

INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

Project Number

Project Location: Grenada
Project Title: Hurricane Ivan Grenada Community Revitalization
Funding: US\$ 1,461,000.00
Life of SO: FY 2005
IEE Prepared by: John Wilson, Program Specialist (Env) and CTO
USAID/Jamaica-Caribbean
Clearance: Rebecca Rohrer, Office Director
USAID/Jamaica-Caribbean
Recommended Threshold Decision: Negative Determination with condition

CONCURRENCE

Howard Batson
Mission Environmental Officer
USAID/Jamaica

Victor Bullen
Regional Environment Advisor
USAID/Bolivia

MISSION DIRECTOR'S
DECISION

Approved: _____
Karen D. Turner

Date _____

LAC BUREAU
ENVIRONMENTAL
OFFICER'S DECISION

Approved: _____

Date: _____

Background

On September 7, 2004 Hurricane Ivan, the most powerful hurricane to hit the Caribbean region in the last 10 years, ravaged Grenada with winds of over 135 miles per hour. This Category Four hurricane left behind an unimaginable scene of destruction on this three island nation of 102,000 inhabitants, with 41 confirmed deaths.

Of the six parishes on the island of Grenada which were impacted by hurricane Ivan, four, St George, St David, St. Andrew, and St.John—were the most severely affected. These parishes constitute 80% of the island's population and 90-96% of the population in these parishes was affected. Moreover, 75% of the nation's poor live in these parishes, and more than half of these (52%) have female-headed households.

The area of greatest damage is housing which accounts for an estimated US \$511,500,000¹, or 61.5% of the total estimated damage of US \$830,700,000. Moreover the damage was widespread, affecting nearly 28,000 (89%) of the 31,000 homes in the country. While all parishes in the country were affected, St. Georges and St. Andrews, where over half of Grenada's population lives, suffered over 65% of the houses damaged. Most of the damaged houses in these two parishes (85%) are in need of repair but do not need to be rebuilt. In St. Georges, over 9,500 houses were damaged, while in St. Georges the estimate exceeds 6,000.

Program Description

The purpose of the Hurricane Ivan Grenada Community Revitalization intervention by USAID is to assist Grenada in the most affected areas, to recover from the destruction, reduce vulnerability to future natural disasters and to revitalize the communities in three specific areas: (i) housing repair, and (ii) cleanup and land rehabilitation.

USAID proposes to start quickly, with the current limited budget focusing on the areas of greatest damage—St. Georges and St. Andrews. The initial phase of this program is for six months, based on available funding. USAID anticipates additional supplemental funding will be provided that will allow for expansion of these activities in these two parishes and other parishes as well. However with the anticipated supplemental funding, we expect that the program will be extended to twelve months.

¹ From the OECS "Report on the Estimation of Socio-economic Impact of Hurricane Ivan on Grenada" completed on September 27, 2004 which showed the cost of rebuilding at EC \$1,381,000,000 of the total estimated damage of EC\$2,243,000,000. The cost of rebuilding with improvements is EC\$1,945 million (US\$720,400,000)

Under this specific Hurricane Ivan Community Revitalization intervention the following activities will be undertaken:

Activity 1: Self Help housing- To repair, rehabilitate selected houses (most vulnerable populations) in the parishes most affected and strengthen the capacity of community based organizations to implement housing repair projects;

Activity 2: Community Clean up and Land Rehabilitation- In those areas where self housing has occurred there will be a mobilization of the community to remove debris, clean drains, plant trees and other land stabilization work;

Environmental Impact and Mitigation Measures: The following table highlights the potential environmental effects identified for the activities and the proposed mitigation measures. Detailed analysis of environmental impacts can be found in the attached checklist:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Potential Environmental Impact</u>	<u>Conditions recommended for mitigation</u>
Activity1: Housing Rehabilitation	1. Large amount of debris will be generated 2. Improper consideration of sanitation facilities will lead to harmful environmental effects.	Binding agreement between collaborators, including local environmental authorities, at beginning agreeing to: 1. method and site for disposal of waste materials 2. inclusion and type of sanitation facilities rehabilitated or installed in target sites
Activity 1: CBO Capacity Development	None: Development of CBOs to implement housing projects	3. Training of CBOs in basic waste, sanitation and environmental management to ensure environmental safeguarding for these and future local projects, including: proper use and maintenance of latrines, proper use and conservation of water, construction, and use of improved hurricane and energy-efficient housing techniques
Activity 2: Community Clean Up and Land Rehabilitation	3. Large amount of debris will be generated	4. In addition to the binding agreement, each partner must have a copy of an environmental management plan approved by the CTO to ensure compliance and site-specific measures with the agreement and other mitigation measures. The CTO will also conduct regular independent evaluations of the plan and the activity.

Monitoring and Reporting: This Intervention will be managed within the USAID/Jamaica- Caribbean Office of the Caribbean Regional Program based in Barbados by a USAID Technical Officer. Each activity will have site specific impact and mitigation measures that will be applied based on the contractor's findings on completion of the attached checklists (*Attachments 2 and 3*) and approval by the Cognizant Technical Officer (CTO). The process of monitoring and verification of the implementation of mitigation measures will be local with CTO oversight. The CTO will be responsible for overseeing and monitoring all program activities throughout the life of the activity and will also ensure that all activities are in compliance with the categorical exclusion threshold decision and negative determinations which are being recommended for this program. In addition USAID/J-CAR will ensure that all environmental compliance activities are elaborated upon in the Final Reports.

The CTO, together with partners, will be responsible for elaborating a report on environmental compliance in six months and again at twelve months if the project is extended. USAID/J-Car's Mission Environmental Officer will approve these compliance reports. Appropriate sections of USAID/LAC Environmental Guidelines will be followed for corresponding activities of Hurricane Ivan Grenada Community Revitalization.

Recommendation for Threshold Decision:

A negative determination with conditions is recommended. The activity will have site specific impact and mitigative measures that will be applied as described in the previous section. Site specific impact and mitigation measures will be identified by the Cognizant Technical Officer in association with local collaborators and included in relevant environmental management plans.