

AGENDA

Life-of-Project Environmental Compliance and Environmentally Sound Design and Management

A Middle East Regional Training Workshop for USAID Staff

Cairo, Egypt
18–21 May 2015

Overall Goal & Objectives:

The overall goal of the workshop is to strengthen environmentally sound design and management of USAID-funded activities in the Middle East by assuring that participants have the motivation, and knowledge and skills *beyond the introductory level* necessary to: (1) achieve environmental compliance over the life environmentally and programmatically complex projects; and (2) otherwise integrate environmental considerations in project and activity design and management to improve overall project acceptance and sustainability.

Overview:

- Day 1 MOTIVATION, CORE EIA CONCEPTS AND SKILLS, PRE-IMPLEMENTATION COMPLIANCE
- Day 2 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE DURING PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION, ADVANCED IMPACT ASSESSMENT
- Day 3 FIELD VISITS AND GROUP WORK
- Day 4 CONFLICT/POST-CONFLICT SETTINGS & SECTORAL BEST PRACTICE; BRINGING TRAINING TO REALITY

Day/Time	Module	Objective/Content Summary
Sun 17 May	ARRIVAL	
6:00 -	Welcome Reception/Dinner	
Mon 18 May	MOTIVATION, CORE EIA CONCEPTS AND SKILLS, PRE-IMPLEMENTATION COMPLIANCE	
8:00 – 8:30.	Registration	
8:30 – 8:45	Welcome & Opening Statements	
8:45 – 9:15	Session 1: Intro & Objectives	Articulate workshop plans, objectives, goals, and participants' introductions and expectations. Review the agenda and logistics.
9:15 – 10:00	Session 2: Environmental Compliance for Environmentally Sound Design & Management <hr/> <i>Part A: Presentation</i> <hr/> <i>Part B: Participant Examples, Brief Discussion</i>	Achieve a common understanding of “environment.” Summarize the legal basis of USAID’s environmental procedures and the life-of-project requirements they establish. With illustrations by example, understand the need for such procedures to systematically address environmental issues in development activities—even for activities not primarily focused on “biophysical interventions”
10:00 – 10:15	Break	

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10:15 – 11:00	Session 3: EIA Concepts, Process & Skills, Part I <i>Technical presentation and dialogue</i>	USAID’s Environmental Procedures are a specific implementation of the general EIA process. Understanding USAID’s procedures requires understanding the general EIA process. Define key concepts —baseline, impact, activity; brief the EIA process; and learn essential classroom theory for baseline characterization, impact identification & mitigation design and how they apply in the EIA framework. We also establish how the EIA process is a framework for achieving ESDM.
11:00 – 12:10 <i>Includes break for prayer</i>	Session 4: Reg. 216: USAID’s pre-implementation EIA Process <i>Technical presentation and dialogue</i>	Review USAID’s implementation of the EIA process and the preparation of project environmental compliance documents; understand how these documents establish environmental management criteria for USAID-funded activities.
12:10 – 12:25	Session 5: Virtual Field Exercise: Practicing EIA Skills <i>Part A: Briefing</i>	Practice observation skills needed to characterize the baseline situation and identify impacts/issues of concern
12:25 – 13:25	Lunch	
13:25 – 14:10	Part B: Virtual Field Visit	Synthesize field observations and prioritize impacts/issues of concern; discuss possible approaches for limiting adverse effects on the environment.
14:10 – 15:20	Part C: Group Work & Plenary Synthesis	Synthesize field observations and prioritize impacts/issues of concern; discuss possible approaches for limiting adverse effects on the environment.
15:20 – 15:35	Break (<i>Includes break for prayer</i>)	
15:35 – 16:00	Session 6: Effective IEEs <i>6a: Briefing: IEE Review Criteria, Common gaps</i>	Initial Environmental Examinations (IEEs) are USAID’s version of the <i>preliminary assessment</i> and the most common type of Reg. 216 documentation. This session will brief the characteristics of effective IEEs, summarize common shortfalls from the BEO/REA perspective
16:00 – 16:30	<i>6b: Review, Group Feedback/Discussion</i>	Draft revised IEE templates will be reviewed in-depth in facilitated small group format and feedback provided.
Tues 19 May	ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE DURING PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION, ADVANCED IMPACT ASSESSMENT	
8:00 – 8:15	Day 1 review & Day 2 prospectus	
8:15 – 09:30	Session 7: EIA Skills Part II: & “Downstream” compliance: Monitoring, EMMPs & Reporting <i>Part A: Technical presentation and dialogue</i>	Review the objective and key principles of environmental monitoring and indicator selection. Understand EMMP purpose, concept and formats and introduce a key resource: AFR’s <i>EMMP Factsheet</i> . Understand ME expectations regarding IP environmental compliance reporting, and the EMMP as the basis for such reporting.
09:30 – 10:15	Part B: Conditions to Actions: Small Group Exercise	Practice key EMMP skills: translating IEE conditions to specific mitigation actions.
10:15 – 10:30	Break	
10:30 – 11:00	Session 8: EA & PEA Basics	Understand how USAID Environmental Procedures apply in situations where activities present the potential for significant adverse impacts. Discuss the

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	<i>Technical presentation and dialogue</i>	process and expertise needed to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), and meaningful alternatives analysis and consultation as the core of the process.
11:00 – 11:10	Session 9: Impact Assessment “201” <i>Part A: Orientation</i>	In a series of 15 minute mini-briefings, this session introduces a set of key concepts in impact assessment beyond the introductory level. These concepts are then explored in the integrative case study that follows.
11:10 – 11:25	<i>Part B: Cumulative Impacts</i>	
11:25 – 11:40	<i>Part C: Indirect Impacts</i>	
11:40 – 12:05	<i>Part D: Ecosystem Services</i>	
	<i>Includes break for prayer</i>	
12:05 – 12:20	<i>Part E: Social Impacts</i>	
12:20 – 13:20	Lunch	
13:20 – 13:35	<i>Part F: GCC & impact assessment</i>	
13:35 – 15:25	Session 10: Integrative Case Study(ies)	In small groups, discuss case study briefing materials and identify cumulative, indirect & social impacts, and GCC and ecosystem services issues. Discuss how USAID should approach programming under regional development plans/initiatives to deliver long-term benefits and not worsen unforeseen impacts.
15:25 – 15:40	Break <i>Includes break for prayer</i>	
15:40 – 16:00	Session 11: Field-based EMMP Exercise <i>Part A: Site & Exercise Briefing</i>	Over this extended session, we will work in small groups to develop an EMMP. The EMMP will respond to a project scenario and be informed by field visit(s) we undertake at the beginning of Day 3.
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Part B: Group Preparation</i>	Groups view briefing materials and discuss overall approach/strategy
Wed 20 May	FIELD VISITS AND GROUP WORK	
8:00 – 13:00 (includes return)	<i>Part C: Field Visits</i>	Groups complete site visits
Return – 14:15	Lunch & Freshen up	
14:30 – 16:30 (coffee break taken at leisure) <i>Includes break for prayer</i>	<i>Part D: Field visit exercises/develop presentations. (Group work)</i> <i>BEOs available for “office hours” from 16:00 for any groups that may finish early.</i>	Small groups will synthesize findings and observations from the field visits, working to develop key content of an EA SOW and a memo to the design team providing environmental and social design/mitigation guidance to be taken on board. Groups will be ready to present first thing on Thursday morning.
Thurs 21 May	CONFLICT/POST-CONFLICT SETTINGS & SECTORAL BEST PRACTICE; BRINGING TRAINING TO REALITY	
8:00 – 8:15	Day 3 review & Day 4 prospectus	
8:15 – 09:30	<i>Part E: Group Presentations</i>	Working groups present their document/findings and recommendations in approx. 20-minute presentations with feedback from facilitators.

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09:30 – 09:45	Break	
09:45 – 10:45	Session 12: Environmental Management in Conflict and Post-Conflict Settings <i>Presentation, Q&A</i>	
10:45 – 10:50	Session 13: Sector “poster sessions” <i>Part A: Introduction</i>	Briefings on sector-specific new developments and current issues in the area of ESDM and environmental compliance
10:50 – 11:00	<i>Part B: Monitoring in hard-to-access locations</i>	
11:00 – 11:10	<i>Part C: Best Practice and Compliance for Investment Promotion</i>	
11:10 – 11:20	<i>Part D: Construction</i>	
11:20 – 12:10 <i>Includes break for prayer</i>	Sector 14: Sector Roundtables <i>Breakout format</i>	Sector roundtables correspond to the “poster sessions” immediately above, and are informal discussions/Q&A with a BEO/subject expert. Participants chose which roundtable to join.
12:10 – 13:10	Lunch	
13:10 – 13:55	Session 15 Roles, Responsibilities & Resources <i>Half of session time is reserved for Q&A</i>	Review Environmental Compliance roles and responsibilities, with reference to ADS requirements & the programming cycle. Introduce the key resources available to support environmental compliance and ESDM.
13:55 – 14:35	Session 16: “Parking Lot”	Address unresolved questions with reference to the issues and questions “parking lot” created over the course of the workshop.
14:35 – 14:45	Break	
14:45 – 16:00 <i>Includes break for prayer</i>	Session 17: Stocktaking & Action Plans	Work individually and in small groups to develop: (1) key issues/items to communicate to mission/team management after the workshop; (2) individual action plans.
16:00 – 16:15	Session 18: Evaluations	
16:15 – 16:45	Certificates and Closing	