

Consultation Workshop on Sudan REDD+ Strategy

Khartoum, 07 March 2012



Bankeu forest reserve goat grazing

Development of the REDD+ Preparedness Strategy for Government of Sudan.

Consultancy Report

Prof. Hassan Osman Abdelnour

**Excursion to Gezira, Gadaref, Sennar and
White Nile States of Sudan.**



Wad Behaiga Nilotic Forest-talking to forest community

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Development of the REDD+ Preparedness Strategy for Government of Sudan.

Consultancy Report

Excursion to Gezira, Gadaref, Sennar and White Nile States of Sudan.

A. Background:

A. a. Forest & woodland tenure and functions:

1. Sudan's Forest Policy (1986) defines and recognizes several levels of forest ownership. These include:

i. Federal Forests which fulfil national protective, productive & social functions (such as the *Acacia nilotica* forests along the banks of the Blue and White Niles & tributaries thereof, montane forests on watersheds and forests on the fringes of the desert curbing further spread of the latter), owned by the Federal Government and managed on its behalf by the national forest service, currently the Forests National Corporation (FNC),

ii. State Forests which fulfil productive and social roles at the State (Provincial) level, contribute to national protective functions, owned by the State Government and managed on its behalf by State Forest Service or by FNC,

iii. Institutional Forests such as the ones in large agricultural schemes e.g. Gezira, New Halfa and Rahad Schemes and sugar estates as in Kenana, Assalya, W. Sennar N.Halfa, Guneid and White Nile Sugar Companies. These fulfil productive/protective/social functions in the

vicinity but contribute to the national environmental matrix and carbon dynamics. They are owned by the respective institutions and are managed by on their behalf of by own forest units,

iv. Community Forests which fulfil a multitude of functions to their respective communities, are owned and managed by them,

v. Private Forests which fulfil various functions and are owned and managed by their initiators.

A.b. Participation:

2. The essence of participation is evident in the formulation of 1986 forest policy. Consultation and participation in forest management are strongly advocated by the said policy statement and subsequent revisions thereof. Texts of 1986 Forest Policy and 2005 Draft Policy are appended as Annexes 1 & 2.

A. c. Sudan REDD+ Readiness Strategy Formulation Process:

3. The REDD+ Readiness Strategy Formulation Process entails an extensive and intensive national consultative process. That was deliberately factored in the Terms of Reference (ToRs), schedule of activities and briefings to the country's Strategy Outline /Framework Formulation Team (**Team**). Team composition and ToRs are appended as Annexes 3 & 4.

B. Consultations and Field Excursion:

4. Wide liaison and consultations were embarked upon by the team before the arrival of International Consultant in the country. The Team's itinerary and schedule of activities encompassed visits, briefings and meetings with a wide range of **forest & range custodians, stakeholders, line ministries whose activities impact forest & range resources (Electricity & Dams- Animal Resources, Fisheries & Range- Agriculture & Irrigation, Minerals)**, government organs, States Ministers in Charge of Forestry & Range (**Gadaref, Sennar, White Nile**)NGOs (**Sudanese Environment Conservation Society**) & Civil Society Organizations (CSO)-**Farmers' Union Gadaref, Pastorlists Union Gadaref, Women Development Association-Goley, Gum Producers' Association Sennar State**, Institutes of Higher Education & Research, private sector companies (**Kenana Sugar, DAL Group**), International Organizations (**UNEP, FAO**) and Development Partners in Sudan (**British Embassy**).

5. Decisions on all aspects of forestry & range are mostly taken by various constituencies in capital cities. However, decisions and actions which shape forests and rangelands emanate

in the countryside and remote areas where the resources are; hence the team’s schedule of activities included a field excursion and visits to five out of the country’s 15 States. Team Itinerary & Schedule of Activities together with a List of Persons conferred with are appended as Annexes 5 & 6.

6. Entities visited and conferred with together with aspects /topics touched upon are summarized in table 1.

Table 1. Summary of entities visited and topics discussed in the Capital City Khartoum:

S.N.	Entity	Sudan Context	Aspects discussed
1.	Forest & Range Custodians	Forests National Corporation, Range & Pasture Administration, Wildlife Corps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Status quo in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vertical and horizontal linkages with and place in government hierarchy , - Relevance of current governing policy & legislation to national, regional and international happenings, - Appreciation of roles and contribution to the nation’s well-being, - Harmonization of policies and activities with fellow natural resource custodians and other economic/land-using sectors, - REDD+ Preparedness, ➤ REDD+ preparedness and other capacity building needs.
2.	Line Ministries & Federal Government Organs.	Environment; Agriculture & Irrigation , Water Resources; Electricity & Dams ; Animal Resources , Fisheries & Range ; Energy; Minerals ; International Cooperation; National Assembly; Higher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Immediate, medium & long-term activities which impact the landscape, ▪ Envisaged notions of accommodating forest, range livestock & wildlife concerns in immediate/future strategies/plans,

		Council for Environment & Natural Resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Envisaged safeguards /actions to mitigate/redress negative impacts on renewable natural resources.
3.	NGOs and CSO, Institutions of Higher Education & Research.	Sudanese Environment Conservation Society, Forestry & Range Colleges in Sudanese universities, Forestry, Range & Wildlife Research Institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Level of involvement in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Socio-economic planning & environmental monitoring, . National environmental sensitisation & awareness raising, . Natural resources management, policy & legislative formulation, ✓ Capacity building needs.
4.	Private Sector Companies	Kenana & Other Sugar Companies, DAL Group of Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of corporate commitment to sustainable development , • Level of adherence to national environmental legislation.
6.	International Organizations.	FAO, UNDP, UNEP, WB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Level of commitment to REDD+ at large and that of Sudan in particular, ❖ On-going and envisaged supportive such activities.
7.	International & Bilateral Development Partners	DIFD(British Embassy),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🇸🇩 The prospects of Sudan receiving support to continue REDD+ Strategy formulation.



Sheep grazing Dahara forest Sennar State

7. The field tour and visits covered **five out of Sudan's 15 States; namely Khartoum, Gezira, Gadaref, Sennar and White Nile. In** each State the schedule of activities included briefing to the **State Minister in charge of forestry & range and/or a senior executive, FNC and State Forestry & Range staff** and lengthy meetings with **Bureau of Farmers' Union, Pastorlists' Union, Gum Producers' Association and Women's Development Association.**

8. The day time of each of the four tour days was spent viewing forest activities and discussions with neighbouring communities of their perception of relationship with the forest(s).

9. The tour covered examples of various **forest types and tree formations**. These included: **Irrigated institutional forests stocked with *Eucalyptus* and *Acacias*; Riverine forests under sustainable management on short rotations; Riverine forests under sustainable management on long rotations, Shelterbelts of *Acacia seyal* on partial irrigation; Rainfed Shelterbelts of mixed *Acacias*; Expansive State Dahara (rainfed, away from the river) forest reserves in an immaculate condition; Expansive State Dahara forest reserves badly degraded, Biologically stabilized sand dunes; Community forests at various degrees of vigour.**

10. State Capitals, villages, forest & tree formations visited and persons/groups conferred with together with aspects /topics touched upon are summarized in table 2.



Abu Galfa Forest-browse and grazing ground

Table 2. State Capitals, villages and forest & tree formations visited and persons/groups conferred with together with aspects /topics touched upon:

sn	Location visited	Specific example	Aspects/topics touched
1.	Irrigated institutional forests stocked with <i>Eucalyptus</i>	1.1. Guneid Forest 1.2. Kenana Forests 1.3. Assalaya Forests	
2.	Irrigated institutional forests stocked	2.1. Kenana Forests	

	with <i>Eucalyptus</i> and <i>Acacias</i>		
3.	Riverine forests under sustainable management on short rotations	3. Bankeu Forest Reserve	
4.	Riverine forests under sustainable management on long rotations	4.1. Khartoum Sunt Forest, 4.2. Wad Behaiga Forest Reserve	
5.	Shelterbelts of <i>Acacia seyal</i> on partial irrigation	5.1. El Khyari Talh Belt	
6.	Rainfed Shelterbelts of mixed <i>Acacias</i>	6.1. Ghadanbalya Shelterbelts	
7.	Expansive State Dahara forest reserves in an immaculate condition	7.1. Abu Galfa D. Forest Reserve. Villages in and around Reserve. Subsistence rainfed cropping of <i>Sorghum</i> and livestock rearing (goats, sheep & cattle). Fodder supplement bought and hauled from near by irrigated schemes. 7.2. AlMigrih Forest Reserve 7.3. Okalma State Forest Reserve	7.1.1. Possibility of drilling borehole to water animals and grow fodder supplement and vegetables to improve incomes and diet. Subsequent introduction of energy saving stoves and/or LPG stoves. Deed is expected to bond existing people/forest relationship, instil a social fence against encroachment on forest and reduce incidents of tree lopping and felling for fuel.

8.	Expansive State Dahara forest reserves badly degraded..	8.1. Rawashda,Wad Kabu Forest Reserve	
9.	Biologically stabilized sand dunes	9.1.Goz Abyad Stabilized Dune	
10.	Community forests at various degrees of vigour	10.1. Women Forest, Goly-W.Nile	
11.	Ministers and senior officials in State Capitals	11.1. Director Ministry of Agr. Gadaref State-Gadaref, 11.2. Minister of Agr. Sennar State, Dinder, 11.3. Minister of Animal Resources White Nile-Kosti.	
12.	Civil Society Organizations	12.1. Farmers' and Pastoralists' Unions Gadaref-Gadaref, 12.2. Gum Producers' Association Sennar State-Singa,	
13.	Communities	13.1. Al Awayda Village Community Abu Galfa Forest 13.2.Wad Behaiga Forest Community, 13.3. Goly Community Development Association	

National Team/Task Force!!!!!!!!!!

Awareness:

**1. Actions so far: Milestones in Sudan REDD+
Readiness Programme**

Expectation Management

– عود الطورية