



## ADAPTATION FUND

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Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat

***Approval of request for postponement of project inception date: UN World Food Programme (Bhutan)***

***Weight of request:*** Minor

***Summary of request***

On 3 January 2025, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) submitted a notification of delay of project inception date from 9 March 2025 to 9 September 2025 for the project “Innovative adaptation financing to build the resilience and adaptive capacity of smallholder farmers in Bhutan (InAF-Bhutan)” implemented in Bhutan. This request for an extension of the project inception date was cleared by the secretariat, in line with Decision B.34/45 and with provisions set forth in the Policy for Project/Programme delays.

On 8 September 2025, WFP submitted a second request for a postponement of the project inception for the same project, from 9 September 2025 to 9 March 2026. According to the memo provided by WFP, the delay is due to the Executing Entity and Designated Authority desire to revisit the project design in light of a new National Crop and Livestock Insurance Scheme (NCLIS) which the Government aims to start implementing this year. The NCLIS is designed to be indemnity-based and will be rolled out in 20 districts of Bhutan. Therefore, considering these exceptional circumstances, WFP is requesting an additional 6 months to allow further technical and strategic discussions with the national stakeholders on the best way forward.

***Secretariat’s review of the request***

The Secretariat has reviewed the request and the reasons provided by WFP and considers the request for a postponement of the project inception date to be justified. It also acknowledges that the DA has been duly notified, in line with the Policy for Project/Programme Delays (Amended, 2025).

***Conclusion***

*Following the review of the request for a postponement of the project inception date from 9 September 2025 to 9 March 2026 submitted by WFP for the project “Innovative adaptation financing to build the resilience and adaptive capacity of smallholder farmers in Bhutan (InAF-Bhutan)” implemented in Bhutan, the request has been cleared by the Secretariat as per Decision B.44/44 and the Policy for Project/Programme delays.*

**Clearance: AFBSEC-2025-16**