

**The Ministry of Environment,
Forestry and Physical Development**

**Sudan
Sustainable Natural Resources
Management Project**



PROCESS FRAMEWORK

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FNC	Forest National Corporation
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GGWI	Great Green Wall Initiative
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoARFR	Ministry of Animal Resources, Fisheries and Range
MoEFPD	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Physical Development
NCS	National Comprehensive Strategy
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NR	Natural Resource
NRM	Natural Resource Management
PA	Protected Area
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PDO	Project Development Objective
PNSC	Project National Steering Committee
PSIR	Pressure State, Impact Response Analysis
PTC	Project Technical Committee
RPA	Range and Pasture Administration
RPF	Resettlement Policy Framework
SAWAP	Sahel and West Africa Programme
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SLWM	Sustainable Land and Water Management
SPCU	State Project Coordinating Unit
SSNRMP	Sudan Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project
TA	Technical Assistance
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNCBD	United Nations Convention on Biodiversity
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nation Environment Programme
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WCGA	Wildlife Conservation General Administration

GLOSSARY

Nazir	Paramount tribal leader
Omda	Head of tribal clan
Sheikh	Village head
Dar	Tribal homeland
Murhal	Livestock corridors in rangelands
Hafir	Excavated pond to collect water for human and animal use
Trus	Traditional small embankment to collect runoff for cultivation
Hawakir	Land recognized as homeland for specific tribe or individual according to customary rules

1. INTRODUCTION

Sudan is situated in northern-eastern Africa with a coastline bordering the Red sea. It is the third largest country in Africa with a population size of 39 million. Like in other Sahelian countries, livelihoods in Sudan heavily depend on soil, water and vegetation resources. It is estimated that agriculture (crops, livestock and forestry) contributes 35-40% of GDP (with livestock accounting for 50% of the production) and employs more than 80% of the total population.

Sudan faces environmental challenges due to its geographic location within the fragile Sudano-Sahelian and sub-Saharan African zones. Short variable erratic rainy seasons, arid lands, and poor sparse vegetative cover contribute to the country's vulnerability. In addition, the soils in the area are highly susceptible to wind and water erosion. The steady increase of both human and livestock populations puts pressure on natural resources, and has resulted in soil erosion, nutrient loss, land degradation, water pollution, and deterioration of biodiversity across large tracts of the country. Degradation of rangelands and forest resources in Sudan has been caused mainly by the rapid expansion of mechanized farming and extensive agricultural practices and charcoal production

The proposed Sudan Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project (SSNRMP) is part of the Sahel and West Africa Program (SAWAP) which supports the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) and it is designed to undertake sustainable natural resource management activities in range lands and forest ecosystems in White Nile, Gezira and Kassala.

In the White Nile, the Project will help communities in the target areas, specifically in *Aum Rimta* locality, rehabilitate rangelands. Activities will include establishment of shelter belts for sand dune fixation, demarcation and enclosure of animal migration routes and grazing land rotations, establishment of nurseries, clearing and opening of fire lines, among others. It is envisaged that the rangeland will be gazzeted after rehabilitation.

In Gezira and Kassala States the project will rehabilitate and restore forest ecosystems. In Gezira, the gazzeted *Wad Bugul* Forest Reserve (about 15 to 20,000 ha out of 85,000 ha) will be rehabilitated. In Kassala, the project will rehabilitate and gazzet 2,400 ha of the *Telkuk* Forest Reserve. The project is expected to contribute biodiversity conservation through restoration and gazzetment of forests and rangelands.

Rangelands and forests to be selected for project activities are uninhabited. The areas to be selected will also not include agricultural lands. Thus, there will be no land acquisition leading to involuntary resettlement resulting from SSNRMP activities.¹ However, restoration and eventual gazzetting of forest reserves and rangelands may affect communities living around targeted rangelands and forests by restricting their livelihoods and access to the resources. This Process Framework was prepared in order to address impacts of access restriction to rangelands and forests to be rehabilitated and restored.

The purpose of the process framework is therefore to establish the design for a consultative and participatory process by which members of potentially affected communities participate in design of project activities, determination of measures necessary to achieve resettlement

¹ This Process Frameworks includes a Terms of Reference for preparing an Resettlement Policy Framework during project implementation, should it be required.

policy objectives, as described in OP 4.12 (e.g. definition of eligibility criteria, mitigation measures, grievances resolution mechanisms available to project-affected people), and implementation and monitoring of relevant project activities.

2. APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

2.1.Document review

Key documents reviewed include i) The project concept note, the draft Project Appraisal Document, and various reports on the socio-economic aspects of the States where the Project will be implemented ii) the World Bank Group Operational Policies on Environmental and Social Safeguards iii) Process Framework of related projects such as the *Kihansi Catchment Conservation and Management Project* and the *Republic of Tunisia Protected Areas Management Project*.

2.2.Consultation with stakeholders

Stakeholders including governmental institutions, civil societies, academic institutions and communities that will potentially be affected by the project were consulted at the National, State and Local levels. Technic used for the consultation included questionnaires, structured interviews, informal interviews and focus group discussions.

At the National level governmental institutions such as HCENR, MoEFPD, FNC, WCGA, MoA, Rangeland and Pasture Administration were consulted. Similar governmental institutions at the State level were also consulted. From donors and non-governmental institutions, UNDP, IFAD, UNEP, DFID, EU, Norway Embassy, JICA and FAO were consulted on the design of the Project.

A more detailed consultation was held at the State level with researchers at the Ministry of Agriculture, and hydrological services, community based organizations in the three states (farmers unions, pastoralist unions, herders unions, popular committees, village committees, farmers' cooperatives associations, and traditional leaders).

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Sudan Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project (SSNRMP) falls under the World Bank/GEF Sahel and West Africa Program (SAWAP) in support of the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI). The Project would address land degradation challenges in selected States of Sudan, namely White Nile, Gezira and Kassala, by promoting a landscape approach to natural resources management and conservation of biodiversity. The project would be financed by GEF with a total of 7.73 million USD and implemented for 5 years.

3.1.Project Development Objective

The Project Development Objective (PDO) and Global Environment Objective (GEO) is “to increase adoption of sustainable land and water management practices in targeted landscapes.

3.2. Project Components

The project will have three components: (1) Institutional and policy framework; (2) Community-based sustainable management of rangelands, forests and biodiversity; and (3) Project management.

Component 1: Institutional and policy framework

Institutional capacity building: The project will support key institutions involved in natural resources management by strengthening their capacity to formulate, implement and monitor programs and projects geared towards the sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity conservation, based on a capacity enhancement plan. The capacity development program will be flexible and modular, whereby capacity building activities will be designed based on experiences in the implementation of component 2. A variety of consultative mechanisms with all concerned stakeholders at the federal, state and locality levels will be used to determine the institutional, technical, and administrative training needs. The project will provide institutional support to MoEFPD, FNC, RPA and WCGA at all levels. This support will be used to: (i) develop effective inter-agency collaboration mechanisms at the central and state level; (ii) assist communities in preparing and implementing investments under integrated land management plans; (iii) manage, monitor, and maintain infrastructures by Village Development Committees (VDCs).

Support to policy framework: The project will contribute to addressing the lack of effective comprehensive policy and legislative framework that deals with sustainable forest and land use management in an integrated, multi-sectoral way. The project will assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the current regulations governing the implementation of SLWM and biodiversity conservation practices following the landscape approach in the selected landscapes. Selection of strategic entry points for any legislative reforms will be based on complementarity with other initiatives and on lessons emerging from component 2. A strategy will be developed with practical recommendations, measures and policies for effective cooperation at centre-state-local and community levels for the protection and conservation of the natural resource base. The project will work with HCENR to strengthen policy framework and legislation for SLWM and biodiversity conservation.

Information and knowledge management: The project will help address the barriers in terms of information and knowledge related to broader adoption of SLWM and biodiversity conservation practices. In order to systematically apply and scale up best practices for SFM and SLWM, a systematic approach to capturing lessons must be established, with clear methodology for lesson learning rooted in scientifically based evidence. The project will therefore support the Pressure State, Impact Response (PSIR) analysis of land and biodiversity degradation, including assessment of land management practices. The analysis will provide information as to what would be the best practices to promote in each target locality and landscape (in component 2) based on relevant baseline data collection to update key information after the separation of South Sudan, including key species and variables for forests, rangelands and wildlife in selected landscapes.

A communication plan will be designed and implemented in order to disseminate information concerning processes, results and lessons learned through the program to key ministerial departments and national agencies, state and local Governments, bilateral and multilateral development partners, non-Governmental organizations and beneficiaries. This will encompass strategy to prepare or contribute to national policy; and linkages with Sudanese institutions and learning platforms to be established at the outset. The proposed project will

receive support from the BRICKS project in strategic communication, and contribute to knowledge exchange initiatives that will directly benefit the project's implementation, within the TerrAfrica platform, the SAWAP through the BRICKS project² as well as other national or regional exchange initiatives.

Component 2: Community based sustainable management of rangelands, forests and biodiversity

Integrated land management plans: The project will support the preparation of natural resource management plans for the gazetted *Wad Bugul* reserve in the *Butana* area in the *Rufaa* locality of Gezira State, *Telkuk* Forest Reserve in Kassala State, and the rangelands in *Aum Rimta* in White Nile State.

Forest ecosystem rehabilitation and restoration: In Gezira, the gazetted *Wad Bugul* Forest Reserve (totaling about 15,000 ha) will be rehabilitated. In Kassala State, the project will gazette and rehabilitate 2,400 ha of the *Telkuk* Forest Reserve. Proposed project sites can support many of the original small mammals, birds, reptiles, other fauna, and plant life typical of the Sahel biome. The project is expected to benefit biodiversity conservation through the gazetting of forest reserves; restoration of native vegetation by reforestation, enrichment planting, natural regeneration, sand dune stabilization, and effective implementation of management plans.

Rangeland management: Activities will include establishment of shelter belts for sand dune fixation, demarcation of animal migration routes and grazing land rotations, establishment of nurseries for rangeland rehabilitation, clearing and opening of fire lines to protect rangelands. In addition, community level project activities may include rehabilitation of existing Hafirs and water sources; rehabilitation and cultivation in open spaces; and seeding rangelands to improve range condition with fodder grasses.

Local communities will receive technical assistance to acquire the capacity to conduct the selected rangeland activities, including training to support the organization of communities in associations (cooperatives) around specific NRM livelihood initiatives. Given the importance of livestock in Sudan and its impact on land degradation, sustainable rangeland management activities related to husbandry and livestock are crucial.

Component 3: Project management

Project Management includes support for day-to-day project management including, procurement, financial management, environmental and social safeguards, annual work plans and organization of supervision missions.

Monitoring and Evaluation will provide support for operating an M&E system that will track the project results, including those registered in the GEF tracking tools for Biodiversity, Land Degradation and Sustainable Forest Management. The M&E system will work in coordination with the SAWAP Program so that key indicators can be aggregated from the country level to the regional Sahel level. To achieve this, the project will receive complementary support from the BRICKS project for regional portfolio monitoring that will reinforce benchmarking and improved investment design and execution.

² The Building Resilience through Innovation, Communication and Knowledge Services project (BRICKS) aims to improve accessibility of best practices and monitoring information within the SAWAP portfolio on integrated management of natural resources, climate change and natural disasters.

4. BASELINE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The Republic of Sudan covers an area of about 1.87 million km², (UN and Partners Work Plan, 2012 and FAO, 2012), and in general terms, desert and semi desert conditions cover between 60-70 per cent of the country's total area. The latest estimation of the land cover of Sudan (FAO, April 2012) shows that some 51 per cent of area is bare rocks, bare soil and other unconsolidated materials (such as wind-blown sands free of vegetation in hyper-arid areas). A further 10% is classified as trees, 11.8% as shrubby vegetation, and 13.8% as herbaceous vegetation.

Sudan remains essentially rural with the majority of the population dependent on the country's natural resources for their livelihoods. It is estimated that agriculture (crops, livestock and forestry) contributes 35-40% of GDP (with livestock accounting for 50% of the production) and employs more than 80% of the total population (Lee, et al, 2013). Traditional farming accounts for 60-70% of the agricultural output, and is largely subsistence production based on shifting cultivation and livestock rearing (Badri, 2012).

The 2013 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Index ranks Sudan at 171 out of 187 countries. Poverty estimates set the average rate of poverty incidence at 46 % (2009 National Baseline Household Survey), indicating that some 15 million people are poor. The poverty rate is significantly higher in rural areas (58%) than in urban areas (26%), and varies markedly across states.

More specifically, the environmental and socio-economic conditions of the three States where the SSNRMP will be implemented are briefly described below.

Kassala State is located in the eastern Sudan, and its population is estimated to be 1.4 million. The land area is about 42,282 km², and the cultivated land covers about 40 percent of the total area. The major crops grown are sorghum, sesame, wheat, peanuts and cotton.

The state is affected by recurrent drought and sand encroachment. Furthermore, the area is characterized by low productive capacity in the agricultural and livestock sectors, shortage of water resources, lack of education and health services, deterioration of natural resources, and poor road infrastructure.

Kassala State is estimated to have over 7 million feddans³ (2.94 million ha) of natural pasture land. This area supports around 3 million heads of the livestock in the state. It also supports a similar number of additional livestock that pass through the state on a seasonal basis. Forestland covers 3 per cent of the state's total area, equivalent to some 126,000 ha. Of this amount, about 9, 000 ha has been set aside for conservation. The proposed project will restore and rehabilitate 2,400 ha of forest areas.

The **White Nile** state is located along the White Nile, South of Khartoum, and has a population of about 2.7 million. The state is home to significant numbers of refugees, nearly 10% of the population and also a transit point for Internally Displaced People (IDP) returning to the south.

³ 1 hectare = 2.38 feddans

Agro-ecologically, the state is within the semi-desert zone, characterized by sandy soils and with annual rainfall varying from 300 mm in the north to 600 mm in the south. About 70% of the population is rural and agriculture is the main source of livelihood.

The White Nile state has both rain fed and irrigated farming; the rain fed crop mix has sorghum as the major crop, which together with sesame and millet cover about 97% of the total cultivated area. Irrigated farming is concentrated in agricultural schemes and small farms along the White Nile. Along with crops, livestock is an important source of livelihood.

The size of rangeland in *Aum Rimta* locality, where the project will be implemented, is estimated to be 250 km², which is largely degraded because of overgrazing and recurrent drought. The project will support the rehabilitation of part of this rangeland and livelihood improvement activities for people in the project intervention area.

Gezira state is located along the Blue Nile, Southeast of Khartoum, and has a population of about 2.71 million. Agriculture is the main economic activity, followed by livestock rearing. The presence of fertile soils in the state has led to the development of extensive rain-fed grain cultivation, and the establishment of the largest irrigation scheme in the country.

The natural vegetation of the area is classified as a woodland Savannah. However, the natural vegetation has been degraded in the course of widespread clearance for mechanized crop production, extensive burning and shifting cultivation.

It is estimated that 7 percent of the land is covered with forest. The Acacia forest reserve in east Gezira, where the proposed project will be implemented, is estimated to be 85,000 hectares. This forest reserve is highly degraded largely because of selective logging and grazing. The project will support forest rehabilitation and livelihood improvement activities for people living in the forest reserve areas.

5. LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

5.1. National Legislation:

Statutory and customary legislations as well as policies of particular relevance to the sustainable land and forest management activities and access to resources are described below.

5.1.1. Land Tenure and Land Regulations

- **The Civil Transactions Act 1984:** this Act regulates the different issues related to civil transactions with respect to titles on land, means of land acquisition, easement rights and conditions to be observed by land users and gives guidelines and details for practical implementation of issues related to land acquisition;
- **Land Registration and Settlement Act 1925:** this Act provides rules to determine rights on land and other rights attached to it and ensure land registration;
- **Land Acquisition Act 1930:** This Act gives the government the power to appropriate lands for development purposes in accordance with the provision of the Constitution and Civil Transaction Act 1984; Government lands cannot be sold or bought and no claims of ownership are accepted for them;

- **Disposition of Lands and Physical Planning Act 1994:** this Act regulated designation of lands for different purposes and urban planning.

5.1.2. The Interim National Constitution (2005)

The Interim National Constitution of the Republic of the Sudan (2005) is based on the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) 2005, and relevant articles of the 1998 Constitution of Sudan. The Constitution reflected on the various land tenure legislation and policies listed above. It endorses the rights of citizens to live in a clean environment (Article 11) and directs attention to the management of natural resources and cultural heritage sites. The Constitution gives a high level of decentralization of powers to States and local governments.

The Interim Constitution called for competency in land administration and provided for the incorporation of customary laws and practices. It stipulated the creation of four Land Commissions for the purposes of arbitration, entertaining claims against the relevant government or others in relation to land, assess appropriate land compensation, and make recommendations on land reform policies and recognition of customary land rights or law.

5.1.3. The National Comprehensive Strategy (NCS) 1992-2002

NCS is the first strategy with a dedicated section on the environment. The NCS spelled out the objectives and priorities for sustainable development while incorporating the framework of the country's environmental strategy. According to the NCS, environmental issues must be embodied in all development projects. Poverty alleviation, popular participation and incorporation of indigenous knowledge were recognized as key elements for sound environmental management.

5.1.4. Environmental Protection Act (2004)

This Act outlines the principles and guidelines for implementation of projects and requirements for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The Act includes general principles and guidelines to be considered in implementing development projects and makes it the responsibility of the project proponents, before embarking on any development activity, to carry out an environmental impact assessment (EIA) or at least conduct an environmental screening. The Act provides definitions and clarifications regarding natural resources management, pollutants and sources of pollution and specifies issues to be considered in EIAs (Article 18).

5.1.5. The Five Year National Strategic Plan (2007-2011)

The NSP provides a framework for focusing and coordinating Sudan's peace processes and development efforts. Prepared by the National Council for Strategic Planning (NCSP), on the basis of public participation at federal and state levels, the NSP was intended to set Sudan firmly on course to achieve its Quarter Century year vision. NSP focusses on five key result areas, namely: promoting sustainable economic development; sustaining peace and stability; reducing poverty and making progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goal.

5.1.6. Draft National Water Policy (2006)

A draft National Water Policy was prepared in 1999. The policy document assessed the water situation in the country, existing legislation and policies and outlined the main policy principles and statements. Policy principles were illustrated under the sub-headings: water resources, water utilization, water and environment, international issues, socio-economic issues, disaster management and institutions and capacity building. It also recommended the development of strategic plans for the water sector. The aim of the policy is to ensure “sustainable and integrated management of available water resources through the adoption of cost effective and appropriate technologies, research, public and private sector partnership, cost sharing and cost recovery mechanisms and recognition of water as an instrument for conflict resolution”.

5.1.7. Customary Land Tenure

Most of the tenure rights for land and resources including trees, pasture and water come from customary practices and indigenous traditions usually based on tribal structure. Customary land tenure can be defined as the: “rules accepted by a group of the ways in which land is held, used, transferred and transmitted... recognized as legitimate by the community... and usually explicit and generally known.” (FAO, 1996)

Traditional land use system prior to the colonial era, were based on traditional tribal leadership and customary laws that organize resource use among communities. Agricultural practices were based on small holdings allocated to households while pasture and range on large tracts are managed as common resources for grazing. Other resource uses like water and forest products are under the control and management of the tribal leaders. However, the post 1970 land use policy gave the government the ownership over any wasteland, forest or unregistered land thus reducing the rights of the local people. Three categories of land ownership system emerged following several amendments to the policies. These include: private, government and community land. The majority of land in Sudan is under government control.⁴

Within the customary land tenure, there is the tribal homeland (Dar) with demarcated boundaries recognized by neighbouring tribes and local authorities (e. g. Dar Hamar and Dar Kababish in Kordofan). The tribal land is organized and supervised by Nazir (the chief tribal leader). Within the tribal land, there is clan land organized by Omda. Within the clan land, there are a number of villages, each with its land organized and controlled by the village Sheikh. Within the village land, each villager practices his private ownership respected and recognized by all.

The unclaimed land is used as range land or allotted to migrants by the village Sheikh provided that they respect the traditional rule of surrendering 1/10 of the crop to the Sheikh. As a general rule, land allotted to any person cannot be withdrawn unless he/ she leave the village. Under such circumstances, the land abandoned by any person reverts to the community to be allotted to someone else. In all cases, the owner of the land is free to hire part of his land or dispose of it in the way he likes and after death, his children or relatives inherit the land.

⁴ IFAD GEF Integrated Carbon Sequestration Project in Sudan; Project Document; Final Version June 2012

It should be noted here that pasturelands and water resources (pools) are communally owned and utilized. They are not appropriated by individuals and pasturelands are always defined as uncultivated lands. Pastoralists have corridors (Murhal) to avoid farms and allowed to utilize uncultivated areas. Tribal chiefs usually specify these routes and grazing areas for nomads. Generally, these Acts provide procedures for land expropriation for development purposes and ways to specify rights in order to compensate the owner.

In conclusion, there are two main principles of land tenure, land use and land ownership. The access to land use is given by local chiefs. Land ownership is tied by the 1970 land law which necessitates land registration.⁵

5.2. International Environmental and Social Agreements

Sudan signed and ratified a large number of Multilateral Environmental Agreements. International agreements of relevance to this project include:

- International Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Ratified in 1995.
- Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Ratified 1995.
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Ratified in 1993.
- The Kyoto Protocol, Ratified 2005.

The ratified treaties subsequently become part of the National Laws and their provisions prevail in case of contradictions with the provisions of the National Laws exist.

5.3. World Bank Policies

The Involuntary Resettlement Policy (OP/BP 4.12) covers direct economic and social impacts that emerge from Bank-financed investment projects, and are caused by involuntary taking of land resulting in relocation or loss of shelter, loss of assets or access to assets, loss of income sources or means of livelihood, whether or not the affected persons must move to another location or the involuntary restriction of access to legally designated parks and protected areas resulting in adverse impacts on the livelihoods of the displaced persons. The policy is triggered in situations involving involuntary taking of land and involuntary restrictions of access to legally designated parks and protected areas.

This policy is triggered because the proposed project is envisaged to entail some restriction of access to forest and range land resources related to selected critical habitats and water sources which will be earmarked for protection. Therefore, consistent with OP 4.12, this Process Framework has been prepared to manage any implications for communities relying on rangelands and forests in the project areas.

5.4. Institutional Arrangements

The process framework will be implemented with a similar institutional arrangement set out for the implementation of the ESMF of this project. The Local Level Project Implementation Unit (LIU) will be responsible for the implementation of the guiding principles described

⁵ Social Assessment Study of the Communities in and outside of Dinder National Park Khartoum, Sudan, September 2012

under section 7 of this process framework. The key institutions that will enforce the process framework at the federal level will be the MoEFPD, HCENR, FNC, RPA, WCGA. At the state level the Ministry of Environment and MoA will be responsible for enforcing the process framework in forests and rangelands, respectively. An annual auditing along with ESMF will be conducted to ensure compliance with the process framework.

Besides government project implementers which are responsible for ensuring the implantation of the process framework, traditional institutions (as described under section 5.1.7) will be actively engaged in guiding and enforcing the process framework at local level. Nearly in all villages popular committees have been elected to administer village's affairs in coordination and collaboration with the Sheikh. Any development activity at the village level starts with permits or requests issued by the Village Popular Committee to be raised to the locality for approval.

6. POTENTIAL LIVELIHOODS IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS

The project activities will bring several direct benefits to an estimated 100,000 people living in the three states by improving the sustainability of land and water management practices, introducing agroforestry systems, restoring and rehabilitating range lands and forest reserves. Benefits are derived from improved ecosystems and overall better managed habitats. Casual labour and other livelihood opportunities will be created to benefit local communities.

Potential impacts

Potential impacts

It is not possible at this stage to determine the number of project affected populations. This will be determined based on identification of the specific sites where the sub projects will be implemented. Potentially affected communities will be involved in identifying any adverse impacts, assessing the significance of the impacts, and establishing criteria for eligibility for mitigating and/or compensation measures. Some of the likely potential adverse impacts are:

- *Restricted access to forests:* Protection and gazettement of forest reserves will result in restriction of access to important forest resources for communities living around the forest reserves. Such protected and gazetted forests would include the 2400 ha *Telkuk* Forest Reserve in Kassala State and the *Wad Bugul* forest reserve in Gezira State. Forest resources are important source of fuel wood (energy), construction materials, and non-timber forest resources to the rural communities.
- *Restricted access to rangelands:* The implementation of range land management may reduce access to rangeland for livestock affecting the pastoral communities. Restriction of rangelands may result in competition for water, and grazing land between different users and if not mitigated appropriately, it can lead to further tensions and disputes. The project will be implemented in the Aum Rimta rangeland in White Nile State, among others.

Mitigation of impacts

Mitigation measures against these anticipated negative social impacts of project activities will be developed under this project in consultation with, and taking into account of the needs of local communities. The project will work in close consultation with the federal, state and local governments, local communities and their organizations such as, pastoralist and farmers associations, gum Arabic producers associations, popular committees, village committees, and traditional leadership in livelihood and soil and water conservation activities that would

guarantee the reestablishment of existing socio-economic conditions. Project affected communities would be the priority beneficiaries from the community livelihood activities of the project (Sub-component 2.4).

Mitigation measures could include the following, among others :

- Give priority to employment of local people where possible;
- Identify and support the welfare and cultural identity of affected local communities;
- Train communities in the use of manure to help fertilize crops;
- Train communities in rangeland management; and
- Train communities in sustainable management of forests and non-timber production.

7. KEY PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE SELECTION OF PROJECT SITES

The following principles will guide the project's preparation of management plans for forest and range land and the identification and implementation of the different subproject activities related to rangeland, water resources, forest reserves and livelihood activities.

Preparation of Management Plans: The Local Implementation Unit (LIU) will harmonize the needs of local communities with the conservation of natural resources. Thus, arangeland and forest management plans will be prepared with full participation of local communities. In order to facilitate the preparation of the management plans environmental awareness workshops will be organized on the importance of conservation of rangelands and forests. Communities' indigenous knowledge on soil and water conservation will be obtained and used to inform management plans.

The management plan preparation and implementation will include clearly defined roles and responsibilities for the LIU, local communities and civil societies

Settlements in rangelands and reserve forests: There will not be any human settlements inside the rangelands and forest ecosystems to be restored and rehabilitated by the SSNRMP.

Agricultural Activities in rangelands and reserve forests: Areas to be selected for the management of rangelands and forest reserves should be free of cultivated lands

Project affected persons would be a) pastoralists whose access to grazing land is reduced due to rehabilitation of rangelands b) forest resource users such as landless, women and charcoal makers whose livelihood and income is dependent on forest and rangeland resources.

8. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The process to be followed for effective implementation of the PF would consist of the following four steps;

- a) **Social Assessment:** This is a critical step and should be done before implementation of component 2 starts. The social assessment for each locality where Management Plans are to be prepared would focus on developing an understanding of: (i) the social and geographic setting of the communities in the project areas, including their

economic and social problems; (ii) the types and extent of community use of natural resources, and the existing customary rules and institutions for the use and management of natural resources; (iii) the communities' threats to and impacts on the NRs; (iv) the potential livelihood impacts of new or more strictly enforced restrictions on use NRs; (v) communities' suggestions and/or view on possible mitigation measures; and (vi) potential conflicts over the use of natural resources, and methods for solving conflicts.

b) Establishment Forest and Rangeland Management Committees: In addition to the Popular Village Committees that are already in place, local rangeland and forest committees will be established for the management of rangelands and forest reserves. The committees should include representatives from all resource users such as pastoralists, farmers, fuel wood/charcoal makers, women, landless and other users.

c) Identify livelihood activities with active participation of beneficiary communities:- The livelihood activities will be based on participatory land and water use participatory approaches to address specific livelihoods needs and priorities at the local level. Selection of activities will include training to support communities in identifying livelihood activities.

d) Participating in Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project Community members (project beneficiaries and project affected people) participate in the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the PF. Communities involvement in the monitoring and evaluation process is will help to ensure that the objectives of the PF are successfully achieved; in case of some eventual gaps, corrective measures will be taken at the right moment.

9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) ARRANGEMENTS

The objectives of monitoring implementation of the PF are a) to ensure that the bodies established and tasked, *inter alia*, with implementing the PF are performing their duties adequately and if not, to ensure their capacity is built to do so, b) to ensure that the actions taken to resolve conflicts c) to conduct a final evaluation of whether or not the PAPs identified have been affected in such a way that their living standards are equal or higher than before the project.

The lead coordinating institution (PCU), the MoEFPD, will be responsible for monitoring and evaluation along with SPCU. The PCU will report on project performance based on the field visits and implementation reports to the Steering and Technical Committee (TC) of the project. For detail implementation arrangement, please see the PAD and the ESMF.

A number of indicators will be used to determine the status of livelihood of affected communities. Definitive indicators and milestones of success will be developed in a participatory manner after the project start date by local community representatives chosen to represent the views of communities in the project area.

At the project level, M&E will include those indicators established in project documents and aligned with the GEF biodiversity tracking tool. The overall monitoring of project progress will be achieved through quarterly reporting.

The PF will be considered successfully implemented if affected individuals, households and communities maintain their project standard of living or improve on it, and local community support is built and remains supportive of the project.

10. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OR GRIEVANCES AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Conflict over natural resources is a common occurrence in Sudan. In the SSNRMP, conflicts may arise due to consequences of regulated/restricted access and management of forest, land and water resources. The traditional leadership and customary laws play important role in mediating access to natural resources such as land and water as well as in sanctioning and resolving conflicts arising from use of such natural resources among different groups. Customary leaders are important source of information on traditional land boundaries, grazing routes and management mechanisms and of long standing agreements between different communities on access to land and other resources. The hierarchies of traditional leaders, traditional institutions such as the ‘Nazara’ and ‘Majlis’ among the tribes in Eastern Sudan are important mediators of conflict resolution at community level. It is important to assess such customary conflict resolution mechanisms existing in specific communities. The existing traditional conflict resolution mechanisms will guide the process for resolution of disputes and handling grievances where traditional leaders play key role. This needs to be complemented by bottom up community consultation and participation of local leadership to ensure that concerns of women, minorities and weaker groups are adequately represented and fairly addressed.

The social assessment that will be conducted at the preparation stage for forest and rangeland management plans will do an assessment of the effectiveness of the existing conflict resolution mechanisms and recommend roles and responsibilities and procedures for addressing grievances and conflicts. The recommendations will also ensure that traditional leaders are not sidelined.

An alternative dispute resolution mechanism could also be put in place and it would work as follows: The village committees which are responsible for implementing the rangeland and forest Management Plans are key players to ensure that disputes are minimized and are resolved amicably. Grievances and conflicts that are not addressed at the community level will be referred to the Leader Group that is composed of local government and community representatives. The Leader Group will work closely with the traditional leaders who are the mediators among different groups. If the conflict cannot be resolved at this level, it will be escalated to the Local Project Implementation Unit at the state level (LIU). If still not resolved, the conflict will be addressed at the national project steering committee for policy decisions. Any aggrieved party could also pursue its grievances through the formal court system of the Sudan.

11. PUBLIC CONSULTATION, CONCERNS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Stakeholder consultations were carried out during designing of project activities as well as ESMF and Process Framework preparation exercise with the aim of explaining the objectives and scope of the project as well as to identify, discuss and respond to project issues of concern to different stakeholders. The consultation was conducted in all the three states with the participation of community leaders and community members from the potential areas for project implementation, Pastoralist unions, farmers unions and key government offices directly involved the project implementation.

Consultations with communities raised the lack of awareness about the intended project as well as low knowledge and capacity at community levels to implement project activities. Communities do not have sufficient information about the project and particularly regarding the areas with possible restriction of access to cultivation and pasture in and around forest reserves and rangeland are not clearly delineated yet at project preparation.

All the stakeholders view the proposed project as a positive initiative that will support and build on the earlier work done by the government and other donors and NGOs supported projects. Stakeholders view the overall objective and the project design as a constructive initiative in terms of biodiversity conservation, community support by prompting alternative livelihood activities as well as enhancing protection of forest, rangeland and water resources.

Forest management

During consultations, the government representatives, recommended formation of forest committees at local levels in the three states in collaboration with village Popular Committees for co-management of forest reserves and to inject new blood in the existing committees. They also recommended establishment of village and school nurseries as means of contributing to forest rehabilitation. The officials also suggested a plan for capacity building including in-service training and institutional support to State Forests.

The local leaders and tribal leaders agree to the recommendations made by government officials and promised to contribute in the management of their forest. In fact they stated that they are the arm of Forest Department at the local level and contribute to protection of the forest because of benefits they get from the forest. They strongly recommended the formation of Forest Committees to be a link with forest authorities and to get the technical advice from forest experts. These recommendations are incorporated into sub activities of the project.



Figure 1: Consultation with community leaders at Kassala State

Access to Natural Resources

The inhabitants living close to proposed sites were consulted in groups and as individuals as well as their traditional leaders to get their concerns about the reserved areas and how they could be involved. They raised concerns about the impacts on access to grazing rights, collection of dead wood, and possible agroforestry practices under the guidance of forest officials. They also raised the concern about pastoralist corridors (Murhals) in range reserves.

Communities recommended that local committees composed of community representatives, leaders and government officials ensure that access to the resources in forest or in range reserves is allowed particularly for collection of dead wood, fodder grasses, tree products as gum collection, and collection of honey. Committees to be established as agreed by the local inhabitants and government officials will play a major role in organizing the use of resources in a sustainable manner. In this respect, the need for livelihood intervention has been emphasized to ensure that communities have alternative source of income and livelihood. They also recognize that some members of community will be affected adversely far more than the others. The recommendation was that the local committees take the responsibility of ensuring that these needs of most vulnerable groups are properly addressed. The vulnerable groups identified during stakeholder consultation include landless laborers and poor households who depend heavily on natural resources such as charcoal making for their day to day survival. Women with the responsibility for providing meals for the household are dependent on collecting fire wood for cooking.

Livelihood activities

The communities do not have objection to the project implementation as they expect to benefit from conservation activities. They acknowledge that the gains they get include continuous supply of dead wood, fodder bank, collection of tree pods for milking animals and protection from creeping sands and dust. With respect to possible sub-projects needed by the local communities they recommended the following:

- Establishment of Hafirs outside the forest and range reserves for animal use and rehabilitate the existing Hafirs and water sources.
- Intensify forest extension in the villages to raise awareness
- Train local volunteers to help in local mobilization

- Establish village and school nurseries
- Establish woodlots for women
- Allow cultivation in open spaces in a plan to rehabilitate the open spaces
- Seeding range lands to improve range condition with palatable fodder grasses.
- Start in a planned process distribution of improved milking goats to improve the local breeds
- Establish a revolving fund to be managed by the local committees to distribute butane gas cylinders to the local inhabitants to reduce the use of charcoal and wood in cooking.
- Train local inhabitants in making improved traditional mud stoves to reduce use of charcoal and wood in cooking.

Community participation

Currently, varying degree of community participation exists with the different institutions in all the three states in working on natural resource management activities such as afforestation, community forestry, demarcation of community and government forest reserves, seedling production for afforestation, mitigation of forest offenses and sand dune fixation. While communities expressed some degree of participation exists, the level of participation is not sufficient. The communities also highlighted the low level of capacity of local implementing agencies and the lack of transparency in the use of funds as obstacles to effective participation. Changes in land use following the landscape approach and preparation of Forest and Range management plans require meaningful consultation with different land users- farmers and pastoralists- as well as other forest resource users. The lack of meaningful participation may lead to conflicts among different users of natural resources.

Coordination among stakeholders

There is a need for better coordination of activities by government offices. Some government offices have indicated that they coordinate their activities with other government agencies. Communities however state that these coordination effort needs to be strengthened. Specific attention should be paid to gender inequalities. The project should promote participation and representation of vulnerable groups, particularly women and landless in decision-making. Water resource are a very critical and scarce resource that causes tensions and conflict between different users. Improving supply of water should take into account the different users of water. Access to adequate water supply and equity in the availability of water resources is a key as area of concern by communities.

Controlling illegal activities

The enforcement of the law for the already gazetted forest reserves and rangelands will require controlling illegal encroacher farmers or pastoralists. However, due to the weak capacity of local government institutions and community organizations illegal activities may not be curbed.

Resolution of conflicts

Conflicts over resource between different users such as farmers and pastoralists as well as tribal conflicts are common in Sudan and can affect the implementation of the project. An effective system for conflict prevention, resolution and management is necessary to address issues related to land and other natural resources.

Social services

Communities recognize the contribution of sustainable resource management to poverty alleviation but also appealed that the project should address other needs of community beyond such as provision of health and education.

The recommendations for capacity building, community participation, livelihood interventions and others are taken into account integrated both in the project design. The Process Framework has incorporated these recommendations.

Annex 1 Summarizes key concerns and recommendations from the community consultations.

12. BUDGET

The training budget included in the ESMF training budget, as training activities identified for effective implementation of ESMF will include training on the PF too. Budget for conducting social assessment, community participation and identification of project activities by beneficiaries is included under Component 2,

References

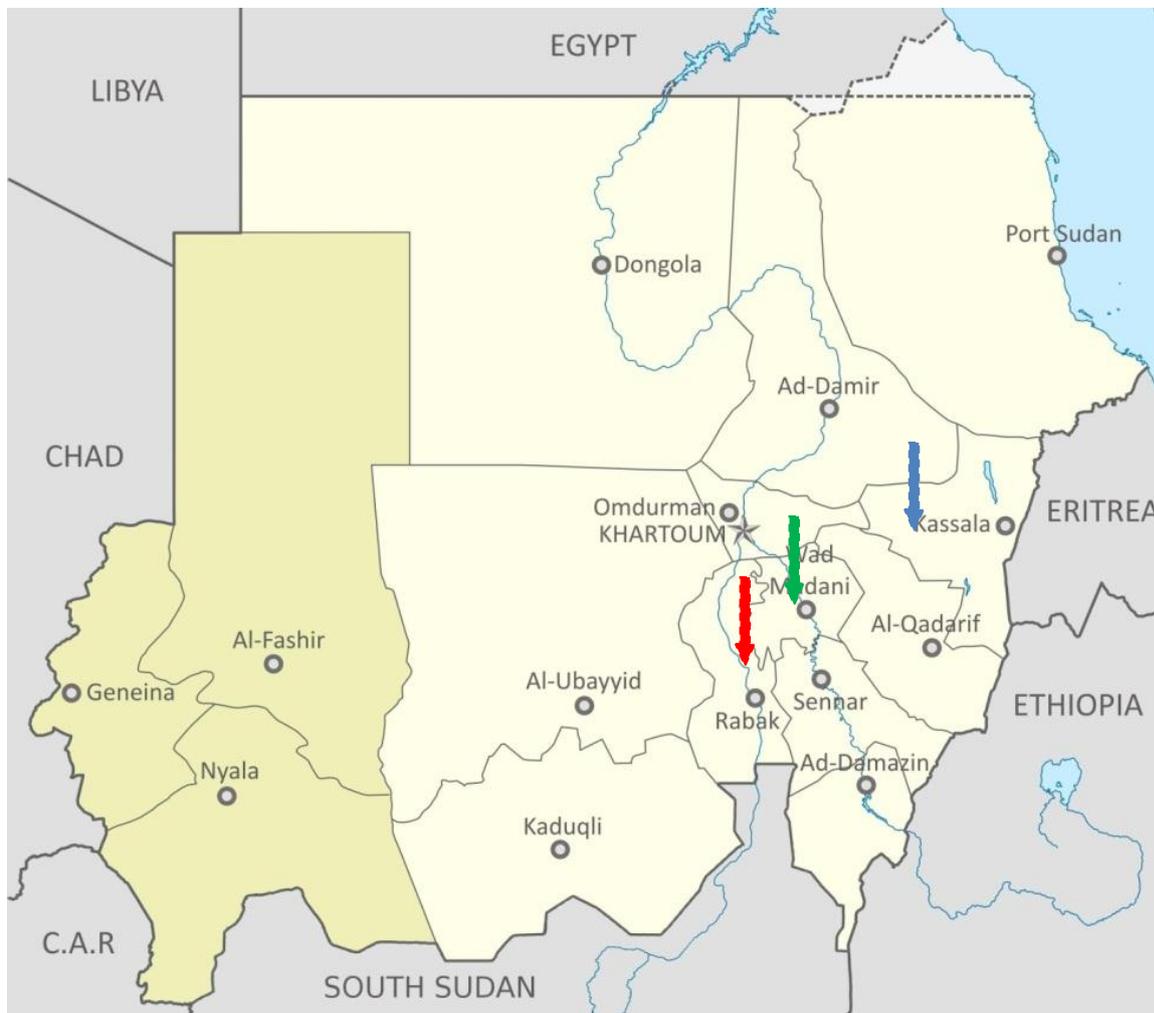
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ANNEX 1: Summary of Issues Raised During Stakeholder Consultations

Issues	Recommended Actions
Government Institutions	
The limited capacity of government agencies to enforce laws and to curb illegal felling of trees, encroachment of forest land by farmers and pastoralists	Capacity building of key agencies and sufficient resourcing of their activities
Underestimating the knowledge of pastoralists by scientists in managing rangelands	Respecting the local communities and consider their aspirations and thoughts should guide project implementation
Community buy-in, low level of participation, recurrent drought and low government capacity will undermine the project	Community participation and ownership and capacity building of government offices; interventions for alternative livelihood and income and job creation
Intricacy of access to water at household level for domestic use; horizontal expansion of agriculture causing destruction of trees, bushes and blocking nomadic routes	Water harvesting, harvesting and utilization of flood water in the rain the season by constructing hafirs , creating equitable access to water,
Conflict over land use between farmers and pastoralists	Community participation, effective implementation of laws and conflict resolution mechanisms
Participatory range management is difficult and slow process to have impact	Strengthen capacity of local implementing institutions and community; organizing and working with community groups; learning from past experiences of working with communities and best practices
Effective coordination among various stakeholders could be a challenge	Involvement of all relevant stakeholders from the start and specifying the roles and responsibilities of each of them
Communities may not accept the project and object to it	Strong public communication campaign to popularize the project;
Communities	
Community capacity in natural resource management is limited	Skills training for communities in managing natural resources
Low capacity for effective utilization of water resources, lack of capacity in government agencies, weak transparency in the use of funds and the land tenure will pose challenges for the implementation of the project	Training and introduction of techniques for water harvesting; strong community participation and transparent system of fund management
The communities are not informed about the project and are not aware of which specific	Community participation; institutional support for community organizations such as

areas it will be implemented	pastoralist unions, farmers union and the like
Overgrazing, illicit felling of trees, tribal conflicts, fires, charcoal making and low level of awareness about natural resource management are challenges for project	Fuel saving technologies, capacity building of implementation agencies at local level to enable them enforce laws and regulations, participation of communities and their organizations in project activities, developing land use plan/mapping in consultation with the different land users.
Women should benefit from project	Participation of women conservation activities

ANNEX 2 Map of Sudan and States where the SSNRMP will be implemented (Project States: Kassala, White Nile and Gezira are shown in blue, red and green, respectively)



ANNEX 3: Terms of Reference for the Preparation of Environmental and Social Management Framework, Resettlement Policy Framework

Introduction

1. The proposed project on Sudan Sustainable Natural Resources Management falls under the World Bank/GEF Sahel and West Africa Program (SAWAP) in support of the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI). The SAWAP was approved by GEF Council in May 2011 and provides a flexible framework for 12 countries, including Sudan, to implement national priorities to tackle land degradation, to conserve biodiversity, and to adapt to and mitigate climate change. The program builds on TerrAfrica experience in multi-sector, multi-partner approaches to define sustainable land management (SLM) investment priorities.

2. The SSNRMP would address land degradation and loss of biodiversity challenges in Sudan mainly by strengthening institutions working on natural resources management and promoting a landscape approach to natural resources management and conservation of biodiversity. The project would be financed by GEF and the government of Sudan and implemented for 5 years.

3. The proposed project will have the following four components.

Component 1: *Capacity building, policy, information system, and knowledge platform:*

This component will build national and local level capacities to harmonize and strengthen policies and institutions for effective implementation of sustainable natural resources management initiatives. Activities under this component may include strengthen environmental policy, studies on impacts of climate change on ecosystems of the three selected States, trainings in water and soil conservation, documentation of best practices and knowledge exchange/

Component 2: *Community based activities to improve livelihood of local communities.* These activities may include *may include community based activities to sustainably manage rangelands and forests.* Activities under this component include training of local communities in sustainable management of rangelands and forest resources, development of wind breaks, water harvesting options, agroforestry, and tree nurseries. Further, communities will be organized in productive associations (cooperatives) to maximize economic benefits by producing such as honey, fruit trees and natural gums. Forests and Rangelands will be gazetted in order to restore native vegetation (through reforestation, enrichment planting, natural regeneration, sand dune stabilization and preparation of effective natural resource management plans). Restoration of the ecosystems and development of effective natural resource management plans are expected to improve biodiversity and create a conducive environment for subsequent re-introduction of certain wildlife species.

Component 3: Project management: This component includes activities such as fiduciary management, monitoring and evaluation, technical supervisions, reporting and auditing.

4. The proposed project will be implemented in White Nile, Gezira and Kassala States. These selected States are suitable for undertaking project activities described under component 2 above.

5. In White Nile State, rangeland management activities at Um Remta, Ed Douiem and Getaina localities are being implemented, and the government expressed an interest in scaling up and in piloting new approaches. Potential rangeland management activities include to legally gazette the rangeland, to stabilize sand dunes with appropriate grass species, to establish and manage a nursery for rehabilitating the rangeland, and to develop rangeland management plans.

6. In Gezira State, the main focus would be to reforest the already gazetted Omelela and Wad Byonl Forest Reserves, which together comprise about 85,000 ha in the Butana area. The project would also develop management plans for these reserves, to help ensure that livestock grazing and other human uses are sustainably managed.

7. In Kassala State, the focus would be on rehabilitating the 2,400 ha Thadai Forest Reserve by reforestation of previously-cleared gaps, enrichment plantings, legal gazetting of the reserve, and developing a management plan.
8. The Forest National Corporation (FNC) is officially designated by the Government of Sudan to prepare and implement the SSNRMP. It is the FNC responsibility to prepare safeguard instruments for SSNRMP.

Objective

9. The objective of this consultancy work is to provide support to the Forest National Cooperation to undertake environment baseline and social assessment studies.

10. Scope of work

For preparing ESMF

- a. **Baseline Data:** The Consultant will describe and give adequate information on the current environmental situation of intervention sites in White Nile, Kassala and Gezera States. The following elements will be surveyed and documented:
 - Physical environment: geology; topography; soils; climate and meteorology; ambient air quality; surface and ground water hydrology
 - Biological environment: flora; fauna; rare or endangered species; sensitive habitats, including parks or preserves, significant natural sites, (such as wetlands, mangroves and swamp forests), etc
 - Socio-economic environment: socio-economic baseline of livelihoods, land use, land tenure and land titling and human settlements, labour issues (such as job losses from privatization, retrenchment (including any associated safety net programs), pension liability, and share ownership by unions/workers of enterprises).
- b. **Environmental and Social Policy and Regulatory Framework:** The Consultant will analyze the existing environmental policies, laws, conventions and protocols on environmental impact assessment, and assess needs for their strengthening. In addition, the Consultant will analyze sub-sector specific policies, laws, regulations and directives with potential for environmental implications. In particular, the adequacy of the sub-sectoral development and investment planning process, should be reviewed in terms of objectives, methodology and procedures for review and approval of plans and projects, The Framework should assess whether environmental and social issues are sufficiently identified covered by current procedures.
- c. **Environmental Screening and scoping:** The initial stage of the Consultants' intervention will be the scoping of the project's activities, impacts and other ways in which the project could influence environmental factors. The consultant will have to propose options for the creation of an environmental screening, evaluating, and supervising mechanism within the project management unit, which will ensure that funded projects/sub-projects are environmentally sound and sustainable and that any adverse environmental and social consequences are recognized early in the project's cycle. This study is expected to develop an environmental and social screening and reporting section using a simple environmental/social criteria checklist format.
- d. **Analysis of Environmental Impact Issues:** Identify specific types of projects and associated environmental impacts that might require separate environmental assessment in relation to location, project size, and other site-specific factors.
- e. **Development of Management Plan to Mitigate Negative Impacts:** The Framework shall identify and describe the key environmental issues and impacts and recommend practical and cost-effective actions to prevent or reduce significant impacts to tolerable levels. Estimate the impacts and costs of mitigation measures, as well as the institutional and personnel capacity building needs to implement them. Prepare an environmental management plan including proposed work programs, budget estimates, schedules, staffing and training requirements, and other necessary support services to implement the mitigating measures.

- f. Institutional Framework:** The consultant shall propose means for strengthening of implementing institutions to be able to predict and control the environmental impacts of the project and its sub-components. To this end, the ESMF will address institutional tasks and cover every stage of the project process (from the initiation and reviews to the monitoring of the implementation of environmental mitigation plans). The ESMF should also assess the capacity of the implementing agency to handle the preparation, implementation and supervision of comprehensive environmental assessment of the proposed project. The Framework should also examine existing EA capacity within at the Federal and State levels and the need for complementary in-house EA capacity, and should explore the possibility of establishing an environmental/social unit within the PIU structure with the responsibility to conduct or supervise the environmental and social analyses of all sub-projects proposal.
- g. Training Needs:** Based on the study's findings, the consultant should describe trainings needed to build capacity of implementing agencies and communities for effective implementation of ESMF.
- h. Consultation:** Public consultation is a vital part of the EA process. Since the ESMF is conducted before most of the sub-project decisions are made, the consultant shall discuss and interact with national NGOs, community opinion leaders, scientific experts, relevant government agencies and the private sector and, in addition to reporting on these inputs, also factor them into the recommendations of the ESMF.
- i. Monitoring and Evaluations:** The consultant should describe a monitoring regime that will be established, prioritizing those elements that must be in place prior to construction to allow a baseline to be established against which changes during construction, and on into operation, can be assessed with identification of who is responsible for M & E.

For preparing Resettlement Policy Framework

A brief description of the project and components for which land acquisition and resettlement are required

Principles and objectives governing resettlement preparation and implementation;

Description of the process for preparing and approving resettlement plans;

Legal Framework: Review Government of Sudan legal, regulatory and policy framework for land acquisition, expropriation, compensation, relocation and resettlement, taking into account land use/land tenure laws; review their effectiveness and make recommendation for its improvement when required. Review potential conflicts between national and World Bank legal requirements and measures proposed to bridge any gaps between them.

Institutional Framework: Analyze the suitability of the current institutional arrangements, the capacity of the client and its preparedness to execute resettlement/rehabilitation activities falling under this project and recommend ways to enhance the institutional capacity of the client. Describe institutional arrangements for funding resettlement including the preparation and review of cost estimates, the flow of funds, and the contingency arrangements.

Valuation of and Compensation for Losses: Define appropriate methods and procedures to be used in valuing losses to determine their replacement cost and describe levels of compensation to achieve replacement cost for lost assets. Describe arrangements for funding resettlement, including the preparation and review of cost estimates, the flow of funds, and contingency arrangements

Eligibility: Define the criteria for determining the eligibility for compensation and other resettlement assistance including relevant cut-off dates. Such criteria should take into account

- those who have formal legal rights to land (including customary and traditional rights recognized under the laws of the country);
- those who do not have formal legal rights to land at the time the census begins but have a claim to such land or assets--provided that such claims are recognized under the laws of the country or become recognized through a process identified in the resettlement plan; and

- those who have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land they are occupying.

Methods of valuing assets;

- **Organizational procedures for delivery of entitlements**, including, for projects involving private sector intermediaries, the responsibilities of the financial intermediary, the government, and the private developer;
- **A description of the implementation process**, linking resettlement implementation to civil works;

Community Participation: Define mechanisms for consultations with and participation of PAPs in plan/design, implementation and monitoring of presumed resettlement activities;

Resettlement Instruments: Define: a) the process and procedures of preparing and approving resettlement/rehabilitation action plans (RAPs) ; b) a description of the implementation process, linking resettlement implementation to civil works and c) a template for the design of sub-project Resettlement Action Plans ;

Estimated Number of PAPs (project affected persons) and Resettlement Budget: Provide an estimate of the number of persons/households to be negatively affected and the estimated compensation budget for resettlement/rehabilitation. Particular attention should be paid to the needs of vulnerable groups among those displaced, especially those below the poverty line, the landless, the elderly, women and children, or other displaced persons who may not be protected through national land compensation legislation.

Grievance Procedures: Define a formal process for information dissemination and settlement of disputes and counselling during resettlement process;

A description of the arrangements for funding resettlement, including the preparation and review of cost estimates, the flow of funds, and contingency arrangements;

Monitoring and Evaluation: Design a mechanism for monitoring and evaluation of resettlement activities by implementing agencies, independent monitors as well as the PAPs – to ensure full and objective information

Deliverables

The consultant should work closely with FNC to produce the environment baseline and social assessment study report. On the basis of the study results, it is envisaged that FNC will prepare the safeguard instruments for the Sudan Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project

Duration

The duration of the consultancy work shall be 30 days. The Consultancy work will start on April 25 and terminate on May 31, 2012.

Management and reporting arrangements

The consultancy work will be managed by FNC and the consultant should work closely with the FNC.

Profile and qualifications of the consultancy

The consultant should have a minimum of Master's degree with an experience of more than 10 years in the field of environmental and social science. The consultant should be familiar with the environment, natural resources management and social issues in Sudan. S/he should be particularly familiar with the environmental baseline and social assessment works. S/he should have experience in preparing environment baseline and social assessment studies.