# Request for Categorical Exclusion (RCE)

## Program/Project/Activity Data:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity/Project Name:</th>
<th>Enabling the reintegration of FTFs and Affiliates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistance Objective:</td>
<td>DO # 1 - Citizens are better served by accountable and effective governance institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Area:</td>
<td>Conflict Mitigation and Stabilization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country(ies) and/or Operating Unit:</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Originating Office:</td>
<td>PPO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAD Level RCE:</td>
<td>Yes ☒ No ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCE/IEE Amendment:</td>
<td>Yes ☐ No ☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental RCE:</td>
<td>Yes ☐ No ☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCN of Original RCE/IEE:</td>
<td>DCN of Amendment(s):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation Start/End:</td>
<td>FY20- FY22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Amount:</td>
<td>LOP Amount: $329,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract/Award Number (if known):</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEE Expiration Date (if any):</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting due dates (if any):</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommended Determination:** Categorical Exclusion

**Additional Elements:**

- Government to Government: ☐
- Local Procurement: ☐
- Donor Co-Funded: ☐

## 1. Project and Activity Description

The Government of Kosovo (GoK) has requested capacity building assistance for the Prevention and Reintegration Division (PRD). In June 2019, Kosovo repatriated 110 Kosovar citizens from Syria, including four men who had fought for ISIS in the Syrian civil war, 32 women and 74 children previously detained at the Al Hol camp. Kosovo Ministry of Internal Affairs (MoIA) established the PRD to work in concert—at the central and municipal levels—with the Kosovo Police Counterterrorism Unit, the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology, and the Ministry of Justice’s Kosovo Correctional Service (KCS) to reintegrate Foreign Terrorist Fighters...
FTFs) and their families. The Government of Kosovo also has a national strategy and action plan to prevent and counter violent extremism (VE).

The MoIA has previous experience with displaced citizens who have returned to Kosovo from European Union (EU) member state countries. However, the return of FTFs and affiliates presents a new challenge for the Kosovo authorities. Likewise, municipal service providers offer a range of health, education, social, psychological, and community safety-related services to the general population, but are not yet adept at tailoring these services to FTFs, affiliates, and their families. There is also a gap in vertical and horizontal (local to central and central to central levels) cooperation of government institutions. Moreover, there is a lack of knowledge regarding long-term monitoring of cases at both local and central levels.

ISIS has been designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) under Sec. 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), and a Specially Designated Global Terrorists (SDGT) under Executive Order 13224 since 2013; the group is also subject to UN sanctions. These designations generally prohibit the provision of material support or any other benefit to/transaction with a sanctioned group or individual. All activities must be in full compliance with existing prohibitions on assistance to sanctioned groups.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY**

In order to ensure that returned FTFs, affiliates, and their families successfully reintegrate into their communities, USAID is seeking to strengthen the capacity of the GOK to manage and monitor the reintegration of FTFs and affiliates. The following are the expected outcomes under this activity and some illustrative activities that may contribute to these outcomes to help build the capacity of MoIA and PRD while also enhancing the capacity of local actors to foster resilience and social cohesion in Kosovo municipalities:

1: Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the intake of new FTFs and affiliates;


**Anticipated results:**

The GOK will be able to improve efficiency and effectiveness of processing the intake of FTFs and affiliate in accordance with GOK laws and policies.

The GOK will be able to inform the actors involved in mental health issues associated with child trauma and through this guidebook, increase their capacities on necessary therapeutic tools.

The Kosovo Mission Climate Risk screening at the Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) level has been done on November 2016. This RCE also documents the Climate Risk screening for this activity.

**Project Description and Climate Risk Screening**

See Annex 1: Climate Risk Management Summary Table for more information.
Defined or illustrative activities | Potential Climate Risk | Climate Risk Rating
---|---|---
Component 1: Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the intake of new FTFs and affiliates | N/A | Low
Component 2: Development of a handbook on treating child trauma - a guide for helping trauma-exposed children | N/A | Low

2. **Justification for Categorical Exclusion Determination**

The activities under the “Enabling Reintegration Activity” will not have an effect on the natural or physical environment and are among the classes of activities listed in 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2). Therefore, under §216.2(c) (1), neither an IEE nor an EA will be required for these activities. Instead, a categorical exclusion threshold determination is recommended:

- Activities of Component 1 - under §216.2(c)(2)(i) Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.);
- Activities of Component 1 - under §216.2(c)(2) (iii) Analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings;

3. **Limitations of the Categorical Exclusion Determination:**

This categorical exclusion does not cover classes of actions normally having a significant effect on the environment under §216.2(d):

- i. Programs of river basin development;
- ii. Irrigation and water management;
- iii. Agricultural land leveling;
- iv. Drainage projects;
- v. Large scale agricultural mechanization;
- vi. Resettlement projects;
- vii. New land development;
- viii. Penetration road building and road improvement;
- ix. Powerplants;
- x. Industrial plants; and
- xi. Potable water and sewerage projects

In addition, this categorical exclusion does not cover activities that:

- Support project preparation, project feasibility studies, engineering design for activities listed in §216.2(d)(1);
- Affect endangered species;
- Provide support to extractive industries (e.g. mining and quarrying);
- Promote timber harvesting;
- Lead to construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or renovation work;
- Support agro-processing or industrial enterprises;
- Provide support for regulatory permitting;
- Lead to privatization of industrial facilities or infrastructure with heavily polluted property;
- Assist the procurement (including payment in kind, donations, guarantees of credit) or use (including handling, transport, fuel for transport, storage, mixing, loading, application, clean-up of spray equipment, and disposal) of pesticides or activities
involving procurement, transport, use, storage, or disposal of toxic materials—pesticides cover all insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, etc. covered under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act; and/or

- Procure or use genetically modified organisms.

Any of these actions would require a Europe and Eurasia Bureau Environmental Officer (BEO) approved amendment to the categorical exclusion.

4. **Mandatory Inclusion of Environmental Compliance Requirements in Solicitations, Awards, Budgets, and Work Plans**

5. **N/A. Note, see ADS 308.3.10 ©.**

6. **Revisions**

Under §216.3(a)(9), if new information becomes available that indicates that activities covered by the categorical exclusion might be considered major and their effect significant, or if additional activities are proposed that might be considered major and their effect significant, this categorical exclusion determination will be reviewed and, if necessary, revised by the Mission Environmental Officer (MEO) with concurrence by the BEO. It is the responsibility of the USAID Contract Officer’s Representative (COR)/Agreement Officer’s Representative (AOR) to keep the MEO and BEO informed of any new information or changes in the activity that might require revision of this determination.
7. Recommended Determination for Categorical Exclusion Clearances

**Approval:**
Lisa Magno, Mission Director  
Date: 2/4/2020

**Clearance:**
Zeinah Salahi, Deputy Mission Director  
Date: 1/24/2020

**Clearance:**
Perihan Ymer-Ustaibo, Mission Environmental Officer  
Date: 01/23/2020

**Clearance:**
Christina T. Davis, DGO Director  
Date: 01/23/2020

**Clearance:**
Christine Danton, DGO  
Date: 1/23/2020

**Clearance:**
Mark Kamiya,  
E&E Bureau Environmental Officer (BEO)  
Date: 02/05/2020

**Distribution**
IEE File  
MEO (to also provide a copy to AOR/COR)
## Annex 1: Climate Risk Screening and Management Tool

Enabling the reintegration of FTFs and Affiliates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.1: Tasks / Defined or Anticipated Tasks or Interventions</th>
<th>1.2: Time-frame</th>
<th>1.3: Geography</th>
<th>2: Climate Risks*</th>
<th>3: Adaptive Capacity</th>
<th>4: Climate Risk Rating*</th>
<th>5: Opportunities</th>
<th>6.1: Climate Risk Management Options</th>
<th>6.2: How Climate Risks are Addressed in the Activity*</th>
<th>7: Next Steps for Activity Implementation*</th>
<th>8: Accepted Climate Risks*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Component 1: Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the intake of new FTFs and affiliates</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>Kosovo wide</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>The services that will be provided are advisory and capacity development services</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>None that are relevant to this activity</td>
<td>While the services are provided the contractor should be mindful of any information related to climate risk, if applicable.</td>
<td>While the services are provided the contractor should be mindful of any information related to climate risk, if applicable.</td>
<td>While the services are provided the contractor should be mindful of any information related to climate risk, if applicable.</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component 2: Development of a handbook on treating child trauma - a guide for helping trauma-exposed children</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>Kosovo wide</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>The services that will be provided are advisory and capacity development services</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>None that are relevant to this activity</td>
<td>While the services are provided the contractor should be mindful of any information related to climate risk, if applicable.</td>
<td>While the services are provided the contractor should be mindful of any information related to climate risk, if applicable.</td>
<td>While the services are provided the contractor should be mindful of any information related to climate risk, if applicable.</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>