



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.37-38/3
28 January 2022

Adaptation Fund Board

**REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION OF GRACE PERIOD
FOR ACHIEVING RE-ACCREDITATION: MINISTRY OF
PLANNING AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
(MOPIC) OF JORDAN**

Background

1. At its thirty-fourth meeting the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) considered the matter of 'implications of an implementing entity's accreditation expiration on its project implementation and on the Standard Legal Agreement and a revision of re-accreditation process' and approved [the revised re-accreditation process](#) as contained in Annex II to [document AFB/B.34/51](#)¹ (Decision B.34/3).

2. The revisions in the re-accreditation process were mainly related to paragraph 7 on the deadlines for submission of re-accreditation applications and acquisition of re-accreditation. It introduced the 'grace period' for re-accreditation purposes to allow the implementing entity, which is implementing a project financed by the Adaptation Fund (the Fund), to request an extension of the timeline for achieving re-accreditation by the date for the project completion or within three years from its accreditation expiry date. Following the Board's discussions at the thirty-third meeting, the grace period was introduced in the revised re-accreditation process, to reduce the gap between the implementing entity's accreditation expiration date and its reaccreditation and to minimize adverse impact of the accreditation expiration on the ongoing project implementation.

3. The section related to the 'grace period for re-accreditation' is excerpted from the revised re-accreditation process approved by the Board at the thirty-third meeting, as follows:

...

Deadlines

7. *The implementing entities are strongly recommended to meet the suggested deadlines to facilitate the re-accreditation process and avoid a major gap between accreditation expiration and achievement of re-accreditation.*

...

(2) Submission of re-accreditation application: The implementing entity (the IE) is strongly recommended to submit its re-accreditation application and supporting documentation through the online accreditation system maintained by the secretariat, 12 months prior to its accreditation expiry date. If the entity does not submit the application by its accreditation expiry date, the Panel will make a recommendation to the Board to change the status of the entity from "Accredited" to "Not-Accredited" at the accreditation expiry date, considering the following:

...

*(ii) If the IE is implementing the project financed by the Fund and has not submitted the re-accreditation application by the date of accreditation expiration, in order to **obtain a grace period for achieving re-accreditation** before the completion of the project or within three years from its accreditation expiry date, it shall submit to the Board, through its secretariat, an official request for a grace period with an official letter from IE to confirm its commitment to achieve re-accreditation during the grace period. Official letter(s) from the DA(s) related to re-accreditation of the IE and the Fund's ongoing project implemented by the IE would be considered by the Board: if the IE is an NIE, such letter from the DA of the NIE's country to be considered; and if the IE is an RIE, such official letters from the DAs of the RIE*

¹ Re-accreditation process, Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/re-accreditation-process/>

member countries that originally endorsed the application of accreditation of the RIE to the Fund and, if the RIE has accessed the Fund's financial resources, additional official letters from the DAs of the countries where the Fund's project is implemented would also be considered.

(3) Acquisition of re-accreditation: The implementing entity is strongly recommended to achieve re-accreditation within three years from its accreditation expiry date. If the entity does not achieve re-accreditation within three years from its accreditation expiry date, the Panel will make a recommendation to the Board to change the status of the entity to "Not Accredited." Paragraph 7 (2) (i) and (ii) apply mutatis mutandis to this section [emphasis added].²

...

Secretariat's review of the request

4. The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) of Jordan (the entity) was accredited as a national implementing entity of Jordan with the Fund on 14 December 2011, and its accreditation expired on 14 December 2016. The entity submitted its re-accreditation application on 23 August 2016. As of the date of this document, the entity has not yet achieved re-accreditation and is implementing the project financed by the Adaptation Fund, "Increasing the resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to climate change" (the Project).³

5. As per the 'grandfather policy' indicated in paragraph 11 of the reaccreditation process, the entity was allowed to achieve re-accreditation by 23 March 2020.⁴ The grandfather policy applies to implementing entities which had submitted a complete re-accreditation before 23 March 2018 when the Board approved the updated re-accreditation process, allowing those implementing entities to achieve re-accreditation within two years from such date of the Board decision. However, the entity was not able to achieve re-accreditation by 23 March 2020.

6. As per the 'grace-period' policy indicated in paragraphs 7(2) (ii) and 7(3) of the reaccreditation process and explained above, the implementing entity, which has yet to achieve re-accreditation before its accreditation expiration and which has been implementing the project financed by the Fund, is eligible to submit an official request for a grace period for achieving its re-accreditation before the completion of the project or within three years from its accreditation expiry date.

7. On 18 March 2020 and 7 April 2020 respectively, the entity submitted official letters⁵ from the Designated Authority of the country for Board's consideration, which contained the entity's initial request for a grace period for achieving its re-accreditation till the completion of the Project of which completion was extended to 13 January 2022 by the Board's approval ([Decision B.35.a-](#)

² Re-accreditation process, paragraph 7.

³ For more information on the project, "Increasing the resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to climate Change", see <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/project/increasing-the-resilience-of-poor-and-vulnerable-communities-to-climate-change-impacts-in-jordan-through-implementing-innovative-projects-in-water-and-agriculture-in-support-of-adaptation-to-climate-4/>

⁴ Re-accreditation process, paragraph 11

⁵ See Annex of Document AFB/B.35.a-35.b/9, available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/request-of-grace-period-for-re-accreditation-by-mopic-jordan/>

[35.b/1](#)).⁶ Considering document AFB/B.35.a-35/b/9, the Board approved the request by the MoPIC for a grace period for achieving re-accreditation until the date of completion of its project, 13 January 2022 (Decision B.35.a-35.b/32).

8. As per Board decision B.35.b/16, the request by the MoPIC for temporary no-cost extension of the completion of the project which has been delayed due to COVID-19 was approved by the Board, and the completion of the project was extended from 13 January 2022 to 13 January 2023. The official notification to MoPIC is attached in Annex I of this document.

9. As of today, the applicant has not been able to achieve re-accreditation despite the Board's approval of the IE's initial request for a grace period.⁷ On 29 December 2021, the Secretariat received an official letter from the Designated Authority of the country requesting for an extension of grace period to enable the IE achieve re-accreditation until 13 January 2023 which is the project completion as of this reporting. The official letter is attached in Annex II of this document.

10. The secretariat's review of the official letter from the DA, as per paragraphs 7 (2) (ii) and 7(3) of the re-accreditation process found that the request for an extension of grace period for achieving the entity's re-accreditation till 13 January 2023, can be justified and would contribute to minimizing adverse impact of the entity's accreditation expiry on the ongoing project implementation. As of the date of this document, the entity is actively pursuing re-accreditation.

Recommendation

11. Considering the official request of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) of Jordan for an extension of grace period for achieving its re-accreditation attached in Annex II of this document, the secretariat's review as contained in document AFB/B.37-38/XX and the re-accreditation process, the Adaptation Fund Board may consider and approve MoPIC's official request for an extension of grace period for achieving re-accreditation until the date for the completion of its project "*Increasing the resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to climate change*", 13 January 2023.

⁶ For the entity's request for extension of project completion date for the project "*Increasing the resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to climate change*," see document AFB/B.35.a-35.b/1 available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/35276/>

⁷ Adaptation Fund Board Decision B.35.a-35.b/32, available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/approval-of-request-for-grace-period-for-achieving-re-accreditation-jordan-mopic/>

ANNEX I

Secretariat's letter of notification on the approval of an extension of
project completion for MoPIC



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Ref: 2021/074

16 June 2021

H.E. Ms. Zeina Toukan
Secretary General
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
Post office Box 555, Amman 11118
Amman, Jordan
zeina.toukan@mop.gov.jo

Re: Request for extension of project completion date due to COVID-19- "Increasing the resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to climate change" in Jordan.

Excellency,

I am writing with regard to the request for an extension of the project's completion date due to COVID-19, submitted by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC).

The Adaptation Fund Board during the second session of its thirty-fifth meeting, considered and approved the Fund's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and adaptive measures to mitigate its impact on the Fund's portfolio. Please find the text of the Board Decision B.35.b/16 including a provision for temporary no-cost extension of the project completion date up to 12 months for projects/programmes which have been delayed due to COVID-19 and which are set to be completed within 24 months from the date of the extension request, and provided that the implementing entity's request of such extension meets the criteria as described in paragraph 33 of document AFB/EFC.26.b/4.

In line with the Board Decision B.35b/16, the secretariat has reviewed the request and found it to meet the criteria referred to in that decision. Therefore, I am pleased to inform you that the request for a twelve months no-cost extension of the project completion date from 13 January 2022 to 13 January 2023 is deemed approved, and 13 January 2023 is recorded by the secretariat as the new project completion date.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Mikko Ollikainen
Manager
Adaptation Fund Board secretariat

Copy to H.E. Dr. Saleh Al-Kharabsheh, Designated Authority, Jordan saleh.kharabsheh@moenv.gov.jo;
ministeroffice@moenv.gov.jo

Annex: Decision B.35.b/16**ADAPTATION FUND**

18 November 2020

Adaptation Fund Board

The Fund's response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Having considered the recommendation of the Ethics and Finance Committee, the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) decided to:

- a) Take note of the Report on the Adaptation Fund's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and adaptive measures to mitigate its impact on the Fund's Portfolio, which highlights the importance of taking immediate actions to enable the projects and programmes supported by the Fund to continue delivering on their objectives;
- b) Temporarily approve a blanket no-cost extension of the project completion date up to 12 months for eligible projects/programmes which have been delayed due to COVID-19 and were set to be completed within 24 months from the date of the extension request provided that an implementing entity's request of such extension meets the criteria as described in paragraph 33 of document AFB/EFC.26.b/4;
- c) Temporarily allow, in the context of paragraph 6 of Annex 7 of the Fund's Operational Policies and Guidelines (Project/Programme Implementation) on project material change, an implementing entity (IE) to implement reallocations in budget at the output-level between the original budget and the revised budget, up to a maximum of 20 per cent of the total project budget, without seeking prior approval of the Board, provided that:
 - (i) The concerned reallocations in budget are justified to be related to COVID-19 and to enable the project or programme to achieve its originally set goals and objectives;
 - (ii) The IE must report to the Board on the project budget reallocations as part of its annual project performance report;
 - (iii) Project budget reallocations not related to COVID-19 and changes exceeding 20 per cent of total project budget related to COVID-19 shall be subject to the requirements as described under paragraphs 6-8 of Annex 7 of the Fund's Operational Policies and Guidelines (Project/Programme Implementation); and
- d) Encourage countries to consider matters related to COVID-19 within the mandate of the Adaptation Fund in their future programming of funding by the Adaptation Fund, in order to achieve a broader resilience by reflecting, as appropriate, the objectives of government recovery plans in future programming.

(Decision B.35.b/16)

ANNEX II

Official letter from the Designated Authority of Jordan on MoPIC's
request for an extension of grace-period for re-accreditation dated 29
December 2021



Ministry of Environment

Ref.No 7-2-11144
 Date 29-12-2021

**Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
 c/o Global Environment Facility
 Mail stop: N 7-700
 1818 H Street NW
 Washington DC 20433
 USA**

**Land line +1 202 473 0701
 Fax +1 202 522 3240**

Dear Sirs,

In reference to the application of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) to be re-accredited as the National Implementing Entity of Jordan for the Fund, and following my letters no. 13/4/2638 dated 18 March 2020 and no. 13/4/2730 dated 7 April 2020 in this regards, I would highly appreciate your kind assistance to grant MoPIC an additional grace period, i.e. till 13 January 2023, as per re-accreditation process (paragraphs 7(2)(ii) and 7(3)). This is necessary in order to finalize re-accreditation process before its expiry.

In this context, I would like to inform you that MoPIC remains committed to this process in order to regain the Accreditation status, as per the attached insurance letter.

Please accept my high esteem and consideration.

Sincerely,

Minister of Environment

Dr. Muawieh Khalid Radaideh

Cc: Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation (ref. to letter # 5/2/42/10693 dated 23/12/2021)

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

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