



Suspicion of irregularities in relation to Danish Refugee Council's activities in Syria

Enhed:
TILSKUD

Dato:
10-11-2025

Sagsnummer:
23/00440/ 2706663

23/00440

C-sag:
C1989

Reference is made to the previous report dated 24 June 2025 regarding suspicion of financial exploitation on a grant to Danish Refugee Council as grant holder for the Syria Community Consortium (SSC). DKK 30.1 million has been granted for the period December 2023 to January 2025, all of which has been disbursed.

DRC's Code of Conduct Unit based in Amman conducted an investigation into the matter from March to May 2025. The investigation focused on the likelihood of fraud in the form of bribery and misuse of authority in beneficiary selection, as well as instances of unprofessional conduct. The investigation found no evidence that the accused engaged in corruption or abused his/her position for personal gain. The complainant himself confirmed that no bribe was paid, and none of the interviewed beneficiaries reported being asked for money or favors. The investigation did find support for the allegation of unprofessional behavior by the accused in the interaction with the complainant. Interviews with other beneficiaries reflected high satisfaction with DRC's services and did not reveal broader concerns regarding staff behavior. Thus, no pattern of misconduct was identified, while the evidence suggests that the accused's behavior in one specific case fell short of the professional standards expected by DRC.

The DRC have implemented mitigation actions to avoid similar instances in the future, e.g. reinforcing ethical standards among frontline staff by conducting targeted refresher sessions, focusing on DRC's communication principles with beneficiaries namely emphasizing respect, impartiality, and professional conduct. Furthermore, a review of the grant selection and distribution process has been undertaken to reinforce controls. The accused has since concluded their assignment with DRC, thereby preventing the application of disciplinary measures. A note about the unprofessional behaviour has been placed in the subject's HR file for future reference, should re-employment be considered.

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

