

ANNEX D: NOTIFICATION OF DELAY OF PROJECT OR PROGRAMME INCEPTION

Implementing Entity Name: IFAD

AF Project/Programme ID: AF00000315

Project/Programme Title: REsilience to NEgative impacts of climate-aggravated Water scarcity in the Agriculture sector in Libya (RENEWAL)

Country(ies): Libya

Project/Programme Approval Date: 13 October 2023

Expected Project/Programme Start (date): 16 April 2025

Proposed Revised Completion (date): 48 months from the inception workshop as originally planned.

1. Reasons/ justification for delay in the project's/programme's inception and the number of months of delay from the project approval date.

The implementation of the RENEWAL Project in Libya has faced significant delays due to the country's complex and fragmented institutional framework. Although the project was approved with the intention of holding the inception workshop by January 26, 2025, several factors have led the team to request a six-month extension:

- **Institutional Complexity:** The National Designated Authority (NDA) has been actively involved during the preparatory phases. However, Libyan national regulations require additional coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and other government bodies. This multi-layered institutional process has caused delays in aligning priorities, defining roles, and obtaining the necessary clearances.
- **Government Ownership:** To ensure long-term success and national ownership, it is critical to align with government procedures and priorities. Engaging multiple stakeholders while navigating Libya's evolving institutional landscape has added layers of complexity to the coordination process.
- **Translation and Dissemination:** Key project documents must be translated into Arabic to ensure inclusivity and clear communication among all stakeholders. The translation process has delayed the distribution of critical information, including the formalization of the Project Advisory Committee (PAC).
- **Tentative Scheduling Challenges:** Despite efforts to convene the workshop by January 26, 2025, the complications listed above forced the team to postpone it to April 16, 2025.

Given these challenges, a six-month extension is essential to ensure the workshop is conducted successfully, with the full participation and buy-in of national stakeholders. This extension will enable us to overcome logistical and procedural barriers and lay a solid foundation for the project.

2. Approaches/ mitigation measures to ensure the start of implementation:

IFAD and UNOPS are fully committed to addressing the challenges and ensuring a prompt start to project implementation. The following measures are being taken:

- **Enhanced Coordination:** IFAD and UNOPS are actively engaging with the NDA, MoFA, and the Ministry of Environment to expedite internal government processes and facilitate the establishment of the PAC.
- **Recruitment and Capacity Building:** UNOPS is finalizing the recruitment of the Project Management Unit (PMU) staff to provide dedicated oversight and support.
- **Documentation Management:** The translation and dissemination of project documentation have been prioritized to improve communication and facilitate decision-making.
- **Expedited Timelines:** Efforts are being made to hold the inception workshop as early as possible, before the end of the requested extension period, while ensuring all stakeholders are adequately prepared and aligned.

We are committed to submit the inception report promptly following the workshop.

3. Challenges (in addition to those mentioned in section 1) that may extend the project/ programme completion date)

While the above challenges pertain to the inception phase, we do not foresee further issues beyond those outlined in the project document. Mitigation strategies are in place for any risks identified during project design, and every effort will be made to adhere to the revised timeline without compromising project objectives.

Implementing Entity certification

This notification for delay on project inception has been prepared in accordance with Adaptation Fund policies and procedures, and delay on project/programme start has been agreed by participating executing entities and has been notified to the designated authority (DA).

Name & Signature

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