

What to do with changes within NPT projects?

(This information is also available in French and Spanish.)

Nuffic is aware that projects are only rarely being implemented exactly as planned. Below are typical examples of some changes that may occur, as well as a description of how partners and Nuffic are expected to deal with them.

Changes to inputs or at the activities level

Changes may occur in the context of the project, and the project has to adapt to them. It is NPT policy that the Southern and the Dutch project implementers jointly take responsibility for changes in the project execution at input or activity level. Nuffic's position is that the project implementers are best placed to judge the suitability and necessity of changes at these levels. Nuffic will be informed of these changes through the annual reporting and will check the legitimacy of these changes retrospectively. **It is not necessary to ask Nuffic in advance for approval for these types of changes in inputs or activities.**

Changes in the experts proposed by the Dutch consortium as part of their bid may also occur. Such replacements must occur if the circumstances and/or the Southern partners demand it. These changes constitute changes at the input level and must be explicitly agreed upon by both project partners. Nuffic should be informed retrospectively.

Nuffic will check the legitimacy of the implemented changes during our review of the annual reporting. We will check whether the change was necessary in order to achieve the planned results or objectives, and whether it was cost-efficient. If this is not the case, Nuffic might refuse approval of the changed input or activity and, as a result, withhold payment of the costs. If changes have occurred without the explicit consent of one of the partners, Nuffic might also refuse approval.

In case of doubt, we advise you to contact the responsible Nuffic Programme Officer.

Changes in objectives or results

Changes in objectives or results always have to be approved by Nuffic in advance. Project objectives and results are described in the tender document. Changes at these levels could alter the character of the project and could therefore lead to unfair situations for other organizations that participated in the tender process, but did not win the tender. If adaptations are deemed necessary, both implementing organizations should submit a substantiated proposal to Nuffic. Nuffic will then decide whether the proposed changes are justified and, if so, whether the project can continue or whether it should be stopped and a new tender procedure launched.