



**LAC-IEE-04-05**

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

**Activity Location** : Guatemala

**Activity Title** : Better Educated Rural Society

**Activity Number** : 520-0432

**Funding** : \$19,754,000

**Life of Project** : FY 1997 - 2005

**IEE Prepared by** : Gloria Cordon, PDM, USAID/G-CAP

**References** : LAC-IEE-03-36  
: IEE-97-29  
: LAC-IEE-03-08  
: LAC IEE 03-36

**Recommended Threshold Decision** : Categorical Exclusion

**Bureau Threshold Decision** : Concur with Recommendation

**Comments:**

This IEE amends the four referenced IEEs to continue the activities under SO2, “Better Educated Rural Society”.

Pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(i), (iii), (iv) and (xiv), a **Categorical Exclusion** is granted to these activities, which involve education, training, capacity building, preparation of analyses, and others as described in the IEE that will not have an impact on the environment.

\_\_\_\_\_ 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 : Gloria Cordon, PDM, USAID/G-CAP  
Copy to : Michael Kerst, LAC/CAM  
Copy to : Michael Donald, REA, Central America  
Copy to : IEE File

## REQUEST FOR A CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

**Activity Location** : Guatemala  
**Activity Title** : SO2, "Better Educated Rural Society"  
**Activity Number** : 520-0431 (formerly 520-0425.3)  
**Funding Source** : CS and DA (Basic Education Earmark)  
**Funding** : \$19,754,000  
**Life of Project** : FY 1997 – FY 2005  
**IEE Prepared by** : Gloria Cordon, PDM, USAID/G-CAP  
**Recommended Threshold Decision** : Categorical Exclusion  
**Date Prepared** : December 8, 2003

### RECOMMENDATION FOR THRESHOLD DECISION:

Pursuant to Section 216.2 (a) of A.I.D. environmental procedures, environmental analysis/evaluation is required for new activities or for new components added during revision or amendments that were not previously subject to environment review. The attached package is presented in order to extend the Life of Project of LAC-IEE-03-36. These activities were and continue to be qualified for a categorical exclusion. This activity will be implemented through policy dialogue, training and technical assistance.

**Concurrence:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Glenn Anders  
Mission Director, USAID/G-CAP

**Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

## BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION

The following activities will continue to be financed through the first two quarters of 2005 as part of the Mission's "Better Educated Rural Society" Strategic Objective (520-002), 520-0431. These activities were originally part of the "Poverty Reduced in Selected Geographic Areas" Strategic Objective, No. 520-0425.3 covered by IEE-97-29. LAC-IEE-03-08, signed February 13, 2003 and LAC IEE 03-36, signed June 20, 2003, amended the original IEE to increase its LOP and funding. The extension of the Life of Project through the first two quarters of 2005 will enable consolidation of activities and facilitate transition into the Guatemala Country Plan under the new CAM Regional Strategy.

Teacher Education: Prepare intercultural, bilingual educators for rural areas, including pre-service and in-service training.

Curriculum design: Focus will be on inter-culturalism and increased bilingual language proficiencies, cultural knowledge, gender equity and pedagogical competencies.

Develop and apply classroom methodologies: USAID will provide technical assistance in training to strengthen and disseminate the intercultural bilingual curriculum.

Technical Assistance: Including training of teachers, supervisors and school administrators and development of materials.

Conduct Survey Studies: On pilot activities and in bilingual and girls' education.

Develop Materials and Methodologies: To help teachers facilitate parents' and community members' participation in the education process and to increase student learning outcomes.

Policy Support: Support various organizations in the advocacy role of civil society to influence educational policy-making, particularly on intercultural bilingual education and girls' education, and the rights and responsibilities of parents and local communities in education. Pilot activities will also support key policy reforms.

Provide Professional Programs: This intervention targets especially intercultural bilingual educators and technical staff.

Application of Information Communication Technologies: Technology centers will be installed in teacher training institutions to better prepare future intercultural bilingual education teachers and the production of educational materials through information communication technology.

Pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2 (c) (2) (i), (iii), (iv), and (xiv) a **Categorical Exclusion** is issued to the activities involving education, training, preparation of analyses, and others that will not have an impact on the environment. All the above mentioned activities

contemplated for the extension of SO2 meet the above criteria. No construction or ground breaking activities are included.

Clearances:

Julia Richards, OHE \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Littleton Tazewell, RLA \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Anne Dix, MEO \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mike Donald, REA \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_