



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.44-45/12  
29 July 2025

---

Adaptation Fund Board

**REQUEST FOR NO COST EXTENSION OF PROJECT  
COMPLETION DATE:  
UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS  
PROGRAMME  
(SOLOMON ISLANDS)**

## Background

1. The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) at its thirtieth meeting, approved a four-year project titled “Enhancing urban resilience to climate change impacts and natural disasters: Honiara” submitted by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) for a total amount of US\$ 4,395,877 (Decision B.30/26).
2. The overall objective of the project is to work with vulnerable urban communities in Honiara to implement climate adaptation actions and to undertake capacity strengthening initiatives across multiple urban scales – community, ward and city-wide (including issues that cross the city-province boundary) – in order to strengthen the city’s climate resilience. This will be achieved through the following components: (i) Community level actions; (ii) Community level capacity strengthening; (iii) Ward level actions; (iv) Ward level capacity strengthening; (v) City-wide governance and capacity strengthening; and (vi) Knowledge Management and advocacy.
3. As mandated by the decision, an agreement was prepared and signed between the Board and UN-Habitat in January 2018 and the project started implementation on 28 July 2018.
4. As of 21 July 2025, three PPRs were cleared by the secretariat and a total project funding for an amount of US\$ 2,202,550 including the project fees has been disbursed by the trustee, which corresponds to 50% of the approved grant.
5. UN-Habitat was granted in 2021 and 2023 two COVID-related twelve-months no-cost extensions of the project completion date respectively from 27 June 2022 to 27 June 2023, and from 27 June 2023 to 27 June 2024, which the secretariat cleared in accordance with Decision B.35.b/16 (Ref. 2021/166 and 2023/118). On 25 March 2024, UN-Habitat submitted a third request for a regular eighteen month no-cost extension of the project completion date from 27 June 2024 to 27 December 2025, which was approved by the Board through decision B.42-43/8.
6. On 24 June 2025, UN-Habitat submitted a fourth request for a regular eighteen month no-cost extension of the project completion date from 27 December 2025 to 27 June 2027 (see annex 1). The reasons for raising this request are (i) reduction of local and national capacities in the wake of COVID-19 and 2021 riots; (ii) impacts of the social, economic and political crisis on engagement with communities along the city boundaries; (iii) necessary readjustment of engagement with some institutions in the aftermath of the COVID pandemic.

## Secretariat’s review of the request

7. Following a thorough review of the request and in light of the justification provided by UN-Habitat, the secretariat is of the view that this eighteen-month no-cost extension request is warranted. As outlined in the documentation submitted by UN-Habitat (Annex 1), this extension should allow sufficient time to complete all remaining activities and to finalize the development and submission of all outstanding project reporting requirements. Additionally, the secretariat acknowledges that the Designated Authority has formally endorsed this extension request (Annex 2).

## Recommendation

8. The Board may consider and decide to approve the request for a eighteen-month no-cost extension of the project completion date from 27 December 2025 to 27 June 2027, for the project

“Enhancing urban resilience to climate change impacts and natural disasters: Honiara” as requested by UN-Habitat.

**Annex**

1. Request for an extension of the project completion date from UN-Habitat.
2. Letter of endorsement from the Designated Authority.

## Annex 1: Request for an extension of the project completion date from UN-Habitat

### ANNEX A: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF CONCRETE ADAPTATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME

*Request for extension of project/programme completion date*

Implementing Entity Name: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)			
AF Project/programme ID: SLB/MIE/Urban/2016/1			
Project/programme Title: Enhancing urban resilience to climate change impacts and natural disasters: Honiara			
Country: Solomon Islands			
Project/Programme Approval (date)	12-13 October 2017, project started 28 June 2018 (Inception workshop)		
Expected Project/programme Completion (date)	27/06/2022 (original) 27/06/2023 (first extension) 27/06/2024 (second extension) 27/12/2025 (third extension)	Proposed Revised Completion (date):	27/06/2027

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

<p>Several milestones of the AF project in Solomon Islands have been achieved so far. However, the outbreak of the global COVID-19 pandemic and related travel restrictions to and within Solomon Islands led to severe delays in project implementation which prompted the earlier extension requests. Additional challenges have emerged since:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacities at local (Honiara City Council) and national level (Ministry of Lands, Housing and Infrastructure) were significantly reduced in the wake of COVID-19 and the 2021 riots with their impacts on government finance.</li> <li>• The social, economic and political crisis, continued to impact engagement with some communities in particular those along the city boundary.</li> <li>• Concrete Adaptation projects at the community level were to be implemented in partnership with designated government institutions. Post COVID, the implementation strategy needed to be readjusted as some of these institutions were no longer in the position to support the project.</li> <li>• Over the last months, the implementation of concrete adaptation options has commenced across all five informal settlement areas and other projects are very advanced in their planning and community consultations (fully in line with the approved project document).</li> </ul> <p>However, some progress has been made across all outcome areas over the last months, UN-Habitat has re-opened an office in Suva with one staff currently based there, and climate resilience-building community infrastructure implementation is now imminent. In light of the events described above, we are requesting an additional no-cost extension of 18 months until 27 June 2027 in order to complete the remaining tasks. The approval of the changes</p>
---

proposed is key for ensuring the projects' completion and safeguard the quality of its execution.

*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.



Rafael Tuts  
Director  
Director, Global Solutions Division

UN-Habitat

Project/programme contact person

Date: 19 June 2025

Tel. and Email:  
+254-20-7623726  
Raf.Tuts@un.org

## Annex 2: Letter of endorsement from the Designated Authority



Solomon Islands  
Government

Ministry of Environment,  
Climate Change, Disaster  
Management & Meteorology



P.O Box 21,  
Honiara,  
Solomon Islands



Fax:  
(677) 28054  
Phone:  
(677) 23031 / 23032



www.mecdm.gov.sb

Solomon Is.

7<sup>th</sup> April 2025

The Adaptation Fund Board  
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat  
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org  
Fax: +1 202 522 3240/5

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Subject: Endorsement of UN-Habitat's Request for no-cost project extension of additional 18 months of AF project Enhancing urban resilience to climate change impacts and natural disasters: Honiara (SLB/MIE/Urban/2016/1)

In my capacity as Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Solomon Islands, I support UN-Habitat's request for another no-cost extension of additional 18 months.

The executing entities and I understand that post-COVID institutional capacity limitations and those caused by the social disorder prevailing since the 2021 riots at the level of the executing entities at national and local levels as well as the recalibration of implementation support organizations took significant time. This was aggravated by drawing down project execution costs during COVID requiring a significant adjustment of the project management arrangements.

Identified concrete adaptation projects are now being implemented across the communities and acceleration is expected over the next months.

Considering the above, I fully endorse UN-Habitat's request to request a no-cost extension of project activities until **June 2027**. I will work closely with UN-Habitat to ensure that the revised workplan will be implemented accordingly in the extended timeframe.

Yours sincerely,

  
Ms Susan Sulu  
Permanent Secretary (PS)  
NDA to Adaptation Fund





**Solomon Islands  
Government**

Ministry of Environment,  
Climate Change, Disaster  
Management & Meteorology



P.O Box 21,  
Honiara,  
Solomon Islands.



Fax:  
(677) 28054  
Phone:  
(677) 23031 / 23032



[www.mecdm.gov.sb](http://www.mecdm.gov.sb)

*Solomon Is.*

Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management  
and Meteorology  
Email: [SSulu@mecdm.gov.sb](mailto:SSulu@mecdm.gov.sb)  
Contact: +677 27751