SESSION 6

EXERCISE: VIRTUAL FIELD VISIT, OR “HOW TO THINK LIKE AN IMPACT ASSESSOR”

SESSION SUMMARY.

This session gives participants the opportunity to practice the core Environmental Impact Assessment skills covered in the previous session by “visiting” one of two illustrative USAID project sites:

- Proposed construction of a surface water-based irrigation scheme for smallholder farmers in Kilombero District, Tanzania.
- Proposed school construction in rural Malawi.

Participants will learn how to think like impact assessors in the field. During the “virtual” field visit, participants will consider the baseline situation at the site and the potential impacts of the proposed activities on the environment and human health through:

- Community (i.e., stakeholder) engagement;
- Direct observations; and
- Review of existing data on the environmental and human factors.