

Mid-Term Progress Reporting

The Republic of Sudan

9 February 2017

Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)

Readiness Fund

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Note: FMT Note 2012-7 lays out the process for REDD Country Participants to submit, and the Participants Committee (PC) to review, mid-term progress reports and requests for additional funding of up to US\$5 million.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

BUR	Biennial Update Report
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESS	Environmental and Social Safeguards
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation (of the United Nations)
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FGRM	Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism
FNC	Forest National Corporation
FREL/FRL	Forest Reference Emission Level/ Forest Reference Level
GHG	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
GIS	Geographic Information System
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
LMS	Land Monitoring System
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MOEFPD	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Physical Development
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
MTR	Mid-term Review
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NFI	National Forest Inventory
NGO	Non – Governmental Organisation
NFSM	National Forest Monitoring System

NRCO	National REDD+ Coordination Office
NWFP	Non-Wood Forest Product
PMU	Programme Management Unit
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
REL/RL	Reference Emission Level/ Reference Level
RPR	REDD+ Project Registry
R-PP	REDD Readiness Preparation Proposal
SNC	Second National Communication
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
SFS	Sudanese Forestry Society
SIEP	Sudan Integrated Environment Programme
SRNSC	Sudan REDD+ National Steering Committee
SUDNAIP	Sudan's National Agriculture Investment Plan
TAC	Technical Multi-Sector Advisory Committee
TNA	Technology Needs Assessment
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UN-REDD	United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+)

1 OVERVIEW OF REDD+ READINESS IN SUDAN

1.1 Introduction

The Republic of Sudan (hereinafter referred to as Sudan) is classified as a least developed country (LDC) with an annual gross domestic product of USD 97.26 billion. The rural economy, which contributes to 70 percent of overall economic growth, is currently locked into an unsustainable, extractive, poverty environment. As a consequence, potentially high-value agricultural landscapes and forest resources are being rapidly degraded by low-value uses such as low-yield agriculture and unsustainable fuelwood harvesting, which are projected to be exacerbated by the increasing effects of climate change¹. Global terms of trade, international climate obligations and national policies increasingly favour an integrated, low-carbon economy that conserves the availability of the country's valuable natural resources such as the UNFCCC mechanism for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+). Having recognised the many advantages REDD+ offers for Sudan, Sudan aims to advance its national development priorities and to honour its commitments to international climate agreements through REDD+. This report will outline the overall steps that Sudan has taken to improve its national REDD+ readiness, with specific focus on the progress made towards its Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), using the Readiness Grant funding provided by the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF).

1.2 National Context

Domestically, implementation of REDD+ will help Sudan achieve its national development priorities, particularly in light of challenges associated with climate change. As a key policy objective laid out in the 25-year Development Plan (2007 – 2032), its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), its National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA), its National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and its Low-Carbon Development Strategy, the Government of Sudan, plans to pursue economic growth in a sustainable manner. The government will follow a low-carbon approach to rural development while enhancing the role of biodiversity conservation and promoting sustainable management of its natural resources, thereby particularly focusing on the agricultural sector. Transformations in the agriculture sector will be needed as agriculture is the largest sectoral contributor to overall economic growth and rural livelihoods, as well as the leading driver of deforestation across the country.² The agricultural sector forms the backbone of Sudan's economy and about 70 per cent of Sudan's population depends on agriculture for their livelihoods. In line with Sudan's National Agriculture Investment Plan (SUDNAIP), a five-year investment plan which maps the investments needed to achieve the Sudan Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), Sudan aims to transform its agriculture sector

¹ For further information on Sudan's vulnerability to climate change, see Annex 1.

² For further information on drivers of deforestation in Sudan, see Annex 2.

towards climate smart agriculture capable of rapid and sustainable growth. Further, building on Sudan's NAP and NAPA, Sudan's INDC identifies priority areas in the agricultural sector around improved agriculture land use planning, including through agroforestry; improved crop production and crop diversification, and sustainable management of the grazing areas and rangelands. Sudan's forests cover about 11 per cent of its total surface, with an estimated annual rate of deforestation of about 542,000 ha, or about 2.4%.³ Therefore, as outlined in Sudan's National Forestry Policy Statement, Sudan aims to achieve a transition towards "sustainable forest management, where forestry resources will be used in a wise, efficient and sustainable manner according to the values and in response to the needs of the people of Sudan, thus creating jobs and opportunities for trade that will help eradicate poverty, achieve food security, and bring about improvements to the country's physical environment".

Both Sudan's Second National Communication (2013) and Sudan's NAP illustrate that the increasing frequency of extreme climatic shocks, particularly droughts and floods, will continue to exacerbate problematic trends facing the forest and agriculture sectors in rural communities⁴. The government seeks to promote behavioural change in rural areas away from extractive low-value land management and towards sustainable landscape management. Here, the REDD+ instrument will help incentivize behavioural change in rural areas through results-based payments that reward activities that lead to reduced deforestation. Thus, in a national context, REDD+ offers Sudan the opportunity to pursue sustainable development pathways in line with its national plans and policies by addressing its drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and managing economic growth in a sustainable manner, thereby conserving its natural heritage and supporting the livelihoods of rural communities.

Having recognized the various opportunities that REDD+ provides to contributing to sustainable development of its natural resources while contributing to improving the livelihoods of its communities, Sudan prepared its R-PP between 2012 and 2014 under the overall coordination of the FNC and in close collaboration with the Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources (HCENR) and all REDD+ related institutions.

The ultimate objective of the National REDD+ Programme (NRP) of Sudan is: "*Conserving the country's renewable natural resources particularly forests, woodlands, range resources and wildlife habitats, assessment of their present condition with inventories and subsequently subject them to sustainable management and maximizing their direct and indirect benefits in a participative, transparent and equitable manner.*" The specific objectives of Sudan's NRP include but are not confined to: (1) Detailed quantitative and qualitative inventory of the country's forests, woodlands, tree formations, trees outside forests, range and pasture resources and wildlife habitats inclusive of national parks, sanctuaries and

³ For further information on the role of forests in the national economy, see Annex 3

⁴ For further information on Sudan's vulnerability to climate change, see Annex 1.

private holdings; and (2) Review of relevant policies, institutional arrangements and legislations in force. See Annex 10 for the governance framework surrounding the NRP.

In alignment with Sudan's national development objectives for REDD+, Sudan has also developed a variety of plans and programmes to address climate change, both in the areas of adaptation and mitigation. In terms of adaptation, in response to the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF, 2010), Sudan developed its NAP to address medium and long-term adaptation needs in line with its national development priorities. Sudan's NAP aims to integrate climate risks into all national development planning processes and reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience. Sudan's NAP process includes an assessment of vulnerability and adaptation in all of Sudan's states, covering the main development sectors such as water, agriculture, health and coastal zone. The NAP includes many options for reducing vulnerability of local communities, based on natural resource management including the rehabilitation of forests and rangelands, which are recognized as the main natural assets supporting livelihoods in Sudan. Further, Sudan has conducted its Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) for adaptation and mitigation in 2013. For mitigation, the TNA covers energy, industry and the forestry sectors, while for adaptation the TNA addresses agriculture and water. Sudan's TNA resulted in a Technology Action Plan (TAP), which includes some priorities with regard to technology transfer for enhancing national actions on adaptation and mitigation.

At national level, line ministries developed climate change related policies such as the Agricultural Revival Program (ARP) of 2008 –2011 and the five-year economic reform programme 2015- 2019. The Forest Policy (2006) supports climate resilient livelihoods via encouraging income diversification, facilitating microfinance and providing access to land. The Natural Resource Management policy is part of the development plan of the state, which is in line with Sudan's national policy. The policy provides clear guidelines for local rehabilitation which increased local communities' awareness on the importance of sustainable resources management.

1.3 International Context

REDD+ will also enable Sudan to uphold its commitments to international climate agreements. In October 2015, Sudan developed and submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) to the UNFCCC which outlines both a mitigation and an adaptation component. In its INDC, Sudan states its intention to pursue implementing low-carbon development interventions in the three sectors of energy, forestry and waste in line with Sudan's national development priorities, objectives and circumstances. While REDD+ interventions are explicitly mentioned to fulfil its stated contributions in the forestry sector, the development of the national REDD+ process will also contribute to reaching its contributions in the energy sector. Readiness in REDD+ will enable Sudan to initiate pilot programmes aimed at generating emission reductions from across sectors. Such emission reductions will be used to count towards Sudan's INDC, or be traded to other countries to meet their INDC obligations. Readiness

in REDD+ will enable Sudan to attract international funding for scaling up pilot programs and/or replicate new programs across the country.

In addition to the international climate agreements, Sudan actively contributed to the development of REDD+ policies under the UNFCCC, both on its national capacity and on behalf of three major negotiation groups, i.e. the Group of 77 and China and the African Group during Sudan's chairmanship, and as thematic lead coordinator of the Group of Least Developed Countries. Sudan has also actively participated in a wide range of regional and international workshops on different thematic issues related to REDD+, contributed to a technical paper on non-carbon benefits that informed the UNFCCC negotiations and participated actively in the FCPF Participants Committee and Participants Assembly meetings and processes.

1.4 Funding

Sudan's engagement with REDD+ began based on voluntary efforts from dedicated members of different governmental and non-governmental institutions. These stakeholders saw the benefits of REDD+ for Sudan, which demonstrated even in early stages, a high level of country ownership and commitment to advancing the development of REDD+. The Sudanese Forestry Society (SFS), for example, supported consultation meetings and workshops to raise awareness about REDD+, including supporting the participation of important stakeholders. The initial outcomes of the voluntary work attracted funding from donors such as country representations from UNEP and UNDP.

UNEP, as part of its Sudan Integrated Environment Programme (SIEP) which was funded through DFID, provided USD 22,000.00 for national and international consultants to develop a situation analysis of the Sudan REDD+ strategy. This was supported by a national team from the government to facilitate the consultations which were carried out in five states of Sudan. In addition, the UNDP country programme supported the preparation of Sudan's R-PP with a contribution of USD 30,000. The technical work was mainly done by a national team of government representatives from all REDD+-related institutions. In addition, UNDP country office further supported the organization of a national validation workshop to present the R-PP draft to a wide range of stakeholders prior to being submitted to the FCPF.

Sudan's R-PP was approved in 2014, which made Sudan a participant to the FCPF and thus eligible for readiness support to implement most parts of its R-PP. The FCPF Grant Agreement was signed in March 2015, and is expected to be completed at the end of 2018. The focus of the readiness phase is predominantly around setting up the relevant institutional arrangements and building technical and institutional capacities, including through awareness raising and trainings. Sudan appreciates the generous support of USD 3.8 million that the FCPF provided for the implementation of its R-PP. This grant has enabled progress towards the overall objectives of REDD+ readiness.

The government's contribution to co-fund the implementation of the FCPF grant is estimated at more

than USD 300,000 in cash (of which USD 85,000 are already paid) to support the implementation arrangement of REDD+, including support for the coordinator and 23 focal points (18 state level focal points and 5 sectoral focal points). This is in addition to the significant in-kind contribution the Government has made in terms of offices for the REDD+ secretariat at the national level (FNC HQ) and the focal points at the sub-national level, all of which are hosted in FNC state offices. Further, the Government of Sudan pledged to support the National Forest Inventory (NFI) with seven vehicles and FNC technical staff.

Despite numerous efforts to attract further support, the FCPF grant is the only financial support that Sudan is currently receiving to implement its R-PP. This is mainly related to the economic sanctions put on Sudan for more than a decade. However, these sanctions have been lifted during the preparation of this MTR, which puts Sudan in a better position to receive international support and assistance to meet its international obligations and pursue sustainable economic development. With additional support, Sudan will be able address gaps in the implementation of its R-PP and needs arising from the implemented activities of the FCPF grant agreement, including establishing a forest reference level, strengthening the management arrangements, enhancing participation and empowerment of stakeholders, strengthening and enhancing the National Forest Monitoring System (including completing the National Forest Inventory), and developing information sharing systems (see section 6 for a detailed request for additional support).

1.5 Status of Readiness Development

Upon receipt of the readiness grant support by the FCPF in March 2015, Sudan's REDD+ Project Management Unit (PMU) was tasked to deal with the implementation of the readiness phase. This included, amongst others:

- Setting up the National REDD+ Coordination Office, the Sudan REDD+ National Steering Committee (SRNSC), the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and other supporting mechanisms such as working groups and tasks forces;
- Conducting multiple stakeholder consultations at the national and sub-national levels to adjust, verify and implement Sudan's readiness workplan;
- Building the capacities of all 18 focal points representing all 18 states in Sudan, through consultations and training;
- Commencing studies to inform Sudan's readiness process, including on 1) land tenure; and in-depth analysis on the drivers of deforestation;
- Setting up the CSO platforms;
- Developing the consultation and participation plan;
- Designing a website for communications, awareness raising and information disclosure;
- Developing a manual for national forest inventory;

- Developing a plan for forest inventory with FAO; and
- Establishing technical working groups, particularly for MRV, land tenure and land use.

Having initiated Sudan's REDD+ readiness phase, in the remaining years of the readiness phase, Sudan will:

- Continue to enhance the institutional arrangements set up, particularly the National REDD+ Management Unit and the REDD+ Steering Committee to manage and coordinate the REDD+ Readiness process;
- Continue undertaking capacity-building activities and enhance stakeholder consultations, including through effective communication (e.g. awareness raising and consultation with relevant stakeholders), and trainings for human resource development based on a comprehensive needs assessment;
- Continue to mainstream REDD+ policies and strategies into broader cross-sectoral plans and programmes, particularly related to national development plans and national climate change plans and policies;
- Finalise the development of baselines and technical reports, and setting up the relevant mechanisms, including for
 - National Reference Emission Level/Forest Reference Level;
 - National Forest Monitoring System;
 - National Forest and Safeguards Information System;
 - National Environmental and Social Management Framework;
 - Benefit Sharing Arrangements;
 - Feedback and Grievances Redress Mechanism;
 - Land use and land Tenure; and
 - Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation;
- Development and implementation of a communication strategy; and
- Develop Sudan's National REDD+ Strategy.

1.6 Conclusions from Readiness Preparation

Overall, it can be concluded that Sudan is making progress in the implementation of most of the R-PP components that have allocated funding, while areas of the R-PP that are not covered by the FCPF grant support have not progressed. The elements of the readiness phase that are making significant progress include the national REDD+ institutional arrangements, stakeholder consultations and participation, the studies on the preparation of a national REDD+ strategy and the development of a national forest monitoring system (NFMS). Sudan will only be able to successfully complete its readiness phase if provided with further financial and capacity support for activities in the R-PP that are currently without allocated funds. Component 3 for example, the establishment of a national forest reference emission

level (REL), requires substantial financial resources for technical assistance associated with undertaking this task. Without funding for all readiness components, Sudan's progress in readiness development will slow significantly and likely halt. As such, some lessons learned can already be drawn from the activities undertaken. Regarding the social and environmental safeguards, benefit sharing and the feedback and grievance redress mechanism, while the work under these components has commenced, these activities depend on the outcomes of parallel activities such as the studies on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, barriers, land use and land tenure, governance and strategy options. Therefore, the progress is being comparatively slow. As discussed with the PMU and other stakeholders, some of the main challenges experienced during the implementation of Sudan's FCPF grant activities relate to delays in the transfer of funds and hence subsequent delays in the procurement to start implementation in time. These delays are also related to the economic sanctions that are now expected to be resolved after they have been lifted by the United States. The activities undertaken so far are in line with the FCPF policies and guidelines and it is expected that with additional resources Sudan will be able to successfully implement the activities it has proposed in its R-PP to move to the next phase of REDD+.

1.7 The Mid-Term Review of REDD+ Process

As part of the readiness phase and as part of Sudan's commitment, Sudan has developed this mid-term review to take stock of the readiness process to date, identify gaps and draw preliminary lessons learned to shape the remainder of the readiness phase and to request further support from the FCPF to fully implement its R-PP activities. The report covers the entire process since the receipt of the FCPF readiness grant in March 2015 and the beginning of the implementation of Sudan's readiness activities. The information provided in this report primarily targets the FCPF in accordance with the funding agreement between the Government of Sudan and the World Bank, acting as the Trustee of the FCPF. Yet, the outcomes of the mid-term review also address the interest of the Government of Sudan, its REDD+ partners and stakeholders, as well as the general public, and provide useful information regarding Sudan's progress and needs for enhancing and completing Sudan's REDD+ Readiness preparation phase.

The MTR was undertaken in collaboration with the REDD+ PMU, government institutions and stakeholders outside governmental institutions, including donors active in the REDD+ process and civil society. At the sub-national level focus was given to the states that are rich in terms of forest resources, following the same focus as indicated in the assessment note for the Grant Agreement. The review involved consultations and interviews with different actors (see annex 5 for the list of stakeholders interviewed and consulted), following the desk-review and analysis of all relevant data (see annex 6 for a list of documents reviewed). The review was mainly guided by the TOR, the FCPF assessment framework and the MTR template and has followed the two steps discussed in the inception report. The overall assessment of the implementation of Sudan's R-PP are reflected in section 2 and in the analysis of the progress achieved in the implementation of activities under the FCPF Grant Agreement (section 3). In accordance with the guiding materials, this report also includes section 4 on compliance with the

Common Approach, section 5 about an update on the financial plan, and section 6 on the request for additional funding from the FCPF.

As per Section 6.3(b) of the FCPF Charter and Resolution PC/7/2010/3, during implementation of a Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement, a REDD+ Country Participant must submit a mid-term progress report to the FCPF Participants' Committee. In line with this commitment, Sudan develops and presents its mid-term progress report, including:

- An overview of the implementation progress of over-all REDD+ process as well as the R-PP;
- An analysis of progress achieved in those activities funded by the FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant, including identification of any delays in the implementation of the activities financed by the Grant and proposed actions to address the causes of the delays;
- An updated financing plan for the overall Readiness preparation activities, including funds pledged by, and a brief description of activities supported by, other development partners; and
- A review of the REDD+ Country Participant's compliance with the Common Approach; and
- A summary statement of request for additional funding to the FCPF.

2 AN OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE R-PP

This section provides a general overview of the progress made to date in achieving the four main components of the R-PP and their respective sub-components presented below against the original proposal. Section 3 will then further analyse the progress made in the implementation of the components and sub-components supported under the FCPF Grant, including identifying gaps, constraints and needs.

This section will provide further details on:

- Achievements to date;
- Analysis of these results, in line with the FCPF assessment framework, including major constraints and gaps that need to be addressed;
- Other significant readiness work in progress, where appropriate; and
- Identification of needs for additional funding to the FCPF to implement outstanding activities relevant to that sub-component.

Legend

	Significant progress
	Progressing well, further development required
	Further development required
	Not yet demonstrating progress

Figure 1: Overall Assessment of the progress made in the Implementation of Sudan's R-PP

RAF Assessment Criteria	Assessment Against RAF Criteria
<p>Component 1: Readiness Organization and Consultation This component has made significant progress. As planned, all institutional arrangements have been set up and are functional as outlined in Sudan’s R-PP and as recommended in the Assessment Note. Nevertheless, the MTR identifies some suggestions for improvements.</p>	
<p>Sub-component 1.A: National REDD Management and Arrangements All structures of the REDD+ institutional arrangements are in place and operational according to the envisaged structures and developed TORs. They have been integrated into the FNC and were supported by the Government of Sudan. Nevertheless, most of the involved institutions require capacity building support, where both technical and institutional support should continue throughout the entire readiness phase and beyond.</p>	
<p>RAF Assessment criteria:</p> <p>(i) Accountability and transparency; (ii) Operating mandate and budget;</p>	<p>RAF Assessment: The national REDD+ management arrangements are still relatively new and are yet to exercise the full range of the functions in the REDD+ process. However, while the institutional arrangements are well recognized at national and sub-national level, the mandates for the focal points at the sub-national level need to be further clarified and documented.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iii) Multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration; (iv) Technical supervision capacity; (v) Funds management; (vi) Feedback and grievance redress mechanism 	<p>FNC hosts the REDD+ institutions and provides other office facilities at both national and sub-national level. FNC further provides budget to support staff salaries. Coordination committees are planned to be established by the focal points to ensure multi-sectoral coordination. Most the focal points have reasonable working experience and therefore adequate technical supervision capacity. In addition, finance officers have been assigned to the focal points to ensure proper funds management. However, all focal points need capacity-building on all technical issues involved in REDD+, including institutional support to better perform their roles and functions. Regarding the FGRM, the TOR has been finalised and is about to be advertised.</p>
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Sub-component 1.B: Consultation, Participation and Outreach

In line with the consultation plan, consultation processes at the federal and state level have started with a broad range of all relevant stakeholders, including with local communities and CSOs. The PMU, together with the focal points, conducted three rounds of consultations at the national level and 17 workshops at the sub-national (state) level. These were preceded by further workshops and meeting targeting CSOs and special groups such as women and forest-dependent communities. Platforms at the national and state level have been established with different rationales, memberships and objectives to suit the need to involve, and the nature of the various stakeholder groups. However, these need to be further enhanced, clarified, documented and discussed at the state-level to ensure coherence and effective participation and consultations.

<p><u>RAF Assessment Criteria:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Participation and engagement of key stakeholders; (ii) Consultation processes; (iii) Information sharing and accessibility of information; (iv) Implementation and public disclosure of consultation outcomes 	<p>RAF Assessment: The institutional structures that were established at the national and sub-national levels provide for effective engagement and participation of key stakeholders, which was confirmed during the first round of comprehensive consultation conducted at both levels. Plans have been prepared by the focal points of each state for conducting further stakeholder participation and consultations at the local level and they are currently awaiting funding to implement them. However, further work and more support is needed for enhanced continuous consultation and participation of all key stakeholders in the preparation and implementation of the REDD+ strategy, particularly of women and forest-dependent communities, which need to be empowered. A variety of information sharing activities and means for improving access to information have been undertaken so far, however further work is needed in this area particularly when the studies under component 2 are finalized and work on the strategy is advanced. Regarding public disclosure, project-related information has been made available in Arabic and English, on Sudan’s REDD+ website (www.reddsudan.org), state level and national radio stations and TV channels, as well as social media such as Facebook and YouTube.</p>
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Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation

This component is progressing, yet further development is required. The main constraints are a result of the interconnectedness of the different activities under each sub-component and delays in the procurement,

resulting in the fact that the studies are at different stages of implementation, ranging from first draft reports submitted, field work underway, inception report received and preparation of the TORs.

Sub-component 2.A: Assessment of Land-use, land-use change drivers, forest law, policy and governance

Good progress is being made under this sub-component, particularly regarding the two studies on 1) land tenure and drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. Regarding the former, the study is in progress and a first draft report has been submitted by the consultant during the development of this MTR. Regarding the study on drivers, the consultant has commenced its work and is expected to finalise it by the end of June 2017.

RAF Assessment Criteria:

- (i) Assessment and analysis;
- (ii) Prioritization of direct and indirect drivers/barriers to forest enhancement;
- (iii) Links between drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities;
- (iv) Actions plans to address natural resource right, land tenure, governance;
- (v) Implications for forest law and policy

RAF Assessment: The TORs of both the study on land-use and land tenure and the study on drivers are prepared in line with the RAF, including the need for prioritization of direct and indirect drivers and barriers, access rights and options to address rights to natural resources, governance issues; natural resources policies and legislation. While the first draft is currently under review, consultations with the PMU have revealed that it reflects the TOR, and that the consultant is currently working on filling outstanding gaps in the study to address the RAF criteria.

Sub-component 2.B: REDD+ Strategy Options

The work under this sub-component has commenced and a study on strategy options is planned to be conducted. While the TOR for the study is prepared and at the procurement stage, the development of the strategy options is currently awaiting further progress on the outcomes of other studies related to the REDD+ national strategy. Overall, progress is being made under this sub-component which is evident from the consultations and awareness activities that are being conducted.

RAF Assessment Criteria:

- (i) Selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options;
- (ii) Feasibility assessment;
- (iii) Implications for strategy options on existing sectoral policies.

RAF Assessment: The TOR covers most of the issues related to the assessment criteria of the FCPF assessment framework, such as the need for the strategy options to be assessed, prioritized for their social, environmental and political feasibility, risks and opportunities and analysis of costs and benefits. However, there is a need for technical work to assess potential emission reductions of the options to inform the design of the REDD+ strategy. Comprehensive consultations are required in the process of developing the strategy.

Sub-component 2.C: Implementation Framework

This sub-component is progressing, yet further development is required. With the FCPF support two studies on options for benefit-sharing and on the FGRM are being conducted, respectively. The benefit-sharing study is being conducted and the fieldwork is underway by a team of consultants. The work under the FGRM, while progressing, needs further resources, both in terms of time and financial support.

RAF Assessment Criteria:

- (i) Adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations;
- (ii) Guidelines for implementation;
- (iii) Benefit sharing mechanism;

RAF Assessment: The TOR for the benefit-sharing mechanism that was prepared by the PMU and the inception report submitted by the consultant both reflect good coverage of the tasks required to develop a benefit-sharing mechanism effective at both national and sub-national levels. They provide practical and implementable options for benefit-sharing based on existing

(iv) National REDD+ registry and system monitoring REDD+ activities	schemes or built on a completely new approach, specifying options which could be established with low to moderate level changes to existing policies. There are, however, gaps in the implementation of this sub-component relating to the adoption of legislation/regulation, guidelines for implementation, as well as the national REDD+ registry and system for monitoring REDD+ activities.
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Sub-component 2.D: Social and Environmental Impacts

The work under this sub-component has commenced with the finalisation of the TOR for the SESA/ESMF, and the finalisation of the contractual arrangements with the consultant during the MTR who is expected to commence its work in April 2017. A working group on the safeguards/SESA has been established which has commenced its work and supported the PMU in its activities related to safeguards and the SESA. The SESA needs to build on the outcomes of related activities ongoing under other sub-components such as the identification of drivers and REDD+ Strategy Options because all the strategic options need to be assessed in terms of their social and environmental impacts and benefit sharing. This has contributed to a comparatively slower progress. Nevertheless, once these parallel activities are advanced, and with the right expertise and additional financial support, this sub-component is likely to be successfully finalized.

RAF Assessment Criteria:

- (i) Analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues
- (ii) REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts;
- (iii) Environmental and Social Management Framework

RAF Assessment: The TOR for the SESA/ESMF is aligned with the assessment criteria and provides for analysis of social and environmental impacts of the strategy options and development of the ESMF. However, the outcome of this work, if successfully completed, will require follow-up activities in terms of capacity building, consultations, awareness raising and institutional strengthening to ensure the full implementation of the ESMF, which also requires further financial resources.

Component 3: Reference Emission Level/ Reference Level:

RAF Assessment Criteria:

- (i) Demonstration of methodology
- (ii) Use of historical data, and adjusted for national circumstances
- (iii) Technical feasibility of the methodological approach, and consistency with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines

RAF Assessment: This component has not yet demonstrated any progress because it is not directly covered under the current FCPF grant. However, the establishment of the reference level also benefits from the implementation of activities in component 4.A on designing the NFMS, which is supported by the FCPF Grant and is currently being developed by FAO. Additional support from the FCPF is needed to establish the RFEL/FRL and support activities that are directly related to establishing the reference level, such as scoping, definition of REDD+ activities to be included (this is also an outcome of the strategy options), assembling historical data, developing estimates for emissions/removal, selecting methods, projections, analyses of the effects of policies and national circumstances, consultations and validation and quality assurance and quality control. All these will be based on the UNFCCC and IPCC guidelines.

Component 4: Monitoring System for Forests and Safeguards

This component is progressing well, yet further development is required. Progress is particularly evident in the establishment of a national forest monitoring system, which is on track to be implemented as envisaged. Work on sub-component 4.B is making slower progress as it is not covered by the FCPF grant.

<p>Sub-component 4.A: National Forest Monitoring System</p> <p>Significant progress has been made under this sub-component, including raising awareness and capacity building activities on remote sensing applications and national forest inventory. In addition, a manual for conducting the inventory has been developed by the technical working group on MRV which takes into account Sudan's national circumstances. An agreement has been signed between the PMU and FAO to support the development of a national forest monitoring system; and a plan has been prepared which indicates that the work will start in February 2017 and be completed by August 2018.</p>	
<p>RAF Assessment Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Documentation of monitoring approach; (ii) Demonstration of early implementation; (iii) Institutional arrangements and capacities- Forests 	<p>RAF Assessment: The agreement with FAO covers the design of the NFMS including the development of approaches, methods and documentation. The agreement also includes conducting a National Forest Inventory (NFI), with early implementation and testing of NFMS, as well as institutional support and capacity building. However, the resources available for this work is underestimated compared with estimations by FNC for the costs of the NFI and intuitional capacity needs (tools and technologies). Therefore, further support is need to ensure a fully designed and functioning NFMS.</p>
<p>Sub-component 4.B: Information system for multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards</p>	
<p>RAF Assessment Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identification of relevant non-carbon aspects, and social and environmental issues; (ii) Monitoring, reporting and information sharing; (iii) Institutional arrangements and capacities 	<p>RAF Assessment: This sub-component has not yet demonstrated progress as the FCPF grant does not cover its implementation, and because no other provision of support is readily available to implement the activities planned in the R-PP under this particular sub-component. Therefore, additional support is needed to implement this sub-component, building on the results of the ongoing work under related components.</p>

2.1 Component 1: Readiness Organization and Consultation

Figure 2: Summary of Progress Made under Component 1

RAF Assessment Criteria	Assessment Against RAF Criteria
<p>Component 1: Readiness Organization and Consultation</p> <p>This component has made significant progress. As planned, all institutional arrangements have been set up and are functional as outlined in Sudan's R-PP and as recommended in the Assessment Note. Nevertheless, the MTR identifies some suggestions for improvements.</p>	
<p>Sub-component 1.A: National REDD Management and Arrangements</p> <p>All structures of the REDD+ institutional arrangements are in place and operational according to the envisaged structures and developed TORs. They have been integrated into the FNC and were supported by the Government of Sudan. Nevertheless, most of the involved institutions require capacity building support, where both technical and institutional support should continue throughout the entire readiness phase and beyond.</p>	
<p>RAF Assessment criteria:</p>	<p>RAF Assessment: The national REDD+ management arrangements are still relatively new and are yet to exercise the</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (vii) Accountability and transparency; (viii) Operating mandate and budget; (ix) Multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration; (x) Technical supervision capacity; (xi) Funds management; (xii) Feedback and grievance redress mechanism 	<p>full range of the functions in the REDD+ process. However, while the institutional arrangements are well recognized at national and sub-national level, the mandates for the focal points at the sub-national level need to be further clarified and documented. FNC hosts the REDD+ institutions and provides other office facilities at both national and sub-national level. FNC further provides budget to support staff salaries. Coordination committees are planned to be established by the focal points to ensure multi-sectoral coordination. Most the focal points have reasonable working experience and therefore adequate technical supervision capacity. In addition, finance officers have been assigned to the focal points to ensure proper funds management. However, all focal points need capacity-building on all technical issues involved in REDD+, including institutional support to better perform their roles and functions. Regarding the FGRM, the TOR has been finalised and is about to be advertised.</p>
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Sub-component 1.B: Consultation, Participation and Outreach

In line with the consultation plan, consultation processes at the federal and state level have started with a broad range of all relevant stakeholders, including with local communities and CSOs. The PMU, together with the focal points, conducted three rounds of consultations at the national level and 17 workshops at the sub-national (state) level. These were preceded by further workshops and meeting targeting CSOs and special groups such as women and forest-dependent communities. Platforms at the national and state level have been established with different rationales, memberships and objectives to suit the need to involve, and the nature of the various stakeholder groups. However, these need to be further enhanced, clarified, documented and discussed at the state-level to ensure coherence and effective participation and consultations.

RAF Assessment Criteria:

- (v) Participation and engagement of key stakeholders;
- (vi) Consultation processes;
- (vii) Information sharing and accessibility of information;
- (viii) Implementation and public disclosure of consultation outcomes

RAF Assessment: The institutional structures that were established at the national and sub-national levels provide for effective engagement and participation of key stakeholders, which was confirmed during the first round of comprehensive consultation conducted at both levels. Plans have been prepared by the focal points of each state for conducting further stakeholder participation and consultations at the local level and they are currently awaiting funding to implement them. However, further work and more support is needed for enhanced continuous consultation and participation of all key stakeholders in the preparation and implementation of the REDD+ strategy, particularly of women and forest-dependent communities, which need to be empowered. A variety of information sharing activities and means for improving access to information have been undertaken so far, however further work is needed in this area particularly when the studies under component 2 are finalized and work on the strategy is advanced. Regarding public disclosure, project-related information has been made available in Arabic and English, on Sudan’s REDD+ website (www.reddsudan.org),

	state level and national radio stations and TV channels, as well as social media such as Facebook and YouTube.
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2.1.1 Sub-Component A: National REDD+ Management Arrangements:

This sub-component illustrates Sudan's progress made in establishing and operationalizing its National REDD+ Management Arrangements.

The national REDD+ institutional arrangements established as part of the FCPF Grant Agreement was mainly built on the arrangements used by FNC to coordinate the preparation of the R-PP, which are successfully leading the implementation of the readiness phase.

The national REDD+ arrangements include a Secretariat (REDD+ Unit; Project Management Unit), a Steering Committee, Technical Advisory Committee, 18 State level Focal Point and five sectoral Focal Points (regional technical advisors). In addition, a number of Ad Hoc Working Groups are being established to support the implementation of some technical readiness activities. Linked to the institutional arrangements are further arrangements made for consultation and participation. These include national level platforms for CSOs, Gum Arabic Producers and a state level platform, one formal (for all stakeholders) and informal (for CSOs) (see annex 3).

National REDD+ Steering Committee (NRSC): Sudan established a multi-sectoral National REDD+ Steering Committee (NRSC) to facilitate coordination efforts across sectors and relevant institutions in addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation as well as sustainable natural resource management in the context of REDD+, at the policy level. The NRSC includes as members the Ministries in charge of Environment, Forestry and Physical Development, Finance, Agriculture, Water, Energy, Petroleum, Minerals, and Social Development among other key sectors. The NRSC is chaired by the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry. The NRSC has clear responsibilities and plays as an important role in facilitating policy issues related to the REDD+ readiness preparation. It held two meetings and gave important guidance to the implementation of the Grant Agreement. Its functions include, amongst others:

- Guidance to address the drivers and barriers of deforestation and forest degradation as well as sustainable natural resource management;
- Political support and commitment to REDD+ activities and projects to achieve its development objectives;
- Monitoring the implementation of readiness activities and approving annual work plans and budgets;
- Policy advise for REDD+-related sectors; and
- Approving of progress reports prepared by the REDD+ Unit and guidance on the implementation of review recommendations.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC): The TAC was established to ensure inter-sectoral cooperation at the programmatic level and to provide technical support to the implementation of the REDD+ process. The TAC is comprised of technical experts from relevant government institutions in the key sectors for REDD+ such as environment, forestry, agriculture, livestock, water, finance, and rural development, among others. It further represents other stakeholders, including from academia and research institutions, civil society, the private sector and women's groups. Its functions also include technical strategic guidance to the PMU and validation of annual work plans, operational budgets and reports such as TORs, as well as review and technical inputs to studies and technical reports. In addition, it supports the PMU and provides technical inputs to workshops, consultations and information-sharing activities. The TAC also provides technical support to the PMU through Ad Hoc Working Groups that are established on the basis of short mandates to provide technical inputs to the PMU.



Figure 3: Stakeholder Consultation in Blue Nile State

REDD+ Project Management Unit (PMU): Sudan established a national REDD+ Management Unit, within the Forest National Corporation Head Quarters as REDD+ Secretariat. The PMU consists of a full time REDD+ coordinator, technical specialist, procurement office, administration, finance, and communication/extension officer. The PMU oversees the day-to-day implementation of the readiness activities and works closely with the TAC and the NRSC. The FNC is a member of the HCENR, and works closely with the HCNER General Secretariat, which is the UNFCCC national focal point. The FNC also hosts the REDD+ National Focal point. These links and arrangements ensure better coordination and coherence in the implementation of REDD+ within the broader context of Sudan's response to climate change. At the sub-national level, the PMU is represented by state focal points located within FNC state offices and gave a mandate to the sectoral technical officers of the FNC, that are responsible for forest resource monitoring, to act as sectoral focal points (Regional Technical Advisors) for REDD+ technical issues such as Measurement, Review and Verification (MRV), and support studies on REDD+ strategy.

Technical Working Groups: Technical support is also provided to the PMU through Ad Hoc Working Groups that are established on the basis of specific mandates to provide inputs on issues such as TORs for studies. So far the PMU established three working groups; on safeguards/SESA (ongoing), land-use/land tenure (terminated) and MRV (prepared the NFMS manual and handed it over to FAO to develop the NFMS).

The REDD+ coordinator and the sectoral and state level focal points are permanent staff of FNC and are given additional support from the FNC to carry out the additional responsibility of the national REDD+

process. These arrangements ensure a close working relationship and contribute to the sustainability and integration of the REDD+ process with the existing institutions at all these levels. To ensure continuous communication, consultation and participation of stakeholders within the REDD+, the PMU established stakeholder platforms at both national and state levels, involving a wide range of stakeholder groups. These are further discussed under the section on sub-component B: Consultation, Participation and Outreach (see section 2.1.2 below).



Figure 4: Stakeholder Consultation in Gezeira State

The current REDD+ institutional arrangements are still evolving in terms of their technical and institutional capacities to handle the coordination of REDD+ readiness and implementation phases. There are written mandates and description of responsibilities, and arrangements to ensure proper financial management. However, there is a need to further enhance their technical and institutional capacity, and further clarify, discuss and document their responsibilities and tasks, and to ensure coherence and better coordination. Therefore, additional support is necessary to build enhanced technical and institutional capacities of these arrangements particularly in the new technical areas of REDD+ such, SESA/ESMF, reference level, communication and outreach, benefit sharing, and grievance and redress.

2.1.2 Sub-Component B: Consultation, Participation, and Outreach

The main objectives of the readiness preparation activities under this sub-component is to ensure a broad base, inclusive and effective consultation and participation of all relevant stakeholders and resource custodians in the formulation of the REDD+ strategy, particularly forest-dependent communities and women. It further aims to ensure meaningful participation in decision-making during the R-PP implementation phase and beyond and to empower stakeholders and ensure equitable access to REDD+ information and benefits by all related stakeholders.



Figure 5: National Workshop in Khartoum State

Since the beginning of the R-PP implementation in August 2015, significant progress has been made, mainly based on the support provided by the FCPF. A draft plan has been prepared by the PMU, which has two main objectives. Firstly, to raise general awareness on REDD+ issues, and secondly, to conduct consultations on the priorities and needs of stakeholders to conserve forest resources in the context of REDD+, given their interest and dependence on forests for their livelihoods (see annex 8 for a list of



Figure 6: Stakeholder Consultation in White Nile State

tentative stakeholders identified). The aim of the consultations is to contribute to the preparation of the national REDD+ strategy.

Based on the draft plan, the PMU, working with the state focal points, conducted consultation activities in 17 states, following a bottom-up approach, first through awareness raising meetings, targeting specific groups such as Gum Arabic producers, pastoralist and farmers. This was followed by state level workshops involving all ranges of relevant stakeholder groups. For Khartoum State, which is yet to be covered, the PMU started targeted group meetings which will be followed by a state level workshop. In most of the 18 states of Sudan, the participation of stakeholders in these activities included also high-level political representatives, including the Ministers of Agriculture, Animal Wealth and other forest and environment-related ministers.

In terms of establishing and strengthening institutions for the effective participation and consultations with stakeholders, a platform for civil society organizations has been established at the national level which is already operational. The platform held its first meeting in November 2015, with the main purpose of raising general awareness on REDD+ issues and discuss readiness phase activities. While there is a list of members of the current platform, it is open-ended for participation by all relevant civil society organizations. The PMU also established a platform for Gum Arabic producers (local and forest-dependent communities) given their key role in the REDD+ process in Sudan. There are more than 2500 Gum Arabic Producers Associations and on average 40 % of the membership of these associations are women. Overall, the population of the communities living within the Gum Arabic belt, which spreads across many states in Sudan, is estimated at 7 million inhabitants, most of which are gum Arabic



Figure 7: National Workshop in Khartoum State

producers. At the state level, in each of Sudan’s 18 states there are two platforms that have been established by the PMU, a formal one which includes government institutions, academia, research communities and CSOs, and which is open-ended, and an informal platform, which is predominantly for CSOs. The main purpose of the formal platform is to ensure consultation and participation of stakeholders at the state level on REDD+ issues, while the informal CSOs platform is aiming to empower CSOs and ensure their effective participation.

The PMU is currently working on communication materials including different user-friendly publications such as brochures and information releasing notes, in addition to the website-based materials. According to the current planned activities of the FCPF support, work commenced on the preparation of a communication strategy. The TOR for the communication strategy has already been developed, and a national consultant was hired to undertake the work, based on the review of the consultation plan in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Despite the significant progress made to date under this sub-component, the consultation with the PMU and members of steering and technical advisory committees revealed that there is need for further work to enhance participation and consultation, particularly to support further work during the preparation of the national REDD+ strategy and for outreach activities for stakeholders at all levels after the endorsement of the strategy and during the initiation phase of its implementation. Given the significance of developing the REDD+ strategy in an inclusive and participatory manner, further support is required to consolidate, enhance and ensure effective participation, information sharing and consultation along the development of REDD+ readiness and implementation phases.

2.2 Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation

Figure 8: Summary of Progress Made under Component 2

RAF Assessment Criteria	Assessment Against RAF Criteria
<p>Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation</p> <p>This component is progressing, yet further development is required. The main constraints are a result of the interconnectedness of the different activities under each sub-component and delays in the procurement, resulting in the fact that the studies are at different stages of implementation, ranging from first draft reports submitted, field work underway, inception report received and preparation of the TORs.</p>	
<p>Sub-component 2.A: Assessment of Land-use, land-use change drivers, forest law, policy and governance</p> <p>Good progress is being made under this sub-component, particularly regarding the two studies on 1) land tenure and drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. Regarding the former, the study is in progress and</p>	

a first draft report has been submitted by the consultant during the development of this MTR. Regarding the study on drivers, the consultant has commenced its work and is expected to finalise it by the end of June 2017.

<p><u>RAF Assessment Criteria:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (vi) Assessment and analysis; (vii) Prioritization of direct and indirect drivers/barriers to forest enhancement; (viii) Links between drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities; (ix) Actions plans to address natural resource right, land tenure, governance; (x) Implications for forest law and policy 	<p>RAF Assessment: The TORs of both the study on land-use and land tenure and the study on drivers are prepared in line with the RAF, including the need for prioritization of direct and indirect drivers and barriers, access rights and options to address rights to natural resources, governance issues; natural resources policies and legislation. While the first draft is currently under review, consultations with the PMU have revealed that it reflects the TOR, and that the consultant is currently working on filling outstanding gaps in the study to address the RAF criteria.</p>
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Sub-component 2.B: REDD+ Strategy Options
 The work under this sub-component has commenced and a study on strategy options is planned to be conducted. While the TOR for the study is prepared and at the procurement stage, the development of the strategy options is currently awaiting further progress on the outcomes of other studies related to the REDD+ national strategy. Overall, progress is being made under this sub-component which is evident from the consultations and awareness activities that are being conducted.

<p><u>RAF Assessment Criteria:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iv) Selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options; (v) Feasibility assessment; (vi) Implications for strategy options on existing sectoral policies. 	<p>RAF Assessment: The TOR covers most of the issues related to the assessment criteria of the FCPF assessment framework, such as the need for the strategy options to be assessed, prioritized for their social, environmental and political feasibility, risks and opportunities and analysis of costs and benefits. However, there is a need for technical work to assess potential emission reductions of the options to inform the design of the REDD+ strategy. Comprehensive consultations are required in the process of developing the strategy.</p>
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Sub-component 2.C: Implementation Framework
 This sub-component is progressing, yet further development is required. With the FCPF support two studies on options for benefit-sharing and on the FGRM are being conducted, respectively. The benefit-sharing study is being conducted and the fieldwork is underway by a team of consultants. The work under the FGRM, while progressing, needs further resources, both in terms of time and financial support.

<p><u>RAF Assessment Criteria:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (v) Adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations; (vi) Guidelines for implementation; (vii) Benefit sharing mechanism; (viii) National REDD+ registry and system monitoring REDD+ activities 	<p>RAF Assessment: The TOR for the benefit-sharing mechanism that was prepared by the PMU and the inception report submitted by the consultant both reflect good coverage of the tasks required to develop a benefit-sharing mechanism effective at both national and sub-national levels. They provide practical and implementable options for benefit-sharing based on existing schemes or built on a completely new approach, specifying options which could be established with low to moderate level changes to existing policies. There are, however, gaps in the implementation of this sub-component relating to the adoption of legislation/regulation, guidelines for implementation, as well as the national REDD+ registry and system for monitoring REDD+ activities.</p>
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Sub-component 2.D: Social and Environmental Impacts

The work under this sub-component has commenced with the finalisation of the TOR for the SESA/ESMF, and the finalisation of the contractual arrangements with the consultant during the MTR who is expected to commence its work in April 2017. A working group on the safeguards/SESA has been established which has commenced its work and supported the PMU in its activities related to safeguards and the SESA. The SESA needs to build on the outcomes of related activities ongoing under other sub-components such as the identification of drivers and REDD+ Strategy Options because all the strategic options need to be assessed in terms of their social and environmental impacts and benefit sharing. This has contributed to a comparatively slower progress. Nevertheless, once these parallel activities are advanced, and with the right expertise and additional financial support, this sub-component is likely to be successfully finalized.

RAF Assessment Criteria:

- (iv) Analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues
- (v) REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts;
- (vi) Environmental and Social Management Framework

RAF Assessment: The TOR for the SESA/ESMF is aligned with the assessment criteria and provides for analysis of social and environmental impacts of the strategy options and development of the ESMF. However, the outcome of this work, if successfully completed, will require follow-up activities in terms of capacity building, consultations, awareness raising and institutional strengthening to ensure the full implementation of the ESMF, which also requires further financial resources.

This component of the R-PP relates directly to achieving the core objective of the REDD+ process in Sudan. The implementation of this component is based on number of studies, analytical work and consultations to generate the information and data required for defining the strategic options, policies and measures for the national REDD+ Strategy, including its implementation framework and social and environmental impacts. All the activities envisioned under the different components of the readiness phase will contribute to the development of the REDD+ strategy. However, there are number of specific studies under this component, which have been planned to lay the ground work for preparing the REDD+ strategy. These include the study on land-use and land tenure, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, governance, barriers and measures to address them; the study on benefit-sharing; the study on strategic options for the REDD+ Strategy, and the study on the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA). All these studies received support for implementation under the FCPF Grant Agreement.

Since the project commenced, significant progress has been made on these studies, including the establishment of working groups, preparation of TORs by the national REDD+ Unit with inputs from the working groups, the steering committee, the technical advisory committee and the sectoral and state level focal points. The progress in conducting the studies are at different stages. The land use and tenure study is more progressed compared to others, where a first draft report has already been submitted during this MTR. Regarding the study on benefits-sharing, field work is currently ongoing, and the procurement process to recruit the consultancy team for the study on drivers is nearly complete. The studies on SESA and strategy options are currently at the advertisement stage and for the study on the redress and grievance mechanism, the TORs have been finalised and are advertised (see figure 9).

Figure 9: Progress of Studies to be Conducted under Component 2

Study	Duration	Status
Land Use and Land Tenure	3 months	The first draft report submitted
Benefit Sharing	3 months	Inception report submitted, field work is ongoing
Drivers of Deforestation	6 months	The TOR is finalized and in line with the assessment criteria; the contractual arrangement with the identified consultant are being finalized. Work will commence immediately per the implementation work plan upon signing the contract
REDD+ Strategy Options	4 months	TOR is finalized and in line with the assessment criteria; consultancy position is being advertised
SESA	9 months	The TORs have been finalized and advertised
Redress Grievance Mechanism	6 months	The TORs have been finalized and are about to be advertised

During the initiation phase of REDD+ in Sudan, a situation analysis for the preparation of a national REDD+ Strategy was conducted. The study involved a team consisting of a national consultant, experts from a number of REDD+-related institutions, and an international consultant. The study covered five of the forest states and involved consultations with a wide range of relevant stakeholders at the state level, as well as at the national level where stakeholders from other states were also able to participate. The main objectives were to identify the main drivers for deforestation and forest degradation, to raise public awareness on REDD+ and to define options and outlines for a national REDD+ strategy. The report of the situation analysis provided very useful inputs and background material for all studies planned under this component, particularly the studies on land-use, land tenure, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, barriers and the strategy options.

2.2.1 Sub-Component A: Assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance

In the R-PP, two studies are planned under this sub-component, both of which are covered by the support of the FCPF grant, namely the land-use and land tenure study, and the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation study. The objective of the study on the assessment of land-use and land tenure is to assess the status of land and land tenure systems in Sudan in the context of REDD+ readiness in order to support the preparation and implementation of a sound national REDD+ strategy. The study further aims to describe, quantify and analyse all relevant factors for sustainable land use practice in Sudan, in a spatially disaggregated context, including state, irrigation scheme and ecological domain.

The TOR prepared by the technical working group on land tenure and the PMU took into consideration the main issues required to be met under the FCPF assessment criteria, which is the basis for the R-package. The inception report by the national consultant reflects a solid understanding of the purpose

and objectives of the study and presents a sound approach and methods. During the course of this MTR the consultant submitted its first draft report, which is currently under review by the PMU. The study on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation is at a comparatively earlier stage of progress, where the consultant provided a proposal of how to conduct the study, which has been negotiated and agreed with the PMU. As a result, the recruitment process has commenced and the contractual arrangements are being finalised.

The objective of the studies as described in the TOR is threefold, namely:

- Further analyse the drivers of deforestation and degradation, including review of legal and policy frameworks, and political economy considerations, as well as a review of agriculture, forestry and other land uses;
- Assess forest governance including traditional customary land ownership and usage, provide an overview of the factors influencing decision-making regarding forest and land use, as well as establishing a baseline against which forest governance can be assessed and monitored during the REDD+ implementation; and
- Describe, quantify and analyse the production, processing and utilization of wood-based fuel and the potential for alternative fuels and a more efficient fuel use, in a spatially disaggregated context, including state, irrigation scheme and ecological domain.

The TOR as presented to the consultant took into consideration the issues addressed by the assessment criteria such as direct/indirect drivers and major barriers that need to be addressed in the REDD+ strategy, as well as implications of forests and other related legislation. The R-Package will be further discussed with the consultant when the contract is finalized.

2.2.2 Sub-Component B: REDD+ Strategy Options

Under this sub-component the readiness preparation aims to prepare the national REDD+ Strategy including, strategic options such as programmes, policies and measures addressing drivers and barriers. The task envisioned includes an in-depth analysis of strategic options to address deforestation and forest degradation as well as other REDD+ activities, as appropriate.

Sudan will use the FCPF support to develop the strategy options and the tasks will be carried out by a team of consultants in collaboration with the PMU and all relevant stakeholders. The preparation of the strategy will also depend on the outcomes of other studies that are being undertaken under this component, specifically to inform its preparation as explained above. For this reason, the PMU is planning to conduct this work in parallel with other studies and to organize meetings between the teams of consultants to ensure coordination of efforts. The PMU prepared the TOR for conducting the strategy option study which is currently advertised to identify suitable consultants. The TOR covers most of the issues related to the assessment criteria of the FCPF assessment framework, such as the need for the strategy options to be assessed, prioritized for their social, environmental and political feasibility, risks

and opportunities and analysis of costs and benefits. Therefore, once the other activities related to this sub-component are further advanced, the identification of strategy options can make further progress. However, there is need for further technical work to develop estimates of the potential emission reduction of the options/interventions and how they inform the design of the REDD+ strategy.

2.2.3 Sub-Component C: Implementation Framework

Under this sub-component, the readiness preparation requires participating countries to adopt an effective implementation framework, including legislation and regulations, a transparent benefit-sharing mechanism, a grievance mechanism, a publicly accessible national registry for information sharing, and a system for monitoring REDD+ activities. Sudan's R-PP defines the need for an implantation framework integrated with normative institutional arrangements, a national registry, a safeguard system, incentives to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, proper accounting of carbon rights, and equitable sharing of REDD+ related benefits.

The FCPF support includes a study on options for benefit-sharing, which is under implementation during the MTR. The TOR prepared by the PMU and the inception report submitted by the consultant both reflect good coverage of the tasks required to develop a benefit-sharing mechanism effective at both national and sub-national levels, which provides practical and implementable options for benefit-sharing based on existing schemes or built on a completely new approach, specifying options which could be established with low to moderate level changes to existing policies. In addition, a study on a national feedback and grievance redress mechanism (FGRM) is planned to be undertaken with the aim to handle feedback and address complaints during the readiness phase and beyond to implement future REDD+ emission reduction programmes. While the study on the FGRM has not yet commenced, the TOR has been finalised, which is in line with the assessment criteria and about to be advertised.

However, there are gaps that need to be addressed to further enhance what is supported under the FCPF Grant, to complete the remaining readiness activities required to put in place an effective REDD+ implementation framework. Additional work and support is also needed to develop the registry, policy incentives, regulations and legislations to support and facilitate the implementation of a national REDD+ strategy, and to develop the grievance mechanism.

2.2.4 Sub-Component D: Social and Environmental Impacts

Under this sub-component, the REDD+ readiness preparation requires countries to undertake an analysis of social and environmental safeguards through the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), to ensure the national REDD+ strategy takes into consideration possible social and environmental impacts. The outcome of that assessment is the development of an environmental and social management framework (ESMF) for managing environmental and social risks and potential impacts relating to REDD+ implementation.

Sudan’s R-PP includes two basic steps for the work envisioned to conduct the SESA and develop the ESMF, namely strategic risk diagnosis and risk management. During the R-PP implementation, Sudan aims to address legal, institutional, regulatory and capacity gaps to manage environmental and social issues associated with REDD+ activities, addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation as well as elaborating risk minimizing options for the REDD+ strategy through the development of an ESMF.

At the time of this MTR, the TOR for the SESA has been prepared, and the process for identifying the consultants to conduct the work is underway. The technical working group on safeguards/SESA has contributed to the development of the TOR and awareness raising activities. The TOR is aligned with the FCPF requirements for SESA and ESMF as indicated in the assessment framework. However, the tasks included in the TOR are ambitious and require adequate resources and time to be successfully completed. This is predominantly because the work related to the SESA is dependent on the outcomes of other studies that are being conducted in parallel under this component as well as tasks leading to the identification of the strategic options for Sudan’s national REDD+ strategy. Further, the outcome of this work, if successfully completed, will require follow up activities in terms of capacity-building, consultations, awareness raising and institutional strengthening to ensure the full implementation of the ESMF, which require further financial resources.

2.3 Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Level

Figure 10: Summary of Progress Made under Component 3

RAF Assessment Criteria	Assessment Against RAF Criteria
Component 3: Reference Emission Level/ Reference Level:	
<p>RAF Assessment Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iv) Demonstration of methodology (v) Use of historical data, and adjusted for national circumstances (vi) Technical feasibility of the methodological approach, and consistency with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines 	<p>RAF Assessment: This component has not yet demonstrated any progress because it is not directly covered under the current FCPF grant. However, the establishment of the reference level also benefits from the implementation of activities in component 4.A on designing the NFMS, which is supported by the FCPF Grant and is currently being developed by FAO. Additional support from the FCPF is needed to establish the RFEL/FRL and support activities that are directly related to establishing the reference level, such as scoping, definition of REDD+ activities to be included (this is also an outcome of the strategy options), assembling historical data, developing estimates for emissions/removal, selecting methods, projections, analyses of the effects of policies and national circumstances, consultations and validation and quality assurance and quality control. All these will be based on the UNFCCC and IPCC guidelines.</p>

According to Sudan’s R-PP, the process of constructing a Reference Emission Level/Reference Level (RELS/RLs) is a multi-phased and continuous endeavour. The construction of RELS/RLs will meet the

stringent requirements of the guidelines of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC Guidelines) on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Biennial Update Report (BUR) requirements and related processes established under the UNFCCC. The RELs/RLs are to be used as a reference case for comparing and quantifying REDD+ activities (e.g. policy, measures, projects) performance. The RELs are linked to, and mostly based on projections from past or recent historical trends in biomass stock changes and associated emissions resulting mostly from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. Sudan will adopt an incremental approach in the development of RELs/RLs to match the available institutional, human and financial resources. However, the RELs/RLs will be developed using the highest standards and best possible sources of information, all the while considering national capacity and circumstances.

Since the preparation of the R-PP, no direct work has been undertaken to implement this sub-component. While establishing Forest Reference Emission Level/ Forest Reference Level (FREL/FRL) is part of Sudan's R-PP, the current FCPF grant does not cover the support for the establishment of FREL/FRL. This is because Sudan first needs to develop a sound National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and generate reliable data for forest stock change, which is needed for establishing the FREL/FRL. Currently, Sudan has started to prepare its Third National Communication, which includes an updated GHGs inventory for the land-use, land-use change and forestry sector, using improved methodologies of the IPCC Good Practice Guidance (2003) and improved emission factors and activity data. This process will involve also capacity building activities of experts and therefore will contribute to the preparation of FREL/FRL.

The establishment of the reference level also depends on the implementation of activities on component 4a on designing the NFMS, which is supported by the FCPF Grant and which is currently being developed by FAO. Therefore, additional support from the FCPF is needed to establish the RFEL/FRL based on the results of work on NFMS and other work related to GHGs inventory by the HCENR. As such, additional financial resources are required to support direct activities to establish the RFEL/FRL, such as scoping, definition of REDD+ activities to be included from the strategy options, assembling historical data, developing estimates for emissions/removals, selecting methods, projections, analyses of the effect of policies and national circumstances, consultation, validations and quality assurance and quality control. All these activities will be based on the UNFCCC and IPCC guidelines.

The preparation of the FREL/FRL as part of the readiness activities is key for Sudan to move into the second phase and develop its strategic options for emission reduction into implementable REDD+ projects and programmes. Therefore, there is an urgent need for additional support from the FCPF to enable Sudan to build on the results of establishing its NFMS and the improved available data to establish its reference levels.

2.4 Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards

Figure 11: Summary of Progress Made under Component 4

RAF Assessment Criteria	Assessment Against RAF Criteria
<p>Component 4: Monitoring System for Forests and Safeguards This component is progressing well, yet further development is required. Progress is particularly evident in the establishment of a national forest monitoring system, which is on track to be implemented as envisaged. Work on sub-component 4.B is making slower progress as it is not covered by the FCPF grant.</p>	
<p>Sub-component 4.A: National Forest Monitoring System Significant progress has been made under this sub-component, including raising awareness and capacity building activities on remote sensing applications and national forest inventory. In addition, a manual for conducting the inventory has been developed by the technical working group on MRV which takes into account Sudan’s national circumstances. An agreement has been signed between the PMU and FAO to support the development of a national forest monitoring system; and a plan has been prepared which indicates that the work will start in February 2017 and be completed by August 2018.</p>	
<p>RAF Assessment Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iv) Documentation of monitoring approach; (v) Demonstration of early implementation; (vi) Institutional arrangements and capacities- Forests 	<p>RAF Assessment: The agreement with FAO covers the design of the NFMS including the development of approaches, methods and documentation. The agreement also includes conducting a National Forest Inventory (NFI), with early implementation and testing of NFMS, as well as institutional support and capacity building. However, the resources available for this work is underestimated compared with estimations by FNC for the costs of the NFI and intuitional capacity needs (tools and technologies). Therefore, further support is need to ensure a fully designed and functioning NFMS.</p>
<p>Sub-component 4.B: Information system for multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards</p>	
<p>RAF Assessment Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iv) Identification of relevant non-carbon aspects, and social and environmental issues; (v) Monitoring, reporting and information sharing; (vi) Institutional arrangements and capacities 	<p>RAF Assessment: This sub-component has not yet demonstrated progress as the FCPF grant does not cover its implementation, and because no other provision of support is readily available to implement the activities planned in the R-PP under this particular sub-component. Therefore, additional support is needed to implement this sub-component, building on the results of the ongoing work under related components.</p>

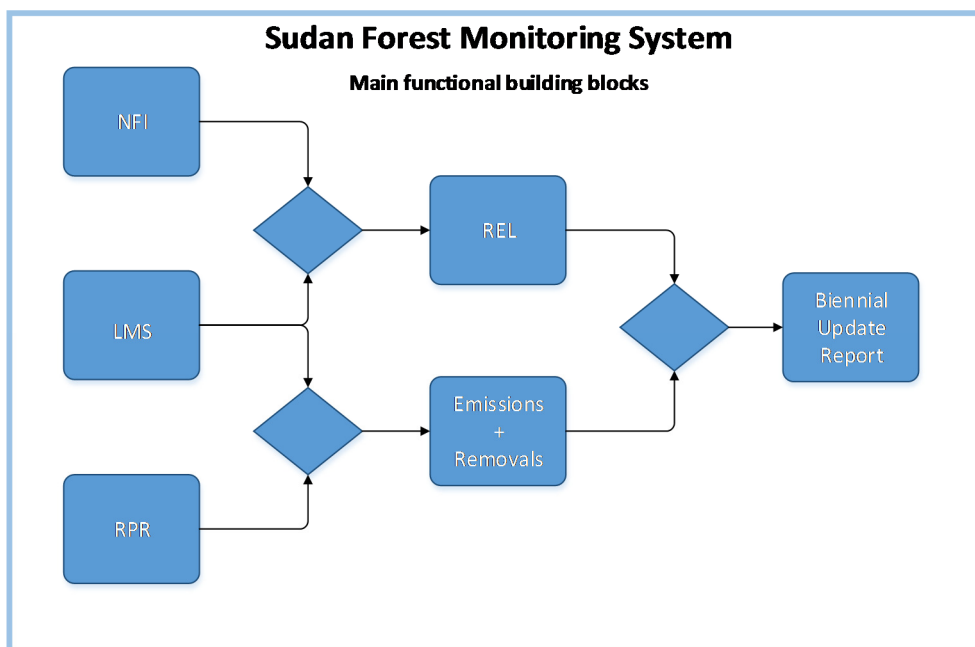
2.4.1 Sub-Component A: National Forest Monitoring System

Sudan aims to achieve a number of readiness outcomes under this sub-component as outlined in its R-PP, including

- Developing and operationalizing a cost-effective country-specific forest monitoring system that supports both national forest resources development objectives and REDD+ process objectives;
- Developing and enhancing technical and institutional capacity on forest cover monitoring, remote sensing, a geographic information system (GIS), data management, assessment of carbon stock changes and GHGs estimation;

- Developing a database and identify data for satellite and/or aerial imagery types for Sudan, and ensuring the characteristics of these data are assessed in terms of spatial and temporal coverage, cloud cover, spatial and spectral resolution, and image registration;
- Elaborating and adopting national definitions for forest and other related land-uses for the use of national forest monitoring, including forest stratification and monitoring of REDD+ activities;
- Developing national emission factors, other parameters and activity data for estimating GHGs for REDD+ strategic options and for land-use change and forestry inventory; and
- Developing a central database and archiving system including the provision of information on REDD+ safeguards (see also figure 12).

Figure 12: Main Functional Building Blocks of the NFMS



Legend: NFI: National Forest Inventory, LMS: Land Monitoring System; RPR: REDD+ Project Registry REL: Reference Emission Level

The FCPF supports the implementation of this sub-component of the R-PP in terms of establishing a measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) system, which includes a national forest inventory, in addition to support for remote sensing and capacity-building for forest monitoring activities. The Government of Sudan agreed to provide support in terms of seven vehicles and inventory staff from both national and state level FNC staff with some experts from the range and pasture administration and soil department to conduct this work.

The PMU started the implementation of the activities supported by the FCPF by preparing a TOR and establishing an Ad Hoc Working Group on MRV to provide technical inputs on how to develop the NFMS. A manual for conducting the inventory and establishing the NFMS has been prepared by the working

group and has been subjected to wide consultations involving all relevant stakeholders, including from FNC, other government institutions, universities, research institutions, and NGOs.

The PMU and FAO-Sudan signed an agreement to develop the NFMS, given FAO's comparative advantage and experience in working with other REDD+ countries on NFMS. Accordingly, a plan has been prepared in collaboration with the FAO and a training event on application of remote sensing techniques was also organized. Now FAO is embarking on the technical and logistical preparation to conduct the national forest inventory which is planned to be completed by August 2018.

Given the complexity of the NFMS and the lack of capacity, both technically and institutionally, it is important to maintain, manage and improve the system overtime. As such, more work and support is needed to enhance capacity of the inventory department and its technical staff at both national and state levels. Additional support is required to assess, upgrade and introduce inventory-related equipment and technologies, such as remote sensing, modelling in the area of GHGs estimation, data archiving and management system. Building technical capacity in the use of these technologies as well as in the areas of measurement, data management, and estimation of GHGs emission/removal is indispensable.

2.4.2 Sub-Component B: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards

In its R-PP, Sudan included a number of readiness activities under this sub-component, in addition to other important activities under other components, such as land-use/land tenure, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and governance under component 2.A, benefit-sharing under component 2.C, the SESA under component 2.D, to ensure minimising potential risks and enhancing benefits through systematic monitoring of the REDD+ process in Sudan.

At a minimum, a REDD+ safeguard system will identify potential negative impacts of REDD+ activities, and identify and operationalize measures to minimize or mitigate negative impacts. Also, the design of the safeguard system will identify potential positive impacts and benefits of REDD+ activities, and consider actions that can maximize these positive impacts. An important element of any REDD+ safeguard system is the broad participation and open access to information.

Sudan will build a National REDD+ Information System to give information about how safeguards, as listed in annex 1 of the Cancun decision, are being considered along the implementation of all the REDD+ activities. In the context of Sudan, the information on some REDD+ safeguards (for e.g., transparent and effective national forest governance structures, respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and forest resource owners, and actions that complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programs and relevant international conventions and agreements) will be based on government acts and decisions. The REDD+ Information system will be linked to the National MRV System because some of the REDD+ safeguards (e.g. actions to address the risks of reversals, the

conservation of the natural forest, and actions to reduce displacement of emissions) will necessitate monitoring activities to give information on their implementation, beside providing protection of the rights of the affected stakeholders, especially the local communities. The emphasis on participatory approaches for forest management will greatly contribute to this effort.

Sudan's REDD+ information system will build on the UNFCCC guidance as well as the FCPF policies on safeguards. The system will take into consideration the need to identify relevant non-carbon aspects, social and environmental issues, monitoring and reporting issues, and information sharing as well as the need to ensure adequate institutional arrangements and capacities.

The FCPF Grant supports a number of related activities under other sub-components, such as the land-use/land tenure study, the study on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and governance under component 2.A, benefits-sharing and the SESA under component 2.D. However, no provision of support is readily available to implement the activities planned in the R-PP under this particular sub-component and therefore additional support is needed to implement this sub-component, building on the result of the ongoing work under the components mentioned above.

3 AN ANALYSIS OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THOSE ACTIVITIES FUNDED BY THE FCPF READINESS PREPARATION GRANT

This section summarizes the progress made in the implementation of the readiness activities supported under the FCPF Grant Agreement. The matrix below provides an analysis of the progress made to date, including constraints and delays encountered. It also identifies gaps and needs for additional support from the FCPF for the completion of the remaining activities in the R-PP and to consolidate and enhance the implementation of the current FCPF Grant to achieve the intended overall objective of developing a sound national REDD+ strategy. The analysis covers the progress on outputs and activities as being implemented, thereby considering TORs of institutional arrangements and services to be provided such as for conducting studies, technical and meeting reports, and inception reports of studies. The progress has been analysed and assessed against the FCPF assessment criteria to ensure that the implementation of the readiness activities under the different components is in line with these assessment criteria. This will help Sudan in preparing a complete R-Package by the end of the full implementation of all the required readiness activities.

3.1 Component 1: Support for REDD+ Readiness Management and Institutional Arrangements

Figure 13: Analysis of Progress made under Component 1 of the FCPF Grant

Component 1: Support for REDD+ Readiness Management and Institutional Arrangements	
Purpose: Setting-up national readiness management arrangements to manage and coordinate the REDD+ readiness activities whilst mainstreaming REDD+ into broader strategies.	
Sub-components/activities:	
1.1 Set up and operation of the National REDD+ Management Unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PMU was established as national REDD+ Secretariat during the period (April- Jul 2015), the technical advisor joined in Dec 2016. The PMU is fully functioning and the staff have clear job descriptions. The REDD+ coordinator is a staff member of FNC. The REDD+ national focal point is also hosted in FNC and FNC is a member of the HCENR. These arrangements ensure better coherence, coordination and integration of REDD+ process in the national context. The Finance and Procurement offices of the PMU are fully functional with adequate capacity. The delays they have encountered in the performance of some of their tasks are mainly related to delays in transfer of funds and hence delays in procurements (e.g. advertising and appointing consultants for component 2 studies). 18 State level REDD+ focal points and 5 sectorial (Regional Technical Advisors) focal points are established within FNC technical staff in all states of Sudan. Offices have been provided by FNC (Government of Sudan) for the PMU at the national and state-level, as well as equipment and other logistical facilities. The Government of Sudan is supporting REDD+ by providing office facilities for REDD+ institutional arrangements and additional funding to staff acting as
1.2 Set up and operation of the National REDD+ Steering Committee, Technical Advisory Committee and REDD+ Technical Working Groups	
1.3 Strengthen sub-national REDD+ institutional structures	
1.4 Capacity building for REDD+ institutional arrangements	

<p>1.5 Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism for REDD+</p> <p>1.6 Program monitoring and evaluation</p>	<p>REDD+ coordinator and focal points. This contribution from the Government of Sudan ensures integration and sustainability of the National REDD+ process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The steering committee has been established (May 2015), which includes high level and political representatives of REDD+-related institutions and led by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests. The committee is operating with clear responsibilities to provide political oversight and guidance to national REDD+ process and has organized two meetings so far. • The Technical Advisory Committee was established (Jul 2015); its membership consists of technical experts from REDD+-related institutions in addition to research institutions, academia and NGOs. The committee is operating based on a written mandate to provide inputs on the technical issues of the readiness phase, including activities under the FCPF grant. It held four meetings so far. • 3 Working Groups were established on safeguards/SESA (ongoing); Land-use, land tenure (finished); and MRV (working on NFMS with FAO). • Capacity building and strengthening of the REDD+ arrangements is being implemented through two workshops at the national level for state focal points on general issues on REDD+. Additionally, four of the state focal points have taken a training on REDD+ at Nigeria Academy. • A study on the Redress Grievance Mechanism is planned for which the TOR is finalised and about to be advertised. • M&E programme has not been established yet.
<p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The REDD+ arrangements particularly the focal points and the closely related institutions lack adequate capacities in a number of REDD+ related technical and technological issues. • TORs and mandates of the different Focal Points need to be further clarified for them to better understand their responsibilities and tasks and ensure coherence and better coordination. • An M&E system needs to be built to ensure better documentation, information flow and day-to-day monitoring of work. 	
<p>Gap/additional funding:</p> <p>Additional funding is required to strengthen and enhance the REDD+ arrangements on technical and institutional capacities to handle the coordination of REDD+ readiness and implementation phases. Areas include new technical areas of REDD+, including SESA/ESMF, reference level, communication and outreach, benefit-sharing, grievance and redress, data management, and M&E. There is a need for the technical committee at the state level to ensure better coordination and provision of technical support to the focal points. There is also a need for more regular flows of information and updates on progress from the PMU to state focal points and for the establishment of a process for free prior informed consent (FPIC), as part of the institutional arrangements.</p>	

3.2 Component 2: Support for national REDD+ Strategy (including Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)

Figure 14: Analysis of Progress made under Component 2 of the FCPF Grant

<p>2.1. Sub-components/activities: In-depth analysis of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, including studies on policies, wood-based energy and land tenure and forest governance</p> <p>Purpose: Identification of key drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation and activities concerning conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.</p>	
<p>Constraints:</p> <p>Delays in the procurement have been experienced which has resulted in delays in the transfer of funds.</p> <p>This is a general cause for the delays in starting the project's activities, and hence delays in the implementation.</p>	<p>Two studies are planned in the R-PP under this sub-component:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The land-use and land tenure study aims to assess the status of land and land tenure systems to support the preparation and implementation of a sound national REDD+ strategy. It further aims to describe, quantify and analyse all relevant factors for sustainable land use practices in Sudan. • The first draft report was completed and has been submitted to the PMU during the time of this MTR. • The drivers of deforestation and forest degradation study has commenced after the contractual arrangements have been finalized with the consultant. The work is planned to be completed by the end of June 2017. • The FCPF assessment framework and criteria leading to the preparation of the R-package have been discussed with the consultant to be taken into consideration.
<p>Gap/additional funding:</p> <p>The studies cover a wide range of issues, therefore their outcomes are expected to reveal further gaps and needs for further analytical work, consultations and collection of data for the preparation of the REDD+ strategy.</p>	
<p>2.2 Sub-component/activities: In-depth Analysis of Strategic Options to Address Deforestation and Forest Degradation</p> <p>Purpose: Develop a set of strategic options (policies, programs, etc.) for addressing the drivers and barriers of deforestation and/or forest degradation.</p>	
<p>Constraints:</p> <p>This study depends on the outcomes of other studies (land-use, drivers etc.), therefore there is a need to delay it until other studies are close to finalization. However, the PMU has commenced work under this sub-component to avoid delays in the procurement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The TORs have been prepared for the identification of the strategy options and preparation of the REDD+ strategy. The tasks will be carried out by a team of national consultants in collaboration with the national REDD+ arrangements and all relevant stakeholder groups at the states. • The TORs cover most of the issues related to the assessment criteria in the FCPF assessment framework, such as the need for the strategy options to be assessed, prioritized for their social, environmental and political feasibility, risks and opportunities and analysis of their costs and benefits. • The strategy option study is currently at the advertisement stage to identify the consultants.
<p>Gap/additional funding:</p>	

A plan or process for the REDD+ strategy drafting, consultation, validation and approval, and outreach needs to be developed and implemented as part of the readiness activities relating to this sub-component. There is a need for further technical work to develop estimates of the potential emission reductions of the options/interventions and how they inform the design of the REDD+ strategy.

2.3 Sub-components/activities: Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and development of Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)

Purpose: Ensure compliance with the Common Approach and prepare a country specific Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).

Constraints:

This work also needs to build on outcomes of other studies e.g. studies and tasks leading to the identification of the strategic options for the REDD+ strategy of Sudan, and therefore needs to be conducted in parallel.

- A Study is planned to start the implementation of a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and the development of Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).
- At the time of this MTR, the TOR for the SESA has been prepared, and the process for identifying the consultants to conduct the work is underway.
- The TOR is aligned with FCPF requirements for the SESA and ESMF as indicated in the assessment Framework.

Gap/additional funding:

The tasks included in the TORs are ambitious and require adequate resources and time to be successfully completed. The outcome of the study is expected to reveal gaps and needs for further work. There is a need for follow-up work on capacity-building, consultations, awareness raising and institutional strengthening to ensure a fully functioning ESMF. In addition, the Gender Gap under REDD+ has not been established yet, as such support for a gender analysis is required that will be integrated in the SESA report.

2.4 Sub-component/activities: Study on options for benefit-sharing related to REDD+

Purpose: Set out credible and transparent institutional, economic, legal and governance arrangements necessary to implement REDD+ strategy options.

Constraints:

Technical and institutional capacities within the current institutional framework relating to forest and natural resources management.

- A study on options for benefit-sharing is planned and is under implementation during this MTR.
- The TORs prepared by the MTR and the inception report submitted by the consultant both reflect good coverage of the tasks required to develop a benefit-sharing mechanism effective at both national and sub-national levels.
- The consultant is undertaking field work during this review.

Gap/additional funding:

This sub-component contains gaps relating to other activities to complete the development of the implementation framework, including the registry, policy incentives, regulations and legislation to support and facilitate the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy. There is a need for additional support to elaborate an enhanced implementation framework as indicated in the constraints mentioned above.

3.3 Component 3: Support for Stakeholder Engagement

Figure 15: Analysis of Progress made under Component 3 of the FCPF Grant

Component 3 – Support for Stakeholder Engagement	
Purpose: Broad consultations with and participation of key stakeholders for future REDD+ programs to ensure the active participation of different social groups, transparency and accountability of decision-making.	
Sub-components/activities:	
3.1 Consultation and participation for activities to be implemented under the FCPF grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A draft plan has been prepared by the REDD+ Unit to raise general awareness on REDD+ issues, and to conduct consultations on the priorities and needs of stakeholders to contribute to the preparation of the national REDD+ strategy.• Consultation and awareness raising activities in 17 states have been conducted, targeting specific groups such as Gum Arabic producers, women, pastoralist and farmers. These workshops involved all ranges of relevant stakeholder groups, including high-level political representatives.• A platform for civil society organizations has been established at the national level which is already functioning with the main purpose to organize discussions and raise awareness on REDD+. It organized its first meeting in November 2015.• A platform for Gum Arabic producers (local people and forest dependent communities) was established given their key role in the REDD+ process in Sudan (people living in the Gum Arabic belt are estimated at 7 million).• At the state level, two platforms have been established, in each of the 18 states of Sudan, a formal platform including government institutions, academia, research institutions, communities and CSOs (open-ended), and an informal platform which includes mainly CSOs organizations. The main purpose of the formal platform is to ensure continuous REDD+ consultations at the state level, while the informal CSOs platform is to empower CSOs and ensure their effective participation.• The REDD+ Unit is currently working on communication materials including different user-friendly publications such as brochures and information releasing notes, in addition to the website-based materials in both English and Arabic.
3.2 Setting up and strengthening of civil society platforms	
Constraints:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The platform needs to be further strengthened, clearly documented in terms of its rationale, functions, organizational issues.• Difficulties with fund transfer and adequacy affecting regular functioning of the platforms.• Limited resources to cover all the 18 states and special stakeholder groups	

adequately through the established platforms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work has started on the preparation of a communication strategy by a national consultant to prepare the strategy, based on the review of the consultation plan in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders.
<p>Gap/additional funding:</p> <p>There are still gaps in achieving the objectives of the readiness phase regarding participation and consultation. There is a need to strengthen the platforms as an effective mechanisms and enhance their regular functioning as participation and consultation are a continuous process for REDD+. Therefore additional work is required to further enhance participation and consultation at all levels, during the preparation of the REDD+ strategy, as well as after adoption of the strategy and the initiation of its implementation.</p>	

3.4 Component 4: Support for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification

Figure 16: Analysis of Progress made under Component 4 of the FCPF Grant

<p>Component 4: Support for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification</p> <p>Purpose: Design and develop an operational forest monitoring system and describe the approach to enhance the system over time.</p>	
<p>Sub-components/activities:</p> <p>4.1 Development a National Forest Inventory (NFI)</p> <p>4.2 Support for remote sensing</p> <p>4.3 Capacity building for forest monitoring activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A plan of activities has been prepared for establishing an MRV system including a national forest inventory, and capacity-building for remote sensing and for forest monitoring activities. • The PMU established an Ad Hoc Working Group on MRV based on a TOR to provide technical inputs on how to develop the NFMS. • A manual for conducting the NFI and establishing the NFMS has been prepared by the working group and has been subjected to a wide consultation involving all relevant stakeholders from the FNC, other governmental institutions, universities, research institutions, NGOs and CSOs. • The PMU and FAO-Sudan signed an agreement to develop the NFMS, given FAO’s comparative advantage and experiences in working with other REDD+ countries on NFMS. • The agreement includes the design of the NFMS, conducting national forest inventory (NFI), and institutional support and capacity building. • A plan has been prepared in collaboration with FAO and a training event on application of remote sensing techniques was also organized. • Now FAO is embarking on the technical and logistical preparation to conduct the NFI, which will start in February 2017 and is expected to be completed by August 2018.
<p>Constraints:</p> <p>Given the complexity of the NFMS and lack of capacity, both technical and institutional, required to maintain, manage and improve the system overtime, there is certainly need for more work to fill in gaps to enhance the capacity of the inventory department and its technical staff at both national and state levels.</p>	
<p>Gap/additional funding:</p>	

The support can be used to assess, upgrade and introduce inventory-related equipment and technologies, such as remote sensing, modelling in the area of GHGs estimation, data archiving and management system, technical capacity building in use of these technologies as well as in the areas of measurement, data management, and estimation of GHGs emission/removal.

3.5 Flagship Activities

Having identified constraints and gaps, this section reflects on the significant progress areas that Sudan has made throughout its readiness phase to date, including innovative ideas and activities.

- **Institutional Arrangements:** as indicated in Chapter 3.1.1, the HCENR, being the focal point to the UNFCCC, dedicated oversight authority on REDD+-related issues to the FNC due to its technical expertise on forest-related issues. Following the approval of Sudan's R-PP and with the implementation of the readiness phase, the institutional arrangements were integrated into the management arrangements of the FNC. This has several advantages such as
 - Maintaining knowledge and expertise of the FNC that was built over the past years since their engagement with REDD+ both at the national level and international policy level;
 - Avoiding an additional layer of institutional arrangements;
 - Enhancing capacity in another environment and forestry-related institution; and
 - Taking advantage of and utilising FNC's strong presence throughout the different states of Sudan as the FNC has offices in all localities (sub-state level) in Sudan.
- **Country Ownership:** Since the beginning of the R-PP development, a limited number of representatives from the FNC and other governmental and non-governmental organisations were engaged in the process and had no resources available other than in-kind support from the government, and later support provided from UNEP and UNDP country offices. As such, these people and institutions conducted the work themselves, rather than relying on international consultants which has built capacity and strengthened country ownership. In the implementation of the R-PP, country ownership continues to prevail which is evident through the engagement and leadership performed by the relevant stakeholders. Country ownership, while often also causing delays in progress particularly with limited capacities, is of utmost importance in developing national REDD+ strategies so as to build capacity and ensure that the strategies are based on national circumstances and in line with development priorities. As such, this should be further strengthened.
- **Commitment:** Building on the point on country ownership, there is a high level of commitment amongst the institutions that have been involved in REDD+ both in the development of Sudan's R-PP as well as during the readiness phase. As aforementioned, the R-PP was developed by practitioners almost on a voluntary basis. There is also strong political will and support from the Government of Sudan which has been evident at the national and international level. At the international level, the Government of Sudan has been intensely engaged in the negotiations on REDD+-related matters under the UNFCCC, including through leading the negotiations on behalf of the some of the biggest negotiation groups. At the national

level, the Government of Sudan has provided in-kind support in form of offices and staff at both national and state levels, contributed at least USD 86,000 for the readiness phase and plans to provide additional support of USD 170,000 for 2017.

- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Having recognized the importance of early and thorough stakeholder engagement in the development and implementation of REDD+ in Sudan, the national REDD+ process aims to ensure early engagement and active participation of a wide range of stakeholders that are directly and indirectly affected by REDD+-related activities. This is also reflected in the development of the institutional arrangements where the PMU established various platforms for wide stakeholder consultations, including fora to ensure active stakeholder engagement and empowerment, particularly for civil society and forest-dependent communities.

4 A REVIEW OF THE REDD COUNTRY PARTICIPANT'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE COMMON APPROACH

Figure 17: Overview of Sudan's Compliance Against the Common Approach

Components	Status	Overall Assessment
ESS		Progress is being made under this component as stakeholder consultations have commenced and the Safeguards Technical Working Group has started its work. The TORs for the consultant undertaking the SESA and developing the EMFS have been finalized and advertised. The work is expected to start immediately upon signing the contract which is anticipated in the beginning of April 2017. In addition, critical relevant studies are being conducted which will feed into the SESA.
Stakeholder Engagement		Progress is being made that reflects the principles and guidelines of the FCPF stakeholder engagement approach. Wide stakeholder consultations are undertaken through innovative and comprehensive institutional arrangements that have been established under the readiness phase. A local NGO, SAWA (Sudan for Development and Humanitarian Aid Organization) has been selected to receive support from the FCPF Capacity Building Programme. The work to be undertaken by this NGO will complement capacity-building activities targeted at IPs and local communities.
Disclosure of Information		Some progress has been made by disclosing project-related information, in Arabic and English, through different channels, such as institutional arrangements (platforms, focal points, fora, etc.), a national REDD+ website (www.reddsudan.org), state level and national radio stations and TV channels, as well as social media such as Facebook and YouTube.
Grievance and Accountability		Work has commenced by outlining the envisaged FGRM which is in line with the FCPF guidelines and policies. A study is envisaged to identify current arrangements, gaps and areas of improvement. Stakeholder engagements have commenced but at a preliminary stage and need further work, particularly regarding consultations, capacity-building and awareness raising.

This section assesses the actions undertaken by Sudan to comply with the various aspects of the Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners, including on

- The Delivery Partner's Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS), including the SESA/ESMF;
- Stakeholder engagement;
- Disclosure of information; and
- Grievance and accountability.

With regard to support to REDD+ readiness processes, the FCPF has been the only partner supporting the process in Sudan. The structures to comply with the common approach have been adhered to, however, Sudan has not received support from the other multi-delivery partners apart from the FCPF.

Sudan recognises the importance of social and environmental safeguards to prevent and mitigate undue harm to its people and environment, while creating benefit-sharing opportunities for its environment and communities. As such, Sudan strives to integrate social and environmental safeguards into all aspects throughout its readiness phase and beyond, particularly in developing its national REDD+ Strategy.

4.1 The Delivery Partner's Environmental and Social Safeguards, including the SESA/ESMF

In integrating social and environmental safeguards into its development process, including for REDD+ and beyond, these will be aligned with the FCPF policies and guidelines. In developing its social and environmental safeguards, Sudan will also ensure that these are aligned with the social and environmental policies of the Green Climate Fund, leaving the option open to seek further support.

In its R-PP, Sudan recognises several social, environmental and institutional issues that are critical to the development of REDD+, including

- (i) Inter-sectoral linkages within the land-use planning process and trade-offs and opportunity costs involved with different land uses;
- (ii) Forest governance and management,
- (iii) Forest land tenure and ownership looking at the issues of customary rights, users access rights and informal and formal grievance redress mechanisms;
- (iv) Legal, policy and regulatory systems related to land tenure, conflict from land use and natural resources use;
- (v) Gender dimensions of forest use and management and role of women in decision-making about land use, resource management to reflect the different gender roles;
- (vi) Benefit sharing arrangements;
- (vii) Co-benefits associated with the REDD+ Strategies, including reduced loss of biodiversity, improved seasonal distribution of water and improved water quality through mainstreaming forest covers, and improved governance;
- (viii) Enhanced coordination needs between relevant institutions across sectors; improved institutional capacity to implement decisions; and
- (ix) Identification of capacity gaps and needs for the implementation of the ESMF and for conducting the SESA and development of measures to address these, including through trainings, workshops and awareness raising material.

To identify pertinent social and environmental risks, Sudan is using the SESA. At the time of this MTR, it is evident that progress has been made in undertaking the SESA (see sub-component 2.D, chapter 2.2.4). As such, it can be concluded that Sudan is in compliance with environmental and social safeguards



Figure 18: Stakeholder Consultation in Darfur State

4.2 Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement constitutes one of the most important principles around REDD+. As such, in its R-PP Sudan outlined a framework for engagement of relevant stakeholders during the readiness preparation. It also contains enhancing capacities at the national, state and locality levels, thereby ensuring consultations both horizontally, i.e. among different departments and different stakeholders at the federal level; and vertically, i.e. between the REDD+ Management Unit,



Figure 19: Stakeholder Consultation in Kordofan State

different states, CSOs, NGOs, communities at the state level. Specifically, the framework outlines consultations on key issues addressed under the FCPF, including

- Drivers of deforestation and degradation;
- Identification of national REDD+ strategy options;
- Land and forest law, policy and governance;
- Benefit-sharing;
- The SESA;
- MRV; and
- a feedback and grievance redress mechanism.

To ensure a wide range of consultations, different institutional structures have been developed and operationalized that are comprehensive and innovative, including:

- Platforms, formal and informal fora, and state level focal points in each state to ensure vertical consultations;
- Technical working groups, a diverse steering committee, and public events to ensure horizontal consultations;
- Social media; and
- Stakeholder mapping analysis which is being further developed in the different technical studies that will be carried out under component 2 (see also component 1, section 2.1).



Figure 20: Stakeholder Consultation during the World Bank Mission to Sudan

Overall, it can be concluded that Sudan has made significant progress in ensuring stakeholder engagements by utilizing different avenues. This is in line with the assessment criteria and the FCPF guidelines by

- Ensuring early participation and involvement of stakeholders prior to development of activities, and arrangements, and involvement at every stage;
- Organising national level workshop/consultation and implementation stage; and
- Establishing participatory structures and mechanisms, e.g. committees representing relevant stakeholder groups and local participatory fora to ensure active engagement of local stakeholders, in accordance with the FCPF principles.

As such, Sudan is in compliance with the principle of stakeholder engagement.

Figure 21: Stakeholder Consultation in Gezeira State



4.3 Disclosure of Information

Information disclosure, transparency and sharing of knowledge are important principles of the REDD+ process that Sudan adheres to. As such, as part of the readiness phase, Sudan has planned and is using a variety of avenues to make information relevant to REDD+ and Sudan's national REDD+ process publicly available and accessible. The REDD+ Unit established its national [REDD+ website](http://www.reddsudan.org)⁵, in English and in Arabic, where it provides information on Sudan's progress in

⁵<http://www.reddsudan.org>

REDD+ and awareness raising material on REDD+, its benefits, structural elements and process. It further discloses important information such as legal agreements and technical and progress reports. The website also provides contact details to reach the REDD+ management unit if necessary. Given that Sudan is a federal country and has REDD+ focal points in each of its 18 states, the REDD+ Unit could, however, also add names and contact details of the state focal points to enable local stakeholders including CSOs and communities and private sector to contact them directly.

The REDD+ Unit also uses social networks to share information on Sudan's progress on REDD+ and to provide a space for engaging with stakeholders and the general public such as [Facebook](#)⁶ and [YouTube](#)⁷.

In addition, as part of its institutional arrangements the REDD+ Unit established structures such as state level focal points, thematic technical working groups and fora to engage a wide range of stakeholders and share information (see component 1, section 2.1). Sudan intends to maintain this principle and further improve and build on it over the remaining period.

Despite the continuous efforts of sharing and disclosing information, it was noted that the institutional arrangements need to be further clarified to help the different stakeholders better understand their responsibilities and tasks, and ensure coherence and better coordination.

4.4 Grievance and Accountability

Sudan's R-PP presents a clearly structured and detailed feedback and grievance redress mechanism (FGRM) to handle feedback and address complaints during the readiness phase and further phases of REDD+(see annex 5).

The FGRM is in line with the policies and guidelines of the FCPF and includes important elements such as

- Ensuring accountability and accessibility, including access to information and advice;
- Providing clear and indicative timeframes, requirements and outcomes for each state;
- Maintaining transparency by keeping parties to a grievance informed about the progress; and
- Ensuring its alignment with international, national and state-level rights and regulations.

In establishing the FGRM, the REDD+ Unit envisages conducting a study to build its FGRM on existing institutions or establish a new mechanism. The study aims to:

- Review existing grievance, redress and feedback mechanisms to include local level and community-based approaches to resolving conflicts based on tradition;
- Identify necessary institutional capacity needs to enhance and operationalize the efficient and effective utilization of these structures for the REDD+ process;

⁶<https://www.facebook.com/reddsudan/?fref=ts>

⁷<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRnRQnhuJgZFPrBRLlpQyEQ>

- Develop methodologies for inclusive consultations, integration of stakeholder inputs; and
- Identify suitable benefit-sharing model relevant to all stakeholders.

Overall, it can be concluded that while work on the establishment of the FGRM has commenced, it is limited to raising awareness about the FGRM with concerned stakeholders, including CSOs, NGOs, Gum Arabic producers and associations, farmers, unions, the private sector and different governmental departments at the state and federal level. Nevertheless, if the grievance mechanism is established as envisaged, it fully aligns with the FCFP policies and guidelines. As such, more time and resources are required to assess and strengthen the existing redress and grievance arrangements and legal procedures at both the state and federal level, taking into consideration customary arrangements, and implement them in all 18 states of Sudan.

5 AN UPDATED FINANCING PLAN FOR THE OVERALL READINESS PREPARATION ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING FUNDS PLEDGED BY, AND A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY, OTHER DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

This section provides an updated financial plan for the overall readiness preparation activities according to each R-PP component. The table also includes a request to the PCPF for additional support for each component with further details and justification for the request being elaborated in section 6. The figures and cost estimations as outlined in Sudan's R-PP (column A) have not been updated since its development and submission to the FCPF. Since the implementation of the R-PP readiness preparation activities started, the PMU has gained a better understanding and insights into the activities required for Sudan's readiness and the costs involved. The original costs estimated for component 1 of the R-PP as shown in column A is clearly underestimated. The institutional arrangements as agreed under the FCPF support are established and consist of more than 30 personals, including the PMU staff, five sectorial focal points and 18 state-level focal points, in addition to the running costs of their offices and other facilities. Further, this component also covers stakeholder participation and consultations, including through platforms. The amount pledged for component 1 in column B includes both the support from the FCPF (USD 2,650,000) and the contribution of Sudan's Government (USD 320,000), however, this is still not sufficient to complete the remaining work related to capacity building and strengthening of the technical and institutional capacity of the national REDD+ management arrangements. The contribution of the Government of Sudan covers the additional salaries for the above-mentioned staff, in addition to the in-kind support in terms of offices at both national and sub-national levels. There is no over allocation as can be understood from the amount in the column titled "financing gap" as this merely presents the difference of the cost estimated in the R-PP and the costs pledged by the FCPF and the Government of Sudan. The last column, on request to the FCPF, presents cost estimates of requested additional funds, taking into account the current experience and knowledge.

Figure 22: Updated Budget as of 31.12.2016

Uses of Funds (in US\$ thousands)							
R-PP Component	Total needed (A) ⁸	Funds pledged (B) ⁹	Funds used ¹⁰		Funds available (= B – C) ¹¹	Financing gap (= A – B) ¹²	Request to FCPF ¹³
			Funds Commit-ted (C)	Funds Disbursed			
Component 1	545	1,970	1,579	733	391	-1,425	1,200
Component 2	3,390	850	623	-	227	2,540	800
Component 3	1,140	0	-	-	0	1,140	1,500
Component 4	2,745	1,300	1,273	471	27	1,445	1,500
TOTAL	7,820	4,120	3,474	1,204	646	3,700	5,000
Sources of Funds(in US\$ thousands)							
FCPF [specify activities being supported by the FCPF]		3,800	3,155	1,118	645		
Government of Sudan		320	320	86	0		
UN-REDD Programme (if applicable)		0			0		
Other Development Partner 1					0		
Other Development Partner 2 (GOS) [In-kind support: Offices Utilities, Staff, etc.]		100 ¹⁴					
TOTAL		4,120	3,475	1,204	645		

⁸ Total needed is the amount of resources necessary to complete a given component. All numbers in this table should be the latest numbers, which may not necessarily match the numbers in the original R-PP that was presented to the PC.

⁹ Funds pledged encompass the amount of funds promised by different donors and / or the national government to fund a specific component and available to the country.

¹⁰ Funds used refer to the amount of funds committed in signed contracts, and the portion of the funds committed that has already been disbursed.

¹¹ Available funds equal pledges minus commitments.

¹² Financing gap equals total needed minus pledged funds.

¹³ Request for additional funding from the FCPF (up to US\$ 5 million, subject to conditions set by Resolution PC/10/2011/1.rev being met).

¹⁴ In-kind contribution not well estimated and not included in the total in this table

6 SUMMARY STATEMENT OF REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO THE FCPF

Sudan appreciates the generous support of USD 3.8 million that the FCPF provided for the implementation of its R-PP. This grant has enabled progress to be made towards the overall objectives of the REDD+ readiness phase. With additional funding for the R-PP, Sudan will be positioned to take advantage of the UNFCCC's mechanism for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) to advance its national development priorities and to honour its commitments to international climate agreements.

In all the activities supported under this Grant Agreement, progress has been evident, and in line with objectives set in the R-PP and the assessment note as shown in this mid-term review. However, the assessment of the overall progress made in the implementation of R-PP, raises the need for additional support to complete some of the readiness activities that have not been covered under the FCPF Grant and activities that had to be put on hold as they are related to the outcomes parallel activities. In addition, the progress made in the implementation of activities support by the FCPF also raises the need for additional further work and resources to consolidating and enhancing achievements made to date. Given the knowledge and experience gained in the implementation of the readiness activities, it is clear that the remaining resources from the FCPF grant will not cover the implementation of all the identified gaps. This is particularly important since until now, Sudan has not received any support from other development partners to complement the FCPF support in the implementation of the R-PP. It is also important to mention that the Government of Sudan, motivated by its own development priorities and its international obligations, has made significant contributions to support the implementation of the readiness phase, both in-kind and cash, and has committed to continue this support for the national REDD+ process over the coming years.

As mentioned, Sudan's contribution to co-fund the implementation of the FCPF grant is more than USD 300,000 in cash (of which USD 86,000 are already paid and 170,000 are planned to be paid in 2017) to support the implementation arrangement of REDD+, including support for the coordinator, PMU staff members and 23 focal points (18 state level focal points and 5 sectoral focal points). This is in addition to the significant in-kind contribution the Government has made in terms of offices for the REDD+ secretariat at the national level (FNC HQ) and for the focal points at the sub-national level, hosted in FNC state offices. Further, the Government of Sudan pledged to support the NFI with seven vehicles and FNC technical staff.

The gaps due to the activities that are not covered under the FCPF Grant, activities that had to be put on hold due to related parallel activities, and activities that need further work to enhance and consolidate achievements made, include activities in the following components and sub-components:

- Component 1: Organize and consult (1A and 1B);
- Component 2: REDD+ Strategy, (2B, 2C and 2D);

- Component 3 Development of the National Reference Level; and
- Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards (4A and 4B).

Figure 23: Budget for Additional Funding

Brief description of outputs/activities to be supported with FCPF additional funds under the different components of Sudan's R-PP		Total amount in (000) USD
Component 1: Organize and consult	1.1. Strengthen the REDD+ management arrangements, including the establishment of the FGRM 1.2. Information sharing and early dialogue with key stakeholder groups and enhance participation and consultation	1200
Component 2: REDD+ Strategy	2.1. Preparation of the REDD+ Strategic options 2.2. Development of the REDD+ implementation framework 2.3. Social and environmental impacts during the REDD+ readiness and implementation	800
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level	3. Development of a national reference level	1500
Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards	4.1 Strengthening and enhancing the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) 4.2. Design an information system for multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards	1500
Total Budget		5000

Description of Activities:

Component 1: Organization and Consultation

1.1 Strengthen the REDD+ management arrangements, including the establishment of the FGRM

Under the current support from the FCPF, major outputs have been achieved in establishing functioning management arrangements for the national REDD+ process in Sudan, at both national and sub-national levels. The arrangements are well recognized by the government and civil society which have the basic knowledge and responsibilities to handle REDD+ readiness activities. However, in light of the many new and technical issues involved in the global REDD+ process, these institutional arrangements are considered still evolving in terms of their technical and institutional capacities to handle effectively the coordination of REDD+ readiness and implementation phases. The progress achieved during this mid-term review requires further work and support to strengthen and enhancing the management arrangements and coordination functions. There is a need to further define and document the roles and responsibilities, institutional links and coordination. Additional support is also necessary to build enhanced technical and institutional capacities of these arrangements particularly in the new technical areas of

REDD+ such as the SESA/ESMF, reference level, M&E, data management, communication and outreach, benefit-sharing, and grievance and redress.

Building on the achievements made and the momentum created to date, the additional funds are required to support the following outputs:

- Strengthen the REDD+ institutional arrangements at both national and state levels;
- Further define roles and responsibilities, institutional links, and mechanisms that enable effective preparation and implementation of the national REDD+ strategy.
- Establish continuous policy dialogues and coordination on natural resources management;
- Strengthen the REDD+ related partner institutions at both national and state level;
- Empower NGOs and CSOs, particularly, women, and forest-dependent and other local communities to effectively play their roles on REDD+; and
- Support for elaborating a process for the FPIC (free prior informed consent).

In terms of the establishment of the FGRM, more time is required to assess and strengthen the existing arrangements and legal procedures at both the state and federal level, taking into consideration customary arrangements, and implement them in all 18 states of Sudan.

1.2 Information sharing and early dialogue with key stakeholder groups and enhance participation and consultation

Despite the significant progress made to date under this sub-component, the consultation with the REDD+ Unit and members of steering and technical advisory committees reveal that there is need for further work to enhance participation and consultation of stakeholders at all levels. Given the complex process of developing the REDD+ strategy in an inclusive and participatory manner, further support is required to consolidate, enhance and ensure the effective participation, information-sharing and consultation along the development of REDD+ readiness and implementation phases. The resources remaining in the current FCPF grant need to be increased through additional funding to ensure full coverage of local and rural areas where most of the important targeted communities live. This is particularly important given the size of the country (18 states involved). The additional support will enhance and consolidate the mechanisms established for effective stakeholder participation and continuous consultations, including during the preparation and approval of the REDD+ strategy and the initiation phase of its implementation.

Additional finance is required to implement the activities further, as follows:

- Strengthen the stakeholder platform at both national and state level, including documentation and definition of their purpose, scope, membership, functions/objective and organization matters;
- Stakeholder mapping and analysis;
- Elaborate system/policy for Information sharing, accessibility and disclosure of information;

- Elaborate effective outreach material that suits the needs of the different groups of stakeholders and conduct outreach activities; and
- Support CSOs initiatives to empower local communities and ensure their effective participation and consultation on REDD+ issues.

Component 2: REDD+ Strategy

2.1 Support for the preparation of the REDD+ Strategic options

All the activities envisioned under the different components of the readiness phase will contribute to the development of the REDD+ strategy. However, there are a number of specific studies under this component, which have been planned to lay the ground for preparing the REDD+ strategy. These include studies on land-use and land tenure; drivers, governance, barriers and how to address them; the study on benefit-sharing; the study on strategic options, and the study on strategic environmental and social assessment (SESA). All these studies received support for implementation under the FCPF grant agreement. Since the project commenced significant progress has been made on these studies, including the establishment of working groups, preparation of TORs, field work and draft reports that were submitted. The complexity of the REDD+ strategy, which is arising from a number of new international policies and obligations require further work to better understand and absorb them within the national context. Therefore, additional studies and activities are envisioned to fill in some of the identified gaps in the implementation of the planned activities in the R-PP, and to cater for the needs arising from the results of the studies being implemented now under the FCPF grant.

In this context, additional resources are required to support the following:

- Develop national emission factors and other parameters for carbon stock change estimation and develop an emission reduction/GHGs estimation model for REDD+;
- Assess the implication on gender and how to address these in the preparation of the REDD+ strategy,
- Elaborate on the REDD+ policy and its integration into forest law/policies and other natural resources related policies and legislation; and
- Feasibility assessment of Strategic options.

2.2 Development of the REDD+ Implementation Framework

Under this sub-component, the readiness preparation requires participating countries to adopt an effective implementation framework, including legislation and regulations, a transparent benefit-sharing mechanism, a grievance mechanism, a publicly accessible national registry for information sharing, and a system for monitoring REDD+ activities. Sudan's R-PP defines the need for an implementation framework integrated with normative institutional arrangements, a national registry, a safeguard system, incentives to reduce deforestation and degradation, proper accounting of carbon rights, and equitable sharing of REDD+ related benefits. The FCPF support includes a study on grievance and redress mechanism and a study on options for benefit-sharing, which are under implementation during the MTR.

There is need to complete the remaining readiness activities required for putting in place an effective REDD+ implementation framework. Additional financial support is needed to implementation the following:

- Developing a national registry for REDD+;
- Developing national policy incentives, regulations and legislations to support and facilitate the implementation of the REDD+ strategy; and
- Developing a grievance and redress mechanism to operate at the national and sub-national levels, supported by adequate expertise, knowledge and awareness.

2.3 Social and Environmental Impacts during REDD+ Readiness and Implementation

Under this sub-component, the REDD+ readiness preparation requires countries to undertake a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and to develop an environmental and social management framework (ESMF) for managing environmental and social risks and potential impacts relating to the REDD+ implementation. This is to ensure that the national REDD+ strategy takes fully into consideration possible social and environmental impacts.

The implementation of SESA is supported under the FCPF grant and work is underway. However, as indicated in this MTR, the tasks required to conduct the SESA and develop the ESMF are comprehensive and require resources beyond the remaining funds from the FCPF grant. Also more time is needed to successfully complete the readiness phase to build a solid base for the REDD+ implementation. The SESA/ESMF are also linked to outcomes of other studies that are currently being implemented under component 2, such as the study on identification of strategic options for the REDD+ strategy. However, gaps and needs for further work are also expected to arise from the outcomes of the studies being implemented now.

Further, from the consultations and interviews conducted during the MTR, it has been recognized that the outcomes of this work, if successfully completed, require follow-up activities in terms of capacity-building, consultation, awareness raising and institutional strengthening to ensure the full implementation of the ESMF.

Component 3: Development of a National Reference Level

The RELs/RLs are to be used as a reference case for comparing and quantifying REDD+ activities (e.g. policy, measures, projects) performance. The RELs are linked to, and mostly based on projections from past or recent historical trends in biomass stock changes and associated emissions resulting mostly from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. Sudan plans to adopt an incremental approach (the UNFCCC stepwise approach) in the development of RELs/RLs to match the available institutional, human and financial resources. However, the RELs/RLs will be developed using the highest standards (UNFCCC and IPCC standards) and best possible sources of information, while considering the national capacity and circumstances.

Since the preparation of the R-PP no direct work has been undertaken to implement this component. The current FCPF support does not cover the establishment of a Forest Reference Emission Level/ Forest Reference Level(FREL/FRL), because Sudan first needs to develop a sound National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and generate reliable data for forest carbon stock change, which is needed for establishing the FREL/FRL. The establishment of the NFMS is supported by the FCPF Grant and the PMU made an agreement with FAO to undertake this work.

The preparation of a FREL/FRL as part of the readiness activities is key for Sudan to move into the second phase and develop its strategic options for emission reductions into implementable REDD+ projects and programmes. Therefore, there is an urgent need for additional support from the FCPF to enable Sudan to establish its reference levels.

Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards

4.1 Strengthening and Enhancing National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)

The FCPF supports the implementation of this sub-component of the R-PP in terms of designing the NFMS, which includes a national forest inventory (NFI), in addition to support for remote sensing and capacity-building for forest monitoring activities. The Government of Sudan agreed to provide support in terms of seven vehicles and inventory staff from both the national and state level FNC staff with some experts from the range and pasture administration and soil department to conduct this work.

However, the resources needed to complete the design of the NFMS and conduct an NFI, is certainly beyond the amount of resources allocated for this sub-component under the current FCPF grant which has been discussed with FAO during the negotiation of the agreement with them. Now FAO is embarking on the technical and logistical preparation to conduct the national forest inventory which is planned to start in February 2017. Given the complexity of the NFMS and the lack of capacity, both technically and institutionally, it is important to maintain, manage and improve the system over time. As such, more work and support is needed to enhance capacity of the inventory department within FNC and other partner institutions, including technical staff at both national and state levels.

Additional support can be used to assess, upgrade and introduce inventory-related equipment and technologies, such as remote sensing, modelling in the area of GHGs estimation, data archiving, quality assessment and quality control, and data management systems. This will ensure building technical capacity in the use of these technologies as well as in the areas of measurement, data management, and estimation of GHGs emission/removal. There is also a need for additional resources to complete the NFI and ensure high data quality and coverage.

4.2 Design an Information System for Multiple Benefits, other Impacts, Governance and Safeguards

Sudan plans to build a National REDD+ Information System to give information on the consideration of safeguards in the implementation of all the REDD+ activities. Sudan's REDD+ information system will build on the UNFCCC guidance as well as the policies of development partners on safeguards.

The system will need to identify potential positive impacts and benefits of REDD+ activities, operationalize measures to minimize or mitigate negative impacts while maximizing the positive impacts. It will also include monitoring and reporting issues and information sharing, as well as the need to ensure adequate institutional arrangements and capacities. The FCPF Grant supports a number of related activities under other sub-components, such the studies on land-use/land tenure, drivers and governance, benefits-sharing and the SESA. However, no provision of support is readily available to implement these activities as planned in the R-PP. Therefore, additional financial support is need to build an information system for multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards, building on the result of the parallel ongoing work.

7 ANNEXES

7.1 Annex 1: Climate Change Vulnerability in Sudan

The Republic of Sudan (hereinafter referred to as Sudan) is highly vulnerable to climate change and climate variability, predominantly a result of climatic and non-climatic factors (NAPA, 2007). These factors, in addition to the interaction of other multiple stresses such as ecosystem degradation, complex disasters and conflicts, and limited access to capital, markets, infrastructure and technology, have all reduced the country's ability to adapt to the impacts of climate change (AIACC WP No. 42, 2005; Zakieldeen, 2009).

Climatic factors constitute, above all, temperature increases and infrequent precipitation. Sudan's Second National Communication (SNC, 2013) illustrated that air temperatures have been steadily increasing over the period 1960 – 2009, with temperature increases between 0.2°C and 0.4°C per decade for the periods March – June, and June – September, respectively. When

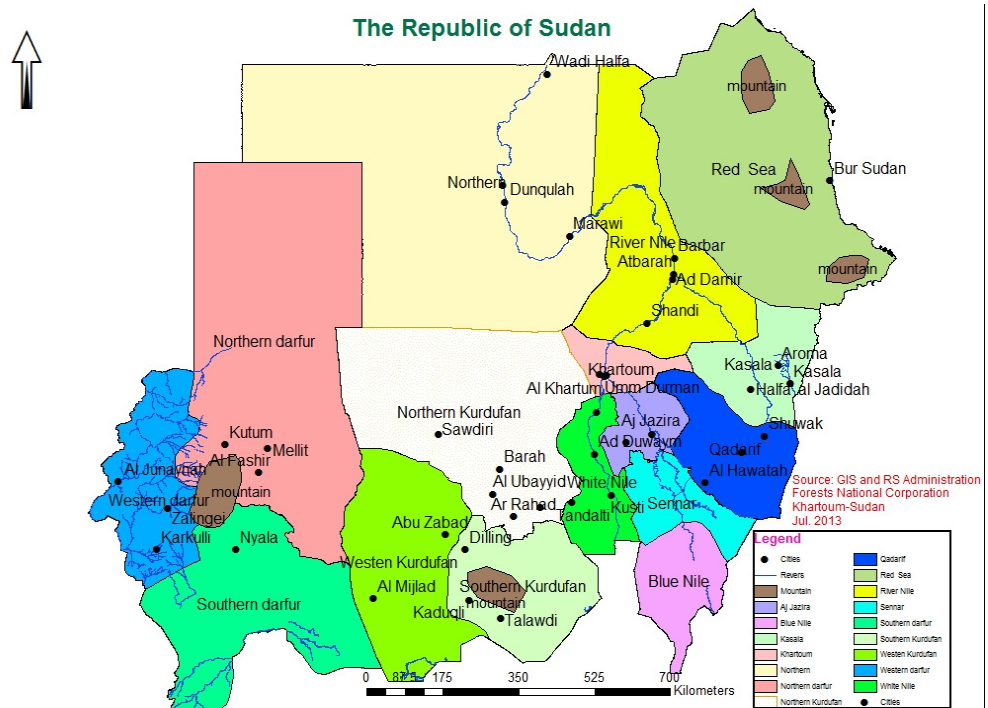


Figure 24: Map of Sudan

averaged across all seasons, temperatures in the 2000-2009 periods are roughly between 0.8°C and 1.6°C warmer than they were in the 1960 – 1969 period. Rainfall has also been very varying, and is becoming increasingly unpredictable. During the period 1981 – 2012 the rainfall in the whole country was significantly decreased compared to 1971 – 2000.

Both the SNC (2013) and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP, 2014) illustrate that the frequency of extreme climatic shocks is increasing, particularly droughts and floods. Frequent drought threatens about 19 million hectares of rain-fed mechanized and traditional farms, as well as the livelihoods of many pastoral and nomadic groups. More than 70% of the Sudanese people's livelihood depends on this sectors. Floods in Sudan can either be localized caused by exceptionally heavy rainfall or more widespread, caused by the overflow of the River Nile and its tributaries (NAPA, 2007).

In addition to climatic factors, non-climatic factors also contribute to the vulnerability of communities in different parts of Sudan. These include unsustainable management of natural resources, and socio-economic factors such as poverty, lack of income diversity, unequal distribution of income, urbanization, population growth, and lack of adequate infrastructure, and lack of international support and investments. The SNC, the Sudan's National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) and Sudan's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) have also highlighted the forest sector as one of the highest priority areas for Sudan due to the high rates of deforestation and forest degradation, and the importance of forests to the national economy and to people's livelihoods.

Having recognized the potential REDD+ offers to Sudan to address the impacts of climate change on its economy and communities and to enhance the country's resilience while contributing to the global efforts of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emission from deforestation and forest degradation, Sudan applied for support under the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) to implement the

7.2 Annex 2: Description of the Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Sudan

Sudan's forests cover about 11 per cent of its total surface, with an estimated annual rate of deforestation of about 542,000 ha, or about 2.4%. The most important drivers of deforestation and forest degradation include, amongst others:

- **Agricultural expansion:** which constitutes the biggest direct cause of deforestation rate as a result of the conversion of natural forests to cropland and pasture.
- **Energy consumption:** The energy sector is closely linked to deforestation through wood extraction for fuel and charcoal. Sudan depends mainly on the forestry sector as a household and industrial energy source.
- **Refugees and internally displaced people:** Contribute to the removal of forests to obtain their requirements of fuel-wood and building houses.
- **Insects, diseases and other hazards** that impact the health of forests, although little information is currently known about the extent to which this is the case. In addition, mismanagement of forest resources such as overgrazing that hinder natural regeneration and fires used for land preparation for cultivation contribute to deforestation and forest degradation.
- **Natural Disturbances:** such as drought which has been intensified, and is likely to be further exacerbated as a result of climate change.

7.3 Annex 3: Role of Forest Resources for the National Economy

Forests play a significant role in integrated land use systems in Sudan in the sense of socio-economic development and environmental protection functions. About 70 per cent of Sudan's population is rural and dependent on forests, wood energy and timber for their livelihoods.

The formal contribution of the forestry sector to the national economy is considered to be 3 per cent, although this seems to be much underestimated. This is, because the Bank of Sudan and the Ministry of Finance tend to only consider the direct revenues realized by the Forest National Corporation and export proceeds from forest products as contributions to the national economy.

Income generation from forests in Sudan include income at the government level (federal, state and local), household and the private sector. Various sources of income generation presently under government control can be listed including direct sales of wood products such as fuel wood, construction timber and sawn timber. Sudan's forests produce a diversity of Non-Wood Forest Product (NWFPs) that constitute potential sources for industrial development for local use and for export. NWFPs provide the main employment and income opportunities particularly for the elders and women from the collection, processing and marketing of NWFPs.

At local level, the cottage industry is recognized at many households. Cottage industries could make up to 20-50% of rural household income, amounting to about USD 1 billion a year. Traditional cottage industry supplies the market with many products that are attractive to tourists.

7.4 Annex 4: Implementation Arrangements Surrounding the National REDD+ Program (NRP)

Since the preparation of the R-PP, the FNC served as REDD+ National Focal Point which also hosted the National REDD+ Coordination Office (NRCO). The NRCO composed of a coordinator and two assistants within FNC's General Administration of Planning. Two of its main tasks were:

- i. Inception of Sudan National REDD+ Programme; and
- ii. Provision of secretariat and logistic support to national REDD+ process.

The work of the REDD+ Coordination Office was particularly supported by the Sudan REDD+ National Steering Committee (SRNSC) which was summoned and chaired by the president of the HCENR, Sudan's focal point for international environmental agreements and responsible for coordinating on environmental and natural resources issues. The SRNSC was made of representatives of environment and natural resource-related line ministries, NGOs and CSOs, private sector institutions, UNDP, UNEP, FAO and the World Bank. The main role of SRNSC was to coach, facilitate REDD+ activities in Sudan and to coordinate cooperation between, and solicit financial & technical support from these UN and other Development Partners throughout the REDD+ preparation and implementation phases. The NRCO provided secretariat support to SRNSC. Both the NRCO and the SRNSC continue to function, and will be enhanced under the readiness phase.

In addition, two task forces were established to develop the relevant components of the R-PP:

- **Task Force I:** Was composed of national and international consultants, a National Support Group & the SRNSC. Courteously supported by DFID & UNEP, Task Force I was assigned Sudan REDD+

Strategy preparation. It was resolved after it successfully submitted its situation analysis report on Sudan REDD+ Strategy.

- **Task Force II:** Was composed of the SRNSC, representatives of FNC, HCENR, Ministry of Agriculture & Forests (MAF), Range & Pasture Administration (RPA), the Sudanese Forestry Society (SFS), the Sudanese Environment Conservation Society (SECS), Sudan Community Forestry Society (SCFS), Faculty of Forestry (FoF) & Institute of Environmental Studies (IES) of University of Khartoum (UoK), as well as a broad spectrum of collaborating national experts. The work of this task force was financially supported by UNDP, UNEP and the World Bank and aimed to prepare Sudan's R-PP.

7.5 Annex 5: List of interviewees during MTR of Sudan's REDD+ Readiness

No	Names	Affiliation	Relation to REDD+ Readiness
1	Eiman Elrasheed Diab	National Research Center	Steering Committee
2	Salaheldin Tambel	Ministry of Agriculture	Steering Committee
3	Elamin Sanjak	University of Khartoum	Steering Committee
4	Elwathig	FAO Sudan Office	Steering Committee
5	Abdelmoniem	Range & Pasture Admin.	Technical Advisory Committee
6	Osman Omer	FNC HQ Technical Departm.	Technical Advisory Committee
7	Samir Budr	Ministry of Mining	Technical Advisory Committee
8	Rebab Ahmed	HCENR, climate hange	Technical Advisory Committee
9	Hassan Elamin	FNC Algazeera State	Sectoral focal point (Central region)
10	Amna Ahmed Osman	FNC North Darfour State	Sectoral Focal Point (Darfour region)
11	Balla Musa	FNC Gedarif State	Sectoral Focal Point (Eastern region)
12	Mona Mohamed Rakhi	FNC North Kordofan State	Sectoral Focal Point (Kordofan region)
13	Hanadi Kamal	FNC Sinnar State	State Focal Point
14	Gamal Eltayeb	FNC Bule Nile State	State Focal Point
15	Anour Haron	FNC South Darfour State	State Focal Point
16	Abdalla Hagouna	FNC South Kordofan State	State Focal Point

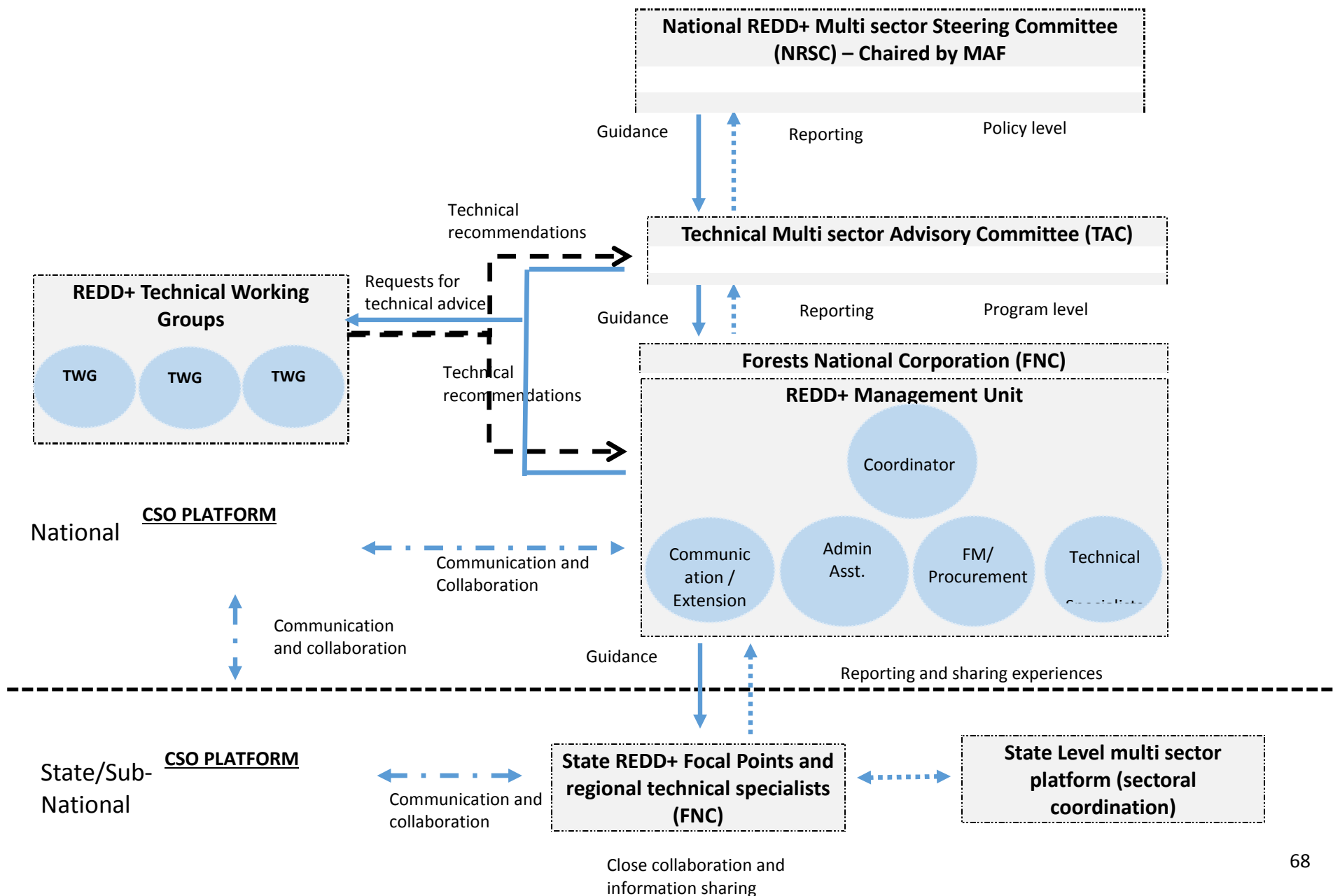
17	Adil Ahmed Algrash	FNC Kassala State	State Focal Point
18	Ali Abuelkaram Alzain	Sudan's Pastoralists Union	REDD+ CSOs Platform
19	Ilham Tarig Sirelkhatim	Environmentalists Society	REDD+ CSOs Platform
20	Khalda Mohamed Osman	Sawa Sudan for Development and Humanitarian and Aid	Developing a CSOs network for REDD+
21	Awadalla Ibrahim Adam	Gum Arabic Company, private sector	REDD+ CSOs Platform

7.6 Annex 6: Documents Reviewed by the Consultant during Sudan' MTR

1. Sudan Readiness Preparation Proposal, 9 June 2014
2. Readiness Preparation Proposal Assessment Note, On A Proposed Grant, in the amount of 3.8 million USD to the Republic of Sudan, from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), February 2015.
3. A Guide to the FCPF Readiness Assessment Framework, June 2013
4. Sudan REDD+ Annual country progress report, Sept 2015 –Aug 2016
5. Update progress report of Sudan REDD+ programme, Oct – Dec 2016
6. REDD+ Programme Financial Status Report
7. FCPF Readiness Fund, Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners, rev 10 August 2011
8. FCPF Readiness Fund: Mid-term Progress Reporting Template Version 1, for country use (27 August 2012)
9. Consultant Term of Reference
10. Annotated Framework for the National REDD+ Strategy of the Government of Sudan, also refer to as Situation Analysis Report March 2012, prepared by a team of international consultant provided by UNEP SIEP Sudan and national consultant and team of national experts from number of REDD+ related Institutions
11. Term of Reference for developing benefit sharing for Sudan's REDD+ programme
12. Inception report by the consultant on developing benefit sharing for Sudan's REDD+ programme, by Dr. Elamin Sanjak
13. Term of Reference for developing Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation for Sudan's REDD+ Programme
14. Draft Communication plan
15. Term of Reference for developing communication strategy for REDD+ Programme
16. Term of Reference for study on land-use, land tenure for REDD+ Programme
17. Term of Reference for developing
18. Term of Reference for developing for REDD+ PMU staff
19. Reports of meetings of Steering committee, technical advisory committee,
20. Reports of 17 the workshops organized at the state level

21. Lists of names of members of working groups on MRV, Safeguards,
22. Field Manual for Sudan national forest resources monitoring and assessment, February 2016
23. Agreement with FAO Sudan to develop a national forest monitoring system (NFMS)
24. Term of Reference for developing Feedback, Redress and Grievance Mechanism for REDD+ Programme
25. Term of Reference for Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) for Sudan REDD+ Programme
26. Term of Reference for developing National REDD+ Strategy for Sudan REDD+ Programme
27. www.reddsudan.org

7.7 Annex 7: Institutional Arrangements for Implementing REDD+



7.8 Annex 8: Tentative List of Stakeholders for implementation of REDD+ in Sudan

Ministries	Related Formal Institutions	Others
Ministry of Animal Resource, Range & Pasture	Wildlife Department	Pastoralist Union
Ministry of Electricity & Dams	Electricity Generation & Distribution Companies	
Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Ministries of Agriculture & Livestock, • Agricultural Research Corporation, • Forestry Research Centre, • Land use Department 	Farmers' Union
Ministry of Minerals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mining companies • Individual miners 	
Ministry of Communications	Communications & Information Technology Companies	
Ministry of Energy	Petroleum Exploration & Producing Companies	
Ministry of Information & Culture	Public Media, e.g. TV, Radio, newspapers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pens & Artists Unions, • Individual journalists & playwrights
Ministry of Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zakat Bureau, • Microfinance Schemes • Women Groups • SECS • Sudanese Forestry Society • Practical Action 	
Ministry of Higher Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities & Training Institutes • Remote sensing Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching Staff • Individual Experts & Consultants
Ministry of Human Resources Development & Labour	Training & Capacity Building Institutes	Workers' Trade Unions
Ministry of Finance & Central Bank of Sudan	National Council for Strategic Planning	Microfinance Schemes

Ministry of Environment, Forests & Physical Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FNC • HCENR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sudanese forestry society • Sudanese Environmental Conservation Society • Social Forestry Society • Environmentalists Society • Gum Arabic associations
Presidency & Ministry of Council of Ministers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Council of Population • Gum Arabic Board • National Strategic Planning Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade Unions • Women`s Union
National Assembly (Parliament)	State Legislatures	Native Administration (e.g. Emirs, Nazirs, Sheikhs, etc.)
Private Sector	DAL& KSC, Small businesses, small size sawmills, carpentry & furniture workshops, Gum Processors & Exporters, Whole Sale & Retailers of Wood & NWFPs	

7.9 Annex 9: List of Participants at the Workshop for engaging Non-Governmental Organizations and Civil Society in the Sudan REDD+ Programme held on November 19, 2015

Name	Organization	Tel/ Email address
Ikhlas Eltiab Ismail	Babiker Badri Scientific Society for Women	0918176717
Awadalla Ibrahim Adam	Gum Arabic Company	0912767121
Mohamed Awad	Gum Arabic Company	0912980712
Mohamed Ismail Abdalla Mohamed	Environmentalists Society	091294973
Ibrahim Rahamtalla Hamid	Sudanese Social Forestry Society	0918282757
Adil Abdalla Rabih	Sudanese Horticultural Society	0912993648
Amani Khamis Awad	Alum eltali Daily Newspaper	0912242290
Ilham Tarig Sirelkhatim	Environmentalists Society	0914425299
Raga Ahmed Dafalla	Higher studies Student, University of Khartoum	0113707707
Magda Mohamed Ali Huessein	Sociologist, Forests National Corporation	0916246272
Mahmoud Ibrahim Yagi	Sudanese Horticultural Society	0912446615
Huda Abdel Gadir Abdalla	Sudanese Environment Conservation Society	09126658518
Amuma Mohamed Ahmed	Range and Pasture Administration	0914570524
Muna Hussein Hamad	Sahel Centre, FNC	0128084002
Amani Ibrahim Ahmed	FNC	0914114102
Dr. Abdelrahim Salih Fedail	SOS Sahel Sudan	0912951721

Dr. Yahia Hamid Ali Elbasheer	Green March/ Planting trees for Environmental Protection	0915223732
Yousif Idris	Green March/ Planting trees for Environmental Protection	0912865561
Ali Abuelkaram Alzain	Sudan's Pastoralists Union	0912823850
Prof. Muna Magoub. M. Ahemed	Technology Transfer Society in the field of Agriculture	0912149607
Muna Farough	Altair Daily Newspaper	0913879257
Hala Adam Abdalla	Babiker Badri Scientific Society for Women	0122377668
Sawasan Abdalla Ali Ibrahim	Sudanese Forestry Society	0918107914
Prof. Talaat Dafalla Abdel Magid	Sudanese Forestry Society	0918110780

7.10 Annex 10: Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism

