



Readiness Fund REDD+ Country Participants Progress Report Template

Sudan

July 2022



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 represent 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

The reports cover the 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 guidelines 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) on **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, and awareness-raising initiatives
 - Achievements -For example x number of individuals attended REDD+ consultations (sex-disaggregated, if any), national REDD+ strategy was finalized, the government formally adopted national REDD+ related policy(ies), NFMS were established, a 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 any), name of the policy being drafted, and institutions involved in policy drafting

REDD+ Readiness process in Sudan made significant progress in developing the REDD+ mechanism in the forestry sector. The key activities during the reporting period include:

- The major highlight of this reporting period was the completion of all activities, such as the marketing of the ERP on the three states of FREL area, the PMU working hardly to develop more ERPs as proposed in all hotspot areas potential for REDD+ in Sudan..
- The study of gender mainstreaming finalized and translated, and published.
- In August 2021 the FAO validated the measurement reporting and verification system and most of publication developed by FAO. The workshop targeted the technical staff from all states, and related institutions at the national level. the workshop opened by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests and represented by the Dr. Babaghana Ahmadu the FAO's regional director.
- The PMU Participated on update of Sudan Nationally determine contribution (NDC) (inserted REDD+ activities during the next 5 years included one emission reduction program in FREL area) also included the pilot program on blue carbon (mangrove) at Red Sea State
- Two events done for the Minister of Agriculture and forestry targeting the awareness of the new staff which attended by 8 participants.
- A note Prepared for high level event (looking to placing REDD+ at the top of the State's agenda) and arrangement for this events with prime minster Dr. Abdulla Adam Hamdouk through the Minister was made for the adoption and supporting REDD+ program in Sudan
- 11 meetings with MoF to support Forest Economic Valuation study in GDP, and each meeting targeting 16 member.
- Two group discussion meetings supporting Green Villages and small towns (participant for each meeting 20 participants
- Internship program: consist of 6 researches 1) Quantifying the changes of land use/cover on Forest Cover in Cerro Forest, Sennar State (finalized) . 2) Assessment of Forests resource Degradation in Central Darfur state, study case Um Oroog Natural forest (finalized). 3) Quantification of the drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation (finalized). 4) The impact of tree belts on agricultural productivity in the state of Gedaref and the amount of biomass (Eastern Sudan) {under finalization}. 5) The deterioration of Mangrove forests and their social and environmental impacts in the Red Sea state {under finalization}. 6) Assessment of socio-economic characteristics of the local community and biophysical status of Kodroka and Kasinger forests in Northern State, Sudan {under finalization}
- Translation: about 21 Documents including studies and reports were proofread, edited and translated into Arabic versions, while 12 Documents were proof read and edited only.
- Submission of the following reviewed and validated documents:
 - NFI and Land cover map reports
 - Gender Main streaming strategy
 - Safeguards package (ESMF,IP,RPF and BSM) to the RSA for clearance

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 situation of the Sudan since the Military Coupe in 25th of October 2021 delayed many activities regards the REDD+ such as the validation of report of Gender mainstreaming and raise the capacities among the communities to support the green villages. in addition to the capacity building for Youth Platform.
Sudan looking to revisit the timeline for completing some activities within the next phase or during the implementation of the sustainability plan taking into account the delays due to the situation in Sudan which affected some activities.
- Sudan is facing a fund shortage to fill in gaps related to the following areas »
 - Intensive work regarding the resource mobilization
 - sustainability of REDD+ phases and smooth transition between phases
 - Capacity building in the area of design and development of proposals
 - Empower the capacity of youth and women for REDD+

- Tracking system design
- Publishing materials and establish networks in far areas and support the communication strategy
- Testing the benefit- sharing mechanism and pilot projects
- Strengthening the consultation to cover more areas ,
- Increased technical capacities to the staff,
- Increasing the capacities of the staff to complete the sub-national of FREL to develop the national FREL for Sudan, such as calculations of the emission factors, Specific country data sheet to Identify the form factor, wood density, root/shoot ratio, Biomass Extension Factor and soil carbon for at least ten important species in Sudan
- Increase the capacity level of the Sudan new government to support the implementation to include the REDD+ in the top of the agenda of the Government

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, finalization of SIS, commission research into REDD+ strategy options

- Attract funds for ERPs
- Complete the FREL as national FREL.
- 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.
- The initiation of the information system for multiple benefits, other impacts, governance, and safeguards
- Design more National REDD+ Pilot Programs and marketing for fund
- Finalization of internship program researches.

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:

5	Completed	The sub-component has been completed
4	Significant progress	Significant progress
3	Progressing well, further, development required	Progressing well, further, development required
2	Further development required	Further development required
1	Not yet demonstrating progress	Not yet demonstrating progress
0	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	5	Completed	X 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, a safeguard office, and 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 levels. The REDD+ arrangements are also supported by a national REDD+ steering committee, a technical advisory committee, a safeguards specialist, and five working groups.
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	
Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach	5	Completed	X The state focal points, under the guidance and support of the PMU, have implemented a consultation programme in the 18 states of the Sudan, covering state and local levels stakeholders. The programme included workshops, meetings, in addition to awareness raising activities using TV and radio, covering the general issues of REDD+ programme. This programme was part of the consultation plan, developed in 2018 by the PMU, based on the FCPF guidelines. The FNC general directorate of extension and information is actively involved with the REDD+ PMU and supports the communication, awareness-raising, and capacity-building activities in the 18 states of Sudan. The PMU has developed a video documentary: https://we.tl/t-VkFE4VNOo6 https://youtu.be/zRiv0xAQ7LE . This documentary showcases the natural assets of Sudan, threats from climate change, and the potential of the forest sector to contribute to inclusive and resilient growth. A blog on the project showcases the project's contribution to social cohesion, and peace building: https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/sudan%E2%80%99s-redd-work-strengthens-social-cohesion-needed-peacebuilding .
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	
R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation			
Sub-component 2: REDD+ Strategy	5	Completed	X The planned outputs include a number of activities, studies, analytical work, and consultations that have been implemented as part of the first grant agreement such as;(1) studies on land use and land tenure; (2) drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, governance, barriers and measures to address them; (3) strategic options for the REDD+ strategy; (4) preparation of a benefit-sharing mechanism; and (5) a study on the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA). There are also additional on-going activities and studies as part of the additional grant agreement considered as critical elements for the preparation of the national REDD+ strategy. These include: (1) Forest Landscapes Restoration Assessment and National Restoration Strategy; (2) mainstreaming REDD+ in national development policies and legislation; (3) gender mainstreaming and consultations; (4) private sector engagement in reforestation initiatives; (5) study on forced deforestation effects of mining on the forestry sector; (6) national REDD+ pilot program designs for three jurisdictions; and (8) cross-country knowledge sharing and training through South-South exchanges. In addition, the study on SESA II was finalized and validate in April. 2021.The preparation of the national REDD+ strategy was updated and submitted as final and validated in May 2021..
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	5 Completed	X
	4 Significant progress	
	3 Progressing well, further development required	
	2 Further development required	
	1 Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0 N/A	
A study on land use, land tenure, forest law, policy, and governance was finalized in line with the agreed terms of reference and following an approach involving consultations with all relevant stakeholders at the sub-national and national level, as well as a validation workshop.		
Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	5 Completed	X
	4 Significant progress	
	3 Progressing well, further development required	
	2 Further development required	
	1 Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0 N/A	
Strategy options were initially identified through technical work and consultations with relevant stakeholders at the national and sub-national level, with a focus on the states that are rich in forest resources. The main strategy options were also subjected to further technical analysis in terms of feasibility, social, environmental impacts, and political dimensions. Special attention was also paid to ensuring that the identified options are consistent with existing sectoral policies, programs, and the national development context.		
Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework	5 Completed	
	4 Significant progress	X
	3 Progressing well, further development required	
	2 Further development required	
	1 Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0 N/A	
All these REDD+ mechanisms such as SESA, ESMF, BSM, and FGRM are included in the current draft of the national REDD+ Strategy. However, the strategy is updated, incoherent, and in a complementary manner towards achieving the objective of the REDD+ strategy and protect the social and environmental safeguards.		
Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts	5 Completed	X
	4 Significant progress	
	3 Progressing well, further development required	
	2 Further development required	
	1 Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0 N/A	
Sudan conducted a SESA. The process of conducting the study involved the assessment of the potential environmental and social impacts of the implementation of the proposed REDD+ strategic options. It also involved an assessment of the policy, legal and institutional framework, and stakeholders mapping and consultations. Comprehensive consultations were held cover 18 states. This involved conducting 65 meetings and 3 workshops involving 1,073 stakeholders of which 735 were men and 338 women. The ESMF report was prepared based on the guidance from the World Bank and national guidelines and is subjected to review by experts and relevant stakeholders. A study on advancing the SESA in the additional Grant Agreement inception report was received and reviewed, validated and, approved as the final document in April. 2021.		
R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels		
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	5 Completed	X
	4 Significant progress	
	3 Progressing well, further development required	
FREL/FRL for Sudan's REDD+ Program was developed and submitted in January 2020. This benchmark for assessing Sudan's performance in implementing REDD+ activities was approved by the UNFCCC by UNFCCC technical assessment team.		

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)		Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)	
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards				
Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System	5	Completed	X	During the period September – December 2019, FAO designed a methodology to develop an Action Plan for the Republic of Sudan’s Forest Monitoring System (SFMS) for REDD+ Monitoring & MRV through assessment of capacity gaps and needs to be required for SFMS and REDD+ MRV Implementation both at national, regional and state level in Sudan. The NFI report was revised, finalized and submitted to FNC and PMU.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	5	Completed	X	The final report for this sub-component was prepared. The safeguards working group supported the work under this sub-component. A series of awareness raises and consultation workshops on environmental and social safeguards have been conducted by the safeguards specialist and the PMU on a sectoral basis and following a cluster of states approach, thereby covering all relevant stakeholders in 18 states.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		

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 addressed 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, and the report on private-sector forest landscape and restoration supported the design of activities to sustain and enhance the livelihoods. The final updated report for the strategy was submitted in May 2021.

The REDD+ strategy may updated after finalization of the study of the contribution of forest economic valuation in GDP.

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 addressed 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. REDD+ unit working close to the wildlife authority to increase the awareness around national parks and sharing the benefits of REDD+. And the strategy recommended options to the wildlife authority in policies and integration plans

SECTION D: FINANCE

(Please complete in US\$ ONLY)

7. Please detail the amount of allfinance received in support of the 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 the 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 / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$250,000	Ministry of Forestry (Finance?)	01/2014	Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

\$ 3.8 Million	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	03/2015	Public	Grant
\$ 5 Million	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	03/2018	Public	Grant
\$		03/2015	Public	Grant
\$			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)
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\$ 62000	Ministry Finance and Economic Planning	Public	Grant
\$		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

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
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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 continue 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 is keen and has been contributing to meaningful dialogue on leveraging financing to support investment operations. The cross-sectoral governance mechanism involving the Steering Committee, the Advisory Committee, and the Technical Working Groups, focal points in 18 states has promoted innovative solutions to tackling forest loss.
- It was an excellent opportunity during the readiness phase program to spread the culture of green cities, and the program began to raise awareness of the people of cities and villages to encourage productive and green cities
- Advance training and capacity building for different levels during the last year encourage the staff, such as training in leadership (master class) and training on resource mobilization, report writing, and training during all carried studies , now Sudan build a good focal points per states for the future of REDD+ phases.
- The REDD+ Readiness Project has also demonstrated the contribution of project activities to social cohesion and peacebuilding.
- The REDD+ PMU appreciated the non-governmental organization support the consultation process and developed the awareness in some states and supported by FCPF through the MOPIDO done with SAWA Sudan, also the Sudanese Environmental Conservation Society (SECS) carried the Gender mainstreaming in States of Sudan