



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.45-46/1
6 November 2025

Adaptation Fund Board

**REQUEST FOR A NO-COST EXTENSION OF THE PROJECT
COMPLETION DATE:
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH
AND THE ENVIRONMENT
(ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA)**

Background

1. The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) during the intersessional period between its thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth meeting, approved a three-year project titled “Innovative technologies for improved water availability to increase food security in Antigua and Barbuda”, submitted by the Department of Environment Ministry of Health and the Environment (ABED) for a requested amount of US\$ 250,000.00 (Decision B.35-36/13).
2. The project objective is to improve food security in Antigua and Barbuda by facilitating the availability and use of ground or surface water for agricultural purposes via innovative technologies. The proposed technologies for demonstration purposes run on self-generating renewable power, making them resilient to disruptions from grid instabilities or extreme climate events, and are aligned with the country’s Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) target of transitioning to 100% renewable energy by 2030. This project would introduce technologies that have not been tested in the agriculture sector of Antigua and Barbuda and are new to the market. The specific project objectives are to: 1) Demonstrate the application of two different innovative technologies for water provision in the agriculture sector; and 2) Assess and develop policy standards to promote further uptake of innovative technologies to increase water availability for agriculture.
3. As mandated by the decision, an agreement was prepared and signed between the Board and ABED on 2 March 2021 and the project started implementation on 28 May 2021.
4. The project’s Implementing Entity has submitted two Project Performance Reports (PPRs). The total amount of US\$250,000 was transferred in a single lump-sum payment following the signature of the grant agreement. This amount represents 100 per cent of the approved grant, in accordance with the disbursement modality applicable to Small Innovation Grants, which are fully disbursed at project inception.
5. To date, the project has not received any no-cost extensions.
6. On 10 October 2025, ABED submitted a request for a twenty-one month no-cost extension of the project completion date, from 28 May 2024 to 20 February 2026. As outlined in the Adaptation Fund Policy for Project/Programme Delays, a request for an extension of the project completion date must be submitted by the Implementing Entity at least six months prior to the official completion date. The submission date of this request is, therefore, not in compliance with the aforementioned deadline.
7. This request is based on significant implementation challenges, including the absence of key project coordinators and limited human resources for regular monitoring and system maintenance. The project also faced logistical delays in the shipment of essential equipment—such as reverse osmosis units, solar panels, and submersible pumps—and limited availability of construction materials on the island.
8. Despite these setbacks, substantial progress has been made, with systems successfully installed and demonstrated to stakeholders and farmers. The extension period will allow ABED to consolidate efforts under Component 2, including stakeholder workshops, policy evaluations, and the development of educational materials on climate-smart technologies. The Department of Environment has also identified additional cost-effective technologies and proposed a blended financing mechanism to support small farmers in adopting climate-resilient practices.

Secretariat's review of the request

9. Following a review of the request by the secretariat and considering the explanation provided by ABED, the secretariat is of the view that this twenty-one-month no-cost extension request is justified. As evidenced by the memo provided by ABED (Annex 1), it is noted that this request would allow sufficient time for the project to compensate for accumulated delays faced in the project implementation and ensure the fulfillment of the project outcomes.

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

Recommendation

11. Having considered the request and its annex, the Board may consider and decide to approve the request for a twenty-one-month no-cost extension of the project completion date from 28 May 2024 to 20 February 2026, for the project "Innovative technologies for improved water availability to increase food security in Antigua and Barbuda" in Antigua and Barbuda, as requested by ABED.

Annex 1: Request for an extension of the programme completion date



GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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29th September 2025

The Adaptation Fund Board
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RE: REQUEST FOR EXTENTION OF THE ADAPTATION FUND SMALL INNOVATION GRANT PROJECT, “INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES FOR IMPROVED WATER AVAILABILITY TO INCREASE FOOD SECURITY IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA”

TABLE 1: ADAPTATION FUND TEMPLATE FOR PROJECT EXTENSION

Implementing Entity Name: Department of Environment, Ministry of Health, Wellness, Social Transformation and the Environment, Antigua and Barbuda			
AF Project/Programme ID:			
Project/Programme Title: Adaptation Fund Small Innovation Grant Project (AFSIG), “Innovative Technologies for Improved Water Availability to Increase Food Security in Antigua and Barbuda			
Country: Antigua and Barbuda			
Project/Programme Approval (date)	28 May 2021		
Expected Project/programme Completion	28 th May 2024	Proposed Revised Completion (date)	20 th February 2026

Reasons/justifications for the extension of project/programme completion

The Department of Environment (DOE) began implementation of the Adaptation Fund Small Innovation Grant Project on 28th May 2021, with the initial completion date set for 28th May 2024. However, we are kindly requesting a No Cost Extension for the Project due to the reasons outlined below:

- The project faced significant challenges, including the absence of two key project coordinators, which resulted in a lack of clear guidance for completing project activities during its course. Furthermore, there was a shortage of human resources to conduct regular monitoring and ensure the ongoing functionalities of the systems.
- Additionally, the project experienced a logistical delay in the shipment of essential systems including the reverse osmosis (RO) units, solar panels and submersible water pumps. Moreover, materials needed to construct infrastructure to secure these systems were in high demand and limited availability on the island.

Despite these challenges, significant progress has been made with the systems being successfully implemented and demonstrated and used by stakeholders and farmers.

In addition, the DOE recognizes the urgent need for farmers to be informed about potential climate-smart technologies that could aid in improving availability of water resources and its carbon footprint. The DOE has been involved in the implementation of various projects and activities that included consultations with local farmers and stakeholders, identified other potential technologies that are cost-effective to small scale farmers, that can be used to address water shortage challenges, drafted and presented to Cabinet the blended financing mechanism to provide small loans/grants to farmers to adopt climate smart technology. These projects and activities align with the various outcomes within component 2 of this project, therefore, to prevent duplication of efforts these outcomes will assist in the completion of the outstanding activities.

The remainder of the last quarter of 2025 and the first quarter of 2026 will be used to consolidate efforts to ensure the closure of activities under component 2. The team identified to see out this closure will be the previous component 1 lead and the AF Focal Points. The team has already met and identified outputs that that will feed into the deliverables under component 2 and has estimated that 4 of the 5 activities can be marked completed by early November. The team has further deduced that the completion of Activity 2.2.4 focused on producing training materials for local training groups would require 2 to 3 months to be completed as no foundational work for this activity exist and the team would have to conducted consultation with relative stakeholders to ensure feedback and information gathering.

In summary, the following will be completed during the no-cost extension:

1. Activity 2.1.1 Conduct a scoping study of technologies currently used in the Agriculture Sector and assess the applicability of new adaptative technologies
2. Activity 2.2.1 Assessment of business models for the use of the selected technologies in 2.1.2
3. Activity 2.2.2 Plan and host key workshop with key stakeholders
4. Activity 2.2.3 Assessment of tax and other policies to support the update of the selected technologies
5. Activity 2.2.4 Developing training materials for local groups to administer potential technology up takers
6. Activity 2.2.5 Stakeholder workshop to exhibit the technology in use

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 and Signature	Diann Black-Layne Director Department of Environment  Signature
Project/programme contact person:	
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