US Agency for International Development (USAID)
USAID/Moldova Mission
Emerging Donor Challenge Fund Grants
Initial Environmental Examination (IEE)

Program/Project/Activity Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity/Project Name:</th>
<th>Through Comprehensive Local Development to the EU Market Activity; Export-Led Development of Organic Agriculture in Moldova Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistance Objective:</td>
<td>4. Economic Growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Area:</td>
<td>4.6 Private Sector Competitiveness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country(ies) and/or Operating Unit:</td>
<td>Moldova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Originating Office:</td>
<td>USAID/Moldova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>12/29/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAD Level IEE:</td>
<td>Yes ☑ No ☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental IEE:</td>
<td>Yes ☑ No ☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCE/IEE Amendment:</td>
<td>Yes ☑ No ☒</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

DCN of Original RCE/IEE: DCN: 2012-WNIS-001

If Yes, Purpose of Amendment (AMD):

1) add an activity and $200,000 in funding for a follow-on EDCF grant with Solidarity Fund PL (SFP);
2) add an activity and $200,000 in funding for a follow-on EDCF grant with People in Need (PIN);
3) extend the original LOP through 6/2019

DCN(s) of All Related EA/IEE/RCE/ER(s):

Implementation Start/End: AMD: 10/1/2017 - - 6/2019
LOP: 8/2012-6/2019

Funding Amount: AMD Amount: $400,000
LOP Amount: $5,400,000

Contract/Award Number (if known): 

Recommended Environmental Determination:
Categorical Exclusion: ☑ Positive Determination: ☐
Negative Determination: ☐ Deferral: ☐

Additional Elements:
Conditions: ☐ Local Procurement: ☐
Government to Government: ☐ Donor Co-Funded: ☑
Sustainability Analysis (included): ☐ Climate Change Vulnerability Analysis (included): ☐

1. Background and Project Description

1.1. Purpose and Scope of IEE. The purpose of this Amendment is to cover: (1) a follow-on EDCF grant with Solidarity Fund PL (Round IV Project 1) that will expand SFP work related to local business development in rural areas, with a focus on agriculture, including a small grant component and (2) an additional $200,000 in funding to cover the costs of this activity, and 3) a follow-on EDCF grant with People in Need (PIN) (Round IV Project 2) that is similar to the Round II Project 5, and (4) an additional $200,000 in funding to cover the costs of this activity. The proposed follow-on activities are co-funded by Polish Aid and by the Czech Development Agency respectively. All other activities remain the same, and all IEE DCN: 2012-WNIS-001 terms and conditions will also apply to this Amendment.
1.2. Project Overview. The Emerging Donor Challenge Fund (EDCF) program objectives are: 1) to leverage the experience of emerging donor countries in the Europe and Eurasia region that have recently undergone democratic and economic transitions; 2) to strengthen ties with those countries; and 3) to develop new partnerships which would leverage resources for projects in countries that are still undergoing transition.

1.3. Project Description

In FY 2011, the Department of State established the Emerging Donor Challenge Fund (the Fund) to intensify coordination and collaboration with emerging donors in Central and Eastern Europe, also known as the CE-10 countries. The purpose of the Fund is to support projects that leverage the experience of emerging donor countries in the region that have recently undergone democratic and economic transitions, to strengthen ties with those countries, and to develop new partnerships which would leverage already scarce resources for projects in countries that are still undergoing transition. The logic behind the Fund is that through assistance partnerships with the CE-10 countries, the United States Government (USG) can leverage resources and transition experiences of CE-10 countries to help further USG diplomatic and development priorities in the region. The successful political and economic transition experience of the CE-10 countries would benefit those countries in the region that are still struggling to embrace a stable, market-based democratic society.

The EDCF will carry-out program objectives through supporting the following projects in Moldova:

**Round IV**

**Project 1: Through Comprehensive Local Development to the EU market**

1.1. The overall objective of the activity is to increase the development of rural communities in Moldova by enhancing the competitiveness of small and micro private businesses located in rural areas. This is a $200,000 follow-on award to the Solidarity Fund PL (SFP) for the “Through comprehensive local development to the EU market” activity under the EDCF grant program. Under this activity, SFP will support the development of rural communities in Moldova by enhancing the competitiveness of small and micro private businesses located in select local communities.

This activity expands the previous support for local community development – provided by the Information Centre for Local Authorities run by the Solidarity Fund PL in Moldova – with a special focus on supporting local business development in rural areas, especially in the agricultural sector. The proposed implementation timeframe for this activity is 24 months. Enhancing agricultural competitiveness is a key element in improving access of Moldovan agro-food products to the EU market and capitalizing on the benefits from the Association Agreement and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement signed with the EU. There will be no discussion or use of pesticides in any of the meetings.

The activity will focus on the following areas of intervention:

1.1.1. Component 1 – Building capacities of Moldovan producers in 15 targeted communities
1.1.2. Component 2 – Cost-sharing investments in the post-harvest infrastructure through a grant-scheme for select Moldovan producers.
1.1.3. Component 3 – Export coaching for Moldovan producers in targeted communities.

All of the meetings are expected to be general information meetings with the farmers and other community members; these will not include pesticide-related topics or other specific practices that may impact the environment. There will be a total of 15 meetings in 15 communities.

**Project 2: Export-Led Development of Organic Agriculture in Moldova activity**
The overall purpose of the “Export-Led Development of Organic Agriculture in Moldova activity” is to continue and expand support to the organic agriculture sector in Moldova, with a special focus on establishing market linkages and generating initial exports of organic products between Moldovan farmers and EU buyers. The proposed action will continue and expand previous support by USAID and the Czech Development Agency (CZDA) to the organic agriculture sector in Moldova. The proposed implementation timeframe for this activity is 24 months. As the focus of this component is for organic agriculture, there will be no discussion or use of pesticides.

The activity will focus on the following areas of intervention:

1.1.1. Component 1 – Establishing market linkages and generating initial exports of organic products between Moldovan farmers and EU buyers;
1.1.2. Component 2 – Developing demand for organic products on the domestic markets and strengthening the policy/regulatory enabling environment for the organic sector;
1.1.3. Component 3 – Developing sustainable local extension/knowledge transfer services in the organic agriculture sector in Moldova;
1.1.4. Component 4 - Increasing the sustainability of the entire organic sector, solidifying local know-how and thus preparing an exit strategy for foreign donors/implementing agencies.

2. Baseline Environmental Information

2.1. Locations Affected and Environmental Context Moldova has an area of 33,843 square km and a population of 3,559,500 people (2012 estimate). It is located at the intersection of three biogeographic zones: the Central-European zone, the Euro-Asiatic zone, and the Mediterranean zone. Many species typical for each of these zones are at the limit of their natural range in Moldova. The country has a rich biota relative to its size, considering that the highest elevation point is only 430 m above the see level. Today, natural ecosystems occupy approximately 10 percent of Moldova. A significant proportion of this area is highly degraded. Agricultural lands cover 75 percent of the country. Native steppe and steppe associated wet meadows have been systematically converted to cropland and pastures. The extent of loss of steppe is not thoroughly documented, but less than one percent remains of some types of grassland and wet meadow ecosystems that were once common in Moldova. Forests cover about 10 percent of the country and, moreover, 86 percent are planted forests (Economic Commission for Europe, 1998). Scientific evidence suggests that business activities have an impact upon the ecosphere and that the negative consequences of current practices will be detrimental to the natural environment (Stern 2006). While the individual impact of MSME activities is usually small, and they are by no means homogeneous, collectively they are critically important. Globally, as a sector, MSMEs could contribute up to 70% of all industrial pollution (Hillary 2004). It was also reported that most of the economic, environmental and social impacts of large companies occur through their supply chain and the MSMEs in those chains (Global Reporting Initiative 2011a).

2.3. Country/Ministry/Municipality Environmental Capacity Analysis The primary central government institutions responsible for biodiversity conservation in Moldova are: the Ministry of Environment (MOE), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry (MAFI), and Agency Moldsilva (Moldova Forest Service).

The MOE (www.mediu.gov.md) is the national environmental authority that develops and defines governmental policies related to the environmental protection, rational use of natural resources, waste management, biodiversity conservation and state control of ecological activities. The MOE assesses and monitors biodiversity, manages some protected areas, coordinates research, ensures cross-sectorial cooperation, monitors compliance, and develops reports on the state of the environment in Moldova. At the same time, the MOE (together with its subordinated divisions and institutions) is the main governmental body responsible for ecological expertise and environmental impact assessment.

Moldsilva (www.moldsilva.gov.md) is a Ministerial level agency that manages forestry and game/hunting in the country through the implementation of policies and international treaties on rural development and employment, sustainable forest management and wildlife protection, conservation of biodiversity etc. Moldsilva is structured into 25 regional entities, including sixteen forest enterprise activities, four forestry and hunting enterprises, four state natural reserves and the Forest Research and Management Institute (ICAS). Activities of these entities are enacted through 82 local forest districts.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry (MAFI) (www.maia.gov.md) is the central state body that promotes state policy in agriculture and food industry, with responsibilities of development in relation to economy and social infrastructure. It has a number of subordinated entities, such as public institutions (research institutions, agencies, phyto-sanitary and plant protection sections etc.), education institutions (Agrarian State University and various Colleges), state enterprises (wineries, plant and animal husbandries) and commercial units dealing with processing and products marketing.

One of the main constraints faced by the MOE is the lack of capacity to develop adequate legislation and to enforce it, including issues related to inadequate financial support, weak biodiversity conservation training programs and low level of staffing for critical functions. The frequent reorganization of national and regional government agencies was certainly a source of confusion and complicated the horizontal cooperation of authorities enforcing environmental legislation. The changes in geographical coverage and the consequent transfers of files, changes in staff and leadership, and changes in priorities delayed the development of inter-ministerial cooperation mechanisms. Environmental information from other governmental agencies often was not available to the MOE even though it was required by law. The other governmental agencies lacked specialists and/or departments to deal with environmental issues.

3. Analysis of Potential Environmental Impact

Project 1: Through comprehensive local development to the EU market

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defined/Illustrative Activities</th>
<th>Potential Impacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Training for local public administrations (LPAs) on community development</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Information meetings for community members and farmers regarding production</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defined/Illustrative Activities</td>
<td>Potential Impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Trainings for farmers / rural businesses on storage facilities and export opportunities</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Study visits to Poland for business representatives – sharing Polish know-how</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Coaching and consulting;</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6 Developing training/information materials.</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7 Cost sharing – award up to 70% of the total costs – through grant-scheme up to 12 500 USD for production, post-harvest processing and marketing, equipment and other inputs (approx. 12 grants);</td>
<td>The use of grants may have an impact on environment and human health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8 Participation in marketing events and trade fairs in Moldova and abroad.</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.9 Coaching to farmers/producers to support skills in developing export linkages; communication with potential foreign buyers;</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.10 Initial cost-sharing of administrative costs related to export (certification, laboratory tests, custom fees, sending samples of products abroad, mutual visits of selected farmers, cost sharing in visits to foreign and Moldovan marketing events/forums/trade fairs etc.)</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project 2: Export-Led Development of Organic Agriculture in Moldova**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defined/Illustrative Activities</th>
<th>Potential Impacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Sponsor training sessions for farmers and consultants on approaches in organic farming, agricultural value chains, business plan development and marketing</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Sponsor the production of promotional and educational materials for model organic farms</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Sponsor educational visits to model organic farms and study</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defined/Illustrative Activities</td>
<td>Potential Impacts</td>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Provide small grants to farmers to support predominantly marketing and processing solutions</td>
<td>The use of grants may have an impact on environment and human health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Sponsor the participation in conferences and trade shows</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6 Sponsor public awareness campaign on organic agricultural products</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7 Support the cooperation between stakeholders and preparation of an Organic Agriculture Support Strategy</td>
<td>Strategy implementation may have an impact on environment and human health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8 Coaching farmers/producers to support skills in developing export linkages, facilitating communication and cooperation with potential foreign buyers</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9 Initial cost-sharing of administrative costs related to export (trial shipments to target markets, certification, laboratory tests, custom fees, sending samples of products abroad, mutual visits of selected farmers, cost sharing in visits to foreign and Moldovan marketing events/forums/trade fairs etc.)</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.10 Support in establishing an Organic Producer Association in Moldova</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.11 Development of sustainable consultancy services for organic farmers in Moldova</td>
<td>None Anticipated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Recommended Environmental Actions**
   4.1. **Recommended Mitigation Measures**
**Project 1: Through Comprehensive Local Development to the EU market**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defined/Illustrative Activities</th>
<th>Potential Impacts</th>
<th>Mitigation Measures</th>
<th>Recommended Threshold Determination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.7 Cost sharing – award up to 70% of the total costs – through grant-scheme up to 12 500 USD for production, post-harvest processing and marketing, equipment and other inputs (approx. 12 grants);</td>
<td>The use of grants may have an impact on environment or human health</td>
<td>In the event that activities promoted by the use of USAID grant funds may have adverse effects on the natural environment or human health, the Implementer shall prepare for each such activity an ERC/EMMP (See Annex 1) and submit it to USAID for approval. The Implementer shall not provide funds to farmers prior to receiving the results of USAID’s review of the Implementer’s completed ERC/EMMP. Upon completion of each associated activity, the Implementer shall prepare a Record of Compliance (See ERC/EMMP Annex 2) and submit it to USAID.</td>
<td>Negative determination with conditions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project 2: Export-Led Development of Organic Agriculture in Moldova**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defined/Illustrative Activities</th>
<th>Potential Impacts</th>
<th>Mitigation Measures</th>
<th>Recommended Threshold Determination</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>2.4 Provide small grants to farmers to support predominantly marketing and processing solutions</td>
<td>The use of grants may have an impact on environment and human health</td>
<td>In the event that activities promoted by the use of USAID grant funds may have adverse effects on the natural environment or human health, the Implementer shall prepare for each such activity an ERC/EMMP (See Annex 1) and submit it to USAID for approval. The Implementer shall not provide funds to farmers prior to receiving the results of USAID’s review of the Implementer’s completed ERC/EMMP. Upon completion of each associated activity, the Implementer shall prepare a Record of Compliance (See ERC/EMMP Annex 2) and submit it to USAID.</td>
<td>Negative determination with conditions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.7 Support the cooperation between stakeholders and preparation of an Organic Agriculture Support Strategy

Strategy implementation may have an impact on environment and human health

Environmental best practices will be followed in the strategy. In the event that Organic Agriculture Support Strategy actions may result in adverse impacts on the natural environment and/or human health, the Implementer shall recommend to the stakeholders that they either address potential environmental and health impacts in the Strategy or require that measures to eliminate or adequately minimize environmental and health impacts be adopted prior to Strategy implementation in Moldova. This may include handling of natural fertilizers that can be a health, safety and environmental hazard.

4.2. Recommended Environmental Determination:

Categorical Exclusions:
A categorical exclusion is recommended for the following identified activities under 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2):

- Activity 1.1, 1.3-1.6; 1.8-1.10; 2.2; 2.3; 2.5-2.6; 2.8-2.11 under §216.2(c)(2)(i) Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.);
- Activity 1.1 1.3-1.6; 2.2; 2.3; 2.5-2.6; 2.8-2.11 under §216.2(c)(2)(v) Document and information transfers;

Negative Determination with Conditions:
Under §216.3(a)(2)(iii), a Negative determination with conditions is recommended for activities 1.7; 2.4; 2.7. Specific terms and conditions are presented below in Section 4.3.

4.3. Terms and Conditions:

4.3.1. For activities 1.7 and 2.4 prior to initiating activities that have the potential to result in significant adverse environmental, health, and safety impact, the IP shall prepare an ERC/EMMP(s) in the format provided in Annex 1 of this IEE. The COR/AOR, MEO, and BEO shall approve the ERC/EMMP(s) prior to implementation. For each site-specific activity, the ERC/EMMP shall be attached to the signed Certification of No Adverse or Significant Effects on the Environment (See ERC/EMMP Annex 1). This should be signed by the IP, COR/AOR, MEO, and BEO. After the IP has finalized its activities at a specific site, the IP shall sign a Record of Compliance with the ERC/EMMP (see ERC/EMMP Annex 2) certifying that the organization met all applicable ERC/EMMP conditions and submit it to the COR/AOR. The COR/AOR shall keep the original for the project files and provide a copy to the MEO and BEO.

4.3.2. For activity 2.7 environmental best practices will be followed in the strategy. In the event that Organic Agriculture Support Strategy actions may result in adverse impacts on the natural environment and/or human health, the Implementer shall recommend to the stakeholders that they either address potential environmental and health impacts in the
Strategy or require that measures to eliminate or adequately minimize environmental and health impacts be adopted prior to Strategy implementation in Moldova. This may include handling of natural fertilizers that can be a health, safety and environmental hazard.

4.3.3. ERC/EMMPs shall be captured in annual work plans, and therefore budgeted for and reviewed for adequacy at least annually.

4.3.4. Changes in activities and their associated ERC/EMMPs shall necessitate amending the IEE or issuing a Memo to the File (depending on extent and potential impact of the changes).

4.4. USAID Monitoring and Reporting

4.4.1. The AOR/COR, with the support of the MEO, is responsible for monitoring compliance of activities by means of desktop reviews and site visits.

4.4.2. If at any time the project is found to be out of compliance with the IEE, the AOR/COR or MEO shall immediately notify the BEO.

4.4.3. A summary report of Mission’s compliance relative to this IEE shall be sent to the BEO on an annual basis, normally in connection with preparation of the Mission’s annual environmental compliance report required under ADS 203.3.8.5 and 204.3.3.

4.4.4. The BEO or his/her designated representative may conduct site visits or request additional information for compliance monitoring purposes to ensure compliance with this IEE, as necessary.

4.5. Implementing Partner (IP) Monitoring and reporting

4.5.1. If an individual activity is found to pose significant adverse environmental effects that have not been identified and addressed in the attached EMMP(s), or EMMPs that were subsequently approved for the project, new EMMPs shall be developed to include environmental safeguards for such effects.

4.5.2. IPs shall report on environmental compliance requirements as part of their routine project reporting to USAID.

5. Mandatory Inclusion of Requirements in Solicitations, Awards, Budgets and Workplans

5.1. Appropriate environmental compliance language, including limitations defined in Section 6, shall be incorporated into solicitations and awards for this activity and projects budgets shall provide for adequate funding and human resources to comply with requirements of this IEE.

5.2. Solicitations shall include Statements of Work with task(s) for meeting environmental compliance requirements and appropriate evaluation criteria.

5.3. Environmental mitigation and monitoring requirements, when available, shall also be included in solicitations and awards.

5.4. The IP shall incorporate conditions set forth in this IEE into their annual work plans.

5.5. The IP shall ensure annual work plans do not prescribe activities that are defined as limitations, as defined in Section 6.

5.6. The USAID Mission will include an indicator for environmental compliance as part of the project’s performance monitoring plan. [If an IEE has a threshold determination of Negative determination with conditions, then a possible indicator is if the IP did the ERC/EMMP.]

6. Limitations of the IEE: This IEE does not cover activities (and therefore should changes in scope implicate any of the issues/activities listed below, a BEO-approved amendment shall be required), that:

6.1. Normally have a significant effect on the environment under §216.2(d)(1) [See http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/environment/compliance/regulations.html]

6.2. Support project preparation, project feasibility studies, engineering design for activities listed in §216.2(d)(1);

6.3. Affect endangered species;
6.4. Result in wetland or biodiversity degradation or loss;
6.5. Support extractive industries (e.g. mining and quarrying);
6.6. Promote timber harvesting;
6.7. Provide support for regulatory permitting;
6.8. Result in privatization of industrial or infrastructure facilities;
6.9. Lead to new construction of buildings or other structures;
6.10. Assist the procurement (including payment in kind, donations, guarantees of credit) or use (including handling, transport, fuel for transport, storage, mixing, loading, application, cleanup of spray equipment, and disposal) of pesticides or activities involving procurement, transport, use, storage, or disposal of toxic materials and /or pesticides (cover all insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, etc. covered under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act); and
6.11. Procure or use genetically modified organisms.

7. **Revisions**

7.1. Under §216.3(a)(9), if new information becomes available that indicates that activities covered by the IEE might be considered major and their effect significant, or if additional activities are proposed that might be considered major and their adverse effect significant, this environmental threshold decision will be reviewed and, if necessary, revised by the Mission with concurrence by the BEO. It is the responsibility of the USAID COR/AOR to keep the MEO and BEO informed of any new information or changes in the activity that might require revision of this IEE.
8. Recommended Environmental Threshold Decision Clearances:

Approval: 
Karen Hilliard, USAID/Moldova Mission Director

Date: 1-12-17

Clearance: 
Joel Sandefur, Regional Legal Officer

Date: 1/10/17

Clearance: 
Julie Appelhagen, Acting Mission Environmental Officer

Date: 1/5/2017

Clearance: 
Daniel Thomson, Economic Growth Office Director

Date: 1/9/2017

Clearance: 
Rodica Miron, COR/AOR/Drafter

Date: 1/5/17

Concurrence: 
Mark Kamiya
E&E Bureau Environmental Officer

Date: 1/17/2017

Distribution:
IEE File
MEO (to also provide a copy to AOR/COR)
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW CHECKLIST (ERC) for Identifying Potential Environmental Impacts of Project Activities and Processes/
ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION AND MONITORING PLAN (EMMP)
ERC/EMMP

for [Activity Name]

Implemented under: [Project Name]

DCN: [of Parent IEE]

Prepared by: [Implementer]
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW CHECKLIST FOR IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND PROCESSES

The Environmental Review Checklist for Identifying Potential Environmental Impacts of Project Activities and Processes (ERC) and Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) is intended for use by implementing partners to: assess activity-specific baseline conditions, including applicable environmental requirements; identify potential adverse environmental effects associated with planned activity(s) and processes; and develop EMMPs that can effectively avoid or adequately minimize the identified effects. This ERC/EMMP may be substituted for other ERC/EMMP versions that may have been attached to previous initial environmental examinations (IEE). If implementing partners are in doubt about whether a planned activity requires preparation of an ERC, they should contact their Contracting Officer’s Representative (COR)/Agreement Officer’s Representative (AOR) for clarification. In turn, the COR/AOR should contact their Mission Environmental Officer (MEO) if they have any questions. In special circumstances and with approval of the BEO it is possible to have one very comprehensive ERC/EMMP for multiple projects if they are similar in scope. (When preparing the ERC/EMMP, please indicate “not applicable” for items that have no bearing on the activity. The ERC/EMMP should be completed by an environmental specialist. The ERC/EMMP must be completed and approved prior to the activity beginning.)

A. Activity and Site Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name: (as stated in the triggering IEE)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mission/Country:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCN of Most Recent Triggering IEE or Amendment:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity/Site Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Activity:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Reviewer and Summary of Professional Qualifications:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Review:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Activity Description

1. Activity purpose and need
2. Amount of activity
3. Location of activity
4. Beneficiaries, e.g., size of community, number of school children, etc.
5. Number of employees and annual revenue, if this is a business
6. Implementation timeframe and schedule
7. Detailed description of activity, items that will be purchased (This section should fully describe what funds are being used for.)
8. Detailed description of site, e.g., size of the facility or hectares of land; steps that will be taken to accomplish the activity;
9. Existing or planned certifications, e.g., ISO 14001 EMS, ISO 9000, HCCP, SA 8000, Global Gap, Environmental Product Declarations, Eco Flower, EcoLogo, Cradle to Cradle, UL Environment, GREENGUARD, Fair Trade, Green Seal, LEED, or various Forest Certifications
10. Site map, e.g., provide an image from Google Earth of the location
11. Photos of site, items to be purchased, engineering construction plans (when available)

C. Activity-Specific Baseline Environmental Conditions
    1. Population characteristics
    2. Geography
    3. Natural resources, e.g., nearby forest/protected areas, ground and surface water resources
    4. Current land use and owner of land
    5. Proximity to public facilities, e.g. schools, hospitals, etc.
    6. Other relevant description of current environmental conditions in proximity to the activity

D. Legal, Regulatory, and Permitting Requirements
    1. National environmental impact assessment requirements for this activity
    2. Applicable National or local permits for this activity, responsible party, and schedule for obtaining them:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permit Type</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zoning</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Building/Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source Material Extraction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Waste Disposal</td>
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<td>Wastewater</td>
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<td>Storm Water Management</td>
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<td>Air Quality</td>
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<td>Water Use</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historical or Cultural Preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wetlands or Water bodies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Threatened or Endangered Species</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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</table>

3. Additional National, European Union, or other international environmental laws, conventions, standards with which the activity might be required to comply
   a. Air emission standards
   b. Water discharge standards
   c. Solid waste disposal or storage regulations
   d. Hazardous waste storage and disposal
   e. Historical or cultural preservation
   f. Other
E. Engineering Safety and Integrity (for Sections E. and F., provide a discussion for any of the listed issues that are yes answers and likely to have a bearing on this activity)

1. Will the activity be required to adhere to formal engineering designs/plans? Have these been or will they be developed by a qualified engineer? If yes, attach the plans to the ERC/EMMP.

2. Do designs/plans effectively and comprehensively address:
   a. Management of storm water runoff and its effects?
   b. Reuse, recycling, and disposal of construction debris and by-products?
   c. Energy efficiency and/or preference for renewable energy sources?
   d. Pollution prevention and cleaner production measures?
   e. Maximum reliance on green building or green land-use approaches?
   f. Emergency response planning?
   g. Mitigation or avoidance of occupational safety and health hazards?
   h. Environmental management of mobilization and de-mobilization?
   i. Capacity of the host country recipient organization to sustain the environmental management aspects of the activity after closure and handover?

3. Are there known geological hazards, e.g., faults, landslides, or unstable soil structure, which could affect the activity? If so, how will the project ensure structural integrity?

4. Will the site require grading, trenching, or excavation? Will the activity generate borrow pits? If so, how will these be managed during implementation and closure?

5. Will the activity cause interference with the current drainage systems or conditions? Will it increase the risk of flooding?

6. Will the activity interfere with above- or below-ground utility transmission lines, e.g., communications, water, sewer, or natural gas?

7. Will the activity potentially interfere with vehicle or pedestrian traffic?

8. Does the activity increase the risk of fire, explosion, or hazardous chemical releases?

9. Does the activity require disposal or retrofitting of polychlorinated biphenyl-containing equipment, e.g., transformers or florescent light ballasts?

F. Environment, Health, and Safety Consequences

1. Potential impacts to public health and well-being
   a. Will the activity require temporary or permanent property land taking?
   b. Will activities require temporary or permanent human resettlement?
   c. Will area residents and/or workers be exposed to pesticides, fertilizer, or other toxic substances, e.g., as a result of farming or manufacturing? If yes, then there should be an approved, current PERSUAP on file and discuss how it will be used in this situation. If so, how will the project:
      i. Ensure that these chemicals do not contaminate ground or surface water?
ii. Ensure that workers use protective clothing and equipment to prevent exposure?
iii. Control releases of these substances to air, water, and land?
iv. Restrict access to the site to reduce the potential for human exposure?
d. Will the activity generate pesticide, chemical, or industrial wastes? Could these wastes potentially contaminate soil, groundwater or surface water?
e. Will chemical containers be stored at the site?
f. Does the activity remove asbestos-containing materials or use of building materials that may contain asbestos, formaldehyde, or other toxic materials? Can the project certify that building materials are non-toxic? If so, how will these wastes be disposed of?
g. Will the activity generate other solid or hazardous wastes such as construction debris, dry or wet cell batteries, florescent tubes, aerosol cans, paint, solvents, etc.? If so, how will this waste be disposed of?
h. Will the activity generate nontoxic, nonhazardous solid wastes (subsequently requiring land resources for disposal)?
i. Will the activity pose the need to handle and dispose of medical wastes? If so, describe measures of ensuring occupational and public health and safety, both onsite and offsite.
j. Does the activity provide a new source of drinking water for a community? If so, how will the project monitor water quality in accordance with health standards?
k. Will the activity potentially disturb soil contaminated with toxic or hazardous materials?
l. Will activities, e.g., construction, refurbishment, demolition, or blasting, result in increased noise or light pollution, which could adversely affect the natural or human environment?

2. Atmospheric and air quality impacts
   a. Will the activity result in increased emission of air pollutants from a vent or as fugitive releases, e.g., soot, sulfur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, volatile organic compounds, methane.
b. Will the activity involve burning of wood or biomass?
c. Will the activity install, operate, maintain, or decommission systems containing ozone depleting substances, e.g., freon or other refrigerants?
d. Will the activity generate an increase in carbon emissions?
e. Will the activity increase odor and/or noise?

3. Water quality changes and impacts
   a. How far is the site located from the nearest river, stream, or lake? (Non-yes/no question)
b. Will the activity disturb wetland, lacustrine, or riparian areas?
c. What is the depth to groundwater at the site? (Non-yes/no question)
d. Will the activity result in increased ground or surface water extraction? If so, what are the volumes? Permit requirements? (Non-yes/no question)
e. Will the activity discharge domestic or industrial sewage to surface, ground water, or publicly-owned treatment facility?
f. Does the activity result in increased volumes of storm water run-off and/or is there potential for discharges of potentially contaminated (including suspended solids) storm water?
g. Will the activity result in the runoff of pesticides, fertilizers, or toxic chemicals into surface water or groundwater?
h. Will the activity result in discharge of livestock wastes such as manure or blood into surface water?
i. Does the site require excavation, placing of fill, or substrate removal (e.g., gravel) from a river, stream or lake?

4. **Land use changes and impacts**
   a. Will the activity convert fallow land to agricultural land?
   b. Will the activity convert forest land to agricultural land?
   c. Will the activity convert agricultural land to commercial, industrial, or residential uses?
   d. Will the activity require onsite storage of liquid fuels or hazardous materials in bulk quantities?
   e. Will the activity result in natural resource extraction, e.g., granite, limestone, coal, lignite, oil, or gas?
   f. Will the activity alter the viewshed of area residents or others?

5. **Impacts to forestry, biodiversity, protected areas and endangered species**
   a. Is the site located adjacent to a protected area, national park, nature preserve, or wildlife refuge?
   b. Is the site located in or near threatened or endangered (T&E) species habitat? Is there a plan for identifying T&E species during activity implementation? If T&E species are identified during implementation, is there a formal process for halting work, avoiding impacts, and notifying authorities?
   c. Is the site located in a migratory bird flight or other animal migratory pathway?
   d. Will the activity involve harvesting of non-timber forest products, e.g., mushrooms, medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs), herbs, or woody debris?
   e. Will the activity involve tree removal or logging? If so, please describe.

6. **Historic or cultural resources**
   a. Are there cultural or historic sites located at or near the site? If so, what is the distance from these? What is the plan for avoiding disturbance or notifying authorities?
   b. Are there unique ethnic or traditional cultures or values present in the site? If so, what is the applicable preservation plan?

G. **Further Analysis of Recommended Actions** *(Most activities will have a threshold determinations of Negative determination with conditions.)*

☐ 1. **Categorical Exclusion:** The activity is not likely to have an effect on the natural or physical environment. No further environmental review is required.* (This is rarely used in the ERC/EMMP.)
2. **Negative Determination with Conditions:** The activity does not have potentially significant adverse environmental, health, or safety effects, but may contribute to minor impacts that can be eliminated or adequately minimized by appropriate mitigation measures. ERC/EMMPs shall be developed, approved by the Mission Environmental Officer (MEO) and the BEO prior to beginning the activity, incorporated into workplans, and then implemented. For activities related to the procurement, use, or training related to pesticides, a PERSUAP will be prepared for BEO approval, PERSUAPS are considered amendments to the IEE and usually Negative Determination with Conditions. See Sections H and I below.*

3. **Positive Determination:** The activity has potentially significant adverse environmental effects and requires further analysis of alternatives, solicitation of stakeholder input, and incorporation of environmental considerations into activity design. A Scoping Statement (SS) must be prepared and be submitted to the BEO for approval. Following BEO approval of the SS an Environmental Assessment (EA) will be conducted. The activity may not be implemented until the BEO clears the final EA. If the Parent IEE does not have Positive Determination as one of the threshold determinations, the IEE needs to be amended.

4. **Activity Cancellation:** The activity poses significant and unmitigable adverse environmental effects. Adequate ERC/EMMPs cannot be developed to eliminate these effects and alternatives are not feasible. The project is not recommended for funding.

*Note regarding applicability related to Pesticides (216.2(e): The exemptions of §216.2(b)(1) and the categorical exclusions of §216.2(c)(2) such as technical assistance, education, and training are not applicable to assistance for the procurement or use of pesticides.

H. **EMMPs** (Using the format provided below list the processes that comprise the activity, then for each, identify impacts requiring further consideration, and for each impact describe the mitigation and monitoring measures that will be implemented to avoid or adequately minimize the impacts. All environment, health, and safety impacts requiring further consideration, which were identified in Section F., should be addressed)

1. **Activity-specific environmental mitigation plan** (Upon request, the MEO may be able to provide your project with example EMMPs that are specific to your activity.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Processes</th>
<th>Identified Environmental Impacts</th>
<th>Do the Impacts Require Further Consideration?</th>
<th>Mitigation Measures</th>
<th>Monitoring Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List all the processes that comprise the activity(s) (e.g. asbestos roof removal,)</td>
<td>A single process may have several potential impacts—provide a separate line for each.</td>
<td>For each impact, indicate Yes or No; if No, provide justification, e.g.: (1) There are no applicable legal requirements including permits or reporting and (2) There is no</td>
<td>For each impact requiring further consideration, describe the mitigation measures that will avoid or adequately minimize the impact. (If</td>
<td>Specify indicators to (1) determine if mitigation is in place and (2) successful. For example, visual inspections for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processes</td>
<td>Identified Environmental Impacts</td>
<td>Do the Impacts Require Further Consideration?</td>
<td>Mitigation Measures</td>
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<tr>
<td>installation of toilets, remove and replace flooring) A line should be included for each process.</td>
<td>relevant community concern and (3) Pollution prevention is not feasible or practical and (4) Does not pose a risk because of low severity, frequency, or duration</td>
<td>mitigation measures are well-specified in the IEE, quote directly from IEE.)</td>
<td>seepage around pit latrine; sedimentation at stream crossings, etc.)</td>
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</table>

### 2. Activity-specific monitoring plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monitoring Indicators</th>
<th>Monitoring and Reporting Frequency</th>
<th>Responsible Parties</th>
<th>Records Generated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specify indicators to (1) determine if mitigation is in place and (2) successful (for example, visual inspections for seepage around pit latrine; sedimentation at stream crossings, etc.)(Taken from column 5 of the environmental mitigation plan above.)</td>
<td>For example: “Monitor weekly, and report in quarterly reports. If XXX occurs, immediately inform USAID COR/AOR.”</td>
<td>Separate parties responsible for mitigation from those responsible for reporting, whenever appropriate,</td>
<td>If appropriate, describe types of records generated by the mitigation, monitoring, and reporting process.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ERC/EMMP ANNEX 1

Certification of No Adverse or Significant Effects on the Environment

I, the undersigned, certify that activity-specific baseline conditions and applicable environmental requirements have been properly assessed; environment, health, and safety impacts requiring further consideration have been comprehensively identified; and that adverse impacts will be effectively avoided or sufficiently minimized by proper implementation of the EMMP(s) in Section H. If new impacts requiring further consideration are identified or new mitigation measures are needed, I will be responsible for notifying the USAID COR/AOR, as soon as practicable. Upon completion of activities, I will submit a Record of Compliance with Activity-Specific EMMPs using the format provided in ERC Annex 2.

_________________________________________  ___________________________
Implementer Project Director/COP Name      Date

Approvals:

_________________________________________  ___________________________
USAID COR/AOR Name                        Date

_________________________________________  ___________________________
Mission Environmental Officer Name        Date

Concurrence:

_________________________________________  ___________________________
Mark Kamiya, Bureau Environmental Officer Date

Distribution:

- Project Files
- IEE Files

Mission / Project
ERC/EMMP ANNEX 2
RECORD OF COMPLIANCE WITH ACTIVITY-SPECIFIC
ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION AND MONITORING PLANS (EMMPs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject:</th>
<th>Site or Activity Name/Primary Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IEE DCN:</td>
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<tr>
<td>To:</td>
<td>COR/AOR/Activity Manager Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copy:</td>
<td>Mission Environmental Officer Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The [name of the implementing organization] has finalized its activities at the [site name] to [describe activities and processes that were undertaken]. This memorandum is to certify that our organization has met all conditions of the EMMPs for this activity. A summary and photo evidence of the how mitigation and monitoring requirements were met is provided below.

1. Mobilization and Site Preparation

2. Activity Implementation Phase

3. Site Closure Phase

4. Activity Handover

Sincerely,

__________________________________________________________________
Implementer Project Director/COP Name Date

Approved:

__________________________________________________________________
USAID/COR/AOR/Activity Manager Name Date

Distribution:
- Project Files
- MEO
- Bureau Environmental Officer