



USAID
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LAC-IEE-05-33

ENVIRONMENTAL THRESHOLD DECISION

Country: Jamaica

Activity Title: USAID Partnership for Community Development Fund (CDF)

Activity Number: 532-019

Life of Activity: FY 2005 – FY 2012

Life of Activity Funding: \$160,000

IEE Prepared by: Karyll Johnston, USAID/Jamaica-Car/ORD

Recommended Threshold Decision: Categorical Exclusion and Negative Determination with Conditions

Bureau Threshold Decision: Concur with recommendation

Comments:

Pursuant to the following sections of 22 CFR 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.**);

a **Categorical Exclusion** is issued to applicable USAID Partnership for Community Development Fund (CDF) activities involving the provision of technical assistance, education, and training.

A **Negative Determination with conditions** is issued to the CDF grants that may have minor environmental impacts (small-scale infrastructure such as upgrades to community centers or improvements to health and sanitation facilities, and micro enterprise activities) including the following conditions:

- The CDF Environmental Screening Form (attached) will be used and where applicable a monitoring/mitigation plan be developed. Technical Officers, and grant review committee will review grants on a case by case basis to identify impacts on the environment in accordance with the conditions stated in the relevant chapters of the LAC Bureau Environmental Guidelines¹- Chapter 2, for renovations associated with infrastructure modifications, Chapter 4 for Micro Enterprise activities.
- In addition, where applicable, these activities should be in accordance with the environmental regulations and permitting processes of the host countries.
- The Cognizant Technical Officer (CTO) for this activity is responsible for making sure environmental conditions are met. It is the responsibility of the SO Team to ensure that activity-related SOAGs, MAARDs and contracting documents contain specific instructions reflecting this Environmental Threshold Decision, including the provision of (and any necessary training in the use of) the indicated LAC Environmental Guidelines for activities that have a Negative Determination with Conditions.
- No grants will be made under this activity for the purchase or use of pesticides, without prior approval of a supplemental Initial Environmental Examination meeting USAID Pesticide Procedures [22CFR216.3(b)].

Date _____

Victor H. Bullen
Bureau Environmental Officer
Bureau for Latin America & the Caribbean

Copy to:

Karen Turner, Mission Director,
USAID/Jamaica

Copy to:

James Burrowes, Jamaica-Car/OEG, Vicki
Johnson, Jamaica-Car/SO1, Karen
McDonald-Gayle MEO, USAID/ Jamaica

Copy to;

Michael Donald, Regional Environmental
Advisor, USAID/Guatemala

Copy to:

Beth Cypser, LAC/CAR
Dan Riley, LAC/CAR

Copy to:

IEE File

Attachment: IEE

File: P:\LAC.RSD.PUB\RSDPUB\EES\Reg 216\IEE\IEE05\IEE05-33.ETD(JA Community Dev Fund).doc

¹ http://www.usaid.gov/locations/latin_america_caribbean/environment/docs/epiq/epiq.html

INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

Activity #: **532-019**

PROGRAM LOCATION: Jamaica

PROGRAM TITLE: USAID Partnership for Community Development Fund (CDF)

LIFE OF PROGRAM (LOP): 2005-2009 (5 years)

LOP FUNDING: \$160,000.00

IEE PREPARED BY: Karyll Johnston (*Office Environment & Natural Resource*)

RECOMMENDED THRESHOLD DECISION: Categorical Exclusion/Negative Determination, with Conditions

CONCURRENCE

I have reviewed the above statement and concur with the recommended Environmental Threshold Decision.

 Karen McDonald-Gayle (*for*)
 Mission Environmental Officer
 USAID/Jamaica

 Bruce Bayle
 Regional Environment Advisor
 USAID/BOGOTA

MISSION DIRECTOR'S DECISION

Approved: _____
 Kevin A. Rushing

Date: _____

LAC BUREAU ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S DECISION

Approved: _____
 Victor Bullen

Date: _____

Activity Description: The USAID Partnership for Community Development Fund (CDF) will provide limited grants for community-based self-help activities initiated by private sector and non-governmental organizations. Such grants will be made for activities deemed to be in support of development objectives shared by USAID and the Grantee, including but not limited to objectives in the sectors of environment, education, health, business and finance and community development.

CDF grants will generally be between US\$2,000 and 10,000; unless USAID otherwise determines. Eligible recipients include not-for-profit or non-profit groups in the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other community groups. Church or religious organizations may be eligible provided the proposed activity is secular in nature and will serve community members without regard to religion. The grant may finance services, commodities, construction, and or shipping costs from the US for discrete projects whose result will benefit a substantial portion of the community and will be sustainable by the community. In general, activities must be capable of being completed in 6 months. Illustrative Activities for which CDF funds may be used will include, but are not limited to, improving environmental management, vocational training, upgrading community centers, improving health facilities (for improved health leading to increased productivity), handicraft development and other projects involving local populations not reached by ongoing USAID activities.

Program Implementation: The program under this LSGA will be implemented by eligible community organizations and civil society groups. The Team Leader, Office of the Environment along with the CDF review committee, and designated SO 10 technical officers will coordinate and supervise the work of the grantees.

Discussion of Environmental Impacts & Mitigation Measures: Where activities under this LSGA are environmentally neutral, for example, the provision of vocational training in information technology to community members and the purchase of commodities such IT hardware and software, there will be no negative impact on the physical or natural environment. Where activities promote improved environmental management practices, for example, trees plantings, community clean-ups and environmental awareness programs, the activities are intended to improve environmental conditions.

However, where CDF funds support upgrades to community centers, improvements to health and sanitation facilities, or support handicraft development infrastructure modifications the potential exists that these activities may have a negative impact on the environment. While the small scale nature of the proposed interventions, preclude the chance of significant negative environmental impacts it is recognized that these must be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. It is proposed approved grants be reviewed at the design stage (**CDF screening form**) to identify potential environmental impacts. It will be the responsibility of the grantee, working with USAID technical officers to ensure that measures are implemented which reduce any negative impacts, for example, dust minimizing strategies, and waste plans for facility upgrades. Where applicable, a monitoring/mitigation plan will be developed and approved by the Mission

Environmental Officer (MEO); reference the attached Checklist. The grantee will also be required, where applicable, to meet local parish level planning requirements. The fund does not anticipate support for new constructions.

Monitoring and Reporting:

This intervention will be managed within the USAID/Jamaica- Caribbean Office by a project review committee, as well as, a USAID technical officer based in Jamaica. Each activity, prior to approval, will be reviewed by CDF technical officers as well as the review committee to establish any site-specific environmental impacts.

Recommendations:

Categorical Exclusion: - Pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(i) which state that a categorical exclusion is recommended for all activities which involve: “Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.” For this activity it is therefore foreseen that activities involving the provision of training and capacity building are eligible for a categorical exclusion per 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(i) detailed above.

Negative Determination with Conditions:- With respect to support for upgrades to community centers, small scale micro enterprise activities or improvements to health and sanitation facilities, a negative determination is recommended, based on small scale of the proposed activities. Checklist A will be applied and where applicable a monitoring/mitigation plan be developed. Technical Officers, and grant review committee will review grants on a case by case basis to identify impacts on the environment in accordance with the conditions stated in the relevant chapters of the *LAC Bureau Environmental Guidelines*²- Chapter 2, for renovations associated with infrastructure modifications, Chapter 4 for Micro Enterprise activities.

Clearances [see attached]:

² http://www.usaid.gov/locations/latin_america_caribbean/environment/docs/epiq/epiq.html

Environmental Screening/Report Form
CDF Grant Proposals

type of activity _____

grantee _____

Date _____

		COL A Y/N	COL B Y/N	COL C Y/N	COL D	
		YES	NO	N/A	IF YES TO COL. 2	
					SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	MODERATE TO LOW IMPACT
IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES & COMMUNITIES						
1	ARE THERE ANY POTENTIALLY SENSITIVE TERRESTRIAL OR AQUATIC AREAS NEAR THE PROJECT SITE? INCLUDING PROTECTED AREAS.					
2	DOES THE ACTIVITY IMPACT UPON WILDLIFE, FOREST RESOURCES, OR WETLANDS?					
3	WILL THE ACTIVITIES PROPOSED GENERATE AIRBORNE GASES, LIQUIDS, OR SOLIDS (I.E. DISCHARGE POLLUTANTS)					
4	WILL THE WASTE GENERATED DURING OR AFTER THE PROJECT IMPACT ON NEIGHBORING SURFACE OR GROUND WATER?					
5	WILL THE ACTIVITY RESULT IN EXTENSIVE CLEARING OF FOREST COVER?					
6	WILL THE ACTIVITY CONTRIBUTE TO EROSION?					
LOCAL PLANNING PERMITS						
7	DOES THE ACTIVITY E.G. INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS REQUIRE LOCAL PLANNING PERMISSION(S)?					
8	DOES THE ACTIVITY E.G. INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS MEET THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE?					
9	IS THE ACTIVITY COMPATIBLE WITH EXISTING LAND USE?					
ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH						
10	WILL THE PROJECT ACTIVITIES CREATE CONDITIONS THAT ENCOURAGE AN INCREASE OF WATERBORNE DISEASES OR POPULATIONS OF DISEASE CARRYING VECTORS?					
11	DOES THE ACTIVITY USE WATER EFFICIENTLY AND ESTABLISH PROPER DRAINAGE?					
12	FOR WATER AND SANITATION GRANTS, HAS A MAINTENANCE PLAN BEEN SUBMITTED?					

type of activity _____	COL A Y/N	COL B Y/N	COL C Y/N	COL D	
grantee _____	Yes	No	N/A	If Yes to COL. 2.	
Date _____				significant t impact	Moderate to Low impact
13 Will the activity generate hazards or barriers for pedestrians, motorists or persons with disabilities?					

Monitoring/Mitigation Plan

enter the question/row # of the potential negative impacts with check marks in column a and complete table below for mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate the issue.

#	Description of Impact	Prescribed Mitigation or Investigation Measures

recommended action (check appropriate action)

(check 1)

(a) the project has no potential for substantial adverse environmental effects. no further environmental review is required.	
(b) the project has little potential for substantial adverse environmental effects. however the recommended mitigation measures will be incorporated in the activity design no further environmental review is required.	
(c) the project has substantial but mitigatable adverse environmental effects and required measures to mitigate environmental effects will be incorporated	
(d) the project has potentially substantial adverse environmental effects, but requires more analysis to form a conclusion. an environmental assessment will be prepared.	
(e) the project has potentially substantial adverse environmental effects, and revisions to the project design or location or the development of new alternatives is required.	
(f) the project has substantial and unmitigable adverse environmental effects. mitigation is insufficient to eliminate these effects and alternatives are not feasible. the project is not recommended for funding.	

notes to the file.

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Prepared by:
Signature:
Date:

INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

PROGRAM LOCATION: Jamaica

PROGRAM TITLE: Development Credit Authority (DCA) Activity in Jamaica (with National Commercial Bank Jamaica Limited - NCB)

LIFE OF PROGRAM (LOP): 2005-2012 (7 years)

LOP FUNDING: \$ - 250,000 (from USAID)
\$5,000,000 (Total Loan Portfolio)

IEE PREPARED BY: James Burrowes
(Economic Growth)

RECOMMENDED THRESHOLD DECISION: Categorical Exclusion/Negative Determination (with conditions)

CONCURRENCE
I have reviewed the above statement and concur with the recommended Environmental Threshold Decision.

Karen McDonald-Gayle 2/22/05
Karen McDonald-Gayle (for)
Mission Environmental Officer
USAID/Jamaica

For Mike Donald, 2/10/05
Mike Donald
Regional Environment Advisor
USAID/Guatemala

MISSION DIRECTOR'S DECISION

Approved: *[Signature]*
Karen D. Turner
Date: *2/22/05*

LAC BUREAU ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S DECISION

Approved: _____
Victor Bullen
Date: _____