

SESSION 8A

EXERCISE: EMMP REPORTING AND VERIFICATION

SESSION SUMMARY.

This exercise will help participants develop practical skills in Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) review and oversight, and the integration of project environmental compliance reporting. Building on a virtual field visit, this exercise will use an illustrative EMMP and sample monitoring and reporting materials to highlight the importance of these documents and information in helping USAID to meet its environmental management and oversight responsibilities.

Instructions:

1. Participants will familiarize with the exercise materials, with reference to the preceding virtual field visit. Materials include:
 - Illustrative EMMP excerpt
 - Sample project environmental compliance reporting
 - Sample trip report from recent USAID site visit
2. With the EMMP excerpt in-hand, assume the mindset of a brand-new AOR, COR, or Activity Manager—the project is already underway and you are just entering the picture. Consider the following questions:
 - How well do you know the project's environmental dimensions? What are the gaps, if any (as you recall the virtual field visit)?
 - What are the project's most significant potential impacts? Which potential impacts can be more easily mitigated (and monitored)?
 - Does the EMMP reflect your understanding of potential adverse impacts? Are the mitigation measures appropriate to the risks?
 - Do monitoring requirements appear suitable? Are responsibilities well allocated?
3. Set aside the EMMP excerpt (for the moment) and refer to the sample environmental compliance reporting and site visit materials. Use this information to assess implementation of the EMMP. Consider the following questions:
 - Are all required mitigation measures in place? Are they effective?
 - Does project reporting align with the findings of the site visit? Are you getting a clear picture of mitigation and monitoring activities?
 - Do you require additional information or clarification? What are those needs? How will they be met?
 - Are there concerns that the project is not in compliance? How would these be addressed?

Once participants have had an opportunity to consider these questions and formulate responses, the facilitators will lead a group discussion that characterizes the strengths and weaknesses of these materials, as well as their impact on compliance and the environmentally sound design and management of Agency programs and activities.