



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.31-32/3
17 May 2018

Adaptation Fund Board

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF PROJECT COMPLETION
DATE: UNEP (CAMBODIA)**

Background

1. The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) at its eighteenth meeting, approved a five-year project titled “Enhancing Climate Resilience of Rural Communities Living in Protected Areas of Cambodia” submitted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for a request amount of US\$ 4,954,273 (decision B.18/11). The overall objective of the project is to address the vulnerability of rural communities living in selected protected areas (CPA's) in Cambodia to the climate change-induced hazard of erratic rainfall which is reducing food supplies as a result of an increased frequency of droughts and loss of topsoil during intense rainfall events and flooding. The project is comprised of three main components, namely: i) develop protocols for eco-agriculture interventions; ii) concrete eco-agriculture adaptation interventions; and iii) institutional capacity, awareness raising and upscaling of eco-agriculture interventions. As mandated by the decision, an agreement was prepared and signed between the Board and UNEP.

2. The first tranche of disbursement for the implementation of the project was released following signature of the agreement in July 2012. The first project performance report (PPR) for the project was submitted in March 2013 and cleared by the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat (the secretariat) in April. The second, third and fourth PPRs were cleared by the secretariat in April 2015, February 2016, November 2016 and May 2018, respectively. As of May 2018, a total amount of US\$ 4,180,308 had been disbursed to the project by the Board's Trustee (corresponding to 84.4% of the total project funding). The project went through a mid-term evaluation (MTE) process, with a MTE report finalized in April 2018.

3. This is the first request for an extension of the project completion date. The original expected completion date of the project is 31 May 2018. As outlined in the Adaptation Fund Project/Programme Delay Policy (AFB/B.29-30/3/Rev.1) amended by the Board in October 2017 (Decision B.29-30/15), a request for an extension of project completion date must be submitted by the implementing entity at least six months prior to the official completion date. However, UNEP had submitted such request through the Secretariat on 6 April 2018, hence at a date beyond the expected completion date, for an extension of the completion date until 1 December 2019 (see Annex 1). The secretariat will recall due diligence to UNEP, for compliance with the Project/Programme Delay Policy.

4. The request, for an extension of 18 month of the completion date, was accompanied with a revised project work plan for 2018-2019 (Annex 2).

5. The reasons for this project extension request, as outlined by UNEP, include the fact that the project was able to achieve the original adaptation targets in the five-targeted community protected areas (CPA's) for less budget than expected. Additionally, the project team had focused on concrete adaptation activities on the ground (under component 2), which took longer time than expected. The MTE Report also recommended that the project be granted a one year no-cost extension, for the project to complete the remaining activities.

6. According to UNEP, the requested extension of the completion date would allow to:

- Extend successful interventions (construction of wells and introduction of multi-use trees into home gardens) to an additional 20 communities (CPA's), benefitting an additional 2000 people;
- Plant an additional 500,000 trees by benefitting from two additional planting seasons (June-August 2018 and June-August 2019); and

- Complete the institutional strengthening, policy and awareness-raising activities planned under component 3, in order to upscale eco-agriculture at national level.

Secretariat's review of the request

7. Following a review of the request, the secretariat finds that given the delays for targets' completion (under component 3) and given the cost saving initiatives (under component 2), the request of an 18-month extension is justified. As reported in the revised work plan for 2018-2019, the higher amount of the remaining budget will be spent under outcome 2 and 3, to respectively construct additional wells and restore more degraded areas in CPAs using multi-use forest species, as well as to complete the institutional strengthening, policy and awareness-raising activities.

8. By and large, considerable progress has been made in the implementation of the project, and a no-cost extension will allow to extend implementation progress (thanks to the generated cost-savings) beyond its agreed targets and reduce the vulnerability of a greater number of communities.

9. Lastly, the secretariat acknowledges that this no-cost project extension request has been agreed with the Executing Entity and the Designated Authority has been notified, in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Policy for Project/Programme Delays.

Recommendation

10. Therefore, the Board may consider and decide to approve the request for an 18-month extension of the project completion date for the project "Enhancing Climate Resilience of Rural Communities Living in Protected Areas of Cambodia" as requested by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), from May 2018 to December 2019.

Annexes

1. Request for an extension of the project completion date from UNEP; and
2. Revised Project Work Plan for 2018-2019; and

Annex 1: Request for an extension of the project completion date from UNEP

Request for extension of project/programme completion date

AF Project/programme ID: AFB-5060-1111-2H81			
Project/programme Title: " <i>Enhancing Climate Change Resilience of Rural Community Living in Protected Area in Cambodia</i> "			
Country: Cambodia			
Project/Programme Approval (date)	11 July, 2012		
Expected Project/programme Completion (date)	May 31, 2018	Proposed Revised Completion (date):	December 1st, 2019

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

- The project has been able to achieve and exceed its field level adaptation targets in the five-targeted community protected areas (CPA's) for less budget than expected. A no-cost extension will allow the project to extend selected, successful interventions – namely construction of small-scale water supply infrastructure (wells) and introduction of multi-use trees into home gardens – beyond its agreed targets and reduce the vulnerability of an additional 20 communities (CPA's) representing an additional 2000 people – a 200% increase on the original target of 1000 people.
- Reforestation and agricultural activities are limited to certain seasons/time of the year. An additional two planting seasons (June – August 2018 and June – August 2019) will allow the project team to plant an additional ~500,000 trees and implement agricultural activities with an additional ~300 households.
- The team has focused on implementing on-the-ground activities under Component 2, to ensure that they have community support and buy-in, which took more time than expected. Additional time is required to complete the institutional strengthening, policy and awareness-raising activities planned under Component 3. Completing these activities and ensuring that the benefits of the projects approach are reflected in national policy documents will promote upscaling of the eco-agriculture across Cambodia. A no-cost extension will allow the project to effectively complete activities under Component 3.

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.

Jessica Troni,
Senior Programme Officer, Climate Change Adaptation Portfolio Manager
Tel: [254-20] 762-3794
Mobile: [254] 795 751 062
Email: jessica.roni@un.org

Signature: Date: 06 April 2018



Name & Signature

Project/programme contact person: Atifa Kassam, UN Environment Task Manager



Date: 06 April 2018

Tel. [254 -20] 762-3507
Email: atifa.kassam@un.org

Annex 2: revised work plan 2018-2019

Outcome 2: Multi-use forests established and maintained and agricultural practices diversified/intensified to supply a diverse range of food and stabilize topsoil, despite a projected increase in rainfall variability.								
Output 2.1 Capacity of local community for building climate resilience increased, including capacity to plan, implement and maintain ecoagriculture interventions under Outcome 2.								
2.1.1	Develop a training course and adaptation toolkit for local farmers.	National adaptation expert (training course)						
2.1.2	Train local authorities, agricultural extension officers and CPA committee members to implement the conservation agriculture protocols.	Group training (local authorities, extension officers, CPA Management Committee)						26,631
2.1.3	Train local communities on the importance of protecting natural resources.	Group training (local communities)						22,835
2.1.4	Strengthen systems for protecting and patrolling multi-use forests and other natural resource areas.	Project Coordinator						24,000
Output 2.2 Forest restoration and conservation agriculture protocols implemented to build climate resilience (developed in Component 1) in CPA intervention sites								
2.2.1	Establish community-managed local nurseries.	Forestry inputs (nursery establishment)						1,579
2.2.2	Community liaison planting officers to oversee on-the-ground activities	National forestry/agricultural expert (community liaison planting officers)						86,399
2.2.3	Restore degraded areas in CPAs using multi-use forest species.	Forestry inputs (forest restoration)						602,524
2.2.4	Enhance rice yields and climate resilience by planting multi-use trees around existing rice paddies.	Agricultural inputs (multi-use trees around rice paddies)						
2.2.5	Intensify/diversify farming practices and improve technologies for reducing water-use.	Agricultural inputs (intensify/diversify homegardens)						31,092
2.2.6	Establish field trials of drought-tolerant rice varieties.	Agricultural inputs (drought-tolerant rice seed)						16,772
2.2.7	Terracing	Terracing						9,005
2.2.8	Construct dams/ponds and canals.	Construct dams/ponds and canals.						15,046
2.2.9	Establish fire breaks to combat fires in multi-use forests.	Establish fire breaks to combat fires in multi-use forests.						9,767
2.2.10	Distribute drought-resilient seed stocks to local businesses.	Distribute drought-resilient seed stocks to local businesses.						20,000
2.2.11	Establish woodlots for supplying woodfuel to local communities.	Establish woodlots for supplying woodfuel to local communities.						
2.2.12	Introduce appropriate post-harvest storage techniques.	Introduce appropriate post-harvest storage techniques.						
2.2.13	Improve crop pest and disease management.	Improve crop pest and disease management.						65,109
2.2.14	Additional community requests (nature tourism, marketing of crop products, financial credit schemes)	Additional community requests (nature tourism, marketing of crop products, financial credit schemes)						35,969
2.2.15	Purchase project vehicle	Purchase project vehicle						
2.2.16	Maintain project vehicle	Maintain project vehicle						20,308

Output 2.3 Local communities' livelihoods enhanced and diversified through sustainable development of NTFPs and the promotion of sustainable alternative livelihood str								
2.3.1	Facilitate farmers' access to micro-finance and weather index-based insurance products.	National finance/insurance expert						
2.3.2	Develop business plans for alternative livelihood options.	National livelihoods expert (business plans)						15,000
2.3.3	Facilitate the integration of small-scale farmers into domestic, regional and global markets for high-value agricultural (HVA) products.	National livelihoods expert (market access)						10,913
2.3.4	Train local communities in CPAs where ecotourism is appropriate.	Group training and capacity building for alternative livelihoods (e.g. ecotourism, NTFPs)						22,568
2.3.5	Establish sustainable alternative livelihoods.	National livelihoods expert (business establishment)						490
Output 2.4 Socio-economic and ecosystem monitoring of AF project impacts downstream of CPA intervention sites								
2.4.1	Identify target communities and areas for monitoring outside the CPA intervention sites.	National adaptation expert (communities)						2,000
2.4.2	Develop socio-economic and ecological monitoring protocols.	National adaptation expert (monitoring, implementation and data collection)						1,000
2.4.3	Train local communities to undertake the baseline surveys and data collection.	Group training (baseline surveys)						21,972
2.4.4	Conduct baseline surveys.	National adaptation expert (monitoring, implementation and data collection)						0
2.4.5	Develop and implement a tool to measure the downstream impact of the project.	National adaptation expert (data collection)						7,000
2.4.6	Undertake an economic analysis of the direct and indirect socio-economic, ecological and hydrological benefits in target community areas.	National socio-economic/ecological/hydrological expert						8,000
2.4.7	Develop and implement long-term socio-economic and ecosystem research protocols for multi-use forests and conservation agriculture practices in CPA intervention sites and downstream community sites.	International adaptation researcher (long-term research)						7,000
2.4.8	Compile a report of the initial results.	International adaptation researcher (report)						21,000
Outcome 3: Restoration and conservation agriculture interventions to build climate resilience of local communities mainstreamed into Cambodia's adaptation framework and related sector								
Output 3.1 Awareness increased at a local level of the importance of ecoagriculture for protecting and enhancing commercial and subsistence activities								
3.1.1	Raise public awareness of the impacts of climate change and the benefits of adaptive agricultural techniques.	National campaign expert (public awareness)						
3.1.2	Produce a documentary film to promote the ecoagriculture approach.	International short-film producer						3,000
3.1.3	Design and implement an awareness raising campaign.	National campaign expert (local communities)						
3.1.4	Establish demonstration gardens, farmer field days and workshops as teaching tools.	Group training (demonstration gardens)						1,747
3.1.5	Target local communities situated in CPAs away from intervention sites for an additional awareness raising campaign.	Group training (local communities)						6,710
3.1.6	Undertake education initiatives at schools and universities.	National education expert						
3.1.7	'Train the trainers'.	Group training ('train the trainers')						31,008
3.1.8	Develop a web-based data network portal to supply information about the ecoagriculture interventions to local government agencies.	National web-based data expert						6,000
3.1.9	Use a social networking site to promote: i) information generated in the project; and ii) the documentary film.	National social networking expert						
3.1.10	Promote the species used in the AF project REDD as well as REDD+.	National REDD+ expert						

