WHY A NEW APPROACH?

The remarkable progress in global development is increasingly threatened by unprecedented environmental degradation and climate change. Warmer temperatures, rapid urbanization, and the unsustainable use of natural resources are contributing to major challenges—from pandemics to pollution—that endanger human health, economic growth, and global stability.

Sound stewardship of environmental and natural resources is critical to self-reliance and helps build healthier populations, strengthens livelihoods, reduces conflict, promotes stability, increases resilience, and creates lasting economic opportunities.

The root causes and impacts of natural resource degradation, climate change, and pollution cut across all sectors, and the increasing intensity and complexity of these environmental challenges calls for a new way of doing business at USAID—an approach that looks beyond stand-alone environment programming to enhanced integration and collaboration across the Agency.

THE ENRM FRAMEWORK

USAID launched the ENRM Framework to coordinate, unify, and elevate environment, climate change, and natural resource management work across the Agency.

The ENRM Framework provides a new business model for USAID and a vision for integration that will help us work better and smarter across sectors to improve environment and climate change adaptation and mitigation outcomes, streamline field support, and align with major strategic shifts at the Agency.

The ENRM Framework is not a new strategy or initiative and does not create new reporting requirements; it provides direction, articulates priorities, outlines a unifying vision to address emerging challenges and the most critical threats to the environment and development, and serves as a guiding document for cross-sectoral investments in environment, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and natural resource management.
The ENRM Framework establishes two broad priority areas:

1. Improving natural resource management for self-reliance.
2. Improving urban systems for a cleaner environment and enhanced human well-being.

The two priority areas include long-standing Agency priorities and Congressional directives such as biodiversity, sustainable landscapes, renewable energy, and climate adaptation that will continue to be a major focus of ENRM Framework implementation.

Additionally, there will be increased focus on nine issues that build on opportunities for cross-sectoral integration:

- Advancing Democracy through Natural Resources Governance
- Land and Resource Rights
- Environmental and Plastic Pollution
- Natural Resource-related Conflict and Violence
- Water Resources Management
- Urban and Peri-urban Service Delivery
- Sustainable Food Systems
- One Health (Looking Holistically at Human, Animal, and Environmental Health)
- Urban Resilience

USAID will take five broad actions to implement the ENRM Framework:

1. Improve cross-sectoral coordination
2. Encourage and support new programming aligned with existing and emerging priorities
3. Make it easier for Missions to engage with new partners
4. Support Missions to access and apply the best tools and analyses and learn from each other
5. Improve our understanding and management of environment-related risks


For additional information, please contact: ENRM@usaid.gov