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Suspicion of irregularities at CARE Denmark's local partner in Uganda

Reference is made to the previous report dated 9 February 2023 regarding suspicions of forgery of accounts and misappropriation of project funds by an employee, on a grant to CARE Denmark implemented by the sub partner CARE Uganda. The total support to the project by CARE Denmark is DKK 1,116,255.

CARE Uganda's Risk and Compliance coordinator and CARE Uganda's Operations Director conducted an investigation in the period of January to March 2023. The investigation verified balances of advances made to the subject employee in question for further payment and payments made to facilitators and local councils, through documentation review and interviews. All payments were accounted for and all data collectors involved in the project and local councils confirmed having received their due. All data collectors denied having been subject to requests for kickbacks from the subject employee. The investigation concluded that all allegations were unsubstantiated. However, a minor discrepancy of DKK 464 was found under the investigation. This was caused by a disagreement between an employee and two data collectors about the vouchers handed over as supported documentation for a payment.

The investigation report made a number of recommendations to CARE Uganda to strengthen the verification mechanisms for payments, which should have caught the discrepancy. CARE Uganda has followed up on these recommendations through training in financial processes for staff members. The subject employee has covered the discrepancy of DKK 464.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs thus regards the case as closed without loss of Danish funds.