

INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

Addendum #1 to Project Number 504-003

Project Location:	Guyana
Project Title:	Improved HIV/AIDS Awareness, Knowledge and Applied Prevention Strategies
Project Number:	504-003
Funding:	US\$ 595,000 for Track 1.5 sub-agreement
Life of Project:	September 1999 – December 2004
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Recommended Threshold Decision:	Categorical Exclusion/Negative Determination with conditions
Bureau Threshold Decision:	Concur with Recommendation

Comments:

Under most circumstances the components of this program are essentially training, counseling and technical assistance, thus having no negative impact on the physical environment or posing any significant risk on the welfare of the surrounding community as well as non-target organisms. Nevertheless, the REA recommends that all mitigating measures, guidelines, and best management practices (BMPs) for medical waste handling and disposal as outlined in the “2002 Environmental Guidelines for Development Activities in Latin America and the Caribbean (Task order no. 1627)” be strictly implemented. Note, this document was prepared for USAID/LAC Bureau under the Environmental Policy and Institutional Strengthening Indefinite Quantity Contract (EPIQ).

USAID recognizes the capacity of Family Health International, John Snow Inc., the Guyana Ministry of Health, and Population Services International to implement BMPs and to mitigate potential environmental consequences resulting from activities that produce medical waste and its subsequent disposal. The applicability of the Environmental Guidelines to such activities will be evaluated prior to initiating activities

by the USAID/Guyana HIV/AIDS technical advisor and the REA. The evaluation shall (1) include an assessment of the implementing partner's capacity to adhere to the guidelines, and (2) establish a monitoring protocol for tracking the effectiveness of the guidelines. All partners will adopt a proactive approach to responsible environmental management.

Recommendations for Threshold Decision

A **Categorical Exclusion** is recommended to those proposed activities involving education, technical assistance, training and others identified in Addendum #1 to Project Number 504-003 since they will not have an impact on the environment. This recommendation is pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(i), (iii), (v), and (xiv).

A **Negative Determination, with conditions** is recommended to on-the-ground activities involving the handling and disposal of medical and sanitary waste within project areas. All best management practices (BMPs), mitigating measures, and guidelines recommended by the "2002 Environmental Guidelines" will be implemented. The objective of the environmental guidelines is to provide a framework for identification and mitigation of the environmental impacts that could be associated with Track 1.5 sub-agreement activities.

Date January 15, 2004

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