

F. CLIMATE RISK SCREENING

USAID/Colombia Environmental Compliance and Climate Risk Screening (CRS) USAID/Colombia's Mission Environmental Officer (MEO) and LAC Bureau climate risk screening facilitators advised the Mission on the Environmental Compliance and Climate Risk Management (CRM) process using USAID's Regulation 216 and the Climate Risk Screening and Management Tool. The results are summarized in the [strategy screening matrix](#).

In accordance with ADS 204 (22 CFR 216), USAID/Colombia provides a rigorous set of procedures to ensure the highest standard of environmental compliance. No activity funded by USAID/Colombia will be implemented unless an environmental threshold determination, as defined by 22 CFR 216, has been reached for that activity. USAID/Colombia guarantees that CRM analysis is completed for all proposed actions before a Program Appraisal Document (PAD) is approved. For activity design and approval, approved 22 CFR documents must be in place covering all the proposed actions under the activity, except for any approved Deferrals. All Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) or Environmental Assessment (EA) conditions, including mitigation and monitoring measures, need to be integrated into final activity design. If a Positive Determination is given or anticipated, a Scoping Statement and Environmental Assessment must be completed before a final decision is made to provide Agency funding for the action. AORs/CORs are responsible for briefing implementing partners (IPs) on the environmental compliance requirements and for monitoring IP environmental compliance during activity implementation. USAID/Colombia has also updated its Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) and the Pesticide Evaluation Report and Safer Use Action Plan (PERSUAP) documents (2017) to support environmental compliance.

Environmental Impacts

The potential environmental impacts of USAID/Colombia's strategy were identified at a sector level per Development Objective (DO) and Intermediate Result (IR). USAID/Colombia defined seven sectors of highest concern for the country: 1) education; 2) social cohesion; 3) human health; 4) governance and justice; 5) land and property rights; 6) infrastructure and energy; and 7) economic development and natural resource management. Some of these sectors, like education, are issued as Categorical Exclusion because they do not negatively affect the environment and do not require an Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) or mitigation measures to avoid environmental impacts. Categorical Exclusion activities, like studies, training, and capacity building, will be supported under DO1, DO2, and the Special Objective.

1. **Education:** USAID/Colombia's education efforts will focus on strengthening Colombia's education system to include Venezuelan migrants. Education actions are issued as Categorical Exclusion.
2. **Social cohesion:** USAID/Colombia's social cohesion efforts will focus on a more cohesive and inclusive society resilient to conflict; strengthened governance to meet citizen needs and increase citizen confidence in the state; and stability in areas impacted by migration from Venezuela. Social cohesion actions are issued as Categorical Exclusion.

3. **Human health:** USAID/Colombia's human health efforts will focus on strengthening the health system; supporting sustainable health financing; and increasing citizen access to health services. Human health actions are issued as Categorical Exclusion.
4. **Governance and justice:** USAID/Colombia's governance and justice efforts will focus on a more cohesive and inclusive society resilient to conflict; strengthened governance to meet citizen needs and increase citizen confidence in the state; and stability in areas impacted by migration from Venezuela. Governance and justice actions are issued as Categorical Exclusion.
5. **Land and property rights:** USAID/Colombia's land and property rights efforts will focus on land restitution and land formalization under DO3. An existing EA already exists under the Land and Rural Development Program (LRDP) that must be revised and updated for subsequent related activities. Land and property rights actions are issued as Positive Determination as they may affect the environment and require an Environmental Assessment.
6. **Infrastructure and energy:** USAID/Colombia's infrastructure and energy efforts will focus on actions like tertiary roads, productive infrastructure, renewable energy, and more. Business ventures like bakeries, internet, phone booths and beauty salons may also be supported. Infrastructure and energy actions are issued as Negative Determination as they may have a negative impact on the environment and can be avoided and/or reduced with mitigation measures. Negative Determination activities, like small-scale infrastructure, will be supported under DO2, DO3, and the Special Objective. USAID/Colombia has defined environmental and CRM mitigation measures (EMMPs) for each action (Tab 1: [Illustrative Mitigation Measures](#)).
7. **Economic development and natural resource management:** USAID economic development and natural resource management efforts will focus on agroforestry, silvopastoral systems and sustainable practices like bee keeping and fish farming. Business ventures like bakeries, internet, phone booths and beauty salons may also be supported. Economic development and natural resource actions are issued as Negative Determination as they may have a negative impact on the environment. Negative Determination activities, like agricultural practices and cattle ranching, will be supported under DO3. Additionally, mining formalization actions are issued as Positive Determination as they may have a significant effect on the environment and require an Environmental Assessment. USAID efforts supported under DO3 will focus on mining formalization, rehabilitation of degraded areas, and zero mercury technologies. An existing EA already exists under the Oro Legal activity that must be revised and updated for subsequent related activities. USAID/Colombia has defined environmental and CRM mitigation measures (EMMPs) for each action (Tab 1: Illustrative Mitigation Measures).

Climate Risk Screening

The Climate Risk Screening was developed at a sector level per DO and IR. USAID/Colombia defined seven sectors of highest concern for the country: 1) education; 2) social cohesion; 3) human health; 4) governance and justice; 5) land and property rights; 6) infrastructure and energy; and 7) economic development and natural resource management.

1. **Education:** USAID/Colombia will provide technical support to local institutions to incorporate climate and weather pattern changes in infrastructure projects to ensure structures can withstand climate variability. These actions will reduce potential infrastructure access and damage risks from floods, landslides, and/or droughts as part of DO1, DO2, and the Special Objective.

2. **Social cohesion:** USAID/Colombia will support climate change awareness actions as part of DO1, DO2, and the Special Objective. Awareness actions will reduce risks related to service access restrictions, forced migration and/or displacement, reduced citizen security, and increased social tensions caused by weather pattern changes like floods.
3. **Human health:** USAID/Colombia will provide technical support to local communities and institutions to incorporate weather pattern changes and the needs of vulnerable areas, like providing healthcare services to address mosquito-borne infections. Human health actions are a critical part of DO1, DO2, and the Special Objective.
4. **Governance and justice:** USAID/Colombia will provide technical support to local communities and institutions to reduce weather pattern change risks and ensure planning strategies that withstand climate variability. These interventions will improve climate change resilience and are a critical part of DO1, DO2, and the Special Objective.
5. **Land and property rights:** USAID/Colombia will continue to focus on environmental and climate considerations related to land restitution and formalization, as part of DO2. USAID/Colombia will provide technical support to local communities and institutions to incorporate weather pattern changes and vulnerable areas in all land and property rights processes.
6. **Infrastructure and energy:** USAID/Colombia focuses on infrastructure and energy actions through DO2 and DO3. USAID/Colombia promotes climate adaptation through climate resilient infrastructure and climate mitigation through renewable energy. USAID/Colombia incorporates precipitation pattern changes and vulnerable areas when identifying infrastructure and energy requirements in order to help ensure that structures withstand climate variability. This is because extreme rainfall and floods can damage property and road infrastructure, and subsequent landslides and mudslides, exacerbated by deforestation and poor urban planning, pose a risk to human settlements.
7. **Economic development and natural resource management:** USAID/Colombia's economic development and natural resource management strategy focuses on climate adaptation and mitigation as part of DO2 and DO3. This is because Colombia industries like agriculture are vulnerable to soil erosion, water shortages and land degradation caused by increased climate variability. USAID/Colombia's climate adaptation actions will include climate-smart agricultural practices like agroforestry, and natural resources management like conserving biological corridors. USAID/Colombia's climate mitigation actions include Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) initiatives and nature tourism. USAID/Colombia will also facilitate citizens' financial service and agriculture insurance access to protect farmers from potential losses.