



ADAPTATION FUND

Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat

Approval of Request for No-Cost Extension of Project Completion Date: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (El Salvador)

Type of request: Minor

Summary of request

On 24 October 2025, UNDP submitted a request for a twelve-month no-cost extension for the project “Enhancing Climate Resilience of Rural Communities and Ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador” to continue pending activities and ensure the achievement of the project’s objectives. UNDP is requesting this no-cost extension due to several interrelated factors that have impacted implementation:

1. **Regulatory Changes:** 1) The Public Procurement Law (LCP), enacted in March 2023, significantly changed procurement procedures, requiring a transition period that delayed execution. 2) The Municipal Restructuring Law, approved in June 2023, reduced municipalities from 262 to 44, impacting governance and requiring a redesign of Component 4 to align with the new territorial framework.
2. **Climate-Related Emergencies:** 1) Extreme weather events, including heavy rains and Tropical Storm Sara, caused flooding, infrastructure damage, and access issues in Ahuachapán Sur. 2) Alerts and mobility restrictions disrupted field activities, community engagement, and technical coordination, delaying progress.
3. **COVID-19 Pandemic:** Strict lockdowns from March to June 2020 and ongoing restrictions through 2021 severely limited mobility, procurement, and community events, resulting in low disbursement and delayed implementation.
4. **Mid-Term Evaluation Recommendations:** Called for adjustments in project management, including strengthening the Project Management Unit and highlighted the need for strategic planning and immediate actions to accelerate execution and meet objectives.
5. **Budgetary Review:** A comprehensive review led to a consolidated work plan for 2024–2025, requiring additional time to implement planned actions effectively.

No additional funding is requested, and the project framework remains unchanged.

Secretariat’s review of the request

The Secretariat has reviewed the request and the reasons provided by UNDP and considers the request for a twelve-month project no-cost extension to be justified. It also acknowledges that the Designated Authority has been duly notified, in line with the Policy for Project/Programme Delays (Amended, 2025).

Conclusion

Following the review of the request for a twelve-month no-cost extension of the project completion date from 16 June 2026 to 16 June 2027 submitted by UNDP regarding the project titled “Enhancing Climate Resilience of Rural

Communities and Ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador” implemented in El Salvador, the request has been cleared by the Secretariat as per Decision B.44/44 and the Policy for Project/Programme Delays.

Clearance: AFBSEC-2025-21