



**UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery
Multi-Partner Trust Fund**

**Submission Form for Programme/Budget Revision
COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund**

Part A: Programme Summary <i>(To be completed by the RCO)</i>				
Date of Submission:	18 January 2022			
Country/Region:	Vietnam			
RCO Contact:	Dr Le Thanh Forsberg, Strategic Results and Partnerships Specialist			
List of RUNOs:	IFAD UNIDO			
Programme Title:	Building Forward Better: A Resilient Women and Youth Centred and Digitally Enhanced Value Chain Development in Vietnam			
Total Approved Budget: (COVID-19 MPTF funds only)	USD 850,000			
Duration:	Starting Date:	1 February 2021	Completion Date:	30 April 2022

1. Type of Programme or Budget Revision Requested

- Change of programme scope (*submit revised ProDoc and Budget*)
- Budget revision (*submit revised Budget*)
- Extension of project duration (*submit updated Budget, if different*)

New completion date: 30 June 2022

2. Reason revision is being requested:

The COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions have affected significantly the kick-off phase of the programme and its implementation. Since April 2021, a fourth wave of COVID-19 has been sweeping through Viet Nam, with an unprecedented magnitude in the country. Lockdown and strictly social distancing policies are being implemented for the past 6 months. Especially, from the end of April until now, all 13 provinces and cities in the Mekong Delta have had to "freeze" production and business activities due to the soaring number of COVID cases that are still in the increase. Since the fourth wave started nearly 90% of businesses temporarily stopped. The programme simply did not anticipate that significant restrictions would be imposed in the Mekong Delta given Viet Nam's excellent record in managing the pandemic during 2020 and first quarter of 2021 when the programme was designed and approved.



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Due to the above circumstances, delivery of the joint UNIDO-IFAD programme in Vietnam has been affected through several factors:

- The two provinces have not accepted any missions coming from outside, and even local travel within the provinces is not permitted by the authorities; as a result, implementation of the core activities designed in the work plan have been delayed
- Stakeholders throughout Viet Nam and in the Mekong Delta have taken time to adjust to online modalities for activities such as workshops, consultations, meetings, etc; so implementation progress has been slower than expected.
- The activities designed to support women and youth entrepreneurs have been adversely affected due to closure of businesses.

Consultations taking place since the latest COVID-19 restrictions were enacted have re-confirmed the commitment made by all national stakeholders to the joint activities agreed upon under the scope of the UNJP. However, it has also been conveyed to all PUNOs that some activities included in the work plan for 2021 will suffer some implementation delays. However, the UNIDO-IFAD team is confident that the programme's development objective is still achievable subject to favorable consideration of the proposed two-month extension.



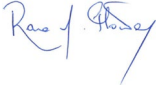
Therefore, UNIDO and IFAD in collaboration with the Dong Thap and Ben Tre Provincial People's Committees, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, hereby would like to formalize our request to extend the closing date of the programme "Building Forward Better-A Resilient Women and Youth Centred and Digitally Enhanced Value Chain Development Project in Vietnam" from April 30, 2022 to June 30, 2022. The team is convinced that the proposed no cost-extension is essential and sufficient to ensure the achievement of the programme's goal in Viet Nam, albeit the change in the implementation circumstances imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. Documents Attached:

- Revised Budget (*for change in budget*)
- Revised Programme Document (*for change in programme scope*)
- Revised Workplan



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Part B: Signature <i>(To be completed by ALL Recipient UN Organizations)</i>			
On behalf of Recipient UN Organizations:	Signature	Date	Name/Title
IFAD		17 January 2022	Francisco Pichon
UNIDO		17 January 2022	Le Thi Thanh Thao
On behalf of the UN Resident Coordinator:			
UNRC ai. in Viet Nam		18 January 2022	Rana Flowers

Part C: Administrative Review <i>(To be completed by the Fund Secretariat)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Revision requiring Special Designate' s approval
4. Comments by the Fund Secretariat:
5. Recommendation by the Fund Secretariat:



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Part D: Decision of the Secretary-General's Designate for the COVID19 MPTF

(To be completed by the Secretariat)

- Approve
- Approve with modification/condition
- Defer

Comments (if any):

Secretary-General's Designate for the COVID19 MPTF, Mr. Haoliang Xu

signed digitally
.....

Signature

January 28 2022
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Date