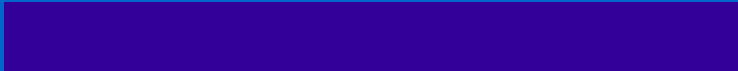


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USAID Environmental Procedures



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Overview

- ◆ USAID environmental review requirements are:
 - ◆ A specific example of the general EIA process
 - ◆ Defined by “Regulation 216”
- ◆ Requirements apply to:
 - ◆ All new USAID programs or activities.
 - ◆ Substantive amendments or extensions to ongoing activities



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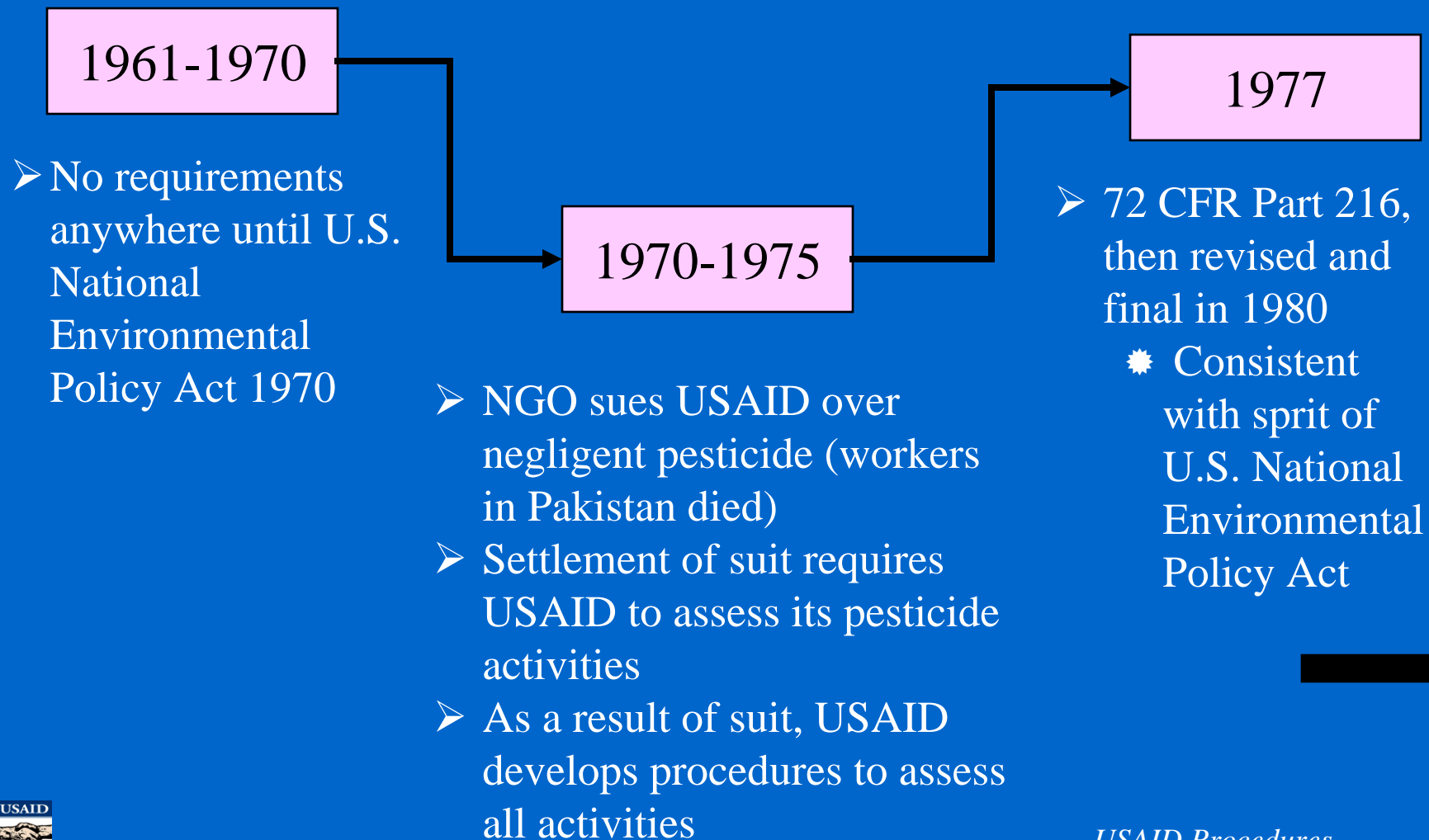
Overview

◆ Purpose:

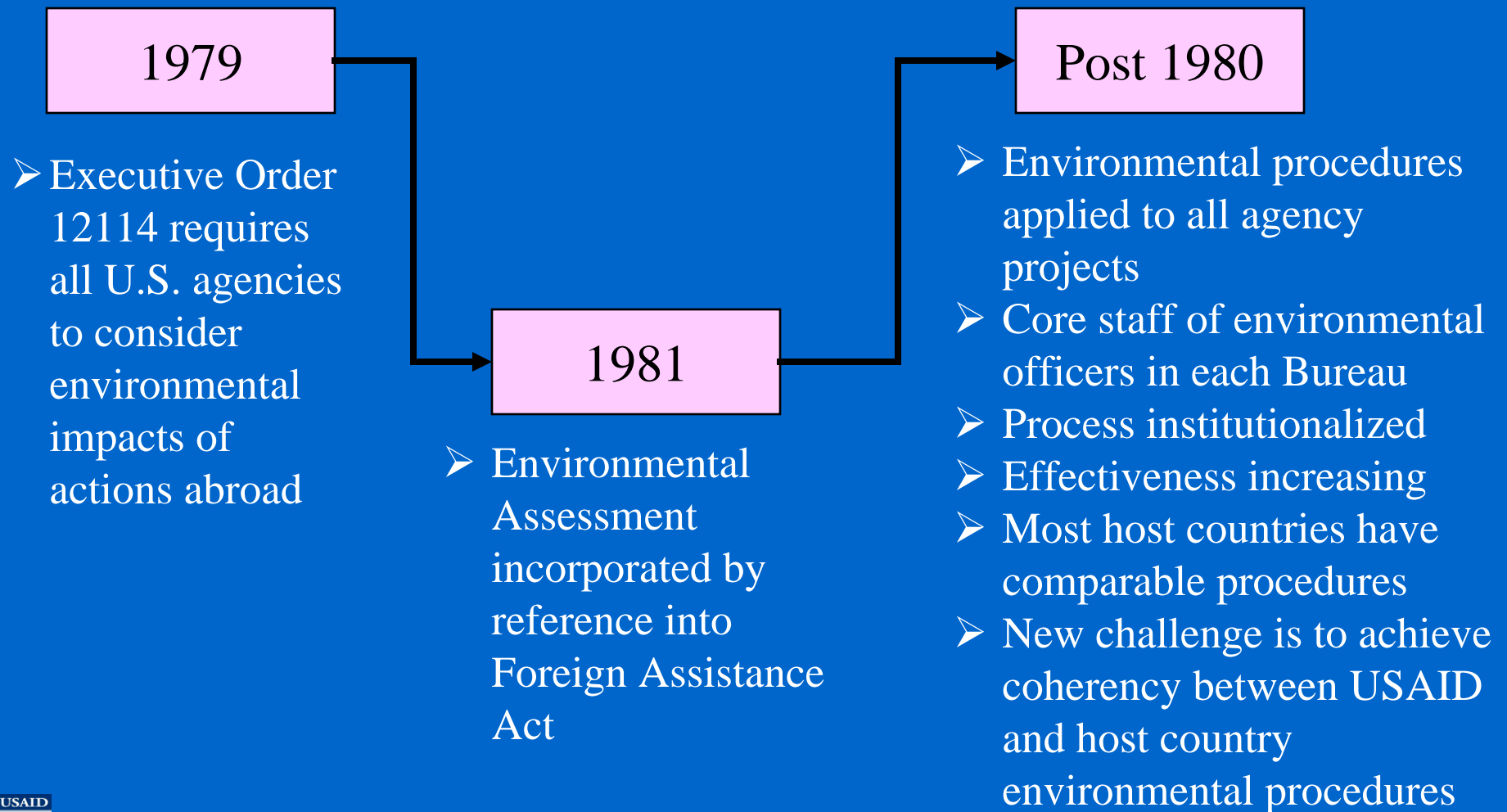
- ◆ Legal obligation to implement NEPA
- ◆ More sustainable projects through EIA:
 - ➔ Consider “reasonably foreseeable” environmental consequences prior to making decisions;
 - ➔ Ensure that appropriate environmental safeguards are adopted—both to protect public health and the renewable resource base on which sustained development depends;
 - ➔ To prevent project failure from environmental causes;



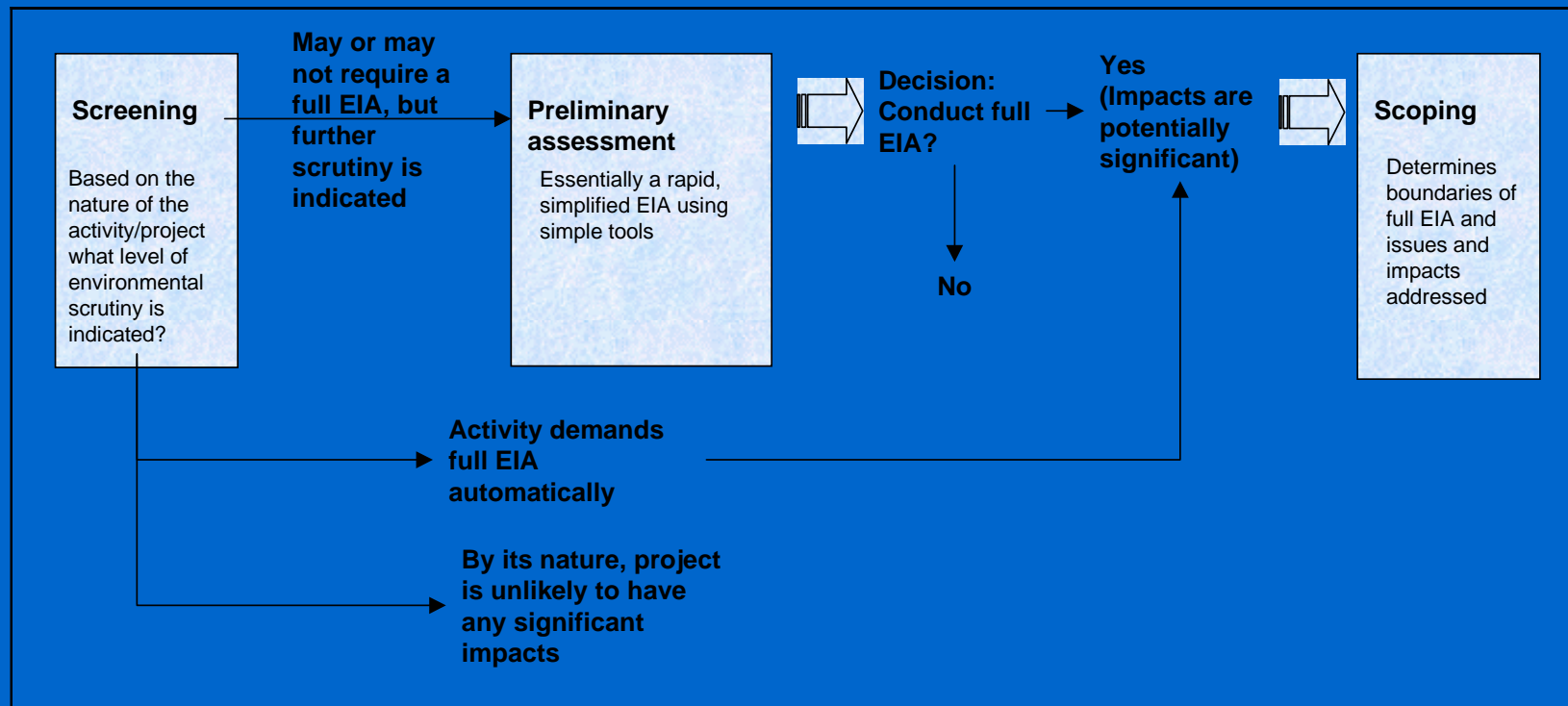
Origin and timeline



Origin and timeline (cont'd)



Review: the General EIA Process



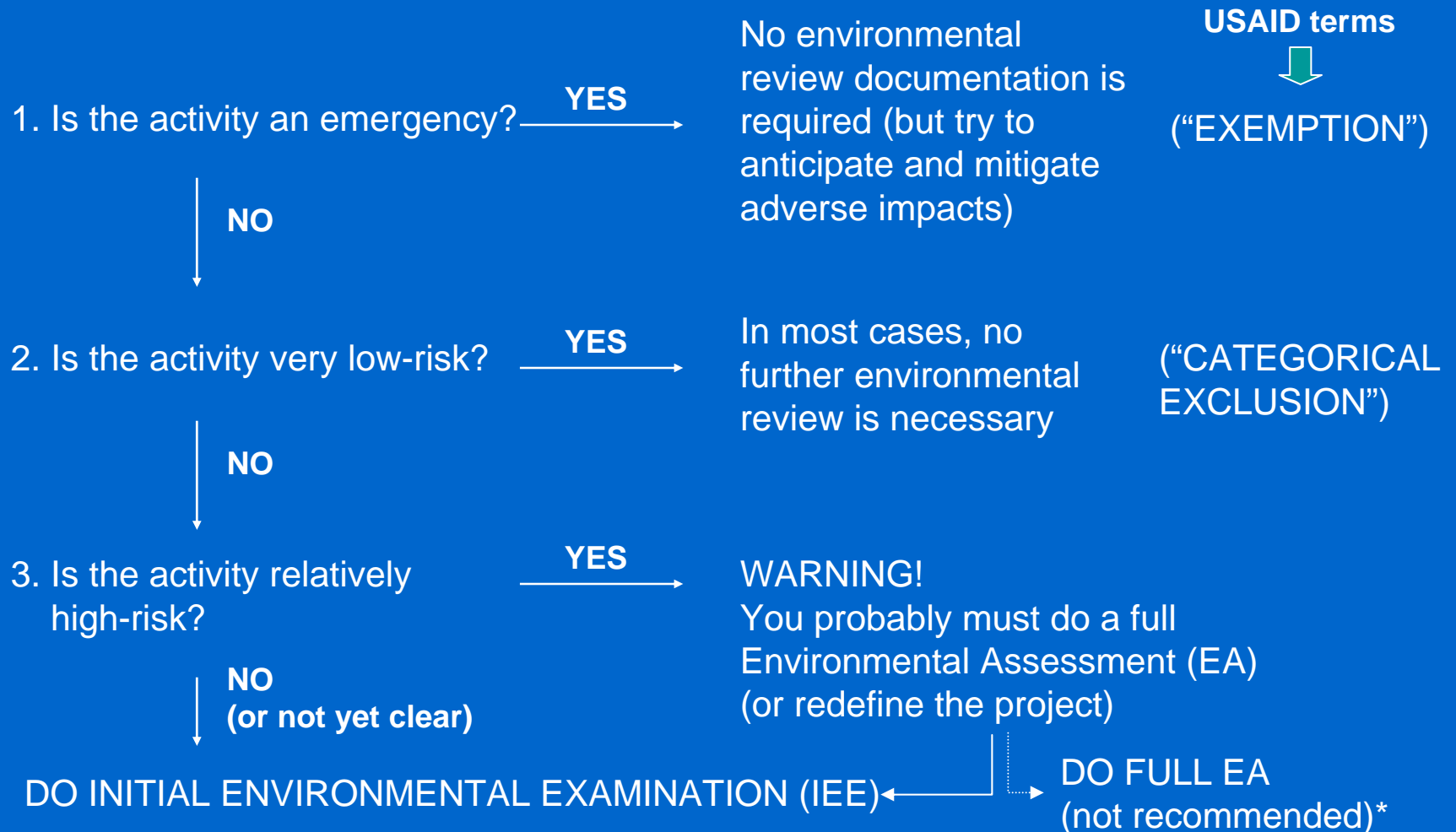
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How to start

- ◇ Note: this module presents the theory; PRACTICE starts in the next module
- ◇ 1. List all activities in a project
- ◇ 2. For each activity, do screening



Screening under Reg. 216



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USAID Definitions

- ◆ How does USAID define an “EXEMPTION” (= “emergency”)?
 - ◆ International disaster assistance:
 - ◆ Other emergency situations
 - ➔ requires Administrator (A/AID) or Assistant Administrator (AA/AID) formal approval
 - ◆ Circumstances with “exceptional foreign policy sensitivities”
 - ➔ requires A/AID or AA/AID formal approval.



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USAID Definitions

- ◆ How does USAID define a “CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION” (= “low-risk activity”)?
 - ◆ Education, training or technical assistance;
 - ◆ Limited experimental research
 - ◆ Analysis, studies, workshops, meetings;
 - ◆ Documents or information transfer;
 - ◆ General institutional support.



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USAID Definitions

- ◇ Categorical exclusions (continued)
 - ◆ Capacity building for development;
 - ◆ Activities that involve the application of USAID approved design criteria.
 - ◆ Nutrition, health, population and family planning activities (except for construction)
 - ◆ Support to intermediate credit institutions if USAID does not review or approve loans



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USAID Definitions

- ◆ Categorical exclusions also include situations in which USAID has no direct control:
 - ◆ Commodity Import Programs (CIPs), when USAID has no knowledge of or control over use;
 - ◆ Support to intermediate credit institutions if USAID does not review or approve loans;
 - ◆ Projects where USAID is a minor donor
 - ◆ Food for development programs under Title III, when USAID has no specific knowledge or control;
 - ◆ Grants to PVOs where USAID has no specific knowledge or control



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USAID Definitions

◆ NO CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS ARE POSSIBLE FOR PESTICIDES



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USAID Definitions

- ◆ When does USAID usually require a full Environmental Assessment?
 - ◆ Irrigation or water management including dams
 - ◆ Agricultural land leveling & Drainage
 - ◆ Large scale agricultural mechanization
 - ◆ New land development
 - ◆ Resettlement
 - ◆ Penetration road building or road improvement

AND. . .



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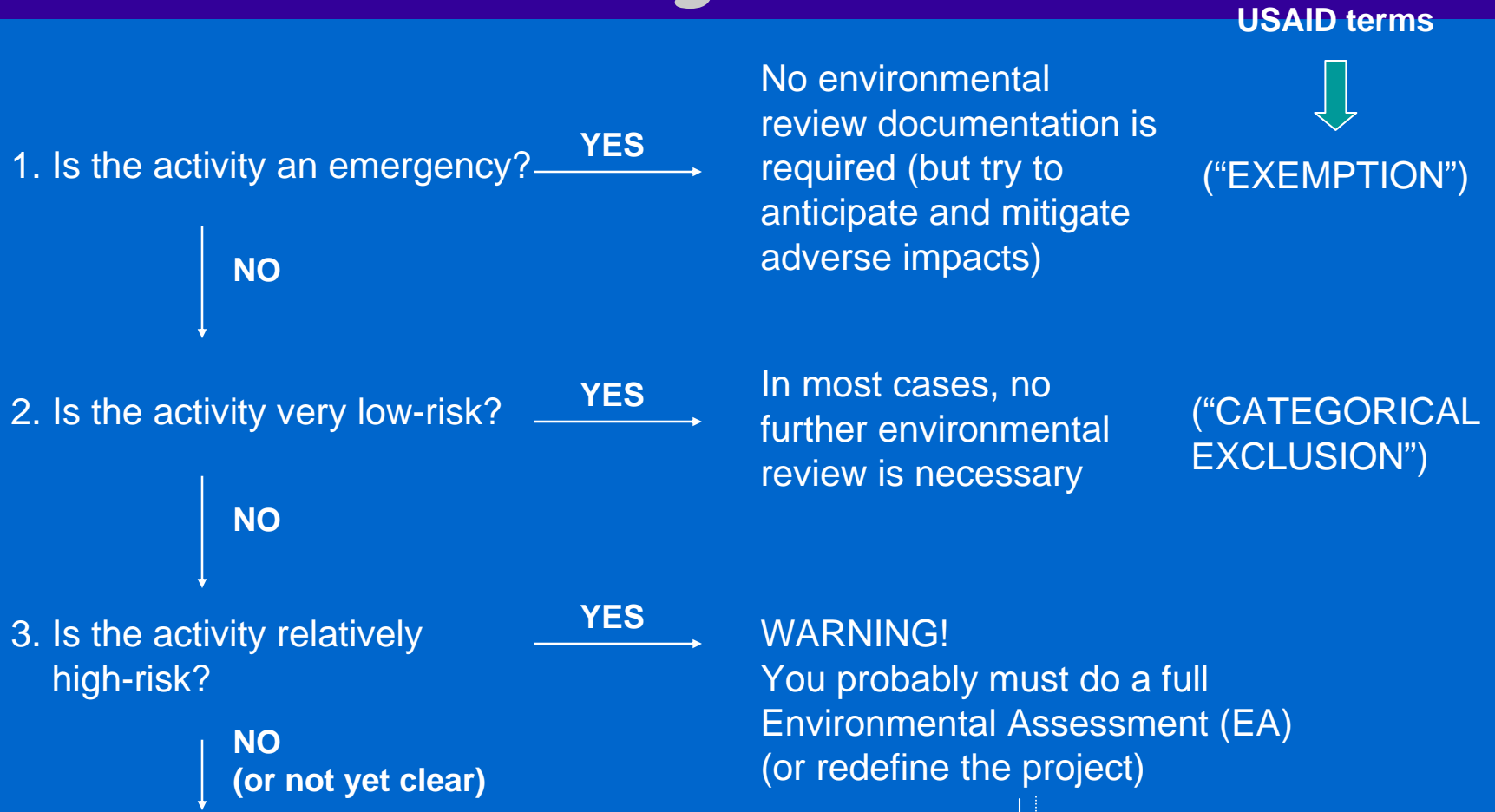
USAID Definitions

◇ Full EAs (continued)

- ◆ Power plants
- ◆ Industrial plants
- ◆ Potable water and sewage, unless small scale (Size limit?)
- ◆ Activities jeopardizing endangered and threatened plant and animal species and critical habitat
- ◆ Pesticides (require an IEE at least, often an EA).
- ◆ Activities in undegraded tropical forest



Screening—review



USAID terms



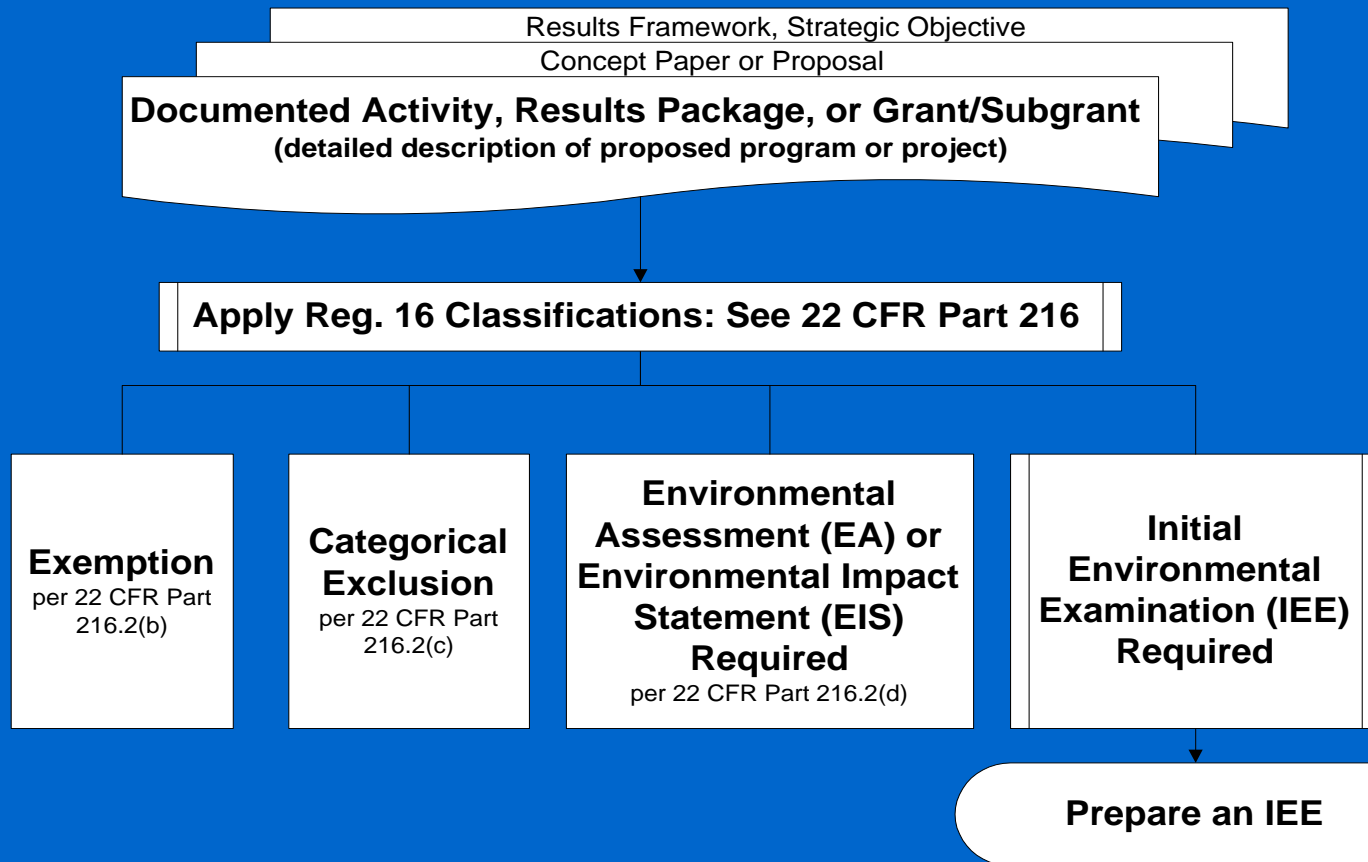
“EXEMPTION”

“CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION”

DO FULL EA (not recommended)*
USAID Procedures

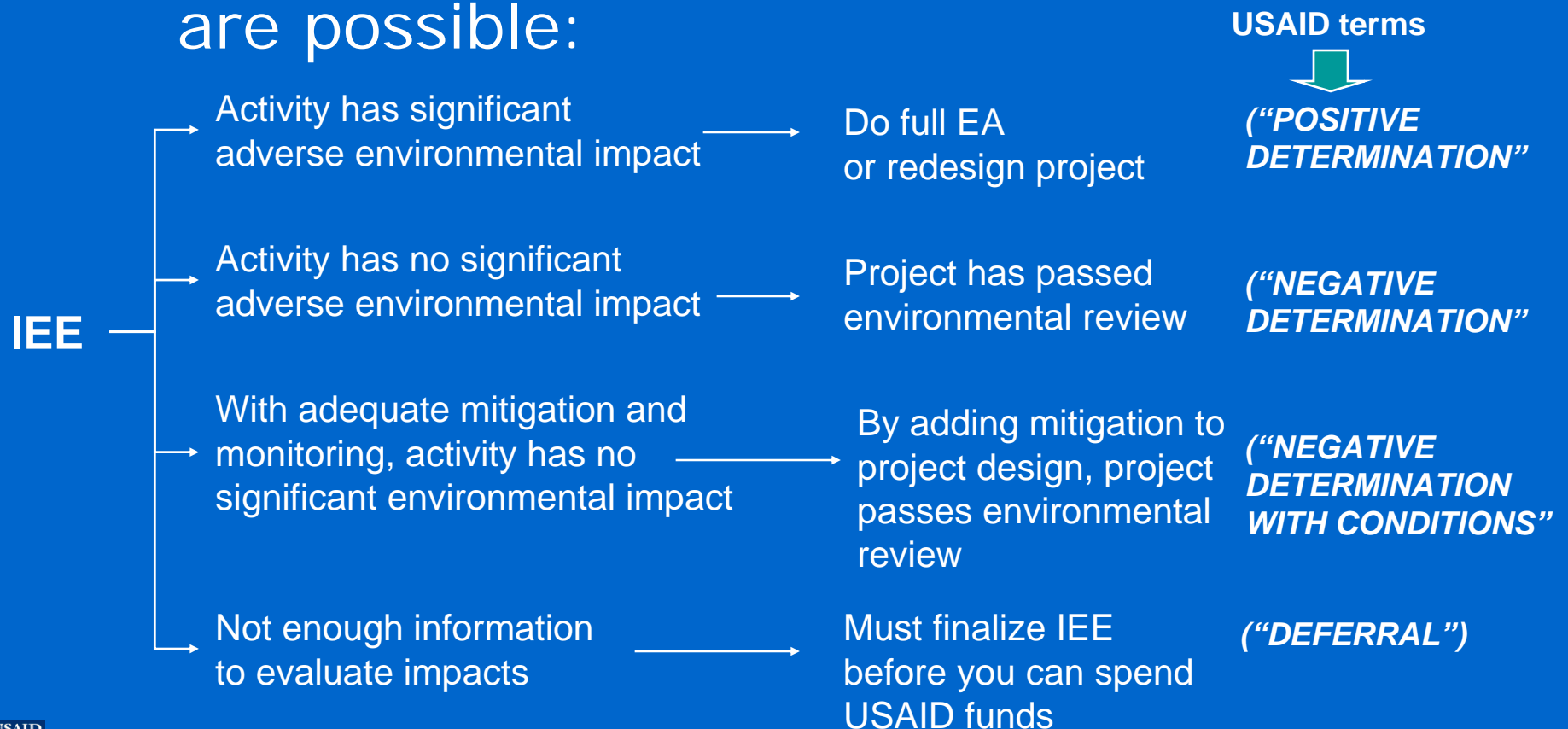


Screening process w/ USAID vocabulary



Initial Environmental Examination

◆ For each activity covered, 4 outcomes are possible:



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What does an IEE look like?

◆ Basic IEE Outline:

- ◆ 1. Goals and purpose of project; listing of activities
- ◆ 2. Baseline information
- ◆ 3. Evaluation of potential environmental impacts
- ◆ 4. Recommended findings & mitigations
- ◆ 5. Summary



How does the IEE process work?

- ◆ Submit IEE or categorical exclusion form with project proposal
- ◆ IEE contains your DRAFT FINDING:
 - ◆ Positive determination
 - ◆ Negative determination
 - ◆ Negative determination w/ conditions
 - ◆ Deferral
- ◆ USAID may accept or reject this finding, or require more analysis



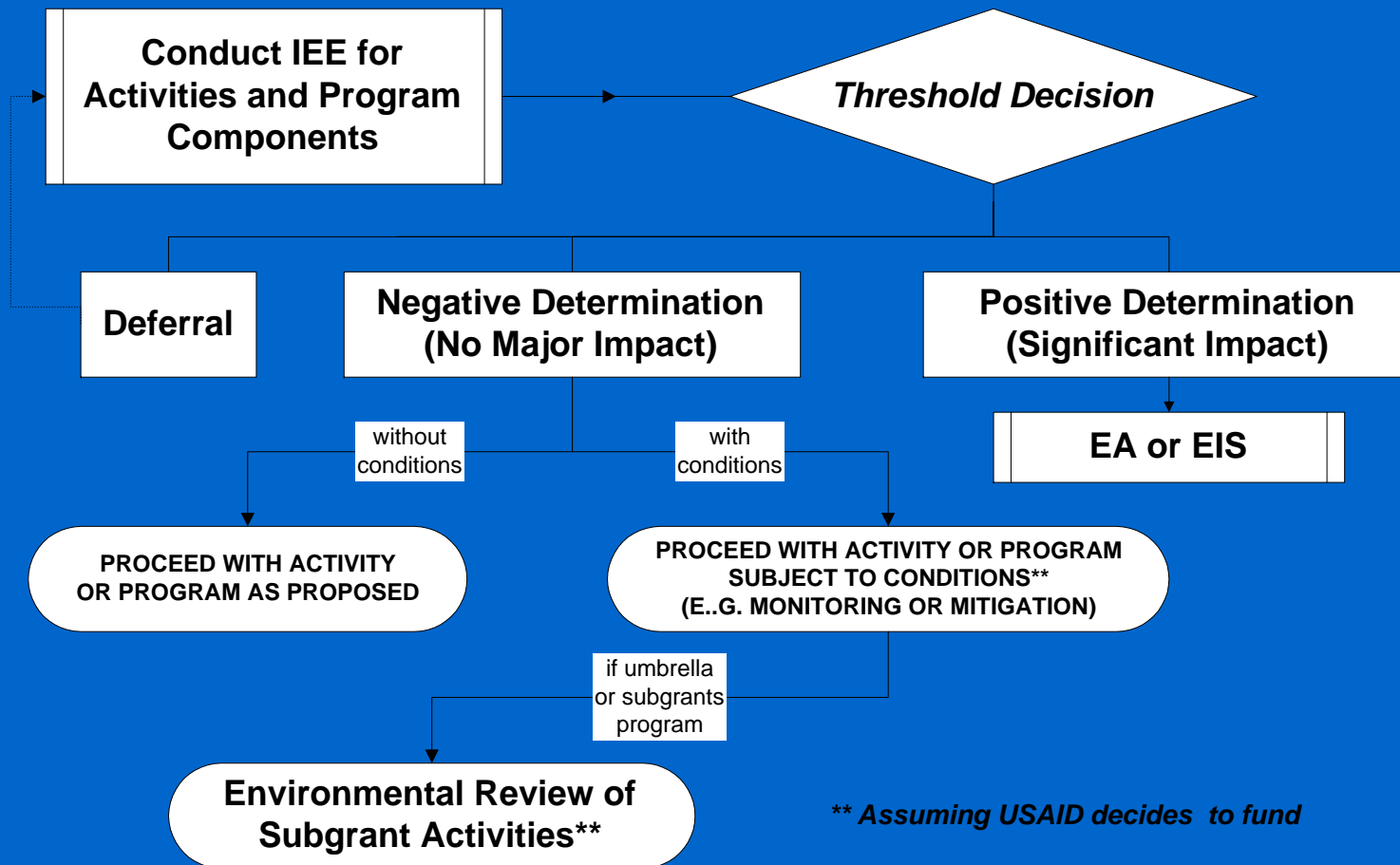
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How does the IEE process work?

- ◆ Also, an Environmental Status Report is submitted each year for ongoing projects (Title II only).



IEE process w/ USAID vocabulary



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How to avoid rejection/delay of proposals on environmental grounds

- ◆ Be aware of USAID's definitions of "high-risk" activities
- ◆ BE PROACTIVE—Include environmental monitoring and mitigation plan in project proposal
 - ◆ Especially important for high-risk activities



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Making environmental procedures effective

- ◆ Purpose of USAID's environmental procedures is to assure environmentally sound design
- ◆ Paperwork alone is not sufficient
 - ◆ Environmental assessment and management training provided
 - ◆ Development and application of host country environmental policies encouraged;
 - ◆ Both NGOs and USAID have effective project monitoring programs; and
 - ◆ USAID's internal procedures functional

