



Office of the
Inspector General

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Washington, DC 20415

August 19, 2026

External Peer Review Final Report

The Honorable Joaquin E. Ferrao
Inspector General
Peace Corps Office of Inspector General
1275 First Street NE, Third Floor
Washington, DC 20526

Dear Inspector General Ferrao:

We reviewed the system of quality control for the Peace Corps Office of Inspector General (OIG) in effect for the year ended March 31, 2026. 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 Peace Corps OIG in effect for the year ended March 31, 2026, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) OIG with reasonable assurance that the Peace Corps OIG is performing and reporting in conformity with the Blue Book.

Inspection and Evaluation organizations can receive a rating of pass, pass with deficiencies, or fail. The Peace Corps OIG has received an External Peer Review rating of pass.

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, dated July 2023, and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Offices of the Inspectors General of OPM and the Peace Corps, entered into on March 30, 2026.

During our review, we interviewed Peace Corps OIG personnel and obtained an understanding of the nature of the Peace Corps OIG's evaluation function and the design of the Peace Corps OIG's system of quality control sufficient to assess the risks implicit in the evaluation

function. Based on our assessments, we selected evaluation reports and administrative files to test for conformity with Blue Book standards and compliance with the Peace Corps OIG's system of quality control.

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

Prior to concluding the peer review, we reassessed the adequacy of the scope of the peer review procedures and met with Peace Corps OIG management to discuss the results of our review. We believe that the procedures we performed provide a reasonable basis for our opinion. Enclosure 1 to this report identifies the scope and methodology for the peer review as well as the evaluation reports that we reviewed.

The Peace Corps OIG provided a response to our peer review draft report in which they agreed with the results (see Enclosure 2).

Responsibilities and Limitations

The Peace Corps OIG is responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of quality control designed to provide the Peace Corps 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 Peace Corps OIG's compliance based on our review.

There are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of a system of quality control; therefore, noncompliance with the system of quality control may occur and may not be detected. Projection of an 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.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Esser
Deputy Inspector General
Performing the Duties of the Inspector General

Enclosures

ENCLOSURE 1: Scope and Methodology

We reviewed compliance with the Peace Corps OIG evaluation organization's system of quality control in effect for the year ended March 31, 2026, to the extent we considered appropriate. Our review included an assessment of the Peace Corps OIG's internal policies and procedures implementing CIGIE's Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation (Blue Book). Our review also included a review of selected evaluation reports that were issued between April 1, 2023, and March 31, 2026.

We selected the following two most recent reports published during the scope for review:

- Evaluation of the Peace Corps' Volunteer Delivery System, IG-25-03-E (Issued in September 2025)
- Evaluation of Peace Corps/North Macedonia, IG-26-01-E (Issued in March 2026)

We also conducted interviews and held meetings as needed with key Peace Corps OIG personnel and reviewed applicable workpapers and supporting documentation.

ENCLOSURE 2: Peace Corps OIG's Response to the Peer Review Draft Report



July 22, 2026

Michael R. Esser, Deputy Inspector General
OPM Office of the Inspector General
1900 E Street, NW Room #6400
Washington, DC 20415-1100

Dear Deputy Inspector General Esser,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the external quality control review of the Peace Corps Office of Inspector General's (OIG) evaluation function. We agree with the results and are pleased that for the period ended March 31, 2026, our quality control system conformed to the quality control standards established by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency's (CIGIE) Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation, December 2020 (Blue Book).

Thank you for your efforts in completing this review. We greatly appreciate that your team conducted this external peer review in a thorough and professional manner and, additionally, provided helpful informal observations and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Amanda Seese
Deputy Inspector General
Peace Corps