



ADAPTATION FUND

31 October 2017

Adaptation Fund Board

Approval of request for programme extension: UNDP (Cook Islands)

Following the recommendation of the secretariat after its review of the request for programme extension for the project “Strengthening the Resilience of our Islands and our Communities to Climate Change (SRIC CC)” (Cook Islands) submitted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Adaptation Fund Board decided to approve the extension of the programme completion date from May 2017 to May 2018.

Decision B.30-31/1



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION

GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS

Ref No: 305.3

Letter No: 380

16 November 2016

Ms Lizbeth Cullity
Resident Representative
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Apia
Samoa

Kia Orana Lizbeth,

Request for Extension of Strengthening the Resilience of our Islands and our Communities to Climate Change (SRIC-CC) Programme

As you are aware our SRICC-CC program is expected to end 1 May 2017. Due to some delays in implementation, we anticipate that we will not be able to complete the SRICC-CC program on the expected date. We therefore request for the extension of the programme for the completion date to the 1st May 2018.

The details relating to this request are outlined below:

AF Programme ID:	
Programme Title: Strengthening the Resilience of our Islands and our Communities to Climate Change (SRIC-CC) Programme	
Country: Cook Islands	
AF Programme Approval (date): 16 February 2012	
Expected AF Programme End Date: 1 May 2017	Proposed AF Programme Completion Date: 1 May 2018

In accordance with the findings and recommendations of the Midterm Review (MTR), the **“Strengthening the Resilience of our Islands and our Communities to Climate Change (SRIC-CC) Programme”** requests for extension of the programme until 1st May 2018.

The MTR recommends the programme to be extended for an additional 12 months period in order to have sufficient time to meet all targets and to achieve, monitor and assess development impact in terms of building climate change adaptation capacities' of island communities of the Cook Islands.

As of the end of October 2016, total expenditure is USD\$3,461,406.14 or 69.8% of the total AF grant. Remaining budget is USD\$1,498,593.86 (NZD\$2,098,031.40) or 30.2% of the AF grant.

Compared to last reporting period, delivery speed has accelerated substantially with the programme expenditure doubling from US\$ 890,244.65 in October 2015 to US\$ 1,462,292.77 in October 2016.

While the programme will continue to keep the momentum and accelerate implementation, a 12 month extension is still necessary in order to complete all remaining activities in the pipeline to achieve all targets as well as effectively monitor, assess and evaluate impacts.

For example, in Q4 2016, the Climate Early Warning Systems (CLEWS) activities are planned to initiate in the field, where Automated Weather Stations will be installed and relevant stakeholders will be trained in all Pa Enea (Outer Islands). Furthermore, various water resilience infrastructure activities are planned, such as increasing water storage capacity of community tanks on 3 islands (Pukapuka, Manihiki and Rakahanga) through community concrete water tanks and building structure repairs. This will be followed by policy development for maintenance, monitoring and training. The SRIC-CC will also be implementing coastal protection projects through the propagating and planting of native coastal trees with relevant awareness activities for our indigenous plants. All of these community-based investments will require substantial time for installation / construction, training, awareness raising, and implementation as well as to monitor implementation progress over time to assess effectiveness of the interventions.

In light of the above, and also in consideration of the financial and operational closure and the Terminal Evaluation process, we therefore seek for 12 months extension of the SRIC-CC programme.

Implementing Entity Certification:

This request has been prepared in accordance with Adaptation Fund policies and procedures, has been agreed by participating entities, and the designated national authority (NDA) has been notified.

We look forward to your favourable response to this request and remain available to provide further clarification should you so require.

Yours sincerely



Ms Tapaeru Herrmann

SECRETARY

Cc: Elizabeth Wright Koteka
Chief of Staff