

Enhed: TILSKUD

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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to AIDS-Fondet's activities in Uganda

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark provides support for a project under Civil Society in Development (CISU)'s pooled fund. The project is implemented by AIDS-Fondet (AF) and a local partner, Action Hope Malawi (AHM), with the aim of preventing HIV in Uganda and Malawi. DKK 2,443,230 has been granted for the period 1.1.2022-31.12.2025, of which DKK 1,319,681 has been disbursed to AHM.

In October 2023, the Malawian newspaper Marabi Post published an article with allegations of fraud within AHM concerning employees working with Danish funding. The allegations included forgery of documents, money laundering, and theft. To begin with, the amount under suspicion was the full amount of the grant, DKK 1,319,681, while it was later concluded that the Danish funds were not affected.

The suspected employees were promptly suspended from their positions at AHM and detained by the police. Yet, police investigations found no evidence of corruption or misuse of funds. All charges were dropped and the suspension of the employees was lifted. AF also conducted an internal review of AHM and did not find any evidence of fraud relating to their shared project. AF and AHM have reviewed their partnership agreement, and AF assists capacity building of AHM to strengthen financial management and internal controls. An additional financial monitoring visit to AHM took place in the spring of 2024, and found that the financial management and controls had been improved satisfactorily.

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