

Reimagine the future
for every child

Office of Internal Audit and Investigations 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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UNICEF Executive Board – 2023 annual session (13–16 June 2023)

Item 11: UNICEF Office of Internal Audit and Investigations 2022 annual report to the Executive Board

Reference documents: [E/ICEF/2023/AB/L.4](#) and [Add.1](#)

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2022–2025 OIAI Strategy

INTERNAL AUDIT

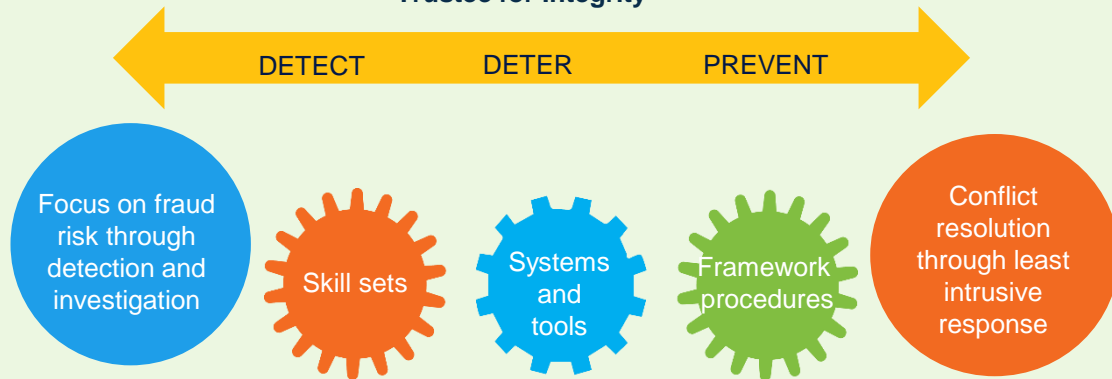
Agent of Change and Trusted Adviser



Innovation and Staff Development

INVESTIGATIONS

Trustee for Integrity



Promote Accountability, Integrity and Ethical Behaviour

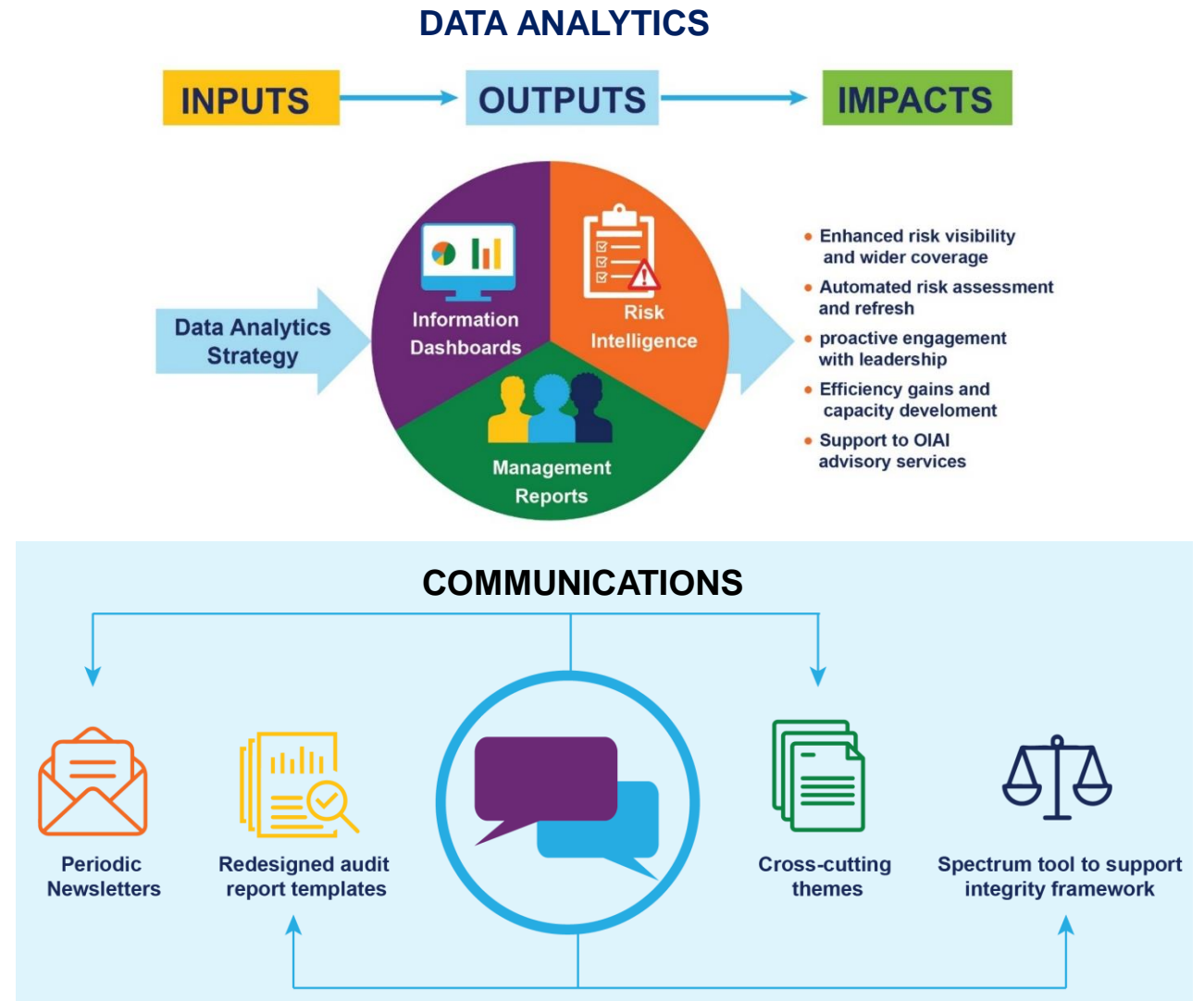
Developments in 2022

- Self-assessment by OIAI of its independence
- Investigative caseload continues to expand
- Addressing challenges from increasing donor requests
- Phased transition to in-person audits and investigations
- Preparation for opening third office in Nairobi
- Methodology for estimating future non-post budgets
- Additional staff added to internal audit section

OIAI Confirms:

- Provision of an annual opinion (in accordance with Executive Board decision 2015/11)
- Independence and absence of management interference
- Adequacy and effective utilization of resources
- Compliance with Executive Board decision on public disclosure (decision 2012/13)
- Compliance with the applicable professional standards
- Coordination with other assurance providers and participation in professional networks

Key Enablers in 2022



Annual Opinion

In line with Executive Board decision 2015/11 and based on the scope of work undertaken in 2022, the UNICEF framework of governance, risk management and controls **was generally adequate and effective**.

BASIS FOR OPINION

- Independent risk-based workplanning and prioritization based on available resources
- 92 per cent of the audit reports resulted in an overall satisfactory rating
- Satisfactory implementation rate of agreed actions
- Non-discovery of material deficiencies in the overall organization framework of governance, risk management and control



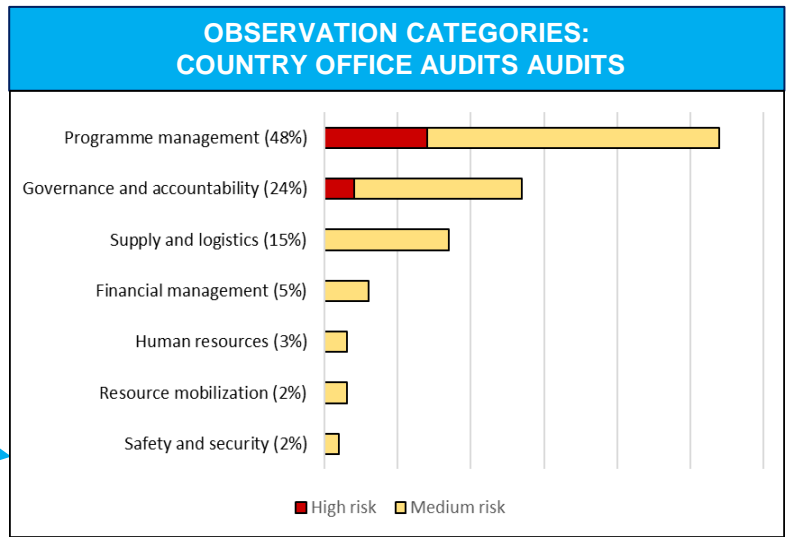
- 27 reports issued: 25 audits (16 country offices, 9 cross-cutting) and 2 advisories
- Country offices audited constituted 16% of the 2022 planned programme expenditures for country and regional offices



- 20% 'high-priority' agreed actions



- No agreed actions older than 18 months
- Only 4% of agreed actions older than 12 months



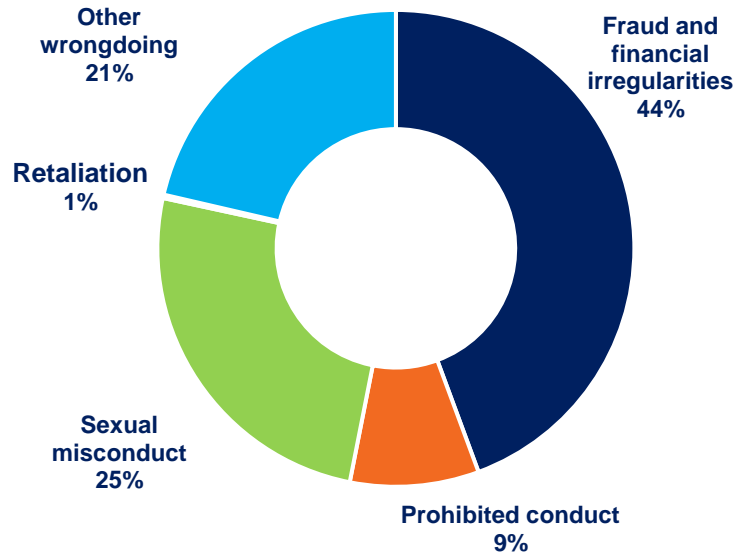
KEY THEMATIC AUDITS AND ADVISORY SERVICES
➤ Audits
• Country Office audits included Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti and Syrian Arab Republic
• Enterprise risk management thematic audit
• Supply system strengthening thematic audit
➤ Advisory services
• Risk management in Afghanistan Country Office
• Digitization and automation opportunities

Investigations overview

773 investigations cases managed in 2022, representing a 19 percent increase compared to 2021

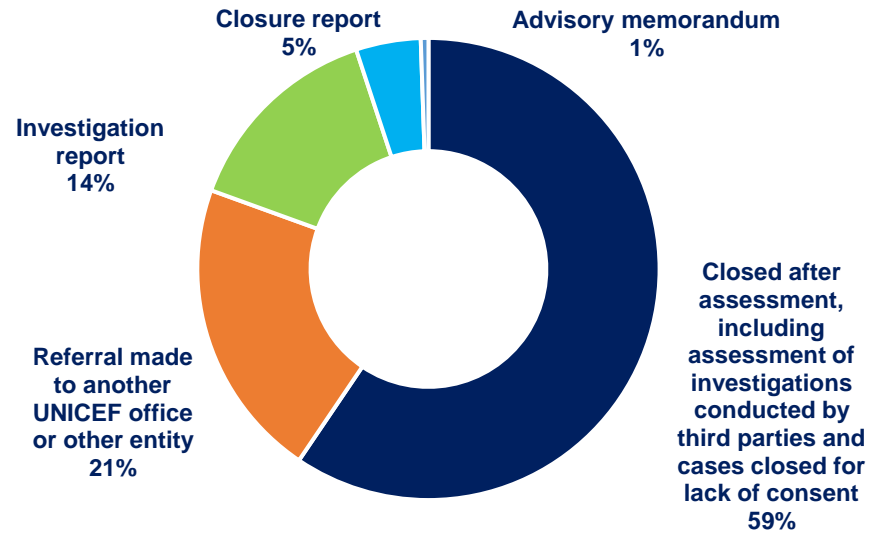
NEW CASES IN 2022

435 new cases registered
(15% increase over 2021)



CASES CLOSED IN 2022

374 cases closed (21% higher than 2021)
52% cases closed within 9 months



Non-case-specific activities in 2022

- Guidance and advice to staff on possible misconduct and wrongdoing, including alternative measures for resolution
- Contribution to policy initiatives including on prevention and response to SEA as well as fraud
- Expanded communications, including presentations on SEA to implementing partners.
- Donor engagement and reporting (briefings, reporting exercises and evaluations)

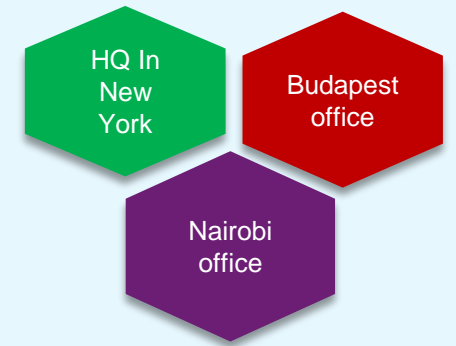
ROAD MAP FOR 2023

1 RISK FOCUS

- Expanded analytics to strengthen audit workplanning
- Support strengthening UNICEF risk management

2 DECENTRALIZATION CONTINUES

- Third OIAI office in Nairobi effective Q3-2023
- 30% OIAI staff based outside New York from 2024



3 INTERNAL AUDIT

- Increase in number of engagements
- Additional thematic coverage
- Evaluation of additional sources of assurance

4 INVESTIGATIONS

- Establish investigations task force devoted to complex fraud cases
- Move towards consistency in interactions with donors
- Expand use of alternative conflict resolution mechanisms

Thank you.