



The Republic of Sudan
Ministry of Agriculture & Forests

SUDAN NATIONAL REDD+ PROGRAMME (FCPF/GRANT)

Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)

SUDAN R-PACKAGE

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Sudan's REDD+ Readiness Program

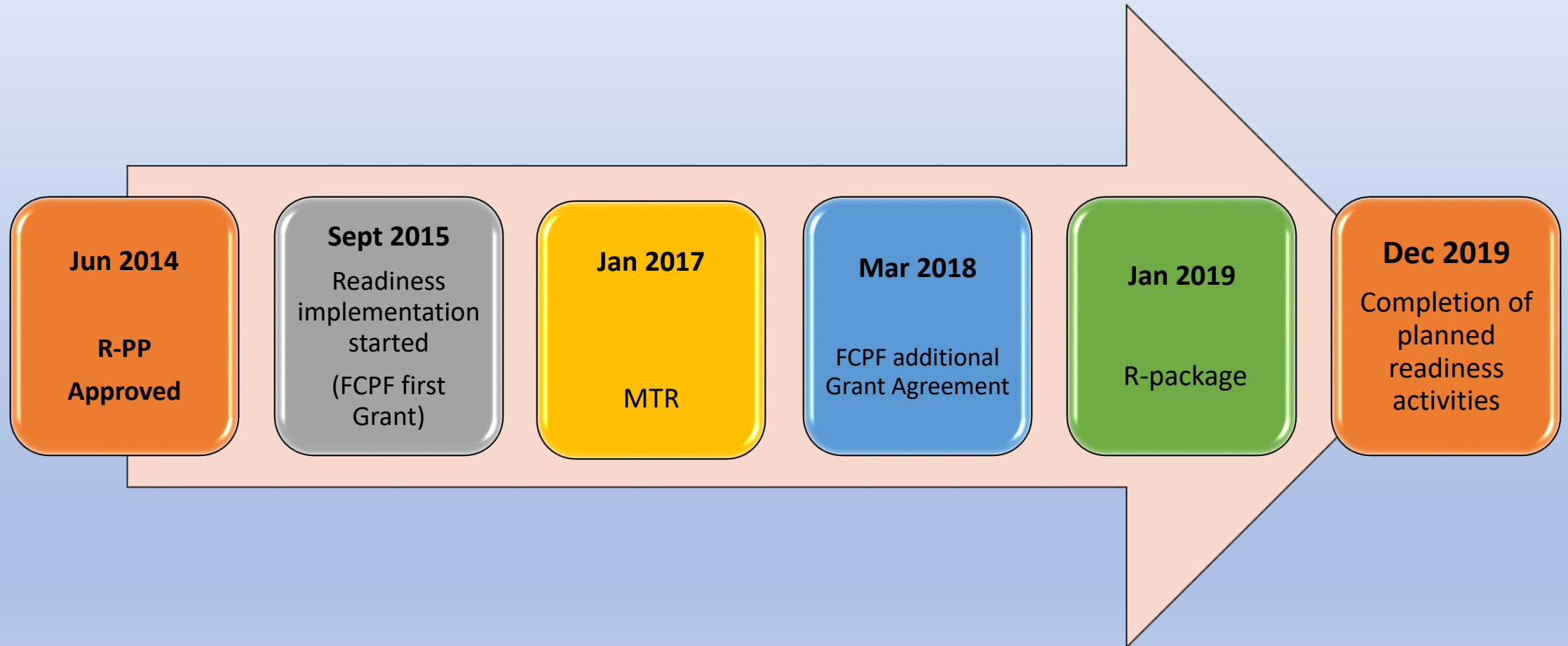
Objective

The primary objective of Sudan's readiness is to strengthen the country's capacity to design a socially and environmentally sound national Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) strategy.

With special focus on:

- Institutional arrangements
- Social and environmental safeguards
- Feedback, Grievances and Redress Mechanism
- Forest Reference Emission Level
- National Forest Monitoring System

Development of readiness preparation in Sudan



Progress of the Readiness Implementation

Component 1: national REDD+ management arrangements (PMU)

- Well-established and functioning PMU
- M&E and communication officers added based on MTR recommendations
- Hosted and being integrated into FNC
- Mostly seconded staff with adequate expertise
- Team work spirit and technically supported by members of the TAC and TWGs
- Ongoing capacity development on technical and managerial issues
- Standing commitment and provisions of financial, technical and logistic support from the government through FNC
- Fund raising strategy, including resource mobilization plan and training on funding proposals
- Delivered the first Grant Agreement within its planned timeframe



Component 1: National REDD+ management arrangements (**SFPs**)

- State REDD+ offices and focal points in each of the **18 states of Sudan**
- **Clear mandate and function** based on MTR recommendations to coordinate REDD+ activities at the sub-national and local levels
- Coordination committees of representatives from relevant REDD+ institutions to ensure **cross-sectoral coordination**



National REDD+ management arrangements:

NRSC: political oversight and guidance



TAC: provisions of technical support



Component 1: Consultation, participation, and Disclosure of Information

- Permanently established mechanisms for stakeholders consultation and participation in the REDD+ program:
 - Cross sectoral committees at the national and sub-national levels
 - National NGOs platform
 - Gum Arabic Producers Platform – subnational
 - Consultation workshops
 - Multiple means for information sharing
- These mechanisms have led to effective stakeholder engagement in development of readiness e.g. FGRM, ESMF and BSM



Consultation and participation: Stakeholder consultations, Khartoum state



Awareness raising campaign:

Local and state level consultations (Gedarif, South Kordofan states)



Information sharing and outreach:

Using REDD+ program website and social media, workshops, TV, radio, pamphlets, brochures and visibility packages such as caps, mugs, pens, notebooks and T-shirts

The collage features several key documents and images related to the REDD+ Sudan program:

- Top Left:** A brochure titled "Program for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Sudan" with logos for FNC, Forest Carbon Project, and WBG.
- Top Center:** A poster for a "Regional Workshop Exchange Experiences on REDD+" held from 16-18 September 2018 at the Grand Holiday Villa Hotel. It is under the auspices of the Minister of Agriculture and Forests.
- Top Right:** A poster for the "Launching Additional Fund for REDD+ Sudan" on 12 April 2018 at the Grand Holiday Villa - Markee Hall. It is organized by the Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry, Forest National Corporation.
- Middle Left:** A document titled "Components of the Additional Funding (AF) Budget" with a table showing funding details.
- Middle Right:** A document titled "Additional Grant in the Amount of US\$5.0 Million to the JBLIC of the Sudan from Forest Carbon".
- Bottom Left:** A document titled "REDD+ Sudan: اسم المشروع، التحضير لبرنامج خفض الانبعاثات الناتجة عن إزالة وتدهور الغابات" (Project Name, Preparation of the Program for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation).
- Bottom Center:** A document titled "REDD+ Sudan: أهداف البرنامج" (Project Objectives).
- Bottom Right:** A document titled "REDD+ Sudan: أهداف البرنامج" (Project Objectives) with a list of activities.
- Photos:** Several photographs showing community meetings, workshops, and individuals engaged in the program's activities.

Component	AF amount, US\$ million	FCP amount, US\$ million
Technical Assistance	0.70	0.70
Equipment & Materials	1.00	1.00
Total	1.70	1.70

Component 2: National REDD+ Strategy:

- Progress in the preparation of the strategy:
 - Land use, land use change (LULUC) drivers, forest law, policies and governance – completed
 - Strategy options, prioritized under sectors: (e.g. forest, energy, agriculture, mining) – completed
 - REDD+ implementation framework - ongoing
 - SESA/ESMF – completed, advanced work underway
- Draft strategy:
 - Completed based on original mandate from first grant agreement
 - Further studies and activities based on the MTR and the additional grant agreement are underway to complete as planned by December 2019, e.g. gender mainstreaming, private sector engagement, forest economic valuation, impact of mining
- Approach followed in all studies and activities:
 - Effectively involving national experts from all related institutions
 - Extensive stakeholder consultations at national and sub-national levels
 - Cross-team coordination
 - Stakeholder validation

Readiness mechanisms established under components 1 and 2

Readiness program successfully established:

- FGRM framework
 - BSM
 - ESMF and;
 - Safeguards
- Information sharing continued through, CSOs platforms, TV, radio, website, newspapers, user-friendly publications, FNC extension service, awareness building campaigns
 - Awareness campaign conducted, covering all states, to inform stakeholders on roles and functions on these mechanisms during REDD+ implementation
 - However, readiness mechanisms will be tested through pilot ER programs and during REDD+ implementation



Component 3: FREL/FRL

Readiness program progressing well, further development needed to complete the following mechanisms:

- FREL/FRL:
 - Scale and scope agreed
 - Methodological approach agreed
 - Activity data and emission factors under development
 - Technical and institutional capacity progressing
 - Planned to be completed by Oct 2019

Component 4: NFMS and SIS

- NFMS:

- NFI 80% of sampling units completed
- Data entry completed, quality control and analysis underway
- Assessment of institutional arrangements completed at national level
- Procurement of hardware and software completed and capacity building advancing
- Planned to be completed by Oct 2019

- Safeguards Information system

- SIS for multiple benefits, governance and safeguards, preparation has commenced under the additional grant
- Awareness campaign on safeguards, SESA and benefit-sharing have been conducted
- Establishment of SIS planned to completed by August 2019

Comparison of readiness preparation progress at MTR and R-package

Components	Sub-components	MTR	R-Package
1. Readiness Organization and Consultation	1.A. National REDD+ management arrangements	Green	Green
	1.B. Consultation, participation and outreach	Green	Green
2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation	1.A. Assessment of land use, land-use change drivers, forest law, policies and governance	Green	Green
	2.B. REDD+ strategy options	Yellow	Green
	2.C. Implementation framework	Orange	Yellow
	2.D. Social and environmental impacts	Orange	Green
3. Reference Emission Level/Reference Level	FREL/FRL	Red	Green
4. Monitoring System for Forests, and Safeguards	4.A. National forests monitoring system	Yellow	Yellow
	4.C. Information system for multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards	Red	Yellow



Significant advances made



Advances made, still more work to be done



Work to be done

Results of readiness self-assessment

C1.A: National REDD+ Management arrangements

Significant achievements	Gaps and needs for development
<p>Integrated in FNC with effective cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms (NRSC and TAC)</p>	<p>Technical and institutional capacities need to be further strengthened at the state level in areas related to FREL/FRL, NFMS, ESMF, FGRM, BSM</p>
<p>Being integrated into the national budget; a resource mobilization plan under preparation</p>	<p>The institutional links, networks, coordination mechanisms between national and state level institutions should be further strengthened</p>
<p>The government effectively meeting its financial contribution to readiness</p>	<p>More efforts need to be exerted to raise financial and technical support from development partners</p>
<p>Well-established sub-national level REDD+ institutions at each of the 18 states of Sudan, with cross-sectoral coordination committees</p>	<p>Capacity-building needed to strengthen the institutional arrangements to operationalize the FGRM (including testing it)</p>
<p>FGRM framework developed through consultations with good representation of communities likely to be impacted in hotspot REDD+ states</p>	<p>Due consideration should be given to the states with higher potential for REDD+ implementation</p>

C1.B: Consultation, Participation & Outreach

Significant achievements	Gaps and needs for development
FNC General Directorate of Extension and Information strengthened and fully engaged in leading REDD+ messaging and conducting outreach events	CSO platforms need additional support to organize regular meetings and engagement with the REDD+ program
Use of local languages in consultation with local communities. Training of active media in Sudan and use of sub-national media to deliver REDD+ messages	More consultation and participation needed for forest dependent communities, local people, and motivate community leaders engagement in REDD+ activities
SECS, largest NGO in Sudan (100 branches), conducting REDD+ gender mainstreaming and SAWA a Sudanese CSO, implementing awareness/capacity-building in REDD+ hotspot states	Improve mechanisms for access and information sharing to effectively cover local people and forests dependent communities
The REDD+ program established a national CSOs platform and the Gum Arabic platform at states level	CSOs need to be further empowered, have defined roles in MRV and provided with relevant information materials
Use of practical means of information sharing , website, Facebook, WhatsApp groups, YouTube, tailored publications, TV programs, newspaper articles	Women's participation , particularly in decision-making, needs further strengthening both at national and state levels, including existing women CSOs

C2.A: LU, LUC drivers, forest law, policies and governance

Significant achievements	Gaps and needs for development
Excellent assessments covering historical data, trends and traditional customary systems, resulted in recommendations informing the REDD+ strategy .	REDD+ programme needs to jointly work with national and state institutions, to implement the recommendations of land use land tenure assessments
The assessment includes recommendations for reforms to forest policies and legislation as well as related sectors (agriculture and rangeland)	The assessment needs to include more natural resources related legislation and policies analysis such as rangeland and wildlife policies
The outcomes of the drivers analysis has been shared with stakeholders and was published for information.	Share the results of land use and land tenure assessments with policy-makers, including the parliament
The drivers analysis identified barriers to reducing deforestation and forest degradation, and enhancing forest carbon stock, to be addressed by the strategic options and REDD+ strategy	Contribution of each drivers of deforestation and forest degradation need to be further assessed to inform priorities and action plans in the REDD+ strategy

C2.B: Strategy Options

Significant achievements	Gaps and needs for development
Strategy options defined based on key drivers, prioritization involved extensive consultations with stakeholders, including from 10 states considered hotspots for REDD implementation	Emission reduction potential of the selected options still need to be estimated consistent with recent GHGs inventory of Sudan of the LULUCF sector
Inconsistencies with related policies and programs identified and addressed as part of the analysis of the priority drivers and the strategic options	Need for capacity-building and training to conduct feasibility assessments and GHG estimation of REDD+ strategy options
Selected strategy options are consistent with, and supportive of the national development priorities as well as the interests and livelihoods of the forest-related communities.	Sub-national level consultations needed to further inform and align strategy options with development and livelihoods priorities
Integration of strategy options into national development is a continuous process involving consultations, assessment of policies, plans, institutional and legal frameworks of related sectors	Further support needed to align natural resources related policies such as rangeland and wildlife with REDD+ implementation

C2.C: REDD+ implementation framework

Significant achievements	Gaps and needs for development
Sudan's REDD+ implementation framework consists of a benefit-sharing mechanism, FGRM and ESMF in addition to the management arrangements	Current study on mainstreaming REDD+ into national development processes needs to address barriers, define entry points, identify gaps and capacity needs
A proposal of a new forest law is being developed since 2015, which takes into account REDD+ considerations	Carbon rights , their benefit sharing and REDD+ financing modalities need to be defined and clearly elaborated , for REDD+ implementation phase
Process of mainstreaming REDD+ has already started through engagement of national experts and stakeholders in the activities of the REDD+ readiness	REDD+ implementation framework needs to ensure building trust of local communities and their sustained support in the implementation phase
A joint awareness program on benefit sharing, safeguards and FGRM has been implemented in all the states of Sudan	REDD+ implementation framework should define roles and provide incentives for related institutions , to effectively participate in the REDD+ program

C2.D: SESA/ESMF

Significant achievements	Gaps and needs for development
SESA study comprehensively covered the environment and social aspects, governance, policies, legislation and institutional arrangements	Continue to build capacities of SFPs and other relevant stakeholders at the state level on SESA and the operation of the ESMF
REDD+ strategy options have been assessed for their environmental and social impacts with the objective of informing both the preparation of the strategy and the ESMF	Continue to raise awareness and disseminate information on the outcomes of the SESA study, the functions of the ESMF
SESA and the strategy teams worked jointly to support the preparation of the strategy and the development of the ESMF	The ESMF needs to be tested and updated accordingly as planned for under the additional grant agreement
ESMF development followed guidelines of the UNFCCC, WB, and HCENR, through extensive consultation with key stakeholders	Need to ensure sufficient expertise in the REDD+ implementation framework and management arrangements for operation on ESMF

Component 3: FREL/FRL

Significant achievements	Gaps and needs for development
Initial elements of the national FREL/FRL were agreed, including forest definition, scope, and scale	Capacity of the technical working group should be further strengthened to enable them to effectively participate in the construction of the FREL/FRL
Agreement to submit to UNFCCC in Jan 2020 , to ensure full alignment with UNFCCC decisions, consistency with GHG inventory (being finalized) and meeting donor requirements	FREL/FRL plan should consider that activity data, emission factor data and methodologies need to be improved over time (move to higher tiers)
Sudan's FREL/FRL used historical activity data (remote sensing), emission factors from recent NFI and most recent IPCC methodological guidance	Awareness raising and capacity-building activities are needed for more national experts, including within the FNC and other relevant institutions
Two national consultants and a taskforce of national experts involved to ensure building necessary capacity for future development and updates of FREL/FRLs	Capacity-building activities should cover advanced methods and tools of FREL/FRL , including the IPCC guidelines and remote sensing tools

C4.A : National Forest Monitoring System

Significant achievements	Gaps and needs for development
Methodologies agreed by national experts, include remote sensing and ground-based survey	The system needs to be completed, tested, and supported by continuous technical and institutional capacity-building development
NFI established permanent sample plots for MRV system , parameters include carbon pools	Timely availability of high resolution remote sensing data and upgrading of data software, causing delay
Procurement completed , of required systems, software, field equipment, mapping, remote sensing, data management, field crews trained	Need to review and improve representation of the sample plots , currently sampling percentage is low, some sample units not accessible due to issues of fragility
Quality control procedure prepared and task assigned to University of Khartoum and University of Kordofan	Gaps in data due to insufficient training , time and delays in addressing difficulties related to funding and logistics, should be addressed in quality control
NFMS has the designed capacity to monitor implementation of REDD+ and leakages	The accuracy assessment will be intensified to produce more accurate maps and ground truth activities will be undertaken
FAO conducted assessment of MRV institutional arrangements mandates, capacities and means for data and information sharing	Subnational institutional mapping, gap analysis, and capacity needs assessments for the NFMS and MRV in three selected states planned to be conducted in 2019

C4.B: Information system for multiple benefits, governance and safeguards

Significant achievements	Gaps and needs for development
Actual work as planned under the additional grant agreement has started, with clear TORs based on UNFCCC and WB guidance	Establishment of the Safeguards Information System (SIS) is planned to be completed by August 2019
Awareness campaign on safeguards, SESA and benefit-sharing has been conducted covering all the states of Sudan	SIS development to follow guidance of UNFCCC, WB, and experiences of other REDD+ countries
Information being shared on non-carbon benefits, social and environmental safeguards and is available to stakeholders	Need to draw upon outcomes of dialogues with key stakeholders and information developed in the R-PP, safeguards consultations, SESA, and ESMF

Next Steps

- Complete all the activities under the additional grant agreement of the FCPF as planned by December 2019.
- Development of 2-3 ER pilot programs in key ecological zones based on the strategic options identified in the REDD+ national strategy
- Work with the FNC and relevant institutions to implement reforms to the current policies and legislation to integrate REDD+ into national and sub-national development planning
- Conduct continuous awareness raising activities, particularly at the sub-national and local levels and targeted technical capacity-building activities in relation to the operation of the REDD+ systems and mechanisms
- Address the gaps and areas that require further development per the self-assessment, to meet the readiness objectives in line with the FCPF RAF
- Raising funds to complete and consolidate REDD+ readiness preparation and initiate REDD+ implementation

*Thank
you*

