AMENDMENT 5
Initial Environmental Examination
IEE Building Alliance for Local Advancement, Development, and Investment (BALADI)

PROGRAM/ACTIVITY DATA:

Country Code-DO: 268-001
Foreign Assistance Objective: Governing Justly and Democratically
Economic Growth
Country or Region: Lebanon
Activity Name: Building Alliance for Local Advancement, Development, and Investment (BALADI)

Sub-Activity Amount: Not applicable

IEE Prepared by: Christine Sayegh, Project Management Specialist Date: 02/18/2020

IEE Amendment (Y/N): Y
If “Yes,” Number @ Date of Original IEE:
ME 12-87 for the BALADI Project, approved on April 18, 2012.
Amendment ME 17-40 for the BALADI Project, approved on April 24, 2017.
Amendment ME 18-13 for the BALADI Project, approved on December 20, 2017
Amendment ME 18-59 for the BALADI Project, approved on June 27, 2018
Amendment ME 18-74 for the BALADI Project, approved on August 28, 2018

Environmental Media and/or Human Health Potentially Impacted (check all that apply):
air    water    land    biodiversity    human health    other    none

Environmental Action(s) Recommended: (Check all that apply)
Categorical Exclusion: ☒ Deferral: ☐
Positive Determination: ☐ Negative Determination
Exemption: ☐ With Conditions: ☒

BACKGROUND

USAID has been implementing the project entitled Building Alliance for Local Advancement, Development, and Investment (BALADI) since 2012. Under the BALADI project, USAID awarded cooperative agreements to two local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to support municipal activities through in-kind competitive grants to improve governance and respond to citizen socio-economic needs. The IEE (Annex 1) for this project was approved on April 18, 2012 and to date amended four times: on April 24, 2017 (Annex 2) to increase the LOP amount from $25,000,000 to $31,670,000, and to extend the project end date from September 29, 2017 to September 29, 2018; on December 20, 2017 (Annex 3) to increase the LOP amount from $31,670,000 to $34,669,465 and to
extend the end date to September 29, 2019; on June 27, 2018 to increase the LOP amount from $34,669,465 to $37,169,465; and on August 28, 2018 to increase the LOP amount from $37,169,465 to $42,119,465.

This amendment to the IEE is to reflect the:

a. Increase in the Life of Project (LOP) total funding amount by $2,535,219 from $42,119,465 to the new LOP amount of $44,654,684.
b. Extension of the BALADI project end date from September 29, 2021 to September 29, 2022.

This IEE amendment is to reflect the increase in the BALADI project LOP amount and the extension of its completion date. All other aspects related to the scope and nature of activities, remain the same. Therefore, the recommendations and the environmental threshold decisions remain the same.

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

The IEE for the BALADI project was approved on April 18, 2012 (Ref ME 12-87) and amended on April 24, 2017 (Ref ME 17-40), on December 20, 2017 (Ref ME 18-13), on June 27, 2018 (Ref ME 18-59), and on August 28, 2018 (Ref ME 18-74). An amendment to the IEE is further needed due to two reasons:

A. **Increasing the LOP amount from $42,119,465 to the new expected LOP amount of $44,654,684.** The additional funding being provided to the BALADI project and its time expansion will enable the project to provide more of similar assistance currently being implemented under the activity in Lebanon.

B. **Extending the funding end date from September 29, 2021 to September 29, 2022.** The BALADI project duration will be extended up to an additional year to accommodate an expanded scope and to provide sufficient time to complete the additional expected local development activities.

This IEE amendment to increase the cost and extend the project’s duration will not change the nature of the activities. Therefore, there are no changes to the findings, recommendation, environmental threshold decisions, and actions approved in the ME 12-87 (Annex 1), ME 17-40 (Annex 2), ME 18-13 (Annex 3), ME 18-59 (Annex 4), and ME 18-74 (Annex 5).

**CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT**

As per ADS 201 and ADS 201mal, USAID shall factor climate resilience into international development programs and investments. All new projects and activities after October 1, 2016, shall be screened for climate risks over the life of expected benefits, and (if appropriate) demonstrate how those risks will be reduced in order to ensure sustainability of the activity’s objectives.

All activities in this IEE started before October 1, 2016, and are therefore exempt from this ADS requirement.
APPROVAL PAGE:

CLEARANCE:

Mission Environmental Officer, Sana Saliba  Cleared  Date: 02/20/2020
Local Development Office Director, Claude Zullo  Cleared  Date: 02/24/2020
Program Office Director, Patrick Goodwin  Cleared  Date: 02/24/2020
Regional Environmental Advisor/Middle East, Chris Frey, Regional Environmental Advisor  Cleared by email  Date: 03/16/2020

APPROVAL:

Mission Director, Dr. Anne Patterson  Approved by email  Date: 03/19/2020
Approved:  X
Disapproved:  

CONCURRENCE:

Bureau Environmental Officer
John Wilson  Date: 3/20/2020

IEE Building Alliance for Local Advancement, Development, and Investment (BALADI) Project

DISTRIBUTION:
Mission Environmental Officer
IEE

ANNEXES:
Annex 1: Approved IEE dated April 18, 2012 (Ref ME 12-87)
Annex 2: Approved IEE Amendment #1 dated April 24, 2017 (Ref ME 17-40)
Annex 3: Approved IEE Amendment #2 dated December 20, 2017 (Ref ME 18-13)
Annex 4: Approved IEE Amendment #3 dated June 27, 2018 (Ref ME 18-59)
Annex 5: Approved IEE Amendment #4 dated August 28, 2018 (Ref ME 18-74)