



Readiness Fund REDD+ Country Participants Progress Report Template

June2019



FCPF Readiness Fund: REDD+ Country Participant Annual Progress Report

About this document

This template is for use by Readiness Fund (RF) REDD+ Country Participants to report their annual progress on REDD+ readiness activities in general, and on FCPF-supported activities in particular. The data provided through these reports represents a central information source for measuring progress against the FCPF's expected results and performance indicators, as articulated within the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework.

Report preparation

Reports cover progress through 30th June of each year.

When preparing the report, RF REDD+ Country Participants should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD+ (component 6 of the R-PP) and should consult members of the national REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated, with any divergent views recorded as appropriate. Detailed, indicator-by-indicator definitions and reporting guidance are provided within the FCPF M&E Framework (<https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/monitoring-and-evaluation-0>).

Reporting schedule

Completed reports should be submitted to the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) by **15th July** every year.

SECTION A: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. In brief, what were the main REDD+ readiness-related activities and achievements delivered within your country during the last year?

- Activities - For example, strategy / policy drafting, stakeholder consultation events, capacity building / training, awareness raising initiatives
- Achievements -For example, x number of individuals attended REDD+ consultations (sex disaggregated, if available), national REDD+ strategy was finalised, government formally adopted national REDD+ related policy/s, NFMS was established, partnership agreement with private sector association signed
- Please be as specific as possible, e.g. name, date and number of participants in consultation events (sex disaggregated, if available), name of policy being drafted, institutions involved in policy drafting

Sudan's REDD+ Readiness process made significant progress in respect to develop the REDD+ mechanism in forestry sector, the key activities during reporting period include:

- A total of 11165(7332males, 3833female) individuals attended consultations in various REDD+ topics such safeguards, REDD+ knowledge, FGRM, Benefit Sharing and role of women in forestry sector. Out of the total3151 (1513 males, 839 Females) individuals were attended consultations on REDD+ topics during the reporting period.
- Sudan's R-package was endorsed in March 2019 at the PC 27th meeting in Washington DC. R-Package's self-assessment process was conducted during the period 23 December 2018 to 7 January 2019. In total, 74 representatives of nine stakeholder groups have participated in the self-assessment process, of which 43 percent werewomen. Participants include PMU staff, state focal points, members of the Technical Advisory Committee, the Steering Committee, and the Technical Working Groups, as well as representatives from 10 civil society organizations and two development partners.

- As Part of Sudan's REDD+ institutional arrangements, Feedback Grievances Redress Mechanism (FGRM) was developed in line with FCPF RAF guidance.
- FGRM validation workshop was conducted on the 27th September 2018, the specific objectives of the workshop were (i) Sharing the study and its results with the project stakeholders (ii) Providing a platform for the discussion of developing Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism for Sudan's REDD+ programme issues. The Workshop was attended by 45 persons out of whom 64 % were males and 36% were females. The participants involved a wide spectrum of representation including staff of Forests National Corporation (FNC); Research Institutions; Educational Institutions; Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources; Private sector; Related Ministries (Ministries of Agriculture and Forests, Minerals, Oil and Gas, Animal Resources; Department of Wildlife); Sudanese Agricultural Council; CSOs; and interested researchers and environmental activists.
- The steering committee met on the 17th January 2019, the meeting includes high level and political members representing institutions related to REDD+. The meeting chaired by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests.
- Sudan's Program Management Unit (PMU) organized monthly meeting to oversee the implementation of readiness activities.
- SESA validation workshop was conducted on the 10th August 2018. The workshop was attended by 54 participants (34 Males, 20 Females) representing relevant REDD+ institutions in Sudan.
- REDD+ Sudan organized Regional workshop during the period 16 – 18 September 2018, in Khartoum, at The Grand Holiday Villa Hotel. A total of 100 participants attended the workshop. They represented different REDD+ countries (Kenya, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Uganda, and South Africa in addition to Sudan participants). The 18 REDD+ focal points at states, line ministries, Gum Arabic producer association, Civil Society Organization and Indigenous People organization, analytical studies consultants, and private sector also participated in this regional workshop. The workshop's main objectives were (i) to share the lessons learnt and exchange the experiences, with countries in the region, on designing and implementing REDD+ national strategies and emissions reduction programs and drive applicable lessons for Sudan and (ii) to share experiences from the Capacity Building Program for Indigenous People (IPs) in REDD+ readiness in Africa (MPDIO & PACJA) funded by the FCPF.
- During the reporting period, the readiness capacity-building support program covered 10 PMU staff. The program covered areas such as Monitoring and Evaluation, Procurement, communication and financial management.
- The World Bank conducted a technical backstopping mission to monitor progress and provide technical support to the management arrangements in September 2018.
- During September and October 2018, awareness and consultation workshops about REDD+ Knowledge and benefits were conducted in Red Sea, River Nile and Northern states, a total of 215 were participated (160 males, 55 females) from relevant stakeholders.
- The Sudan REDD+ PMU organised a three-day training (31 July - 2 August 2018) on Transformational leadership and Emotional Intelligence to provide insights on how to build emotionally Intelligent Leaders for outstanding performance under the REDD+ Project. The workshop was attended by members of the Non-Governmental Organisations engaged in the forestry and environmental issues, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Animals, Oil and Gas, Forest National Corporation, Free Lance Consultant, wildlife authority and REDD+ Sudan Staff. A total of 36 members participated of whom 20 were males and 16 females.
- More than 5000 publications about REDD+ knowledge and visibility package for the REDD+ have been designed and distributed (caps, mugs, pens, notebooks, mouse pad, key tag, and calendar).
- The new website for REDD+ Sudan was launched and the information updated periodically: www.reddplusd.org
- REDD+ Sudan implemented capacity building support through exchange visit to Ethiopia between the period of 2-8 September 2018, in which 16 representatives participated including members from FNC, Ministry of Animal Resources, Wildlife Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Technical NFI officers (White Nile and North Kordofan), Ministry of Finance, IFAD / FNC and TAC members. The objective of the visit was to share experiences between Sudan and Ethiopia in mainstreaming REDD+ in the development policy agenda, land tenure, land use planning, benefit sharing, FRL/ERL, NFI and involvement of key stakeholders with focus on the youth and gender in forest landscape management.
- Regarding the contribution of the gum Arabic belt in the mitigation of climate change, reducing emissions, economic values and social importance, REDD+ Sudan organized gum Arabic workshop in Al-Obeid, the capital of North Kordofan State in February 7- 8, 2019. The workshop was attended by 153 participants (49 females and 104 males), representing stakeholders, and executive entities, producers of gum Arabic, gum Arabic associations, gum Arabic Research Centre in North of Kordofan, University of Kordofan, University of Khartoum, Agricultural Research

Corporation and civil leaders. The workshop was honored by the attention and the speech presented by the Governor of North Kordofan State.

- REDD+ Sudan organized Mangrove forests workshop during the periods of 21-24 January 2019 in the Red Sea State. The main objectives of the workshop were to identify the current status of the Mangrove trees and its ecosystem on Sudan Red Sea coastal areas, their role in mitigating climatic change and to highlight their environmental and social importance, and the way forward focusing on national determine contribution based to attract fund for blue carbon. A total of 156 participants (52 females and 104 males) were participated.
- Between the periods of 25th February – 3rd March 2019, REDD+ Sudan organized a training for the States' focal points in Dubai. The training title "advanced project management to build capacities for future REDD+ implementation". 26 members were participating in the training.
- The PMU organized two meetings with the internship program's researchers to follow up the progress on their research and studies on November 2018 & April 2019.
- As part of developing gender mainstreaming strategy, an assignment which is undertaken by the Sudanese Environment Conservation Society (SECS); a National NGO, SECS conducted 11 awareness campaigns in 7 states during February and March 2019 reaching about 2127 members (1078 males, 585 females and 464 children). In addition to 5 forums with participation of 290 members (187 males and 103 females). www.secs.org.sd/redd
- SECS prepared the first part of the gender mainstreaming strategy, which contains the first draft of both the Needs Assessment and the Stakeholders Analysis.
- SECS produced a documentary film depicting the role of women in forestry sector.
- FAO continued disseminating visibility materials such as pens and mugs. A reprint of three FAO publications has been commissioned by the project and (partially) distributed to stakeholders: (i) "From reference levels to results reporting: REDD+ under the UNFCCC 2018 update" (80 copies); (ii) Voluntary Guidelines on Wildfire Monitoring" (Arabic, 100 copies); (iii) "Community-Based Wildfire Management" (100 copies).
- FAO and FNC completed the main phase of the data-collection of the National Forest Inventory (NFI).
- FAO continued efforts for strengthening the Remote Sensing Unit within FNC through on-the-job-training. FAO recruited a National Consultant for Remote Sensing who is based at FNC.
- FAO procured very high resolution images (VHRI) to support validation of results and activity data generation.
- FAO is working to consult the remote sensing authority to develop activity data for FRL/ERL
- FAO fielded on the 28th October a scoping mission from FAO HQ to kick-start wildfire activities. FAO and FNC organized a national stakeholder workshop with 40 participants from the federal and state levels.
- FAO hired a national consultant to develop a strategic report for fire management in the context of reducing emissions from burned forests and strengthen the capacity of the FNC staff.
- Between the periods of January and February, a series of workshops were held by FAO, FNC and RSSA in five states to raise awareness on modern approaches of fire management and monitoring. The workshops intended as well to get a better understanding of traditional (community-based) fire management strategies and practices, and to understand drivers of wildfire. In total, 250 representatives from various government institutions and communities attended the workshops and the discussion groups.
- FAO financed the participation of the FNC Focal Point for Wildfire at the "Workshop of the Working Group on Forest fires – Silva Mediterranea, Leon (Spain), 19-23 November 2018", and the annual meeting of the Near East Network on Wild land Forest Fire (NENFIRE) in Lebanon (26-28 February 2019). An article titled "Managing wildfires in Sudan using satellite remote sensing data" was published in the February issue of the UNREDD Newsletter. [<https://www.unredd.net/announcements-and-news/2950-managing-wildfires-in-sudan-using-satellite-remote-sensing-data.html>]
- According to FAO report, the original plan for submitting the FREL in January 2019 could not be met and FAO recommended FNC to postpone the submission of the FREL to January 2020. This recommendation was based on the following considerations; (i) Ensure adequate national capacity is built and well-trained team is in place to conduct the required reviews by UNFCCC Secretariat, as well as to autonomously develop other (sub-) national FRELs; (ii) Ensure reliable country-specific data is generated to support the credibility of the methodology applied by the country for FREL construction.
- FAO conducted the second and third FREL national workshop in October 2018 and February 2019 respectively with participation of relevant stakeholders.
- In November 2018, FAO fielded a scoping mission with the aim to assess institutional arrangements, conduct a gap analysis and training needs assessment. In the framework of this mission, a stakeholder meeting with approximately 45 participants was organized.

- On the 11th February 2019, REDD+ Sudan supported Ozone Layer Protection Organization which is local NGO to conduct Mangrove forests forum to support the information and data about mangrove. A total of 90 members were participated (50 females, 40 males). Participants include research corporation, universities, government institutions and NGOs.
- Result framework and activities data base were updated on regular basis.
- One steering committee meeting, 6 FREL task force meeting and 9 PMU meetings were conducted during the reporting period.
- The PMU attended World Bank country office monthly meeting to provide an update on Readiness implementation activities.
- World Resource Institute (WRI) submitted a draft technical Report on Public and private financing options in Sudan and a resource mobilization plan for further investment in FLR on 30 April, 2019, as part of the "Forest Landscape Restoration for Sudan REDD+ Programme" project.
- During 25-26 June 2019, WRI organized roundtable discussion with participation of government officials, non-profits, universities and private sector representatives from Sudan and Ethiopia. Participants discussed the best practices in market-led forest landscape restoration (FLR), with a focus on gum Arabic production. The roundtable took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- UNIQUE organization consulted to carry out the study of the private sector engagement; and they submitted an inception report for the Private Sector Engagement in Reforestation Initiatives study.
- The TOR for the National REDD+ strategy update is developed and reviewed.
- The technical and financial proposal for SESA update is received and reviewed.
- Mining study's inception report received and the consultation process with relevant stakeholders is ongoing.
- Inception report on Pilot study and information tracking system is received.
- A benefit sharing mechanism has been drafted and validated to guide the process for sharing potential benefits from the REDD+ program. This process has been inclusive and has required robust consultations at the local, district, regional and national levels

2. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related challenges and/or problems during the last year?

- For example, lack of engagement from key stakeholders, political barriers, limited funding

- The political instability and the volatile security situation in Sudan have hindered the implementation of the activities and have stopped the transfer of funds to Sudan temporarily, until the government is reinstated.

3. What are the main REDD+ readiness-related activities that you hope to deliver, and achievements anticipated during the next year?

- For example, hold x consultation events, submission of R-Package to the PC, finalisation of SIS, commission research into REDD+ strategy options

- Continue strengthening the technical and institutional capacities of the REDD+ management arrangements particularly at the state level, in areas such as program management (managerial capacity) and communication skills. Technical skills in areas related to REDD+ implementation such as FREL/FRL, NFMS, ESMF, FGRM, benefit-sharing as well as financial management systems of development partners and skills for coordinating the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy, including emission reduction programs.
- Continue to translate all documents to Arabic to support the stakeholders to understand the implementation of REDD+.
- Implementation of the second round of the REDD+ state forums and the campaigns as part of the gender mainstreaming strategy.
- Finalize the designing and development of the FREL/FRL and then to be validated and submitted to the UNFCCC for technical assessment before January 2020.

- The initiation of the information system for multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards by August 2019.
- Complete the development of NFMS/MRV, including the NFI, institutional arrangements by October 2019.
- Continue to support civil society organization platforms at the national and state levels to improve stakeholder's engagement in REDD+ process.
- Complete the procurement of IT equipment and office remodelling to carry out additional fund activities.
- Finalize the Forest Landscapes Restoration Assessment & National Strategy Report
- Finalization of Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and Comprehensive Workshop Series.
- Finalize the Private Sector Engagement in Reforestation Initiatives Report.
- Completion of mining study.
- Completion of SESA Enhancement.
- Conduct South-South Exchange - Learning and sharing experiences & lessons.
- Design National REDD+ Pilot Program.
- Continue enhancing GHG Inventory and remote sensing.
- Finalization of National REDD+ strategy.

SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

4. Please provide your own assessment of national progress against all REDD+ readiness sub-components:

(Indicator OV.1.B: Number of FCPF supported countries that have in place a National REDD+ Strategy, FREL/FRL, NFMS and SIS; Output 1.3 indicators)

Progress rating key:

Complete	The sub-component has been completed
	Significant progress
	Progressing well, further development required
	Further development required
	Not yet demonstrating progress
N/A	The sub-component is not applicable to our process

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
R-PP Component 1: Readiness Organisation and Consultation		
Sub-component 1a: National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Complete	x
	N/A	
The national REDD+ management arrangements are well established, with excellent technical and managerial capacities to fully exercise the range of functions required to successfully implement the national REDD+ program. The PMU was established in early 2015 and consists of a coordinator, a technical adviser, procurement and finance sections, a monitoring and evaluation office, and a communication, project management, and public relations office. At the sub-national (state) level, REDD+ management arrangements consist of REDD+ focal point offices in each of the 18 states of Sudan. The Forest National Corporation hosts the REDD+ management arrangements and provides financial, technical and logistical support to its offices at the national and state		

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
		levels. The REDD+ arrangements are also supported by a national REDD+ steering committee, a technical advisory committee, a safeguards specialist and five working groups.
Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach	Complete	X
	N/A	
R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation		
Sub-component 2: REDD+ Strategy	Complete	
		X
	N/A	

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
		international consultant. The national REDD+ strategy update is planned to be finalized by December 2019.
Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Complete	X
	N/A	
Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	Complete	
		X
	N/A	
Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework	Complete	
		X
	N/A	
Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts	Complete	
		X
	N/A	
R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels		
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	Complete	
		X

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
		consultation workshops on environmental and social safeguards have been conducted by the safeguards specialist and the PMU on a sectorial basis and following a cluster of states approach, thereby covering all relevant stakeholders in 18 states.

SECTION C: NON-CARBON BENEFITS

5. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods(e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at livelihoods; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates livelihoods)?

(Indicator 3.2.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
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If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach:

Sudan REDD+ strategy will address the livelihood for local people in the means of strategy options; exploitation of non-wood forest products and conservation of forest cover as well as the incentives of non-carbon benefits. The strategy will also cover support for community development such as health and education. The TORs to revise and update the strategy has been developed and expected to be finalized by December 2019.

6. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity(e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at biodiversity conservation; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates biodiversity conservation)?

(Indicator 3.3.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
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If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach

Sudan REDD+ strategy will address the livelihood for local people as outlined in the strategy options; exploitation of non-wood forest products and conservation of forest cover, which will result in conserving biodiversity.

SECTION D: FINANCE

(Please complete in US\$ ONLY)

7. Please detail the amount of allfinance received in support of development and delivery of your national REDD+ readiness process since the date that your R-PP was signed. Figures should only include secured finance (i.e. fully committed) – ex ante, (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions should not be included:

(Indicator 1.B: Amount of finance received to support the REDD+ Readiness process (disaggregated by public, private, grants, loans))

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Date committed (MM/YY)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
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EXAMPLES:

\$500,000	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	10/2013	Public	Grant
\$250,000	Ministry of Forestry	01/2014	Public	Grant

\$ 3.8 Million	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	03/2015	Public	Grant
\$ 5 Million	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	03/2018	Public	Grant
\$			Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$			Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$			Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$			Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

8. Please detail any ex ante (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions that you hope to secure in support of your national REDD+ readiness process:

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

Sudan has outlined a resource mobilization plan which will involve knowledge exchange with Rwanda in Q1/Q2 of FY20.

SECTION E: FCPF PERFORMANCE

9. To help build an understanding of the FCPF strengths, weaknesses and contributions to REDD+, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.B: Participant Countries' assessment of FCPF's role within and contribution to national REDD+ processes)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
The FCPF's support has had a central influence on the development of our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has improved the quality of our national REDD+ systems and processes				X	

The FCPF's support has improved national capacities to develop and deliver REDD+ projects				X	
The FCPF's support has helped to ensure substantive involvement of multiple stakeholders (including women, IPs, CSOs and local communities in our national REDD+ systems and processes					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

10. To help assess the usefulness and application of FCPF knowledge products (publications, seminars, learning events, web resources), please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:
 (Indicator 4.3.a: Extent to which FCPF learning, evidence and knowledge products are used by Participant countries)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
We regularly access FCPF knowledge products to obtain REDD+ related information					X
FCPF knowledge products are relevant to our REDD+ related information requirements				X	
FCPF knowledge products are sufficient to address all of our REDD+ related information requirements				X	
The FCPF website is a useful resource for accessing FCPF and REDD+ related information					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

SECTION F: FINAL COMMENTS

11. If appropriate, please provide any further comments or clarifications relating to your work on REDD+ Readiness during the last year:

The FCPF REDD+ Readiness project is transforming the environment for managing the forest sector and to continually establishing the value addition of the forest sector to the economy of the country. It has helped build strong collaboration across sectors – forestry, agriculture, economic planning. It has strengthened collaboration across government, civil society and academia in identifying solutions to forest loss. The private sector are keen and have been contributing to meaningful dialogue on leveraging financing to support investment operations. The cross-sectoral governance mechanism involving the Steering Committee, the Advisory Committee, the Technical Working Groups has promoted innovative solutions to tackling forest loss.