



**LAC-IEE-05-36**

**ENVIRONMENTAL THRESHOLD DECISION**

**Activity Location:** Mexico, Brazil, Central America, the Dominican Republic, and the Andes (LAC regional)

**Activity Title:** Inter-American Development Bank, Sustainable Energy for Latin America Project, Public International Organization Letter Grant

**Activity Number:** LAC-G-00-03000002-02

**Life-of-Activity Funding:** \$85,000

**Life-of-Activity:** FY 2005 – FY 2007

**IEE prepared by:** John L. Garrison, LAC/RSD/E

**Recommended Threshold Decision:** Categorical Exclusion

**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.);
- (iii) Analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings;

a **Categorical Exclusion** is issued for the activity to provide technical assistance to this LAC Regional activity.

If any construction might be supported by this activity, an approved supplemental Initial Environmental Examination is required before it can be undertaken.

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

Copy to: Richard Loudis, LAR/RSD Acting  
Director

Copy to: Jerry Bisson, LAC/RSD/E, Team Leader

Copy to: Sarah-Ann Lynch, LAC/SA  
Jeff Bakken, LAC/SA  
David Jessee, LAC/CAM  
Beth Cypser, LAC/CAR

Copy to: IEE File

**Attachment: IEE**

File: P:\LAC.RSD.PUB\RSDPUB\EES\Reg 216\IEE\IEE05\IEE05-36.CE(LAC – IADB  
Energy Tech Asst).doc

**Request for Categorical Exclusion/**

Location:	Mexico, Brazil, Central America, the Dominican Republic, and the Andes
Title:	Inter-American Development Bank, Sustainable Energy for Latin America Project, Public International Organization Letter Grant
Grant Number:	LAC-G-00-03000002-02
Funding:	\$85,000
FY's:	2005-2006
IEE Prepared by:	John L. Garrison, LAC/RSD/E
Date Prepared:	August 17, 2004
Recommendation:	Categorical Exclusion

**Background and Activity Description**

This IEE is for a Public International Organization Grant to the Inter-American Development Bank's (IADB) to help fund it's Sustainable Energy for Latin America Project and allow it to secure the services of an energy contractor. Under this Letter Grant, the IADB and other members of the IADB group (the Inter-American Investment Corporation (IIC) and the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF)) will enhance sustainable energy and energy efficiency lending capacity in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a special focus on Mexico and Brazil, by:

- identifying potential IADB technical assistance and operational instruments (IADB loans, ordinary capital or concessional, MIF, PRI, IIC, etc.) that may be appropriate project implementation vehicles in these areas;
- helping the IADB, MIF, IIC and donor countries in Latin America and the Caribbean develop clean energy and energy efficiency loan and grant proposals;
- identifying potential private channels of financing that might be tapped for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects;
- working with IADB specialists, and public and private sector stakeholders, to identify the most promising general opportunities and specific projects in these areas, e.g.:

- working with LAC Mission specialists to identify relevant projects to fit into the energy portfolio of the Mission and/or;
- defining promising new lines of financial support for developmental activities from a range of potential donors outside of IADB and USAID, including potentially the MIF, the Global Environmental Facility, the World Bank, among others, if relevant, to complement the IADB's financial instruments.

### **Recommended Environmental Threshold Decision**

The technical assistance, training and institutional strengthening activities to be implemented under each of the above areas will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. While the technical assistance provided under the Letter Grant will help develop IADB, MIC and/or IIC loans and grants for renewable energy and energy efficiency activities that might potentially impact the environment, each of the three institution's have their own environmental impact requirements and review process. Therefore, the Letter Grant qualifies for a categorical exclusion under 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(i) and (iii), respectively, "Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.);" and "Analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings."

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dick Loudis, Acting Director, LAC/RSD