



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.33-34/4
26 March 2019

Adaptation Fund Board

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF PROJECT COMPLETION
DATE: MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT (RWANDA)**

Background

1. The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) at its twenty-second meeting, approved a four-year project titled “Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change in North West Rwanda through Community Based Adaptation”, submitted by the former Ministry of Natural Resources of Rwanda (MINIRENA), for a requested amount of US\$ 9,527,160 (decision B. 22/11).

2. The objective of the project is to increase the adaptive capacity of natural systems and rural communities living in exposed areas of North Western Rwanda to climate change impacts. The strategy of the project is to manage the risks and effects from recurring floods, landslides and erosion through an integrated natural resource management and alternative livelihoods programme in one of the most climate sensitive and vulnerable areas of Rwanda. The project aims to address factors that exacerbate the effects of intense rainfall and lead to flooding and landslides. These include erosion and unsustainable farming practices linked to demographic pressure on natural resources. By introducing erosion and flood control measures, building the capacity of farmers to adapt to climate variability and supporting the development of off-farm livelihoods to reduce the pressure on natural resources, the project will restore the ecosystem functions necessary to reduce the incidence and severity of flooding and landslides on local communities and resources.

3. As mandated by the decision, an agreement was prepared and signed between the Board and MINIRENA, which was superseded by a succession agreement between the Board and the Ministry of Environment (MOE). In fact, following the reorganization of the national implementing entity, the MOE assumed the implementation role for the project for the final period of implementation, including all related responsibilities, obligations and liabilities (Decision B.31-32/20).

4. The first tranche of disbursement for the implementation of the project was released following signature of the agreement in November 2013. The first project performance report (PPR) for the project was submitted in May 2015 and cleared by the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat (the secretariat) in July 2015. The second and third PPRs were cleared by the secretariat respectively in December 2016, May 2017. The final PPR, corresponding to the project’s completion report, is under revision by the secretariat. As of March 2019, the totality of the project funding had been disbursed to the project by the trustee.

5. This is the first request for an extension of the project completion date. 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, the MOE had submitted such request through the secretariat on 12 March 2019, thus at a date beyond the deadline stated in the Policy, for an extension of the completion date until December 2019 (see Annex 1).

6. The reasons for this request for an extension of project completion date, as outlined by MOE, include the fact that:

- Due to the Implementing Entity reorganization, the approval of one-time cash transfer for the outstanding funds to the designated bank account under the ownership of the MOE, was effective just in August 2018 instead of June 2017; and

- The implementing entity would have sufficient time to carry out the final evaluation report and the final audit report of the project.

Secretariat's review of the request

7. Following a review of the request, the secretariat finds that this request of an eighteenth-month extension is justified, given the delayed release of the last tranche of funds due to the implementing entity reorganization, and it will be key for the project to ensure a smooth finalization process. Finally, 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, as specified in Annex 1.

Recommendation

8. Therefore, the Board may consider and decide to approve the request for an eighteenth-month extension of the project completion date for the project "Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change in North West Rwanda through Community Based Adaptation" as requested by MOE, from 2 June 2018 to 2 December 2019.

Annex

1. Request for an extension of the project completion date from MOE.

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

Implementing Entity Name: Ministry of Environment (MoE)			
AF Project/programme ID: N-RW-1			
Project/programme Title : Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change in North West Rwanda through Community Based Adaptation (RV3CBA)			
Country:			
Project/Programme Approval (date)	9 November 2013		
Expected Project/programme Completion (date)	June 2018	Proposed Revised Completion (date):	December 2019

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

Reference made to the agreement signed between the Adaptation Fund Board and the National Implementing Entity of the Republic of Rwanda on 9th November 2013 to implement the Project "**Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change in North West Rwanda through Community Based Adaptation (RV3CBA)**" article 7 related to records and reporting;

Reference made to the Adaptation Fund Policy for Project/ Program delays as amended in October 2017, paragraph 20

Both articles state that the project completion report should be submitted 6 months after the project/ program has closed (Dec. 2018) in the case of this project.

The final evaluation report should be submitted within 9 months after the project completion (September 2019)

Reference made to the last disbursement which was supposed to be effective by **June 2017** due to unavoidable circumstances including the change of the name of the Implementing Entity the last disbursement was done on **16th August 2018**.

Reference to the above background we are requesting you a non-cost extension up to **December 2019 (completion date)** to allow us to carry out the final evaluation report and the final audit of the project.

NB: All activities planned by the Executing Entity were executed on time.

Implementing Entity certification

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.

Name & Signature



Project/programme contact person : **Fatina MUKARUBIBI**
for **Permanent Secretary**
Ministry of Environment
Designated Authority

Date: (Month, Day, Year)
March 12, 2019

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