

Plan International Counter Fraud Report FY20 - Quarter 2

Date	Location	Allegation	Resolution	Initial loss (EUR)	Funds recovered (EUR)	Net loss (EUR)	Lessons learned and actions
Dec-18	West and Central Africa	A Plan International staff member was suspected of attempting to cash forged cheques at a bank.	The attempt at fraud was substantiated and the staff member was dismissed.	0	0	0	Recommendations to improve payment processes and dealing with banks were made.
Feb-19	West and Central Africa	A Plan International staff member misused a fuel card.	Fraud was substantiated and the staff member was dismissed.	410	410	0	No further action was taken.
Feb-19	West and Central Africa	A Plan International staff member was suspected of fraud after unsupported payments were made to a caterer by cheque.	The allegations were substantiated and the staff member was dismissed. It is not possible to recover the lost funds.	3,583	0	3,583	No further action was taken.
Feb-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	An anonymous complaint was made about corruption in the procurement of shoes.	Fraud was substantiated - prices had been inflated over market rate. Two staff members were dismissed and others received warnings. The supplier was blacklisted. The lost funds were not recoverable.	8,462	0	8,462	No further action was taken.
Apr-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	Three partners were suspected of fund mismanagement and fraud.	Fraud was not substantiated for the main partners but failings in procedures and controls and ineligible expenditure were identified. Fraud was substantiated for a minor partner.	0	0	0	Recommendations to enhance controls on partner reimbursement and finance were made.
May-19	Asia Pacific	A staff member from a partner organisation cashed a cancelled cheque in their favour.	The partner organisation carried out an internal investigation, dismissed the staff member and recovered the lost funds.	190	190	0	No further action was taken.

May-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	Overpayment to a vendor for emergency supplies following a fake competitive bidding process was suspected.	No overpayment was identified but the process to choose the supplier was not fair. The supplier was blacklisted and 6 staff members were given warnings. One former staff member will not be rehired and a further staff member's contract was not renewed.	0	0	0	A detailed review of the office's procurement was recommended.
May-19	West and Central Africa	A partner organisation was suspected of submitting false activity reports in liquidations.	Fraud was substantiated. Recovery of the lost funds from the government partner is not possible. Disciplinary warnings were given to Plan International staff members for negligence.	6,854	0	6,854	Internal control improvements for project management and cash payments were introduced.
May-19	West and Central Africa	An unaccounted payment was identified on a fuel card.	A Plan International staff member was dismissed and the lost funds were recovered.	61	61	0	Recommendations were made to improve processes for both Plan International staff and the gas station.
May-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A partner organisation reported that Plan International staff were charging beneficiaries for benefits and were stealing relief materials.	Non-Plan International social workers were found to have solicited bribes. The people concerned were reported to the authorities.	0	0	0	Staff members were advised regarding reporting and local strengthening measures were recommended.
May-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A Plan International staff member was alleged to be misappropriating relief materials in a refugee camp.	The allegation was substantiated and the staff member did not have their contract renewed.	1,414	0	1,414	Immediate measures to strengthen controls in the camp were provided.
May-19	Asia Pacific	A partner organisation was suspected of only part paying community facilitators for full dues.	Fraud was substantiated. It was recommended that the partner disciplined the culpable staff members and the partnership was terminated.	249	249	0	No further action was taken.

Jun-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	An anonymous whistleblowing letter alleged procurement kickbacks.	Fraud was substantiated. Staff members were dismissed and the lost funds were recovered.	0	0	0	A local internal procurement review and 2 subsequent investigations took place.
Jun-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A Plan International staff member was alleged to be demanding 10% kickbacks from contractors.	Fraud was not substantiated. Process irregularities resulted in caution notices for 3 staff members.	0	0	0	An indepth procurement review was conducted in the country.
Jul-19	West and Central Africa	Fraud was suspected after a local audit check revealed overpriced quotations.	Fraud was substantiated in some transactions. Disciplinary action was taken and recovery of lost funds was possible. The supplier was blacklisted and local remediation procedures were recommended.	910	910	0	Improvements in procurement processes were recommended.
Aug-19	West and Central Africa	A visit to a programme identified that people were receiving cash distributions despite not being entitled.	A third party health worker defrauded another humanitarian organisation that suffered losses of €2,193. There was no loss to, or involvement by Plan International.	0	0	0	The humanitarian organisation was advised and remedial measures were recommended.
Aug-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A potential contractor complained that quotes were not accepted by Plan International procurement staff if no bribes were paid.	The allegation was not substantiated.	0	0	0	Recommendations to enhance the procurement process were made.
Aug-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A report was received that Plan International staff in a refugee camp were misappropriating funds plus other fraud.	Three staff members were found to be misappropriating materials and committing other fraud. Their contracts were terminated and remediations were made.	0	0	0	Controls to enhance finance and fund management were recommended.

Aug-19	Americas	An anonymous allegation was made that a Plan International staff member falsified a Funding Approval Document (FAD) process for a performance related pay bonus.	The allegation was not substantiated.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Aug-19	Americas	Plan International staff members were suspected of falsifying sponsorship registration forms.	Forged documents were found but the forgers were not identified. Warnings were given to 3 staff members for failing to maintain process integrity.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Aug-19	Americas	A Plan International staff member received an email attempting to extort money.	It was reported to the police. No further internal action was taken.	0	0	0	A police investigation is to be conducted. The case is likely to be an email scam attempt.
Sep-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A Plan International staff member was alleged to be embezzling money from caregivers' stipends.	Fraud was substantiated, the staff member was dismissed and the funds were recovered.	197	197	0	No further action was taken.
Sep-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	Plan International staff members were suspected of cash misappropriation, vehicle fraud and procurement fraud in the construction of shelters.	The allegations were substantiated and 4 staff members were subjected to disciplinary measures.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Sep-19	Asia Pacific	Plan International staff members retained cash intended for invoice payments for an extended period.	The staff members paid the invoice when challenged and were subsequently given warnings.	1,179	0	1,179	All facts were known at time of reporting. No further investigation was required.
Sep-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	Non-food items for displaced persons were removed from a store. There was no report of an external break in.	Gross negligence by staff members led to the loss. Four members of staff had their contracts terminated.	2,526	0	2,526	Internal controls to address gaps identified on safekeeping were recommended.

Oct-19	Americas	An anonymous report claimed a Plan International programme unit was paying for an electoral campaign and funds were not being spent on sponsored children.	Repeated attempts to contact the reporter were unsuccessful. There was insufficient information on which to base an investigation.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Oct-19	Asia Pacific	A partner organisation reported the misappropriation of funds by one of their own staff members.	The partner organisation recovered the funds from the staff member in question and terminated their contract.	2,270	2,270	0	No further action was taken.
Oct-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A report from an unsuccessful bidder alleged an unfair procurement process.	The allegation was not substantiated.	0	0	0	Improved procurement processes were recommended.
Oct-19	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A false signature was identified on a travel authorisation document.	Forgery was confirmed. The staff member responsible was dismissed.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Oct-19	West and Central Africa	A contractor was suspected of diverting building materials.	The contractor reimbursed the materials and was blacklisted.	351	351	0	No further action was taken.
Oct-19	Europe	Fraudulent invoices were received.	The invoices were reported to police.	0	0	0	The invoices were not paid.
Nov-19	Americas	Multiple bogus Plan International cheques were sent to individuals in a recharge scam.	Plan International's "positive pay" control with a bank prevented any loss.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.