

**INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION  
AND/OR  
REQUEST FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

**PROGRAM/PROJECT DATA:**

**Program/Activity Number:** VOICE PAD Project  
**Country/Region:** Rwanda/East Africa  
**Program/Activity Title:** Development Objective 2: *Improve conditions for durable peace and development through strengthened democratic processes*

**Foreign Assistance Objective 2:** **Governing Justly & Democratically**

Program Area 2.1: *Rule of Law and Human Rights*  
Program Element: 2.1.4: Human Rights

Program Area 2.2: *Good Governance*  
Program Element: 2.2.2: Public Sector Executive Function  
Program Element: 2.2.3: Local Government and Decentralization

Program Area 2.3: *Political Competition and Consensus-Building*  
Program Element: 2.3.1: Consensus-Building Processes  
Program Element: 2.3.2: Elections and Political Processes  
Program Element: 2.3.3: Political Parties

Program Area 2.4: *Civil Society*  
Program Element: 2.4.1: Civic Participation  
Program Element: 2.4.2: Media Freedom and Freedom of Information

**Period covered:** 2014 -2018;

**LOP Amount:** \$ 39,166,704

**IEE Prepared by:** Democracy & Governance Office Team  
**Mission contact point:** Aimee Mpambara, Mission Environmental Officer  
ampambara@usaid.gov

**Current Date** October 20, 2014  
**Expiration Date** September 30, 2018

**IEE Amendment (Y/N):** **No** It updates and replaces the 696-0005 SO 5 IEE "Rwanda DG- \_IEE\_083110"

**ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

Categorical Exclusion:   X   Negative Determination:   X    
Positive Determination:            Deferral:           

**ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS:**

CONDITIONS /EMMP   X   PVO/NGO:   X

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

**Scope.**

This document provides in accordance with 22CFR216, the first review of the reasonably foreseeable effects on the environment of all the activities of the USAID/Rwanda Democracy & Governance office, Development Objective 2 “Improve conditions for durable peace and development through strengthened democratic processes” and cover activities under the Valuing Open and Inclusive Civic Engagement (VOICE) Project Approval Document. This IEE updates and replaces the 696-0005 SO 5 IEE “Rwanda DG- \_IEE\_083110. Ongoing activities operating with an approved environmental mitigation and monitoring plan (EMMP) conforming to the requirements of the SO 5 IEE “Rwanda DG- \_IEE\_083110 may continue operating under that approved EMMP.

Activities covered by this IEE are listed in Table 1 below. Any modification of activities or amendment to the PAD to include a new activity will require an amendment of this IEE before approval of the PAD amendment.

**Recommended Determinations:**

The following table summarizes the recommended determinations for activities under the VOICE PAD. For each, analysis of potential environmental impacts, and activity-by-activity determinations and conditions are provided within sections 3 and 4 of the IEE.

Table 1: Activities under VOICE PAD covered by this IEE

Activity	Categorical Exclusion(s)	Negative Determination (s)	Positive Determination(s)	Deferral
<b><i>Existing activity</i></b>				
HICD-Rwanda Project.	✓			
LAND Project.	✓			
Youth for Human Rights (Y4HR)	✓			
Media and Elections Program in Rwanda	✓			
<b><i>Planned activities</i></b>				
Civil and Human Rights for Development Program	✓	✓ (w/ conditions)		
DFID CSO Fund	✓	✓ (w/ conditions)		
Civic Participation and Elections	✓			

**General Implementation & Monitoring Conditions.** In addition to the specific conditions enumerated in section 3, the negative determinations recommended in this IEE are contingent on full implementation of a set of general monitoring and implementation requirements specified in section 4 of the IEE.

These require: (1) IP Briefings on Environmental Compliance Responsibilities; (2) Development of environmental mitigation and monitoring plans (EMMPs); (3) Integration and implementation of EMMPs in work plans and budgets; (4) Integration of compliance responsibilities in prime and sub-contracts and grant agreements; (5) Assurance of sub-grantee and sub-contractor capacity and compliance; (6) DG Office environmental compliance monitoring; (7) 22 CFR 216 documentation coverage for new or modified activities; and (8) compliance with host country requirements.

### **Annexes**


ANNEX I: Regulation 216 Compliance For USAID/Rwanda VOICE Project - Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP)

ANNEX II: Environmental Screening Form for Sub Grants Proposed under USAID/Rwanda

**APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

IEE for USAID/Rwanda DG VOICE PAD Project

**CLEARANCE:**

Mission Director:  Date: 10/30/14  
Peter A. Malnak

**CONCURRENCE:**

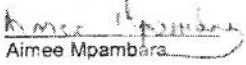
AFR Bureau Environmental Officer:  Date: 12/12/14  
Brian Hirsch

Approved:   
Disapproved:

FILE N°: Rwanda\_DG/VOICE\_IEE\_2014\_2018.doc

**ADDITIONAL CLEARANCES:**

DG Office Director:  Date: 10/20/2014  
Emily Kifunic

Mission Environmental Officer:  Date: 10/18/2014  
Aimee Mpambara

Regional Environmental Advisor:  
USAID/East Africa  Date: 10/25/2014  
David Kinyua

Distribution List:  
USAID/Rwanda DG Office A/CORs and Activity Managers  
USAID/Rwanda Office of Acquisitions and Assistance  
USAID/Rwanda Program Office  
MEO, REA, RLA

**APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

IEE for USAID/Rwanda DG VOICE PAD Project

**CLEARANCE:**

Mission Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Peter A. Malnak

**CONCURRENCE:**

AFR Bureau Environmental Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brian Hirsch

Approved:   
Disapproved

**FILE N°:** Rwanda\_DG/VOICE\_IEE\_2014\_2018.doc

**ADDITIONAL CLEARANCES:**

DG Office Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Emily Kronic

Mission Environmental Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Aimee Mpambara

Regional Environmental Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
| USAID/East Africa David Kinyua

**Distribution List:**

- USAID/Rwanda DG Office A/CORs and Activity Managers
- USAID/Rwanda Office of Acquisitions and Assistance
- USAID/Rwanda Program Office
- MEO, REA, RLA

**INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION  
AND  
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

**PROGRAM/PROJECT DATA:**

**Program/Activity Number:** VOICE PAD Project  
**Country/Region:** Rwanda/East Africa  
**Program/Activity Title:** Development Objective 2: *Improve conditions for durable peace and development through strengthened democratic processes*

**Foreign Assistance Objective 2: Governing Justly & Democratically**

Program Area 2.1: *Rule of Law and Human Rights*  
Program Element: 2.1.4: Human Rights

Program Area 2.2: *Good Governance*  
Program Element: 2.2.2: Public Sector Executive Function  
Program Element: 2.2.3: Local Government and Decentralization

Program Area 2.3: *Political Competition and Consensus-Building*  
Program Element: 2.3.1: Consensus-Building Processes  
Program Element: 2.3.2: Elections and Political Processes  
Program Element: 2.3.3: Political Parties

Program Area 2.4: *Civil Society*  
Program Element: 2.4.1: Civic Participation  
Program Element: 2.4.2: Media Freedom and Freedom of Information

**1. BACKGROUND AND ACTIVITY/PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

**1.1. Purpose and scope of IEE**

This document provides in accordance with 22CFR216, the first review of the reasonably foreseeable effects on the environment of all the activities of the USAID/Rwanda Democracy & Governance office, Development Objective 2 “Improve conditions for durable peace and development through strengthened democratic processes” and cover activities under the Valuing Open and Inclusive Civic Engagement (VOICE) Project Approval Document. This IEE updates and replaces the 696-0005 SO 5 IEE “Rwanda DG- \_IEE\_083110. Ongoing activities operating with an approved environmental mitigation and monitoring plan (EMMP) conforming to the requirements of the SO 5 IEE “Rwanda DG- \_IEE\_083110 may continue operating under that approved EMMP.

For purposes of analysis, this IEE synthesizes current and anticipated activities under the VOICE PAD. As with all IEEs, and in accordance with 22 CFR 216, it reviews the reasonably foreseeable effects of each activity on the environment. On this basis, this IEE recommends Threshold Decisions, and in some cases, conditions for these activities.

In addition, this IEE sets out activity-level implementation procedures intended to assure that conditions in this IEE are translated into project-specific mitigation measures, and to assure systematic compliance with this IEE during project and activity implementation. These procedures are themselves a general condition of approval for the IEE, and their implementation is therefore mandatory.

This IEE is a critical element of a mandatory environmental review and compliance process meant to achieve environmentally sound activity design and implementation.

**AOR/CORs are responsible** for ensuring that the Mission Agreement Officer (AO) and/or Contracting Officer (CO) incorporate these conditions into all solicitation documents and, thereafter, into contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, or other implementing mechanisms. This is especially important during the Post Award Briefings and during work plan preparation and work plan reviews. Incorporation of environmental requirements in procurement documents ensures that **Implementing Partners (IPs)** apply environmental compliance issues during the design, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities.

This IEE evaluates all current and planned activities in the VOICE PAD. It also updates and replaces the 696-0005 SO 5 IEE “Rwanda DG- \_IEE\_083110

## **1.2. Program background**

Since the genocide in 1994, Rwanda has made remarkable progress in developing national and local institutions of government, maintaining security, promoting reconciliation and strengthening the justice system. Despite progress, weaknesses in democracy and governance remain, including a weak civil society, low capacity of the media, issues of media freedom, concentration of political power, and need for increased political space, reconciliation and improved technical capacity of government officials.

### **Development Objective 2 (DO2): *Improved Conditions for Durable Peace and Development through Strengthened Democratic Processes***

USAID/Rwanda will focus on *improving conditions for durable peace and development through strengthened democratic processes* by building the capacity of civil society to participate in the political sphere, while consolidating peace and stability. The Mission will promote social cohesion, peace building, and reconciliation, specifically focusing on grievances that have the potential to lead to a resurgence of ethnic tensions and violence. More substantive dialogue and understanding within communities and between citizens, advocacy groups, and government are necessary for developing an understanding of differences, acceptance of the past, and a willingness to move forward. DO2’s contribution to USAID/Rwanda’s CDCS goal is based on the premise that strengthened dialogue, social cohesion, and civic engagement will increase the sustainability of long-term and broad-based growth and development by promoting a more participative and gender-sensitive development approach that incorporates stakeholders at all levels. This strengthened dialogue and engagement are also prerequisites for reinforcing conditions that allow for a durable peace that can withstand challenges, such as the Presidential elections in 2017. During these challenges, disagreements may arise, yet peace will prevail, if there are shared values, goals, and institutions (e.g. democratic political systems and rule of law), economic interdependence, and a sense of national identity.

This document provides in accordance with 22CFR216, the first review of the reasonably foreseeable effects on the environment of all the activities of the USAID/Rwanda Democracy & Governance office, Development Objective 2 “Improved Conditions for Durable Peace and

Development through Strengthened Democratic Processes” and cover activities under the VOICE Project Approval Document. The following sub-intermediate results serve as VOICE’s sub-purposes:

- Sub-IR 2.1.1 *Improved performance and engagement by CSOs and GOR entities*
- Sub-IR 2.1.2 *Strengthened protection of civil rights and liberties*
- Sub-IR 2.1.3 *Improved environment for political participation and transparent elections*

### 1.3. Project description

This project appraisal document will inform the design of mechanisms and activities supported by USAID/Rwanda intended to *increase civic participation and consultation in governmental decision-making at all levels*. Together, these mechanisms and activities constitute the Valuing Open and Inclusive Civic Engagement (VOICE) project.

VOICE will focus on strengthening relevant institutions, frameworks, and opportunities to ensure that stakeholders are able to participate effectively in public decision-making, exercise their civil rights and liberties, and take part in transparent, open electoral processes. The project also seeks to strengthen civil society networks and increase trust between Government of Rwanda (GOR) institutions and civil society. In support of this, VOICE will include capacity-building interventions for civil society organizations (CSOs), such as strengthening research, advocacy, and outreach skills, as well as for GOR institutions, including increasing citizen engagement in policymaking and improving service delivery.

Several governmental strategies and policies provide important entry points for improving the effectiveness of the VOICE project.

The GOR acknowledges the importance of encouraging public participation, increasing citizens’ voice, and strengthening accountability. It has identified “Accountable Governance” as one of the four main pillars of the 2013-18 Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS2), citing the need to “enhance accountable governance by promoting citizen participation and mobilization for delivery of development, strengthening public accountability and improving service delivery.” Moreover, in Vision 2020, the first pillar on “good governance and a capable state” highlights the importance of capacity building—that is, strengthening country systems and the institutional capacity of local organizations to contribute to national development and policy recommendations—and promoting good governance through transparency and empowering local communities in decision-making processes. In support of these strategy pillars, the GOR has instituted important media reforms and created a national decentralization policy.

Activities covered by the VOICE PAD are in the table below

Activity name	Description
<b><i>Current activities</i></b>	
Human and Institutional Capacity Development (HICD) Project in Rwanda:	Aims to improve the overall performance of targeted government and civil society institutions in a manner that supports USAID/Rwanda’s development outcomes and fosters the long-term social, economic, and environmental sustainability of the country.
LAND Project:	Aims to support Rwanda’s long-term sustainability by strengthening the resilience of its citizens, communities, and institutions and their ability to adapt to land-related economic, environmental and social changes.



Media and Elections Program in Rwanda:	Seeks to build the capacity and confidence of the Rwandan media around elections and political reporting; support greater understanding by traditional and citizen journalists and media outlets of legal protection and rights; build skills and collaborative abilities in independent radio stations and support the evolution of the public broadcasting entity; facilitate the development of advocacy by citizen and journalist groups around the development of a truly independent media.
Youth for Human Rights (Y4HR):	Aims to engage youth in decision-making processes within their communities and with key stakeholders and decision-makers about governance and right issues in order to foster a democratic and just society.
<b>Planned activities under VOICE PAD</b>	
DFID CSO Fund:	Aims to help civil society become increasingly effective at supporting social cohesion, reconciliation, and good governance, and influencing government on key policy issues.
Civil and Human Rights for Development Program:	Seeks to strengthen the demand for and delivery of strengthened protection of human rights and the rule of law in Rwanda.
Civic Participation and Elections project:	Aims to increase the level of voter awareness around Rwanda's upcoming elections through basic civic education and through providing opportunities for public debate around the elections, and to strengthen the level of issue-based debate around both the local and national elections by engaging voters on policies that are relevant to their daily lives.

## 2. COUNTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION (BASELINE INFORMATION)

The Rwandan relief is hilly and mountainous with an altitude averaging 1700 meters. The highest point on Mt Karisimbi is 4507 meters above sea level. Rwanda has volcanic mountains at the northern fringe and undulating hills in most of the central plateau. However, the eastern part of the country is relatively flat with altitudes well below 1500 meters. This relief pattern gives Rwanda a mild and cool climate that is predominantly influenced by altitude. Average annual temperatures are about 18.5°C and average rainfall is about 1250mm per annum. The lowlands of the southwest in Bugarama plain with an altitude of 900m are part of the tectonic depression of the African Rift Valley.

A recent mapping inventory of forests with a surface of 0.5 hectares or higher and with coverage of more than 20% indicated that Rwanda has an estimated 240,746 ha of forests in 2007. This is approximately 10% of the surface of the national dry lands [23, 835 sq.km]. Rwanda forests and woodlands fall into four categories: the natural forests of the Congo Nile Ridge comprised with Nyungwe National Park (NNP) Gishwati, and Mukura ; the natural forests of the Volcano National Park (VNP); the natural forests in savannah and gallery-forest of the Akagera National Park (ANP) and remnants of gallery-forests and savannahs of Bugesera, Gisaka and Umutara; and forest plantations dominated by exotic species (*Eucalyptus spp*, *Pinus spp*, *Grevillea robusta*, etc.) and trees scattered on farmlands (agroforestry) and along anti-erosion ditches.

Rwanda has four types of protected areas which includes national parks (Akagera National Park, Nyungwe National Park and Volcanoes National Park); forest reserves (Gishwati forest, Iwawa Island forest and Mukura forest); forests of cultural importance (Buhanga forest); and wetlands of global importance (Rugezi- Bulera-Ruhondo wetland complex). Besides those forests with a legal status of protected areas, there are other forests of cultural importance (Busaga forest in Muhanga district) and other remnants natural forests which are more or less protected by law. In fact the current law on forests prohibits human activities in natural forests.

Rwanda's hydrological network includes numerous lakes and rivers and its associated wetlands. A recent inventory of marshlands in Rwanda conducted in 2008 identified shows 860 marshlands, covering a total surface of 278 536 ha, which corresponds to 10.6 per cent of the country surface, 101 lakes covering 149487 ha, and 861 rivers totalling 6462 km in length.

The major lakes include Kivu, Bulera, Ruhondo, Muhazi, Cyohoha, Sake, Kilimbi, Mirayi, Rumira, Kidogo, Mugesera, Nasho, Mpanga, Ihema, Mihindi, Rwampanga and Bisoke. The major rivers include the Akagera, Akanyaru, Base, Kagitumba, Mukungwa, Muvumba, Nyabarongo, and Ruvubu in the Nile Basin and Koko, Rubyiro, Ruhwa, Rusizi, Sebeya in the Congo Basin

The most recent inventory of wetlands was conducted in 2008 by Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) through Integrated Management of Critical Ecosystems (IMCE) project funded by GEF and World Bank. This inventory showed that Rwanda has 860 marshlands and 101 lakes covering a total surface of 278,536 ha (10.6 per cent of the country surface area), and 149,487 ha, respectively. This inventory also found 861 rivers totalling 6,462 km in length. 41 per cent of the inventoried marshlands are covered by natural vegetation, 53 per cent are under cropping, (which represents about 148 344 ha) and about 6 per cent are fallow fields. The biggest marshlands are associated with and clustered around the rivers. Rugezi and Kamiranzovu are high altitude wetlands, most of the others are low altitude.

### **Rwanda Environmental Regulation**

Rwanda constitution addresses certain environmental dimensions, including environmental impact

Article 48 states: *'Any citizen has a right to a safe environment, satisfying and sustainable. Any person has the duty of protecting, maintaining and promoting the environment. Any act aiming at damaging the environment is punished by the law. The state must protect the environment.'*

Later, article 192 forbids any accords authorizing the storing on the Rwandan territory of toxic waste and other substances, which may dangerously damage the environment. It states: *'Accords on installation of military barracks on the national territory and those authorizing the storage of toxic waste and other substance which are dangerous for the environment are prohibited.'*

The ETOA conducted in 2008 found that since 2004, Rwanda has made significant progress to establish a stronger foundation for its environmental activities. Some of the important changes that have impacts on the environment include:

- Passage of the Organic Law No. 04/2005;
- Establishment of the Rwanda Environmental Management Authority (REMA) under Law No. 08/2006;
- Implementation of a government Decentralization Policy and legislation;
- Development and implementation of a land reform process; and

- Provision to the public and private sectors with tools that require the environment to be an integral part of the solutions to critical economic issues with the implementation of the Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS) following the recommendations of the 2020 Vision.

The Organic Law on environment is the most significant baseline conservation legislation since 2004. This law serves to: conserve the environment, people and their habitats; set up fundamental principles related to protection of environment; discourage any activities that may degrade the environment; promote the social welfare of the population while considering equal distribution of the existing wealth; consider the durability of the resources with a special emphasis on equal rights to present and future generations; guarantee to all Rwandans sustainable development which does not harm the environment and the social welfare of the population; and establish strategies of protecting and reducing negative effects on the environment and improving/restoring the degraded environment.

### **Threats to the environment**

Despite the important gains that have been made for protecting the environment in the past five years significant threats to their existence and well-being remain prominent.

The most significant threats to the environment include: population pressure; institutional weaknesses and inefficiencies; energy pressure; degradation of wetlands and lack of clean water; agricultural inefficiencies and soil erosion; and waste disposal issues.

#### **Population pressure:**

Rwanda's population growth over the last 4 decades has been unprecedented – from approximately 2.6 million in 1960 to 10.5million in 2012 (National Census, 2012) with an annual population growth rate 2.6 % (National census, 2012). The population density is about 415 people per km<sup>2</sup>, one of the highest in Africa. . These facts mean enormous pressure on the environment and make protecting, let alone conserving, the remaining forest and biological resources a most formidable task. Soils for cultivating, trees for fuel and shelter, biodiversity habitats for the genetic fabric of life, and water for everything are under constant pressure for their use from just about everywhere.

#### **Institutional weaknesses and inefficiencies:**

It was noted above that the legal and policy framework for conservation and environmental protection has improved significantly during the past five years. There are still enormous gaps, inefficiencies, and lack of practical implementation experience. Without these important resource governance tools ecosystems remain very vulnerable to the on-going misuse of their products and services.

The institutions that are working to protect the environment and deal with the threat issues typical of a growing economy are young, and for the most part, the people working in them are inexperienced. They often come up short in terms of the professional training that is required and the knowledge that experience usually brings. There is also lack of coordination and communication as many of those charged with protecting the environment are trying to cope with an overload of responsibilities that result from understaffing and a lack of knowledge about effective management in general.

#### **Energy pressure:**

The majority of Rwandans use wood for their energy needs. Factoring in the population growth rate this means more trees are needed from less land area required to grow them. And because of no comprehensive strategy to address the problem the government has been taking an unsustainable band-aid approach. Even though Rwanda has traditionally used a viable agro-forestry approach in its farming systems, wood for fuel is continuing to come up short. If this threat is to be mitigated, more needs to be done in terms of managing and conserving remaining tree stocks outside of protected areas, tree planting, strategies for harvesting and transport, and for more effective stoves for burning the fuel.

**Degradation of wetlands and lack of clean water remain significant issues.**

A comprehensive water and wetlands policy would do much to alleviate these problems and enable the ecosystem services dependent on soils and water to function better. A particularly significant threat is stream channelization to drain wetlands for agriculture. This causes “down cutting” of the stream beds and significant increases in erosion and sedimentation. Today, all downstream users are susceptible to more marginal water quality and greater risk from water-borne pollutants that originate from urban areas and agricultural lands. There is a government effort to curb erosion by creating bench terraces throughout the country’s thousands of steep hills but it is subject to controversy due to its radical nature. Other aspects of the debate include the bench terraces high cost, their environmental effectiveness and with the continuous maintenance, their sustainability.

**Agricultural inefficiencies:**

Historically, Rwanda has traditionally had productive farming systems coupled with complementary agro forestry techniques. Negative impacts today stem from the extreme pressure on the soils, literally wearing them out, due to the very high level of people trying to eke an existence from smaller and smaller plots of land. Education and awareness is needed today on farming systems that avoid use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, help maintain and support crop diversification efforts, promote rational soil conservation techniques such as progressive terracing, use integrated pest management, and encourages cooperative food security planning among local and district governments and farmers.

**Waste disposal issues.**

Medical and industrial waste also poses a threat not only to the environment but also the physical health of Rwandans. Small changes in temperature and rainfall could be devastating to flora and habitats that are important to wildlife. An erosion of any genetic diversity, or further destruction of the environment will affect not only Rwandans, but also all those downstream from Rwanda -- just about all of central and northeastern Africa that are part of the Congo and Nile Basins. Rwanda’s protected areas are not only critical in terms of their flora and fauna diversity, they are also fragile and most likely vulnerable to small changes in climate. The GOR is working to address these risks and has started to develop strategies that might help them cope when change comes.

**3. EVALUATION OF PROJECT/PROGRAM ISSUES WITH RESPECT TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT POTENTIAL**

Activities under the VOICE PAD do not have direct adverse environmental impacts, as they entail information, education, communication, training, research, planning, management, and outreach activities. However, in the course of implementing these activities, partners should take advantage of opportunities to address environmental issues.

Some potential environmental issues and impacts are likely with the implementation of activities of the VOICE PAD project provided in this section:

**3.1. Provision of grants to local CSOs and national CSOs:**

Given that details about the proposed activities are not yet fully developed (e.g. Civil and Human Rights for Development Program), the grantee or sub-grantee will be required to subject the proposed activities to an environmental screening process intended to identify potential environmental problems, appropriate mitigation measures, and to trigger supplemental environmental review if appropriate.

#### 4. RECOMMENDED THRESHOLD DECISIONS, WITH MITIGATION ACTIONS (INCLUDING MONITORING AND EVALUATION)

The table below summarizes the activities and recommended threshold determinations by activity

Activities	Recommended Threshold Determination and 22 CFR Part 216 citation	Conditions, mitigation or proactive interventions
<p><b>Human and Institutional Capacity Development (HICD) Project in Rwanda:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Confirm participation of target institutions/CSOs</li> <li>- Conduct Performance Assessments</li> <li>- Develop the Performance Solutions Package</li> <li>- Implement Performance Solutions</li> <li>- Operationalize Performance Monitoring System</li> </ul>	<p><b>Categorical Exclusion</b>, per 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(i) Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.); (iii) analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings; (v) document and information transfers; (xiv) studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.).</p>	<p>These activities will not have an effect on the environment and don't require further environmental review</p>
<p><b>LAND Project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Holding annual National Land Research Agenda workshops to establish the research priorities of land sector stakeholders that the LAND Project will support. These workshops bring</li> </ul>	<p><b>Categorical Exclusion</b>, per 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(i) Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.); (viii) Programs involving nutrition,</p>	<p>These activities will not have an effect on the environment and don't require further environmental review</p>

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Recommended Threshold Determination and 22 CFR Part 216 citation</b>	<b>Conditions, mitigation or proactive interventions</b>
<p>together multiple stakeholders from government, civil society and the research community;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supporting research on land-related issues through competitive awards to Rwandan research institutions, universities, and civil society organizations, and providing tailored capacity building assistance to improve research and advocacy capabilities;</li> <li>- Offering training and other support to legal assistance providers to enhance their capacity to support women and vulnerable populations in understanding and realizing their land rights;</li> <li>- Training local land authorities on the implementation of the land law and regulations.</li> <li>- Carrying out research on critical land issues, including gendered land rights in practice, community rights to resources in and around protected areas, and expropriation.</li> <li>- Managing a land-focused website to improve research, communications, and policy advocacy efforts that are focused on land, and to act as a vehicle for enhancing collaboration between actors working in the land sector;</li> <li>- Providing organizational</li> </ul>	<p>except to the extent designed to include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, water supply systems, waste water treatment, agriculture, etc.);</p>	

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Recommended Threshold Determination and 22 CFR Part 216 citation</b>	<b>Conditions, mitigation or proactive interventions</b>
<p>development support to civil society organizations supporting women's land rights.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supporting innovative and coordinated communications approaches by civil society and government that enhance the knowledge of Rwandan citizens about research findings and their land rights.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Media and Elections Program in Rwanda:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capacity building workshops and ongoing mentoring activities</li> <li>- Specialize consultations for editors;</li> <li>- Legal protection for journalists workshop</li> <li>- Citizen reporters' workshop</li> <li>- Mentoring editorial teams at media outlets</li> </ul>	<p><b>Categorical Exclusion, per 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(i)</b> Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.); (iii) analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings; (v) document and information transfers; (xiv) studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.); (viii) Programs involving nutrition, except to the extent designed to include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, water supply systems, waste water treatment, agriculture, etc.);</p>	<p>These activities will not have an effect on the environment and don't require further environmental review</p>
<p><b>Youth for Human Rights:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training of thought leaders for 8 schools and 25 youth associations;</li> </ul>	<p><b>Categorical Exclusion, per 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(i)</b> Education, technical assistance, or</p>	<p>These activities will not have an effect on the environment and don't require further</p>



<b>Activities</b>	<b>Recommended Threshold Determination and 22 CFR Part 216 citation</b>	<b>Conditions, mitigation or proactive interventions</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organize monthly youth discussion forums targeting the youth council members, young leaders, students' leader, influential youth cooperatives and association.</li> <li>- Empower Rwandan youth to become human rights advocates</li> </ul>	<p>training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.); (iii)analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings; (v) document and information transfers; (xiv) studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.)</p>	<p>environmental review</p>
<p><b>DFID CSO Fund:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technical assistance for local and national government and CSOs in support of dialogue structures (e.g. National Dialogues, JADF processes)</li> <li>- Technical and financial support for network building and sharing of lessons and experience</li> <li>- Facilitated partnerships, coaching, mentoring, short-term staff secondments and exchanges, training on research and advocacy, support for organizational development and strategy formulation for CSOs and networks.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Categorical Exclusion, per 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(i)</b> Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.); (iii)analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings; (v) document and information transfers; (xiv) studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.)</p>	<p>These activities will not have an effect on the environment and don't require further environmental review</p>
<p><b>DFID CSO Fund:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Likely to provide small grants to local CSOs</li> </ul>	<p><b>A Negative Determination with Conditions</b> is recommended pursuant to 22 CFR 216.3(a)(2)(iii) for Provision of grants to local</p>	<p>Given that details about the proposed activities are not yet fully developed ( e.g. Civil and Human Rights Development Program) , the</p>

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Recommended Threshold Determination and 22 CFR Part 216 citation</b>	<b>Conditions, mitigation or proactive interventions</b>
	CSOs, national CSOs, and government districts	<p>grantee or sub-grantee will be required to subject the proposed activities to an environmental screening process intended to identify potential environmental problems, appropriate mitigation measures, and to trigger supplemental environmental review if appropriate.</p> <p>Implementing partners will screen proposed activities according to the Africa Bureau Screening and Environmental Review Process, which is attached in Annex of this IEE.</p>
<p><b>Civil and Human Rights for Development Program:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Empower local actors and NGOs to hold the government accountable to its laws through targeted research, policy engagement and/or public interest litigation;</li> <li>- Foster impactful human rights research, advocacy and action</li> </ul>	<p><b>Categorical Exclusion, per 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(i)</b> Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.); (iii)analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings; (v) document and information transfers; (xiv) studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.)</p>	<p>These activities will not have an effect on the environment and don't require further environmental review</p>
<p><b>Civil and Human Rights for Development Program:</b> Likely to provide small grants to local CSOs</p>	<p><b>A Negative Determination with Conditions</b> is recommended pursuant to 22 CFR 216.3(a)(2)(iii) for Provision of grants to local CSOs, national CSOs, and government districts</p>	<p>Given that details about the proposed activities are not yet fully developed ( e.g. Civil and Human Rights Development Program) , the grantee or sub-grantee will be required to subject the proposed activities to an environmental screening process intended to identify potential environmental problems, appropriate mitigation measures, and to trigger</p>

Activities	Recommended Threshold Determination and 22 CFR Part 216 citation	Conditions, mitigation or proactive interventions
		<p>supplemental environmental review if appropriate.</p> <p>Implementing partners will screen proposed activities according to the Africa Bureau Screening and Environmental Review Process, which is attached in Annex of this IEE.</p>
<p><b>Civic participation and Elections:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased understanding of land laws, regulations, and judgments by GOR, CSOs, and citizens</li> <li>- Improved media reporting on policy issues</li> <li>- Improved environment for political participation and transparent elections</li> <li>- Improved voter education and awareness Improved voter education and awareness</li> <li>- Improved fairness and transparency of the electoral process</li> </ul>	<p><b>Categorical Exclusion, per 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)</b> (i) Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.); (iii)analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings; (v) document and information transfers; (xiv) studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.)</p>	<p>These activities will not have an effect on the environment and don't require further environmental review</p>



## 5. General Program Implementation and Monitoring Conditions

In addition to the specific conditions enumerated in Section 3, the negative determinations recommended in this IEE are contingent on full implementation of the following general monitoring and implementation requirements:

1. **IP Briefings on Environmental Compliance Responsibilities.** The DG office shall provide each Implementing Partner (hereinafter IP), with a copy of this IEE; each IP shall be briefed on their environmental compliance responsibilities by their cognizant C/AOR. During this briefing, the IEE conditions applicable to the IP's activities will be identified.
2. **Development of EMMP.** Each IP whose activities are subject to one or more conditions set out in section 3 of this IEE shall develop and provide for C/AOR review and approval an Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) documenting how their project will implement and verify all IEE conditions that apply to their activities.

These EMMPs shall identify how the IP shall assure that IEE conditions that apply to activities supported under subcontracts and sub grants are implemented. (In the case of large sub grants or subcontracts, the IP may elect to require the sub grantee/subcontractor to develop their own EMMP.)

*(Note: The AFR EMMP Factsheet provides EMMP guidance and sample EMMP formats: [http://www.usaidgems.org/Documents/topDocs/ENCAP\\_EMMP\\_Factsheet\\_22Jul2011.pdf](http://www.usaidgems.org/Documents/topDocs/ENCAP_EMMP_Factsheet_22Jul2011.pdf) )*

3. **Integration and implementation of EMMP.** Each IP shall integrate their EMMP into their project work plan and budgets, implement the EMMP, and report on its implementation as an element of regular project performance reporting.

IPs shall assure that sub-contractors and sub-grantees integrate implementation of IEE conditions, where applicable, into their own project work plans and budgets and report on their implementation as an element of sub-contract or grant performance reporting.

4. **Integration of compliance responsibilities in prime and sub-contracts and grant agreements.**
  - a. The DG office shall assure that any future contracts or agreements for implementation of VOICE activities, and/or significant modification to current contracts/agreements shall reference and require compliance with the conditions set out in this IEE, as required by ADS 204.3.4.a.6 and ADS 303.3.6.3.e.
  - b. IPs shall assure that future sub-contracts and sub-grant agreements, and/or significant modifications to existing agreements, reference and require compliance with relevant elements of these conditions.

5. **Assurance of sub-grantee and sub-contractor capacity and compliance.** IPs shall assure that sub-grantees and subcontractors have the capability to implement the relevant requirements of this IEE. The IP shall, as and if appropriate, provide training to sub grantees and subcontractors in their environmental compliance responsibilities and in environmentally sound design and management (ESDM) of their activities.
6. **DG team monitoring responsibility.** As required by ADS 204.5.4, the DG team will actively monitor and evaluate whether the conditions of this IEE are being implemented effectively and whether there are new or unforeseen consequences arising during implementation that were not identified and reviewed in this IEE. If new or unforeseen consequences arise during implementation, the team will suspend the activity and initiate appropriate, further review in accordance with 22 CFR 216. USAID Monitoring shall include regular site visits.
7. **New or modified activities.** As part of its Work Plan, and all Annual Work Plans thereafter, IPs, in collaboration with their C/AOR, shall review all on-going and planned activities to determine if they

are within the scope of this IEE. If any activity makes substantial modifications outside the scope of what is covered by this IEE, an amendment to this IEE shall be undertaken prior to formal approval of the proposed modification. Any amendment to the PAD to include a new activity outside those listed under this IEE will require an amendment of this IEE before approval of the PAD amendment

If activities outside the scope of this IEE are planned, the DG team shall assure that an amendment to this IEE addressing these activities is prepared and approved prior to implementation of any such activities.

Any ongoing activities found to be outside the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation shall be modified to comply or halted until an amendment to the documentation is submitted approved.

8. **Compliance with Host Country Requirements.** Nothing in this IEE substitutes for or supersedes IP, sub grantee and subcontractor responsibility for compliance with all applicable host country laws and regulations. The IP, sub grantees and subcontractor must comply with host country environmental regulations unless otherwise directed in writing by USAID. However, in case of conflict between host country and USAID regulations, the latter shall govern.

**ANNEX I - REGULATION 216 COMPLIANCE FOR USAID/RWANDA, VOICE PROJECT- ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION AND MONITORING PLAN (EMMP)**

---

An EMMP should be developed for all activities under this DO that have at least one “Negative Determination with Conditions” . The implementing partner should usually lead development of the EMMP, subject to review and oversight by the MEO and A/COR. In all cases, the tasks identified in the EMMP are incorporated into the implementing partner’s Work Plan, budget, and reporting.

The following EMMP format is recommended. It can be adapted, as necessary.

**USAID/Rwanda, DG Program**

USAID/Rwanda, DG Program, Award Name and Number	
Date	
Name of Prime Implementing Organization	
Funding Period for this award: FY____ - FY____	
Name of Sub-awardee Organization (if this EMP is for a sub) :	
Current FY Resource Levels: FY	
Geographic location of USAID-funded activities (Province, District):	
This report prepared by	
Date of Previous EMP for this organization	

<b>Category of Activity</b>	<b>Description of Mitigation Measures for these activities as required in Section 5 of IEE</b>	<b>Monitoring Indicator</b>	<b>Monitoring and Reporting Frequency</b>	<b>Party or Parties responsible</b>
Education, technical assistance, training, etc	Education, technical assistance and training about activities that inherently affect the	Discussion of environmental impact included in	Review of materials	Annual





**Certification**

**I certify the completeness and the accuracy of the mitigation and monitoring plan described above for which I am responsible and its compliance with the IEE:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organization

---

**BELOW THIS LINE FOR USAID USE ONLY**

**USAID/Rwanda, DG Program, Clearance of EMMP:**

Agreement / Contracting Officer Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mission Environmental Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

As appropriate: REA, BEO [depending on nature of activity, which potentially may require an EA]

**Note:** if clearance is denied, comments must be provided to applicant

## ANNEX II: Environmental Screening Form for Sub Grants Proposed under USAID/Rwanda

---

All sub grants reviewed under this IEE must complete the “Environmental Screening Form” UNLESS the project or activity is carried out to address an emergency (e.g., international disaster assistance). Emergencies are determined by the US Ambassador, not by the applicant. Per CFR §216.2(b)(1), most activities carried out under emergency circumstances are considered EXEMPT from environmental procedures, except for the procurement or use of pesticides.

The proposed activity cannot be approved and no funds may be committed until the environmental documentation, including mitigation measures, is cleared by the COTR or the AOTR, and approved by the USAID/East Africa Regional Environmental Advisor and the USAID/Rwanda Mission Environmental Officer (MEO). USAID may request modifications, or reject the documentation. If the activities are found to have significant adverse impacts, a full Environmental Assessment must be conducted.

The instructions for completing the Environmental Screening Form follow:

**Step 1. Provide requested “Applicant information”** (section A of the form)

**Step 2. List all proposed activities**

In section B of the form, list the proposed activities that are part of the new project. Once listed, they can be compared with those for which environmental determinations exist in the IEE. Include all phases: *planning, design, construction, operation & maintenance*. Include ancillary activities required to build or operate the primary activity. Examples include building or improving a road so that heavy vehicles can reach the project site, excavation of fill material or gravel for construction, provision of electricity, water, or sewage facilities, disposal of solid waste, etc.

**Step 3a. Screening: Identify low-risk and high-risk activities**

For *each* new activity you have listed in Section B of the form, refer to the list below to determine whether it is a listed low-risk or high-risk activity.

If an activity is specifically identified as “very low risk” or “high risk” in the list below, indicate this in the “screening result” column in Section B of the form.

<b>Very low-risk activities</b> (activities with low potential for adverse biophysical impacts including §216.2(c)(1))	<b>High -risk activities</b> (activities with high potential for adverse biophysical impacts including §216.2(d)(1))
<b>Provision of education, technical assistance, or training.</b> (Note that activities directly affecting the environment do not qualify.)	<b>Substantial piped water supply and sewage construction</b>
<b>Community awareness</b> initiatives	<b>Large-scale borehole or water point construction</b>
<b>Technical studies and analyses</b> and other information generation activities not	<b>Large-scale irrigation</b>
	<b>Large-scale water management</b>

<p>involving intrusive sampling of endangered species or critical habitats.</p> <p><b>Document of information transfers</b></p> <p><b>Rehabilitation of water points</b> for domestic household use, shallow, hand-dug wells or small water storage devices. Water points must be located where no protected or other sensitive environmental areas could be affected.</p> <p>NOTE: USAID guidance on potable water requires water quality testing for arsenic, coliform, nitrates, and nitrites.</p> <p><b>Small-scale construction.</b> Construction or repair of facilities if total surface area to be distributed is under 10,000 sq. ft. (approx. 1,000 sq. m) (and when no protected or other sensitive environmental areas could be affected).</p> <p><b>Credit or financing.</b> Support for credit arrangements (when no biophysical environmental impact can be reasonably expected).</p> <p><b>Capacity for development.</b> Studies or programs intended to develop the capability of recipients to engage in development planning. (Does NOT include activities directly affecting the environment)</p> <p><b>Title II Activities.</b> Food for development programs under Title III of P.L. 480, when no on –the-ground biophysical interventions are likely</p> <p><b>Small-scale Natural Resource Management activities</b> for which the answer to ALL SUPPLEMENTAL SCREENING QUESTIONS (see <i>Natural Resources supplement</i>) is “NO.”</p>	<p><b>structures</b> such as dams and impoundments</p> <p><b>Drainage of wetlands</b> or other permanently flooded areas</p> <p><b>Large-scale agricultural mechanization</b></p> <p><b>Light industrial plant production or processing</b> (e.g., agro-industrial processing of forest products)</p> <hr/> <p><b><u>High-risk and typically not funded by USAID:</u></b></p> <p><b>Actions affecting protected areas and species.</b> Actions determined likely to significantly degrade protected areas, such as introduction of exotic plants or animals</p> <p>Actions determined likely to jeopardize threatened &amp; endangered species or adversely modify their habitat (esp. wetlands, tropical forests)</p> <p>Activities in forests, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Conversion of forest lands</b> to rearing of livestock</li> <li>▪ <b>Construction of dams</b> or other water control structures that flood relatively undegraded forest lands</li> </ul>
--	--

(This list of activities is taken from the text of 22 CFR 216 and other applicable laws, regulations, and directives)

**Step 3b: Identify activities of unknown or moderate risk.**

All activities NOT identified as “very low risk” or “very high risk” are considered to be of “unknown or moderate risk.” Common examples of moderate-risk activities are given in the table below.

Check “moderate or unknown risk” under screening results in Section B of the form for ALL such activities.

<p>Illustrative examples of moderate-risk activities</p> <p>If ANY of the activities listed in this table may adversely impact (1) protected areas, (2) other sensitive environmental areas, or (3) threatened and endangered species and their habitat, THEY ARE NOT MODERATE RISK. All such activities are HIGH RISK ACTIVITIES.</p>	
<p><b>Medium-scale construction.</b> Construction or rehabilitation of facilities or structures in which the surface area to be disturbed exceeds 10,000 sq. ft. (1000 sq meters) but funding level is \$200,000 or less. (E.g. agricultural trading posts, community training centers).</p>	<p><b>Nutrition, DG care or family planning,</b> if (a) some included activities could directly affect the environment (e.g., construction, supply systems, etc.) or (b) bio-hazardous DGcare waste (esp. HIV/AIDS) is produced, syringes are used, or blood is tested.</p>
<p><b>Water provision/storage.</b> Construction or rehabilitation of small-scale water points or water storage devices for domestic or non-domestic use (Covers activities NOT included under “very low risk activities”)</p>	<p><b>Institutional support grants to NGOs/PVOs</b> when the activities of the organizations are known and may reasonably have adverse environmental impact.</p>
<p><b>NOTE:</b> USAID guidance on water quality requires testing for arsenic, nitrates, and coliform bacteria</p>	<p><b>Sampling.</b> Technical studies and analyses or similar activities that could involve intrusive sampling of endangered species or critical habitats (includes aerial sampling).</p>

**Step 4. Determine if you must write an Environmental Review Report**

Examine the “screening results” as they are entered in Section B of the form

- A. If ALL activities are “very low risk” then no further review is necessary. In Section C of the form, check the box labeled “very low risk activities.” Skip to Step 8 of these instructions.
- B. If ANY activities are “unknown or moderate risk,” you MUST complete an ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REPORT addressing these activities. Proceed to Step 5.
- C. If ANY activities are “high risk,” note that USAID’s regulations usually require a full environmental assessment study (EA). Because these activities are assumed to have a high probability of causing significant, adverse environmental impacts, they are closely scrutinized. Any proposed high-risk activity should be discussed in advance with USAID. In some cases, it is possible that effective mitigation and monitoring can reduce or eliminate likely impacts so that a full EA will not be required. If the applicant believes this to be the case, the Environmental Review Report must argue this case clearly and thoroughly. Proceed to Step 5.

## Step 5. Write the Environmental Review Report, if required

The Environmental Review Report presents the environmental issues associated with the proposed activities. It also documents mitigation and monitoring commitments

For moderate risk activities, the Environmental Review Report is typically a SHORT 2-3 page document. The Report will typically be longer when (1) activities are or higher or unknown risk, and (2) when a number of impacts and mitigation measures are being identified and discussed. The Environmental Review Report follows the outline below:

- A. **Summary of Proposal.** Summarize background, rationale, and outputs/results expected. (Reference to proposal, if appropriate).
  - B. **Description of activities.** For all moderate and high-risk activities listed in Section B of the form, succinctly describe location, siting, surroundings (include a map, even a sketch map). Provide both quantitative and qualitative information about actions needed during all project phases and who will undertake them. (all of this information can be provided in a table). If various alternatives have been considered and rejected because the proposed activity is considered more environmentally sound, explain these.
  - C. **Environmental situation & Host Country environmental requirements.** Describe the environmental characteristics of the site(s) where the proposed activities will take place. Focus on site characteristics of concern – e.g. water supplies, animal habitat, steep slopes, proximity to human habitation, etc. With regard to these critical characteristics, is the environmental situation at the site degrading, improving, or stable? In this section also describe applicable host country environmental regulations, policies, or practices.
  - D. **Evaluation of Activities and Issues with Respect to Environmental Impact Potential.** Include impacts that could occur before and during implementation of the activity, as well as any problems that might arise with abandoning, restoring or reusing the site at the end of the anticipated life of the facility or activity. Explain direct, indirect, induced and cumulative effects on various components of the environment (e.g., air, water, geology, soils, vegetation, wildlife, aquatic resources, historic, archeological or other cultural resources, people and their communities, land use, traffic, waste disposal, water supply, energy, etc.)
  - E. **Environmental Mitigation Actions (including monitoring).** Provide a work plan and schedule identifying the following:
    - a. **Mitigation measures.** Identify the means taken to avoid, reduce, or compensate for impacts. (For example, replanting of vegetation, compensation for any relocation of homes and residents.) If standard mitigation or best practice guidance exists and is being followed, cite this guidance (e.g., the Umbrella IEE).
    - b. **Monitoring.** Indicate how mitigation measures will be monitored to ensure that they accomplish their intended result. If some impacts are uncertain, describe the monitoring which will be conducted to identify and respond to these potential impacts.
    - c. **Responsible Parties.** Identify *who* will undertake mitigation and who will conduct the monitoring, and at what frequency.
- Note:** Completion of this part of the ERR will satisfy the requirement of completing the Mitigation Plan (Part 2) of the EMMR. Where the EMMR asks for a description of mitigation measures, implementing partners and CTOs may refer to and cite the mitigating and monitoring actions they describe in Step 5, Section Ea-c, above.
- F. **Other information.** Where possible and as appropriate, include photos of the site and surroundings; maps; and list names of any reference materials or individuals consulted.

(Pictures and maps of the site can substantially reduce the written description required in parts B & C)

**Step 6. Based on the environmental review, reach a recommended determination for each high-risk or unknown/moderate-risk activity**

For each high-risk or unknown/moderate-risk activity, the environmental review will help you decide between one of three recommended determinations:

- No significant adverse impacts. The activity in question will not result in significant, adverse environmental impacts. Special mitigation or monitoring is not required. Typically, this conclusion is not appropriate for high-risk activities.
- No significant adverse impacts given specified mitigation and monitoring. With mitigation and monitoring as specified in the Environmental Review Report, the activities in question will not result in significant adverse environmental impacts.
- Significant adverse impacts. The activities in question are likely to cause significant adverse impacts and cannot be mitigated with best practices or other measures. A full environmental assessment will be required.

For each high-risk or unknown/moderate-risk activity, indicate your “recommended determination” in Section B of the form.)

**Step 7. Summarize recommended determinations**

In section C of the form, summarize your recommended determinations by checking ALL categories indicated in Table 1.

**Step 8. Sign certifications** (Section D of form)

**Step 9. Submit form to USAID project officer.** Attach Environmental Review Report, if any.

## Environmental Screening Form for new USAID/Rwanda activities

### A. Applicant Information

<u>Organization:</u>	<u>Parent grant or project:</u>
<u>Individual contact and title:</u>	<u>Address, phone &amp; email:</u>
<u>Proposed activity (brief description):</u>	<u>Amount of funding requested:</u>
<u>Location of proposed activity (country(ies) and subregions within country):</u>	<u>Start and end date of proposed activity:</u>

### B. Activities, screening results, and recommended determination

Proposed Activities (Continue on additional page if necessary)	Screening Result (Step 3 of Instructions)			Recommended Determinations (Step 6 of instructions. Complete for all moderate/unknown and high-risk activities)		
	Very Low Risk	High Risk*	Moderate or unknown risk*	No signif adverse impact	With specified mitigatn, no signif adverse impact	Signif adverse impact
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						
8.						

\* These screening results require completion of an Environmental Review Report

**C. Summary of recommended determinations** (check ALL that apply)

The proposal contains...	(equivalent Regulation 216 terminology)
<input type="checkbox"/> Very low risk activities	Categorical exclusion(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> After environmental review, activities determined to have <b>no significant adverse impacts</b> *	Negative determination(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> After environmental review, activities determined to have <b>no significant adverse impacts, given specified mitigation and monitoring</b> *	Negative determination(s) with conditions*
<input type="checkbox"/> After environmental review, activities determined to have <b>significant adverse impacts</b> *	Positive determination(s)*

\* for these determinations, the form is not complete unless accompanied by Environmental Review Report



**D. Certification:**

I, the undersigned certify that:

1. the information on this form is correct and complete
2. the following actions have been and will be taken to assure that the activity complies with environmental requirements established for this Project:
  - Those responsible for implementing this activity have received training in environmental review AND training and/or documentation describing essential design elements and best practices for activities of this nature.
  - These design elements and best practices will be followed in implementing this activity.
  - Any specific mitigation or monitoring measures described in the Environmental Review Report will be implemented in their entirety.
  - Compliance with these conditions will be regularly confirmed and documented by on-site inspections during the activity and at its completion.

(Signature)\_\_\_\_\_

(Date)\_\_\_\_\_

(Print name)\_\_\_\_\_

**Note: if screening results in *any activity* being designated “high risk” or “moderate or unknown risk,” this form is not complete unless accompanied by an environmental review report.**

---

**BELOW THIS LINE FOR USAID USE ONLY**

**Clearance Record**

USAID/Rwanda A/COR SO (signature) <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance given <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance denied	(print name)	(date)
USAID/Rwanda MEO (signature) <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance given <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance denied	(print name)	(date)
USAID REA (signature) <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance given <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance denied	(print name)	(date)
USAID BEO* (signature) <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance given <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance denied	(print name)	(date)

BEO\* approval required for all “high risk” screening results and for determinations of “significant adverse impacts”