ADAPTATION FUND

Approval of request for extension of project inception date: International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (Bangladesh)

Type of request: Minor

Summary of request

On 14 September 2026, the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) submitted a second request for an extension of project inception date for the project "Green, Resilient, and Adaptive CHT Economy (GRACE)-LoCALplus", implemented in Bangladesh. According to the memo provided by ICIMOD, the delay is related to the processing of a parallel request for change in implementation arrangements, which was recently cleared through AFBSEC-2026-27. The revised implementation arrangements introduced explicit references to the Executing Entity's regulatory frameworks in the project document. Pending confirmation of these revised arrangements, ICIMOD deferred the inception activities to ensure full compliance with the revised arrangements. This request for extension of inception date would allow the inception activities to be completed in an orderly manner following the recent clearance of the revised implementation arrangements.

The first extension of the project inception date from 30 March 2026 to 30 September 2026 (cleared through AFBSEC-2026-02) was requested due to national elections, which temporarily affected institutional coordination.

Secretariat's review of the request

The Secretariat has reviewed the request and the reasons provided by ICIMOD and considers the request for extension of 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 extension of project inception date from 30 September 2026 to 30 March 2027 submitted by ICIMOD for the project "Green, Resilient, and Adaptive CHT Economy (GRACE)-LoCALplus" implemented in Bangladesh, the request has been cleared by the Secretariat as per Decision B.44/44 and the Policy for Project/Programme delays (amended in April 2025).

Clearance: AFSEC-2026-29