



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Session 8: Initial Environmental Examinations: What Makes them Effective?



Session Objectives

1. Identify characteristics of a well-considered well-written Initial Environmental Examination (IEE);
2. Against these characteristics, review and critique IEEs written for the Session 7 field visit scenarios



Effective IEEs. . .

Are well-written & well-considered. They:

1. Address the full scope of proposed activities
2. Characterize the aspects of the baseline situation critical to evaluating the significance of impacts
3. Identify and adequately evaluate key potential impacts.
4. Set out mitigation measures that are (1) adequate and (2) *within the scope of USAID's reasonable authority.*
(For example, we cannot impose conditions on actors over whom USAID has no control.)
5. Make a recommended determination for each activity that is reasonable, defensible and in accordance with Reg. 216.
6. Use clear, uncluttered language and parallel organization in the description of activities, analysis of impacts, and presentation of recommended determinations.

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**Next task:
Building and practicing
skills to evaluate IEE quality**

We continue the exercise from the last session. . .

Scenario

- We again play the role of mission sector teams
- We are in the process of adding a new program component not covered by an existing IEE.
- As promised, our implementing partner (IP) has now delivered a draft IEE.
- Informed by our field visits, we must review the draft IEEs.





Instructions

- Individually, read the relevant draft IEE (in workbook)
- As a group, and based on your knowledge of the activities from our virtual field visit, critique the IEE against the six criteria for effective IEEs just discussed.
- We will briefly report-out in plenary.
- Final (revised) IEE conditions will be presented for discussion.

