MEMORANDUM TO FILE (MTF)
Initial Environmental Examination (IEE)

DATE: March 22, 2020

TO: William Gibson, Asia Bureau Environmental Officer (BEO/Asia)

THROUGH: Andrei Barannik, Regional Environmental Adviser, South and Central Asia & Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs (REA/SCA & OAPA)

THROUGH: Philip Clark, Director (A), Office of Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG), USAID, Bangladesh

THROUGH: Shahpar Selim, Mission Environmental Officer Program Office, USAID/Bangladesh

THROUGH: Emelda Mullick, Deputy Mission Environmental Officer, DRG, USAID/Bangladesh (electronically cleared, March 22, 2020)

FROM: Habiba Akter, AOR, Program Management Specialist Human Rights and Rule of Law, DRG, USAID/Bangladesh

SUBJECT: Document a new activity “Fight Slavery and Trafficking-in-Person (FSTIP)”


PERIOD OF IEE COVERAGE
(Start/End Date) FY 2012-FY 2020 (End date of IEE Asia 15-041)

Development Objective DO1 (Citizen Confidence in Governance Institutions Increased)

Activity Name The Fight Slavery and Trafficking in Persons (FSTIP)

Start/End Date o/a December 2020 - December 2025

Funding Amount Up to $10,000,000

Award Number TBD
1. Purpose and Background:

The purpose of this Memo is to document that a new activity, “The Fight Slavery and Trafficking in Persons (FSTIP)”, managed by USAID/Bangladesh, which is a follow-up to the Counter Trafficking Program: Bangladesh Trafficking in Persons (BC/TIP), which will end in November 2020. BC/TIP is covered by IEE Asia 15-041. The scope and nature of the new activity is similar to BC/TIP, which has approved Categorical Exclusion Threshold Decision.

The purpose of this MTF is to timely and duly document:

- The incorporation of the FSTIP under IEE Asia 15-041;
- That the LOP of the current IEE Asia 15-041 is FY 12- FY20; that the new activity is expected to begin once the existing BC/TIP ends, which should be December 2020; that the new IEE, which is being drafted, includes the new activity; and that the new IEE will be reviewed and approved before the current IEE ends;
- That the level of funding for this activity is covered through the funding period for the IEE;
- That the Categorical Exclusion Threshold Decision approved for the BC/TIP applies to the FSTIP;
- That in view that all activities under DO1 have been rated as low risk in the Climate Risk Management (CRM) analysis for the Bangladesh CDCS (under review), no climate risk screening is required for the FSTIP rather the implementing partner should be cognizant of potential climate events when planning technical assistance events at a specific location; and
- Agreement Officer’s Representative (AOR) and the Mission Environmental Officer (MEO) shall explain this MTF to selected implementing partner(s) at the “post award” conference.

Table1. Pertinent threshold determinations for this activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project/Activity</th>
<th>Types of Activities with Environmental Implications</th>
<th>Threshold Determination</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Fight Slavery and Trafficking in Persons (FSTIP)</strong></td>
<td>The overall goal of this program is to strengthen the capacity of communities and government-led institutions to prevent trafficking incidents, improve access of survivors to comprehensive support services, increase criminal justice sector actors’ responsiveness to trafficking cases and coordinate effective partnerships among different stakeholders. The new FSTIP activity will strengthen Bangladesh Government institutions to discourage and prevent trafficking and child marriage, protect survivors and promote safe migration. The activity will expand partnerships with civil society and private sector to strengthen comprehensive protection</td>
<td>CE for Technical Assistance (TA), no environmental impacts are anticipated</td>
<td>This proposed program is similar in scope and nature to the Bangladesh Counter Trafficking in Persons (BC/TIP), program which is covered under Asia 15-041. Therefore, it is expected to have similar</td>
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required to be prepared and approved by BEO prior to the end date of existing IEE to cover the remaining of the funding period.

mechanisms for those at-risk and survivors of trafficking and child marriage. FSTIP will assist judicial institutions and criminal justice actors to strengthen their capacity to bring perpetrators to justice. All these efforts will be geared towards implementing the Bangladesh Government-led National Plan of Action (NPA) and the 2012 anti-trafficking law. This new activity will support the U.S. National Security Strategy, State-USAID Joint Strategic Plan Goal Two, and U.S. Government objectives to protect vulnerable populations, improve respect for human rights, and increase citizen confidence in governance institutions. The FSTIP activity will also enhance the capacity of District, Upazilla and Union counter trafficking committees to prevent trafficking at the local level. The activity will enhance the ability of citizens to effectively identify trafficking incidents and survivors and make access to legal as well as other services available for trafficking survivors. The activity will improve the access to standardized support services for trafficking survivors empowering them to advocate in the prevention of trafficking, while ensuring justice for themselves.

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decisions for activities under FSTIP.

2. Revisions:

Pursuant to 22 CFR 216.3(a)(9), if new information becomes available which indicates that activities to be funded under the DO1 portfolio might have "major" and "significant" effect, or if additional activities are proposed that have not been assessed under this IED that might be considered “major” and their effects “significant”, this categorical exclusion and negative determination will be reviewed and revised and submitted to the Bureau Environmental Officer (BEO) for approval, an if appropriate, an environmental assessment will be prepared. It is the responsibility of the USAID Agreement Officer’s Representative (AOR) to keep the Mission Environment Officer and the BEO informed of any new information or changes in the activity that might occur revision of the Asia 15-041 IEE and this MTF.

Distribution:

- Project Files
- Mission Environmental Officer
- Asia Regional Environmental Advisor
- Asia Bureau Environmental Officer
- RLO
- OAA
Attachment:
- Program Description of the proposed FSTIP activity

From: Habiba Akter, AOR, Program Management Specialist

Through: Philip Clark
Director (A), Office of Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance

Cleaned by email
Shahpar Selim
Mission Environmental Officer

Cleaned by email
Andrei Barannik
Regional Environmental Adviser for Central and South Asia, and for Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs

William Gibson
Bureau Environmental Officer

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