



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL U.S. Agency for International Development

External Peer Review Report

DATE: September 30, 2025

TO: Luiz A. Santos
Inspector General
Architect of the Capitol

FROM: Toayoa Aldridge /s/
Acting Deputy Inspector General Performing the Duties of the Inspector General

SUBJECT: Final External Peer Review Report

We reviewed the system of quality control for the Architect of the Capitol Office of Inspector General (OIG) in effect between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. A system of quality control includes multiple aspects of an organization, including, but not limited to, policies and procedures designed to provide reasonable assurance of complying with the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency's (CIGIE's) *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, December 2020 (Blue Book).

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the Architect of the Capital OIG in effect between April 1, 2022, and March 31, 2025, has been suitability designed and complied with to provide the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) OIG with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with the Blue Book.

Inspection and Evaluation (I&E) organizations can receive a rating of pass, pass with deficiencies, or fail. The Architect of the Capitol OIG has received an External Peer Review rating of **pass**.

We have issued a letter of comment dated September 3, 2025, that sets forth findings that were not considered to be of sufficient significance to affect our opinion expressed in this report.

Basis of Opinion

This required external peer review was conducted in accordance with CIGIE's *Guide for Conducting External Peer Reviews of Inspection and Evaluation Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General* (July 2023) and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Offices of the Inspectors General of USAID and the Architect of the Capitol, entered into on April 14, 2025.

During our review, we interviewed Architect of the Capitol OIG personnel and obtain an understanding of the nature of the Architect of the Capitol OIG's I&E function and the design

of the Architect of the Capitol OIG's system of quality control sufficient to assess the risks implicit in its I&E function. Based on our assessments, we selected I&E reports and administrative files to test for conformity with Blue Book standards and compliance with the Architect of the Capitol OIG's system of quality control.

In performing our review, we obtained an understanding of the system of quality control for the Architect of the Capitol OIG's I&E function. In addition, we tested compliance with the Architect of the Capitol OIG's quality control policies and procedures to the extent we considered appropriate. These tests covered the application of Architect of the Capitol OIG's policies and procedures on selected I&E reports. Our review was based on selected tests; therefore, it would not necessarily detect all weaknesses in the system of quality control or all instances of noncompliance with it.

Prior to concluding the peer review, we reassessed the adequacy of the scope of the peer review procedures and met with Architect of the Capitol OIG management to discuss the results of our review. We believe that the procedures we performed provide a reasonable basis for our opinion. Enclosure I to this report identifies the Architect of the Capitol OIG's offices that we visited and the I&E reports we reviewed.

Responsibilities and Limitations

The Architect of the Capitol OIG is responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of quality control designed to provide the Architect of the Capitol OIG with reasonable assurance that the organization and its personnel comply in all material respects with Blue Book standards. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and the Architect of the Capitol OIG's compliance based on our review.

There are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of any system of quality control; therefore, noncompliance with the system of quality control may occur and may not be detected. Projection of any evaluation of a system of quality control to future periods is subject to the risk that the system of quality control may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or because the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Enclosures:

1. Scope and Methodology
2. Architect of the Capitol OIG Comments on Peer Review Report

Enclosure 1: Scope and Methodology

We reviewed compliance with the Architect of the Capitol OIG's system of quality control for I&E engagements in effect between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025, to the extent we considered appropriate. We selected a judgmental sample of three of the five I&E reports the Architect of the Capitol OIG issued during the period under review based on the report's issuance date, responsible division, contracted status, and whether it contained recommendations. We selected the following three reports for review:

Report No.	Issuance Date	Title	Contracted
OIG-FLD-2025-01	November 25, 2024	Follow-up Evaluation of the Architect of the Capitol's Compliance with the Government Purchase Card Program	No
OIG-AUD-2024-05	August 1, 2024	Evaluation of Cannon House Office Building Renewal (CHOB) Project's Construction Materials	Yes
2023-0002-IE-P	June 12, 2024	Evaluation of Architect of the Capitol's Contracting Officer and Contracting Officer's Representative Oversight	Yes

For the two contracted reports, we reviewed the Architect of the Capitol OIG's oversight of the contracted work in conformance with its *Inspections and Evaluations Policies and Procedures Manual* (October 2023).

On July 29 and 30, 2025, we visited Architect of the Capitol OIG offices and reviewed each project file. In addition, we engaged Architect of the Capitol OIG staff through virtual meetings and email.

Enclosure 2: Architect of the Capitol OIG Comments on Peer Review Report



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September 18, 2025

Ms. Toayoa Aldridge
Acting Deputy Inspector General,
Performing the Duties of Inspector General
U.S. Agency for International Development Office of Inspector General
1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Ms. Aldridge:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency Inspections and Evaluations External Peer Review draft report on the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) Office of Inspector General (OIG), sent by your office on September 3, 2025. We are pleased that the Review Team concluded the AOC OIG system of quality control is suitably designed and complies with the Blue Book, resulting in a Peer Review rating of pass.

We greatly appreciate the professionalism, cooperation, and thoughtful insights demonstrated by the Review Team throughout the process. External peer reviews are an important part of strengthening our work, and we value the recommendations provided as we continue our commitment to accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement.

Sincerely,

Luiz A. Santos, CFE, PMP
Inspector General