

To: Ms. Zineb Touimi-Benjelloun
UN Resident Coordinator
Albania

Date: 26 July 2012

From: Ms. Sara Ferrer Olivella
Officer-in-Charge
MDG-F Secretariat

Subject: No-cost extension request: MDGF-2035 – “Albania: Reducing Malnutrition in Children”
Children, Food Security and Nutrition - Thematic Window

I. Approval Status

We are pleased to inform you that, as per your request, the MDG-F Secretariat has granted the Joint Programme “Albania: Reducing Malnutrition in Children” a no cost extension of five (5) months and eight (8) days. Thus, the new end date of the Joint Programme is 30 June 2013. Please note that this is a one-time only extension intended to allow the Joint Programme to complete its activities and achieve its expected results. At this end date, the programme should be operationally closed, so that no new financial commitments are made, only outstanding payments. Any unspent funds within the agreed timeframe (30 June 2013) will have to be reimbursed to the MDG-F.

II. Recommendations

The exit and sustainability plan is clear and comprehensive. We hope this no cost extension will also allow the joint programme team to consolidate results, and continue the implementation of relevant recommendations provided by the PMC and the mid-term evaluation including continuous efforts to ensure the high-level cross-sector coordination mechanism for Nutrition is in place and sustainable, as well as fostering coordination at regional level. We also hope the additional time will allow the team to fully implement, assess and systematize successful experiences.

III. Monitoring and Reporting

Quarterly color-coded annual work plans, and biannual monitoring reports should continue to be prepared and submitted to the MDG-F Secretariat. Please be reminded that each Joint Programme is responsible for conducting its final evaluation prior to the closure of the programme and sharing the final report with the MDG-F Secretariat no later than one month after 30 June 2013.

We would highly appreciate it if you could forward this memo to all participating UN agencies to the joint programme, and each participating UN agency should forward the memo to their corresponding HQs. Further information on the closure of programmes is available on the revised “MDG-F Joint Implementation Guidelines” uploaded on the MDG-F website (www.mdgfund.org).

With best wishes.

cc.:

Mr. Bisrat Aklilu, Executive Coordinator, Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office

Ms. Cihan Sultanoglu, Assistant Administrator and Director Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, UNDP, New York

Ms. Sigrid Kaag, Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant Administrator of the Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP New York

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