



AFB/B.46-47/9
24 September 2026

Adaptation Fund Board

**REQUEST FOR NO-COST EXTENSION OF PROJECT
COMPLETION DATE: BANQUE OUEST AFRICAINE DE
DÉVELOPPEMENT (GUINEA-BISSAU)**

Background

1. The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board), at its thirtieth meeting, approved a five-year project titled “Scaling-up Climate-Smart Agriculture Practices in the East of Guinea-Bissau” submitted by the Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement (BOAD), for a total amount of US\$ 9,979,000 (Decision B.30/22).
2. The overall objective of the project is to strengthen practices and capacities in climate-smart agriculture in the project region and at institutional level, in the context of the extreme vulnerability of family farmers to climate change in dryland East Guinea-Bissau. Through the project’s activities, food security and livelihoods are expected to be strengthened at household level, while simultaneously increasing capacities in climate risk management and adaptation planning at all levels of governance. The project is implemented in the northern parts of the Bafatá and Gabú regions, in the sectors of Sonaco, Pirada, Pitche, Gabú, Cuntoboel and Ganadu. The project is articulated around three components: (i) development of technical and institutional capacity to address the increase of climate risk with adaptation practices and planning; (ii) enhancing the resilience of existing agricultural productive systems, including water control and management measures; and (iii) knowledge management of lessons learned on climate-smart agriculture and adaptation planning. The project also includes project execution costs and an Implementing Entity project cycle management fee.
3. As mandated by the decision, an agreement was prepared and signed between the Board and BOAD on 24 January 2018 and the project started implemented on 22 January 2020.
4. As of 20 August 2026, four PPRs were cleared by the secretariat and a total project funding for an amount of US\$ 7,752,000 including the project fees has been disbursed by the trustee, which corresponds to 77.7 % of the approved grant
5. BOAD was granted in 2024 a first eighteen-month no-cost extension request from 22 January 2025 to 22 July 2026 (Decision B.42-43/12).
6. On 24 July 2026, BOAD submitted a second request for a regular eighteen-month no-cost extension of the project completion date from 22 July 2026 to 22 January 2028 (see annex I). The reasons for BOAD’s request, as outlined in the submitted memo, relate mainly to delays in the effective start-up of structuring activities, notably the hydro-agricultural developments and priority works, as well as difficulties encountered in procurement processes, which lengthened contractual timelines and affected the overall pace of execution. As of 30 June 2026, the overall physical implementation rate was estimated at 30 per cent, with components related to the development and supervision of irrigated perimeters remaining behind schedule.
7. BOAD indicated that the extension would allow the project to launch and finalize procurement processes for firms and companies to carry out the development works, finalize environmental and social safeguard instruments and obtain the required environmental permits, implement and supervise the hydro-agricultural development works on the retained sites, and continue capacity-building activities for farmers, the Gender Action Plan, environmental and social safeguard measures, and final audit and closure activities. No additional funds are requested, and there will be no change in the project framework.

Secretariat's review of the request

8. Following a review of the request by the secretariat and considering the explanation provided by BOAD, the Secretariat is of the view that this eighteen-month extension request is justified. As evidenced by the memo provided by BOAD, it is noted that this request should allow sufficient time for the project to complete key remaining activities, including procurement, safeguard clearance, environmental permitting, hydro-agricultural development works, capacity-building, implementation of the Gender Action Plan, environmental and social safeguard measures, and final audit and closure activities. These activities remain consistent with the project's approved focus on strengthening climate-smart agriculture, improving water control and management, and supporting adaptation planning and learning in the project areas of Bafatá and Gabú.

9. Finally, the Secretariat acknowledges that the Designated Authority has been notified, in accordance with the amended Policy for Project/Programme Delays, as specified in Annex I.

Recommendation

10. The Board may consider and decide to approve the request for an eighteen-month no-cost extension of the project completion date from 22 July 2026 to 22 January 2028, for the project "Scaling-up Climate-Smart Agriculture Practices in the East of Guinea-Bissau", as requested by BOAD.

Annex I: Request for an extension of the project completion date

ANNEXE I : REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF CONCRETE ADAPTATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME

Request for extension of project/programme completion date

Implementing Entity Name : Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement (BOAD)			
AF Project/programme ID : GNB/RIE/Agri/2015/1			
Project/programme Title : Scaling-up Climate-Smart Agriculture Practices in the East of Guinea-Bissau			
Country : Guinea-Bissau			
Project/Programme Approval (date)	10 July 2017		
Expected Project/programme Completion (date)	22 July 2026	Proposed Revised Completion (date) :	22 January 2028

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

Climate variability is a serious challenge for Guinea-Bissau. The country is highly exposed to rainfall irregularity, prolonged dry spells and land degradation, which undermine crop production and push many rural households into food insecurity. Agriculture in the east of the country depends heavily on rainfall and on access to water, which is why climate-smart water control and irrigation are essential for building resilience to climate change.

The project develops irrigated parcels in lowlands and market gardening perimeters to sustain agricultural production and secure water supply for livestock during the dry season, in the eastern regions of Gabù and Bafatà. It also strengthens the technical and institutional capacities of stakeholders in climate-smart agriculture, promotes resilient water management, and supports the dissemination of lessons learned. The main beneficiaries are farmer organisations, women's and youth groups, and individual producers in the intervention areas.

Specific objectives :

1. Develop the technical and institutional capacities of the government, the private sector and civil society (local communities, NGOs) to address the growing climate risks in adaptation planning;
 2. Improve the resilience of existing agricultural production systems and contribute to the diversification of production, notably through climate-resilient water control and management measures aimed at minimising the risks of droughts and intense floods;
 3. Promote the dissemination of knowledge on lessons learned in climate-smart agriculture and adaptation planning to other regions of the country and to other West African countries.
- The project is articulated around four components: (i) Strengthening technical and institutional capacities to address the multiplication of climate risks through adaptation practices and planning; (ii) Strengthening the resilience of existing agricultural production systems, including water control and management; (iii) Knowledge management on lessons learned in climate-smart agriculture and adaptation planning; and (iv) Project management.

Following the first Revised Completion Date no-cost extension approved by the Adaptation Fund Board, the project completion date was extended from 22 January 2025 to 22 July 2026. Progress has been made across the components: the development sites were identified, capacity-building activities on climate-smart agriculture were carried out, and preparatory work for the hydro-agricultural developments was advanced. As of 30 June 2026, the overall physical implementation rate is estimated at 30%. The components related to the development and supervision of the irrigated perimeters remain behind schedule. The project faced several delays mainly linked to: (i) the late effective start-up of certain structuring activities, notably the hydro-agricultural developments and priority works; and (ii) difficulties encountered in the procurement processes, which lengthened contractual timelines, which affected the overall pace of execution.

Overall, the project has made real progress and implementation is ongoing. The project is now ready for the effective implementation of the hydro-agricultural development works, which requires sufficient time to be completed. A second extension is therefore necessary.

Noting that according to Adaptation Fund policies « An implementing entity may request for a project/programme extension beyond the original completion date for up to 18 months for a concrete adaptation project/programme if (i) no additional funds are required; (ii) the project/programme's originally approved scope will not change; and (iii) the entity provides reasons and justifications for the extension », BOAD and the Executing Entity EE) consider that the justifications provided above are solid and reasonable. No extra money is being requested, and the project scope remains exactly as approved.

The second 18-month no-cost extension (from 22 July 2026 to 22 January 2028) will allow the completion of the following activities:

- i) the launch and finalisation of procurement processes for the firms and companies that will carry out the development works (irrigated parcels in lowlands, market gardening perimeters, water control and mobilisation infrastructure) in the regions of Gabù and Bafatà;
- ii) the finalisation of the environmental and social safeguard instruments and the obtaining of the required environmental permits for all retained sites;
- iii) the actual implementation and supervision of the hydro-agricultural development works on the retained sites, including lowland irrigation schemes, market gardening perimeters and associated water management structures;
- iv) the continuation of capacity-building activities for farmers, the implementation of the Gender Action Plan and of environmental and social safeguard measures, and the final project audit and closure activities.

No additional funds are required and there will be no change in the project framework.

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.

Mr. Moubarak MOUKAILA, Director of the Financing Sustainable Development Department

Name & Signature




Project/programme contact person: Mr. Eric AMOUSSOU, Head of Climate Finance Portfolio,
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Date:

24/07/26

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