



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

Output 3.2 Ecoagriculture activities promoted through institutional capacity building and proposed revisions to policies, strategies and legislatio										
3.2.1	Undertake capacity-building needs assessments.	National adaptation expert (capacity building)								
3.2.2	Conduct PRAs of local communities at all CPAs in Cambodia.	Baseline								
3.2.3	Propose revisions to relevant national policies, strategies and legislation to incorporate the ecoagriculture approach and promote restoration as an adaptation measure.	National policy expert (revisions)								20,000
3.2.4	Encourage co-ordination and collaboration with other restoration projects at national and provincial levels.	National adaptation expert (PM coordination)								
3.2.5		National English language and editorial expert								4,400
3.2.6	Conduct multi-stakeholder consultations on land tenure to generate a report with recommendations on how to encourage local communities to invest in the ecoagriculture approach.	National policy/Protected Area expert (land tenure)								
Output 3.3 National ecoagriculture upscaling strategy developed and institutionalised for CPAs in Cambodia										
3.3.1	Undertake a gap analysis of national development plans and policy.	National policy expert								8,000
3.3.2	Identify existing entry points for proposed revisions which incorporate ecoagriculture approaches at a national scale.	National policy expert								4,000
3.3.3	Establish an inter-ministerial and multi-partner task group to facilitate the development of the upscaling strategy.	Task force								4,000
3.3.4	Engage with the private sector about the commercial viability of AF project interventions.	National adaptation expert (private sector)								5,000
3.3.5	Investigate other sources of funding for the upscaling of AF project interventions.	National adaptation expert (funding)								4,000
3.3.6	Identify successful ecoagriculture adaptation interventions from Components 1 and 2, and ensure that these are incorporated into the proposed national strategy revisions.	National adaptation expert (upscaling)								4,000
3.3.7	Prepare a summary report and policy briefs promoting the AF project and ecoagriculture approaches.	National policy expert (report)								12,000
Project Management and M&E										
		Project coordinator								21,000
		National financial manager								22,500
		Administrative officer								18,000
		Driver								5,050
		Cleaner								3,600
		Travel								101
		Technical and field equipment								7,069
		Office Equipment and Furniture								7,988
		Communication costs								4,969
		Baseline								
		Evaluations								60,000
		Audit								9,220
		Inception and Steering meetings								4,590
										1,500,950