

## SESSION 12

### EXERCISE: EMMP REPORTING AND VERIFICATION

#### SESSION SUMMARY.

This exercise will help participants develop practical skills in Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) review and oversight, and the integration of project environmental compliance reporting. Building on the virtual field visit, this exercise will use an illustrative EMMP and sample monitoring and reporting materials to highlight the importance of these documents and information in helping USAID to meet its environmental management and oversight responsibilities.

#### Instructions:

1. Participants will familiarize with the exercise materials, with reference to the preceding virtual field visit. Materials include:
  - Illustrative EMMP excerpt
  - Sample project environmental compliance reporting
  - Sample trip report from recent USAID site visit
2. With the EMMP excerpt in-hand, assume the mindset of a brand-new AOR, COR, or Activity Manager—the project is already underway and you are just entering the picture. Consider the following questions:
  - How well do you know the project’s environmental dimensions? What are the gaps, if any (as you recall the virtual field visit)?
  - What are the project’s most significant potential impacts? Which potential impacts can be more easily mitigated (and monitored)?
  - Does the EMMP reflect your understanding of potential adverse impacts? Are the mitigation measures appropriate to the risks?
  - Do monitoring requirements appear suitable? Are responsibilities well allocated?
3. Set aside the EMMP excerpt (for the moment) and refer to the sample environmental compliance reporting and site visit materials. Use this information to assess implementation of the EMMP. Consider the following questions:
  - Are all required mitigation measures in place? Are they effective?
  - Does project reporting align with the findings of the site visit? Are you getting a clear picture of mitigation and monitoring activities?
  - Do you require additional information or clarification? What are those needs? How will they be met?
  - Are there concerns that the project is not in compliance? How would these be addressed?

Once participants have had an opportunity to consider these questions and formulate responses, the facilitators will lead a group discussion that characterizes the strengths and weaknesses of these materials, as well as their impact on compliance and the environmentally sound design and management of Agency programs and activities.

## Exercise: EMMP Reporting and Verification—EMMP Excerpt

**EMMP for Project:** Kilombero Rice and Maize Production (KRAMP)

**Person Responsible** for Overseeing EMMP: M&E Specialist

Component 1: Establishment of irrigation infrastructure			
<b>KRAMP will design and construct an interconnected series of medium-scale irrigation schemes to improve food security and increase smallholder farm incomes for at-risk communities in Kilombero District. Primary surface water diversion from Kilombero River will include earthworks and concrete weir diversion with main unlined canal serving recipient communities. Infrastructure in recipient communities will include secondary control structures, drainage, and on-farm access roads.</b>			
EA/IEE Conditions:	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring	Timing and Responsible Parties
Diversion (or abstraction) of water from Kilombero River will not exceed <b>10 percent</b> of total flow volume on month-to-month basis.	Install measurement devices and implement operating procedures to continually assess river flow.	Visual inspection of measurement devices. Reports on river flow data recorded at project office and submitted to District Agriculture Officer.	Visual inspections completed not less than once a week by principal Project Engineer. Reports recorded and submitted on weekly basis.
	Develop and implement seasonal forecasting and/or models to account for variations in river flow to proactively plan for and manage water allocation.	Two-week river flow forecasts recorded at project office and submitted to District Agriculture Officer.	Forecasts recorded and submitted by principal Project Engineer on weekly basis.
Siting and construction of primary diversion/weir will conform to BMPs	Hire only certified contractors for construction of the weir and related infrastructure at primary diversion.	Verify validity of government-issued certification.	Project Contracts Manager to verify through tender process and prior to issuance of contract.
Ensure regular maintenance of secondary control structures and on-farm access roads.	Form and train community-based teams to provide ongoing maintenance of local irrigation-related infrastructure.	Verify function of community-based teams and training in sound maintenance practices. Conduct spot-checks to confirm effective maintenance practices.	Community Outreach manager to meet with/observe teams not less than quarterly. Unannounced spot checks not less than quarterly.
Component 2: Farmer technical assistance and training			
<b>KRAMP will provide participating farmers with training and technical assistance in the use of agricultural inputs to increase production in concert with available irrigation (e.g., fertilizer, improved seeds varieties, etc.), and promote climate-resilient practices.</b>			
IEE Conditions	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring	Timing and Responsible Parties
Fertilizer type will be selected for promotion and/or use based on local soil analysis and crop; farmer training must conform to BMPs.	Conduct necessary soil sampling and analysis for farmers volunteering to receive technical assistance and training and who will have access to irrigation.	Results of soil analyses not already available will be recorded at the project office and provided to the District Agriculture Officer.	Reports recorded and submitted by Extension Officers on ongoing basis.
	Train farmers in sustainable, safe use of appropriate fertilizers to avoid overuse (e.g., nutrient loading) and protect soil health.	Observe training delivery for consistency with BMPs. Assess water quality of agricultural run-off.	Project Engineer to observe training on semi-annual basis
All farmer training efforts will integrate key themes of climate-smart agriculture (CSA).	Adapt CSA-related principles and themes for consumption by beneficiary farmers, including preparation of written materials in local language and development of illustrated promotional materials.	Survey trained farmers to determine level of awareness of CSA-related techniques and practices. Spot checks of participating farmer fields.	Community Outreach manager to complete survey as part of project mid-term evaluation. Unannounced spot checks not less than quarterly.

## Exercise: EMMP Reporting and Verification—Site Visit Summary

To: KRAMP Project AOR/COR/Activity Manager  
From: Mission Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Specialist  
CC: Mission Environmental Officer (MEO)  
Date: The other day  
Re: Recent site visit to KRAMP project

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Dear Colleague,

As you know the M&E team is just back from a week-long trip up-county. We were fortunate to spend a day with the KRAMP project. In addition to looking at overall project operations we focused part of the visit specifically on environment. The Chief of Party was great, and more than happy to address our questions. A copy of the EMMP was also made available for our reference (though I do note some differences from the version on the P drive). Here is a brief summary of what we saw (with many thanks to the MEO for hand-holding along the way!):

- Construction at the primary diversion site appears of good quality. The staging/work area was secure and mostly cleaned, except for some remaining fuel drums and rubbish. Access to the weir is limited by a locked barrier that the COP said is new and was installed because children were fishing from the structure. The general area is quite busy with a lot of foot traffic, so we wondered if some additional site security is warranted. We did not notice any warning signs or similar.
- The river flow gauge that we saw was barely legible from the bank. We could not read the height.
- Our visit with the District Agriculture Officer was positive and they indicated they are in constant contact with KRAMP project staff and receiving reports on a regular basis. However it was not clear if these reports are being read and/or what happens to them once they are received by the Ministry. Ministry Extension Officers appear to be working well with project staff with a high level of coordination.
- We spoke with two community maintenance groups. They were well organized (with matching coveralls) and indicated that their training was well coordinated and relevant. They haven't been put to the test, yet, as most of the control structures and access roads are new and of good materials and high-quality construction. There were specific questions from group members on who would pay for tools/materials when the time comes.
- We were shown a number of posters with illustrations and pictograms showing techniques for climate-smart ag. We even noted a few on display in local agro-dealer outlets. These looked great and the project is clearly doing a good job getting the word out on this important issue.

## Exercise: EMMP Reporting and Verification—Project EC Reporting

To: KRAMP Project AOR/COR/Activity Manager, USAID  
From: KRAMP Implementing Partner Chief of Party  
Date: Project Year 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter  
Re: Environmental Compliance Addendum to KRAMP Quarterly Report

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Dear Colleague,

This memo serves as an addendum to our recent Quarterly Report on implementation of the Kilombero Rice and Maize Production (KRAMP) project. This addendum addresses project environmental management and compliance, with particular reference to the project Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP).

Overall, KRAMP is doing a fine job complying with applicable environmental compliance requirements. As we reach the one-year milestone, the project is now implementing most of the activities planned under Component 1 (establishment of irrigation infrastructure) and Component 2 (farmer technical assistance and training). All mitigation measures specified in the EMMP are in place and environmental monitoring is being conducted on an ongoing basis.

There have been some challenges understanding the requirements in the Reg. 216 documents, but we believe the EMMP in its current form, and our overall culture of environmental stewardship, are appropriate to the risks of this project. Following is a summary of environmental management successes and challenges for Component 1 and Component 2 activities in the previous quarter.

### Component 1:

- River flow measurement devices and related procedures are in place and functioning well. We have found that historical data is not sufficient for current forecasting needs and have engaged several experts to assist with development of additional tools/resources. As the rainy season will continue for at least 4 more weeks we are confident that the current rate of diversion will not exceed limits for at least 6 weeks, at which point the new forecasting tool will be available.
- Final clean-up and remediation is complete at the primary diversion site. The construction contractor has assured us that the fuel spill has been addressed and that the new barrier is high enough to prevent children from fishing off of the weir.
- Community-based maintenance teams have been formed and are now in place in 8 villages. They have received instruction in maintenance practices and we have observed their good work. More importantly there have been no complaints from farmers or the District Agriculture Officer of mal-functioning equipment or reduced accessibility.

### Component 2:

- The project was able to access significant data from the Ministry of Agriculture regarding soil type/quality on participating farms, saving considerable resources. This has been recorded at the project level. Training in the safe and sustainable use of fertilizer incorporates BMPs and has found strong support from a national network of agro-dealers. Based on response to date we anticipate fertilizer use to scale-up quite rapidly.