



ADAPTATION FUND

Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat

Approval of Request for No-Cost Extension of Project Completion Date: International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) – Tunisia

Type of request: Minor

Summary of request

On 17 December 2025, IFAD submitted a request for a fifteen-month no-cost extension for the project “*Economic, Social and Solidarity Insertion for Resilience in the Governorate of Kairouan (IESS-Adapt)*”, seeking to revise the completion date from 2 September 2026 to 2 December 2027. The request is based on implementation delays resulting from a slow project start, caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, delayed establishment of the PMU, and protracted procurement procedures. Although 83% of the implementation period has elapsed, the project’s disbursement rate remains at 46.30%, largely reflecting the early implementation challenges.

Supervision missions and the mid-term review confirmed significant acceleration since 2023, with strong progress in income-generating activities and civil engineering works. Additional time is required to complete and consolidate activities, ensure full realization of expected results, and integrate lessons learned from updated climate information and evolving community needs. The request does not entail any budget reallocation, and the Designated Authority has been duly notified.

Secretariat’s review of the request

The Secretariat finds the justification provided by IFAD to be sound and considers the fifteen-month no-cost extension justified. The request meets the criteria for a minor change, as it does not alter the project’s scope, budget, expected outcomes, or risk profile. The Secretariat also acknowledges the improvements in implementation pace and the relevance of the extension for achieving the project’s objectives.

Conclusion

Following its review, the Secretariat confirms that the request for a no-cost extension of the project completion date from 2 September 2026 to 2 December 2027 for the project “Economic, Social and Solidarity Insertion for Resilience in the Governorate of Kairouan (IESS-Adapt)”, is cleared, in accordance with Decision B.44/44 and the Policy for Project/Programme Delays.

Clearance: AFBSEC-2026-03