



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.41-42/8
31 January 2024

Adaptation Fund Board

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF PROJECT COMPLETION DATE:
PLANNING INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA (JAMAICA)**

Background

1. The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) at its eighteenth meeting, approved a three-and-a-half-year project titled “Enhancing the Resilience of the Agricultural Sector and Coastal Areas to Protect Livelihoods and Improve Food Security” in Jamaica, submitted by the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ), a national implementing entity of the Adaptation Fund, for a requested amount of US\$ 9,965,000 (Decision B.18/9).
2. The overall objective of the project is to protect livelihoods and food security in vulnerable communities by improving land and water management for the agricultural sector, strengthening coastal protection, and building institutional and local capacity for climate change adaptation.
3. As mandated by the decision, an agreement was prepared and signed between the Board and PIOJ on 7th August 2012 and the project started implementation on 2nd November 2012.
4. To date, the project implementing entity submitted ten project performance reports (PPRs). Nine have been cleared by the secretariat. The total project funding of US\$ 9,965,000 including the project fees, has been disbursed by the trustee, which corresponds to 100% of the approved grant.
5. In April 2016, the first regular request for no-cost extension of the project completion date from March 2016 to September 2017 was granted based on the Board Decision B.27-28/1. A second request for no-cost extension of the project completion date from September 2017 to March 2019 was approved by the Board through Decision B.29-30/11. The reasons behind both requests were several unforeseen issues that had negatively impacted implementation, including delays in the start of the construction phase of component 1 due to consultation process challenges encountered in the target area. A third request for no-cost extension of the project completion date from 31st March 2019 to 30th September 2020 was approved by the Board through Decision B.32-33/10. It was justified by the fact that the original project component 1 had been revised in June 2016 due to implementation delays.
6. The Board approved a fourth request for no-cost extension of the project completion date from 30th September 2020 to 30th September 2021 in June 2020 (Decision B.35.a-35.b/31), due to unanticipated procurement challenges in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. A fifth request for no-cost extension of the project completion date from 30th September 2021 to 30th September 2022, due to implementation delays incurred under the COVID-19 pandemic, was approved by the secretariat (Ref: 2021/073). A sixth request for no-cost extension of the project completion date from 30th September to 31st March 2024 was granted through Board Decision B.40-41/9.
7. In December 2023, PIOJ submitted a request for a regular fifteen-months no-cost extension of the project completion date from 31st March 2024 to 30th June 2025 (see annex 1). The reasons for this request, as outlined in the memo shared by PIOJ, are multi-faceted, including: i) delays and challenges associated with backlog in the construction sector; ii) lag effects of the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the entire system; and iii) inherently lengthy national procurement process for the engagement of contractors to undertake the shoreline protection works.

Secretariat's review of the request

8. Following a review of the request by the secretariat and considering the explanation provided by PIOJ, the secretariat is of the view that this final fifteen-months extension request is justified. As evidenced by the memo provided by PIOJ (Annex 1), it is noted that this request will provide sufficient time to execute the remaining activities.

9. Finally, the secretariat acknowledges that this no-cost project extension request has been agreed with the Executing Entities, and that the Designated Authority was notified, in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Policy for Project/Programme Delays, as specified in Annex 1.

Recommendation

10. The Board may consider and decide to approve the request for a fifteen-months extension of the project completion date from 31 March 2024 to 30 June 2025, for the project "Enhancing the Resilience of the Agricultural Sector and Coastal Areas to Protect Livelihoods and Improve Food Security" as requested by PIOJ.

Annex

- 1) Request for a no-cost extension of the project completion date from PIOJ for the project "Enhancing the Resilience of the Agricultural Sector and Coastal Areas to Protect Livelihoods and Improve Food Security".

Annex 1: Request for a no-cost extension of the project completion date from PIOJ for the project “Enhancing the Resilience of the Agricultural Sector and Coastal Areas to Protect Livelihoods and Improve Food Security”.

AFB/EFC.12/3/Rev.2

Annex I: Request for Extension

Request for extension of project/programme completion date

AF Project/programme ID: JAM/NIE/Multi/2011/1			
Project/programme Title: Enhancing the Resilience of the Agricultural Sector and Coastal Areas to Protect Livelihoods and Enhance Food Security			
Country: Jamaica, W. I.			
Project/Programme Approval (date)	July 2012		
Expected Project/programme Completion (date)	March 31, 2024	Proposed Revised Completion (date):	June 30, 2025

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

Following the discontinuation of the original Component 1, Jamaica’s revised Programme reflecting a change in outcome, outputs, related indicators and in the disbursement schedule of the GOJ/AFP was approved by the AF Board in March 2018, by its decision B. 31/2.

Since then, the National Implementing Entity, Executing Entities and partner agencies have been working to execute the remaining elements of revised programme. Thus far, the GOJ/AFP has completed all of Component 2 (Agriculture) and most activities under Component 1 (Coastal) and Component 3 (Capacity Building).

Despite the progress made, the programme has been negatively affected by the backlog in the construction sector and lag effects of the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the entire system. Consequently, the execution rate of Component 1 has been significantly impacted by the slower than expected rate of recovery. Notwithstanding, the remaining works under Component 3 are well advanced and expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2024.

The aforementioned challenges have been exacerbated by the multi-layered, inherently lengthy national procurement process for the engagement of contractors to undertake the shoreline protection works. It is therefore unlikely that the remaining coastal works will be completed within the current project timeline. In discussions with the relevant Executing Entities, and with major contracting processes at an advanced stage for the outstanding activities under Component 1, it is estimated that another 12-15 months will be required to finalize all outstanding activities.

In light of the foregoing, the NIE hereby submits a request for a no-cost extension from April 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 to conclude the GOJ/AFP’s contribution to Jamaica’s climate resilience-building.

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. YES

Name and Signature



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for Director General
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Date: December 14, 2023

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