Request for Categorical Exclusion for
MEASURE EVALUATION IV

PROGRAM/ACTIVITY DATA:

IEE Number: GH-13-20
Document number: TBD
Program/Activity Number: TBD
Country/Region: Global
Program/Activity Title: MEASURE EVALUATION IV
Funding Begin: XXX
Funding End: XXX
Current Date: XXX
CATEX expiration date: Five years from date of signing or at the time of any change/amendment to the Program.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION RECOMMENDED: (Place X where applicable)
Categorical Exclusion: X Negative Determination: ___
Positive Determination: ___ Deferral: ___

Clearance:
OHA Office Director, USAID: [Signature] Date: 3/13/2013
David Stanton

CONCURRENCE:
Environmental Officer, Bureau of E3 [Signature] Date: 3/13/2013
Teresa Bernhard
REQUEST FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
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Background and Proposed Action:

Background and Overview of MEASURE Evaluation Phase IV

Limited individual, organizational and system level capacity to collect, analyze and use data for decision making continues to impede the efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of health programs. MEASURE Evaluation Phase IV is a flexible, integrated, Bureau-wide mechanism that responds to demand from missions and country partners for capacity building, provides technical leadership in the measurement of complex health issues, champions rigorous impact evaluation, and contributes to the global learning agenda. The mechanism’s inputs include capacity building and training; technical assistance, facilitation of data analysis and use; innovative methods, tools and approaches; as well as coordination and collaboration with key stakeholders.

MEASURE Evaluation Phase IV utilizes the following strategic approaches:
- Strengthening local health information systems through building individual and organizational capacity for monitoring and evaluation;
• Providing technical leadership in the development or refinement of relevant and cost-effective methods, tools and approaches for data collection, analysis, and use;
• Partnering strategically with relevant Ministries, Bureaus of Statistics, Multilaterals, other USG stakeholders, donors and implementing partners to optimize and coordinate local monitoring and evaluation activities, systems, and financing; and
• Increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of health interventions by improving the availability, quality, analysis and use of data for strategic planning and program improvement.

Threshold Determination:
Categorical Exclusion is recommended for the MEASURE Evaluation Phase IV project pursuant to 22CFR216.2(c)(1) and:

a) 2CFR216(c)(2)(i), for activities involving education, training, technical assistance or training programs;
b) 22CFR216.2(c)(2)(iii), for activities involving analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings;
c) 22CFR216.2(c)(2)(v), for activities involving document and information transfers;
d) 22CFR216.2(c)(2)(xiv), for studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries and organizations to engage in development planning.

Finding and Determination:
The effort described above constitutes a class of actions that are not subject to general procedures as set out in 22 CFR 216.3 because they are exclusively “analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings” that do no “directly affect the environment” and programs intended to develop the capacity of recipient countries to engage in development planning except to the extent designed to result in the activities directly affecting the environment (22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(iii)). Should the technical assistance or capacity building efforts generate any indirect impact such as the generation of health care medical waste, construction of facilities (including incinerator rehabilitation, or upgrades), or direct impact on the environment, this Categorical Exclusion will not apply and supplemental environmental documentation will be required. Further, if activities are modified such that the descriptions herein no longer applies or other activities are added to the those described, an amended IEE will be prepared and submitted to the GH/BEO for approval.

Rationale:
This proposed action will not have a significant effect on the human, physical and biological environment because the efforts conducted by the project, as proposed, are exclusively technical assistance and capacity building.
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<th>ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION RECOMMENDED: (Place X where applicable)</th>
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