falsified so they would be selected. Culpable staff members received warnings and the partner organisation was blacklisted.	0	0	0	Staff members received refresher sessions on Plan International's operational and financial procedures.
Apr-18	West and Central Africa	A Plan International staff member was alleged to be the president of an NGO subcontracting for Plan International.	A conflict of interest was confirmed, the staff member was dismissed and the partner was blacklisted.	0	0	0	It was recommended that staff members should be asked to declare any conflicts of interest.
May-18	East and Southern Africa	It was alleged that food aid was removed from a store and sold to market traders by Plan International staff.	Two staff members were convicted of theft and dismissed.	1,134	0	1,134	No further action was taken.

Jun-18	Americas	A Country Director was alleged to have engaged a relative to undertake a contract for Plan International without due process.	No conflict of interest was confirmed. Services were provided to Plan International pro bono but should have been declared.	0	0	0	The importance of declaring conflicts of interest was reiterated.
Jun-18	Asia	A staff member submitted a fraudulent medical claim.	The staff member was dismissed and the value of the claim was recovered.	53	53	0	No further action was taken.
Jun-18	East and Southern Africa	A supplier presented a fake contract to a Plan International Country Office regarding the supply of livestock claiming it was supplied by Plan International staff.	The contract was confirmed as a forgery and was reported to police.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Jun-18	Asia	Procurement staff members allegedly submitted a false expense report, retaining the funds.	No fraud was substantiated but a lack of compliance was identified. Three staff members were given warning sanctions.	0	0	0	It was recommended that the process for liquidation of cash advances should be reiterated and that liquidation tracking should be established.
Jun-18	East and Southern Africa	Procurement irregularities were noted at a Plan International Programme Unit.	Fraud was substantiated, a staff member was dismissed and another received a warning. The supplier made up the identified loss by resupplying goods.	1,064	1,064	0	Procurement control strengthening was recommended.
Jul-18	West and Central Africa	A suspicion of a ghost supplier was raised.	A physical verification of suppliers was carried out and no fraud was substantiated.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Jul-18	Asia	An internal compliance audit of a partner organisation identified falsified receipts for catering.	Fraud was substantiated, the lost funds were recovered and the partner organisation was blacklisted.	200	200	0	The Plan International Country Office is to review its partnership capacity assessment and strengthen project and programme management.
Aug-18	Asia	It was alleged that a staff member had been carrying out procurement fraud.	Fraud was not substantiated but procedures were not correctly followed. The staff member received an official warning.	0	0	0	Controls on engaging volunteers as service providers were improved.

Aug-18	Americas	A partner organisation falsified bids for a training consultancy.	No loss or overpayment was identified. The partner organisation was warned over process compliance.	0	0	0	Recommendations to strengthen the partner assessment and monitoring and review of partner liquidations were provided.
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