

2023

20/04

FCA returns the 50,000 euro MFA state grant

by Elisa Rimaila at 13:31 in [FCA Somalia](#)

FCA's internal audit found that the use of the grant did not comply with FCA's quality and accountability requirements.

Finn Church Aid (FCA) pays back the 50,000 euro state grant awarded by the Peace Mediation Centre of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA) on February 4, 2021.

In connection with the internal audit started by FCA on March 10, 2022, it was found that the use of the grant did not comply with FCA's quality and accountability requirements. The case is related to the procurement procedure of a local actor, which concerned the organization of a meeting included in peace work in Somalia. No clear evidence of the agreed use of the grant was found.

FCA notified the MFA of its findings on March 13, 2022. Based on FCA's internal audit, the MFA has asked FCA on April 20th 2023 to repay the grant.

Peace mediation work is an important part of FCA's country program in Somalia. FCA has been working in the country since 2008. The work has had positive effects, especially for increasing the participation of women in decision-making bodies and in peace work.

The implementation of all FCA's programs in Somalia is monitored by the country office's monitoring, financial and management team. Internal control and financial management are carried out in accordance with FCA's general instructions. Annual audits are carried out in country programs. Development measures are monitored regularly and systematically both in FCA's country offices and in the Helsinki office. The scope of the incident that led to the return of the grant is rather small part of FCA's peace work in Somalia as a whole but still very unfortunate.

"Finn Church Aid often works in very fragile countries. This has been taken into account in our internal control. If doubts arise, we will address them immediately. Delivering help is our most important goal. We continue to strengthen our risk management methods and internal investigation work", says FCA's Somalia Country Director Ikali Karvinen.

FCA will pay back the amount subject to recovery in full and cover the incurred expenses from its own funds on the date requested by the MFA. FCA continues its work in Somalia by supporting peace and reconciliation and the reconstruction of collapsed state administration. At the same time, FCA's humanitarian aid brings water and food to the areas worst affected by the drought.

More information on the matter is provided by:

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