

4 OTHER AGENCY OVERSIGHT



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Taliban foreign minister Amir Khan Muttaqi speaks to reporters at a conference on Afghanistan in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on July 26, 2022.
(Taliban regime photo)

OTHER AGENCY OVERSIGHT

SIGAR's enabling legislation requires it to keep the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense fully informed about problems relating to the administration of Afghanistan reconstruction programs, and to submit a report to the Congress on SIGAR's oversight work and on the status of the U.S. reconstruction effort no later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter. The statute also instructs SIGAR to include, to the extent possible, relevant matters from the end of the quarter up to the submission date of its report.

Each quarter, SIGAR requests updates from other agencies on completed and ongoing oversight activities. This section compiles these updates. Copies of completed reports are posted on the agencies' respective public websites.

The descriptions appear as submitted, with minor changes to maintain consistency with other sections of this report: acronyms and abbreviations in place of full organizational names; standardized capitalization, punctuation, and preferred spellings; and third-person instead of first-person voice.

These agencies perform oversight activities related to Afghanistan and provide results to SIGAR:

- Department of Defense Office of Inspector General (DOD OIG)
- Department of State Office of Inspector General (State OIG)
- Government Accountability Office (GAO)
- U.S. Agency for International Development Office of Inspector General (USAID OIG)

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COMPLETED OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES

Table 4.1 lists the five oversight reports related to Afghanistan reconstruction that participating agencies issued this quarter.

TABLE 4.1

RECENTLY ISSUED OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES OF OTHER U.S. AGENCIES, AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2022			
Agency	Report Number	Date Issued	Report Title
DOD OIG	DODIG-2022-117	8/15/2022	Evaluation of the August 29, 2021, Strike in Kabul, Afghanistan
DOD OIG	DODIG-2022-114	8/5/2022	Special Report: Lessons Learned from the Audit of DOD Support for the Relocation of Afghan Nationals
State OIG	AUD-MER-22-38	9/30/2022	Information Report: Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Program Metrics
USAID OIG	5-306-22-015-N	9/28/2022	Financial Audit of Costs Incurred in Afghanistan of the USAID Resources Managed by Texas A&M AgriLife Research ("AgriLife Research") Cooperative Agreement No. 72030618CA00009 - Women's Scholarship Endowment ("WSE") Independent Auditor's Report on the Fund Accountability Statement For the period September 27, 2018, through December 31, 2020
USAID OIG	5-306-22-014-N	9/28/2022	Closeout Audit of Costs Incurred by The Asia Foundation under the Financial and Business Management Activity in Afghanistan, Contract AID-306-C-17-00014, April 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021

Source: DOD OIG, response to SIGAR data call, 9/26/2022; State OIG, response to SIGAR data call, 9/26/2022; GAO, response to SIGAR data call, 9/26/2022; USAID OIG, response to SIGAR data call, 9/19/2022.

U.S. Department of Defense Office of Inspector General

During this quarter, DOD OIG issued two Afghanistan-related reports.

Evaluation of the August 29, 2021, Strike in Kabul, Afghanistan

The DOD OIG evaluated whether the August 29, 2021, strike in Kabul, Afghanistan, was conducted in accordance with DOD policies and procedures. Specifically, the evaluation reviewed the pre-strike targeting process, damage assessment and civilian casualty review reporting process, and post-strike reporting of information. The report is classified.

Special Report: Lessons Learned from the Audit of DOD Support for the Relocation of Afghan Nationals

The DOD OIG issued this special report as a result of its audit to determine whether the DOD has adequately planned and provided support for the relocation of Afghan nationals.

The DOD OIG determined that the DOD successfully provided housing and sustainment, medical care, and security for more than 34,900 Afghans traveling through two installations in Germany and for more than 73,500 Afghan evacuees at eight U.S. installations. This special report identified eight lessons learned from 11 management advisories the DOD OIG issued related to Operation Allies Refuge and Operation Allies Welcome. The lessons learned include establishing agreements between Federal agencies to define roles and responsibilities, establishing standard accountability procedures, identifying funding limitations, and reprogramming funds when possible to resource mission essential requirements. The DOD OIG did not make recommendations in this report.

U.S. Department of State Office of Inspector General—Middle East Regional Operations

State OIG issued one Afghanistan-related report this quarter.

Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Program Metrics

In 2009, Congress established a visa program to resettle Afghans who had worked on behalf of the United States in Afghanistan and as a result, experienced an ongoing and serious threat. The Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009 authorized special immigrant visas (SIV) for Afghans who were employed by, or on behalf of, the U.S. government in Afghanistan, provided faithful and valuable service to the U.S. government, and experienced or are experiencing an ongoing serious threat as a consequence of their employment by the U.S. government. In the wake of the August 2021 evacuation and suspension of operations at U.S. Embassy Kabul, Afghanistan, multiple congressional committees requested that State OIG review a range of topics regarding the Afghan SIV program. State OIG is issuing a series of reports in response to the requests.

This information report responded to specific congressional questions involving the Afghan SIV process and related data: (1) a description of the Afghan SIV process and the number of days allotted to complete each step; (2) the number of SIV applications received, approved, and denied annually since enactment of the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009, through calendar year 2021; (3) the number of SIV applications approved from April 2021 through August 2021; (4) the number and status of SIV applicants in each phase of the SIV process as of May 31, 2022; and (5) the average time taken to process an SIV application from submission to issuance or denial.

In the report, State OIG provided information and data regarding each of the congressional questions. However, regarding the average time taken to process an SIV application from submission to issuance or denial, State OIG could not independently calculate the overall average SIV processing time because a key data element necessary to calculate a processing time for the Chief of Mission approval phase was not sufficiently reliable and application processing systems—State systems and a Department of Homeland Security system—were not interoperable. Despite these limitations, State OIG was able to reliably calculate the average processing time for the other two phases in the SIV process—the I-360 petition and the visa application phase.

The report contained no recommendations.

Government Accountability Office

The GAO issued no Afghanistan-related reports this quarter.

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U.S. Agency for International Development Office of Inspector General

This quarter, USAID OIG issued two financial audit reports. Financial audits of USAID/Afghanistan programs are performed by public accounting firms. USAID OIG performs desk reviews and random quality control reviews of the audits, and transmits the reports to USAID/Afghanistan for action. Summaries of financial audits can be found on the agency's website.

ONGOING OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES

As of September 30, 2022, the participating agencies reported 19 ongoing oversight activities related to reconstruction in Afghanistan. These activities are listed in Table 4.2 and described in the following sections by agency.

U.S. Department of Defense Office of Inspector General

DOD OIG has 10 ongoing projects this quarter related to reconstruction or security operations in Afghanistan.

Evaluation of DOD's Support to Other Agencies Requests For the Screening of Displaced Persons from Afghanistan

The objective of this evaluation is to determine the extent to which DOD supported other agencies' requests for screening Afghan evacuees by reviewing DOD databases.

Summary Evaluation of Security Cooperation Activities in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Africa

The objective of this evaluation is to summarize previous oversight reports related to security cooperation activities in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Africa.

Audit of the Operation Allies Welcome Contract Oversight at DOD

The objective of this audit is to determine whether DOD contracting personnel performed contract administration procedures for supplies and services supporting the relocation of Afghan evacuees at DOD installations in support of Operation Allies Welcome in accordance with Federal requirements and DOD regulations.

Audit of DOD Oversight of Air Force Contract Augmentation Program (AFCAP) Contract Actions Related to the Relocation of Afghan Evacuees

The objective of this audit is to determine whether DOD adequately performed required oversight of contractor performance under the AFCAP contract during the relocation of evacuees from Afghanistan.

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TABLE 4.2

ONGOING OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES OF OTHER U.S. AGENCIES, AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2022			
Agency	Report Number	Date Initiated	Report Title
DOD OIG	D2022-DEVOPD-0173.000	9/19/2022	Evaluation of DOD's Support to Other Agencies Requests for the Screening of Displaced Persons from Afghanistan
DOD OIG	D2022-DEVOPD-0152.000	6/29/2022	Summary Evaluation of Security Cooperation Activities in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Africa
DOD OIG	D2022-D000RJ-0133.000	5/9/2022	Audit of the Operation Allies Welcome Contract Oversight at DOD Installations
DOD OIG	D2022-D000RJ-0133.002	5/9/2022	Audit of DOD Oversight of Air Force Contract Augmentation Program (AFCAP) Contract Actions Related to the Relocation of Afghan Evacuees
DOD OIG	D2022-D000RJ-0133.001	5/9/2022	Audit of DOD Oversight of Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP) Contract Actions Related to the Relocation of Afghan Evacuees
DOD OIG	D2022-D000AX-0138.000	5/5/2022	Audit of DOD Afghanistan Contingency Contracts Closeout
DOD OIG	D2022-DEVOPD-0110.000	3/7/2022	Evaluation of DOD Security and Life Support for Afghan Evacuees at Camp Bondsteel
DOD OIG	D2022-D000FI-0095.000	2/15/2022	Audit of DOD Reporting on Obligations and Expenditures in Support of Operation Allies Welcome
DOD OIG	D2022-D000FV-0091.000	1/28/2022	Audit of the DOD's Financial Management of the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund
DOD OIG	D2021-D000RK-0118.00	5/24/2021	Audit of Tracking, Recovery, and Reuse of DOD-Owned Shipping Containers
State OIG	22AUD065	5/19/2022	Audit of the Department of State's Efforts to Identify and Terminate Unneeded Contracts Related to Afghanistan
State OIG	22ISP045	3/14/2022	Inspection of the Afghanistan Affairs Unit
State OIG	22AUD016	12/30/2021	Review of Emergency Action Planning Guiding the Evacuation and Suspension of Operations at U.S. Embassy Kabul, Afghanistan
State OIG	22AUD012	12/2/2021	Review of the Department of State Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Program
State OIG	22ESP015	10/1/2021	Review of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program and Changes to Accommodate the Admission and Resettlement of Afghan Evacuees
USAID OIG	552F1722	9/30/2022	Audit of the Schedule of Expenditures of USAID Award Managed by Chemonics International Inc. (CHEMONICS) Under Global Health Supply Chain Management (GHSCM) - Population and Reproductive Health (PRH) Program Contract No. AID-OAA-TO-15-00010 for the period January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2020
USAID OIG	552F1622	9/30/2022	Audit of the Schedule of Expenditures of USAID Award Managed by CHECCHI and Company Consulting Inc. (CHECCHI) Under Assistance for the Development Of Afghan Legal Access and Transparency (ADALAT) Program Contract No. AID-306-TO-16-00007 for the period July 1, 2020, to April 30, 2021
USAID OIG	552F1522	9/30/2022	Closeout Audit of Costs Incurred in Afghanistan of the USAID Resources Managed by KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation ("KNCV") Cooperative Agreement No. 306-AID-OAA-A-14-00029 - Challenge Tuberculosis For the period October 1, 2018, through March 31, 2020
USAID OIG	552F1322	9/9/2022	Audit of the Schedule of Expenditures of USAID Awards Managed by DAI Global LLC. (DAI) Under Strong Hubs for Afghan Hope and Resilience (SHAHAR) Program Contract No. AID-306-C-14-00016 for the period December 1, 2019, to March 31, 2021 (CLOSEOUT) and Invest (Afghanistan Buy-In) Program Contract No. AID-OAA-C-17-00090 for the period December 1, 2018, to September 27, 2020 (FINANCIAL)

Source: DOD OIG, response to SIGAR data call, 9/26/2022; State OIG, response to SIGAR data call, 9/26/2022; GAO, response to SIGAR data call, 9/19/2022; USAID OIG, response to SIGAR data call, 9/19/2022.

Audit of DOD Oversight of Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP) Contract Actions Related to the Relocation of Afghan Evacuees

The objective of this audit is to determine whether DOD adequately performed required oversight of contractor performance under the LOGCAP contract during the relocation of evacuees from Afghanistan.

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Audit of DOD Afghanistan Contingency Contracts Closeout

The objective of this audit is to determine whether DOD contracting officials closed out contingency contracts supporting Afghanistan operations in accordance with applicable federal laws and DOD regulations.

Evaluation of DOD Security and Life Support for Afghan Evacuees at Camp Bondsteel

The objective of this evaluation is to determine the extent to which DOD has provided adequate lodging, security, and medical care for Afghan evacuees diverted to Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, for further processing.

Audit of DOD Reporting on Obligations and Expenditures in Support of Operation Allies Welcome

The objective of this audit is to determine if DOD funds expended in support of Operation Allies Welcome were reported in accordance with DOD policy and directives.

Audit of the DOD's Financial Management of the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund

The objective of this audit is to determine whether DOD managed the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Audit of Tracking, Recovery, and Reuse of DOD-Owned Shipping Containers

The objective of this audit is to determine to what extent the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps complied with DOD requirements to track, recover, and reuse DOD-owned shipping containers, including those at facilities that support Operation Freedom's Sentinel, and to include those containers in an accountable property system of record.

State Office of Inspector General–Middle East Regional Operations

State OIG has five ongoing projects this quarter related to Afghanistan reconstruction.

Audit of the Department of State's Efforts to Identify and Terminate Unneeded Contracts Related to Afghanistan

The primary objective of the audit is to determine whether the State Department identified and terminated contracts impacted by the withdrawal of U.S. operations in Afghanistan in accordance with federal and Department requirements.

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Inspection of the Afghanistan Affairs Unit

The AAU inspection will evaluate policy implementation, resource management, and management controls for the remote U.S. diplomatic mission to Afghanistan in Doha, Qatar. The inspection may also consider the effectiveness of the provision of humanitarian assistance, public diplomacy, work with allies and partners, and engagement and messaging with regional and international stakeholders. The inspection team is proceeding with preliminary interviews of State personnel in Washington, DC, but the scope of the review will expand in the following quarter to include interviews with personnel in Doha.

Review of Emergency Action Planning Guiding the Evacuation and Suspension of Operations at U.S. Embassy Kabul

The audit is reviewing whether U.S. Embassy Kabul followed established State Department guidance in preparation for the evacuation of U.S. government personnel, private U.S. citizens, Afghans at risk, and others from Afghanistan before and after the suspension of operations.

Review of the Department of State Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Program

This review will be issued as a series of reports in response to requests from multiple congressional committees to review a range of topics regarding the Afghan SIV program.

Review of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program and Changes to Accommodate the Admission and Resettlement of Afghan Evacuees

This review will examine the Department of State's efforts to process, admit, and initially resettle Afghan evacuees in the United States following the Afghanistan withdrawal.

Government Accountability Office

GAO has no ongoing projects this quarter related to Afghanistan reconstruction.

U.S. Agency for International Development Office of Inspector General

USAID OIG has four ongoing financial audits this quarter related to reconstruction in Afghanistan. Summaries for financial audit reports can be found on the agency's website.