

AFR Environmental Compliance Best Practice Standard

A) Environmental documents are in place, including:	
1) Environmental Compliance Mission Order	
2) MEO Appointment Memo	
3) Up-to-date ETOA or FAA 118/119, prepared with MEO involvement or review	
4) IEEs at SO level, updated as necessary	
5) IEEs at activity level, updated as necessary (if not included in SO-level IEE)	
B) Staff and implementing partners have capacity to ensure environmental compliance:	
1) Staff and implementing partners have been trained in Regulation 216/environmental compliance	
2) MEO has knowledge of country level environmental assessment legislation and country environmental issues	
3) MEO has skills and expertise to identify potential environmental components for Mission SOs and activities;	
4) A "Deputy" or "Alternate" MEO has been appointed to assist when the MEO is unavailable	
5) Opportunities for ongoing training in environmental compliance are provided to staff and implementing partners	
C) Processes are in place to ensure environmental compliance:	
1) MEO reports directly to Mission Director or senior management on matters pertaining to compliance with USAID Environmental Procedures	
2) MEO has mission-wide tracking process for IEE status, which is readily available to all mission staff. (BEO request: use Environmental Compliance Status Report format, an example of which is being sent as an attachment.)	
3) MEO and CTOs/Activity Managers have process for collaborating on activities with potential environmental impacts (from design to closure)	
4) Process exists to identify activities that need amended IEEs (not already covered by the SO level IEE)	
5) Process exists for ensuring IEE conditions are incorporated into Request for Proposals/Request for Applications (RFP/RFA), or process exists for ensuring activity-level IEE will be undertaken by the contractor (and included as a task in the RFA/RFP)	
6) Process exists for incorporating IEE conditions into contracts; and including mitigation and monitoring costs into project budgets	
7) Process exists for ensuring mission or implementing partner develops and implements an Environmental Management Plan/Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMP/MMP)	
8) Process exists for reporting to USAID on implementation of mitigation measures and continued assessment of potential environmental impacts (in project semi-annual or quarterly reports);	
9) Financial resources available to support mission environmental compliance processes, including training, analytical support, MEO travel to assist CTOs with field monitoring, etc. When the MEO reports to a sectoral team (Economic Growth, etc.), these resources would ideally be provided by the Program Office, since the MEO duties support the mission as a whole.	
D) The following mission contracting, project, and review/status documents include environmental compliance language:	
1) Strategic Objective Agreement (SOAg) approvals	3) Modified Acquisition and Assistance Request Documents (MAARDs)
2) Activity Approval Documents (AAD)	4) RFPs/RFAs
5) Contracts and cooperative agreements with budget that reflects mitigation and monitoring costs;	
6) Quarterly or semi-annual reports, submitted by project staff to the CTO	
7) Most recent Annual Report submitted by Mission to USAID/W	
8) Portfolio reviews, conducted semi-annually	
9) Closure report, where lessons learned regarding ESDM and Reg. 216 should be documented; and	