MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In response to the 2019 report, *Evaluation of the Antiterrorism Assistance Explosive Detection Canine Program – Health and Welfare*, the Bureaus of Counterterrorism and Countering Violent Extremism (CT) and Diplomatic Security (DS) implemented policies for enhanced care for explosive detection canines provided to partner nations as antiterrorism assistance. Based on OIG’s recommendations, DS expedited health and welfare visits to all countries with active explosive detection canines. Additionally, CT and DS provided partner nations with best practices for expected standards for care, retirement, Department employees’ rights of access, and other procedures for managing canine programs. Finally, CT and DS provided updated documentation for their plans on the sustainment of the canine program in Jordan, a country that was identified in OIG’s review as facing particular problems. Based on these steps for enhanced health care and general welfare standards for dogs in the explosive detection canine program, OIG closed four of the five recommendations in its report.

In the 2019 report, *Inspection of Embassy Port-au-Prince, Haiti*, OIG recommended that Embassy Port-au-Prince complete its vehicle fleet reports in accordance with Department standards. In response to the recommendation, Embassy Port-au-Prince provided additional documentation showing the receipt of sale for six vehicles, resulting in $16,749 being put to better use.

In the 2018 report, *Inspection of Embassy Djibouti, Djibouti*, OIG recommended that Embassy Djibouti, in coordination with the Bureau of Administration and the Bureau of African Affairs (AF), implement a program to bring the embassy’s property program into full compliance with Department standards. In response to the recommendation, Embassy Djibouti provided additional documentation showing receipt of auction sales, resulting in $115,334 being put to better use.

In the 2018 report, *Inspection of the Bureau of African Affairs’ Foreign Assistance Program Management*, OIG recommended that AF identify duplicative and fragmented administrative functions related to monitoring and evaluation, invoice reviews, and procurement and to consolidate functions to improve program efficiency. In response to the recommendation, AF consolidated its monitoring and evaluation contracts to allow for country-wide monitoring and evaluation approaches for security assistance programs. This will result in $6.5 million being put to better use over a 4-year period.

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Social Media Communications Drove Public Discussion on Bilateral Ties (*Inspection of Embassy Kathmandu, Nepal*)

In April 2019, Embassy Kathmandu launched a social media campaign—organized around the hashtag “#CloseWhereItCounts”—with a video of the Ambassador in which he emphasized the United States’ commitment to Nepal, citing agricultural development assistance, post-earthquake reconstruction, and maternal and child health programs. Weekly reports by the Department consistently showed high engagement scores for the embassy’s social media since the launch. The embassy reported that the campaign became a topic of conversation with its policy-related interlocutors and that its themes of U.S.-Nepal closeness resonated at a time of public discussion about Nepal’s partnerships with the United States, China, and other countries.
NEW WORK STARTED

- Audit of the U.S. Agency for Global Media Fiscal Year 2020 Financial Statements
- Audit of Department of State Compliance with the Geospatial Data Act of 2018
- FISMA audit for the U.S. Department of State
- FISMA audit for the U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission
- Review of Executive Direction Findings in Recent OIG Inspection Reports
- Review of Expendable Property Management at Overseas Posts
- Review of High Frequency Radios at Overseas Posts
- Review of Post Occupational Safety and Health Officer Certification of Residences
- Review of Microsoft Active Directory Privileged Accounts and Security Groups Management
- Review of Deficiencies in Consular Physical Space at Overseas Posts

REPORTS ISSUED

- Classified Inspection of the Bureau of Counterterrorism (ISP-S-20-13)*
- Classified Inspection of Embassy Bern, Switzerland (ISP-S-20-21)*
- Inspection of the Bureau of Counterterrorism (ISP-I-20-13)
- Inspection of Embassy Bern, Switzerland (ISP-I-20-21)
- Follow-Up Audit of Department of State Efforts To Measure, Evaluate, and Sustain Antiterrorism Assistance Objectives in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs (AUD-MERO-20-32)
- Audit of Department of State FY 2019 Compliance With Improper Payments Requirements (AUD-FM-20-31)
- Compliance Follow-Up Review: Bureau of African Affairs’ Foreign Assistance Program Management (ISP-C-20-23)
- Classified Inspection of Embassy Yaoundé, Cameroon (ISP-S-20-20)*
- Classified Inspection of Embassy Vilnius, Lithuania (ISP-S-20-29)*
- Inspection of Embassy Kathmandu, Nepal (ISP-I-20-22)
- Management Assistance Report: Department of State’s Domestic Physical Security Program (ISP-20-11)*

*Report is classified or Sensitive But Unclassified