

**Supplement to Expression of Interest in Joining the
Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)**

December 6, 2011

Guidelines:

1. The information requested in this form is to follow up on your expression of interest in the FCPF and assess your country's interest in relation to the importance of REDD+ (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries) for the country. The governing body of the FCPF, the Participants Committee (PC), requested the Facility Management Team to solicit additional information from countries having expressed interest in the FCPF, propose criteria and a process for the possible selection of more countries into the FCPF, and analyze the cost implications of such a selection, given that the participation of new countries is subject to available resources (see paragraph 11 of Resolution PC/10/2011/1 available at <http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/fcp/sites/forestcarbonpartnership.org/files/Documents/PDF/Oct2011/Final%20PC10%20Resolution%201%20-%20strategic%20direction.pdf>).
2. Please keep the length of your response to 5 pages, as this is not meant to be a national Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP).
3. Please forward the completed form to the FCPF Facility Management Team by email at fcpsecretariat@worldbank.org no later than January 31, 2012.
4. Additional information about the FCPF is available at <http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/fcp/>.

1. General information

Country submitting the form: Sudan

Date submitted: 31.01.2012

Name of submitting person and institution: Dr. Abdelazim Mirghani Ibrahim, Forests National Corporation

Title: General Manager

Address: P.O. Box 658, Forests National Corporation, Khartoum, Sudan

Telephone: +249 183 471575

Email: abdelazim_fnc@hotmail.com, manager.fnc@gmail.com

Website: www.forest.sd

2. Background

2.1 In what capacity would your country participate in the FCPF? Choose one of the five categories of participation below and briefly explain. Participation in the FCPF could be in different capacities, ranging from no support to full support and to be determined by PC subject to available resources, as listed below:

i. Observer to the FCPF: The intended purpose is to draw upon the experiences of other FCPF REDD Country Participants. No financial support to attend FCPF meetings and/or for REDD+ readiness is provided.

ii. Participation without financial support for REDD+ Readiness: The financial support in this category is limited to support for participation for one representative from country to attend FCPF meetings, subject to available resources. There is no financial support for REDD+ readiness but the country could potentially be a member of the Participants Committee.

iii. Participation with support only for formulation of Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP): Participation at this level would entail financial support for R-PP formulation (\$200,000), and for participation of one country representative in FCPF meetings, subject to available resources.

iv. Participation with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation: As full member of the FCPF, participation would include financial and technical support for REDD+ readiness (total financial support is \$3.6 million in two stages: \$200,000 grant to help formulate a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), and \$3.4 million preparation grant to implement the R-PP), and for one country representative to attend FCPF meetings, subject to available resources.

v. Other: You may wish to consider another role that best describes your interest in the FCPF, such as contributor of expertise, experience and technology.

2.2 Should your country preference be category (iii) or (iv) above, have you already identified or had discussion with a potential Delivery Partner for channeling FCPF resources and providing REDD+ readiness Services? If so, which one (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Inter-American Development Bank, United Nations Development Programme or World Bank)?

NOT YET

2.2 Does the World Bank have an active portfolio on forests and natural resource management in your country? If so, briefly explain.

The World Bank re-opened its office in Khartoum in 2005. Three years later, the World Bank has launched MDTF projects. Agreements are signed to support the projects with about \$430 million, of which about \$212 million is already disbursed.

These projects were designed to support different sectors including agriculture, forestry and livestock sectors, on the basis of needs previously identified by the World Bank and the United Nations, in close cooperation with the Sudan Government authorities

However, the World Bank is currently revisiting its strategy and engagement in Sudan. There is no CAS and the Interim Strategy Note (ISN) expired in 2008. However, Sudan recently drafted its Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (I-PRSP), July 2011, which will be developed into a full-fledged PRSP subsequently. The draft I-PRSP, expected to be completed soon, has been widely circulated among the donor community for comments in August and reactions were sent back to the Government in October/November. The donor community is encouraged by the directions taken in the I-PRSP and a finalization of the strategy seems imminent on side of the Government. Going forward, the Bank's engagement in Sudan will be closely aligned to the priorities and policies articulated in the I-PRSP. There

are close links between environmental degradation and the capacity of the economy to grow and reduce poverty in a sustainable way. A healthy natural resource base and stable physical environment are prerequisites for the successful and sustained combat against poverty. Therefore the draft I-PRSP focuses on integrating the principles of sustainable development into the country's policies and programs for the sustainable use of environmental resources. REDD+ activities are consistent with the directions in the I-PRSP, which seeks to reduce the desertification, deforestation and deterioration in biodiversity and the proportion of the poor directly affected by degraded lands

2.3 Have you received, or are you expecting to receive in the near future, technical or financial support for REDD+ from the UN-REDD Programme or any other multilateral or bilateral assistance program for REDD+? If yes, provide the details and also mention for what areas of REDD+ Readiness would you request the FCPF support?

Forests National Corporation established a National REDD+ unit to develop the framework for REDD+ strategic plan, such work was done in collaboration with the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) and Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources (HCENR). Financial support was provided by UNDP to conduct the inception workshop of REDD+ which targeted TOT from different States to develop the capacities of indigenous people and related institutions. UNDP was also provide fund for other four workshops for awareness raising & capacity building, quick assessment of the forest resources including the review and overview of forest inventory to set out the status of Sudan Forests where 75 participants from different forestry sector institutions were involved. Financial support was provided by UNEP to Sudanese delegates to attend the UN-REDD policy board meetings and REDD+ negotiation in Durban during COP 17

3. REDD+ and National Development

(Please answer each question in ½ page maximum. If accepted into the FCPF, under categories (iii) or (iv) above in 2.1, the country will be expected to provide further information and analysis in the Readiness Preparation Proposal).

3.1 How important are forests in your country, including for poverty reduction, the well-being of forest-dependent Indigenous Peoples and other forest dwellers, and biological diversity? Please use quantitative data, if available.

Sudan's economy is predominately based on agriculture sector including agricultural production, livestock, forestry and fisheries, which together contribute about 48% of the Gross Domestic Product. Forests play a significant role in integrated land use systems in Sudan in the sense of socio-economic development and environmental protection functions in addition to provision of the needs of the various stakeholders and in livelihood support . However, of the total population (39.2 million) nearly (70.5%) is rural and considered as forest dependant for livelihood, wood energy and on round timber for buildings. Contribution of forests sector to the national economy is under estimated where the formal national accounts reveals an under estimation of the forestry sector to the GDP in the range of (3%). The energy consumption study confirmed that the per capita consumption of fuel wood is 0.7 cu m/annum which when converted into Ton/oil Equivalent (TOE) could be valued at nearly 2.0 Billion US dollars. Moreover, the non-wood forest products are diverse and have substantial contribution in the livelihood at the household level and at the national economy.

Income generation from forests in Sudan include income at the government level, household and investment organization at the private sector. Various source of income generation presently under government control can be listed including direct sales of wood products such as fuel wood, construction timber and sawn timber. Of the non-wood products. The majority of Sudanese household in the rural areas are dependent on forest products for livelihood support and income generation.

Sudan forests produce diversity of non-wood forest products that constitute potential sources for industrial development for local use and for export. At local level, cottage industry is recognized at every household. Traditional cottage industry supplies the market with many products that are attractive to tourism. Sudan exports about 60 – 80 thousand tons of gum Arabic.

Forests provide wide range of opportunities for employments at government side and private sector in plantation activities, forest protection and industry estimated at 15% of employment in rural areas. Generally, NWFPs in Sudan provide the main employment and income sources for the elderly, women and children in rural areas. The most important role of NWFPs is its provision of self-reliance, employment where, many communities in the Sudan receive income from collection, processing and marketing of these products

3.2 What are the current situation and trends in deforestation and forest degradation? What are the main causes of deforestation and forest degradation?

As of 9th July 2011, Sudan divided into two brother countries namely the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan. The Republic of Sudan has a forest cover constitute about 11% of its total surface area. It is mostly difficult to differentiate between deforestation and degradation in Sudan therefore the estimates mentioned may include both deforestation and degradation.

Situation analysis of the Republic of Sudan concluded that still the annual deforestation is (-542) thousand ha and the annual deforestation rate is estimated to be 2,4%

Agricultural expansion: The biggest direct cause of Sudan deforestation is the conversion of natural forests to cropland and pasture. In Sudan an area of more than three million hectare was converted to mechanized rainfed agriculture.

Energy consumption: The energy sector is also closely linked to deforestation in Sudan and considered as an important factor of deforestation, wood extraction for fuel and charcoal. Sudan depends mainly on forestry sector as energy source. Forests contribute by a total of 4.11 million T.O.E representing 70 - 81 percent of energy supply in the country (FNC, 1995). Demand for wood fuel increased in the last two decades due to rapid population growth, urbanization and shortage in supply of forms of energy. Sudan consumed a total 21 million m³ round wood in 2010 including wood fuel, construction, maintenance and furniture wood. The Wood fuel share of the total is estimated to be 87.5.

Refugees and internally displaced people: Contribute to the Removal of forests to obtain their requirements of fuel-wood and building houses (IDPs in Darfur and refugee the Eastern, Western Sudan)

Factors affecting forest health: Little information is available about insects, diseases and other hazards impacting forests and the forest sector in Sudan. One report, estimated that 102 874 km² of forested areas in four states – Darfur, Kordofan, Eastern and Central were affected by insect pests and diseases.

Fire, fungal and insects' attacks and over grazing hinder natural regeneration. Fires usually sited for land preparation for cultivation but it also destroys the range land large animals leave their habitats to remote areas or may be subjected to death. Fire is a serious problem in nearly all forest areas in the Sudan.

Natural Disturbances: mainly drought

3.3 Does your country currently have a forest monitoring system, including estimates of greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation?

Monitoring of forest cover and biomass changes in Sudan are obtained from successive inventories and remote sensing images taken at various times and sites. This includes several studies conducted including Andrews (1948), Harrison and Jackson (1958), Lewis (1953), Ferguson (1954). In 1982 National Energy Administration (NEA) in collaboration with Forests Administration, University of Khartoum and the Regional Remote Sensing Facility (Nairobi) conducted a forest resource survey to assess the country energy requirements. In 1987 Lund University conducted a survey covering an area of 0.58 million km² The widest inventory was launched during the period (1995-1997) covered an area of 62.27 million

hectares. In 1997 the Africover project commenced its activities covering 10 Nile Basin countries in addition to East African countries including the Sudan. The state of forests can only be extrapolated from these ad hoc surveys and from global Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) such as that by FAO (1990), 2000, 2005 and 2010. FRA 2010

Unfortunately because of the limited resources these Forest Inventories have not been successful in establishing a regular forest monitoring and data collection systems. The only more frequent inventory activities available in Sudan are confined to plantations and some of the reserved forest where resources spending are more justifiable because of both productive and protective objectives. Therefore current forest monitoring system is based on a bottom up system of reporting from the forest circles (the smallest management unit) up to the state forest and then to FNC at the national level. The data reported include both qualitative and quantitative information on forest resources with more focus on reserve forests, afforestation and reforestation areas, harvest and production, fires, personnel etc. This reporting system is done on monthly and annual basis. The current national reporting does not include estimation of GHGs emission/removal. However, report GHGs estimate to FAO and has at least 6 member of its technical staff trained on GHGs inventory estimation and they participated in the two national GHGs conducted so far in Sudan for National communication purpose. In addition to a large number of its experts and experts from other related institutions who received training on technical issues related to GHGs inventory, A/R CDM and REDD+.

3.4 What is the current thinking on what would be needed to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in your country (e.g., potential programs, policies, capacity building, etc.)?

- Sustainable Development in forestry and forest products to be integrated with agriculture and animal husbandry in order to approach successful communities-based practices at private and public partnerships.
- Implementation of the comprehensive national strategies for development (1992 – 2002 and 2003 – 2027) which stated forest and other natural resources policy objectives that aim at conservation, environmental protection and poverty alleviation at national and community levels.
- Policy reforms in order to lessen the degradation of the forest ecosystems and this contains measures to enhance sustainable management of public forests and to encourage forest out growers to establish forest reserves and plantations
- Adoption of alternative energy such as LPG and enhancement of efficient use of energy technologies represented by improved cook stoves, brick ovens and efficient charcoal kilns should remain a policy
- Comprehensive policies and plans at different levels are indispensable to ensuring that demand for wood and wood products remain at a manageable level.
- Increase of plantation area and improvement of plantation returns through reduction of establishment costs and increasing its profits will encourage expansion of plantations to release the pressure from the natural forests
- Combating environmental degradation and rehabilitation of degraded forest lands should be a comprehensive endeavour aiming at formulating and implementing land rehabilitation strategy integrated in other sectors strategies within the framework of national development strategy.

3.5 What are the key potential challenges for REDD+ in your country (e.g., lack of financing, lack of technical capacity, governance issues)?

The key potential challenges for REDD+ in Sudan can be summarized as follows

- Raising funds for REDD+ is the major problem specially during the early stage of REDD+ development. Lack of sources of sufficient funding for REDD+ activities from other partners or the government is considered to be the major challenge for REDD+
- High costs of ongoing non technical ongoing REDD+ activities such as community engagement, communication, awareness raising and capacity building

- Lack of technical and financial capacities to establish information system on carbon stocks, which is very expensive and time-consuming including (biomass accounting, remote sensing and modeling)
- Lack of well trained experts for the development of the carbon and emissions baselines (biomass estimation, GIS data collection, historical deforestation analysis and future baseline projections)
- Challenges to aggregate small-holder land owners, land holders, sellers, pastoralists across various situations to allow participation in REDD+

3.6 How does REDD+ fit in your country's national low-carbon development strategy/plan, if any, or in the strategy/plan for the forest and other relevant sectors (e.g., agriculture, water, energy, transportation)?

The current high rate of deforestation and forest degradation for energy, crop cultivation and other important livelihood needs makes forest sector one of the highest priority areas for Sudan to contribute the global climate change mitigation. Land use change and forestry sectors are also well recognized for their vital contribution to sustainable development in Sudan, where these sectors support the livelihoods for more than 70% of the population. These facts are well articulated in Sudan's initial communication, national adaptation programme of action (NAPA) and second national communication (under finalization now). The role forests and need for their conservation is well recognized in the forestry, agriculture, water and biodiversity policies and strategies. Sudan used its GEF STAR allocation to finance a forestry mitigation project, which includes afforestation/reforestation, forest management and biomass energy saving components. This project also include a pilot on REDD+ plus for the purpose of building national capacity and gaining experience on practical example. A recent report prepared with a support from the African Development Bank highlighted land use change and forestry as one the high priority sector for Sudan NAMAs and low carbon development strategy. Sudan contacted number potential donors and UN agencies trying to raise support for preparation of its low carbon development plan as required by the Cancun Agreement of COP 16 of climate change convention

3.7 Please briefly describe the envisaged national management arrangements for REDD+, explaining at what level of government REDD+ would be steered.

The institutional framework of management of REDD+ is going on .

The Forests National Corporation (FNC) was designated as the national bodies for REDD+ . FNC is acting as a catalyst for REDD+ and is positioned to initiate , develop and improve inter-sectoral coordination.

National Committee includes representation from other related governmental sector , civil societies,local communities, private sector and universities will be set up and established.

REDD+ national technical unit from concerned Ministries is already established with the participation of the concerned Ministries (agriculture energy, livestock...etc)

This coordination will make it possible to direct and harmonize various sectoral policies.

State REDD+ Committees, with the participation of the States authorities, civil societies and local communities, will be established in all States of the country

3.8 Please briefly describe the proposed consultations that would be conducted to design the REDD+ strategy.

The REDD+ National Strategy will be prepared in a participatory approach where all stakeholders will be consulted and involved including related Government institutions (Agriculture, energy, Range, irrigation, research, ...etc), indigenous people, local people including, Farmers , pastoralists and gum arabic unions, NGOs and Private sector