

**CHECK LIST FOR
AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS**

Environmental Checklist

**(As part of the exercise to determine the need or not for an Environmental
Impact Assessment in Belize)**

PURPOSE OF CHECKLIST

The Department of the Environment requests all public and private agencies, corporations and individuals to consider the environmental impacts of a proposed project before making decisions. In accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, an environmental impact assessment (EIA) must be prepared for all project proposals with potential adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to assist the proponent and the Government of Belize, identify impacts of a proposal and to take adequate and practical measures to mitigate any adverse environmental effect that may result from the proposal. This checklist will also help the Department of the Environment decide whether an E.I.A. is required for said proposal.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. The Department of the Environment will use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIA. Please answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If a question does not apply to your proposal, write "**DOES NOT APPLY**".

Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later. Some questions ask about governmental regulations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you. The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The Department of the Environment, to which you must submit this checklist, may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT

Before you fill out this form, please ensure you have read and understand the environmental regulations of Belize (Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, SI 107/1995 as amended in March 2007-SI 24 of 2007). All information should be typed clearly.

File Number: _____

Existing Development	Yes/No	Types of Agricultural Production:
Extension to existing Development	Yes/No	Grains:
New Development	Yes/No	Livestock:
		Fruit for Export:
		Agro-industry:
		Food packaging

1. GENERAL INFORMATION DESCRIBING THE PROJECT

(A) Project Title:

(B) Purpose and brief description for the project:

List all elements of the project and off site ancillary developments to be included in this application (e.g.: buildings, plants, roads, pipelines, wells, camps, etc.)

(C) Name of the owner and/or Company:

- (I) Address:
- (II) Name of the Contact Person:
- (III) Telephone:
- (IV) FAX Number:
- (V) Email:
- (VI) Web page:
- (VII) Commercial or industrial registration Number:
- (VIII) Previous Applications or Work in following countries:

(D) List all other Environmental Permits or Licenses held by you for the same location and/or related operations.

(E) Location

(Attach a copy of Land Registration, Lease agreement, maps, layout plans, diagrams, photographs), and if available give GPS coordinates):

- (I) Reasons for selecting this particular location:
- (II) Other locations considered:

(III) Distance to the nearest residential area and public roads:

(F) Area of land required for the project and existing land uses

(farmland, residential, industrial, recreational, etc):

(I) Area required during construction:

(II) Area required during operation:

(III) Area reserved for future development:

(IV) Area required for ancillary development, housing and recreation:

(V) Area required for new roads and amenities:

(G) Project schedule:

(I) Estimated date of the beginning and end of construction:

(II) Estimated date for the beginning of operation:

(III) Estimated date of the end of the project or decommissioning:

(IV) Other significant dates:

(H) Number of people utilizing the site:

	<u>Skilled</u>	<u>Unskilled</u>	<u>Total</u>
--	----------------	------------------	--------------

(I) During construction:

(II) During operation:

(III) Foreigners:

(IV) Nationals:

(I) Types and Number of Equipment to be used:

(I) On-site:

(II) Off-site:

2. PROJECT DETAILS

(A) Area/size, construction method and appearance of buildings and installations:

Architectural Design and/or Site Plan:

Number of Buildings:

Geo-physical Information:

Access and Internal Roads Design:

Describe landscaping if applicable)

(B) Approximate location of:

- (I) Construction camps:
- (II) Temporary access roads:
- (III) (III)Material storage sites:
Please attach maps)

(C) Describe project's infrastructure and utilities requirements. Indicate whether they exist or need to be developed:

- (I) Water:
- (II) Electricity:
- (III) (III)Fuels: (Types/Quantities):
- (IV) (IV)Roads, airports, etc.:

(D) Describe associated projects and off site developments which are NOT INCLUDED in this application:

(roads, power plants, desalination plants, wastewater treatment plants, crushers, borrow pits, quarries, housing and recreational facilities, etc.)

(E) Periods of operation:

(seasonal, shifts, business hours, Phases)

(F) Raw materials, chemicals, fuels:

(Scientific and commercial names, types, quantities, chemical composition, sources of raw materials or energy consumed and attach Material Safety Data Sheets)

(G) Describe methods of transportation, handling and storage of raw materials, chemicals, fuel:

3. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

(This includes direct, indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium, and long-term, permanent and temporary impacts of the project)

(A) Expected impacts on people, building and man-made structures:

(B) Expected impacts on plants, animals:

- loss or damage to habitats of trees, and other plants, and animal species including marine
- endangered species

(C) Expected impacts on land:

(topography, soil or beach erosion, land use, natural drainage, etc)

(D) Solid non hazardous waste/hazardous waste

(during construction and operation phase)

- (I) Source and nature:
- (II) Quantities:
- (III) Methods of treatment/control:
- (IV) Final disposal site/method:

(E) Expected impacts on water:

(Impacts on surface, underground/aquifer, coastal waters and estuarine hydrology, impacts of pollutants on water quality, surface water collection, aesthetics)

(F) Wastewater, drainage and surface runoff (during construction and operation phase):

- (I) Source and Nature:
- (II) Volumes:
- (III) Methods of treatment/control:
- (IV) Final disposal site/method:

(G) Expected impacts on air quality

(Emissions from existing and future sources of air pollution during the construction and operation phases)

- (I) Sources and nature of air emissions:
- (II) Quantities:
- (III) Methods of treatment/control:
- (IV) Final discharge (indicate the proposed physical stack height and location):
- (V) Monitoring/modeling of air emissions:

(H) Identify and quantify noise and vibration sources during Construction and Operation

- (I) Public environment (outdoors):

(II) Working environment (indoors):

(I) Explosives:

(I) Type, name and purpose of using:

(II) Quantities:

(III) When and Duration of use:

(J) Importation of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)

(I) Measures to prevent contamination of local species used traditionally:

(II) Presentation of Studies locally and abroad on the safe use of these

(III) introduced species:

(K) Other Impacts

Provide information on any other impacts specific to this development:

Relocation of people:

Health Issues:

Social Issues:

General Environmental Issues:

4. Summary Issues

EIA Aspects	Questions of Verification	Yes	No	Additional Information required
Sources of Impact	1. Does it require the conversion of significant land areas (e.g. >200 hectares)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2. Does it require clearing or leveling of large areas of land (e.g. >200 hectares), or land with steep slope (e.g. > 5%)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Does it require de significant use of fertilizer and pesticides (the significance depends in the type of chemical, volume/proportions used in application, user experience)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4. Does it require housing services or agricultural lands to support the labor force (e.g. > 100 operators)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5. Does it require an increase in the agriculture processing capacity (e.g. 25%)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	6. Will GMOs be imported and introduced in local environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Impact Receptors	7. Does it consist of converting lands that support the conservation of valued land and aquatic ecosystems, flora and fauna (e.g. protected areas, wild habitats, forest reserves, critical habitats, and endangered species); or that contain sites of cultural or historical importance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	8. Does it enter into conflict with existing uses of land, use of drinking water sources, labor demands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	9. Will traditional species/varieties used by Belizean farmers be exposed to these GMOs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Impacts	10. Does it lead to land erosion, land degradation, decreasing crop yield, etc. due to incompatibility between adaptation and land management practices?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	11. Does it cause people to change the means by which they sustain their lifestyles (the significance depends on the socioeconomic scale and type of impact, e.g. consent of change, lopsided benefits)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	12. Does it present risk of contamination, due to run-off of pesticides or fertilizers into water bodies that support the conservation of ecosystems and valued species, or pools of commercially significant fish species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	13. Does it induce unplanned development through the construction of access routes and local roads?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mitigation Measures	14. Does it require significant services to establish and sustain the project (e.g. at long term > 2 years, intense training)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	15. Could it require mitigation measures that could result in the project being socially and economically unacceptable?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments				

Source: Directorio General para la Comision de Desarrollo de las Comunidades Europeas, 1993

5. DESCRIBE MITIGATION MEASURES AND MONITORING PROGRAMS

(Measures which have been incorporated into the project to reduce environmental impacts during all phases of the project)

List the attachments and supporting documents:

Additional Information (if required attached additional pages):

6. DECLARATION BY APPLICANT

I HEREBY DECLARE THAT THE ABOVE MENTIONED INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND TRUE.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT:

Printed Name: -----

Official Position: -----

DATE: -----

STAMP or SEAL:

SIGNATURE OF OWNER OR AUTHORIZED OFFICER: -----

Printed Name: -----

Official Position: -----

DATE: -----

STAMP or SEAL:

7. DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Department of the Environment)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- It is determined that the proposed project MAY NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT on the environment and a **LETTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE can be granted.**
- It is determined that the proposed project MAY HAVE SOME IMPACTS on the environment but which can be mitigated for easily, and hence an ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE PLAN (ECP) can be developed and signed before Letter of **ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE can be granted.**
- It is determined that the proposed project MAY HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS on the environment and that it qualifies under the **types of projects not to be entertained by DOE.**
- It is determined that the proposed project COULD HAVE POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS and falls under Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations, hence a **LIMITED LEVEL STUDY is required.**
- It is determined that the proposed project MAY HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS on the environment and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT is required.**

Signature: -----

Printed Name: -----

Official Position: -----

Date: -----

DOE Stamp: