

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF0A6424

Reporting Period: 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

Printed On: 2/7/2022

Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Draft

Assignment: TF0A6424

Sudan FCPF Additional Funding for Readiness Preparation (RE) FCPFR - Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Task Team Leader: 000000290015 - Dora N. Cudjoe

Approving Manager: 00000066054 - Iain G. Shuker

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV (Project ended 12/31/2021)
Recipient Country	Sudan
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	9270 - SAFE2
Grant Start Date / End Date	03/18/2018 to 12/31/2021
Original Grant Amount	5,000,000.00
Grant Amount	5,000,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	4,686,799.91 as of 06/30/2021
Disbursed 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021	539,886.67
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Components, Outcome, Execution, Program (FCPFR), Disbursements.

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF0A6424

Reporting Period: 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

Printed On: 2/7/2022

Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Draft

OVERVIEW

Overall Assessments

Grant Objectives:

The objective of this grant is to provide additional support to Sudan's efforts to strengthen capacity in developing readiness for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+). Specifically, the project's objective is to design a socially and environmentally sound national REDD+ strategy.

Overall progress from 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

Overall, despite the delays caused by the Pandemic and Sudan's continued political instability that culminated in a military coup, the REDD+ Readiness additional financing program of activities have made significant progress and have been completed by the extended closing date of December 31, 2021. The remaining concern is outstanding disbursement for completed/past obligations for which payment could be not completed prior to October 25, 2021. Since then, the World Bank Group has paused disbursements in all of its operations in Sudan and stopped processing any new operations following the coup.

Overall progress from 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Comment:

- During the reporting period, the implementation progress was negatively affected by the pandemic, which necessitated adapting to new working conditions and resource planning to deliver on ongoing activities. For example, the public consultation plans and stakeholder engagement activities under SESA II had to be adapted to reflect to current circumstances and comply with the Bank's guidance on public consultation and stakeholder engagement during COVID-19. While previously planned international training activities and south-south knowledge exchange tours were cancelled and replaced with virtual settings.
- During the virtual implementation support missions held (in July 2020, December 2020, May 2021, and October 2021), the task team rated the implementation progress for the grant as moderately satisfactory. The Sudan REDD+ PMU and its architecture has been streamlined within the institutional structure of Sudan's Forest National Corporation (FNC) to maintain capacity built through the grant and ensure continuity while GoS continues to leverage additional resources for demonstration phase.
- A virtual South-South knowledge exchange (SSKE) between the governments of Sudan and Rwanda was organized in January 2021 to build the technical capacity of the Sudan REDD+ staff and relevant agencies in resources mobilization to support the implementation of Sudan forest-climate investments.
- FAO supported a technical workshop to validate the national land cover map. FAO also developed and produced GHGs Inventory and Reporting Process for AFOLU Sector Including Rangelands, remote sensing, as well as supported validation of the monitoring of desertification in Sudan.
- In May 2021, the SESA packet which include Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), the Process Framework (PF), the Resettlement Process Policy (RPF), the Indigenous People Planning Framework (IPPF), Environmental, and Social Management Framework (ESMF) have been reviewed and validated.
- Reports and technical study outputs from contract under the Sudan Emission Reduction program, which includes (1) National REDD+ Pilot Program Design; (2) REDD+ information tracking system; (3) development of training packets for resource mobilization; (4) mainstreaming REDD+ in national development policies and legislation, have been validated and submitted.
- In May 2021, the final report to Sudan's REDD+ National Strategy (NRS) and Action Plan has been validated and submitted. The latter stages of the NRS benefitted from virtual consultations held from October to December 2020, with various relevant stakeholders. The NRS outlines how Sudan will implement REDD+ over a 10-year period.
- Gender mainstreaming strategy and related reports have been submitted for validation and approval.

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref.	TF0A6424	Reporting Period:	07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021
Printed On:	2/7/2022	Report Type:	Progress Report
		Report Status:	Draft

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

Component 1: Support for REDD+ Readiness Management & Institutional Arrangements

The additional grant will support to the PMU and state level focal points (RED+ Management Unit) through goods, workshops, training, services, and operational costs covering:

To oversee delivery of activities under the additional financing.

- vehicles to cover transportation to connect federal, state offices and local communities, associated with readiness activities in the field.
- IT equipment for the PMU as well as assisting in remodeling of the office space.
- limited graduate student interns from Sudanese universities to increase exposure and youth involvement in readiness process

Component 2: Support for National REDD+ Strategy

The additional grant will support the REDD+ Management Unit through goods, workshops, training, services, and operational costs covering

- support for conducting technical/ strategic studies and workshops on critical elements of the REDD+ strategy: (1) forest landscapes restoration assessment & national restoration strategy; (2) mainstreaming REDD+ in national development policies & legislation; (3) gender mainstreaming and consultations; (4) private sector engagement in reforestation initiatives; (5) deforestation, and effects of mining on the forest sector; and (6) national REDD+ pilot program designs.
- support for participation in cross-country knowledge sharing and training through South-South exchange events for learning and sharing experiences and lessons with other countries to help refine National REDD+ Strategy.
- support for organizing training sessions on drafting and preparing strong proposals for funding national REDD+ pilot programs.

Component 3: Support for Stakeholder Engagement

The additional grant will support the REDD+ Management Unit through goods, workshops, training, services, and operational costs for:

- operationalizing the communications strategy & REDD+ awareness program and preparation of relevant safeguard instruments
- providing technical support to prepare the R-Package documentation.

Component 4: Support for Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV)

The additional grant will support the REDD+ Management Unit through goods, workshops, training, services, and operational costs for providing:

- technical support for strengthening institutionalization of the MRV systems and the NFMS, including green-house gases initiatives (GHGi) and reporting process for agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU) sectors.
- support to REDD + information tracking system for REDD+
- support for GHG and reporting process for agriculture, forestry, and other land use sectors
- training; and desertification monitoring equipment
- training; and fire monitoring equipment
- support for institutionalization and deployment of MRV at region/zonal level.

Component 5: Support for National Reference Scenario and Inventory of Forest Resources

The additional grant will support the REDD+ Management Unit through goods, workshops, training, services, and operational costs for providing:

- support for the development of forest reference emission level (FREL) to ensure methodological alignment with United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) guidance; and based on national circumstances
- support for the validation of the FREL

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref.	TF0A6424	Reporting Period:	07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021
Printed On:	2/7/2022	Report Type:	Progress Report
		Report Status:	Draft

Expected follow up (if any): Follow up project or grant (non-Bank funded)

Comment on follow up:

n/a

End Date of Last Site Visit:

10/24/2021 (a virtual implementation support mission).

Restructuring of Grant:

n/a.

OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

Despite the delays caused by the Pandemic and Sudan's continued political instability that culminated in a military coup, the REDD+ Readiness additional financing program of activities have made significant progress and have been completed by the extended closing date of December 31, 2021. The FCPF REDD+ Readiness project activities lay the foundation for more sustainable forest management to meet Sudan's national goals of i) conserving the country's renewable natural resources, and ii) facilitating sustainable land use management, and supporting equitable benefits to dependent communities. The REDD+ program has supported a participatory national forest and land use planning exercise that will contribute to mitigating impacts of deforestation and forest degradation, including from developments in other sectors (such as agriculture and energy), and existing land tenure arrangements. The Project has helped build strong collaboration across sectors such as forestry, agriculture, and economic planning. It has strengthened collaboration across government, civil society and academia in identifying solutions to forest loss. The private sector is 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.

Also see comments on achievements by component.

Grant Outcome Indicators

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

COMPONENTS

There are no components defined for this trust fund / grant.

Comment on planned and actual Output

Comment on component implementation progress

Component 1: Support for REDD+ Readiness Management & Institutional Arrangements

- Institutional arrangements for REDD+ in Sudan in place with well-defined roles and responsibilities.
- Capacity built and nation-wide awareness raised through several training events and consultations.

Component 2: Support for National REDD+ Strategy

-National REDD+ Strategy finalized.

-Other strategically important documents have been completed including (1) forest landscapes restoration assessment & national restoration strategy; (2) mainstreaming REDD+ in national development policies & legislation; (3) gender mainstreaming and consultations; (4) private sector engagement in reforestation initiatives; (5) deforestation, and effects of mining on the forest sector; and (6) national REDD+ pilot program designs.

Component 3: Support for Stakeholder Engagement

-Environmental and Social Management Framework and Safeguard information system have been finalized.

-Benefit sharing and feedback and grievance redress mechanisms have been completed, validated and endorsed by relevant GoS agencies.

- Communications strategy operationalized and a nation-wide REDD+ awareness program carried out.

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF0A6424
Printed On: 2/7/2022

Reporting Period: 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021
Report Type: Progress Report
Report Status: Draft

Component 4: Support for Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV)

- Institutional technical capacity strengthening developed for the MRV systems and the NFMS, including green-house gases (GHG) and reporting process for agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU) sectors.
- REDD + information tracking system for REDD+ developed
- Technical training and equipment for desertification monitoring provided

Component 5: Support for National Reference Scenario and Inventory of Forest Resources

- The forest reference emission level (FREL) developed based on national circumstances and in line with UNFCCC guidance.

EXECUTION

Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P152322 - Sudan - FCPF REDD Readiness
Project Status: Lending
Global Focal Area: Climate change
Product Line: CN - Carbon Offset

Implementing agency and contact details

Agency: Forest National Corporation, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources.
Contact: Dr. Sayeda Khalil
Address: Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Phone: +249 112586919 Email: sayeda_khalil@yahoo.com
Website:

Ref. TFOA6424

Reporting Period: 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

Printed On: 2/7/2022

Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Draft

PROGRAM

Program Specific Questions

1. Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those funded by Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those f

The Sudan REDD+ Readiness has partnered and collaborated with other development partners both public and private; national and international, in the delivery of the project. The implementation approach includes a multisectoral governance arrangement comprising ministries of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Range and Wildlife, Finance and Economic Planning; academia; with regional and international development partners including the FAO, UNDP/UNEP; WRI, UNIQUE; and non-government or civil society organizations including the Sudan Environment Conservation Society and other grassroots organizations. The project has also liaised strongly with the regional FCPF Capacity building project which is channeled through the SAWA-Sudan.

2. Describe any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities.

No major changes

3. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this Grant.

The PMU is well established with dedicated staff and have been maintained since project inception. Where needed, staff have been beefed up including technical, financial and procurement. Also, the government staff now have substantial knowledge and experience on procuring consultant and non- consultant services and handling technical and financial matters. In line with the project objectives and the project components, the PMU has organized targeted awareness and information sharing activities for stakeholders, the team has availed of sub-regional capacity development and training workshops, international meetings related to the REDD+ agenda and other targeted knowledge improvement activities. Fiduciary and procurement management staff have also attended training to improve the performance manifested in the on-time project reporting and delivery.

The project has ensured to fill major technical capacity gaps in the PMU ensuring coverage for Procurement, FM, M&E, Project Management, Communications and Safeguards Specialist, and Technical Advisor. The designated regional Focal Points have also been given substantive awareness and capacity building through south-south exchanges and internal and external training.

4. Describe progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the Grant. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach?

Robust set of SESA/ESMF/SIS were prepared in accordance with the Common Approach involving a multisectoral technical working group. Study tours and Institutional visits to other best performing FCPF countries (Ethiopia and Ghana) have been carried out in 2019 to further improve understanding and application of safeguards to the REDD+ program. Feedback from the above study were duly integrated into implementation and program design. The SESA, ESMF and SIS have been finalized in May 2021.

The REDD+ Social and Environmental information System (SIS) articulates information that could be shared under UNFCCC requirements, and to national and international stakeholders on non-carbon benefit, benefit sharing and governance.

5. Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?

Yes, see above.

6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, disclosure of information, and the FGRM related to this Grant.

Sudan's FREL, SESA, ESMF, NRS and other strategic documents have been developed through extensive consultations and broad participation of various stakeholders. This consultative approach has been sustained during the grant implementation as well. The Safeguards technical working group included representatives from NGOs and CSOs. REDD+ readiness studies were carried out following the FCPF/UN-REDD Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness and the UNREDD supported stakeholder guideline. The REDD+ Secretariat built strong partnership with the REDD+ CSOs. A robust feedback and grievance redress mechanism (FGRM) has been developed as part of this project phase. The PMU has organized various technical and advisory committee meetings, capacity building and consultations Workshops, and published various communication, awareness raising and capacity-building activities.

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF0A6424

Reporting Period: 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

Printed On: 2/7/2022

Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Draft

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
01/01/2018	06/30/2018	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2018	12/31/2018	0.00	0.00	567,899.00	567,899.00
01/01/2019	06/30/2019	0.00	0.00	2,363,553.88	1,795,654.88
07/01/2019	12/31/2019	0.00	0.00	3,785,974.19	1,422,420.31
01/01/2020	06/30/2020	0.00	0.00	4,146,913.24	360,939.05
07/01/2020	12/31/2020	0.00	0.00	4,417,274.75	270,361.51
01/01/2021	06/30/2021	0.00	0.00	4,686,799.91	269,525.16
07/01/2021	12/31/2021	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00