

To: Mr. Eugene Owusu  
UN Resident Coordinator  
Ethiopia

Date: 03 July 2012

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

Subject: No-cost extension request: MDGF-1679 – *“Enabling pastoral communities to adapt to climate change and restoring rangeland environments”*  
Environment and Climate Change - 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 *“Enabling pastoral communities to adapt to climate change and restoring rangeland environments”* a no cost extension of five (5) months and ten (10) days. Thus, the new end date of the Joint Programme is 31 March 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 (31 March 2013) will have to be reimbursed to the MDG-F.

## II. Recommendations

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the programme management committee and the joint programme team for their substantial efforts in reflecting upon the recommendations of the mid-term evaluation. We take note of the re-orientation of the programme strategy and key actions to be more effective and realistic given the tight timeframe for implementation and the decentralized nature of the proposed interventions. We also commend the team for re-visiting the programme’s communication and advocacy work and preparing a strategy for communication and advocacy that puts forward actions at the national level but also in the six regions.

After reviewing the submitted documentation, we recommend to the team to review the proposed budget for the final evaluation of the joint programme. In the MDG-F fund experience to date and given the decentralized strategy of the programme and number of participating partners, we would recommend budgeting between \$30,000 and \$40,000 for the final evaluation instead of the indicated amount of \$19,500.

We look forward to reviewing the bi-annual report for the first semester of 2012 and we strongly encourage the team to not only focus in results oriented reporting in the narrative section of the report but also in updating the M&E framework with achievements to-date.

.../

### 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 31 March 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](http://www.mdgfund.org)).

With best wishes.

cc.:

Mr. Bisrat Aklilu, Executive Coordinator, Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office  
Mr. Tegegnework Gettu, Assistant Administrator and Director Bureau for Africa, UNDP, New York  
Ms. Sigrid Kaag, Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant Administrator of the Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP New York  
MDG-F Secretariat