

Project Title: "Iyanola – Natural Resource Management of the North East Coast"

Amendment No.3 to the PCA

Between

United Nations Environment Programme – Ecosystems Division

And

Department of Sustainable Development of the Ministry of Education, Sustainable Development, Innovation, Science, Technology and Vocational Training

Pursuant to Clauses 66 to 69 of the Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) (Reference number: PCA/2014/026) signed on 31 March 2015, amended on 21 December 2018 and 2 March 2020 respectively (hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement") between United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Department of Sustainable Development of the Ministry of Education, Sustainable Development, Innovation, Science, Technology and Vocational Training (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties") in support of the project titled: **"Iyanola – Natural Resource Management of the North East Coast"** (hereinafter referred to as the **"Project"**), the Parties hereto have agreed to amend the Agreement (PCA/2014/026).

The purpose of this third amendment is to extend the duration of the Agreement at a no cost for a period of 15 months, as indicated in the justification letter (appended as Annex 1) in order to achieve the objectives of the Project as per the revised workplan and budget (appended as Annex 2 and 3).

In view of the above, Clause 5 of the original Agreement (Annex 4) shall be amended in its entirety as follows:

1. General Provision

1.1. Agreement Clause 5: Duration and its footnote, is hereby amended as follows:

"This Agreement shall come into force upon signature of the Parties, being effective from the date of the latest signature, and shall remain in force until 31 December 2023 after the last obligation of the Parties lapse to allow for receipt of all terminal and audit reports, unless terminated earlier, pursuant to clauses 52 to 61 of this Agreement. The technical completion date of the project shall be 30 June 2023. However, project effectiveness shall be the date of receipt by the Executing Agency of the first instalment of funds".

The total cost to the project to the GEF Trust Funds remains **unchanged**.

All other terms and conditions of the original PCA shall remain valid and unchanged. This Amendment shall be appended to and be construed an integral part of the original PCA, PCA/2014/026 signed between UNEP and the Department of Sustainable Development under the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development Saint Lucia on 31 March 2015.

Signed on behalf of UNEP

Annie Muchai

OIC, Ecosystems Division

For:

Susan Gardner

Director

Ecosystems Division

Date: 30/06/2022

Signed on behalf of Department of Sustainable Development

Anita Montoute

Anita Montoute

Permanent Secretary

Date:



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY
AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Department of Sustainable Development

*Communication on this subject
should be addressed to:
The Permanent Secretary*

*Georgianna Court
John Compton Highway
Castries
SAINT LUCIA, W.I.
Tel No: (758) 468-5863
Email : sustainable.devt@govt.lc*

April 8, 2022

Mr. Johan Robinson
Head, GEF Biodiversity & Land Degradation Unit
Biodiversity & Ecosystems Services Branch
Ecosystem Division
Un Environment
P.O. Box 30552
Nairobi, 00100
Kenya

Dear Mr. Robinson,

Subject: Request for project extension- Iyanola- Natural Resource Management of the North East Coast Project

The Department of Sustainable Development requests a no-cost extension in the technical completion date to June 2023, to facilitate technical completion of the remaining activities under the **Iyanola- Natural Resource Management of the North East Coast Project**.

In 2020, the project was granted a no cost extension on condition that no further extension would be requested. However, two major factors have severely impacted implementation of project activities, namely, the late receipt of the first cash advance in November 2020 and the unprecedented disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which started in early 2020 and still continues to affect project implementation today.

In December 2019, the contract of the National Project Coordinator came to an end with no more funding available for that position. The Chief Technical Officer in the Department of Sustainable Development was therefore assigned to take up the role and prepared the requisite reports (Half Year & Quarter 4) that would have triggered the cash advance disbursement. However, the advance was significantly delayed until November 2020 due to a change in the Executing Agency's bank details which had to be effected on UNEP's payment system. Once the funds were received, a Chief Technical

Advisor was installed in December 2020, in keeping with one of the critical management recommendations made by the Mid-Term Evaluation.

Further to the late receipt of funds which prevented on the ground implementation in 2020, Saint Lucia, like the rest of the world was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic which prompted a nation-wide shutdown. For the better part of that year, the country operated on a partial basis, with regular staff rotations caused by regular spikes in infections. The protocols instituted resulted in limited face to face interactions on a national basis, which severely hampered implementation, as much of the project activities require on the ground presence and interactions. This was very evident with the livelihood (Apiculture, Cultural Heritage Initiative and Latanye Initiative) components which started in the second quarter of 2021. The staff rotations also negatively impacted the level of support that the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and other support staff of co-executing agencies were able to provide, as they themselves were operating under major staff constraints.

Notwithstanding these major setbacks, in 2021, the project was able to realise some measure of accomplishments with the following:

- Reactivation of the PSC meetings- three meetings were held in 2021
- Development of a robust communication strategy with implementation of several activities including a summer camp for 27 students, a Social Behaviour and Communication Change workshop for officers within the co-executing agencies
- Commencement of sustainable livelihoods components that underpins the restoration efforts -
i) Apiculture training programme underway with forty hives installed at two sites and protective equipment procured for twenty trainees. ii) Under the Cultural Heritage Initiative- ten cultural groups have been identified for training, with training expected to conclude by end of March 2022. Training will enhance the groups and local community capacity to use cultural performance and theatre as a tool for advancing conservation messages while at the same time producing high standard performances which will attract not only local audiences but those at the regional and international levels. iii) Under the Latanye initiative, 5 farmers who previously received training under the project, in Latanye Palm cultivation and management have been receiving support with land preparation and planting of a mixture of fruit and tree crops along with the Latanye plants. More farmers are targeted for assistance within the next few months.
- A ToR developed for delivery of an Integrated Sustainable Forest Management Plan for the Iynola- North East Coast Region which will advance once the extension is granted.

Based on the monitoring and evaluation recently undertaken, there are a suite of measures that have been instituted and will be implemented to address previous shortcomings and ensure successful completion of remaining activities. These include:

- The continued close oversight by the technical committee to review & guide implementation of the remaining activities in ecosystem restoration within the project area.

The committee will continue to meet on a monthly basis to review implementation progress and recommend corrective actions for delayed activities.

- Continue the close support in engagement of the Department of Physical Development (Development Control Authority) toward approval of the Land Use Plan and establishment of the inter-agency Interim Management Committee that will assure sustainability of the policy recommendations from the project.
- Identify pre-qualified consultants to undertake remaining critical consultancies such as the Integrated Sustainable Forest Management Plan (ISFM). This will address challenges with lengthy procurement processes and expedite commencement of the ISFM plan.
- Engage additional support agencies (local, regional, international) such as Flora and Fauna International in collaborations to assist with remaining activities associated with the sustained implementation of monitoring systems established for threatened species post-project (such as the Leatherback Turtle and the St. Lucia Iguana).
- Establish and support a coalition made up of members of various community based organisations within the project region to give support to project implementation at the local level. Build the capacity of these groups in community based participatory management for governance of ecosystems goods and services. This will assist in the long term sustainability of project interventions.

Please see the attached workplan and proposed budget in support of the request for a no cost extension.

Thanking you in anticipation of a favourable response to this request.



Anita Montoute (Mrs.)
Permanent Secretary