

Plan International Counter Fraud Report FY22 - Quarter 1

Date	Location	Allegation	Resolution	Initial Loss (EUR)	Funds Recovered (EUR)	Net Loss (EUR)	Lessons Learned and Actions
Aug-20	Asia Pacific	A partner organisation was suspected of a conflict of interest in a procurement process.	The conflict of interest, faked procurement documents, overpricing and delivery shortfall were confirmed.	1,576	1,576	0	The partnership was terminated and lost funds were recovered.
Oct-20	West and Central Africa	Allegations were made against a Plan International staff member for soliciting money from colleagues and committing procurement fraud.	Fraud was confirmed along with code of conduct and policy breaches.	1,131	1,131	0	One staff member was dismissed and 5 others received warnings. Loss recovery and remediations are underway.
Oct-20	West and Central Africa	An anonymous whistleblower alleged multiple cases of unspecified procurement fraud.	The whistleblower failed to respond. There were insufficient details to justify an investigation.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Nov-20	West and Central Africa	A local internal audit raised a suspicion of funds being misused.	Fraud was not substantiated but serious mismanagement was identified.	0	0	0	One Plan International staff member was dismissed, others received warnings and control remediations were made.
Jan-21	West and Central Africa	Competing bid proposals for equipment were suspected to be from one supplier with collusion from Plan International staff members.	The 2 bidding suppliers were found to be under one ownership but no staff collusion was identified.	0	0	0	The organisation was blacklisted and control remediations were made following the investigation findings.

Feb-21	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	There was an alleged conflict of interest by a Government partner in livestock procurement.	Major non-compliance with the procurement process was identified.	0	0	0	Five Plan International staff members received disciplinary sanctions and remediations were made.
Feb-21	West and Central Africa	Staff from a partner organisation alleged that part of stipend had to be repaid to their management and that they were asked to submit false distribution schedules.	The allegation was not substantiated.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Feb-21	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A whistleblower alleged procurement fraud.	The whistleblower failed to respond. There were insufficient details to justify an investigation.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Feb-21	West and Central Africa	An anonymous whistleblower alleged hotel kickbacks for staff and contract splitting to favour a single supplier for a project.	Fraud was not substantiated but overpayment to the hotel was identified.	110	110	0	Lost funds were recovered and local procurement improvements were implemented.
Mar-21	Asia Pacific	A whistleblower alleged favouritism in the selection of an NGO partner and consultant.	An initial review found no reason to proceed with an investigation.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Mar-21	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A whistleblower alleged that a Plan International staff member diverted aid items for personal gain.	Misappropriation by one current and one former staff member was identified.	126	0	126	The staff member was dismissed and remediation measures were identified.

Mar-21	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	Plan International staff members were alleged to have conducted a fake procurement process to cover up a procurement process which had already been completed.	The fake procurement process was confirmed. The potential loss through overpricing was remediated by paying the actual value.	0	0	0	Two staff members were fined and the tender committee were given cautions for negligence. Remediation measures were made.
Mar-21	Asia Pacific	Community members in a joint project with another INGO alleged in a survey that staff from both Plan International and the partner required a fee for them to be enrolled.	The allegation was not substantiated.	0	0	0	A review of the survey conducted by the partner was recommended.
Apr-21	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	A whistleblower reported that 2 staff members were diverting project funds.	No financial misappropriation was substantiated but non-compliance with procedures and policy by staff members was identified.	0	0	0	Remedial measures were provided.
Apr-21	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	There were multiple allegations of misconduct and corruption within an emergency response.	The allegations were not substantiated.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
May-21	Americas	There was an alleged conflict of interest in the recruitment of a consultant.	The conflict of interest was substantiated and 2 Plan International staff members resigned.	0	0	0	Disciplinary sanctions were made against further staff members and remediation measures were made.
May-21	Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa	An anonymous email alleged kickback fraud by a partner organisation.	The allegation was not substantiated.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.

May-21	West and Central Africa	An internal control review revealed a possible fraudulent advance write-off and a fraudulent double payment.	The allegation was not substantiated.	0		0	No further action was taken.
Jun-21	West and Central Africa	A Plan International staff member retained cash due for community members.	The staff member was dismissed and lost funds were recovered.	571	571	0	No further action was taken.
Jun-21	West and Central Africa	A possible conflict of interest was identified between a Plan International staff member and a partner organisation.	A conflict of interest was confirmed.	0	0	0	The staff member had their contract terminated.
Jun-21	West and Central Africa	A whistleblower report alleged Plan International staff members were paying bribes to public officials to win contracts.	The whistleblower failed to respond to back-up their allegations. A full response was received from the staff member in question and the allegations were not substantiated.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Jun-21	Americas	A third party attempted to gain a fee from community members in exchange for enrolment in a bogus Plan International programme.	Scam details were circulated to relevant parties.	0	0	0	The third party was blacklisted and control remediations were made following the investigation findings.
Jun-21	West and Central Africa	Someone impersonated a community member due to get a ration card.	The allegation was substantiated.	44	0	44	Remedial action was taken. The correct community member was given a ration card.

Jun-21	Asia Pacific	Partner organisation staff were retaining payments due to volunteers and participants using falsified receipts.	The allegation was substantiated.	430	430	0	The partner organisation dismissed the responsible staff members and recovered the lost funds.
Jul-21	Americas	Plan International was alleged to be hiring hotel premises linked to drug trafficking.	The allegation was not substantiated.	0	0	0	Recommendations were made for legal and security teams.
Jul-21	Asia Pacific	A whistleblower report alleged corruption involving a Plan International staff member.	The allegations were not substantiated. The issues raised were assessed jointly with other whistleblowing reports, although there was limited co-operation from the whistleblower. The staff member provided a detailed response and rebuttal of the allegations and there was no justification to proceed with a further investigation.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Jul-21	Americas	Multiple attempts were made to hack a payment platform. A small number of suspicious low value donations were also received.	The platform was temporarily closed and remediated by the service provider.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.

Jul-21	Asia Pacific	An anonymous email alleged general mismanagement and procurement fraud.	The allegations were not substantiated. The issues raised were assessed jointly with other whistleblowing reports, although there was limited co-operation from the whistleblower. The staff member provided a detailed response and rebuttal of the allegations and there was no justification to proceed with a further investigation.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
Jul-22	Americas	A community member was offered psychosocial support by an unknown third party impersonating Plan International.	A recommendation was made to report the case to the police.	0	0	0	Information on Plan International's work will be shared with the community.
Jul-21	Asia Pacific	A Plan International staff member misappropriated cash by submitting a fake attendance list for a community event.	The allegation was substantiated.	15	15	0	The lost funds were recovered.
Jul-21	Asia Pacific	Third parties impersonating Plan International were charging community members to set up fake projects.	The issue was reported to the police. There was no loss to Plan International.	0	0	0	A police investigation and remedial reputational safeguarding measures were recommended.

Aug-21	Asia Pacific	A whistleblower alleged a conflict of interest through the employment of a husband and wife.	The local Plan International office completed a review of the segregation of duties. A revised matrix resolved the potential conflict of interest issue.	0	0	0	No further action was taken.
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