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Asia 15-072

**US Agency for International Development (USAID)  
[USAID/Sri Lanka]**

**Amendment to Initial Environmental Examination (IEE)**

**Program/Project/Activity Data**

Activity/Project Name:		Biz Plus	
Assistance Objective:		AO 6 - Increased Private Sector Led Growth in former Conflict Areas	
Program Area:		Economic Growth	
Country(ies) and/or Operating Unit:		USAID /Sri Lanka	
Originating Office:		Office of Economic Growth	Date: May 12, 2015
PAD Level IEE: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Supplemental IEE: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	DCN of Original RCE/IEE:	Asia 11-112A
RCE/IEE Amendment: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		DCN of Amendment(s):	None
If Yes, Purpose of Amendment (AMD):		Funding amount and life of project: The total estimated cost is increased from \$17,600,000 to \$22,400,000 and the period of performance extended up to July 31, 2017.	
DCN(s) of All Related EA/IEE/RCE/ER(s):		Asia 11-112A	
Implementation Start/End:		FY-FY [August 1, 2015-July 31, 2017]	LOP: FY-FY [October 1, 2011-July 31, 2015]
Funding Amount:		LOP Amount: \$22,400,000	AMD Amount: \$4,800,000
Contract/Award Number (if known):		Cooperative Agreement number AID-383-LA-11-00002	
IEE Expiration Date (if any):	[none]	Reporting due dates (if any):	[none]
<b>Recommended Environmental Determination:</b>			
Categorical Exclusion:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Positive Determination:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> with conditions
Negative Determination:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deferral:	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Additional Elements:</b>			
Conditions:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Procurement:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Government to Government:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Donor Co-Funded:	<input type="checkbox"/>

**1. Purpose of Amendment**

1.1 As the new Government of Sri Lanka's (GSL) pro-democracy agenda began to materialize, the USG began to seek opportunities to support the Sirisena Government.

The Sirisena reform agenda has specifically identified the creation of 10,000 jobs which, an expanded Biz+ activity can contribute to, as well as enhance income generation through economic growth in the former conflict areas and other economically lagging regions of Sri Lanka through public private alliances with small and medium enterprises. The BIZ+ project gives USAID/Sri Lanka the unique ability of being able to quickly support the new Sirisena Government while simultaneously providing quick-impact and contributing to sustainability.

Hence, the period of performance will be extended from its current completion date of July 31, 2015 to July 31, 2017 and the total estimated cost is to be increased from its current level of \$17,600,000 to \$22,400,000.

## 1.2 Recommended Determinations from Original IEE

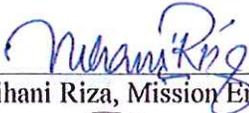
During the extended period, USAID/Sri Lanka's BIZ+ program will continue with grants to new and existing enterprises with good prospects for growth and increased employment and technical assistance to grant recipients and other institutions related to enterprise development. BIZ+ activities, i.e., technical assistance to business, generally qualify for Categorical Exclusion per 22 CFR 216 (c)(2)(i) as "education, technical assistance, or training," CFR 216 (c)(2)(iii) as "analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings," and CFR 216 (c)(2)(v) as "document and information transfers."

Other activities, such as 1) sub-grants that support agriculture, horticulture, livestock and aquaculture inputs, applications and services; 2) activities that support small-scale infrastructure-related development; 3) activities that support the provision of technical or processing equipment for sub-grantees may have some impact. However, the majority of supported activities will be relatively small-scale; most impacts (if any) are expected to be insignificant and can be addressed through established design criteria and other conditions placed on implementation. Therefore, these BIZ+ activities qualify for a Negative Determination, per 22 CFR 216.3 (a)(2)(iii), subject to conditions outlined in the original IEE, including submission of an ERF for each sub grant subject to MEO approval in consultation with the REA. Activities and sub grants that support business interventions where there is potential for significant environmental impacts will be subject to full review in accordance with 22 CFR 216. There are no new activities planned for the extension period.

1.3 All conditions of the original IEE remain in effect. With this Amendment, all existing reporting requirements shall remain in place, for instance, any monitoring or reporting timelines stated in the EA or other existing EMMPs remain in place as do requirements for submittal by the implementing partner of Records of Compliance with Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plans at the close of activities.

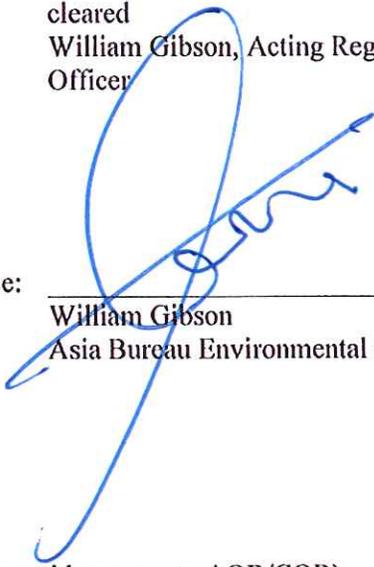
2. Recommended Environmental Threshold Decision Clearances:

Approval :  \_\_\_\_\_ Date 05/18/2015  
Michael J. Eddy, Acting Mission Director

Clearance:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date 05/14/15  
Nihani Riza, Mission Environmental Officer

Clearance :  \_\_\_\_\_ Date 5/17/2015  
Paul Richardson, Director, EG Office

Clearance : cleared \_\_\_\_\_ Date 05/14/2015  
William Gibson, Acting Regional Environment Officer

Concurrence:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date May 18, 2015  
William Gibson  
Asia Bureau Environmental Officer

**Distribution:**

IEE File

MEO (to also provide a copy to AOR/COR)