

**UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2023**  
Reporting from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

## 1. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

### 1.1. Project details

Identification Table	GEF ID.: 5703	Umoja WBS: SB-006602
	SMA IPMR ID: 30613	Grant ID: S1-32LDL-000045
	Project Short Title: <i>Sudan EbA project</i>	
Project Title	<i>Enhancing the resilience of communities living in climate change vulnerable areas of Sudan using Ecosystem Based approaches to Adaptation (EbA)</i>	
Duration months	<i>Planned</i>	<i>48 months</i>
	<i>Age</i>	<i>66 Months</i>
Project Type	<i>Full Size Project</i>	
Parent Programme if child project	<i>N/A</i>	
Project Scope	<i>National</i>	
Region	<i>Africa</i>	
Countries	<i>Sudan</i>	
GEF Focal Area(s)	<i>Climate Change</i>	
GEF financing amount	<i>US\$ 4,284,000</i>	
Co-financing amount	<i>US\$ 7,915,200</i>	
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval	<i>11<sup>th</sup> August 2016</i>	
UNEP Project Approval Date (on Decision Sheet)		
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force)	<i>19<sup>th</sup> January 2017</i>	
Date of Inception Workshop, if available	<i>15<sup>th</sup> May 2018</i>	
Date of First Disbursement	<i>5<sup>th</sup> April 2017</i>	
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2023	<i>USD 3,088,435.66</i>	
Total expenditure as of 30 June 2023	<i>USD 2,741,832.13</i>	
Midterm undertaken?	<i>Yes</i>	
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken	<i>August 2022</i>	
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken	<i>Completed - August 2022</i>	
Completion Date	<i>Planned – original PCA</i>	<i>30<sup>th</sup> June 2021</i>
	<i>Revised – Current PCA</i>	<i>30<sup>th</sup> June 2023</i>
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date	<i>30<sup>th</sup> September 2023</i>	
Expected Financial Closure Date	<i>31<sup>st</sup> December 2023</i>	

### 1.2. Project description

Sudan EbA project aims to increase the climate change resilience of livelihoods and integrated productive agricultural systems in the White Nile State through Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EbA) approaches. The project is implemented at multiple levels aiming to mainstream EbA approaches into policies, plans and budgets and to develop capacities at national, state and local (community) levels on EbA. The project has three main components as outlined below:

**Component 1: Capacity Development for Ecosystems based Adaptation (EbA) and policy mainstreaming.**

Under this component, the project aims to improve and strengthen the technical capacity of local, state and national institutions to plan, implement and upscale EbA. This will be achieved through supporting the creation of policy frameworks, capacity and awareness on the benefits and practical possibilities for EbA at the national, state and community levels. Additionally, the project will facilitate policy dialogue processes (to investigate the potential for EbA as a strategy for climate change adaptation in Sudan) at both the national and White Nile State levels. Furthermore, the project will facilitate a review of existing policies for entry points of mainstreaming EbA into practical legislation and planning.

**Component 2: Implementation of EbA measures to build adaptive capacities of vulnerable communities.**

This component aims to reduce vulnerability of local communities to climate change impacts through implementation of EbA measures in the White Nile State. It applies alternative, proactive EbA approaches to increase the productivity of farmers and pastoralists such as rangeland regeneration, afforestation, riparian zone protection, rainwater harvesting and drought-tolerant agriculture. Based on the integration of present and future climate risks, the project supports implementation of concrete adaptation investments that integrate EbA for the agriculture, pastoral and water sectors in 43 targeted villages in 4 localities of White Nile State. To enhance coordination at the local level, the project supports the establishment of Village Development Committees (VDCs) and sub-committees such as Water User Associations (WUAs) responsible for spearheading implementation of the EbA measures in their respective villages.

**Component 3: Knowledge management for appropriate EbA design.**

This component aims to strengthen information base and knowledge on EbA and its cost-effectiveness to be readily available for various uses. Therefore, the project supports knowledge management for EbA based on the lessons learned through the implementation of project interventions in Component 2. The project will also generate evidence on cost-effectiveness of EbA measures through evaluating the cost-benefits of such measures in order to promote upscaling and replication across Sudan.

The Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources (HCENR) is the executing agency of the Sudan EbA project. The project is implemented in partnership and collaboration with: Federal ministries/agencies responsible for Agriculture and Animal Resources; Water; Forestry; Finance and National Center for Research. At White Nile State level, the project is implemented in partnership with: Range and Pasture Administration of Ministry of Production and Economic Resources; Ministry of Agriculture (Horticultural Department, Rain-fed Agriculture, Technology Transfer Department, Veterinary Extension Department); Forest National Corporation; Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC); White Nile State Water Corporation; Rural Women Development Department; Universities; and private sector service providers.

**1.3. Project Contacts**

Division(s) Implementing the project	Ecosystems Division; Nature for Climate Branch; Climate Change Adaptation Unit
Executing Agency(ies)	Higher Council on the Environment and Natural Resources (HCENR), Sudan
Names of Other Project Partners	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Federal Ministries responsible for Environment &amp; Natural Resources; Water; Forestry; Agriculture and Animal Resources.</li> <li>2. Range and Pasture Administration of the White Nile State</li> <li>3. White Nile State Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Forests</li> <li>4. National Forest Corporation of the White Nile State</li> <li>5. Animal Wealth Administration of the White Nile State</li> <li>6. Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC)</li> <li>7. White Nile State Water Corporation</li> <li>8. National Center for Research</li> </ol>

	9. Baher Abied Microfinance Institution 10. Universities (University of Bakhtalruda in Ed Dueim town, University of White Nile State)
UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Jessica Troni
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Alex Forbes
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	Bwiza Wameyo-Odemba
UNEP Support/Assistants	Ruth Mutinda, Frankline Kidisa
EA Manager/Representative	Dr. Mona Ali Ahmed, Secretary General, HCENR
EA Project Manager	Dr. Hana Hamadalla, Climate Change Advisor, HCENR
EA Finance Manager	Elhadi Yahia, Finance Officer
EA Communications Lead, if relevant	N/A

## 2. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

### 2.1 UNEP PoW and UN

UNEP Current Subprogramme(s)	Thematic: Climate action, Foundational: Environmental Governance. Enabling: Finance and Economic Transformations
PoW Indicator(s)	Strategic objective 1: "Climate stability". PoW 2023-2023 Indicators: (i) Number of national, subnational and private-sector actors that adopt climate change mitigation and/or adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies and policies with UNEP support (ii) Amounts provided and mobilized in \$ per year in relation to the continued existing collective mobilization goal of the \$100 billion commitment through to 2025 with UNEP support (iv) Positive shift in public opinion, attitudes and actions in support of climate action as a result of UNEP action  Strategic Objective 2: "Living in harmony with nature". PoW 2022-2023 (i) Number of national or subnational entities that, with UNEP support, adopt integrated approaches to address environmental and social issues and/or tools for valuing, monitoring and sustainably managing biodiversity (iii) Number of countries and national, regional and subnational authorities and entities that incorporate, with UNEP support, biodiversity and ecosystem-based approaches into development and sectoral plans, policies and processes for the sustainable management and/or restoration of terrestrial, freshwater and marine areas
UNEP previous Subprogramme(s)	Climate Change
UNSDCF / UNDAF linkages	Sudan UNDAF (2018-2021) Focus area 2: Environment, Climate Resilience and Disaster Risk Management.  Outcome 2 - By 2021, people's resilience to consequences of climate change, environmental stresses and natural hazards is

	enhanced through strengthened institutions, policies, plans and programmes.  Note: UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2022-2026) remains under development.
Link to relevant SDG Goal(s)	SDG 13: Climate Action  Contributes to: SDG 2: Zero Hunger & SDG 6: Water & Sanitation
Link to relevant SDG Target(s)	Targets 13.3 and 13.b Targets 2.4; 6.5, 6.6 and 6.b

**2.2. GEF Core Indicators:**

Indicators – GEF 7 CCA Strategy	Targets – Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total target	
<p><i>Core Indicator No. 1:</i></p> <p>Number of direct beneficiaries (male and female)</p>		<p>6,800 HHs (45,892 persons)</p> <p>50% female</p> <p>Approx. 5% of targeted population</p>	<p>6,800 HHs</p> <p>50% female</p> <p>Approx. 5% of targeted population</p>	<p>50,334 persons in <b>8,389 households</b> (43% women/women headed households) in 43 targeted villages have adopted climate resilient technologies/practices for improved agricultural productivity and access to water in White Nile State.</p>
<p><i>Core Indicator No. 2:</i></p> <p>Type and extent of assets strengthened and/or better managed to withstand the effects of climate change</p>		<p>8,000ha</p>	<p>8,000ha</p>	<p><b>Total: 47,305ha</b> Area of land managed for climate resilience is: 42,842ha of agricultural land and 18 demo farms are applying 'agricultural package' ; Afforested 934ha; 2,043ha of rangeland regenerated with climate resilient and early maturing grass varieties; 1,486ha of riparian zones restored with with flood tolerant acacia species; 59 km of shelter belt have been broadcasted with Acacia Nilotica and Acacia Seyal.</p>
<p><i>Core Indicator No. 3:</i></p> <p>Population benefiting from the</p>		<p>6,800 HHs</p> <p>50% female</p> <p>Approx. 5% of targeted population</p>	<p>6,800 HHs</p> <p>50% female</p> <p>Approx. 5% of targeted population</p>	<p>8,389 HHs (43% women/women headed households) in 43 targeted villages have adopted climate resilient technologies/practices for improved agricultural productivity and access to water in White Nile State.</p>

adoption of diversified, climate-resilient livelihood options				
<p><i>Core Indicator No. 5:</i></p> <p>Public awareness activities carried out and population reached</p>		1,000 people 50% female	1,000 people 50% female	1,535 participants (42% female)
<p><i>Core Indicator No 6:</i></p> <p>Risk and vulnerability assessments, and other relevant scientific and technical assessments carried out and updated</p>		4 assessments	4 assessments	2 assessments (vulnerability and adaptation assessment; Baseline assessment)
<p><i>Core Indicator No 9:</i></p> <p>Number of people trained to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures</p>		365 people 50% female	365 people 50% female	1,487 people (52% female)
<p><i>Core Indicator No 12:</i></p> <p>Regional, national and sector-wide</p>		At least 1 national development framework and 1 state Five Year Sector Plan have mainstreamed EbA	At least 1 national development framework and 1 state Five Year Sector Plan have mainstreamed EbA	0 Policies/Plans: Facilitated introductory training sessions targeting Federal and White Nile State policy- and decision makers on mainstreaming of EbA into national and

policies, plans and processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures					subnational strategies, plans and budgets.
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### 2.3. Implementation Status and Risk

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
PIR #	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
Rating towards <b>outcomes (DO)</b> (section 3.1)	MU	MS	S	S	MS	MS
Rating towards <b>outputs (IP)</b> (section 3.2)	MU	MS	S	S	MS	MS
<b>Risk</b> rating (section 4.2)	M	M	M	M	M	H

During the period from 1 July 2022 to 15 April 2023, implementation of the Sudan EbA project interventions continued with varied progress being achieved across the three project outcomes but largely completed almost all its activities under outcome two on piloting EbA measures. However, from 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 the project operations have largely been suspended owing to the escalation of full-blown fighting between rival military factions in Khartoum. As of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023, the Federal Government has not been fully functional with HCENR staff either relocated outside of Khartoum or Sudan or sheltering at their residences in Khartoum. The situation in Kostis and White Nile State is relatively peaceful, but services and supply chains are severely affected by the conflict in Khartoum.

The project's Mid-Term Review (MTR), undertaken in April 2022 and reported in PIR 2022, concluded that overall project performance was rated as Marginally Satisfactory. The MTR main findings indicated that the project faced a number of obstacles which impacted the delivery of the key outputs. Many of these obstacles were external factors such as the 2019 revolution, inflation and the global COVID 19 pandemic, which led to national lockdown measures and restrictions on gatherings and travel.

Focus during the reporting period included addressing the MTR recommendations, namely:

- Recommendation 1: Strengthen the day-to-day monitoring of project activities, achievements and project capacity.
- Recommendation 2: Strengthen partnerships and engagement with existing initiatives as part of sustainability.
- Recommendation 3: Institutionalise Village Development Committees.
- Recommendation 4: Develop an exit strategy.
- Recommendation 5: Streamline the procurement processes.
- Recommendation 6: Speed up implementation of some activities while strengthening community engagement for remaining activities.

Actions undertaken during this reporting period to address these recommendations are captured within this PIR report.

Under Outcome one (strengthened institutional capacity) and in relation to MTR recommendation 3, the project continues to support efforts to advance the agenda of mainstreaming of EbA into legal frameworks, budget and programmes with a special focus on White Nile State level. This included facilitating policy dialogues attended by a total of 124 (44% women) decision/policy makers and technical staff drawn from Federal level (32 participants) and White Nile State Level (49 participants) as well as leaders of local communities (43 officials of Village Development Committees established in project sites) to advocate for the anchoring of EbA in the adaptation planning processes. The dialogue sessions are therefore important building blocks for laying the foundation that enable policy makers to adopt a climate and ecosystem lens as an entry point for EbA mainstreaming, especially for sectors that are impacted by climate change. This will guarantee coherent EbA governance and its synchronisation with legal frameworks at the Federal and White Nile State levels in the long-term.

In the immediate term, the dialogue sessions are promoting multi-sectoral approaches in adaptation planning and implementation of EbA interventions across various sectors e.g. agriculture, livestock, water, forestry, food security and energy. The sessions also provide an opportunity for creating programmatic synergies and cross-sectoral partnerships across relevant government institutions, local communities, civil society and private sector players in WNS. This has resulted in enhanced collaborations including provision of co-financing contributions by partner institutions. Additionally, introductory training sessions targeting Federal and White Nile State policy- and decision makers on mainstreaming of EbA into national and subnational strategies, plans and budgets have been facilitated and attended by a total of 144 participants. During the national level training sessions, a total of 79 (43% women) senior officials drawn from federal ministries responsible for Agriculture (12), Water (10); Forestry (7); Agriculture (15); Animal Resources (10); and Finance (3) as well as HCENR (10); Range and Pasture Administration (5); and National Forest Corporation (5) participated in the training. For the State level training, 65 (45% women) participants draw from White Nile State Technical Committee (36 members); Project Coordination Working Group (8 people) and local communities representatives (21 people) attended. This has been complemented by development of technical guidelines in form of template protocols that outline the standard procedure and guidelines to identify/verify sites to carry out specific EbA interventions as well as management and monitoring.

For Outcome 2 (reduced community vulnerability), implementation of innovative EbA measures in White Nile State has continued to be sustained with the aim of supporting regeneration of critical ecosystem services in order to strengthen the resilience of rain-fed farming and pastoral communities. As a result, climate-resilient land management practices is being practiced in a total of 42,842 ha while adoption of EbA measures which improve access to climate change resilient food / water sources and improved ecosystem services has now reached 8,389 households (43% women/women headed) . Central to this has been the establishment of community level governance structures (Village Development Committees (VDCs) and sub-committees - with at least 30% female) in 43 targeted villages that provide a platform for local communities to actively engage in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of EbA measures in their respective localities. In response to MTR recommendation 3, the VDCs have also been registered with Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) to give them legal recognition to continue supporting development initiatives beyond the Sudan EbA Project. Training sessions targeting technical staff and local communities on the concept of EbA and climate resilient technologies/practices for improved agricultural productivity and access to water have been facilitated. Furthermore, guidelines in form of template protocols that outline the standard procedure and guidelines to identify/verify sites to carry out specific EbA interventions as well as community-based EbA intervention management and monitoring plans have been produced. Training sessions on the application of the template protocols have also been facilitated targeting Federal and White Nile State Stakeholders.

To support ecosystem restoration, climate resilient land management practices/technologies continue to be implemented across the project sites in White Nile State. This includes supporting implementation of gender-specific adaptation technologies and livelihood diversification initiatives with a strong emphasis on addressing systemic climate related vulnerabilities and low adaptive capacities of women, youth and elderly. Among the notable gender related achievements during the reporting period include the high number of women and youth that averaged 39% (56) to 53% (76) of the 144 participants that attended capacity building training sessions, learning and knowledge exchange programmes. The election of a woman to be the chair of the largest Village Development Committee, with a cluster of 30 villages, can be considered as a positive outcome towards empowering women in a patriarchal society that has been catalysed by the project activities. Additional project interventions such as construction of rainwater harvesting infrastructure has benefitted women and children by reducing the time spent in water collection to less than one hour from more than 6 hours which they used to walk a distance of between 5 to 23 kilometres in search of water during dry

seasons. Small ruminant 'shami' goats that produces milk and are hardy that were also distributed to 20 female headed households in Um Naam village in 2020. These goats have so far reproduced 1,006 cross breed offspring that have subsequently been distributed to other vulnerable families.

Under Outcome 3 (Strengthened knowledge base), and in response to MTR recommendation 1, HCENR complete the recruitment of a project monitoring and reporting officer, who engage in facilitating knowledge sharing as well as collection of feedback and lessons learnt on EbA and climate change has been undertaken through field visits and participation in Farmer Field Days in established demo farms by policy-makers, technical staff and local communities. The outcome of these visits has been fundamental in informing ongoing/planned project activities as well as future programmes. Furthermore, reinforcement of information base has been supported through production and sharing of knowledge products such as [human stories](#), [short video](#) and high quality photos that were produced by a communication specialist that was contracted by UNEP. These knowledge products showcase the contribution of Sudan EbA project interventions towards enhancing the resilience to the water crisis caused by climate change in Sudan.

In view of this, training on monitoring and evaluation of the impacts of EbA interventions were facilitated and attended by 122 participants (44% female) drawn from project partners at the Federal and White Nile State levels as well as community representatives. EbA demonstration farms were also established and tree planting initiated in two local schools (a girls and a boys primary schools) in Al Rawat cluster of 33 targeted villages. Additionally, experts from the Department of Environmental Awareness of Forest National Corporation (FNC) facilitated training sessions in 20 academic institutions (5 secondary and 15 primary schools) on the benefits of EbA as an approach to enhance resilience of human and natural systems. A total of 513 secondary school students (46% female) and 1,347 primary school pupils (52% female) attended the training sessions which included training on tree planting and care. At the same time, UNEP contracted a communication specialist to produce knowledge products (a human story, short video and high-quality photos). The knowledge products showcase the contribution of Sudan EbA project interventions towards enhancing the resilience of women to the water crisis caused by climate change in Sudan.

Based on the foregoing, the overall **rating towards outcomes is therefore Marginally Satisfactory.**

**With regard to the progress, towards achievement of project outputs,** significant progress has mainly been achieved under outcome 2 on completing piloting EbA measures in response to MTR recommendations 5 and 6. However, under component one, cross-cutting policy dialogue on EbA between HCENR, relevant ministries and other stakeholders were held at Federal and White Nile State levels through platforms such as Project Steering Committee, White Nile State Technical Committee and Project Coordination Working Group. Capacity building initiatives on EbA have also been undertaken through National and State level training sessions on application of EbA and facilitated by the International EbA expert. The White Nile State Technical Committee has also been provided with targeted training that capacitates members to be able to provide strategic guidance and technical backstopping to the coordination, planning and execution of EbA measures in White Nile State (WNS). During the reporting period, two meetings of the White Nile State Technical Committee were held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023. During these meetings, members reviewed and provided inputs to the draft long-term sustainability strategy including proposed project exit actions to be integrated into the project's workplan (in accordance with MTR Recommendation 4). Representatives from FAO, IGAD, UNDP, Plan Sudan, IFAD, WFP and ADRA that attended the meetings had an opportunity to share lessons learned from sustainability and exit strategies implemented by their institutions and also explore integration of EbA approaches in their respective operations in WNS (in accordance with MTR Recommendation 2). Furthermore, the committee members reviewed project progress and recommended to the project steering committee a no-cost extension of three months (July to September 2023) that would allow completion of the pending project activities. However, the project steering committee meeting scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 was postponed following the outbreak of the fighting between rival military factions in Khartoum.

Under component 2, established Village Development Committees (VDCs) and sub-committees (with at least 30% female) in the 43 targeted communities have been central to the planning, implementation and monitoring of community-based EbA measures. Notable EbA measures implemented during the reporting period include: piloting of post-harvest tillage (a technique used for water conservation through heavy disking) in 311ha benefitting 161 households (21% female headed) in Aslallam and Gulli localities that contain clay soils and predominantly grow sorghum, sesame and groundnuts; construction of one water pan in Al-Sulik village in Al-Salam locality to support supplementary irrigation of crops during dry episodes; construction of



three rainwater harvesting reservoirs/earth dams (haffir) in (i) Um Zureiba Village with a capacity of 25,000m<sup>3</sup> expected to supply water to 8 villages containing approx. 1,200 households; (ii) El-Hawashat Village of Aslaam Locality to supply water to 4 villages of approx. 450 households; and (iii) Helba village which now has a capacity of 92,000m<sup>3</sup> expected to serve an estimate population of 600 households. An underground water tank was also constructed in Agdat El-Tair village with a capacity of 55m<sup>3</sup> to serve 105 households. Furthermore, fencing and installation of entry and exit channels for three earth dams that were previous excavated in Wad –El Blibli, Um Naam and Salima villages have been completed. Solar powered water pumping systems were also installed in three surface wells that are located in Um Naam, Wad Blibli and Helba villages. Still during the current reporting period, training of local communities on the application of sustainable land management practices, appropriate agricultural technologies and post-harvest management of pests and diseases for sorghum, millet and groundnuts was conducted and attended by 325 community members (30% women) drawn from 36 villages. A total of 1,500 hermetic bags for safe cereal storage were distributed to the participants of the training. To promote sustainable pasture management, awareness raising campaigns were carried out and attended by 1,535 participants (42% women) drawn from 20 villages across the four localities. Additionally, approx. 300 technicians (100% male youth) drawn from 43 targeted villages have been trained on production of Soil Stabilized Blocks (SSB) as an alternative building material that uses a mixture of clay soil and small amount of cement and water to produce building blocks and does not require wood-fired curing. The Soil Stabilized Blocks are highly compacted in a block press, resulting in low-cost solid building blocks that are resilient to floods and can withstand very high temperatures.

Under component 3, training on monitoring and evaluation of the impacts of EbA interventions were facilitated and attended by 122 participants (44% female) drawn from project partners at the Federal and White Nile State levels as well as community representatives. EbA demonstration farms were also established, and tree planting initiated in two local schools (a girls and a boys primary schools) in Al Rawat cluster of 33 targeted villages. Additionally, experts from the Department of Environmental Awareness of Forest National Corporation (FNC) facilitated training sessions in 20 academic institutions (5 secondary and 15 primary schools) on the benefits of EbA as an approach to enhance resilience of human and natural systems. A total of 513 secondary school students (46% female) and 1,347 primary school pupils (52% female) attended the training sessions which included training on tree planting and care. At the same time, UNEP contracted a communication specialist to produce knowledge products (a human story, short video and high-quality photos).

**Based on the foregoing, the rating towards Outputs is therefore Marginally Satisfactory**

The overall project risk rating has been elevated from Medium to High. All identified risks were analysed and monitored with rating having either been lowered, maintained or raised depending on the likelihood of occurrence, the degree of impacts to the project schedule, scope, cost and quality of the outputs. Of the eighteen identified risks, two have been rated High; two have been rated Significant; five have been rated Medium while nine risks have been rated Low.

However, despite proactive risk monitoring and implementation of timely risk management and mitigation measures in order to minimize or avert significant impacts, some of the risks are caused by external factors that are beyond the control of the project. For instance, runaway inflation rate and depreciation of Sudanese pound against the dollar, the global COVID 19 pandemic and the volatile political situation that has now escalated to full blown fighting between rival military factions since 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Unfortunately, the fighting has significantly affected the functioning of key government institutions including the executing entity of Sudan EbA project. Consequently, execution of project interventions has been suspended and this is expected to negatively affect the delivery of project outputs, outcomes and objective. This will fundamentally impact implementation schedule, cost and sustainability of Sudan EbA project interventions in the immediate, medium and long-term depending on how long the fighting continues or escalates to areas where Sudan EbA project is being implemented.

#### 2.4. Co-financing

<b>Planned Co-finance Total:</b> (USD 7,915,200)	During the period, July 2022 to March 2023, US\$ 341,172 was provided by partner institutions as co-finance contributions. Cumulatively, the co-finance contributions that have materialized since project inception to March 2023 is a
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<p><b>Actual to date:</b> USD 3,075,256 (39%) as of 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023.</p>	<p>total of US\$ 3,075,256, which is 39% of the US\$7,915,200 that was the total co-finance commitment under the Sudan EbA project.</p> <p>The source of the materialized co-finance is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADAPT! Project managed by UNEP (US\$ 1,401,943)</li> <li>• Ministry of Finance and National Economy, grant contribution of (US\$34,346)</li> <li>• Higher Council for Environment and National Resources (US\$430,554);</li> <li>• White Nile State Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Forests (US\$635,086);</li> <li>• Animal Wealth Administration of the White Nile State (US\$87,933);</li> <li>• Forest National Corporation (FNC) of the White Nile State (US\$101,200);</li> <li>• Range and Pasture administration of the White Nile State (US\$97,497);</li> <li>• White Nile State's Water Corporation (253,077);</li> <li>• Humanitarian Aid Commission (US\$12,120);</li> <li>• Agricultural Research Corporation (US\$9,500).</li> <li>• National Center for Research (US\$12,000)</li> </ul> <p>These co-financing contributions can be distributed as follows: component 1, 32% (US\$988,411); component 2, 37% (US\$1,110,558); and component 3, 31% (US\$973,687).</p>
<p><b>Progress</b></p>	<p>Despite the National financial instability that is affecting Sudan, there has been progress in the materialization of co-finance from institutions that have commitments. HCENR has also been able to negotiate with Ministry of Finance for the provision of additional cash contributions (US\$30,000) to support the project acting Project Manager and other PMU related costs e.g. vehicle repair works. However, the outbreak of fighting between rival military factions in Sudan on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 has significantly affected public and private service delivery including Sudan EbA project operations and therefore no co-finance information was collected for the period April – June 2023. However, it is important to note that even before the fighting broke out, both Federal and White Nile State government institutions have struggled to provide their co-finance commitments in 2022 and early 2023 due to underfunding from national and state government occasioned by the long-standing political turmoil since 2018 and runaway inflation affecting Sudan. Prolonged conflict in Sudan is further expected to negatively affect the materialization of co-finance commitments in future since most resources will be channelled to address the recovery process and humanitarian crisis.</p>

**2.5. Stakeholder engagement**

<p><b>Date of project steering committee meeting</b></p>	<p>During the reporting period, the Project Steering Committee Meeting was held on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 while prior to this another one had been held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The minutes of the project steering committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 are in the link below. <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RQaQHidcTpHa7DZBQsa6lbGXlycKyF7j/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RQaQHidcTpHa7DZBQsa6lbGXlycKyF7j/view?usp=sharing</a></p> <p>A Project Steering Committee Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023, but was postponed following the outbreak of fighting between rival military forces in Sudan on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023. An attempt to hold a virtual Project Steering Committee Meeting scheduled for Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023 failed to materialize due to poor internet connectivity for members based in Sudan. However, the project team managed to circulate soft copies of the PSC meeting documents of 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 to the committee members for review and inputs.</p>
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<b>Stakeholder engagement</b>	<p>During the reporting period, proactive and participatory engagement of stakeholders has continued to play a critical in building and maintaining collaboration and partnerships with at Federal, White Nile State and local community levels. This has helped to build a shared understanding of the EbA concept thus promoting political buy-in of the project interventions. As a result, implementation of EbA interventions has continued to be done in partnership with sectoral authorities/institutions, private sector players and other institutions.</p> <p>At the Federal level, notable achievement of stakeholder engagement include the active participation of Ministry of Finance in unlocking procurement related challenges through promptly responding to HCENR requests for no objection or waivers from the executing entity. Furthermore, there has been proactive engagement and follow up with contracted private sector players to ensure timely delivery of project outputs in order to secure payments. A good example is the construction of three water harvesting earth dams "haffir", one underground water tank and installation of solar powered pumping systems in two boreholes in a record time of two months. Similarly, political buy-in by White Nile State Administration has enabled the materialization of co-finance contribution during the reporting period through availing technical experts and tools/machinery to support implementation of EbA interventions and provision of tree seedlings and grass seeds to be planted / broadcasted in community forest area and grasslands respectively. In addition, established community level governance structures (Village Development Committees (VDCs) and sub-committees across the 43 targeted villages that provide a platform for local communities to proactively engage with project team and partners during planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of EbA measures in their respective localities. This include participation in capacity building and training sessions e.g. training on production of improved building materials (soil stabilized blocks) that was recently facilitated by National Center for Research.</p> <p>Since the outbreak of fighting between rival military factions from 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 to date, functioning of majority of government institutions especially those based in the capital Khartoum has completed been halted. This includes the operations in the executing entity (HCENR) and other government institutions that play a critical role in the implementation of Sudan EbA project interventions. As a result, project operations have been suspended until such a time the situation may allow for the project to resume. The current situation is expected to have devastating impact to the stakeholder engagement efforts. Even with the return to normalcy and going by what has been happening since 2018 when the political crisis started in Sudan, there are high chances of high staff turnover especially senior officials in key government institutions. This poses a challenge to the stakeholder engagement efforts since newly recruited staffs will require lengthy briefing to ensure political buy-in and this sometimes can be time consuming in the process of managing and accommodating diverse opinions and interests. This is expected to lead to delays in execution of project interventions.</p>
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**2.6. Gender**

<b>Does the project have a gender action plan?</b>	No
<b>Gender mainstreaming</b>	<p>Although Sudan EbA project does not have a gender action plan, the project team is cognisant of the gender-differentiated impacts of climate change on women and men wellbeing in Sudan. The project has been targeting women as beneficiaries of gender-specific adaptation technologies and livelihood diversification methods. Implementation of EbA interventions therefore adheres to the provisions of the Environmental and Social Safeguards that requires all project interventions to be developed in accordance with a human rights-based approach, in conformity with UN guidelines. In addition, all project interventions are designed and implemented through a participatory and transparent process that guarantees active participation of all stakeholders including women while ensuring that no rights or laws are infringed. To ensure compliance, the Monitoring and Reporting Consultant also monitors progress towards achievement of gender related indicators and set targets.</p>

	<p>In view of the foregoing, mainstreaming of gender continue to take center stage in community governance structure such as established Village Development Committees where we have at least 30% women membership including holding elective position of leadership across the 43 villages. Furthermore, there have been Village Development sub-committees that focus of women and youth specific interventions thus ensuring their needs and priorities are considered during project implementation. Notably, the number of women/women headed households that have adopted EbA measures has continued to increase and now stands at 46.3% as compared to 45% that was recorded during the previous reporting period. This upward trajectory can mainly be attributed to the proactive involvement of women during design and implementation of EbA inventions. For instance, the project adheres to the guideline that ensures at least 30% women representation as beneficiaries or members of all decision-making structures and processes. Furthermore, the project is supporting implementation of gender-specific adaptation technologies and livelihood diversification initiatives with a strong emphasis on addressing systemic climate related vulnerabilities and low adaptive capacities of women, youth and elderly. Among the notable gender related achievements during the reporting period include the high number of women and youth that averaged 39% (56) to 53% (76) representations in capacity building training sessions, learning and knowledge exchange programmes. These training sessions include: EbA concept and application of template protocols; production of Soil Stabilized Blocks as an alternative building material. Women also participated in the field visits to learn about experiences of successfully established Revolving Funds managed by Village Development Committees in River Nile State.</p> <p>Additional project interventions such as construction of rainwater harvesting infrastructure has benefitted women and children by reducing the time spent in water collection to less than one hour from more than 6 hours which they used to walk a distance of between 5 to 23 kilometers in search of water during dry seasons. Small ruminant 'shami' goats that produces milk and are hardy that were also distributed to 20 female headed households in Um Naam village in 2020. These goats have so far reproduced 1,006 cross breed offspring that have subsequently been distributed to other vulnerable families.</p> <p>Despite the significant progress towards achieving gender equity, there are challenges experienced with regards to the cultural barriers in promoting inclusion. Gender mainstreaming remains a challenge in some communities, particularly in Adweim locality, due to cultural barriers that limit women's participation in decision-making processes. As a strategy to overcome this challenge, the project team has continued to hold sensitization workshops with village elders to raise awareness on the need for ensuring gender inclusion in development processes. In particular, women's participation in capacity building and decision-making processes is strongly emphasized. Additionally, the project team underscores the need to ensure that either gender constitute at least 30% of membership to village development committees and sub-committees that are spearheading the implementation of EbA interventions in various localities. Measures have also been put in place to ensure that all training modules are gender-sensitive and that gender consideration is taken into account to allow 50% representation of either gender in all capacity building initiatives.</p>
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**2.7. Environmental and social safeguards management**

<b>Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)</b>	<p>Was the project classified as <b>moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage</b>?</p> <p><i>No</i></p> <p>If yes, what specific <b>safeguard risks</b> were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?</p>
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<p><b>New social and/or environmental risks</b></p>	<p>Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?  Yes</p> <p>The MTR that was completed in 2022 did raise the following new environmental risks/concerns: 1) suitability of the Damas Saudi (conocarpus lancifolius) tree species for the establishment of wind shelter belts owing to its root system affecting underground water and sanitation pipes and building foundations in urban environments. The MTR recommended that the National Forest Corporation and HCENR/Project team further explore the suitability of the particular tree in a rangelands context in White Nile State project areas; and 2) need for securing fencing around water harvesting reservoirs 'hafirs' (earth dams). Local communities expressed the danger of drowning of young children and animals in the unfenced water harvesting reservoirs (hafirs) that have been constructed but not yet fenced. To mitigate the aforementioned risks/concerns, the project halted the planting of Damas Saudi (conocarpus lancifolius) tree species and is now promoting planting of Acacia Nilotica and Acacia Seyal tree species that are natives of Sudan and Northern Sahara and are highly tolerant to drought conditions (rainfall and temperature variations). All reservoirs constructed under the Sudan EbA project have also been fenced and water collection points constructed in order to mitigate the risk of drowning and pollution of water reservoirs</p>
<p><b>Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts</b></p>	<p>Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?  No</p>
<p><b>Environmental and social safeguards management</b></p>	<p>The HCENR, UNEP and White Nile State Technical Committee have continued to monitor compliance with environmental and social safeguards through review of project reporting, visits to project sites and ensure that consultative mechanisms exist at the community and White Nile State levels to foster dialogue between stakeholders. The senior management of HCENR and White Nile State Administration have maintained direct communications channels with stakeholders through sharing contact address and during forums such as project steering committee, White Nile State Technical Committee and Village Development committee meetings during which grievances can be raised. No grievances have been reported while application of participatory gender sensitive approaches have ensured inclusivity of all project stakeholders, including women.</p> <p>All EbA interventions were approved by relevant Federal and White Nile State authorities and were designed using a no-regret approach. For instance, due to prolonged application of poor agricultural practices such as shallow tillage practices using light agricultural implements in project areas with clay soils, there has been soil compaction that leads to formation of hardpan in the subsurface soil layer.. This hardpan reduces water and air infiltration while also blocking crop roots from accessing nutrients that percolate in subsurface layers of soil. Postharvest land preparation using heavy disks for deep tillage that helps to improve physical soil properties of clay soils with a hardpan was therefore piloted in 311ha. This agronomic practice was deemed important in order to restore permeability and thus enhance in-situ rainwater harvesting in farmlands that contain clay soil in Aslaam and Gulli localities. This is expected to reduce vulnerability of crops to drought episodes since roots will penetrate in deep subsoil layers to tap the nutrients, air and water especially when drought episodes sets in. On the social side, installation of water harvesting infrastructure</p>

	has significant positive impact to the wellbeing of local communities and especially women and children that used to travel between 5km to 23km in search of water during dry periods.
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**2.8. Knowledge management**

<b>Knowledge activities and products</b>	During the reporting period, UNEP contracted a communications specialist to produce knowledge products (a human story, short video and high quality photos) showcasing the contribution of Sudan EbA project interventions towards enhancing the resilience of women to the water crisis caused by climate change in Sudan. These knowledge products can be found in the following links: <a href="https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/sudans-water-crisis-and-women-fighting-back">https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/sudans-water-crisis-and-women-fighting-back</a> .
<b>Main learning during the period</b>	<p>The Sudan EbA project holds great learning potential about enhancing the resilience and productivity of agropastoral ecosystems to the impacts of climate change. A good example is the distribution of the 20 improved (Damascus 'shami' breed) goats that were distributed to women headed households (widows and elderly) in Um Naam village in 2019. This breed of goat produces high amount of milk and meat as compared to the local breeds. It is also hardy and more resilient to droughts and diseases and is therefore able to survive in difficult environment which is an important adaptation element in light of the increasing severity of climate change impacts in White Nile State.</p> <p>Notably, from the initial 20 (Damascus 'shami' breed) goats that were distributed in 2019, a total of 1,006 crossbreed offsprings have been reproduced and spread to more than eight villages as of April 2023. Testimony from the beneficiaries and local goat breeders indicates that improved breed produces high amount of milk, weighs almost thrice and has meat of high quality as compared to the local breeds. As a result, the price of the improved goat cross breed is three times that of the local breeds.</p> <p>It is important to note that increased number of goats has the potential to pose negative impacts on vegetation cover especially shrubs and grasses. However, the number of cross breed improved goats produced so far is still very low (1,006 as of April 2023) as compared to the number of local breed goats that run into hundreds of thousands. This is because farmers are selling off the stocks of improved breed due to the high demand of the mature ones for either cross breeding or for meat. This has helped to control population of improved breed in the project areas and therefore it is still very early to attribute land degradation to the improved goats.</p> <p>However, the ministry of livestock will henceforth be keenly monitoring reproductive efficiency and the impact of the improved goats on vegetation cover so that measures can be put in place to control any negative impacts. Furthermore, local communities have also been trained on installation of protective fences around tree seedlings including fruit trees that have been planted in homesteads as a way of mitigating against browsing by livestock especially goats and thus enhance the survival rate of the seedlings. Additional mitigation measures that have also been identified to mitigate against negative impacts on vegetation cover include: culling, controlled mating, destocking, range management among others.</p>

**2.9. Stories to be shared**

<b>Stories to be shared</b>	Restoration of ecosystem services especially water has been a top priority for the Sudan EbA project. So far, six rainwater harvesting earth dams (locally known as 'Haffir') and three underground water tanks have been constructed. In addition, four boreholes and three surface wells have been rehabilitated across the project sites. Cumulatively, the installed water infrastructure is benefitting approx. 8,000 households drawn from more than 40 villages with access to
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	<p>sufficient water for domestic use and livestock feeding all the year round. This has had significant impact to the wellbeing of local communities and especially women and children who used to travel between 5km to 23km in search of water during dry periods. As a result, women now have more time to participate in other economic development activities e.g. farming while children can now spend more time in schools. Elderly and people with special needs are also able to access water with ease. Moreover, 6 rainwater harvesting ponds that have been excavated are supporting supplementary micro-irrigation systems for crops and pasture during dry periods or seasons with depressed rainfall. The riparian land around the water infrastructure are also being restored through broadcasting of trees and shrubs that are flood tolerant and with minimal impacts on water resources such as acacia nilotica tree species. This is contributing towards improved agricultural productivity thus strengthening the resilience of rain-fed farmers to climate change hazards especially droughts and floods in the White Nile State.</p>
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### 3. PROJECT PERFORMANCE AND RISK

Based on inputs by the Project Manager, the **UNEP Task Manager**<sup>1</sup> will make an overall assessment and provide ratings of:

- (i) Progress towards achieving the project Results(s)- see section 3.1
- (ii) Implementation progress – see section 3.2

Section 3.3 on Risk should be first completed by the Project Manager. The UNEP Task Manager will subsequently enter his/her own ratings in the appropriate column.

#### 3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes (Development Objectives)

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June 2023	Progress rating <sup>2</sup>
<b>Objective:</b> Increase the climate change resilience of livelihoods and integrated productive agricultural systems in the White Nile State through Ecosystem Based Adaptation approaches	Percentage of targeted HHs (head of HH disaggregated by gender) that have adopted EbA measures which improve access to climate change resilient food / water sources for improved agricultural productivity	0% of the targeted HHs have adopted EbA measures to improve their access to food and water.		100% of all targeted 6,800 HHs (head of HH disaggregated by gender) have access to climate change resilient food / water sources for improved agricultural productivity	68%	Cumulatively, a total of 8,389 households (43% women/women headed households) in 43 targeted villages have adopted climate resilient technologies/practices for improved agricultural productivity and access to water in White Nile State. The application of the 'agricultural package' in more than 42,842ha and 18 demo farms has enhanced productivity in farmlands thus providing a catalytic effect to the high rate of adoption of climate resilient technologies/practices. The 'agricultural package' includes: improved seeds (early maturing, drought & pest tolerant); training on agronomic practices & post-harvest handling; in-situ rainwater harvesting in farms; application of appropriate fertilizers; mixed cropping; application of appropriate agricultural implements e.g. chisel plough (locally known as Kharbash) in clay soils and light implements in sandy soils as a way of conserving soil structure and enhancing in-situ rainwater harvesting. The installation of improved cookstoves and rainwater harvesting infrastructure (excavation of 6 earth dams, rehabilitation of 3 surface wells and 2 borehole as well as construction of 7 ponds to support micro-irrigation in farms) have played an important role in restoration of critical ecosystem services with significant benefits to local communities especially women and children that bear the burden of searching for water and fuelwood. This is contributing towards restoration of ecosystem services while improving agricultural productivity thus strengthening the resilience of rain-fed farmers and pastoralists to climate change hazards especially droughts and floods in the White Nile State.	S

<sup>1</sup> For joint projects and where applicable ratings should also be discussed with the Task Manager of co-implementing agency.

<sup>2</sup> Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Marginally Satisfactory (MS), Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU).



<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Improved and strengthened technical capacity of local, state and national institutions to plan, implement and upscale EbA</p>	<p>Number of national and state development frameworks that have integrated EbA planning and budgeting for implementation and upscaling</p>	<p>All activities of the White Nile State's most recent Five Year Sector Plan (2012 – 2016) for the agriculture and water sector, within which the Action Plan for Agricultural Revival (2008) has been integrated, relate indirectly to the maintenance of ecosystem services. Total annual financing for both sectors is limited and on the order of USD 800,000 only.</p>		<p>At least 1 national development framework and 1 state Five Year Sector Plan are updated with a budget of at least USD 30,000 to implement and upscale gender-sensitive EbA measures</p>	<p>69%</p>	<p>Progress in the achievement of Outcome one (Mainstreaming of EbA in legal frameworks) has mainly been hindered by the prolonged political turmoil that have affected Federal level institutions due to high staff turnover of decision and policy makers. Furthermore, there has been a challenge in securing competent national consultants to support policy work and related assignments e.g. economic cost benefit assessment.</p> <p>However, policy dialogue sessions between a broad range of stakeholders, such as Federal and White Nile State policy makers, local authorities and community leaders have continued to be undertaken with the aim of promoting mainstreaming of EbA into National, White Nile State and localities' development plans, programmes and budgets. This includes discussions on policy and normative frameworks in order to ensure coherent EbA governance and its synchronisation with important legal instruments at the Federal and White Nile State levels. Furthermore, under the White Nile State Technical Committee, stakeholders at Federal and State levels have had an opportunity to hold cross cutting dialogue on climate change adaptation and coordination of EbA planning across various sectors e.g. agriculture, livestock, water, forestry, food security and energy. Through the policy dialogues, programmatic synergies and cross-sectoral partnerships are also promoted across relevant government institutions, local communities, civil society, private sector players and public universities in WNS. This has resulted in enhanced collaborations including provision of co-financing contributions by partner institutions. The White Nile State Technical Committee has also been crucial in providing strategic guidance and technical backstopping to the coordination, planning and execution of EbA measures in White Nile State.</p> <p>Technical guidelines in form of template protocols that outline the standard procedure and guidelines to identify/verify sites to carry out specific EbA interventions as well as management and monitoring have also been developed. Additionally, introductory training sessions targeting Federal and White Nile State policy- and decision makers on mainstreaming of EbA into national and subnational strategies, plans and budgets have been facilitated.</p> <p>To complement the foregoing, a stocktaking of existing national and White Nile State Policies was initiated in 2021 as part of the efforts to identify entry points for mainstreaming EbA in national and subnational policies, strategies, budgets and development frameworks. Upon resumption of project implementation, there will be a need to complete the stocktaking exercise and production of policy briefs and technical guidelines to guide the integration of climate change adaptation interventions – including EbA – into cross-sectoral plans.</p>	<p>MU</p>
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<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Reduced vulnerability of local communities to climate change impacts in the White Nile State</p>	<p>Percentage of targeted HHs (head of HH disaggregated by gender) that have adopted EbA measures which improve access to climate change resilient food / water sources and improved ecosystem services (e.g., via reforestation and rangeland regeneration)</p>	<p>0% of the targeted HHs have adopted EbA measures to improve their access to food, water &amp; ecosystem services. Farmers &amp; pastoralists are unable to mobilize water with physical infrastructure for use during the dry season (e.g., using rainwater harvesting, boreholes, etc). Also, ecosystem services are poor due to forest and rangeland destruction &amp; unsustainable land use practices. Farmers and pastoralists do not have technical &amp; applied knowledge on soil and water conservation methods and other sustainable practices to ensure that they can continually make use of productive ecosystem services.</p>		<p>100% of all targeted 6,800 HHs (head of HH disaggregated by gender) have access to climate change resilient food / water sources and improved ecosystem services relative to the baseline</p>	<p>89%</p>	<p>Implementation of innovative EbA measures in White Nile State has continued to be sustained with the aim of supporting regeneration of critical ecosystem services in order to strengthen the resilience of rain-fed farming and pastoral communities. So far, adoption of EbA measures which improve access to climate change resilient food / water sources and improved ecosystem services in the 43 targeted villages has reached 8,389 (of which 43% are women/women headed households). Central to this has been the establishment of community level governance structures (Village Development Committees (VDCs) and sub-committees - with at least 30% female) in 43 targeted villages that provide a platform for local communities to actively engage in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of EbA measures in their respective localities. To strengthen institutional capacity and coordination in the implementation of EbA, template protocols that outline the standard procedure and guidelines to identify/verify sites to carry out specific EbA interventions as well as community-based EbA intervention management and monitoring plans have been produced.</p> <p>Regeneration of critical ecosystem services continues to be undertaken and so far 2,043.1ha (representing 128% of the target) of degraded rangelands have been rehabilitated through broadcasting of more than 9,500 kgs of nine different best suited native grass varieties that are early maturing, high nutritive value and water stress tolerant. Pasture farming has also been piloted through establishment of four integrated pasture demo farms (47.2 ha) in Aslaam and Tendalti localities where 260kgs of pasture seedlings that were broadcasted. Additionally, 200 ha have been cultivated with animal feeds (Clitoria &amp; Phaseolus) around the farmers' fields in Alsalam locality villages</p> <p>With respect to the restoration of riparian zones, a total of 1,486 ha have so far been replanted with flood tolerant acacia species while 59 km (of two meters width) of shelter belt have been broadcasted with Acacia Nilotica and Acacia Seyal in Al Rawat village. A total of 934ha (70% of the target) of community forests have also been rehabilitated through broadcasting of a mixture of A. Senegal, A. Nilotica and A. Tortilis seeds.</p> <p>Cumulatively, EbA support measures that have been implemented include: introduction of climate-resilient land management practices across 42,842 ha; establishment of 18 demonstration farms; design and construction/ rehabilitation of seven rainwater harvesting reservoirs; rehabilitation of 3 surface wells and 2 borehole as well as construction of 7 ponds to support micro-irrigation in farms. Upon resumption of the project, the following pending activities will have to be completed: setting up of revolving funds, restoration of the remaining community forests an riparian zones, installation of solar powered water supply points in six haffirs, construction of a demo house using alternative building materials</p>	<p>S</p>
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Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June 2023	Progress rating <sup>2</sup>
<p><b>Outcome 3:</b> Strengthened information base and knowledge on EbA and climate change are readily available for various uses</p>	<p>Number of lessons learned, demonstrations of intervention cost effectiveness and upscaling strategies on EbA integrated into the existing Cloud database</p>	<p>An existing cloud database contains climate data and forecasts, together with information on climate adaptation technologies. It is currently managed by ARC and HCENR under the CRFP project. However, the database does not detail information on sustainable agro-pastoral best practices in Sudan and there is no information specifically on EbA activities.</p>		<p>At least 10 lessons learned, 10 demonstrations of intervention cost effectiveness and 1 upscaling strategy on EbA integrated into the existing Cloud database</p>	<p>45%</p>	<p>Strengthening information base and knowledge sharing on EbA and climate change is a critical element of Sudan EbA project. In view of this, training on monitoring and evaluation of the impacts of EbA interventions were facilitated and attended by 122 participants (44% female) drawn from project partners at the Federal and White Nile State levels as well as community representatives. EbA demonstration farms were also established and tree planting initiated in two local schools (a girls and a boys primary schools) in Al Rawat cluster of 33 targeted villages. Additionally, experts from the Department of Environmental Awareness of Forest National Corporation (FNC) facilitated training sessions in 20 academic institutions (5 secondary and 15 primary schools) on the benefits of EbA as an approach to enhance resilience of human and natural systems. A total of 513 secondary school students (46% female) and 1,347 primary school pupils (52% female) attended the training sessions which included training on tree planting and care. At the same time, UNEP contracted a communication specialist to produce knowledge products (a human story, short video and high quality photos). The knowledge products showcase the contribution of Sudan EbA project interventions towards enhancing the resilience of women to the water crisis caused by climate change in Sudan.</p> <p>Previously, field visits and knowledge exchange visits were organized to project sites and to the successfully operationalized revolving funds in River Nile State. The field visits were attended by senior level officials from Federal and White Nile State ministries, STC and VDC members. Additionally, a one week Farmer Field Days was organized in the 6 demo farms in November 2021 and attended by project partners in White Nile State and local communities. As part of knowledge dissemination to the wider international community, Sudan EbA project team also had an opportunity to share their experiences during the Gabeshona Global Conference that was held on 27<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 and also during the GEF Consultation with Civil Society virtual meeting that was held in the sideline of 60<sup>th</sup> GEF council meeting in June 2021.</p> <p>So far, a total of 10 demo farms have been established as part of the initiative to demonstrate implementation of EbA technologies/ techniques in agropastoral ecosystems in White Nile State. These include four integrated pasture demo farms (47.2 ha) and 6 demonstration farms to pilot climate resilient crop production techniques of Sorghum, millet and sesame.</p>	<p>MU</p>

**3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)**

Outputs/ Activities <sup>3</sup>	Expected completion date <sup>4</sup>	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%)	Progress rating justification <sup>5</sup> , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating <sup>6</sup>
<b>COMPONENT 1: Capacity Development for Ecosystems based Adaptation (EbA) and policy mainstreaming</b>					
<b>Output 1.1:</b> A multi-disciplinary White Nile State Technical Committee established and strengthening of HCENR in order to facilitate cross cutting dialogue at the state and national levels of climate change adaptation and EbA and coordination of EbA measure planning in vulnerable sectors	June, 2023	90%	95%	<p>Since its establishment in May 2018, the cross-sectoral White Nile State Technical Committee composed of 36 members (33% women) has been playing a critical role of supporting the planning, coordination, strategic guidance, technical oversight and monitoring the execution of EbA interventions in WNS. Furthermore, the technical committee has been holding policy dialogues on semi-annual basis to support climate-informed adaptation planning in key sectors and mainstreaming of EbA in legal and institutional frameworks in WNS. This has been achieved through engaging high level representatives from HCENR, relevant ministries, local communities and other stakeholders at Federal and White Nile State levels during White Nile State Technical Committee Meetings and other strategic meetings held at the State level. These cross-cutting dialogues facilitated by State Technical Committee have further strengthened collaboration between HCENR and White Nile State government institutions, civil society institutions and private sector players thus ensuring smooth implementation of Sudan EbA project.</p> <p>During the current reporting period, two meetings of White Nile State Technical Committee were held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023. During these meetings, members reviewed and provided inputs to the draft long-term sustainability strategy including proposed project exit actions to be integrated in the work plan. Representatives from FAO, IGAD, UNDP, Plan Sudan, IFAD, WFP and ADRA that attended the meeting had an opportunity to share lessons learnt from sustainability and exit strategies implemented by their institutions. Furthermore the committee members reviewed project progress and recommended to the project steering committee a no-cost extension of three months (July – September 2023) that would allow completion of pending project activities. However, the project steering committee (PSC) meeting that was scheduled to take place on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 was postponed following the outbreak of the fighting between rival military factions in Sudan. It had not been possible to hold the PSC meeting by the end of the reporting period because of the continuing conflict. HCENR staff based in Khartoum are accounted for and relocated to other towns in Sudan or outside the country. The UNOPS hired Chief Technical Advisor, who is Kenya-based and on mission in the project areas at the time when the conflict started, was evacuated to South Sudan and Kenya with the support of UNEP Sudan and WFP. All project staff in Kosti, WNS, are safe. A WhatsApp group was established with HCENR and project staff to ensure regular updates.</p>	S

<sup>3</sup> Outputs and activities (or deliverables) as described in the project logframe (and workplan) or in any updated project revision.

<sup>4</sup> The completion dates should be as per latest workplan (latest project revision).

<sup>5</sup> As much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.

<sup>6</sup> To be provided by the UNEP Task Manager

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Outputs/ Activities <sup>3</sup>	Expected completion date <sup>4</sup>	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%)	Progress rating justification <sup>5</sup> , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating <sup>6</sup>
<b>Output 1.2:</b> A stocktaking exercise undertaken and revisions of existing national and White Nile State policies and strategies identifying entry points for EbA and cost-effective up-scaling strategies for climate-risk informed EbA planning and budgeting.	July, 2023	40%	45%	<p>A stocktaking exercise to identify entry points for mainstreaming EbA into relevant Federal, White Nile State and locality level policies, development frameworks and sectoral budgets was initiated in 2021 and a draft report produced by the international Adaptation and Policy Expert. However, finalization of the report of stocktaking exercise is yet to be finalized and is therefore lagging behind schedule due to the delays by the National Economic and Policy Expert to provide inputs and address gaps in the draft report that was produced by the International Adaptation and Policy Expert. The failure by the National Economic and Policy Expert to provide inputs to the draft report as well as meet the obligations outlined in the terms of reference of his consultancy assignment has led to HCENR terminating his contract. To enable the process to proceed, HCENR nominated two policy experts to support the assignment of the International Adaptation and policy expert through provision of inputs that will address the gaps in the stocktaking exercise draft report..</p> <p>Upon completion, the stocktaking exercise report will be provide inputs to the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) review process that is currently ongoing in Sudan. Due to the political turmoil that has affected functionality of Federal level institutions and policy making processes, the project steering committee that was held on December 2022 advised HCENR to focus on supporting mainstreaming of EbA into policies, strategies and budgets in the White Nile State level where there is more stability of institutions and policy making processes.</p>	<i>MU</i>

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<p><b>Output 1.3:</b> Policy briefs and technical guidelines developed and distributed for policy – and decision makers on increasing the resilience of local community livelihoods to current and future climate change risks using appropriate ecosystem based adaptation and knowledge gained from demonstration activities.</p>	<p>August, 2023</p>	<p>50%</p>	<p>55%</p>	<p>Technical guidelines in form of template protocols that outline the standard procedure and guidelines to identify/verify sites to carry out specific EbA interventions as well as management and monitoring were developed in 2021  <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1uouONDPCewsW23PArF5OpCZnFp-Df8T5?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1uouONDPCewsW23PArF5OpCZnFp-Df8T5?usp=sharing</a>            National and subnational virtual training sessions on the application of the template protocols were then conducted in October 2021 targeting stakeholders from Federal level (79 (43%women)) and White Nile State level (65 (45% women)).</p> <p>During the reporting period, development of a policy brief based on the practical demonstration as well as generated evidence of cost-effectiveness of EbA measures has not been produced since the economic cost-benefit assessment (CBA) is yet to be completed. Despite a methodology and data collection protocols for undertaking the cost-benefit assessment, having been produced in 2022, there has been no progress in data collection after the international adaptation economics expert expressed reservation to travel to Sudan to spearhead a training of data collection enumerators. On the other hand, the National Economic and Policy Expert was unavailable to spearhead training of the data collection enumerators as well as meet the obligations outlined in the terms of reference of his consultancy assignment thus forcing HCENR to terminate his contract. The recruitment of another Economic and Policy Expert was ongoing before the fighting started between rival military factions in Sudan thus halting project execution. However, upon resumption of project execution, the cost-benefit assessment will be completed and policy briefs produced and distributed to policy- and decision makers to guide the integration of climate change adaptation interventions – including EbA – into cross-sectoral plans as well as Federal, White Nile State and Locality level policies, strategies, programmes and budgets.</p>	<p><i>MS</i></p>
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<p><b>Output 1.4:</b> Targeted CC adaptation and EbA planning/implementation training programmes for stakeholders completed, including field visits to learn from successful adaptation implementation.</p>	<p>June, 2023</p>	<p>70%</p>	<p>80%</p>	<p>Introductory training sessions targeting Federal and White Nile State policy- and decision makers on mainstreaming of EbA into national and subnational strategies, plans and budgets were facilitated by the International Adaptation Policy Consultant in early 2020. Virtual training sessions on the concept and protocols to guide application and monitoring of EbA were then facilitated by the International EbA expert in June 2022 and attended by Federal and White Nile State technical officers. At the National level, 79 (43%women) policymakers and technical staff drawn from Federal institutions supporting implementation of EbA project and the Project Steering Committee members attended the training. The White Nile State level training was attended by 65 (45% women) participants drawn from State Technical Committee, Project Coordination Working Group and representatives of beneficiary communities. These training have played a role on promoting collaboration and partnership among Federal and White Nile State institutions, private sector players and civil society institution supporting implementation of EbA and CC adaptation initiatives.</p> <p>As part of learning from successful adaptation initiatives implemented in Sudan, field visits to project sites and to River Nile State were conducted in March and April 2022 by members of State Technical Committee, Project Coordination Working Group and representatives of beneficiary communities. This visit also provided an opportunity for knowledge exchange among stakeholders in White Nile State and those from River Nile State.</p> <p>Pending capacity building training modules that are yet to be undertaken include: (i) information sharing on EbA; (ii) application of the results of cost-benefit assessment to inform EbA measures to be implemented including integrating future climate risks into decision-making. An international field visit to EbA demonstration sites in other countries could not be undertaken following the the emergency of COVID-19 in 2020 and the subsequent political turmoil that has been going in Sudan since 2021. Consequently, the project steering committee that was held in December 2022 recommended that funds that were to finance the international field visit should be channeled to support targeted training on EbA for selected HCENR and White Nile State Technical Staff. Unfortunately the outbreak of fighting between rival military factions in Sudan has resulted to the suspension of project operations and therefore no technical officer will be able to attend targeted training sessions until normalcy returns and project operations reinstated.</p>	<p><i>MS</i></p>
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<p><b>Output 1.5:</b>  Facilitation of a local policy dialogue (based on vulnerability assessments and practical experiences from pilot implementation of EbA in component 2) on mainstreaming of adaptation into state and locality development plans.</p>	<p>September, 2023</p>	<p>65%</p>	<p>73%</p>	<p>Since May 2018, local policy dialogues to promote mainstreaming of adaptation into state and locality development plans and budgets have been held on semi-annual basis in White Nile State and attended by 36 members (33% women) State Technical Committee members. The policy dialogues have been complemented with training sessions on the concept of EbA and the application of EbA protocols which was conducted and attended by 65 (45% women) representatives of local communities, State Technical Committee members, technical experts and project partners in White Nile State on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022.</p> <p>During the current reporting period, local policy dialogues were held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023. During these meetings, awareness campaign on how to integrate EbA into state and locality development plans were carried out. This included promoting cross-sectoral planning and selection of appropriate EbA measures that are currently being implemented. This awareness raising campaigns and training sessions are providing important platforms for promoting local policy dialogues on mainstreaming of adaptation. Furthermore, they are contributing towards enhancing the knowledge of stakeholders as well as local communities on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The current and predicted effects of climate change on agro-pastoralists;</li> <li>ii. Potential adaptation interventions to manage these effects; and</li> <li>iii. The benefits of EbA for increasing the resilience of communities to climate change.</li> </ul> <p>Despite the progress, local policy dialogues require inputs of the cost-benefit assessment of EbA measures that is yet to be completed. The result of cost-benefit assessment of EbA measures is expected to demonstrate evidence of EbA as an effective adaptation strategy that generates livelihood benefits for local communities. Proving the cost effectiveness of these measures is essential to making the case for mainstreaming EbA into policies, strategies, development plans and budgets in White Nile State.</p>	<p><i>MS</i></p>
<p><b>COMPONENT 2: Implementation of EbA measures to build adaptive capacities of vulnerable communities</b></p>					



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<p><b>Output 2.1:</b> Current and future climate change vulnerability and risks for the selected vulnerable sites are identified to guide EbA interventions in pilot sites in the White Nile State.</p>	<p>December, 2022</p>	<p>95%</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>The gender sensitive and participatory V&amp;A assessment was completed in 2019 and has been fundamental in providing a comprehensive overview of specific climate change vulnerabilities (both existing and predicted) as well as adaptation options for each of the target localities. Similarly, the formation of Village Development Committees (VDCs) and sub-committees (with atleast 30% female) in the 43 targeted communities has been central to the planning, implementation and monitoring of community-based EbA measures. All the VDCs have all now been registered with Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) in order to give them legal recognition and be part of local governance structures that provide communities with a platform to actively participate in supporting development initiatives beyond the Sudan EbA Project.</p> <p>As part of capacity building initiative, members of the 43 VDCs have been trained on the design, establishment and operationalization of Revolving Funds. The fund that is yet to be set up is envisaged to be a performance-based scheme to provide concessional loans to local communities to finance appropriate EbA-focused technologies and practices such as farming and husbandry inputs and implements that improve the productivity and resilience of human and natural systems. These include: drought-tolerant seeds; farm implements; solar pumps for shallow wells; animal feed supplements like seed cakes and saltlick; improved stoves; poultry units; alternative building materials; veterinarian care etc.</p> <p>To strengthen institutional capacity and coordination in the implementation of EbA, template protocols that outline the standard procedure and guidelines to identify/verify sites to carry out specific EbA interventions as well as community-based EbA intervention management and monitoring plans were produced in July 2021. As a follow up, virtual training sessions on the concept of EbA and application of the template protocols were conducted on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021 targeting Federal and White Nile State Stakeholders including local communities. During the national level training, a total of 79 (43%women) senior officials drawn from federal ministries and HCENR participated in the training. For the State level training, 65 (45% women) representatives of White Nile State Technical Committee, Project Coordination Working Group and local communities attended the virtual training sessions conducted in September 2021.</p>	<p>S</p>
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<p><b>Output 2.2:</b> Regeneration of critical ecosystem services to restore degraded rangelands, increase water infiltration and improve resilience of rain fed agriculture and pastoralism under increasing drought conditions and dry seasons.</p>	<p>September, 2023</p>	<p>88%</p>	<p>92%</p>	<p>Regeneration of critical ecosystem services has continued to be undertaken and so far 2,043.1ha of degraded rangelands have been rehabilitated through broadcasting of more than 9,500 kgs of nine different best suited native grass varieties that are early maturing, high nutritive value and water stress tolerant. Pasture farming has also been piloted through establishment of four integrated pasture demo farms (47.2 ha) in Aslaam and Tendalti localities where 260kgs of pasture seedlings that were provided by Range and Pasture Administration as part of co-financing was broadcasted. Additionally, 200 ha have been cultivated with animal feeds (Clitoria &amp; Phaseolus) around the farmers' fields in Alsalam locality villages.</p> <p>Productivity in the 42.5 ha pasture enclosure of that was established in 2019/2020 in Um-zureiba continues to be monitored after every rainy season. Results indicate that production in pasture enclosure has increased from 6 tonnes in 2019 to 200 tonnes in 2021 and 285tonnes in 2022. Additionally, non-palatable invasive species that are dominant in the area have almost disappeared and trees have also started growing inside the enclosure. The high productivity can be attributed to non-grazing practices and the in-situ water harvesting infrastructures that is helping to conserve soil moisture for a longer period as compared to the surrounding pasture land where open grazing is practiced. To promote pasture conservation, a grass cutter (feed chopper) machine has been provided to the local community in Tugy village to assist them in the preparation of feedstock before storage for use during dry seasons to feed the animals.</p> <p>So far, a total of 934ha (70% of the target) of community forests have also been rehabilitated through broadcasting of a mixture of A. Senegal, A. Nilotica and A. Tortilis seeds. A total of 1,650 seedlings of Acacia Senegal have also been planted across 20ha to promote agroforestry and also to act as windbreak and shelterbelts in farmlands. These seedlings were provided by Forest National Corporation as part of the co-finance contribution.</p> <p>With respect to the restoration of riparian zones, a total of 1,486 ha have so far been replanted with flood tolerant acacia species while 59 km (of two meters width) of shelter belt have been broadcasted with Acacia Nilotica and Acacia Seyal in Al Rawat village. As recommended by the MTR, a suitability analysis during selection of tree species to be planted is now carried out with inputs from relevant technical institutions (Forest National Corporation) particularly for rehabilitation riparian zones and establishment of shelter belts. A land use and soil quality mapping has also been completed and this is providing baseline information during selection of EbA interventions to be implemented across the project sites.</p> <p>Some of the pending activities that were to be completed during the rainy season of 2023 include: broadcasting of a mixture of A. Senegal, A. Nilotica and A. Tortilis seeds in 200ha of community forests; and rehabilitation of 250ha of rangelands through broadcasting native grass varieties that are early maturing, high nutritive value and water stress tolerant. However, the outbreak of fighting in Sudan has resulted to suspension of the execution of Sudan EbA project.</p>	<p><b>S</b></p>
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<p><b>Output 2.3:</b> A number of EbA support measures are piloted and integrated into existing local community livelihood activities, including in situ rainwater harvesting and drought/flood resilient eco-agriculture.</p>	<p>September 2023</p>	<p>88%</p>	<p>94%</p>	<p>During the reporting period, post-harvest tillage (a technique used for water conservation through heavy disking) was undertaken in 311ha benefitting 161 households (21% female headed) in Aslallam and Gulli localities that contain clay soils and predominantly grow sorghum, sesame and groundnuts. This increased the farmland prepared using heavy disking to 342ha. Supplementary irrigation of crops during dry episodes was also promoted through construction of one water pan in Al-Sulik village in Al-Salam locality. Additional activities implemented include construction of three rainwater harvesting reservoirs/earth dams (haffir) in (i) Um Zureiba Village with a capacity of 25,000m<sup>3</sup> expected to supply water to 8 villages containing approx. 1,200 households; (ii) El-Hawashat Village of Aslaam Locality to supply water to 4 villages of approx. 450 households; and (iii) Helba village which now has a capacity of 92,000m<sup>3</sup> expected to serve an estimate population of 600 households. An underground water tank was also constructed in Agdat El-Tair village with a capacity of 55m<sup>3</sup> to serve 105households. Furthermore, fencing and installation of entry and exit channels for three earth dams that were previous excavated in Wad –El Blibli, Um Naam and Salima villages have been completed. Solar powered water pumping systems were also installed in three surface wells that are located in Um Naam, Wad Blibli and Helba villages.</p> <p>Still during the current reporting period, training of local communities on the application of sustainable land management practices, appropriate agricultural technologies and post-harvest management of pests and diseases for sorghum, millet and groundnuts was conducted and attended by 325 community members (30% women) drawn from 36 villages. A total of 1,500hematic bags for safe cereal storage were distributed to the participants of the training. To promote sustainable pasture management, awareness raising campaigns were carried out and attended by 1,535 participants (42% women) drawn from 20 villages across the four localities.</p> <p>Cumulatively, EbA support measures that have been implemented include: introduction of climate-resilient land management practices across 42,842 ha; establishment of 18 demonstration farms; design and construction/rehabilitation of seven rainwater harvesting reservoirs; rehabilitation of 3 surface wells and 2 borehole as well as construction of 7 ponds to support micro-irrigation in farms. In the demonstration farm the ‘agricultural package’ is being deployed as well as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques. The ‘agricultural package’ include: provision of improved seeds (early maturing, drought and pest tolerant); training on agronomic practices and post-harvest handling; in-situ rainwater harvesting in farms; application of appropriate fertilizers; application of appropriate agricultural implements e.g. chisel plough (locally known as Kharbash) and light implements in sandy and clay soils respectively as a way of conserving soil structure. The agricultural package is expected to enhance crop production under increased variability of rainfall, drought and desertification.</p> <p>Training sessions targeting Water User Associations (WUAs) on water-borne diseases and proper hygiene including provision of medical kits with prophylactics as well as installation of solar powered water pumps in six reservoirs were scheduled to take place from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023, but could not be held due to the outbreak of fighting between rival military factions in Sudan that affected execution of project interventions.</p>	<p><b>S</b></p>
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<p><b>Output 2.4:</b> Pilot implementation of alternative livelihood activities based on indigenous practices, including, <i>inter alia</i>, poultry breeding, home garden farming, and small ruminant strategic feeding as well as alternative energy use strategies to enhance community resilience to current and predicted climate change impacts.</p>	<p>September 2023</p>	<p>85%</p>	<p>90%</p>	<p>By April 2023, 20 small ruminants (Damascus ‘shami’ goats) that were distributed in 2019 to female headed households in Um Naam village had reproduced 1,006 crossbreed offspring and spread to more than eight villages. The crossbreed offspring are hardy and more resilient to droughts and diseases and are therefore able to survive as climate change continue to be severe in White Nile State. Testimony from one of the local goat breeder indicates that the price of the improved goat cross breed is three times that of the local breeds. This is because the improved breed weighs almost thrice and has meat of high quality as compared to the local breeds.</p> <p>During the reporting period, approx. 300 technicians (100% male youth) drawn from 43 targeted villages have been trained on production of Soil Stabilized Blocks (SSB) as an alternative building materials that uses a mixture of clay soil and small amount of cement and water. The Soil Stabilized Blocks are highly compacted in a block press, resulting in low cost solid building blocks that are resilient to floods and can withstand very high temperatures. The blocks are environmentally friendly technology that are energy efficient and low embodied carbon alternative materials that will contribute in reducing deforestation when compared to traditional building materials where wood is used. To operationalize the revolving funds, negotiations have been initiated between HCENR and two micro finance institutions with the objective of formalizing an agreement that will allow one of the microfinance institutions to oversight and manage the revolving fund kitty on behalf of the VDCs. Furthermore, local communities attended training on post-harvest management of pests and diseases for sorghum, millet, and groundnuts that were carried out in all the 43 villages.</p> <p>To promote modern poultry breeding, 43 poultry cages were distributed to 43 selected women for livelihood diversification since it is a viable option to reduce overreliance on intensive land use. Additional alternative livelihood and energy interventions based on indigenous practices that have been implemented include: establishment of home gardens with vegetables in 1,111 households; and distribution of 8,389 improved cookstoves. Testimonies from beneficiary households indicate that the improved cook stove is highly fuel efficient and produces less smoke and therefore better indoor air quality, which has health benefits to women and girls.</p> <p>To enhance the capacity of communities to implement community-based EbA activities, officials of the 43 VDCs were trained on the design, establishment and operationalization of revolving funds as one of the mechanisms for local communities to access concessional loans to finance implementation of EbA measures such as purchase of animal drawn ploughs, drought-resistant seeds, animal feed supplements, solar pumps for wells, veterinarian kits for CAWH and improved cookstoves.</p> <p>Notably, revolving fund is yet to be operationalized due to the lengthy negotiations between HCENR and microfinance institutions that will oversight and manage the revolving fund kitty on behalf of the VDCs. Furthermore, construction of a demo house to pilot application of the alternative building materials (Stabilized Soil Blocks) is yet to be undertaken due to the emergency of fighting in Sudan.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>S</b></p>
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<p><b>Output 2.5:</b> Local authorities, communities, committees and user groups trained on adapting community livelihoods to climate change through the use of EbA and on monitoring of EbA measures.</p>	<p>June 2023</p>	<p>60%</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>During the current reporting period, training of local communities at each project intervention site on the implementation and maintenance of EbA interventions and climate-resilient land management techniques was conducted. A total of 1,387 participants (53% women) drawn from all the 43 villages attended the training sessions that were facilitated by experts from White Nile State Ministry of Agriculture and project team. The sessions included training local communities on the application of template protocols that outline the standard procedure and guidelines to carry out specific ecosystem-based adaptation interventions and monitoring which have now been translated into Arabic. Training sessions on the application of these protocols was also conducted and attended by State Technical Committee members and project partners in White Nile State. Additional training sessions on the concept of EbA were also facilitated by International EbA Expert and attended by 81 technical experts drawn from Federal (32 experts) and White Nile State (49 experts) government institutions supporting implementation of Sudan EbA project.</p> <p>Additionally, a Long-Term Sustainability Strategy (LTSS) for EbA measures in White Nile State has been drafted by the International EbA Expert. The strategy has been reviewed and inputs provided by project Federal and White Nile State stakeholders as well as UNEP. The Long-Term Sustainability Strategy outlines an integrated process and activities which can facilitate continuity and sustainability of EbA interventions beyond the Sudan EbA project. The LTSS proposes to three key building blocks i.e (i) Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) activities; (ii) Monitoring and Evaluation activities; and (iii) Seed bank of success stories and lessons learned on EbA. The strategy will be important guiding document for the Community level governance structures (Village Development Committees (VDCs) and sub-committees - with atleast 30% female) that were previously established in all the 43 targeted villages in White Nile State. These VDCs have also been trained on adapting community livelihoods to climate change through the use of EbA and on monitoring of EbA measures. Additionally, the VDCs have been provided with capacity building training on the design, establishment and operationalization of Revolving Funds as one of the mechanisms for local communities to access concessional loans to finance implementation of EbA measures.</p>	<p align="center"><b>S</b></p>
<p><b>COMPONENT 3: Knowledge management for appropriate EbA design</b></p>					

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<p><b>Output 3.1:</b> Information, lessons learnt from project interventions and knowledge on climate change adaptation and resilient livelihoods using EbA are captured, stored and widely disseminated among stakeholders at all levels.</p>	<p>September, 2023</p>	<p>50%</p>	<p>88%</p>	<p>In December 2022, training sessions on monitoring and evaluation of the impacts of EbA interventions were facilitated by the M&amp;R expert. These training sessions were held as follows: (i) Federal level training attended by 43 representative (21female and 22male) of national institutions supporting implementation of Sudan EbA project; (ii) White Nile State level training attended by 36 participants (15female and 21male) drawn from WNS administration and partner institutions; and (iii) Community level training attended by 43 representatives (17female and 26male) of VDCs.</p> <p>As part of learning, EbA demonstration farms were established and tree planting initiated in two local schools (a girls and a boys primary schools) in Al Rawat cluster of 33 targeted villages. Additionally, experts from the Department of Environmental Awareness of Forest National Corporation (FNC) facilitated training sessions in 20 schools (5 secondary and 15 primary schools) on the benefits of EbA as an approach to enhance resilience. A total of 513 secondary school students (46% female) and 1,347 primary school pupils (52% female) attended the training sessions which included training on tree planting and care. As a way forward, the Forest National Corporation will henceforth be carrying out annual training sessions in academic institutions and has targeted to support setting up of tree nurseries in each of the 20 schools that participated in the training. In the long term, FNC will recommend to the Ministry of Education the revision of primary and secondary school curriculum to include benefits of EbA and tree planting.</p> <p>During the reporting period, UNEP contracted a communication specialist that produced knowledge products (a human story, short video and high quality photos). The knowledge products showcase the contribution of Sudan EbA project towards enhancing the resilience of women to the water crisis caused by climate change in Sudan. These knowledge products are in the following link: <a href="https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/sudans-water-crisis-and-women-fighting-back">https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/sudans-water-crisis-and-women-fighting-back</a>.</p> <p>Previously, field visits and knowledge exchange visits were organized for purposes of learning from the successfully operationalized revolving funds in River Nile State. The field visits were attended by senior level officials from Federal and White Nile State ministries, STC and VDC members. Additionally, a one week Farmer Field Days was organized in the 6 demo farms in November 2021 and attended by project partners in White Nile State and local communities. The field days offered an opportunity to disseminate EbA agricultural best practices/technologies and promote peer-to-peer learning among agropastoral communities in White Nile State. As part of knowledge dissemination to the wider international community, Sudan EbA project team also had an opportunity to share their experiences during the Gabeshona Global Conference that was held on 27<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 and also during the GEF Consultation with Civil Society virtual meeting that was held in the sideline of 60<sup>th</sup> GEF council meeting in June 2021.</p> <p>The only remaining knowledge product that is yet to be produced and disseminated to key stakeholders relates to results of the Cost-Benefit Assessment (CBA) of EbA measures. This can be attributed to the delay in completion of cost-benefit assessment occasioned by the non-availability of National Adaptation Economic Expert. However, HCENR has terminated the contract of the current consultant and is in the process of hiring another national consultant to spearhead completion of CBA when the situation allows.</p>	<p><b>S</b></p>
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<p><b>Output 3.2:</b> A central information base of data on EbA lessons learned and cost-effectiveness of interventions established within the existing Cloud operated jointly by HCENR and the ARC.</p>	<p>September, 2023</p>	<p>0%</p>	<p>50%</p>	<p>A webpage has been created in HCENR website where information and communication materials generated from Sudan EbA project are being uploaded and easily be accessed. The project team has also been actively sharing information through on various platforms including international workshops (Gabeshona Global Conference etc) among others.</p> <p>Knowledge products (a human story, short video and high quality photos) produced by the UNEP contracted communication specialist have also been widely disseminated through various UNEP media platforms. The knowledge products showcase the contribution of Sudan EbA project interventions towards enhancing the resilience of women to the water crisis caused by climate change in Sudan. These knowledge products can be found in the following link: <a href="https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/sudans-water-crisis-and-women-fighting-back">https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/sudans-water-crisis-and-women-fighting-back</a>. Documentation of lessons learned generated from EbA measures implemented under Sudan EbA project has not been done due to the inability of Monitoring and Evaluation Expert to undertake the task. As a remedial course of action, it was planned that a National Consultant that was to be commissioned by HCENR to undertake the Results Verification Exercise (RVE) would also take up the task of documenting the lessons learned. Unfortunately, the outbreak of fighting between rival military factions in Sudan that started on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 affected the functioning of key government institutions including the executing entity of Sudan EbA project. Consequently, implementation of project interventions including commissioning of Results Verification Exercise Expert was suspended.</p> <p>Due to the delay in documentation of lessons learned from piloted EbA measures, no information has been uploaded in the Cloud environmental database (e-library) that is jointly operated by HCENR and Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC). However, knowledge products generated so far have been shared via other web-based platforms such as HCENR and UNEP websites.</p>	<p><i>MU</i></p>
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<p><b>Output 3.3:</b> An upscaling strategy for EbA across Sudan by both the public and private sectors is developed based on an economic cost-benefits assessment.</p>	<p>September, 2023</p>	<p>35%</p>	<p>35%</p>	<p>To assess and demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of EbA interventions in Sudan, a cost-benefit assessment has been initiated and so far a methodology and data collection protocols was developed in 2022. However, a pretesting of data collection tools is yet to be done due to unavailability of the National Economic and Adaptation Expert. Notably, selection of enumerators to undertake data collection was also completed in 2022 but they are yet to be trained on the application of data collection procedures and tools.</p> <p>As a result of the foregoing, data collection that was scheduled to start after the end of the rainy season in November 2022 did not take place since the National Economic and Adaptation Expert failed to adhere to the timeline for spearheading this activity. Due to this HCENR terminated his contract and was in the process of recruiting another National Economic and Adaptation Expert to lead the data collection and analysis as well as supporting the International Adaptation Economics Expert in the preparation of the cost-benefit assessment and the upscaling strategy for EbA measures. The cost-benefit assessment report is expected to demonstrate evidence of EbA as an effective adaptation strategy that generates livelihood benefits for local communities. Proving the cost effectiveness of these measures is essential to making the case for EbA to stakeholders, ranging from local communities and planners to national level decision-makers and donors.</p> <p>In addition to cost-benefit assessment of EbA measures, other activities under this output that are yet to completed include: development of an upscaling plan for EbA measures based on the results of cost-benefit assessments; dissemination of the results of cost-benefit assessment to public and private sector players to support development of EbA concepts and; training of HCENR, relevant Federal and White Nile State stakeholders on interpretation of climate change adaptation economic assessments and resource mobilization to finance EbA measures.</p>	<p><i>MU</i></p>
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#### 4. Risk Rating

##### 4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

Risk Factor	EA's Rating	TM's Rating
1. Management structure – Roles and responsibilities	M	M
2. Governance structure – Oversight	L	L
3. Implementation schedule	S	S
4. Budget	M	M
5. Financial Management	L	L
6. Reporting	L	L
7. Capacity to deliver	M	M

If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in table B below.

##### 4.2 Table B. Risk-Log

Risk	Risk affecting	Risk Rating								Variation respect to last rating	
	Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	MTR	PIR 5	PIR 6 (This PIR)	Δ	Justification
Lack of institutional capacity and coordination on EbA could lead to inappropriate or deficient implementation of EbA measures and policy frameworks.  (CEO Endorsement/PRODOC)	All outcomes & outputs	M	M	M	M	L		L	L	=	Institutional capacity and coordination on EbA has been enhanced through capacity building initiatives targeting Federal and White Nile State Stakeholders including local communities. This include facilitation of training sessions on the concept of EbA and application of the template protocols that outline the standard procedure and guidelines to identify/verify sites to carry out specific EbA interventions as well as community-based EbA intervention management and monitoring plans.  Similarly, cross-sectoral dialogues continue to be held with various Federal, White Nile State and community stakeholders in order to promote multi-level collaborative governance. These dialogue sessions have provided platforms for enhancing coordination, institutional linkages, planning and integration of EbA across sectors (agriculture, livestock, water, forestry, food security and energy).
Volatile political situation in Sudan could lead to government shifts or	All outcome	M	L	H	M	L		L	H	↑	The volatile political situation in Sudan has now escalated to a full blown fighting between rival military factions that started on Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 in Khartoum and some other parts of Sudan. In the affected areas including the

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<p>disruption of project activities.</p> <p>(CEO Endorsement/PRODOC)</p>	<p>s &amp; outputs</p>										<p>capital Khartoum, the intense clashes between rival military forces have negatively affected service delivery in both public and private sector, led to loss of lives and livelihoods, forced displacement of people, damage to infrastructure and properties in the affected areas. This includes total disruption in the operations of the Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources (HCENR) which is the executing entity of Sudan EbA project. As a result, Sudan EbA project operations including implementation of project interventions have completely been halted. This is expected to have devastating impacts on the delivery of project outputs, outcomes and objective in the immediate, medium and long term depending on how long the fighting continues or escalates to areas where Sudan EbA project is being implemented.</p> <p>However, It is important to note that the White Nile State has continued to remain calm and peaceful although with significant disruption in service delivery. Notably, there has been a high influx of internally displaced people in White Nile State urban centers that are coming from Khartoum and other affected parts of Sudan. Given the volatility of the situation, stakeholders in White Nile State including government agencies and staff have shifted their focus towards their security and safety despite being committed and supportive towards implementation of the project.</p>
<p>National financial instability undermining investments in adaptation.</p> <p>(CEO Endorsement/PRODOC)</p>	<p>All outcomes &amp; outputs</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>M</p>		<p>M</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>↑</p>	<p>The political instability since 2018 and the impacts of COVID-19 rocking Sudan have led to mounting economic turbulence leading to national financial instability. The situation has now been compounded further by the outbreak of fighting between rival military factions that started on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 that has further caused disruptions in service delivery with significant impact on the national economy.</p> <p>The current situation in Sudan is therefore expected to further undermine investments in adaptation since the government will shift its focus to peace, security and reconstruction thus undermining investments in adaptation. Additionally, mainstreaming of EbA into national development policy frameworks and budgets cannot be undertaken until normalcy returns and this will negatively impact on the sustainability of EbA interventions upon closure of Sudan EbA project.</p>
<p>Trained, qualified engineers/ technicians leave for more lucrative positions (“brain drain”) resulting in limited sustainability of requisite human resources and</p>	<p>All outcomes &amp; outputs</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>S</p>		<p>M</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>=</p>	<p>At the moment, it is still uncertain how the outbreak of fighting between rival military factions in Sudan will affect the rate of staff turnover especially in federal institutions and state level administrations. However, the high rate of displacement of people residing in the capital (Khartoum) will definitely have prolonged impacts on the functioning of government institutions and the availability of trained/qualified technical experts.</p>

technical/operational capacities.  (CEO Endorsement/PRODOC)											Luckily, if White Nile State continues to remain peaceful and calm, technical staffs in the state administration are expected to remain intact thus helping to mitigate the potential risk of high rate of staff turnover responsible for providing technical support to the implementation of project interventions once normalcy returns in Sudan.
Current climate and seasonal variability and/or hazard events prevent implementation of planned activities.  (CEO Endorsement/PRODOC)	Outcome 2	M	S	M	M	L		M	L	↓	During the reporting period, there has been minimal variability in the seasonal weather and therefore no impact on the implementation of project interventions.  However, it is important to note that the frequency of extreme weather events (floods and droughts) and seasonal variability of rainfall occurring in White Nile State has been increasing in the previous seasons thus negatively affecting the scheduling and execution of project interventions. For instance, the floods that occurred in 2020 affected the project sites in Alrawat cluster of villages thus halting implementation of project interventions as communities mainly focussed on saving lives and properties as well as reconstruction of destroyed infrastructure and farmlands. Similar seasonal variability events in 2021 related to delays in the onset and early cessation of rainfall season affected implementation of EbA interventions thus posing the risk of delays and negatively affecting the scheduling and execution of project interventions.
Communities do not support interventions and do not adopt ecosystem management activities for adaptation during or after the LDCF3 project because of limited immediate benefits of EbA.  (CEO Endorsement/PRODOC)	Outcome 2	M	-	L	L	L		L	L	=	Communities targeted by the Sudan EbA project have continued to support the project interventions with a total of 8,389 households (43% women/women headed households) in 43 targeted villages having adopted climate resilient technologies/practices for improved agricultural productivity and access to water in White Nile State. This can mainly be attributed to the extensive consultations that continue to be held with beneficiary communities through VDCs and sub-committees (with at least 30% women participation) as well as local leaders (village elders including women, religious and government representatives) during planning and implementation of EbA intervention measures. Community adaptation needs and aspirations are also considered during the process of setting priority EbA measures that are implemented in their localities through community representation at the White Nile State Committee. This includes activities that aim to enhance local livelihoods while restoring, conserving and ensuring sustainable supply of ecosystem services as well as other co-benefits in their localities.  Community mobilization, awareness raising and training of local communities at each project intervention site on EbA concept and technologies/practices continue to be undertaken across the project sites.
Priority interventions implemented are not found to be cost effective.	Outcome 2	L	-	-	L	L		L	L	=	So far, priority EbA interventions implemented have followed a 'no regret approach' to restore and conserve ecological structure and functioning in order to ensure sustainable supply of biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of

(CEO Endorsement/PRODOC)											<p>an overall adaptation strategy to help human and natural systems in WNS to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.</p> <p>However, a cost-effectiveness of EbA measures implemented in Sudan is in the pipeline to be conducted and a methodology and data collection protocols have been developed. The outcome of the assessment is expected to demonstrate evidence of EbA as an effective adaptation strategy that generates livelihood benefits for local communities. Proving the cost effectiveness of these measures is essential to making the case for EbA to stakeholders, ranging from local communities and planners to national level decision-makers and donors.</p>
<p>Conflicts between farmers and pastoralists such as uncontrolled nomadic settlements, continuous cultivation and illegal tractor use due to non-transparent, unequitable and unjust resource allocation.</p> <p>(CEO Endorsement/PRODOC)</p>	Outcome 2	H	-	M	M	L		L	L	=	<p>During design of EbA measures, land use planning (identification/mapping of sites for piloting specific EbA measures) is done in liaison with communities through VDCs, Sub-committees and local leaders (village elders, religious leader and respective government agencies representatives). This has helped to mitigate conflicts by various land use actors. Additionally, EbA measures being piloted are also aimed at reducing climate change vulnerabilities that affect both rain-fed farmers and pastoralists. These measures include: restoration of critical ecosystem services provided by rangelands, forest and water resources; investment in climate resilient agricultural land management practices; diversification of livelihoods and energy efficiency. Sensitization of local communities on the benefits of restoring natural ecosystems for purposes of enhancing their adaptive capacity to the impacts of climate change has also been going on.</p>
<p>Use of the revolving fund for purposes other than those supporting EbA.</p> <p>(CEO Endorsement/PRODOC)</p>	Output 2.4 of outcome 2	L	-	-	L	L		L	L	=	<p>The Project Steering Committee has guided that revolving fund be channeled through an established microfinance institutions that will be responsible for oversight and management of the kitty in order to ensure that fund utilized for supporting EbA measures as envisaged in the project document. However, the established community level governance structures (Village Development Committees and sub-committees - with at least 30% female) that have now been registered with Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) in order to allow them become legal entities will actively be involved in the management of the revolving funds. Members of the VDCs have now been trained on the design, establishment and operationalization of revolving funds.</p> <p>These VDCs will act as guarantees and monitor beneficiaries of revolving funds are utilizing them to implement EbA interventions such as drought-resistant seeds, animal feed supplements, implements to support climate resilient farming e.g. solar pumps for wells, purchase animal drawn ploughs, agrochemicals for animals and crops, improved cookstoves etc.</p>

<p>Health and safety risks due to water mobilization care for animals, cookstove use.  (CEO Endorsement/PRODOC)</p>	<p>Outcome 2</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>=</p> <p>To ensure safety, all constructed/rehabilitated water harvesting infrastructure (earth dams, boreholes, surface wells and ponds) have been secured through fencing in order to minimize pollution from animal and local communities fetching water. Solar powered pumping systems and elevated water tanks have also been installed in order and provide safe water collection points and mitigate the risk of drowning of children and animals. The Water Users Associations (with at least 30% women) that have been established have also been mandated to manage the water infrastructure and ensure safety of water users and animals.</p> <p>In collaboration with the Department of Drinking Water department of the Ministry of Water, Water User Associations (WUAs) members are scheduled to be trained on water-borne diseases and proper hygiene including provision of medical kits with prophylactics. Additionally, Agricultural Research Corporation is piloting the use of Integrated Pest Management techniques in order to minimize application of synthetic agrochemicals that pollute the environment.</p> <p>Furthermore, all beneficiaries have received training on how to operate the improved cookstoves in order to avoid injuries. Testimonies from beneficiaries indicate that the cookstove is highly fuel efficient and produces less smoke and therefore better indoor air quality with health benefits to women and girls who are responsible for food preparation.</p>
<p>Delays to signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) between HCENR and other relevant institutions supporting implementation of Sudan EbA project interventions.  (PIR 2019)</p>	<p>All outputs of Outcome 2</p>	<p>NE W</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>S</p>	<p>S</p>	<p>S</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>↓</p>	<p>All MoUs between executing agency (HCENR) and other relevant institutions supporting implementation of Sudan EbA project have now been signed. These include MoU between HCENR and the following institutions: White Nile State Water Corporation, Agricultural Research Corporation and National Center for Research. For collaboration with ministries of White Nile State, already partnership and working modalities had been agreed upon in the previous reporting periods.</p> <p>However, execution of project interventions by the partner institutions that have signed the MoUs is still being affected by the bureaucratic procurement process and high turnover of senior officials in government institutions, political instability affecting Sudan as well as runaway inflation that is leading to skyrocketing prices of goods and services. As a result, a lot of time is spent on engagement forums between the project team and partner institutions in an effort to find solutions to aforementioned challenges. This is stifling efforts to fast track implementation of project interventions.</p>
<p>Lengthy and bureaucratic procurement process leading to delays in the recruitment of national</p>	<p>Outcomes 1 and 3</p>	<p>NE W</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>S</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>=</p>	<p>Sudan EbA project operations and procurement processes adhere to the formal procurement system and guidelines of the Government of Sudan as circulated by the Ministry of Finance and National Economy (MOFNE). These guidelines specify the processes to be followed including the approval ceiling by the</p>

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<p>consultants to undertake specific project tasks.  (PIR 2019)</p>										<p>various authorities (e.g. Undersecretary, General Secretary, Director General and Directors.). Notably, most of the Sudan EbA project procurement needs including services provided by partner institutions are beyond the ceiling of the Secretary General of HCENR. As a result, items to be procured by the project require clearance by the Ministry of Finance and National Economy as well as Ministry of Justice. This approval process is lengthy and leads to a lot of delays thus affecting the implementation schedule of the project interventions.</p> <p>The aforementioned situation is further compounded by the inadequate capacity of (in terms of personnel and expertise) in the procurement unit of the Sudan EbA project executing entity (HCENR). This has resulted to delays in the procurement of goods and services therefore affecting the overall performance of the Sudan EbA project.</p>
<p>Rising inflation rates in Sudan increasing cost of goods and services as compared with the project budget.  (PIR 2019)</p>	All outcomes & outputs	NE W	N/A	N/A	S	H		L	S	<p>=</p> <p>Sudan has continued to face record inflation rates, amid a sharp devaluation of the Sudanese pound against the US dollar. According to Worldbank data, Sudan inflation rate rose by 382% between 2019 to Dec 2021. This has caused a significant increase in the cost of goods and services thus leading to cost overruns in certain project budgets. As a result, budget revisions have had to be made on yearly basis in order to accommodate the rising costs of goods and services. Notably, the continued rise in inflation rate has the potential to lower the purchasing power of the project thus requiring downscaling of some project interventions and this may threaten the achievement of the project outputs and consequently the outcome and objective.</p>
<p>COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions affecting the project to undertake project activities &amp; achieve project outputs and outcomes within original project timelines.  (PIR 2020)</p>	All outcomes & outputs	NE W	N/A	N/A	S	S		L	L	<p>=</p> <p>The rate of COVID-19 infections has significantly reduced and Sudan has eased the restrictions thus implementation of implementation of project interventions can continue while adhering to the laid down ministry of health protocols/advisories in Sudan.</p>
<p>Management structure – Roles and responsibilities Human resources management decisions made breache the laid down policy and procedures posing a risk on the project staffing and performance that negatively affect project</p>	All outcomes & outputs	NE W	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	M	<p>The management structure including the roles and responsibilities of the entire project team is clearly defined and well understood. However, there have been instances when human resource management decisions made have breached the laid down policy and procedures posing a moderate likelihood of potential negative impact on the project staffing and performance. For instance the recent non-renewal of the contracts of National Project Manager and White Nile State Coordinator resulted to reduced human resources to support execution of project interventions and this affected project delivery. Similarly, it resulted to protracted legal battles in labour courts between the affected staff and the</p>

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delivery due to understaffing.											project executing entity. This diverts the attention of the available team further affecting project delivery.  To mitigate this issue, the executing entity had to second two staff to replace those whose contracts were not renewed. On the other hand, UNEP and the implementing entity have also agreed that all decisions made should adhere to the laid down policies and procedures in order to avoid unnecessary court cases that can result to compensation being awarded to the affected staff thus causing significant budgetary implication to the project.
Implementation schedule Delays in the execution of project interventions has substantially affected the original project timelines and delivery	All outcomes & outputs	NE W	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	S		Implementation of Sudan EbA project interventions has faced delays that have caused substantial effect on the original project timelines and scheduling of project interventions and delivery. Although, adaptive management to fast-track execution of project interventions have been put in place, some of the issues affecting the project have been beyond the project team e.g. political turmoil in Sudan since 2018, the revolution of 2019 and the recent outbreak of fighting between rival military forces as well as COVID-19 pandemic.
Budget There is a risk of cost overruns especially PMU costs due to project extension occasioned by delays in the execution of project interventions	All outcomes & outputs	NE W	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	M		So far, minor budget reallocation with no changes beyond the margins of 10% across the different components has been done. The project faced delays and a two year no-cost extension was granted and completion is due on 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023. However, the outbreak of fighting between rival military factions in Sudan that started on 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 has halted project operations and there is a risk that project implementation period may need to be extended yet allocation for the PMC is exhausted and may have to go beyond the allowable ceiling since no co-finance is expected to materialize under the current situation in Sudan.
Capacity to deliver  Capacity to deliver is an emerging risk occasioned by challenges with procurement as well as national adaptation and economics consultant availability and engagement that has affected project implementation schedule	All outcomes & outputs	NE W	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	M		Procurement has remains a key bottleneck in the execution of Sudan EbA project interventions. This mainly due to inadequate capacity in HCENR (in terms of personnel and expertise in procurement) that has resulted to delays in the procurement of goods and services therefore affecting the overall performance of the Sudan EbA project. Additionally, the National adaptation and economics consultant has been unavailable and difficult to engage and deliver the outputs outlined in his contract. As a result, HCENR has been forced to terminate his contract and initiated the process of recruiting a replacement. However, the outbreak of fighting between rival military factions in Sudan that started on 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 has halted operations in HCENR thus stopping the procurement process. This means that the project will continue to face the risk related to capacity to deliver project outputs related to the national adaptation and economic consultancy until such a time the situation allows finalization of the recruitment process to be completed.
Consolidated project risk			M	M	M	M		M	H	↑	Consolidated project risk rating has been raised to <b>High</b> . Of the 19 risks, four have been rated High; five risks have been rated Medium, three have been

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											<p>rated Significant while seven risks have been rated Low. Notably, some of these risks are caused by external factors that are beyond the control of the project such as runaway inflation rate and depreciation of Sudanese pound against the dollar, the global COVID 19 pandemic and the volatile political situation that led to the 2019 revolution and has now escalated to full blown fighting between rival military factions that started on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Unfortunately, the fighting has significantly affected the functioning of key government institutions including the executing entity of Sudan EbA project. Consequently execution of project interventions has been suspended and this is expected to significantly affect the full delivery of project outputs, outcomes and objective in the immediate, medium and long term depending on how long the fighting continues or escalates to areas where Sudan EbA project is being implemented.</p>
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**Table B.** Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIR <sub>t-1</sub> , MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	Additional mitigation measures for the next periods		
			What	When	By whom
<p>Volatile political situation in Sudan could lead to government shifts or disruption of project activities.</p>	<p>Although there has been political turmoil in Sudan that started in 2018 that resulted in a revolution in 2019, the project still continued to be implemented since government institutions were still functioning.</p> <p>To mitigate the volatile political situation in Sudan, efforts to strengthen advocacy efforts on long- and medium-term economic benefits on integration of adaptation options into national budgets among policymakers were undertaken. For instance, senior government officials from key ministries e.g. Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Ministry of Agriculture among others were included as part of the Project Steering Committee and the White Nile State Technical Committee. The senior government officials have also been attending strategic project related meetings during which the concept of ecosystem-based adaptation and the</p>	<p>HCENR senior management and the project team has continued to hold high level engagements with senior government officials from key ministries e.g. Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Ministry of Agriculture among others in order to achieve high level political support from the variety of government agencies that are playing a critical role during the implementation of the project. During these meetings, the concept of ecosystem based adaptation as well as opportunities for collaboration; networking and partnership building including co-financing elements are deliberated.</p> <p>Additionally, senior government officials from key ministries e.g. Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Ministry of Agriculture among others have continued to be part of the Project Steering Committee and the White Nile State Technical Committee thus providing strategic guidance on planning</p>	<p>The outbreak of fighting between rival military factions on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 has presented a new dimension of volatile political situation in Sudan. As a result of the impact the fighting has had on the functioning of government institutions including HCENR (executing entity of Sudan EbA Project), project operations have been disrupted thus halting implementation of project activities. Consequently, UNEP has initiated discussions with HCENR with a view to suspend project implementation until such a time when the situation may allow or when project will be terminated.</p> <p>Subject to the resumption of the implementation of the project, the following additional mitigation measures will be implemented to address the risks listed in this table:</p>	<p>Immediate</p>	<p>UNEP and Senior HCENR Management</p>



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	<p>need to support the mainstreaming of adaptation options into national and White Nile State planning and budgetary processes have been discussed.</p> <p>In collaboration with relevant government institutions, the project engaged private sector players in implementation of EbA interventions thus providing an opportunity to tap into private sector resources.</p>	<p>and budgeting of Sudan EbA project interventions.</p> <p>In collaboration with relevant government institutions, the project is also engaging private sector players in implementation of project activities e.g. supply of tree seedlings and improved seeds; and preparation of demonstration farms. This has helped to actively engage the private sector players in exploring economic opportunities that can be tapped during implementation of EbA approaches.</p>	<p>i. HCENR will strengthen advocacy and awareness-raising among the decision-makers on long- and medium-term economic benefits on integration of adaptation options into national budgets and communicate these to policymakers throughout.</p> <p>ii. Continuation of high level engagement with senior government officials with senior government officials from key ministries in order to achieve high level political support.</p>		
<p>National financial instability undermining investments in adaptation</p>	<p>So far, efforts to strengthen advocacy efforts on long- and medium-term economic benefits on integration of adaptation options into national budgets among policymakers are on-going. For instance, senior government officials from key ministries e.g. Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Ministry of Agriculture among others have been included as part of the Project Steering Committee and the White Nile State Technical Committee. The senior government officials have also been attending strategic project related meetings during which the concept of ecosystem-based adaptation and the need to support the mainstreaming of adaptation options into national and White Nile State planning and budgetary processes have been discussed.</p> <p>The project team has undertaken necessary strategies to address the high inflation caused by pressures from the wider economy in Sudan and global markets. Some of the strategy include: procuring items in bulk and leveraging co-finance from partners to meet budget shortfalls.</p>	<p>HCENR senior management and the project team has continued to hold high level engagements with senior government officials from key ministries e.g. Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Ministry of Agriculture among others in order to achieve high level political support from the variety of government agencies that are playing a critical role during the implementation of the project. During these meetings, the concept of ecosystem based adaptation as well as opportunities for collaboration; networking and partnership building including co-financing elements are deliberated.</p> <p>Additionally, senior government officials from key ministries e.g. Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Ministry of Agriculture among others have continued to be part of the Project Steering Committee and the White Nile State Technical Committee thus providing strategic guidance on planning and budgeting of Sudan EbA project interventions.</p> <p>In collaboration with relevant government institutions, the project is also engaging private sector players in implementation</p>	<p>iii. The International and National Adaptation Intervention and Policy Experts are expected to complete the stocktaking of existing national and White Nile State Policies to identify entry points for mainstreaming EbA in national and subnational policies, strategies, budgets and development frameworks. Upon completion of the stocktaking exercise, policy briefs and technical guidelines will be produced to guide the integration of climate change adaptation interventions – including EbA – into cross-sectoral plans.</p> <p>iv. The project team will also continue to undertake necessary strategies to address the high inflation caused by pressures from the wider economy in Sudan and global markets. Some of the strategy include: procuring items in bulk and leveraging co-finance from partners to meet budget shortfalls.</p> <p>v. HCENR will also ensure senior officials and technical staffs from all line ministries and agencies</p>	<p>Continuous but subject to cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions and the resumption of the implementation of project interventions</p> <p>Upon cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions and the resumption of the implementation of project interventions</p>	<p>Government Coordinator and HCENR SG</p> <p>UNEP Sudan, UNEP CCAU, International and National Adaptation Intervention and Policy Experts as well as Project Team subject to resumption of the implementation of Project interventions</p>

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	In collaboration with relevant government institutions, the project is also engaging private sector players in implementation of EbA interventions thus providing an opportunity to tap into private sector resources.	of project activities e.g. supply of tree seedlings and improved seeds; and preparation of demonstration farms. This has helped to actively engage the private sector players in exploring economic opportunities that can be tapped during implementation of EbA approaches.	are included in the trainings provided under Sudan EbA project. This will enhance the capacity of the institutions supporting implementation of Sudan EbA project.		
Trained, qualified engineers/technicians leave for more lucrative positions ("brain drain") resulting in limited sustainability of requisite human resources and technical/operational capacities.	Capacity building initiatives including trainings have targeted staff of the government agencies/ministries (especially those with long term contracts and that will stay in their respective institutions for more than 2 years as per Sudanese law), civil society, private sector and local communities that are custodians of the EbA measures. This will reinforce their technical capabilities in mainstreaming and supporting implementation of EbA measures thus strengthening motivation and career development and contributing to sustainability.  Collaboration and partnerships between HCENR and relevant government agencies have allowed government officials that possess necessary skills and knowledge to provide technical support during implementation of project activities. Providing opportunities to officials to apply their skills and knowledge contributes to ensuring motivation and interest in their jobs and prospects for career development in Sudan.	The project team has been holding strategic meetings and providing regular updates to the newly appointed officials on the progress of project implementation while inviting them to participate in field visits and White Nile State Technical Committee meetings. This has significantly contributed to political buy-in and ensured high level political support in the implementation of Sudan EbA project.  Signing of Memorandum of understanding (MoUs) between HCENR and relevant government agencies has also been finalized thus formalizing collaboration and partnerships. This has allowed the project to tap into existing capacities and skills of government institutions and staff during implementation of project activities.	vi. HCENR and White Nile State Technical Committee will continue to proactively review the specific climate change vulnerabilities and risks (both existing and predicted) in each of the target communities in order to enhance planning and implementation of project interventions in the face of climatic uncertainty.  vii. Procurement of inputs e.g. improved crop seeds and tree seedlings will continue to be procured from certified sources.  viii. HCENR will ensure close follow up with partner institutions that have signed MoUs with HCENR in order to ensure quality and timely implementation of Sudan EbA interventions.  ix. HCENR will continue to actively engage White Nile State officials of relevant ministries in order to ensure timely procurement of required goods/services for the implementation of project interventions.	Upon cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions and the resumption of the implementation of project interventions	National Project Manager
Current climate and seasonal variability and/or hazard events prevent implementation of planned activities.	Intervention sites have been mapped to establish the extent to which they are vulnerable to specific natural hazards. The vulnerability assessment that was carried in 2019/2020 helped to identify vulnerable sites that are at risk of being affected by extreme weather	The project team and White Nile State Technical Committee has continued to proactively review the specific climate change vulnerabilities and risks (both existing and predicted) in each of the target communities in order to enhance planning and implementation of project interventions in the face of climatic	x. Government Coordinator will follow up with the special procurement committee to ensure that procurement of goods and services required by Sudan EbA project are finalized	Continuous but subject to cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions and	Project team and White Nile State Technical Committee

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	events e.g. floods. The report therefore recommended adaptation and EbA interventions that are suitable for each of the project site based on current and project climate change and variability.	uncertainty. For instance, guided by the recently conducted Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment, appropriate project interventions for specific project sites were reviewed and approved by the State Technical Committee. Furthermore, the project team is also sourcing improved crop seeds certified by Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC) and that are more tolerant to drought and fast maturing. With support of Forest National Corporation, flood and drought tolerant tree varieties are also being planted in flood zones. Demonstration sites affected by flooding have also been relocated to areas that are less likely to be affected by floods.	<p>xi. in a timely manner as indicated the procurement plan. HCENR designated staff and UNEP Sudan will constantly monitor market trends of the required goods and services in order to ensure a pragmatic approach is applied during planning and budgeting to avoid cost overruns.</p> <p>xii. HCENR senior management, UNEP Sudan, and UNEP CCAU will continue lobbying government ministries/ agencies that are partners in the implementation of Sudan EbA project to meet their part of co-financing commitment.</p>	the resumption of the implementation of project interventions	
Delays to signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) between HCENR and other relevant institutions supporting implementation of Sudan EbA project interventions in WNS	The newly appointed HCENR Secretary General has committed to fast-track the signing of MoUs between executing agency (HCENR) and other relevant institutions supporting implementation of Sudan EbA project interventions. The Secretary General has instructed HCENR legal team to guide the process of finalizing the MoUs in readiness for signing without further delay.	All MoUs between executing agency (HCENR) and other relevant institutions supporting implementation of Sudan EbA project have been signed. These include MoU between HCENR and the following institutions: White Nile State Water Corporation, Agricultural Research Corporation and National Center for Research that were signed during the current reporting period. For collaboration with ministries of White Nile State and HCENR, already partnership and working modalities had been agreed upon in the previous reporting periods.	<p>iii. , HCENR designated staff will continue to support the project and ensure linkages are established in order to create synergies on policy work between Sudan EbA project and other on-going initiatives such as the NAP review process in Sudan.</p> <p>iv. The executing entity will continue to partner with relevant government institutions as well as contracting private sector players that can assist to fast track execution of pending project interventions</p>	Upon cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions and the resumption of the implementation of project interventions	Government Coordinator and HCENR SG
Lengthy and bureaucratic procurement process leading to delays in the recruitment of national consultants to undertake specific project tasks	The newly appointed HCENR Secretary General has reviewed the procurement process of the national consultant and has initiated negotiations with the successful candidate to allow the signing of the contract without further delay.  The project has also provided financial support to strengthen the procurement systems of the executing agency	The project team is actively engaging White Nile State officials of relevant ministries in order to ensure timely procurement of required goods/services for the implementation of project interventions.  The executing agency has also set up a special procurement committee headed by a senior management official that is specifically focussing on supporting the	<p>xv. The project team will undertake a budget revision if necessary upon resumption of implementation of the project interventions</p> <p>xvi. UNEP CCAU will continue to actively engage the White Nile State officials of relevant</p>	Continuous but subject to cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions and the resumption of the	Government Coordinator and HCENR SG

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	through training to boost the technical expertise of the procurement unit personnel.	procurement processes of Sudan EbA project.	ministries in order to ensure timely procurement of required goods/services for the implementation of project interventions.	implementation of project interventions	
Rising inflation rates in Sudan increasing cost of goods and services as compared with the project budget.	Regular monitoring of the price of required goods/services in order to ensure a pragmatic approach is applied during planning and budgeting of project activities to avoid cost overruns.	The project team continues to monitor market trends of the required goods and services in order to ensure a pragmatic approach is applied during planning and budgeting to avoid cost overruns and align with UNEP/GEF financial guidelines.  Government ministries/ agencies partnering with Sudan EbA project have also continued to provide co-financing during implementation of Sudan EbA project thus easing the pressure of the high inflation rate that was being experienced in Sudan.	vii. The executing entity will also complete the recruitment of the new national adaptation and economics consultant while undertaking a thorough due diligence (background check) in order to ensure the recruited consultant will deliver outlined outputs in a timely manner.	Continuous but subject to cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions and the resumption of the implementation of project interventions	Government Coordinator,  UNEP Sudan, and UNEP CCAU
Management structure – Roles and responsibilities	In 2021, the executing entity amended the contracts and terms of references of the core project team in order to align them to the HCENR human resources guidelines and ensure that remunerations is pegged to deliverables in order ensure project delivery is achieved within the stipulated timeframe. Some of the key changes included the conversion of staff contracts from permanent contracts to consultancies where payment is based on deliverables. Furthermore, this helped to clarify roles and responsibilities in order to eliminate overlaps.	During the current reporting period, the executing entity has nominated two personnel to support execution of project interventions. This was meant to address the capacity gap in the project. The nominated staffs have been supporting to establish linkages and create synergies on policy work between Sudan EbA project and other on-going initiatives such as the NAP review process that is currently on going in Sudan.  The nominated staffs are also meant to fill the gap created by the failure by the National Economic and Adaptation Policy expert to deliver thus leading to termination of his contract.		Upon cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions and the resumption of the implementation of project interventions	HCENR senior management, Government Coordinator, Designated project staff
Implementation schedule (Implementation schedule Delays in the execution of project interventions has	To fast track implementation of project interventions, the executing entity has partnered with relevant government institutions and the private sector players to support in the implementation of project interventions. As a result, the project	The senior management officials of the executing entity (HCENR) have taken a keen interest and have been monitoring very closely in order to ensure that bottlenecks that slow down the place of implementation of project activities are addressed in a timely manner and that		Upon cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government	HNCER Senior Management, Project partners and private sector players

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<p>substantially affected the original project timelines and delivery)</p>	<p>has been able to tap in the existing capacities and resources that have enabled timely achievement of key outputs within the stipulated timeframe.</p> <p>Additionally, through partnerships and collaboration, institutions with co-finance commitments have been able to meet part of their obligations.</p>	<p>the implementation schedule is adhered to. On the same note, the project steering committee agreed to increase the frequency of its meetings to from semi-annual to quarterly basis so that to ensure that enhance their oversight role in providing strategic guidance that help to fast-track execution of project interventions in line with agreed timeframe.</p> <p>The executing entity has continued to partner with relevant government institutions and the private sector players to support in the implementation of project interventions. Some of the procurement is also being handled in White Nile State this fast tracking the process of selecting suppliers of goods and services to support execution of project activities. Focus has also now shifted to mainly contract private sector players that are more efficient and are able to undertake project interventions on reimbursement basis thus reducing the time it takes to verify financial reports when the project engages partners by providing advance payment before activities are implemented.</p>		<p>functions and the resumption of the implementation of project interventions</p>	
<p>Budget (There is a risk of cost overruns especially PMU costs due to project extension occasioned by delays in the execution of project interventions Capacity to deliver)</p>	<p>Since project inception, project budget has been reviewed on semi-annual basis and there has been for instances when some budget lines have been found to have shortfall thus necessitating minor budget reallocation with no changes beyond the margins of 10% across the different components.</p> <p>Furthermore, the project had a prolonged inception phase that led to delays in execution of project interventions, As a result, execution of a two year no-cost extension was requested and granted thus extending</p>	<p>With the completion date expected to be 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023, the executing entity senior management and the project steering committee has been closely monitoring the project delivery in order to ensure timely completion of project interventions. The project now has monthly, quarterly and annual plans with budget execution targets. However, the project continues to face delays due to factors beyond the project team such as the recent the outbreak of fighting between rival military factions in Sudan that started on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 that has halted project operations. As a result,</p>		<p>Upon cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions and the resumption of the implementation of project interventions</p>	<p>Government Coordinator CTA, HCENR Secretary General, UNEP Task Manager, Project Steering Committee</p>

	the projection completion date from 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023. Similarly, a budget reallocation was done but with no changes beyond the margins of 10% across the different components.	there is a risk that project implementation period may need to be extended yet again thus necessitating another budget revision.			
Capacity to deliver (Capacity to deliver is an emerging risk occasioned by challenges with procurement as well as national adaptation and economics consultant availability and engagement that has affected project implementation schedule)	The project has also provided financial support to strengthen the procurement systems of the executing agency through training to boost the technical expertise of the procurement unit personnel.	<p>The project team is actively engaging White Nile State officials of relevant ministries in order to ensure timely procurement of required goods/services for the implementation of project interventions.</p> <p>The executing agency has also set up a special procurement committee headed by a senior management official that is specifically focussing on supporting the procurement processes of Sudan EbA project.</p> <p>To address, the issue of the issue of non-availability and failure to deliver the outputs by the national adaptation and economics consultant, the executing entity has terminated his contract and initiated the process of recruiting a replacement.</p>		Upon cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions and the resumption of the implementation of project interventions	HCENR Secretary General, Government Coordinator, HCENR designated staff, UNEP CCAU

**High Risk (H):** There is a probability of greater than 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.  
**Significant Risk (S):** There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.  
**Moderate Risk (M):** There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.  
**Low Risk (L):** There is a probability of up to 25% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

### Project Minor Amendments

*Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines.*

*Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate.*

To be completed by Task Managers

### 5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Results framework                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor project objective change             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Components and cost                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguards                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional and implementation arrangements | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk analysis                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial management                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase of GEF project financing up to 5% |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation schedule            | <input type="checkbox"/> Co-financing                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Executing Entity                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Location of project activity               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Executing Entity Category                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                      |

[\[Annex document linked to reported minor amendment\]](#)

<b>Minor amendments</b>	<p>The planned project completion date was originally 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. However, implementation schedule of project interventions lagged behind due to prolonged inception phase, political turmoil in Sudan since 2019, HCENR procurement related challenges and unanticipated impact of COVID-19 pandemic and associated sanitary and travel restrictions. As a result, a no-cost extension of 24 months was requested and approved by the PSC on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021 in order to allow for completion of all planned project activities and achieve all outputs by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.</p> <p>The outbreak of fighting between rival military factions on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 prevented holding a planned PSC meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023, where an agenda item was a proposed request for a no-cost extension to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 to enable the completion of all project outputs. The ongoing conflict affected HCENR and project operations in Khartoum and White Nile State, and thus making it impossible to complete execution of project interventions by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.</p> <p>Due to the sustained fighting todate, UNEP is recommending to the GEF suspension of the project with the option of resumption subject to conditionalities being met. The conditionalities include: cessation of hostilities and resumption of Federal Government functions as well as resumption of banking services. The suspension documents will be submitted to the GEF Secretariat by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.</p>
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### 5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Original legal instrument	PCA	19/01/2017	19/01/2017	30/06/2021	
Amendment 1	Revision	22/06/2021	22/06/2021	30/06/2023	No-cost time extension with no other changes

Extension 1	Extension				
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### GEO Location Information:

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as [OpenStreetMap](https://www.openstreetmap.org/) or [GeoNames](https://www.geonames.org/) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here](#)

Location Name Required field	Latitude Required field	Longitude Required field	Geo Name ID Required field if the location is not an exact site	Location Description Optional text field	Activity Description Optional text field
Al Washad village (Alsallam locality)	12.19401	32.12761		Rainwater harvesting infrastructure	Excavated a rainwater harvesting earthdam 'haffir' with a capacity of 25,000m <sup>3</sup> of water
Al Washad village (Alsallam locality)	12.18684	32.16490		Land preparation using deep tillage technique	Farmland of 324ha containing clay soil prepared using deep tillage by heavy disking in order to promote in-situ rainwater harvesting and enhanced crop production in Alsallam locality
Um Zureiba village (Tendalti locality)	13.23220	32.43610		Rainwater harvesting infrastructure	Excavated a rainwater harvesting earthdam 'haffir' with a capacity of 25,000m <sup>3</sup> of water
Helba village (Adweim locality)	14.15555	31.41116		Rainwater harvesting infrastructure	Excavated a rainwater harvesting earthdam 'haffir' with a capacity of 90,000m <sup>3</sup> of water
Wad El Belabli village (Tendalti locality)	12.53565	31.49586		Borehole rehabilitation	Rehabilitated a borehole and installed a solar powered water pumping system.
Agdat El-Tair village (Adweim locality)	14.71801	31.42736		Rainwater harvesting infrastructure	Constructed an underground water tank with a capacity of 55m <sup>3</sup>
Selima village (Tendalti locality)	12.59377	32.32869		Rainwater harvesting infrastructure	Excavated a rainwater harvesting earthdam 'haffir' with a capacity of 25,000m <sup>3</sup> of water
Um Zureiba village (Tandelti Locality)	13.35567	32.07780		Two Farmer Field School demo farms (4 hectares)	Demo farm to showcase climate resilient crop production techniques of sesame through application of the 'agricultural package'.
Agaidat el tair (El Dweim Locality)	14.12866	31.69920		One Farmer Field School demo farm (4 hectares)	Demo farm to showcase climate resilient crop production techniques of sesame and millet through application of the 'agricultural package'.
Nafal village (Alsalam Locality)	12.35134	32.22186		One Farmer Field School demo farm (4 hectares)	Demo farm to showcase climate resilient crop production techniques of sorghum through application of the 'agricultural package'.



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Wad Elkut village (Alsalam Locality)	12.28502	32.37484		Integrated pastoral farm (15 ha)	Integrated pastoral demo farm to showcase EbA technologies/practices for rehabilitation and restoration of rangelands in order to repair ecological processes, enhance regeneration of vegetation, increased forage quality and quantity and increase water availability to safeguard livestock productivity.
Um-Zureiba village (Tandelti Locality)	13.348641	32.085918		Integrated pastoral farm (4.2 ha)	Integrated pastoral demo farm to showcase EbA technologies/practices for rehabilitation and restoration of rangelands in order to repair ecological processes, enhance regeneration of vegetation, increased forage quality and quantity and increase water availability to safeguard livestock productivity.
Um-Naam village (Tandelti Locality)	12.99062	31.99976		Integrated pastoral farm (4.2 ha)	Integrated pastoral demo farm to showcase EbA technologies/practices for rehabilitation and restoration of rangelands in order to repair ecological processes, enhance regeneration of vegetation, increased forage quality and quantity and increase water availability to safeguard livestock productivity.
Um-Zureiba village (Tandelti Locality)	13.40631	32.06416		Community forest (41.68 hectares)	Afforestation of community forest using <i>Acacia Nilotica</i> and <i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i>
Tugy village (Alsalam Locality)	12.36461	32.25741		Community forest (50 hectares)	Afforestation of community forest using <i>Acacia Nilotica</i> , <i>Acacia Senegal</i> and <i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i>
Nafal Village (Alsalam Locality)	12.35052	32.22004		Community forest (10.42 hectares)	Afforestation of community forest using <i>Acacia Nilotica</i> and <i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i>
Nafal Village (Alsalam Locality)	12.35119	32.22588		Forest restoration in farms (5 hectares)	Afforestation in farms using <i>Acacia Nilotica</i> and <i>Acacia Senegal</i> .
Abareeg Shen (Gulli Locality)	13.33440	32.35099		Forest restoration in farms (12.5 hectares)	Afforestation in farms using <i>Acacia Nilotica</i> and <i>Acacia Senegal</i> .
Nafal Village (Alsalam Locality)	12.35134	32.22186		Agroforestry demo farm (4.17 hectares)	Agroforestry demonstration to address soil erosion, nutrient restoration and water conservation among other environmental benefits
Abareeg Shen (Gulli Locality)	13.33440	32.35099		Agroforestry demo farm (6.25 hectares)	Agroforestry demonstration to address soil erosion, nutrient restoration and water conservation among other environmental benefits
Um-Zureiba village (Tandelti Locality)	13.35567	32.077805		Agroforestry demo farm (4.17 hectares)	Agroforestry demonstration to address soil erosion, nutrient restoration and water conservation among other environmental benefits
Agaidat el tair village (El Dweim Locality)	14.12866	31.69920		Agroforestry demo farm (4.17 hectares)	Agroforestry demonstration to address soil erosion, nutrient restoration and water conservation among other environmental benefits
Agaidat el tair village (El Dweim Locality)	14.12313	31.70430		Underground water tank (55m <sup>3</sup> )	Installation of rainwater harvesting system through underground water tank for supply of water for domestic purposes and livestock feeding
Elhalba village (El Dweim locality)	14.26498	31.68456		surface wells rehabilitation (3)	Rehabilitation of 3 surface well and installation of solar powered pumping system for supply of water for domestic purposes and livestock feeding

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Wad ElBelabli village (Tandelti Locality)	12.89901	31.83294		Borehole rehabilitation (1)	Rehabilitation of 1 borehole and installation of solar powered pumping system for supply of water for domestic purposes and livestock feeding
Salima village (Tandelti Locality)	12.99402	32.05051		Fencing of earth dam 'haffir' (30,000m <sup>3</sup> )	Fencing of earth dam 'haffir' (30,000m <sup>3</sup> ) for supply of water for domestic purposes and livestock feeding
Um naam village (Tandelti Locality)	12.96932	31.97236		Construction and fencing of earth dam 'haffir' (30,000m <sup>3</sup> )	Construction and fencing of fencing of earth dam 'haffir' (30,000m <sup>3</sup> ) for supply of water for domestic purposes and livestock feeding
Tegy village (Alsalam locality )	12.37733	32.24886		Construction and fencing of earth dam 'haffir' (30,000m <sup>3</sup> )	Construction and fencing of fencing of earth dam 'haffir' (30,000m <sup>3</sup> ) for supply of water for domestic purposes and livestock feeding
Tegy village (Alsalam locality )	12.37733	32.24886		Riparian land restoration	Rehabilitation of riparian land through broadcasting of acacia seeds

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate. \*

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