



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.35.a-35. b/12
10 June 2020

Adaptation Fund Board

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF PROJECT COMPLETION
DATE: WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (SRI LANKA)**

Background

1. The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) at its nineteenth meeting, approved a three-year project titled “Addressing Climate Change Impacts on Marginalized Agricultural Communities Living in the Mahaweli River Basin of Sri Lanka”, submitted by the World Food Programme (WFP) for a requested amount of US\$ 7,989,727 (decision B.19/16).
2. The overall objective of the project is to secure community livelihoods and food security against climate change-induced rainfall variability leading to longer droughts and more intense rainfall. This project directly addresses these climate induced impacts through: i) Developing household food security and build resilient livelihoods for rain-fed farming households; and ii) Building institutional capacity in village, local, regional service delivery to reduce risks associated with climate-induced rainfall variability.
3. As mandated by the decision, an agreement was prepared and signed between the Board and WFP in December 2012.
4. The project original completion date was 28 August 2017. In April 2017, WFP applied for an extension of the project completion date until 28 February 2019, which the Board approved through decision B.29-30/3. On 2 October 2018, WFP had submitted a second extension of the completion date until 28 February 2020, which was approved by the Board through decision B.32-33/1. On 10 January 2020, WFP had submitted a third extension of the completion date from 29 February to 30 June 2020, which was approved by the Board through Decision B.34-35/18.
5. On 21 May 2020, WFP submitted a fourth request for extension of the project completion date from 30 June 2020 to 30 September 2020 (see Annex 1). As outlined in the Adaptation Fund Project/Programme Delay Policy (AFB/B.29-30/3/Rev.1; Decision B.29-30/15 and Decision B.34-35/12), a request for an extension of the project completion date must be submitted by the implementing entity at least six months prior to the official completion date. However, due to late processing of the request at the entity level and the COVID-19 outbreak, the request was received a little more than one month prior to the deadline aforementioned.
6. At the time the third no-cost extension was requested and approved, it was expected that all the project activities would be concluded by end of June 2020. The project implementation was almost at completion stage, and the fourth month extension would allow the project to complete all activities, including the development of 10 case studies and 5 policy briefs. In addition, the extension would also ensure a smooth handover of the community assets and other assets to the appropriate authorities. Finally, it would allow time to undertake the project closure including the completion report and the independent terminal evaluation.
7. The implementing entity submitted five project performance reports (PPR) to the secretariat. As of 10 June 2020, the total project funding for an amount of US\$ 7,989,727 had been disbursed by the trustee, including the implementing entity fees, corresponding to 100% of project funding. The project went through a mid-term evaluation (MTE) process which report was finalized and submitted to the Adaptation Fund Board secretariat (the secretariat) in July 2018. In addition, the implementing entity submitted its fifth project performance report (PPR) on December 2019 which was cleared by the secretariat in February 2020.
8. The reason for an additional request for programme completion date extension, as outlined in the memo shared by WFP, includes the fact that the project could not finalize the remaining activities due to the COVID-19. The Government of Sri Lanka imposed an emergency

curfew in high risk areas and followed it with curfew for the entire island from 18 March 2020 to 11 May 2020. Only essential services were able to operate with a permit, while most offices were closed, and implementation of the project was largely suspended. The government is now attempting to resume activities back to normal.

9. The executing entities have requested a further three month no-cost extension (Annex 2) to complete the following activities: i) Sangabodhigama Lift Irrigation (Phase 1 and 2), ii) Polytunnel construction, iii) National completion event, iv) Case studies and policy briefs, v) Audit and External Evaluation, vi) Handover of the community assets and project capital assets to appropriate authorities and, vii) Project completion report.

Secretariat's review of the request

10. Following a review of the request by the secretariat and considering the explanation provided by WFP related to COVID19 outbreak, the secretariat believes that this request of a further three months extension is justified. As evidenced by the memo provided by WFP (Annex 1), it is noted that this request for extension will ensure the finalization of all the afore-mentioned project activities and the terminal monitoring and reporting. Moreover, as outlined by WFP, no additional management costs are required for these additional months of project extension.

11. Finally, the secretariat acknowledges that this no-cost programme extension request has been agreed with the Executing Entity and endorsed by the Designated Authority, in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Policy for Project/Programme Delays, as specified in Annex 1.

Recommendation

12. The Board may consider and decide to approve the request for an additional three months extension of the project completion date from 30 June 2020 to 30 September 2020 for the project "Addressing Climate Change Impacts on Marginalized Agricultural Communities Living in the Mahaweli River Basin of Sri Lanka" as requested by WFP.

Annex

1. Request for an extension of the project completion date from WFP.
2. Letter from the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources to WFP to request a no-cost extension to the AF Board.

Annex 1: Request for an Extension of the Project Completion Date

ANNEX A: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF CONCRETE ADAPTATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME

Request for extension of project/programme completion date

Implementing Entity Name: World Food Programme			
AF Project/programme ID: LKA/MIE/Rural/2011/1			
Project/programme Title: "Addressing Climate Change Impacts on Marginalized Agricultural Communities Living in the Mahaweli River Basin of Sri Lanka"			
Country: Sri Lanka			
Project/Programme Approval (date)	21 December 2012 (Official project start date 11 August 2014)		
Expected Project/programme Completion (date)	30 June, 2020	Proposed Revised Completion (date):	September 30, 2020 3 Month NCE

Reasons/justifications for the extension of project/programme completion:

<p>About the Project: The project 'Addressing Climate Change Impacts on Marginalized Agricultural Communities Living in the Mahaweli River Basin of Sri Lanka' targets rain-dependent farming families in two hazard-prone areas of the country.</p> <p>The overall objective of the project is to secure community livelihoods and food security against climate change-induced rainfall variability leading to longer droughts and more intense rainfall. To directly address these climate-induced impacts, the project aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop household food security and build resilient livelihoods for rain-fed farming households 2. Build institutional capacity in village, local, regional service delivery to reduce risks associated with climate-induced rainfall variability <p>Rationale for the extension: The Coronavirus, Covid-19, is unprecedented and evolving rapidly, affecting 210 countries thus far. The Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) immediately recognized the severity of the virus and has taken swift actions to restrict population movements to bend the epidemic curve.</p> <p>From March 18th to May 11th, the Government imposed an emergency curfew in high risk areas and followed it with curfew for the entire island. Essential services were able to operate with a permit, while most offices were closed and implementation of the above stated project was largely suspended.</p> <p>Based on the situation, the Executive Entities have requested a three month No-Cost Extension, from July 1st- September 30th to complete the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sangabodhigama Lift Irrigation (Phase 1 and 2) - Polyunnel construction

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Completion Event - Case studies and policy briefs - Audit and External Evaluation - Handover of the community assets and project capital assets to appropriate authorities - Project completion report <p>This additional time would allow the project team to also provide technical support to the 36 community enterprises that have been severely impacted by the disruption of market-systems and slow-down of the economy.</p> <p>For these reasons, we kindly request an extension of the project completion date from July 1st 2020 to September 30th 2020.</p>
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Implementing Entity certification

<p>This request has been prepared in accordance with Adaptation Fund policies and procedures, has been agreed by participating executing entities, and the designated authority (DA) has been notified.</p>	
<p><i>Name and Signature</i></p>  <p>Brenda Barton <i>WFP Country Director</i> <i>Sri Lanka</i></p>	
<p>Project/Programme contact person Andrea Berardo</p>	
<p>Date: 21.05.2020</p>	<p>Tel. and Email: +94 77444065 Email: andrea.berardo@wfp.org</p>

Annex 2: Letter from the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources to WFP to request a no-cost extension to the AF Board



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சுற்றுமூலம் மற்றும் வனசீவராசிகள் வளங்கள் அமைச்சு
Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources

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"செய்தம் பியச", இல. 416/ஊ/1, ரொபர்ட் குணவர்தன மாவத்தை, பத்தரமுல்லை, இலங்கை.		செயலாளர்	தொலை நகல்
"Sobadam Piyasa", No. 416/C/1, Robert Gnanawardana Mawatha, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.		Secretary	Fax
Gen. Tel. +94-11-2034100		+94-11-2034121	+94-11-2879944

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எனது இல	உமது இல	நாதி
My No	Your No	Date

04/04/04/18 ADF/249 B .05.2020

Ms. Brenda Barton
 Representative/Country Director
 World Food Programme,
 Jawatte Avenue,
 Colombo 05.

Dear Ms. Barton,

Project on "Addressing Climate Change Impacts on Marginalised Agricultural Communities living in the Mahaweli River Basin of Sri Lanka"
- Reprogramming Remaining Fund before Project End Date

This is with reference to your letter 066-PRG/20/ACL1/AF dated 8th May 2020 regarding the above matter.

I would like to inform you, as per the Action Plan 2020 for the Project, there are several field level activities to be fulfilled as follows:

	<i>Rs. Mn.</i>
1. Sangabodhigama Lift Irrigation Project (Phase I) -	6.73
2. Sangabodhigama Lift Irrigation Project (Phase II) -	2.66
3. Polytunnel Construction -	2.45
4. Project Completion Report -	3.34
5. Case studies and Policy briefs development -	1.85
6. National Workshop to be held -	<u>0.70</u>
Total	<u>17.73</u>

Some of those programmes have already been commenced and the balance activities are already planned.

In the meantime, when go through the investment on community enterprises, UNDP has already established 36 enterprises and has invested Rs. 77.03 Mn. on fixed assets alone. Out of this, Rs. 23.8 mn has been invested for the garment and handloom manufacturing units established in Medirigiriya, Lankapura and Walapane divisions.

Due to the COVID-19 situation around the world, Sri Lanka too experienced a country wide lock down for about 2 months period. The government is now attempting to resume activities for a back to normal situation.

Hence, I request another 3 months no-cost extension from Adaptation Fund Board from 1st July to 30th September 2020 to complete the above projects successfully by utilising available funds in a productive way.



A.H.S. Wijesinghe

Secretary