# Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project -AF

*GEF Secretariat Review for Full Sized Project*

## Basic Information

**GEF ID**
**10083**
**Countries**
Sudan

**Project Title**
Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project -AF
**GEF Agency(ies)**
World Bank

**Agency ID**
World Bank: P169003
**GEF Focal Area(s)**
Multi Focal Area

**Program Manager**
Aloke Barnwal

# Part I – Project Information

## Focal area elements

### 1. Is the project/program aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements in Table A, as defined by the GEF 7 Programming Directions?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes, the program is aligned with the Adaptation Programming Strategy of the GEF for LDCF and with the Programming Direction of the GEF Trust Fund of GEF-7 period. However, the adaptation rationale needs to be more stronger and the link of the proposed interventions with climate science needs to be strengthened.

Also, it is recommended that the project objective be slightly revised to “climate vulnerable landscapes” instead of “targeted landscapes” to better align the program objective with GEF objectives.

Agency Response

Please refer to addendum to PID for further details.

As part of our M&E review and decisions in the Bank at the early PCN stage, targeted landscapes are considered to be best practice, However the landscapes will be defined and clarified in the full project document which will be developed during preparation phase.

## Indicative project/program description summary

## 2. Are the components in Table B and as described in the PIF sound, appropriate, and sufficiently clear to achieve the project/program objectives and the core indicators?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes, the project components are relevant and appropriate distribution of resources are proposed to achieve program objectives.

Overall- the project is quite focused on infrastructure and natural resource management through which it aims to support adaptation and community resilience. There is very limited information provided on how climate change e.g. change in rainfall, temperature or climate extremes is affecting natural resources and livelihoods of poor. The component 2 needs to articulate the climate adaptation link more clearly.

Agency Response

Climate change adaptation rationale is strengthened and addendum to the project document provides more information, including linkages to the 2016 Sudan NAP.

## Co-financing

## 3. Are the indicative expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented and consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines, with a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

There is no description on how the FAO and WB co-financing proposed was identified. The WB co-financing should be categorized as GEF Agency instead of Donor Agency.

Agency Response

Details have been provided. See Para 26 of PID. The error on donor agency labeling has been corrected.

## GEF Resource Availability

## 4. Is the proposed GEF financing in Table D (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines? Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

A description is required on what and how the co-financing was identified from FAIOand the World Bank. The WB co-financing should be categorized as GEF Agency instead of Donor Agency.

Agency Response

Cofinancing explanation is provided. See Para 26 of the updated PID

## The STAR allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

LDCF and STAR allocation is used and has been approved by the OFP of Sudan.

Agency Response

## The focal area allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

STAR allocation is used from the Land Degradation focal area and has been approved by the OFP of Sudan.

Agency Response

## The LDCF under the principle of equitable access

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes, the country is eligible to access LDCF funding and the proposed funding for this project is within the funding cap.

Agency Response

## The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

NA

Agency Response

## Focal area set-aside?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

NA

Agency Response

## Impact Program Incentive?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

NA

Agency Response

## Project Preparation Grant

## 5. Is PPG requested in Table E within the allowable cap? Has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated? (not applicable to PFD)

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

No

Agency Response

## Core indicators

## 6. Are the identified core indicators in Table F calculated using the methodology included in the correspondent Guidelines? (GEF/C.54/11/Rev.01)

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

The core indicators need to be consistent in the portal and project documents. Project documents report on indicator 4 as 100,000 while the portal says 150,000. Project documents report on indicator 11 as 65,000 while the portal says 100,000 (40,000 women and 60,000 men).

Information on adaptation core indicators also to be provided in a separate word document.

Agency Response

Noted. Core indicators number is corrected.

Adaptation core indicators information is provided. See attached Word doc "Adaptation Core Indicators". Core indicators section and project document refers to 65,000 direct beneficiaries of which at least 40% are women. Information on core indicators is provided in a separate word document.

## Project/Program taxonomy

## 7. Is the project/ program properly tagged with the appropriate keywords as requested in Table G?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes. Rio Markers to be tagged as 2 for CCA. There is some potential of CCM e.g. through use of solar pumps as proposed. If there is potential of GG reduction through this or any other measures, the agency may like to tag Rio Marker for CCM also as 1, if not 2.

Agency Response

Rio Markers were included in the Core Indicators worksheet.

# Part II – Project Justification

## 1. Has the project/program described the global environmental / adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers that need to be addressed?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

The vulnerability and land degradation issues are described well in the proposal. The root causes and barriers are also explained including the fragility of the region which is one of the key drivers of climate vulnerability and land degradation. However, as mentioned earlier, the climate change specific information or data (e.g. change in rainfall, temperature and extremes) is not provided to explain how people and natural resources have become more sensitive to climate change.

Agency Response

Please refer to addendum to PID for further details.

## 2. Is the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects appropriately described?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes. The phase 1 of this project has been reviewed and key results have been highlighted in the project document. The proposed project aims to scale up the successes and build on the investments made to potentially enhance adaptation of communities and improve landscapes in targeted regions.

Agency Response

## 3. Does the proposed alternative scenario describe the expected outcomes and components of the project/program?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

The alternate scenario assumed here is no action. The project therefore focuses on justifying the need of this project which is assessed as fine except the stronger climate adaptation justification highlighted above. The proposed activities especially under component 2 has relevant activities proposed which can improve resilience of vulnerable people.

Agency Response

## 4. Is the project/program aligned with focal area and/or Impact Program strategies?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes. The project is aligned with Land Degradation focal area and also aligned with LDCF-SCCF programming strategy of GEF 7.

Agency Response

## 5. Is the incremental / additional cost reasoning properly described as per the Guidelines provided in GEF/C.31/12?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

The additionality description needs to be strengthened further especially on climate adaptation. Given the overall vulnerability of Sudan and their relatively weak institutional capacity to tackle climate change, the incremental reasoning for expansion in two additional provinces from the the three provinces in the previous phase is justified and can be assessed as a good investment.

Agency Response

Thank you. Addendum document (additionality description) is provided.

## 6. Are the project's/program's indicative targeted contributions to global environmental benefits (measured through core indicators) reasonable and achievable? Or for adaptation benefits?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

It's reasonable. A detailed description of this could be provided in the full proposal stage.

Agency Response

## 7. Is there potential for innovation, sustainability and scaling up in this project?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes. Innovation is highlighted in project components and activities. A justification on scaling up is provided in the PIF. It highlights strong political will for sustainability and scaled up action in the region. A discussion on complementarity of the project with other donors and government schemes for achieving large scale impact is also included in the proposal.

Agency Response

## Project/Program Map and Coordinates

## Is there a preliminary geo-reference to the project's/program's intended location?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes.

Agency Response

## Stakeholders

## Does the PIF/PFD include indicative information on Stakeholders engagement to date? If not, is the justification provided appropriate? Does the PIF/PFD include information about the proposed means of future engagement?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

No. Very basic and generic information is provided. More specific information is desired.

Agency Response

relevant information is provided in the PIF online template and PID.

The table below summarizes the key stakeholders and their roles in project preparation. The list is non-exhaustive and will be completed/confirmed during the project preparation, will be addressed in the stakeholder engagement plan in the project appraisal document.

| Stakeholders | Mandate and relevant roles in the project |
|---|---|
| Higher Council of Environment and Natural Resources | HCENR is the central institution responsible for the management, planning, coordination and control of implementation of policies in the following areas: Land management, Forestry, Wild life, Environment, Conservation Areas and Rural Development.<br><br>Other sectoral ministries will be the Implementing/coordinating Partner for the project interventions regarding the land degradation and climate change activities through the involvement other relevant project stakeholders. |
| Project Coordination | The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) on phase I project implementation is |

| | |
|---|---|
| Unit (PCU) | fully staffed and the project is showing good results on the ground. The State Project Implementation Units (SPIU) and community organizers focus on reinforcing communities' abilities to manage community interventions. The sustainability plan for Phase I gives details to SPIUs and community organizers on how to support communities with financial sustainability. |
| Local Governments | Local governments will be engaged, including law enforcement that involves local community patrol groups for established zoning in environmentally sensitive areas, and rehabilitation of degraded or overexploited land and forest resources. |
| | |
| Communities | Communities will be the main actor as well as the main beneficiary of this project. Their active involvement since the identification/formulation to evaluation of processes and results will be crucial for the success of this project.<br><br>Women and young girls will be specially empowered to be active members/actors of change within their communities, while ensuring that all members of community (women, men, boys and girls) are benefited by this intervention. |
| CSO | During preparation stage NGOs mapping will be conducted, a pre-selection of some of them as potential responsible parties for the implementation/support of on-the-ground activities will be also carried out. |
| Other agencies and development donors | Stakeholder engagement plan will be developed during project preparation.<br><br>For example, project will complement development partner-led interventions, including those from FAO in North Darfur, aimed at: (1) ameliorating the impact of refugees and internally displaced people on environmentally sensitive areas; and (2) alleviating climate impacts on nomadic tribes/traditional people, and pressures caused by these people on scarce natural resources and livelihoods for enhanced climate resilience. |

## Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

## Is the articulation of gender context and indicative information on the importance and need to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, adequate?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

The technical proposal touches on the gender aspects and proposes to work with women cooperatives in addition to doing a comprehensive gender analysis. Key details of this strategy needs to be provided in the portal's template for PIF.

Agency Response

Noted. Gender related analysis will be done during preparation to better define the outcomes.

The project will carry out a gender gap analysis during preparation phase and implement measures to enhance gender equality during project design and implementation. The results framework will be fully gender responsive. The project includes an output/activity geared at establishing
women cooperatives for knowledge sharing, joint marketing and seed bank storage, to reflect the critical role of women in enhancing community resilience.

The team will work to reflect the views, concerns and recommendations of vulnerable and marginalized groups including women and pastoralists in the Project Paper.

project core indicators include number of the direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender - 65,000 of which at least 40 percent are female. Specific project indicators with the breakdown by gender will be provided in detail during project preparation

## Private Sector Engagement

## Is the case made for private sector engagement consistent with the proposed approach?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

There is a discussion on private sector engagement for innovative water management technologies.

Agency Response

Specific private sector role will be defined during project preparation. Activities under the project component 2 include engagement with the private sector through procurement of solar PV, small-scale irrigation infrastructure, and drought resistant varieties. In addition, the project includes a dedicated component geared at promoting innovative finance technologies and capacities for climate-resilient livelihood options, including with and through the private sector as a key partner. Among the private sector partners will be micro and small-enterprises in the agriculture and water sector, as well as micro-credit capital providers and financial intermediaries, including commercial/public banks, to leverage and catalyze additional private resources and enable long-term financial sustainability of the project results. These elements will be further developed during the preparation phase.

## Risks

## Does the project/program consider potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved or may be resulting from project/program implementation, and propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Environmental and social risks are assessed as Substantial for this project. The fragility of the region has been highlighted well. For all the risks identified, risk management options within the project is described.

There is potential risk on quality and effectiveness of natural resource infrastructure e.g. small dams and other water harvesting structures. It is likely that increased temperature or flooding situations due to climate change may affect the design, stability and relevance of these infrastructure. The proposal needs to discuss this risk and propose options to be considered under the project e.g. risk assessment, focus on making infrastructure more climate resilient, etc.

Agency Response

The detailed risk analysis during preparation will capture the elements. Please refer to concept stage safeguard policies that apply details in the PID.

# Coordination

## Is the institutional arrangement for project/program coordination including management, monitoring and evaluation outlined? Is there a description of possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects/programs and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project/program area?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes. The institutional arrangement is similar to the phase 1 of this program. The coordination with other bilateral and donor agencies is mentioned across different sections of the PIF.

Agency Response

# Consistency with National Priorities

## Has the project/program cited alignment with any of the recipient country's national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes, the project is consistent with NAP and NDC of Sudan.

Agency Response

## Knowledge Management

## Is the proposed "knowledge management (KM) approach" in line with GEF requirements to foster learning and sharing from relevant projects/programs, initiatives and evaluations; and contribute to the project's/program's overall impact and sustainability?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

A specific knowledge management approach is not provided. Knowledge sharing through women cooperatives is proposed. More information is required on the approach.

Agency Response

The project will ensure that information and knowledge accumulated within the project will be recorded and documented for sharing and upscaling efforts. Knowledge management plan will be developed. It will do this through annual rigorous project implementation review, mid-term and final project review, as well as publication of discussion papers and communication pieces. The project support collection of lessons learned from mainstreaming of climate change

# Part III – Country Endorsements

## Has the project/program been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point and has the name and position been checked against the GEF data base?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes.

Agency Response

## GEFSEC DECISION / RECOMMENDATION

## Is the PIF/PFD recommended for technical clearance? Is the PPG (if requested) being recommended for clearance?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

## Additional recommendations to be considered by Agency at the time of CEO endorsement/approval.

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

## Review Dates

| | PIF Review | Agency Response |
|---|---|---|
| First Review | | |
| Additional Review (as necessary) | | |
| Additional Review (as necessary) | | |
| Additional Review (as necessary) | | |
| Additional Review (as necessary) | | |