

GLOSSARY

ADAPTATION

Adaptation is the adjustment in systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects. It is the process of examining and understanding vulnerabilities, and then responding in some way to reduce vulnerability and build resilience.

SOURCE

EPA. *State and Local Climate and Energy Program Glossary of Terms*.

https://ofmpub.epa.gov/sor_internet/registry/termreg/searchandretrieve/glossariesandkeywordlists/search.do?details=&glossaryName=State/Local%20Climate%20and%20Energy

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

A determination that an action does not have a significant effect on the human environment and does not need to undergo further environmental review. If an agency action meets a set of criteria as defined in 22 CFR 216 and this chapter, then it may be assigned a Categorical Exclusion.

SOURCE

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216.

CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT (CRM)

A process to assess and address climate-related risks in strategies, projects, and activities, ensuring effectiveness and sustainability of development objectives in the face of climate variability and change.

SOURCE

<https://www.climatelinks.org/integration/climate-risk-management>

DEFERRAL

Postponement of an environmental review or threshold decision for an action until the action is better defined. The action cannot be funded until the environmental review is complete.

SOURCE

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216.

ECOSYSTEM

Any natural unit or entity including living and non-living parts that interact to produce a stable system through cyclic exchange of materials.

SOURCE

EPA. *Glossary of Climate Change Terms*. <http://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/index.html>.

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

The short- and long-term benefits people obtain from ecosystems. They include:

1. Provisioning goods and services, or the production of basic goods such as food, water, fish, fuels, timber, and fiber;
2. Regulating services, such as flood protection, purification of air and water, waste absorption, disease control, and climate regulation;
3. Cultural services that provide spiritual, aesthetic, and recreational benefits; and

4. Supporting services necessary to produce all other ecosystem services, such as soil formation, production of oxygen, crop pollination, carbon sequestration, photosynthesis, and nutrient cycling.

SOURCE

USAID. *Sector Environmental Guideline: Forestry*.

http://www.usaidgems.org/Documents/SectorGuidelines/SectorEnvironmentalGuidelines_Forestry_2015.pdf

ENVIRONMENT

The term environment includes the natural and physical environment and the relationship of people with that environment.

SOURCE

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)

A detailed study of the reasonably foreseeable significant effects, both beneficial and adverse, of a proposed action on the environment of a foreign country or countries. This term as used by USAID is equivalent to Environmental Impact Statement as used in NEPA and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment as used most commonly in international best practice.

SOURCE

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216.

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION AND MONITORING PLANS (EMMPS)

A document that outlines mitigation and monitoring actions taken to satisfy the IEE or EA conditions, as well as the responsibility and schedule for mitigation, monitoring, and reporting.

SOURCE

USAID. *ENCAP Factsheet: Environmental Mitigation & Monitoring Plans*.

<http://www.usaidgems.org/Workshops/MalawiMay2013Materials/Chapters/STEMMP.pdf>

INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION (IEE)

The first review of the reasonably foreseeable effects of a proposed action on the environment. Its function is to provide a brief statement of the factual basis for a Threshold Decision as to whether an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement will be required. This term as used by USAID is equivalent to Environmental Assessment as used in NEPA and screening/preliminary review as used most commonly in international best practice.

SOURCE

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216.

INDIRECT IMPACT

Impacts that are caused by an action and occur later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable.

SOURCE

USAID. *Resource Guide for Environmental and Social Impact Assessment*.

http://www.usaidgems.org/Workshops/EA2015/SupportingMaterials/USAID%20EIA%20ResourceGuide_23Oct2015_Draft_.pdf

MITIGATION

The design and implementation of measures designed to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, eliminate, or compensate for the adverse impacts of a proposed action on the environment.

1. Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action.
2. Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation.
3. Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment.
4. Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action.
5. Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

SOURCE

USAID. *Mitigation, Monitoring & Reporting*. <http://www.usaidgems.org/mitMonRep.htm>

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

One of the first laws ever written that establishes the broad national framework for protecting our environment. NEPA's basic policy is to assure that all branches of government give proper consideration to the environment prior to undertaking any major federal action that significantly affects the environment.

SOURCE

<https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-national-environmental-policy-act>

NEGATIVE DETERMINATION

A finding that an action or class of actions under consideration will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment.

SOURCE

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216.

NEGATIVE DETERMINATION WITH CONDITIONS

A finding that an action or class of actions under consideration will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment if the specified mitigation and monitoring conditions are implemented. Upon approval of this threshold decision, the conditions become required elements of action implementation.

SOURCE

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216.

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

An important concept in Alternatives Analysis that provides the baseline condition to compare effects to.

SOURCE

USAID "Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Insecticide-Treated Materials in USAID Activities in Sub-Saharan Africa." USAID, January 2002. http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNACP696.pdf; USAID. *Environmental Assessment of Dioxin Contamination at Bien Hoa Airbase*. May 2016. https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/BH-Final-EA-2016-05-03_EN-reduced.pdf.

PROJECT APPRAISAL DOCUMENT (PAD)

A formal document that summarizes all the details of the proposed project and aims to prepare the project for further planning and development.

SOURCE

<http://www.mymanagementguide.com/project-appraisal-template/>

PESTICIDE EVALUATION REPORT AND SAFER USE ACTION PLAN (PERSUAP)

A formal document used to provide project operators with practical tools for better and safer management of their crop pests.

SOURCE

http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/Pnacx490.pdf

PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (PEA)

A form of an EA that addresses an activity or set of activities that will be replicated at a number of geographically separated sites, under one or more awards.

SOURCE

USAID. *USAID Middle East Regional Environmental Compliance & ESDM Training Workshop.*

http://www.usaidgems.org/Workshops/Cairo2015Materials/Session8/8_Scoping_EAs_PeAs_MENA.pptFOOTER.pdf

POSITIVE DETERMINATION

A finding that an action or class of actions under consideration may result in significant adverse environmental impacts. Upon approval of this threshold decision, development of an EA or PEA is mandatory before the action can be funded.

SOURCE

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216.

RAPID ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (REA)

Used to assess, define, and prioritize the potential environmental impacts in disaster situations, such as earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, and landslides.

SOURCE

USAID. *GEMS Environmental Compliance-EDSM Training Series: Scoping the Environmental Assessment.*

2014. http://www.usaidgems.org/Workshops/SenegalRegional2014/Session%209%20-%20Reg.%20216%20Beyond%20the%20IEE/Senegal%20MEO%20Workshop%20Session9_EA_Scoping_11Feb2014pres.pdf

REGULATION 216 (22 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS (CFR) 216)

Stands for "Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216." These are USAID's environmental impact assessment procedures. They are intended to implement the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970, as amended (NEPA) as they affect the USAID program. 22 CFR 216 applies to all USAID programs, projects, activities and substantive amendments.

SOURCE

https://www.usaid.gov/our_work/environment/compliance/regulations-procedures

REQUEST FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (RCE)

An RCE documents that the proposed action or set of actions are all eligible for a Categorical Exclusion as defined in 22 CFR 216 and this chapter.

SOURCE

<http://www.usaidgems.org/Assistant/EDTCatExec.htm>

SCOPING

Determine the significant issues, alternatives, and data gaps that will be addressed in the environmental assessment.

SOURCE

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216.

SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (SIA)

A process that will analyze, monitor, and manage the intended and unintended social consequences, both positive and negative, of planned interventions and social change processes invoked by those interventions.

SOURCE

Centre for Good Governance. *A Comprehensive Guide for Social Impact Assessment*. 2006.

<http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/cgg/unpan026197.pdf>

THRESHOLD DETERMINATION/DECISION

A formal Agency decision that determines whether a proposed Agency action will significantly affect the environment.

SOURCE

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216.

VULNERABILITY

The degree to which a system is susceptible to, or unable to cope with, adverse effects of climate change, including climate variability and extremes. Vulnerability is a function of the character, magnitude, and rate of climate variation to which a system is exposed; its sensitivity; and its adaptive capacity.

SOURCE

EPA. *Glossary of Climate Change Terms*.

https://ofmpub.epa.gov/sor_internet/registry/termreg/searchandretrieve/glossariesandkeywordlists/search.do?details=&glossaryName=Glossary%20Climate%20Change%20Terms

WATER QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN (WQAP)

Outlines monitoring criteria, monitoring frequency, and measures for ensuring the safe provision of water to recipients. In practical terms the WQAP is similar to an EMMP, albeit specific to the context of a water provision activity.

SOURCE

USAID. *Safeguarding the World's Water*. July 2015.

https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1865/Safeguarding_Worlds_Water_151124.pdf.