



**LAC-IEE-04-39**

**ENVIRONMENTAL THRESHOLD DECISION**

**Country:** Guatemala

**Activity Title:** SO 5: Improved Natural Resources Management and Conservation of Biodiversity

**Activity Numbers:** 520-0395.20 and 520-0425

**IEE Reference Number:** LAC-IEE-01-01 and LAC-IEE-02-03

**Duration:** FY 2002-2004

**Amount:** US\$11.59 million (Amount for this activity US\$350,000)

**Project No.:** 520-005/520-0425

**IEE Prepared by:** Anne Dix, MEO

**Date Prepared:** June 24, 2004

**Recommended Threshold Decision:** Negative Determination with Conditions

**Bureau Threshold Decision:** Concur with Recommendation

**Comments:**

This IEE amends LAC-IEE-01-01 (Improved Natural Resources Management and Conservation of Biodiversity) and LAC-IEE-02-03 (Support the Implementation of the Peace Accords) to include incremental funding for acquisition of basic equipment for the appropriate maintenance of existing forestry roads within the community forestry concessions located in the Multiple Use Zone of the Maya Biosphere Reserve. This basic equipment will be one Bull-dozer, one excavator, and one Compactor.

**A Negative Determination with Conditions** is issued for this activity. This donation of equipment will be accompanied by the appropriate technical assistance and on-the-job training in road system infrastructure planning and design for CONAP, FORESCOM, local NGOs and key leaders from the communities managing forestry concessions. All conditions including mitigating measures in the attached IEE will be followed. With these caveats the equipment should not have negative impact on the environment.

CTOs are responsible for making sure environmental requirements are met. It is the responsibility of the SO Team to ensure that the SOAGs and MAARDs contain specific instructions to this effect.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
George R. Thompson, P.E.  
Bureau Environmental Officer  
Bureau for Latin America & the Caribbean

- Copy to : Glenn Anders, Director, USAID/G-CAP
- Copy to : Anne Dix, MEO, USAID/Guatemala
- Copy to : G. de Paiz, INR, USAID/ Guatemala
- Copy to : Michael Kerst, LAC/CAM
- Copy to : Michael Donald, REA, Central America
- Copy to : IEE File

**Attachment: IEE**

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## AMENDED INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

**Country:** Guatemala

**Activity Title:** SO 5: Improved Natural Resources Management and Conservation of Biodiversity

**Activity Numbers:** 520-0395.20 and 520-0425

**IEE Reference Number:** LAC-IEE-01-1 and LAC-IEE-02-03

**Duration:** FY 2002-2004

**Amount:** US\$11.59 million (Amount for this activity US\$350,000)

**Project No.:** 520-005/520-0425

**IEE Prepared by:** Anne Dix, MEO

**Date Prepared:** June 24, 2004

**Recommended Threshold Decision:** Negative Determination with Conditions

**Comments:** This IEE amends LAC-IEE-01-1 (Improved Natural Resources Management and Conservation of Biodiversity) and LAC-IEE-02-03 (Support the Implementation of the Peace Accords) to include incremental funding for acquisition of basic equipment for the appropriate maintenance of existing forestry roads within the community forestry concessions located in the Multiple Use Zone of the Maya Biosphere Reserve. This basic equipment will be one Bull-dozer Propulsion Tandem 125 HP, one retro-excavator 4WD 75HP, and one Ground Compactor 100HP.

A **Negative Determination with Conditions** is recommended for this activity. This donation of equipment will be accompanied by the appropriate technical assistance and on-the-job training in road system infrastructure planning and design for CONAP, FORESCOM, local NGOs and key leaders from the communities managing forestry concessions.

This activity is being carried out in response to some mitigation problems that were found during the last review of the forestry concessions conducted by a team of experts from the U.S. Forest Service during March of last year. The assessment laid out the urgency of including adequate infrastructure planning and the need of the forestry concessions to adhere to such planning due to the poor location of existing roads, as well as effective maintenance of forestry roads to minimize environmental impacts as a way of managing the concessions in a sustainable manner. The maintenance will be provided only to

existing roads as a way of mitigation to avoid that the current roads continue to widen. These are temporary forestry roads and no new roads will be allowed.

The following mitigation measures will be followed:

- Technical assistance for the development of a road management planning component will be provided through our current PASA that includes the USDA Forest Service. This process document will be integrated into the annual work plans (POAs) and determine how roads will be managed given their intended use per the existing Environmental Assessments. Included in the analysis will be the location of existing roads and determining which should be closed and which need improvement within the Multiple Use Zone of the Maya Biosphere Reserve. On-the-job training will also be provided to make sure that adequate guidelines for the maintenance of existing roads will also be provided by the Forest Service and followed-up by our Contractor on the site.
- Guidelines for the use of this machinery will be developed before initiating activities. This will include standards and rules of operation to avoid adverse environmental impact.
- An annual review to monitor compliance with the existing Environmental Impact Assessments of each concession will continue to be carried out by the Forest Service.
- A roads engineer contracted by USAID under the Peace Program will provide guidance through September 2004. A roads environmental impact expert contracted by BIOFOR with experience with USAID environmental regulations will monitor and supervise compliance of the activity with engineering and environmental specifications in the field through the end of this program, December 2005.

Concurrence: \_\_\_\_\_

Glenn E. Anders  
USAID/G-CAP Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Clearance Sheet:**

Drafter:

GdePaiz, INR \_\_\_\_\_

Clearances:

ADix, INR \_\_\_\_\_

MDonald, REO \_\_\_\_\_

KRockeman, C/INR \_\_\_\_\_

LGil, PDM \_\_\_\_\_

DKennedy-Iraheta, DDIR \_\_\_\_\_

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