



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.43-44/17
24 March 2025

Adaptation Fund Board

**REQUEST FOR NO-COST EXTENSION OF PROJECT
COMPLETION DATE:
UNITED NATIONS WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME
(LESOTHO)**

Background

1. During the intersessional period between the thirty-third and thirty-fourth meeting, the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board), approved through Decision B.33-34/18 a four-year project titled “Improving Adaptive Capacity of Vulnerable and Food-insecure Populations in Lesotho” submitted by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), for a total amount of US\$ 9,999,894.
2. The overall objective of the project is to enhance the adaptive capacity and build the resilience of vulnerable and food insecure households and communities to the impacts of climate change on food security. As mandated by the decision, an agreement was prepared and signed between the Board and WFP on 4 December 2019, and the project started implementation on 8 October 2020.
3. The project implementing entity submitted four project performance reports (PPR), which were all cleared by the secretariat. As of 10 March 2025, a total project funding for an amount of US\$ 9,999,894 including the project fees, has been disbursed by the trustee, which corresponds to 100% of the approved grant.
4. On 19 February 2024, WFP submitted to the secretariat a COVID-related request for extension of the project completion date from 8 October 2024 to 8 April 2025, which was cleared by the secretariat through its notification with reference 2024/049 dated 18 March 2024.
5. On 7 March 2025, WFP submitted a request for an extension of the project completion date from 8 April 2025 to 8 August 2025 (see annex 1). The main reason behind raising such a request is that additional time is necessary to finalize the final evaluation and project audit procurement processes.

Secretariat’s review of the request

6. Following a review of the request by the secretariat and considering the explanation provided by WFP, the secretariat is of the view that this four-month extension request is justified. As evidenced by the request provided by WFP, it is noted that this request should allow sufficient time to deliver all remaining activities.
7. Finally, the secretariat acknowledges that this request for extension of the project completion date has been agreed with the Executing Entities and that the Designated Authorities have been notified, in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Policy for Project/Programme Delays, as specified in Annex 1.

Recommendation

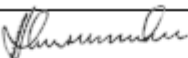

8. The Board may consider and decide to approve the request for a four-month extension of the project completion date from 8 April 2025 to 8 August 2025, for the project “Improving Adaptive Capacity of Vulnerable and Food-insecure Populations in Lesotho” as requested by WFP.

Annex

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

Annex 1: Request for an extension of the project completion date from WFP**ANNEX A: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF CONCRETE ADAPTATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME****Request for extension of project/programme completion date**

Implementing Entity Name: The United Nations World Food Programme.			
AF Project/programme ID: LSO/MIE/Food/2018/1			
Project/programme Title: Improving Adaptive Capacity of Vulnerable and Food insecure Populations in Lesotho.			
Country: Lesotho.			
Project/Programme Approval (date)	8 July 2019		
Expected Project/programme Completion (date)	8 April 2025	Proposed Revised Completion (date):	8 August 2025
Reasons/justifications for the extension of project/programme completion:			
<p>With funding support from the Adaptation Fund, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) acts as the Implementing Entity to provide technical assistance to the Government of Lesotho for the project titled "Improving Adaptive Capacity of Vulnerable and Food Insecure Populations in Lesotho (IACoV)", which focuses on the districts of Mafeteng, Mophale's Hoek, and Quthing. The project was successfully launched on 8 October 2020.</p> <p>On 19 February 2024, WFP submitted a 6-month extension of the project's completion due to implementation delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which was approved by the Secretariat on 18 March 2024.</p> <p>Though the project is on track in terms of deliverables and milestones, a few activities required more time than expected, especially in the final months of the project. Additional time is necessary to allow for the finalization of the procurement processes for both the final evaluation and the project's audit, which have been delayed due to internal controls and compliance protocols taking longer than anticipated. In view of the above, WFP would like to request an additional four-month no-cost extension for the project.</p> <p>This extension will enable effective completion of these essential steps and meet the project's objectives without the need for additional funding.</p>			
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  Elliot Vhurumuku, The Country Director and Representative	
Project/programme contact person Nkopo Matsepe, Project Coordinator IACoV 	
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