

MIDDLE EAST 11-94

USAID/MOROCCO

INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

PROGRAM/ACTIVITY DATA:

Country Code-AO: 608-001

AO Name: Increase Participation of Youth in Governance

Country or Region: Morocco

Activity Name: Political Party Program

Funding Begin: 01/01/2012

Funding End: 01/01/2017

LOP Amount:
\$5,000,000

IEE Prepared by: Karl Wurster

Date: June 2, 2011

IEE Amendment (Y/N): N If "Yes," Number @ Date of Original IEE:

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION RECOMMENDED: (Place X where applicable)

Categorical Exclusion:

Deferral:

Positive Determination:

Negative Determination:

With Conditions:

Exemption:

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Categorical Exclusion is recommended for all activities under the project, which do not have an effect on the natural or physical environment, pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(1)(i). In addition, major project activities are those meriting a categorical exclusion, including: educational, technical assistance and training activities (22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(i)); and, analyses, studies, workshops and meetings (22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(iii)).

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS:

CLEARANCE:

Mission Director Approval:

John Groarke
John Groarke

15/06/11
Date

Mission Environmental Officer:

J.M. Groarke
J.M. Groarke

15/06/11
Date

COTR

I. Touijer
Idriss Touijer

6/14/2011
Date

CONCURRENCE:

Bureau Environmental Officer:

Robert Macleod
Robert Macleod

6/20/11
Date

Approved:



Disapproved:



INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

Program/Activity Number:	TBD
Country/Region:	USAID/Morocco
Program/Activity Title:	The Political Party Program

1.0 BACKGROUND AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Political Party Program in Morocco aims to enhance the ability of the local-level parties to contribute to democratic policy-making and governance and, by doing so, generate greater public trust and confidence in their ability to govern and effect positive policy change. The program will also address the political disenfranchisement of youth, and the marginalization of women within parties. The project will provide technical assistance and training to:

- Strengthen the capacity of local-level political parties for governance, policy development and constituent outreach by: linking parties to local government/civil society efforts in local policy issues; developing a program of public communication focusing on public meetings, party committee work, and constituency work; supporting anti-corruption efforts at the local level and transparent local level budgets; and conducting public opinion polling, use of focus group research, or similar means to gather public feedback to strengthen dialogue and develop public policy.
- Develop the capacity of local-level political parties, civil society organizations, and local councils to provide avenues for youth to participate meaningfully in political life by: assisting local-level political parties develop and implement action plans to recruit and promote youth; supporting youth-led dialogue with the community; assisting local councils to provide more meaningful opportunities for youth to express their concerns and affect policy outcomes; and supporting activities that are inspired by young activists that endeavor peacefully to engage politically.
- Increase the capacity of youth to participate meaningfully in political life through civic education and advocacy.
- Build the capacity and role of women in local councils and party branch offices by developing/ supporting the creation of networks and coalitions for women politicians (for example, the Women For Women's network); assistance to the parties to help sensitize women on the idea for running for office and helping to build their capacity as candidates and later as elected officials; leadership training; and sharing-of experience type of exchanges. In an effort to increase the level of party support for women's participation, the program will focus on activities to improve the perception of women in political life to encourage leaders to understand and actively promote the benefits of gender-balanced politics.

2.0 RECOMMENDED THRESHOLD DECISIONS AND MITIGATION AND MONITORING ACTIVITIES

The purpose of this IEE is to provide the necessary environmental documentation, pursuant to 22 CFR 216 (Regulation 216) and ADS 204 for the USAID/Morocco program. The aim is to ensure that the necessary environmental compliance requirements are in place, so as to permit the implementation of the program activities in accordance with USAID Environmental Policies and Procedures.

Categorical Exclusion is recommended for all project activities directly undertaken by the Political Party Program. The program funds activities that do not have an impact on the natural or physical environment, pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2 (c) (1) (i). In addition, major project activities are those meriting a categorical exclusion, including: educational, technical assistance and training activities (22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(i)); and, analyses, studies, workshops and meetings (22 CFR 216.2 (c) (2) (iii).

As with all USAID-funded projects, and pursuant to 22 CFR 216.3(a) (9), if new information becomes available which indicates that any of the proposed actions to be funded by this activity might be "major" and their effects "significant", the threshold decisions for those actions listed above will be reviewed and revised by the Bureau Environmental Officer and an environmental assessment prepared the Mission, as appropriate.

Macleod, Robert (ME/TS)

From: Mogharabi, Austan (DCHA/DG)
nt: Wednesday, June 15, 2011 6:40 AM
ro: Macleod, Robert (ME/TS)
Cc: Touijer, Idriss (USAID/Rabat); Elouchari, Fatima (USAID/Rabat)
Subject: Political Party program IEE
Attachments: Political Party Program.pdf

Hi Mr. Machleod,

My name is Austan Mogharabi and I am on TDY in Morocco to support the DG team.

We are preparing a program for solicitation and need your signature on this IEE for a Political Party program (the IEE was prepared by Karl Wurster prior to his departure).

Please let me know if you need any additional information!

Thanks,
Austan