

Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project -AF

Part I: Project Information
GEF ID
10083
Project Type
FSP
Type of Trust Fund
MTF
CBIT/NGI CBIT NGI
Project Title
Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project -AF
Countries
Sudan
Agency(ies)
World Bank

Other Executing Partner(s):

Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

Multi Focal Area

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Income Generating Activities, Sustainable Forest, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Livelihoods, Sustainable Pasture Management, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Private sector, Community-based adaptation, Innovation, Least Developed Countries, Climate information, Climate resilience, Livelihoods, Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Communications, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Education, Local Communities, Beneficiaries, Type of Engagement, Participation, Consultation, Information Dissemination, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Access and control over natural resources, Access to benefits and services, Capacity Development, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender-sensitive indicators, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Enabling Activities, Learning, Indicators to measure change, Adaptive management, Theory of change

Rio Markers Climate Change MitigationClimate Change Mitigation 0

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 2

Submission Date

5/1/2020

Expected Implementation Start

8/4/2020

Expected Completion Date

11/30/2023

Duration

48In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

563,927

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
LD-1-1	Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain food production and livelihoods through Sustainable Land Management (SLM)	GET	969,880	5,600,000
LD-1-4	Reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses and increase resilience in the wider landscape	GET	399,983	2,000,000
CCA-1	Reduce Vulnerability and increase resilience through innovation and technology transfer for climate change adaptation	LDCF	2,932,420	6,000,000
CCA-2	Mainstream climate change adaptation and resilience for systemic impact	LDCF	1,633,790	4,000,000
	Total P	roinet Cor	>+/¢\	17 600 000

Total Project Cost(\$) 5,936,073 17,600,000

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

Project Objective (PDO): To increase the adoption of sustainable land and water management practices in targeted landscapes. Overarching goal: Reduce environmental degradation and vulnerability of rural poor and marginalized people to climatic impacts in Gedarif and Khartoum. The project will examine policy response measures to address malaria.

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Institutional and Policy Framework (1. a)	Technical Assistance	1.a. Outcomes: - Develop effective inter-agency collaboration mechanisms at the central and state level. - Reduced vulnerability and increased resilience through innovation and technology transfer for climate change adaptation. - Address climate-induced diseases including Malaria by studying and piloting how irrigation and water harvesting facilities can be prevented from becoming larval breeding grounds for mosquitos including the ones causing Malaria.	- Disseminated lessons of implementation through regular incountry events and at South-South knowledge exchanges in the Horn of Africa. - Produced malaria research by the Sudanese scholars, facilitated open discussion and disseminated actionable recommendations on addressing malaria spread. - 8,750 direct beneficiaries from the new/improved climate information systems.	LDC F	500,000	900,000

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Institutional and Policy Framework (1.b)	Technical Assistance	 1.b. Outcomes - Assist communities in preparing and implementing investments under integrated land management and resilience planning. - Manage, monitor and maintain soil and water conservation structures in collaboration with Village Development Committees (VDCs). 	 Trained staff of the implementing agencies to formulate, implement and monitor SLWM activities and to provide extension services. Developed and implemented communication plans for the new states to benefit all stakeholders are designed. Produced Pressure State, Impact Response analysis of land and degradation 	GET	200,000	1,150,000

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2: Community-based Sustainable Management of Rangelands, Forests and Land Degradation (2.a)	Investment	2.a. Outcomes - Enhance community based natural resource management through adopting climate-resilient technologies - Establish and/or strengthen women cooperatives for knowledge sharing, joint marketing and seed bank storage, as well as for honey and fruit production. - Reduced vulnerability and increased resilience through innovation and technology transfer for climate change adaptation	- Support to innovative climate resilient technologies such as: (i) establishing multiple water harvesting structures, including with the application of GHG reduction technologies (solar panels), (ii) strengthening the asset base of rural farmers including natural and financial capital, (iii) increasing the diversity of smallholder farming systems through the promotion of mixed cropping-livestock systems and diversification of crops; (iv) enhancing household food security and wellbeing through the introduction and improvement of home gardens; (v) diversifying access to alternative sources of	LDC F	3,666,210	5,900,000

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2: Community-based Sustainable Management of Rangelands, Forests and Land Degradation (2.b)	Investment	 2.b. Outcomes Prepare integrated land management plans for the rehabilitation of shelterbelts and establishment of wind breaks. Enhance natural resource base by rehabilitating rangelands and reforest reserve forests 	 Integrated NRM plans for Om Seraig reserve (Gadarif) and Sharg Elneel forest reserve and Khartoum shelterbelt. Capacities of local communities to conduct the selected rangeland practices created/enhanced. 	GET	1,029,863	5,600,000
			- Shelter belts for sand dune fixation established, animal migration routes and grazing land rotations demarcated, nurseries for rangeland rehabilitation set up.			
			- Improved SLWM practices established over 57,000 ha of landscapes including 21,950 ha of forests and rangeland restored.			

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 3: Project Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (3. a)	Technical Assistance	 3.a. Outcomes Project coordination in Gadarif and Khartoum, including in fragile and conflict-affected situations Awareness raising and knowledge harvesting and dissemination at the national, subnational and international levels 	M&E system to track project advancement supported.PCU and state PIUs activities are supported.	LDC F	170,000	3,000,000
Component 3: Project Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (3. b)	Technical Assistance	3.b. Outcomes- M&E system is functioning and providing accurate and ontime data	- M&E capacity is built	GET	140,000	850,000
Component 4: Contingency Emergency Response Component	Technical Assistance	Contingency Emergency Response Component (US\$0, only if activated)		GET		
			Sub 1	otal (\$)	5,706,073	17,400,000

Project Management Cost (PMC)

Project Management Cost (PMC)

200,000	230,000	LDCF
200,000	230,000	Sub Total(\$)
17,600,000	5,936,073	Total Project Cost(\$)

C. Sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Government	State of Khartoum	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	3,000,000
Donor Agency	International Fund for Agriculture and Development	Grant	Investment mobilized	14,000,000
Government	Ministry of Finance and National Economy	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	600,000
			Total Co-Financing(\$)	17,600,000

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

- Consultations with the Government of the State of Khartoum about this project helped develop its willingness to contribute to the project. The committed funds will support project activities through seconded specialists, office premises, vehicles and other contributions and their support to public investments. - Continuous coordination with IFAD helped identify Sustainable Natural Resource and Livelihood Program as a relevant operation providing important synergies with SSNRMP is implemented in several states, spending approximately equal amounts of funds in Gadarif and Khartoum. IFAD helps smallholder farmers manage natural resources to better farm their lands and improve their incomes and facilitates introduction of gas stoves as alternative energy sources that also alleviate women's hardships. SNRLP of IFAD is \$63 million and out of this \$14 million will cofinance SSNRMP-AF for the two states where WB GEF project will be implemented - The project has cooperated fruitfully with the Ministry of Finance and National Economy of Sudan for the entire duration of the project since its inception. The committed funds will go to both Gadarif and Khartoum and will support project activities through seconded specialists, office premises, vehicles and other in-kind contributions. In addition, the project is in regular consultations with the relevant partners and donors to ensure effective coordination and harmonization of activities as well as to avoid any potential overlaps among the different interventions. The project is considering lessons learnt from the implementation of other NRM and SLWM projects such as the African Development Bank's Program "Drought Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods Program in the Horn of Africa" which has been implementing in a number of states including Gadrif. Implementation of water management practices will benefit from the recommendations and lessons learnt from the recent UN Environment's report on Integrated Water Resources Management; Good Practices in Sudan. On the wider scope, the project is considering the outputs of DFID's project "ADAPT" which is being implemented by the UN Environment. The different outputs of the ADAPT project (i.e. the Sudan's State of Environment Report and the Environment Background Paper to support Sudan's PRSP) will provide a key guidance to the implementation of SSNRMP Phase 3. - In addition, given the emerging context shaped by the COVID-19 pandemic the project stipulates flexibility to address requests of the Government of Sudan to support activities to fight coronavirus which would be aligned with project's general focus on building up resilience, including on the community level.

D. Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
World Bank	LDCF	Sudan	Climate Change	NA	4,566,210	433,790
World Bank	GET	Sudan	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	1,369,863	130,137
				Total Grant Resources(\$)	5,936,073	563,927

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

				Total Project Costs(\$)	0	0	
Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	
PPG Agen	cy Fee (\$)						
PPG Amou	unt (\$)						
PPG Req	uired						
F. Project P	Preparation Grant (PPG))					

Core Indicators

Indicator 3 Area of land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
12000.00	27650.00	0.00	0.00
Indicator 3.1 Area of degrad	led agricultural land restored		
Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
12,000.00			
Indicator 3.2 Area of Forest	and Forest Land restored		
Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	21,650.00		
Indicator 3.3 Area of natura	l grass and shrublands restored		
Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	6,000.00		
Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlan	ds (incl. estuaries, mangroves) restored		
Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Indicator 4 Area of landscap	pes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected	areas)	
Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
150000.00	29350.00	0.00	0.00
Indicator 4.1 Area of landsc	apes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (he	ectares, qualitative assessment, non-certifi	ed)
Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
150,000.00	29,350.00		
Indicator 4.2 Area of landsc	apes that meets national or international third party certific	ation that incorporates biodiversity consid	lerations (hectares)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Type/Name of Third Party (Certification		
Indicator 4.3 Area of landsc	apes under sustainable land management in production syste	ems	
Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Indicator 4.4 Area of High (Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided		
Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title Submitted

Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	26,000			
Male	39,000			
Total	65000	0	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

Landscapes under improved management practices is a composite indicator to measure the ecosystem enhancements and resilience, which in Phase 3 includes (a) forest areas restored and rehabilitated (15,950 ha), (b) forests gazetted (5,700 ha), (c) rangeland areas rehabilitated (6,000 ha), and (d) areas to which improved land management practices to be extended directly or indirectly as a result of extension program (29,350 ha) to increase productivity through the establishment of demonstration farms based on communities' interest for the type of crop they want to plant and continuous monitoring by the project of the progress in adopting improved practices by participating farmers. According to the LDCF Tracking Tool method, the number of beneficiaries is 52,500 which includes the following groups: (a) 25,000 direct beneficiaries from improved

SLM practices, (b) 5,700 direct beneficiaries from more resilient physical and natural assets; (c) 8,750 direct beneficiaries from the new/improved climate information systems; (d) 5,700 entrepreneurs supported, and (e) 7,350 of direct beneficiaries who participated in planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation of landscape management activities. Cumulatively for three SSNRMP phases – 137,500 direct beneficiaries, of them females 58,435 or 43 percent. All direct beneficiaries are attributed to the LDCF funding as per GEF recommendation. During project implementation of the capacity building and planning activities the project expects to impact more beneficiaries. This will be assessed as the planning process and consultations begin on the ground. For example, number of communities participating will be confirmed during community consultations and number of people actually using the plans or being consulted within the stakeholder groups will become evident during the planning process. These will be updated during the course of the project.

Part II. Project Justification

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.



2. Stakeholders

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Stakeholder engagement is central to the design of this project as it is based around extensive community participation. Key stakeholders were engaged in project preparation through community consultations and through the application of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Management Framework. Annex 2 of the PID and Annex 5 of the Project Paper provides details on the stakeholder consultations conducted during project preparation and defines the key roles and responsibilities as summarized below.

Summary table with information about all project stakeholders

Stakeholder	Roles and Responsibilities
Ministry of Finance (MF)	MF signs a grant agreement with the Bank and an on-granting agreement with MANR to enable project implementation. MF reviews and approves project documents. As a PNSC member, MOF oversees project implementation with other stakeholders. It reviews and considers policy recommendations on future national grassland conservation programs.
Ministry of Agriculture & Natural Resources (MANR)	MANR oversees project implementation, supervises the project jointly with other stakeholders. It reviews and considers policy recommendations of the project on future national and state level natural resources management programs. Leads Steering Committee and Technical Committee at national and state level.
Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources (HCENR)	Serves as GEF focal point to determine country priorities for GEF funding. Oversees the compliance of the projects with international and national environmental regulations.
National Council for Environmental (NCE)	Oversees and coordinates climate change projects. As the formerly SSNRMP host ministry, NCE was closely involved in project preparation of Phases 1 and 2.

Stakeholder	Roles and Responsibilities
World Bank	Administers GEF and LDCF grants and supervises SSNRMP on behalf of the donor, avails technical support on regular basis. Participates in the PNSC as observer.
Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI)	Supports the SSNRMP through BRICKS in term of capacity building in different fields, while promoting among the donors a potential natural resources management project.
Khartoum state Higher Council for Environment & Rural Promotion Gadarif state, and Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources	Coordinate with SSNRMP activities at the state level, members of state steering committees.
Ministry of Production & Economic Resources (MPER)	Overseeing SSNRMP implementation, funding and stakeholders at the state level, MPER actively participates in project preparation. A PNSC member, MPER provides necessary technical support and reviews policy recommendations of the project on future provincial grassland conservation programs.
Forests National Corporation (FNC)	As the lead agency for forestry in Sudan, FNC works closely with MANR and other stakeholders on project implementation. FNC has state branches ensuring close cooperation with all state stakeholders. At the state level, FNC is responsible for executing project's forestry interventions.
General Directorate of Range & Pasture	As members of the PNSC, national and state representatives oversee project implementation, providing state range and pasture administrations with technical support.
Wildlife General Administration	As members of the PNSC, national and state representatives oversee project implementation, providing state range and pasture administrations with technical support.
State Water Corporation (SWC)	Supervises the water supply interventions at state level. SSNRMP has corresponding MOUs with SWC.
Extension & Technology Transfer (ETT)	As part of MPER department, it provides technical support to technical packages for agricultural extensions.
Village Development Committees (VDCs)	VDCs are at the heart of the project and are closely considered during the project preparation. They are educated to carry out project promoted grassland management practices. They represent SSNRMP and are responsible for supervising and implementing project interventions at the community level. VDCs are the corner stone of SSNRMP sustainability.
Relevant National and State Agricultural Research Institutions	Research institutes actively participate in project preparation. They also provide technical advice and inputs to ensure proper implementation of project activities. They help summarize and disseminate project results at the national and international levels.
NGOs	SSNRMP consults with NGOs on similar NRM programs at national and state level. In addition to learning experience from those programs, SSNRMP explores potential cooperation opportunities with this and other NGOs during project implementation.
CSOs	Member of PNSC, they provide necessary support in environmental field. Specifically, they coordinate with SSNRMP various international days and events.
Private sector	Provide and support SSNRMP with necessary civil works, goods and consultancies.

Stakeholder	Roles and Responsibilities
UN Agencies & Development Projects	Coordination, networking and platforms for sharing experiences and knowledge management in natural resources management practices.

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement.

Consultations with communities and other stakeholders will continue throughout project implementation to promote transparency and participation of men and women in decision making as well as sustaining project investments. Citizen engagement as one of the aspects of working with stakeholders will be assessed through a dedicated indicator "Beneficiaries who participated in planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation of landscape management activities".

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only; Yes

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier;

Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body; Yes

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

A gender gap analysis was conducted during preparation and that analysis reveals the enhanced vulnerability of women during men's seasonal labor migration, low level of education, inequity in women's role in decision-making process. Complementarily, a national level consultancy to develop a gender mainstreaming strategy is currently ongoing.

The analysis and recommendations will serve as guidance on how to integrate transformative gender approaches in climate resilient and sustainable land and water management practices and overall climate action. See also attached Annex to this Data sheet.

Gender context and considerations

- 1. Gender inequality in Sudan is manifested in different ways in women's daily lives. Gender roles ascribed to men and women together with unequal gender power relations result in Sudanese women having unequal access and control over productive and natural resources, lower access to education, skills development opportunities and employment relative to men. Women may not enjoy the benefits of their efforts and that of their partners to the same degree as men. Also, women have limited participation in decision making related to issues affecting their wellbeing and that of their families, communities and surrounding environment. Women in Sudan are also the prime victims of climate-induced gender-based violence.
- 2. The World Bank and the Government of Sudan recognize that addressing gender inequality and empowering women is pivotal to effectively and sustainably overcome poverty, generate wealth and sustainably manage natural resources and climate resilient development. The World Bank's ENB portfolio which includes the SSNRMP is thus committed to strengthening its climate resilient and natural resource management interventions by ensuring that all opportunities take into account dimensions of gender which have a bearing on project performance. The REDD+ gender mainstreaming strategy therefore seeks to maximize the possibilities of success of the REDD+ and broader natural resource management (NRM) projects in the Sudan ENB portfolio by providing guidance on how to address common manifestations of gender inequality that limit women's development, their potential to generate wealth for their families, communities and the economy as a whole and their participation in safeguarding natural resources and the environment. The general objective of the strategy is to ensure that gender considerations are routinely included in the assessment of policy issues, options and impacts along with socio-economic dimensions as well, to promote gender equality. Notably, it will
- improve the understanding of gender inequality, including the way in which it manifests itself in the context of and affect the REDD+ and broader NRM projects.
- · identify practical interventions to address common areas of gender inequality to be mainstreamed into the REDD+ program and SLWM programs in the SSNRMP
- identify realistic and measurable monitoring indicators with clear outputs and targets.
- · prepare key information and develop tools and strategies to support the implementation of initiatives as recommended from the study
- · build client capacity
- 3. In 2019, the World Bank launched a national level consultancy to conduct gender analysis and to derive a strategy for mainstreaming gender in REDD+ and overall natural resources and climate resilient development in Sudan. The analysis and recommendations from the Gender mainstreaming Strategy will serve as guidance on how to integrate transformative gender approaches in climate resilient and sustainable land and water management practices and overall climate action. Still in its early preparatory phase, the preliminary messages from this work identify that

- Climate change is a great threat to civilization and one of the most significant challenges of our era and that neither the impacts nor the policies are gender neutral. There are surplus of international goals, policies and agreements to adapt to and mitigate the climate change impacts.
- While vulnerability to climate change is shaped by gender roles, the climate change policies are not gender sensitive.
- The complex interaction between gender, poverty and climate change vulnerability is yet to be properly recognized in policy statements and less so in implementation.
- It's even said that 'climate change experts may experience a level of process exhaustion when they hear the term gender mainstreaming' (Otzelberger, 2011). Hence, there is every possibility that policies may aggravate gender inequalities and intensify women's experience of poverty and marginalization (Demetriades, 2008 and Esplen, 2010).
- The mitigation and adaptation strategies that are followed in different countries to achieve a climate change resilient economy in a sustainable development path need to be met with gender equitable governance. The IPCC recognizes that a person's age class, income group, occupation and gender are correlated with climate change impacts (IPCC, 2001).
- Men and women face their social, economic and environmental reality in different ways; hence climate change does not affect women and men in the same way; as it has a gender-differentiated impact (Aguilar *et al.*, 2007). Women's and men's contribution will also be different and equally important (WEDO and UNFPA, 2009). Climate change adaptation and mitigation solutions including REDD+, must recognize gender-differentiated needs and contributions, hence a need for a gender-sensitive REDD+ process in Sudan
- While REDD+ process provides the opportunity to participate and benefit from climate change mitigation initiatives and help men and women to achieve tenure rights and access to forest resources, challenges remain with gender inequalities that limit or restrict access to productive resources, especially land, and benefits. Resource restricted groups, such as women, do not benefit under REDD+ because they have limited or no property rights. Because of these and other governance issues, it is necessary to include local women, empower and build their capacities to ensure that women participate in all activities related to REDD+; and to contribute to the successes of the national REDD+ strategies.
- At the COP16 in Cancun, women's concerns and demands were voiced and Cancun Agreement in Article 7 states that "gender equality and the effective participation of women and indigenous people are important for effective action on all actions of climate change". A regional analysis regarding women's participation in the REDD+ in Asia says that" REDD+ has the potential to positively affect women's role and status in relation to land ownership and management (USAID, 2011).
- It has been recognized that the REDD+ seems to be as something new and is generating new expectations among communities. However, women highlighted four key priorities that have yet to be integrated into the design of the REDD+ activities: access to agricultural inputs, small grants, trainings in handcrafts and easy access to LPG. On the other hand, men highlighted their key priorities in awareness raising and extension services in order to show the importance of natural resources management, enact laws and implement sanctions very forcefully in order to keep forests intact, improved governance, in addition involvement of local people in management of natural resources and sustainable management of forest resources have been identified as one way to achieve livelihood diversification.

Phase 3 addresses the gender gap through (i) institutional capacity building and policy framework; (ii) community based sustainable management of rangelands, forests and biodiversity; (iii) income generating activities such as, crafts work, backyard vegetables, collection of forest seeds, collection of pasture seeds, selling crops such as ground nuts, melon seeds, and selling vegetables.

Key gender outcome/results indicators in Phase 3 include the following: (i) composition of female participation in the VDCs is 50 percent; (ii) Female-headed household recipients of the livelihood activities is 18 percent; (iii) the target female participation in training programs for extension service providers is 50 percent; (iv) the target female participation in training on formulation, monitoring and implementation of policies for SLWM is 50 percent; (v) project beneficiaries who are women – 45 percent.

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment?

Yes

Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; Yes

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

Does the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

Elaborate on the private sector's engagement in the project, if any.

Since the beginning of SSNRMP, the project has linked public agencies, private sector and financial institutions through workshops, conferences and trainings to exchange perspectives and understand the role of private and public actors in community resilience activities. Component 1's focus on regulatory frameworks and policies has facilitated market entry of climate resilience technologies. Some of these include: (i) solar panels to replace diesel pumps for remote village communities; (ii) gas cylinders to replace firewood for village cooking; (iii) non-forest product marketing to reduce transactional costs to market; and (iv) a piloting of biogas technology in SSNRMP3. The introduction of environmentally sound technologies is encouraging communities to establish further micro-finance capacities and the local private sector to further invest in commercializing these same technologies. Private sector engagement in the context of this project will relate to adopting clean energy technologies and plan for empowering the role of private sector in climate resilient interventions; i.e. SLWM by developing the capacity of the relevant groups, individuals, and companies to implement their natural resources enterprises in a sustainable manner. One of the main responsibilities of the SLM consultant, who will be hired under SSNRMP phase 2, is to identify opportunities for private sector participation and partnership in SLM interventions in the targeted areas, to apply and incorporate them as relevant in the implementation of phase 3. The project will support participation of entrepreneurs in solutions that increase resilience to climate change impacts. The main challenges in this area include limited opportunities for entrepreneurship, lack of enabling environments to devise solutions to address climate change, and limited support for climate innovation activities. To address these gaps, the project will create partnerships with the relevant authorities to open opportunities for entrepreneurship, especially for youth and

benefit from the opportunities of the Sudanese microfinance law. These activities will be monitored through a dedicated indicator "Entrepreneurs supported to enhance climate resilience". Finally, recommendations from a private sector study carried out under the REDD+ Readiness project will provide useful insights for consultations with beneficiary communities to help derive priority climate resilient project activities. The study maps all the major companies in the private sector that are engaged in natural resources activities. This will support the project to identify potential partners and the strategic options for involvement, particularly companies that showed interest and/ or willingness to engage in interventions that promote environmental sustainability.

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

Tables A and B below refer to the AF Results Framework and the supporting Theory of change

Table A: AF Summary of Results Framework

Original Outcome/Output Indicator	Original Target (P129156)	Phase 2 Cumulative Target (P161304)	Phase 3 Cumulative Target (P169003)	Phase 3 Specific Target (P169003)	Revisions for Phase 3
PDO: To increase the adoption of sustainable land and water management (SLWM) practices in targeted landscapes.					No change
PDO/CRI Indicator 1. Land area under sustainable landscape management practices (ha)	104,000	164,000	221,000	57,000	Revised
PDO Indicator 2. Areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection (ha)	17,400	23,400	23,400	NA	No activity under Phase 3
PDO Indicator 3. Direct project beneficiaries (number of people), of which women (%)	50,000 (35%)	85,000 (35%)	110,000 (40%)	25,000 (45%)	Revised
		Intermediate indicator	S		
	Component	1: Institutional and Police	cy Framework		
IR Indicator 1.1. Staff trained in formulation, monitoring and implementation of policies for SLWM and biodiversity conservation (number of people), of which women (%).	100 (30%)	160 (30%)	280 (40%)	80 (50%)	Revised
IR Indicator 1.2. Staff trained in providing extension services regarding SLWM and biodiversity conservation practices (number of people), of which women (%)	1,000 (30%)	1,200 (30%)	1,500 (50%)	300 (50%)	Revised
IR Indicator 1.3. Communication plan designed and implemented (Yes/No)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No change
IR Indicator 1.4. Composition of female participation in the Village Development Committees (%)	No	30	45	50	Revised
IR Indicator 1.5. Malaria studies conducted and their findings disseminated among stakeholders in Sudan – Yes/No.	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	New indicator

Original Outcome/Output Indicator	Original Target (P129156)	Phase 2 Cumulative Target (P161304)	Phase 3 Cumulative Target (P169003)	Phase 3 Specific Target (P169003)	Revisions for Phase 3
IR Indicator 1.6. Direct beneficiaries from the new/improved climate information systems	NA	NA	8,750	8,750	New indicator
IR sub-indicator 1.6.1. Of which share of women (%)	NA	NA	50	50	New indicator
Component	2: Community based so	ustainable management o	of rangelands, forests and b	oiodiversity	
IR Indicator 2.1. Forest areas reforested and rehabilitated as a result of the project (ha)	17,400	23,200	39,150	15,950	Revised
IR Indicator 2.2. Number of nationally- designated wildlife and/or forest sites brought under improved biodiversity conservation (%)	15	28	28	NA	No activity under Phase 3
IR Indicator 2.3. Forest gazetted as a result of the project (ha)	2,400	6,000	11,700	5,700	Revised
IR Indicator 2.4. Total rangeland areas to be rehabilitated by the project (ha)	10,000	19,000	25,000	6,000	Revised
IR Indicator 2.5. Landscape management plans that incorporate SLWM and biodiversity conservation practices designed and starting implementation as a result of the project (number of plans)	7	12	18	6	Revised
IR Indicator 2.6. Female-headed household recipients of the livelihood activities (%)	NA	30	18	18	Revised
IR indicator 2.7. Farmers adopting improved agricultural technology (number)	NA	5,000	6,000	1,000	Revised
IR sub-indicator 2.7.1. Of which number of women	NA	NA	2,400	500	Revised
IR indicator 2.8. Net greenhouse gas emissions (tons over 20 years/tons per ha over 20 years)	NA	16,142,426/ 269	16,142,426/ 269	NA	No activity under Phase 3
IR indicator 2.9. Direct beneficiaries with diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income (number)	NA	NA	5,700	5,700	New indicator
IR sub-indicator 2.9.1. Of which share of women (%)	NA	NA	50	50	New indicator
IR indicator 2.10. Entrepreneurs supported to enhance climate resilience (number)	NA	NA	5,700	5,700	New indicator

Original Outcome/Output Indicator	Original Target (P129156)	Phase 2 Cumulative Target (P161304)	Phase 3 Cumulative Target (P169003)	Phase 3 Specific Target (P169003)	Revisions for Phase 3	
IR sub-indicator 2.10.1. Of which share of women (%)	NA	NA	30	30	New indicator	
	Component 3: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation					
IR Indicator 3.1. M&E system functioning and providing accurate and on-time data (Yes/No)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No change	
IR Indicator 3.2 GEF tracking tools updated (SFM, LD, Biodiversity) (number of tools)	9	9	9	NA	No activity under Phase 3	
IR Indicator 3.3 Beneficiaries who participated in planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation of landscape management activities	NA	NA	7,350	7,350	New indicator	

Table B: Project Theory of Change

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

World Bank Responses			
Re: GEF COUNCIL MEETINGS DEC 2018 - Sudan - Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project -AF (MFA/WB)			
Comments from UK	World Bank Response		
	(initial responses from COUNCIL in December 2018 have been updated and further expanded following preparation of project)		

The UK feels more work is needed on the project document. It uses traditional technical approaches, Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 1: Project innovations are minimal and sustainability improbable Description for details of project's design. Additional clarifications are as follows. AF design relies on the lessons learned from the parent project implementation, including time proven traditional approaches. The proposed project as requested and conceptualized by the GoS has become a logical continuation of the previous two stages initiated around the Great Green Wall Initiative. While AF scales up traditional activities to two new states, the innovative in the project includes attention to malaria through Sudan specific research, thorough discussion and dissemination of recommendations as well as pilot initiatives to engage private sector in project activities as a path to sustainability. In addition, AF includes activities to introduce alternative energy sources. As elaborated in component 2 the proposed project will promote innovative climate-smart natural resources management technologies, such as high-efficiency hydro-pumps and solar PV. Phase 3 will also explore the demand for biogas technologies, which convert biological waste into energy. Institutional arrangements for the SSNRMP are also evolving. Technical staff of various governmental agencies working concertedly under one umbrella at the national, state, and locality levels is a new way of doing business in Sudan. For the original project, coordinators of state PIUs were appointed from FNC, for the Phase 2 – from the Ministry of Industry, and for the proposed project, the PCU will call an open competition to hire coordinators which is expected to increase the effectiveness of PIUs' work. In pursuit of securing the achievements of the parent project and maintaining the level of continued community-led NRM after the project closes, the PCU will contract an independent Impact Assessment of Phase 1 activities, which will inform how best to support the sustainability of the parent project. The findings of the Impact Assessment will become an important lessons-learned instrument to develop sustainability measures for Phase 2 and Phase 3 projects.

In addition, given the emerging context shaped by the COVID-19 pandemic the project stipulates flexibility to address requests of

Summary of key points	
2. The project approach is essentially traditional. It is exclusively about technical/physical change and should also look at addressing institutional issues to support sustainability objectives of the programme.	For the steps to address institutional issues, please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 1: project Description, Component 1: Institutional and Policy Framework write-up. On sustainability please see response to comment 1 above. Additional clarifications are as follows.
	It should be emphasized that the project success hinges on improving the vertical and lateral coordination from the federal to the local community levels, between the various government, non-government and community players who have a stake in resilient landscape-based development interventions and whose ownership and leadership is key to sustaining project outcomes overtime.
	Institutional capacity building, information and knowledge management including trainings for governmental specialists have been always in the project activities. Regular technical and operational on-the-job training has been provided to the PIUs and senior management of the HCENR while strengthening the cross-sectoral collaboration via the project Steering Committee and the local community leadership arrangement.
	It needs to be pointed that during the ongoing transformation, complicated and massive, institutional changes are frequent and often unpredictable. The PCU directs much attention to stay abreast of these changes, informing and engaging stakeholders.
3. There has been no independent (mid-term) evaluation for the project to provide additional evidence to underpin to programme design and approach.	An independent Mid-Term Review was indeed completed as part of the WB process from December 28, 2016 to February 6, 2017. On that basis and upon the client's request, extensive consultations were held towards selection of possible on-the-ground interventions including small innovations using available LDCF and LD funds.

4. There has been limited sharing of information and engagement with other stakeholders in Sudan.

Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 2, the GEF data sheet sections and also paras 69-71 in the Project Paper on stakeholder engagement Additional clarifications are as follows.

Continuous information sharing and knowledge exchange has been central to the project design and activities. The project maintains close contact with IFAD, IGAD, FAO, UNEP, UNDP, bilateral donors through the Environmental Donor's group and Natural Resources Network. During project Implementation Support Missions, the team conducts regular information and experience sharing visits to key partners engaged in the NRM agenda. During the last mission, the team reached out to DFID and although such meeting did not happen, the team conducted a fruitful discussion with the consultant involved in preparing these comments.

A participatory and interactive half-day event was held in May 2017 to share the lessons from the operations and to explore opportunities for building partnerships across government agencies, development partner agencies, private sector, research agencies, NGOs and civil societies. The event attracted about 60 participants spanning the different categories of key stakeholders and promoted cross-sharing of projects and experiences in the climate resilient-development and natural resources management nexus.

The website for the project (website:

http://ssnrmp.org/portal/index.php; Twitter:

https://twitter.com/sawapsudan; and Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ssnrmp.sawapsudan) posts updates for wider dissemination. As part of the WB-GEF SAWAP program which brings a large group of stakeholders together, the project has shared and published lessons and best practices.

5. Khartoum State as the choice for the poorest and most vulnerable is questionable. It targets those classified as very poor.	Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 2: Profile of New Target Areas under the AF. Additional clarifications are as follows. Khartoum State is the most densely populated state, with Khartoum, the national capital of Sudan, and Omdurman, the country's second largest city by population, forming the most economically active areas of the country. The state is the primary destination for internal migration and the displaced Sudanese. Consequently, the state contains vast pockets of impoverished population. Another factor that contributed to the selection of Khartoum is the need to support the establishment of the Green Belt in this state, initiated by the GoS
6. It frequently refers to "innovation" whereas the project applies approaches that have generally been proved to be ineffective. Example: tree planting in FNC forest reserves and paying for forest guards during the project cycle.	Please see Component 1 in Annex 1 PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 1: Project Description and Project Paper, paras 31, 34 as well. Additional clarifications are as follows. Within the scope of available AF funding, activities are designed
	to ensure meaningful and measurable impacts while sustaining the institutional set up in support of activities on the ground. In more specific terms, the AF stimulates development of innovations in malaria control, alternative energy sources and private sector engagement. It should also be noted that all three SSNRMP phases are implemented in new states, and project activities in project areas always happen for the first time and are innovative to that environment addressing problems of selected localities.
	It should be clarified that it is the FNC who is responsible for the forest guards throughout Sudan, and the project does not stipulate to use GEF resources to pay forest guards. Besides, the project adopts a very robust monitoring system to track timely and quality delivery of planned activities

7. The GoS is committed to scaling up project activities", the question is whether GoS will allocate their own resources to support or will it be solely dependent on WB project funding.	For the issue of GOS commitment and allocation of own resources, there is a need to consider the overall fragility context of Sudan. GoS is indeed committed to scaling up SLM interventions with a focus on building resilience into as many States as possible and has demonstrated this in practice through in-kind contributions, provision of office and vehicle facilities and secondment of staff, despite dire budget constraints and limited resource availability. This was especially evident during the recent most turbulent post-revolutionary period.
	It should also be noted that there are several donors working together to build adaptive and resilient capacity for natural resources-based development in Sudan, including the World Bank. GOS is committed to embracing the capacity building at State and central government necessary for the implementation of these projects and sustain outcomes for future expansion to other states. Also referenced in Project Paper para 7.
8. Principal among the new/additional project activities proposed are water extracting measures for crop production without any reference to water resources management. Without taking on board the water resources available and the catchment use of water it is impossible to make any programme sustainable in the long term, especially in areas outside the Nile Basin. There is a strong encouragement to include an Integrated Water Resource Management approach or work with partner in country implementing IWRM (Eg UKaid programme in Gadaref)	It is emphasized that both states, Khartoum and Gadarif, are within the Nile Basin boundaries, and aquifer resources are present. Project design duly incorporates demonstrable concerns for IWRM and intends to build capacities of local institutions and communities on the design and use of water harvesting, as well as scale-up most suitable water harvesting techniques to capture rain and runoff water. Stage 3 stipulates that 6 SLWM plans will be developed which would include water management. Sustainability concerns rest more with equipment, operations and maintenance than the availability of water resources within the context of project target areas. Groundwater recharge capacity will be assessed before operations are put in place.
	The project team would welcome the partnership with the UKaid program in Gadarif for the advancement of this important cause. Also referenced in Project Paper para 34.

9. The ToC needs to be reviewed: nomadic tribes/traditional people pressures caused by these people on scarce natural resources p.7). We do not agree with assessment of the situation in country. In Gedaref for instance, the pressure of unsustainable land use is primarily from 'investors' as many millions of hectars have been expropriated from local land users and then used in often unsustainable ways ('shifting cultivation with tractors').	Please see GEF Data sheet and PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 2: Profile of New Target Areas under the AF. Additional clarifications are as follows.
	During the project preparation consultations in Gadarif, stakeholders confirmed that Phase 3 interventions will have positive impact on the environment and natural resources in general through rehabilitation of forests, rangelands and community livelihoods activities. Due to the encroachment of mechanized farming, they underscored the necessity of rehabilitation and restoration of forests and rangelands.
	Project interventions in Gadarif State include developing shelterbelts to stop wind erosion, soil erosion, and to enrich the environment. A national policy was adopted to leave 10% of the land in rainfed areas and 5 % in the irrigated areas as shelterbelts aiming to curb the land degradation caused by the mechanized farming. The project is designed to focus on poor vulnerable farmers whose land is not necessarily considered valuable to outside investors.
10. Baseline co-financing context: The proposed project as designed will leverage and complement projects, the European Union-funded project "Natural Resources Management for Sustainable Livelihoods – East Darfur State" etc. This is a UNEP implemented project and they are not aware of anything of the kind. East Darfur is geographically different from the intended project locations in the East and centre of Sudan, therefore not a comparable evidence base to use.	Following preparation, the baseline context has been revised. This UNEP project is not considered for co-financing any longer. Co-financing through the following sources has been secured by the project team and appropriately referenced in the GEF data sheet and project documents:
	IFAD's Sustainable Natural Resource and Livelihood Program
	Ministry of Finance of Sudan
	Government of Khartoum
	Government of Gadarif

11. There have been previous efforts to exchange information with SSNRMP and other key NRM projects in the context of joint lessons learning. We would encourage the WB to use this project as an opportunity to build/ support coordination and information sharing efforts in country.	Please see details on stakeholder engagement in the annexes to the PID and also paras 69-71 in the Project Paper. Additional clarifications are as follows.
	Since the launch of the Phase 3 preparations including during the post-revolution period, the team has increased its efforts to establish stronger practical ties, including on the information exchange, within Sudan. The transformational context in the country, while challenging, provides unique conditions to help the GoS develop and implement institutional and policy changes.
	While information sharing is the responsibility of the MANR and HCERNR (initially the Ministry of Environment), this project will contribute to this effort with the expectations for a strong Ministry/agency capacity to coordinate.
12. Institutional and policy reform developing effective inter-agency collaboration mechanisms. What the project has done to achieve this since 2014 is not clear nor is how is it linking into existing coordination mechanisms.	Please see responses to Comments 1 and 4 above. Additional clarifications are as follows.
	The SSNRMP project so far has established a robust enabling environment for implementing activities with tangible impacts on the ground. Notably, during the disbursement suspension period in 2019 due to the revolutionary changes in Sudan, PCU demonstrated remarkable resilience maintaining operations, staying in close continuous contact with governmental authorities, informing them about the project and keeping them engaged.
	In general terms, the project has drawn interested governmental agencies much closer to have them cooperating at the central and state levels on a day-to-day basis.
Potential Linkages and Synergies	
13. This programme has the potential to foster more catalytic impacts through better coordination with other relevant programmes in Sudan. UK is keen to engage and link up its programmes with the WB to strengthen this proposal to draw out lessons, best practice, data etc. These include:	The WB continues to be ready and willing to engage with the UK Council on any suggested recommendations.

13.a provide FNC (state and federal level managers), WB management & project senior staff with good practice experience so that innovations get a better chance - through the Network, written 'guidelines', major partner projects that provide inspiration, incl. field level exchange.	Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex: 1 Project Description, para 3. Additional clarifications are as follows.
	There is an active knowledge sharing program across SAWAP and BRICKS as well as REDD+, at the regional level, and the team believes this is a strong asset of the project thus far. During the last implementation support mission in November 2019, the team was not permitted to leave Khartoum, nevertheless the conversation about best new practices will continue. The project team is considering organizing a national workshop on diversified livelihoods in Sudan which is expected to serve a platform to exchange information and best practices about this important objective of project's activities.
13.b tailor-made interaction: UNEP are willing to support their project sites on the one hand to verify and adjust good practice recommendations and identify what blocks application (mostly institutional, not technical).	The team coordinates with UNEP on a bilateral level and through the Environment Donors platform to continue to share knowledge and lessons.
13.c Khartoum based influencing supporting WB missions in country and with updates when not ;example at present of an IFAD 'natural resources governance project' identification mission for 67M\$, and the IFAD country plan, COSOP	The team is in close communication with the IFAD office and were thankful for their contribution during the knowledge exchange event in May 2017. This collaboration will continue as we go forward during the preparation and implementation of the project. IFAD has issued a letter confirming co-financing in Khartoum and Gadarif under this project.
13.d Indirectly and on the longer term, the institutional reform support will put innovative Sudanese senior staff in a stronger/more senior position, speak out and influence (more sustainability beyond ADAPT influencing). Think about the senior FNC women, for instance.	The project team maintains continuous engagement with Sudanese governmental agencies senior staff to keep them informed about project's developments and about broader World Bank's agenda and to make sure that in the course of the ongoing institutional reform and governance transformation these ties remain strong.
Comments from Canada	World Bank Response

This type of work is highly relevant for Sudan and we endorse this work.	The project has been in close contact with IFAD, FAO, UNEP, and UNDP through the Khartoum based Environmental Donor's group. The project also works closely with HCENR, which is expected to assist in information sharing. The project is active in social media. Further, as part of the WB-GEF Sahel and West Africa Program in Support of the Great Green Wall Initiative (SAWAP) which brings a large group of stakeholders together, the project has shared and published lessons and best practices.
	As part of the project Implementation Support Missions, the team regularly conducts information and experience sharing visits to key partners engaged in the NRM agenda and regular meeting have been held with UNEP, IFAD, IGAD, FAO, Swedish Agency for International Development, and Norwegian Embassy.
Comments from Germany	World Bank Response
Germany welcomes the proposal, which aims to reduce environmental degradation and vulnerability of rural poor and marginalized people vis-à-vis climate change in Gedarif and Khartoum through the adoption of	Thank you for the support. Project preparation phase enabled the development of the full project taking into account the country context and comments provided.
sustainable land and water management practices in targeted landscapes. Germany welcomes that the activities for which additional funding is requested, are fully consistent with the Sudan National Action Plan and its Disaster Risk Management Strategy. The project advances the objectives of Sudan's INDC and NAPA. However, Germany requests that several requirements are taken into account during the design of the final project proposal.	context una comments provided.
sustainable land and water management practices in targeted landscapes. Germany welcomes that the activities for which additional funding is requested, are fully consistent with the Sudan National Action Plan and its Disaster Risk Management Strategy. The project advances the objectives of Sudan's INDC and NAPA. However, Germany requests that several requirements are taken into account during the design of the final	context una comments provided.

• The PIF contains only very general information about the way **stakeholders will be involved** in the project and how to ensure that implementation at the local level is **inclusive and builds local ownership**. There is also very little information about how **gender dimensions considerations** will be included in the project design. Germany would highly welcome further information on all three matters, including reference to lessons learned from previous and ongoing phases of the project.

The PIF has since developed into a full project. Stakeholder engagement activities at the local level are reflected in in PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 2: Ecosystem and Stakeholder Profile of New Target Areas under the AF. On the gender gap project activities, please see GEF data sheet annex provided, and is also referenced on paragraphs 64-68 in the Project Paper. Summary is provided below.

PCU conducted consultations with main stakeholders during field visits in Gadarif and Khartoum State and held desk review of relevant sources. The counterparts supported project's concept and specific interventions, confirming that these interventions will have positive impact on the environment and natural resources in general through rehabilitation of forests, rangelands and community livelihoods activities. The consultations confirmed the need to emphasize community driven NRM to ensure protection and sustainability in the long run. The role of women in the community and importance of giving them opportunities in livelihoods activities has also been recognized.

The project works with existing Village Development Committees (VDCs) at the state level to liaison with the larger communities. Where needed, the project mobilizes support and capacity building around VDCs that are not functioning effectively. VDCs are at the heart of the project and are closely considered during the project preparation. They are educated to carry out project promoted grassland management practices. They represent SSNRMP and are responsible for supervising and implementing project interventions at the community level. VDCs are the corner stone of SSNRMP sustainability. VDCs are expected to make small procurement of local goods under the subgrants to the communities.

The project addresses identified gender gaps through (i) institutional capacity building and policy framework; (ii) community based sustainable management of rangelands, forests and biodiversity; (iii) income generating activities such as, crafts work, backyard vegetables, collection of forest seeds, collection of pasture seeds, selling crops such as ground nuts, melon seeds, and selling vegetables. The activities on closing gender gap in the new states will be informed by the findings of the gender study currently underway. To ensure long-term sustainability of the project and to reflect the critical role of women in enhancing community resilience, the project includes activities geared at

• Germany suggests that the project proposal could be strengthened by **providing additional information on** An expanded Rationale for Additional Financing the PID and in climate change specific dimensions such as vulnerability of people and natural resources to climate change or paragraphs 11-24 in the Project Paper contains additional on the additionality of the project in terms of climate change adaptation benefits. This would strengthen the information about climate change specific dimensions. Details climate adaptation justification. provided below. Climate change and land degradation are inextricably linked in the context of Sudan and need to be addressed synergistically through integrated NRM. Increasing temperatures, decreasing annual precipitation and increasing variability are causing gradual southward shift of ecological zones, with progressing desertification in Sudan. Recent semi-arid zones are gradually taking on characteristics of the arid zones. Simultaneously, many ecologically important areas in Sudan are threatened by deforestation due to unsustainable forest management practices and extraction, resulting in 12% loss of Sudan's forest cover in just 15 years. Observed and predicted changes in temperature and rainfall patterns threaten food security in Sudan and have caused changes in the productive capacity of rain-fed agriculture. One of the most detrimental impacts of climate change is the increasing frequency of extreme flooding events caused by an increase in intensity of rainfall during the rainy season. Farming productivity is predicted to be impacted by climate change due to reduced water supply, reduced crop productivity, prolonged droughts and loss of arable land resulting from increased erosion from desertification and flooding. Climate change can potentially increase conflicts over arable land and pastures, water and other natural resources, thus contributing to internal displacement and forced migration especially in the areas of Sudan where subsistence farming is the basis for livelihoods. Climate change impacts the health sector and affects the spread of vector-borne diseases. The two new project locations are in line with Sudan's National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) and are selected to support the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI). This pattern of project area selection also corresponds with the LDCF and GEF land degradation strategy, while factoring in value addition leading to the sustainability of this project. Khartoum State was specifically selected in order to stabilize rural population around the capital and to make the best use of the high capacity of governmental institutions in this state. Results from the ongoing project activities confirm that despite the growing trends of

> climate impacts in Sudan, climate change adaptation interventions help secure livelihoods and make them more resilient. Such

Comments based on information provided in the "Combined Project Information Document/Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet (PID/ISDS)":	
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• Component 1 is meant to "build on the Great Green Wall investments in Sudan and neighboring countries, under the framework of the Sahel and West Africa Program (SAWAP) as well as other, relevant initiatives, to expand highly successful investments to two additional states, including Gedarif and Khartoum." Several measures are referred to, incl. establishment of demonstration farms, support for land use management and zoning plan processes, etc. Considering limited resources requested for this component (USD 700.000), Germany would welcome a more detailed description of specific measures to be implemented under this component and how they will make use of lessons learned and resources from ongoing activities under SAWAP as well as other relevant initiatives.

Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 1: Project Description, paragraphs 1-5 for additional details of activities under Component 1. Since PIF approval the project details have been developed. Summary is provided below.

This component finances technical assistance, workshops, goods, services and operational costs to build or strengthen national, state and local level capacities to strengthen policy and regulatory frameworks, remove critical knowledge barriers, and develop an enabling environment for the on-the-ground activities.

Lessons of implementation are to be disseminated through regular events (in country) and through South-South knowledge exchanges in the Horn of Africa Region; knowledge exchange happens through IGAD Drought Resilience Initiative regional platform. The project supports the Pressure State, Impact Response analysis of land and biodiversity degradation, including assessment of land management practices. The project will support efforts of the government to improve the quality and delivery of weather and climate information. A communication plan will be developed and implemented to disseminate information on project results and lessons learned to key stakeholders. SSNRMP receives support from the Building Resilience through Innovation, Communication, and Knowledge Services (BRICKS) Project (P130888) in strategic communication and contribute to knowledge exchange initiatives benefiting project implementation, within the TerrAfrica platform and other exchange initiatives.

In addition, as part of the WB-GEF Sahel and West Africa Program in Support of the Great Green Wall Initiative (SAWAP) which brings a large group of stakeholders together, the project has shared and published lessons and best practices. Also, the M&E system established for the project coordinates with the SAWAP Program so that key indicators are aggregated from the country level to the regional Sahel level.

Comments from STAP (Received by the WB from GEFSEC on April 24, 2020)	World Bank Response
• Very little information is available on foreseen measures under component 3 . Germany would strongly suggest expanding the description of this component.	Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 1: Project description for additional details on activities under Component 3. Since PIF approval the project details have been developed Project management support is provided for day-to-day project implementation and management including procurement, FM, environmental and social safeguards aspects, preparation of annual work plans and organization of supervision missions. The component provides support for office operating costs including annual audit costs and supervision missions. Also, this component supports an M&E system tracking the expected project's results. AF resources will finance the monitoring of the scale up activities in LD and Climate Change adaptation focal areas.
	As noted, continuous information sharing and knowledge exchange is central to the project design and activities. The project maintains close contact with IFAD, IGAD, FAO, UNEP, UNDP, bilateral donors through the Environmental Donor's group and Natural Resources Network. During project Implementation Support Missions, the team conducts regular information and experience sharing visits to key partners engaged in the NRM agenda both for knowledge sharing and cross-fertilization of ideas.
• Moreover, component 1 will complement development partner-led interventions, including from FAO in North Darfur. Germany would welcome further information on potential overlaps and how duplication of activities can be avoided.	Potential overlaps and duplication are avoided through the consultation mechanisms in Khartoum at the PCU level and during designing and implementing specific activities in project sites by SPIUs.

STAP recommends assigning greater prominence to LDN in the theory of change. LDN will: (i) increase the resilience of communities and ecosystems to climate variability, and to the impacts of climate change; and, (ii) address the drivers of land degradation and desertification. STAP recommends applying UNCCD's Scientific Conceptual Framework for Land Degradation Neutrality to develop interventions on sustainable natural resource management and climate adaptation measures – namely, component 2. STAP also recommends that the project team apply the Checklist for Land Degradation Neutrality Transformative Projects and Programmes. Additionally, the project team is encouraged to be clearer about the assumptions and causal relationships in the theory of change. This will help in identifying the challenges and success factors required for scaling-up best practices and innovations from this project.	Please see PID Technical Annexes document Annex 5 for a Theory of Change updated in line with this guidance. The project contributes to the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) through integrated NRM that generates and fosters adaptive approaches to climate change, adaptation, and sustainable land management and biodiversity benefits in response to climate predictions which show that "humid agro-climate zones will shift southwards rendering areas of the North increasingly unsuitable for agriculture" with grave implications for food security and the livelihoods of farming communities and pastoralists. The Theory of Change therefore reflects activities' focus on increased resilience of communities and ecosystems to climate variability and addressing drivers of degradation and desertification.
Project objective. The objective is tied to the problem analysis. However, there should be a reference to improving the climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods in the project objective. Currently, the objective is missing a connection to climate resilience. The stated objective is: to increase the adoption of sustainable land and water management practices in targeted landscapes.	It should be clarified that the project is designed as a third phase to the ongoing GEF project given its success and enabling systems in place. The Project Development Objective is therefore aligned with the baseline project to ensure continuity. The overarching goal has been refined – "to reduce environmental degradation and vulnerability of rural poor and marginalized people to climatic impacts in Gedarif and Khartoum". At the same time, following STAP guidance project activities have been structured in a way addressing the need to strengthen resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods to climate impacts.
Project components. Outcomes. Outputs. STAP recommends amending the title of component 2 to include livelihoods, and adding the activity on climate-induced diseases (including malaria), by piloting irrigation and water management strategies, to component 2. Currently, this activity is tied to Component 1 which focuses on strengthening institutional and policy frameworks.	As noted above the component structure remains aligned with the baseline project to ensure continuity. However activities within components respond to this guidance reflecting livelihoods, malaria, irrigation and water management efforts.
1. Project description. Briefly describe:	

1) the global environmental and/or ...

The PIF does not include a quantifiable baseline at this stage. STAP recommends defining indicators to measure and monitor the GEBs and the

2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects

Is the baseline sufficiently robust to support the incremental (additional cost) reasoning for the project?

The baseline is not yet defined. With regard to the incremental reasoning (GEBs), STAP recommends that the World Bank: 1) set out the business as usual scenario (what would happen without GEF funding from the LD portfolio); and, 2) define the GEBs. For adaptation benefits, STAP recommends strengthening the additional cost reasoning by: 1) describing what is the likely baseline development for the targeted land and water sectors without LDCF investment?; 2) describing the climate change vulnerabilities in relation to the targeted communities and ecosystems.

STAP suggests that the World Bank to describe current and previous GEF and non-GEF initiatives on which this project will build. Currently, the PID only details current World Bank NRM activities that the project will build on (e.g. grassland and rangeland rehabilitation).

Please see PID Technical Annexes document Annex 3: Additional and Incremental Reasoning for LDCF/GEF Resources. Additional details are as follows.

At the outset it may be clarified that the project is primarily funded for adaptation activities (LDCF) and as per GEFSEC recommendations does not report on GEB core indicators. Nevertheless, the context for GEBs has been developed, the LDCF/GEF resources add value to achieve GEBs with a focus on enhancing climate resilience. Specifically, through (i) facilitating a variety of good SLWM practices (such as soil conservation techniques, crop and rangeland management, agroforestry practices, water harvesting to meet domestic, including basic hygiene, needs and improved livestock management activities), (ii) strengthening the asset base of rural farmers including natural and financial capital, (iii) increasing the diversity of smallholder farming systems through the promotion of mixed croppinglivestock systems and diversification of crops, (iv) enhancing household food security and wellbeing through the introduction and improvement of home gardens; (v) promoting equity and inclusion of vulnerable and marginal groups especially women; (vi) diversifying access to alternative sources of energy (solar panels), and (vii) improving the availability of/and smallholder access to climate information.

During project appraisal, consultations were conducted with the ongoing relevant projects in the targeted areas to ensure effective coordination and harmonization of activities. These projects include the Drought Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods Program in the Horn of Africa (DRSLP) in Gadarif state implemented by the African Development Bank and IGAD since 2015. In addition, Phase 3 will take into account the well proven interventions by IFAD's project "Butana Integrated Rural Development Project, BIRDP'' which has covered five states including Khartoum and Gadarif states. Furthermore, implementation of Phase 3, in particular water management practices, will benefit from the recommendations and lessons learnt from the recent UN Environment's report on the Integrated Water Resources Management; Good Practices in Sudan. On the wider scope, the UK Department of International Development (DFID), and under the guidance of the UN Environment, has been supporting the government of Sudan through its ADAPT project which aims to increase the understanding of climate resilience and

STAP recommends setting out a results framework in the project document.	For results framework and changes please see GEF Data Sheet PART IV Table A: Summary of Changes in the Results Framework.
To complete the theory of change, STAP recommends: 1) defining the causal relationships between the outcomes; and, 2) detailing the assumptions that need validation for the outcomes to be achieved. In addition, STAP recommends making LDN a more central part of the theory of change figure (Annex 2).	Please see PID Technical Annexes document Annex 5: Theory of Change
5) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEF trust fund, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing.	Please see PID Technical Annexes document Annex 3: Additional and Incremental Reasoning for LDCF/GEF Resources
STAP recommends that the project team provide further details on the global environmental benefits and adaptation benefits associated with sustainable land management. STAP also recommends that the project team apply the Scientific Conceptual Framework for Land Degradation Neutrality.	
STAP also recommends identifying indicators to measure and monitor the progress in achieving the desired global environmental benefits. Additionally, the social and environmental risks associated with the project are high. Mitigation strategies need to be identified and their implementation closely monitored.	
6) global environmental benefits (GEF trust fund) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF) STAP proposes to develop a theory of change and the assumptions on which it is based. Global environmental benefits need to be defined, and the indicators identified to assess their progress.	Please see PID Technical Annexes document Annex 3: Additional and Incremental Reasoning for LDCF/GEF Resources and Annex 5: Theory of Change. See also responses above.
The project team is encouraged to consider the barriers and success factors required to scale up best practices, policies, and innovation across institutions and sectors. STAP recommends applying its guidance on integration for designing and implementing the project: http://stapgef.org/sites/default/files/publications/STAP%20Report%20on%20integration.PDF	

7) innovative, sustainability and potential for scaling-up Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 1: Project Description for details of the activities related to knowledge STAP encourages the project team to set out the evidence and knowledge gaps (citing references) the project management and malaria. Additional comments are as follows. will address by improving water management techniques to reduce the incidence of malaria. It would also be useful to explain how addressing these gaps and implementing an integrated approach to malaria, will strengthen the climate resiliency of the targeted communities and ecosystems. STAP encourages citing studies Climate change impacts the health sector and affects the spread of and reports to validate scientifically and technically the assumptions. vector-borne diseases. Malaria and other climate-induced, vectorborne diseases are more likely to spread in certain scenarios under climate change. Due to poor water quality, Sudan had the second highest costs attributed to diarrheal deaths relative to all Arab States in 2010, spending over \$600 million.[1]¹ Approximately 2% of GDP is spent on clean water and treatment of diarrheal diseases. Climate change is expected to increase the incidence and spread of epidemics, malaria, and other vector-borne diseases.[2]² The project details how successful natural resource management activities will be scaled up to support climate Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 1: Project adaptation technologies. The technologies are described although further information about the ecosystems, Description for relevant details. The component design has been projected and observed climate in the target areas, would be useful to understand their selection. And, further developed to address the various gaps and barriers (please also information would be valuable on the barriers and the conditions necessary to achieve scaling horizontally refer to the ToC) (across sectors, climate change, land management, sustainable forestry), and vertically (local and national scales). STAP recommends that a theory of change be developed which considers the need for incremental adaptation Please see PID Technical Annexes document Annex 5: Theory of to achieve more fundamental transformational change of the social-ecological system. Resilience thinking is Change also valuable to help focus efforts where interventions will be most effective by considering multiple scales (and sectors), the drivers of change, vlunerabilities, and possible thresholds in the system. Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 2: Ecosystem 2. Stakeholders. and Stakeholder Profile of New Target Areas under the AF for It is unclear from the documents which stakeholders will work on the activity related to studying the effects of details related to climate change impacts in target states. improved irrigation and water management on vector-borne diseases. This information is provided in the portal. However, STAP recommends describing the roles of each stakeholder and how will they contribute to the outcomes.

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

STAP suggests that the project team consider obstacles that may hinder the participation of an important stakeholder group when applying gender sensitive methods in the design and implementation of the project.

The SSNRMP considers different roles of men and women in advancing sustainable NRM. Regular monitoring, mid-term and project closure evaluations rigorously monitor impact of SSNRMP activities on gender including achievements towards the minimum targets to ensure inclusion and continued project benefit and remove constraints.

To ensure long-term sustainability of the project and to reflect the critical role of women in enhancing community resilience, the project includes activities geared at establishing women cooperatives for knowledge sharing, joint marketing and seed bank storage, as well as for honey and fruit production.

(Refer to response to Germany on gender dimensions above and GEF data sheet Annex)

5. Risks.

In addition to the safeguard analysis that the World Bank will conduct, STAP recommends that the World Bank apply the recommendations in STAP's document "Environmental Security: dimensions and priorities": http://stapgef.org/environmental-security-dimensions-and-priorities

STAP encourages the World Bank to describe further the observed and projected climate change (temperature and annual precipitation) between 2020 and 2050.

STAP encourages the project team to assess how climate change will affect the target sites, and whether the proposed interventions are robust enough to deal with projected and observed climate change. The PID states that climate predictions demonstrate that "humid agro-climate zones will shift southwards agriculture rendering areas of the North increasingly unsuitable for agriculture..." STAP recommends that the project team explain how this assessment (and others that the project may draw from) will be applied in the design and implementation of the project, in particular for the identification of climate adaptation technologies.

STAP encourages applying systems thinking to address inter-connected environmental, social, economic, and governance challenges across sectors with an eye towards resilience and transformational change. Capacity to assess resilience, describe risks (foreseen and unforeseen, including risks resulting from conflict and climate change), and identify the need for adaptation, or transformational change will be needed. The World Bank may refer to STAP's integration paper, and the RAPTA guidelines: http://stapgef.org/integration-solve-complex-environmental-problems http://www.stapgef.org/rapta-guidelines

Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 2: Ecosystem and Stakeholder Profile of New Target Areas under the AF for details related to climate change impacts in target states. Key points below reflect the selection criteria and considerations for implementation.

The following selection criteria for project activities have been followed: 1) areas with reserved forests along with potential for integration with rangeland management 2) areas where the annual rainfall is below or near 450mm and, 3) communities interested and willing to participate in SSNRMP subprojects. The selection was generated from stakeholder consultation process carried out by SSNRMP team.

Targeted states of Khartoum and Gadarif share common ecological and socio-economic conditions. Fluctuation in rainfalls, land degradation, decline in productivity, and reduction in biodiversity, accompanied by socioeconomic problems in addition to climate change are challenges that all the eight states share.

In addition, the new project areas were selected based on their relevance to the Great Green Wall Initiative's[3]³ belt in Sudan. They possess the potential for SLWM challenges, within the NAP recommended measures for those areas/regions. These areas are now seriously affected by deforestation and land degradation due to people movement, migration and displacement attributed to climate change and man-made stresses on natural resources. As per the World Bank's safeguard policies all due diligence is met, through robust assessments of environmental and social risks and comprehensive mitigation measures to address these risks.

6. Coordination. STAP encourages a more detailed description of the baseline context, and what lessons this project will apply in scaling up from the other initiatives described in the document. STAP encourages the project team to explore the relevance of other LDCF and GEF projects in Sudan to help achieve the project's objective. A list of GEF and LDCF projects can be accessed at: https://www.thegef.org/country/sudan STAP recommends that the project team include learning in component 3. This involves describing a learning plan, i.e. learning will be used to foster creativity and innovation. The World Bank is encouraged to look at RAPTA: http://www.stapgef.org/rapta-guidelines	Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 1: Project Description, paragraphs 3-4 for details of the activities related to knowledge management. Additional comments are as follows. Component 3 is dedicated to project management issues of mostly administrative nature. Knowledge dissemination and learning are supported under Component 1 (see reference above). The design of the project components reflects the fragility context of Sudan and the potential for innovation and replication within this context.
8. Knowledge management. STAP encourages the World Bank to consider STAP's knowledge management paper, "Managing knowledge for a sustainable future": http://stapgef.org/managing-knowledge-sustainable-future STAP also recommends that the World Bank identify indicators and metrics for monitoring and evaluating knowledge management. Under component 3, STAP encourages the project team also to detail a knowledge management plan that details how lessons will be disseminated and results scaled-up.	Please see PID Technical Annexes document, Annex 1: Project Description, paragraphs 3-4 for details of the activities related to knowledge management.

ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG). (Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

^[1] Verner, Dorte, 2012. Adaptation to a Changing Climate in the Arab Countries. MENA Development Report. World Bank.

^[2] Changes in climate extremes and their impacts on the natural physical environment. In: Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation. A Special Report of Working Groups I and II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, USA, pp. 109-230.

^[3] This belt passes through 11 States of the Sudan Federal system.

Not Applicable ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)
Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Funds or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)
ANNEX E: Project Map(s) and Coordinates
Please attach the geographical location of the project area, if possible.
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