

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**risk finance, index insurance for adaptation**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 4591 |
| GEF ID | 4958 |
| Title | Climate risk finance for sustainable and climate resilient rainfed farming and pastoral systems |
| Country(ies) | Sudan, Sudan |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Climate Change Adaptation |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| As climate change evolves, and floods and droughts become more severe and frequent in Sudan, there is a need to find approaches, which can reduce the sensitivity of farmers and pastoralists to increasing rainfall variability. Smallholder rain-fed farmers and pastoralists are particularly vulnerable to climate change and are in desperate need of risk reduction measures. However, limited financial services are available to this high-risk population, to provide them capital for resilient-building activities and insurance companies have failed to provide coverage during extreme weather events. This project will address these issues by supporting the development of a range of financial mechanisms to incentivize investments in climate change adaptation and risk reduction measures in six vulnerable agro-ecological regions of Sudan. To effectively monitor extreme weather risks, LDCF resources will support efficient, robust collection and interpretation of weather/climate information for risk mapping, rainfall forecasting and drought early warning. Simultaneously, funds will be used to support the development of Sudan's first Weather Index Insurance products, which will be strategically combined with microfinance services supporting adaptation-oriented agricultural and livestock practices. To ensure sustainability with these tasks, it is necessary to build the capacity of the National Hydro-Meteorological Services to have the technical and operational capacity to maintain equipment and models long-term. Similarly, regulatory frameworks for financial services must be updated and capacities within the financial/insurance institutions must be built to target small-holder rain-fed farmers and pastoralists. In particular, insurance products must be designed to address residual climate risk, while microfinance products must take into account seasonal payment schedules and pastoral mobility. The timing is right to develop such products because credit services can take advantage of the current legal frameworks and national strategies promoting microfinance services for agriculture in addition to the large amounts of lending capital available. Furthermore, by gaining experience in Weather Index Insurance and recognizing the importance of continuous weather/climate observations, both public and private insurance sectors will serve as important catalysts in supporting sustainable environmental monitoring |

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| Project Implementing Partner | HCENR (hcner2oo5@yahoo.com) |
| Other Partners | *(not set or not applicable)* |

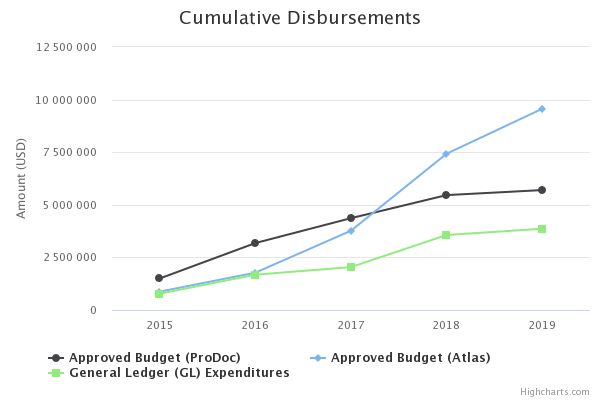
# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | High |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **To increase climate resilience of rain-fed farmer and pastoral communities in regions of high rainfall variability through climate risk financing** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 1.1. Number of small-holder rain-fed farmers and pastoralist households with access to MF or MF/WII products disaggregated by gender, youth, regions and sector (farmers and pastoralist) | 1.1. 93,500 with access to MF, zero access to MF/WII; | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1.1. 138,500 small-holder rain-fed farmers and pastoralists (SRFP) with access to MF and 45,000 SRFP with access to MF/WII (Disaggregation TBC) | The knowledge sharing mechanism between the key Early Warning System institutions (Sudan Meteorological Authority, Remote Sensing Authority, and the Ministry of Water Resources Irrigation and Electricity) has improved enabling these institutions to provide relevant and accurate weather information to institutions responsible for Micro-finance and Micro-insurance.    The Supreme Insurance Authority approved the Technical and Legal components for the establishment of WII products. This approval process was supported by both Insurance companies and the project team.    109 farmers and pastoralists associations were established so as to facilitate awareness about and access to Microfinance (MF), Micro-insurance (MI)and Weather Index Insurance (WII)II products. In 2017, during the rainy season, the MI and deployment of WII mechanisms were tested through a pilot programme in which 1,000 farmers who received financial support from the project to pay their insurance premiums (1,000 direct and 5,000 indirect beneficiaries).    Micro-finance activities were initiated for both farmers and pastoralists. This included increasing their awareness of the impact of climate change driven risks, and the concept, benefits and costs of micro-finance (size of available finance to individual farmers, interest rates, re-payment periods, etc.) | The project is well on track and the outcomes will be achieved during the reaming the project period, knowledge sharing has improved during the reporting period Through of data Reported mechanism between National Hydro-Meteorological Service (NHMS) institutions such as the Sudan Meteorological Authority (SMA), Remote Sensing Authority (RSA), Ministry of Water Resources Irrigation and Electricity (MOWRIE) to provide relevant and accurate weather information for both Microfinance (MF) and Micro insurance (MI) institutions. That results on to enhance committed partnership and increase level of awareness and climate risk finance . For this season, weather information will be provided by 6 Insurance companies that will embark on the piloting of WII intended for farmers and pastoralist during 2019 rainy season in five of the targeted states namely Kassala, White Nile, S. Darfur , N. Kordofan and Al Gedarif    A series of TOTs for Agricultural and Technology Transfer Administrations, extension officers and researchers were conducted to assist in disseminating the MF/ MI knowledge, Agricultural advisory services and further on how to organize SRFPs.  109 farmers and pastoralists associations were established so as to facilitate awareness about and access to Microfinance (MF), Micro-insurance (MI)and Weather Index Insurance (WII)II products. In 2017, during the rainy season, the MI and deployment of WII mechanisms were tested through a pilot programme in which 1,000 farmers who received financial support from the project to pay their insurance premiums (1,000 direct and 5,000 indirect beneficiaries).  In 2018-19, these associations were increased to 129 objectively to facilitate awareness about and access to Microfinance (MF), Micro-insurance (MI) and Weather Index Insurance (WII)II products in additionally and to piloting pastoralist policy in two states North. Kourdfan and White .Nile)  The Supreme Insurance Authority approved the Technical and Legal components for the establishment of WII products. This approval process was supported by both Insurance companies and the project team.  During the 2018 rainy season, the MI deployment of weather index insurance and microfinance mechanisms were tested through a pilot programme in which 29 agricultural associations (during 2018 ,449 direct and 2245 indirect beneficiaries), who received financial loans from the Mishka Microfinance Institution to pay their products farming loans.    The project has achieved over 70% of the project target. The GoS increased the budget available for weather related institutions by close 140% total over the project lifetime. This is enabling these institutions to strengthen their capabilities for monitoring and reporting on weather information. This has been achieved via the following activities:  Project partners (SMA(Sudan Meteorological Authority), RSA (Remote Sensing Authority), ARC (Agricultural Research Corporation) and MoWRIE (Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity) continued to provide office space, as well as national and state staff to provide technical assistance in support project activities.  Different partner institutions monitor different weather components using different measuring instruments; for example, MOWRIE (Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity) measures rivers’ water levels and predicts flood incidences and intensity; the (ARC) Agricultural Research Corporation measures soil water, humidity and crop water relation. The weather measuring instruments were procured, handed over to respective institutions which caliber, manage and certify the provided data.  Domestic financing for purchasing equipment increased by 75%during this 2018-19 reporting period |
| 1. 2.Domestic finance committed to the relevant institutions to monitor extreme weather and climate change | 1.2 Annual O&M budgets for weather and climate monitoring institutions are approximately, MoWRE: USD 223,000, RSA: USD 100,000 and SMA: 300,000. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1.2. 30% (186,900 USD) increase in domestic financing for equipment/product operation and maintenance across all institutions (SMA, RSA, MoWRE, ARC ) | The GoS increased the budget available for weather related institutions (SMA, RSA, MoWRE, and ARC) by 60%. This is enabling these institutions to strengthen their capabilities for monitoring and reporting on weather information | There is a more than 100% ( including Baseline) reported increase in the geographic coverage for climate / weather early warning monitoring in each of the 6 target states achieved over the course of the project. This has been achieved by the following activities:  Rain gauges were increased further by 44 (on previous year) to a total of 246 and were installed to provide regular rainfall data in the project target areas. 18 automatic stations have been shipped and waiting for installment.    The project has completed the installation of 6 early warning systems units at the state levels. 15 trainees from targeted states and remote sensing at the federal level were trained in drones and drone imagery analysis.  The project had recruited an international consultant on Capacity Development on Satellite based Crop and Drought Monitoring and he recommended considerations to guide National strategy, Facility Focal point, and equipment for the future enhancement of project sustainability. This could be achieved through Establishing the National Climate Data Committee, Data sharing protocol and data sharing mechanism. The committee have to define the Data Classification and Sharing protocol and Develop the Met data.  Establishment of 6 Early warning units is in process in six target states in order to enhance an Integrated system for monitoring, data collection, analysis, and communicating to people in order to make early decisions to protect farming pastoralist system and the environment.    Automatic weather stations (AWS) were increased to be 25 stations (increase of 18 during 2019 + old 7 AWS in 2017) and 246 Rain gauges were installed to enhance the availability, quality and transfer of real-time weather/climate data on 130,000 ha of drought-prone land for purposes of drought forecasting, early warning, and through improved data transmission/processing/storage facilities (via mobile SMS( 200 mobile phones and 200 SIM card distributed ) from the stations directly to the server at the meteorological authority and to the RSA server and ICLOUD server.    Remote Sensing Authority (RSA) installed the fieldSpec 4 Hi-Res spectroradiometer designed for faster, more precise spectral data collection in remote sensing applications concerning vegetation phenology and soil types that support early warning activities in CRFP    (SMA)Sudan Meteorological Authority continued producing daily and seasonal bulletin and forecast disseminated through their state offices and mail list.  The project contained its support on strengthening the EWS institutions and hosted a mission of a UNDP regional adviser on EWS, who provided training to EWS stakeholders on early monitoring of draught & capacity of EWS in some states, The mission also helps in setting good conditions amongst the various institutions dealing with EWS.  CRFP established (6) Early warning units at the targeted states. Each unit is well equipped with relevant tools. Moreover, CRFP established three committees for early warning three levels: national level, state level and at Locality/community level.The main role of the EWC is to provide the project and the community with products that are critical for early decisions to protect peoples and environmental degradation.      75% of female farmers and 65 % of male farmers in the rain-fed farming and pastoral areas now have access to improved climate information and early warnings to droughts and floods incidents.    All partners (Farmers, pastoralists, MF institutions, and MI institutions) are now linked to an ICloud to enable them to receive weather news and weather prediction bulletins. The service is automatically updated by focal point from project partners who in turn disseminate weather information to the community at a wider range through Mobile services (SMS) and a phone-based contact list of the beneficiaries in the six target states  The project is conducting yearly 7 workshops in target states (Khartoum, Kassala, White Nile, S. Darfur, N. Kordofan, Gedarif and R. Nile) to strength forecasts in the rainy season.  Two tailored weather bulletins developed by SMA and the CRFP, targeting the project beneficiaries in the six states are disseminated on daily basis, using text messages and other media.  The project with the collaborating working telecommunication companies (MTN and Sudani) is providing customized SMS services to the project’s target communities in Early warning system, Microfinance /Micro insurance related information. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Progress not set** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **Institutional and technical capacity for climate observation, forecasting and early warning strengthened at national and local levels** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 1.1. % increase in coverage for climate/weather monitoring in each of the 6 targeted states | 1.1 To be confirmed (TBC) | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1.1 TBC% increase in coverage for climate/weather monitoring in each of the 6 target states | The geographic coverage of climate/weather and early warning monitoring in the 6 targeted states increased by 70%.    202 rain gauges were installed to provide and rainfall data in the project target areas. Procurement of 6 additional AWS is currently in process.    High resolutions images were provided by EFTAS to the RSA which helped validate soil analyses.  Daily and seasonal announcements and forecasts are being disseminated through regional government offices.    Early warning systems were initiated for both floods and droughts bulletins.  200 mobile phones are currently being distributed to the heads of Farmers Associations and other farmers who have accepted responsibility for measuring and reporting on rainfall.  Negotiations with a telecom company to disseminate early warnings to farmers via SMS are in progress. | Although (8) WII products were originally planned for the six states; at the end of the WII study, 20 WII products were developed. With the approval from Supervisory Insurance Authority in place. Insurance companies submitted a full proposal to start piloting WII products for pastoralists in two states (N. Kordofan, White Nile and South Darfur). The target communities identified jointly with CRFP based on communities’ willingness, climate/ weather devices, CBOs established, and the insurance company access.  Reportedly 202 farmers and pastoralists production associations are established imfever of farmers perfoemance in agric and pastoral production system.  The project has restructured the insurance team to increase market outlets for agents and brokers through companies and workshop in six target states (60 participants).  The project supported 1500 farmers target rain-fed areas and another 1000 pastoralists are in the pipeline to receive the support.  The project had received many proposals from companies (Alneeilan , shikan , Aleslamia and altaawnia) to adapt agro pastoralist policy during 2019. after dissemination of MF/WII products in 6 target states.  The project recruited insurance national consultant to revise Alneeilan piloting and to present recommendation to speed average claim.  The average claims ratio had been calculated after piloting deployment of Weather Index based Insurance phase in the four targeted states (Kassala, White Nile, S. Darfur, and Algedarif) is 0.75  During 2019, the validation trails for farmers and pastoralist targeted women and men equally in each community. |
| 1.2. % of rain-fed farmers and pastoralists with access to improved weather/climate information and early warnings (disaggregated by gender and producer type ). | 1.2. % Women who receive EWS alerts/CI in target states: 5%; % Men who receive EWS alerts/CI in target states: 10% | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1.2. 50 % increase in population who have access to improved EWS/CI  (% Women who received EWS alerts/CI in target states: 8%  % Men who receive EWS alerts/CI in target states: 15%; disaggregation by producer will be confirmed. | 60% of female farmers and 55% of male farmers in the rain-fed farming and pastoral areas now have access to improved climate information and early warnings to droughts and floods. | 75% of female farmers and 65 % of male farmers in the rain-fed farming and pastoral areas now have access to improved climate information and early warnings to droughts and floods incidents. |
| 1.3.Frequency of forecast bulletins provided | 1.3 Seasonal; daily bulletins | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1.3.1 Localized daily and seasonal bulletins for each state  1.3.2 Development of at least 2 tailored bulletins  1.3.3 Mobile Advisory Messages (SMS) | Dissemination of information on seasonal bulletin and daily forecast by Sudan Metrological Authority (SMA) was increased through SMA state offices, and Media, include more audience including community organizations in the 6 targeted states..    Two tailored weather bulletins developed by SMA and the CRFP , targeting the project beneficiaries in the six states are disseminated on daily basis, using text messages and other media.  Mobile services for the weather news activated through a phone based contact list of the beneficiaries to disseminate weather information set.    All SMS messages on weather information and forecasts, issued a regular basis (daily and weekly) ,to farmers, pastoralists, MF institutions and Micro-insurance Institutions to make informed decision regarding financing and insurances services. | All partners are linked to a ICloud to enable them to receive weather news and weather prediction bulletins. The service is automatically updated by focal point from project partners. Who in turn disseminate weather information to the community at a wider range using Mobile services (SMS) a phone based contact list of the beneficiaries in the six target states  The project is conducting yearly 7 workshops in target state (Khartoum, Kassala, White Nile, S. Darfur, N. Kordofan, Gedarif and R. Nile) to strength forecast rainy season.  Two tailored weather bulletins developed by SMA and the CRFP, targeting the project beneficiaries in the six states are disseminated on daily basis, using text messages and other media.  The project with the collaborating working telecommunication companies (MTN and Sudani) is providing customized SMS services to the project’s target communities in Early warning system, Microfinance /Micro insurance related information. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Progress not set** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **Residual climate risk to rural livelihoods in the states of greatest rainfall variability addressed through parametric insurance products** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 2.1 WII product/s created for rain-fed farmers / pastoralists | 2.1 WII products have never existed in Sudan | *(not set or not applicable)* | 2. 1. At least one WII product piloted in 1 state | Twenty WII products and approved by the Supreme Insurance Authority which has far exceeded the of 6 WII products So far 8 products are used during the 1000 farmers piloting phase for WII. | Although (8) WII products were originally planned for the six states; but at the end of the WII study, 20 WII products were developed. With the approval from Supervisory is in place. Insurance companies submitted a full proposal to start piloting WII products for pastoralist in two states (N. Kordofan, White Nile and South Darfur). The target communities identified jointly with CRFP based on communities’ willingness, climate/ weather devices, CBOs established and the insurance company access.  202 farmers and pastoralists production associations are established |
| 2.2. % increase in the number of market outlets and insurance agents in the rural areas to disseminate MF / WII products | 2.2.TBC | *(not set or not applicable)* | 2.2 TBC | Insurance companies and brokers were trained to handle weather based insurance as new development in insurance business in Sudan.    Three different insurance companies (Alneeilan , Albaraka and altaawnia) are actively engaged and started to disseminate MF/WII products in 6 target states. | The project has restructured of the insurance team to increase market outlets for agents and brokers through companies and workshop in six target states (60 participants).  The project supported 1500 farmers target rain-fed areas and another 1000 pastoralists are I the pipeline to receive the support.    The project had received many proposals from companies (Alneeilan , shikan , Aleslamia and altaawnia) to adapt agro pastoralist policy. |
| 2.3. Average speed of claim resettlement in all 6 States over the past 10 years | 2.3. Average speed of claim resettlement in all 6 target states over the past 10 years was 35 days | *(not set or not applicable)* | 2.3. Average speed of claim resettlement in all 6 targeted states by the end of the project is 15 days | Pay outs are being processed for 118 farmers in the State of Gedarif, 228 farmers in White Nile State and 40 in the Kassla State. The average number of days to settle these claims ranges from 20 to 25 days. | The project recruited insurance national consultant to revised Alneeilan piloting and to present recommendation to speed average claim. |
| 2.4.Claims ratio in all 6 States over the past 10 years | 2.4. Average claims ratio over the past 10 years in all 6 States was 0.62 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 2.4. Average claims ratio in all 6 target states by the end of the project is 0.8 | The calculation of the average claims ratio will be calculated after piloting deployment of Weather Index based Insurance phase in the four targeted states, where Rainfall is identified as the key weather parameters. | The average claims ratio had been calculated after piloting deployment of Weather Index based Insurance phase in the four targeted states (Kassala, White Nile, S. Darfur , and Algedarif) is 45% |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Progress not set** | | | | |
| **Outcome 3**  **Improved access of vulnerable farmers and pastoralists to financial services for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 3.1.Number of loan products for adaptation farming and livestock production which provide flexible Re-payment schedules for farmers and pastoralists dependent on rain-fed practices | 3.1 There are currently no MF products geared specifically towards SFFP in terms of flexible payment schedules and reasonable collateral requirements. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 3.1. At least 3 flexible MF products developed which are geared towards the needs of rain-fed farmers and pastoralists | A study for designing flexible loan products for pilot states completed. Series of awareness campaign to mobilize Pastoralists towards MF/WII were conducted.  Sudan microfinance company will lend (3000 direct and in direct ) beneficiaries in three target stats | The project had conducted series of awareness campaign in six target states raising 60 campaigns for six‘states (Kordofan, Nyala and W. Nile”) and Kassala, Gedarif and R. Nile) to promote four products (2 loans for farms products and 2 loans for agro pastoralist product).  Mishka Microfinance institution had lended to 29 associations (449 direct and 2245 indirect beneficiaries)  Elebdaa Microfinance Bank has signed agreement with the Project to lend farmers and pastoralist and promoting two new products.  Elebdaa Microfinance bank paid the first premium on behalf of the piloted farmers and pastoralists through their associations/groups for this season.  In 2017-18 a study for designing flexible loan products for pilot states was completed and a series of awareness campaigns to mobilize Pastoralists towards MF/WII were conducted.  And, sudan microfinance company lent to 3000 direct and indirect beneficiaries in three target states.    .  The project had developed three finance policies in collaboration with Ebdaa microfinance bank in first time in 2019.    50 workshops and 30 awareness sessions have been organized in the targeted states.  Farmers field schools, pastoralist rang land, veterinary services, rural women activities, home gardening and fruit trees (935 beneficiaries) were supported in four target states (Kassala, Al Gedarif, White Nile and S. Darfur).  A set of smart technologies have been developed for the six states in collaboration and consultation with the Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC).such as water harvesting techniques; early maturing crop species and drought resistant seed varieties.  120 scientific validation trials achieved during the previous season convinced the farmers practically to use it as a tool to reduce the impact of climate change and adoption the technology, Micro Finance companies are now ready to support the targeted farmers and pastoralist, the MF services will be linked to the use of the technologies released by the Agriculture Research Cooperation (ARC), however, this component need more effort by the project to be implemented this season 2019.  The insurance team of the project facilitate 6 workshops for targeted states on WII to build the capacities of the insurance companies and MF institutions and MOA , moreover they held awareness-raising workshops in the six project targeted states focusing on the process of weather index insurance documentation. The ministry of animal resources was also facilitate considerable efforts to execute training courses in the six targeted states, (8) workshops targeted the communities leaders , extensions officers and pastoralists were completed.  The memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Microfinance institutions to complete the WII requirements by including national revised policies and regulations, awareness raising and commitment to support individuals and associations lending. Remote Sensing Authorities (RSA) delivered GPS, GIS training for 28 participants comprising extension agents, insurance brokers and SMA agents.  50 workshops and 30 awareness sessions have been organized in the targeted states.  Farmers field schools, pastoralist rang land, veterinary services, rural women activities, home gardening and fruit trees (935 beneficiaries) were supported in four target states (Kassala, Al Gedarif, White Nile and S. Darfur).  A set of smart technologies have been developed for the six states in collaboration and consultation with the Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC).such as water harvesting techniques; early maturing crop species and drought resistant seed varieties.  120 scientific validation trials achieved during the previous season convinced the farmers practically to use it as a tool to reduce the impact of climate change and adoption the technology, Micro Finance companies are now ready to support the targeted farmers and pastoralist, the MF services will be linked to the use of the technologies released by the Agriculture Research Cooperation (ARC), however, this component need more effort by the project to be implemented this season 2019.  The insurance team of the project facilitate 6 workshops for targeted states on WII to build the capacities of the insurance companies and MF institutions and MOA , moreover they held awareness-raising workshops in the six project targeted states focusing on the process of weather index insurance documentation. The ministry of animal resources was also facilitate considerable efforts to execute training courses in the six targeted states, (8) workshops targeted the communities leaders , extensions officers and pastoralists were completed.  The memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Microfinance institutions to complete the WII requirements by including national revised policies and regulations, awareness raising and commitment to support individuals and associations lending. Remote Sensing Authorities (RSA) delivered GPS, GIS training for 28 participants comprising extension agents, insurance brokers and SMA agents. |
| 3.2.Number of micro –finance policy designed and agreed upon by all micro-finance providers | 3.2 There are no policies which mandate a link between MF and adaptation technologies and therefore no formalized means to build the climate resilience of farmers and pastoralists so that they can be more productive and capable of paying back loans. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 3.2. One micro-finance policy developed mandating the adoption of adaptation technologies for microfinance products tailored to rain-fed farmers and pastoralists | Recent study was conducted for developing flexible Microfinace product linked to adaptation technologies endorsed by ARC..  UNDP is in the process of recruiting an international consultant to develop regulatory policy document and conduct training for key counterparts for WII that demonstrate international practices of linkage of MF/MI and adaptation technologies.  The project is capitalizing on the Bank of Sudan’s policy on microfinance which will enable the project to create the required MF /MI linkages. | The project had developed three finance policies had developed by in collaboration with Ebdaa microfinance bank . |
| 3.3.Number and type of adaptation technologies linked with microfinance services adopted by rain-fed farmers/pastoralists (disaggregated by gender to study women separately) | 3.3 other than in regions covered by the LDCF1 (first NAPA project), SRFPs do not have access to any adaptation technologies or packages. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 3.3. At least 3 adaptation technologies adopted by rain-fed farmers and pastoralists in the target states with 1 of these technologies targeting women or youth | Five validation trails have been conducted in five states, four during the summer season (Kassala, Gedarif, White Nile & South Darfur states) and one in the winter season (River Nile State).  A set of smart technologies have developed eg: water harvesting techniques; early maturing crop species; drought resistant seed varieties, for the six states in collaboration and consultation with the Agricultural Research Corporation.    2 Field days were conducted in the White Nile State, and 3 exchange visits between farmers from different villages took place to foster exchange of knowledge and communication of best practices.    Water harvesting techniques such as earth reservoirs (HAFIRS), terracing and land leveling have been conducted in the White Nile State under supervision of the Agricultural Research Corporation.    Validation soil experiments have been conducted for the five states (Kassala, Gedarif, White Nile and River Nile and North Kordofan) by RSSA. | 50 workshops and 30 awareness sessions have been organized in the targeted states.  Farmers field schools, pastoralist rang land, veterinary services, rural women activities, home gardening and fruit trees (935 beneficiaries) were supported in four target states (Kassala, Al Gedarif, White Nile and S. Darfur).  A set of smart technologies have been developed for the six states in collaboration and consultation with the Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC).such as water harvesting techniques; early maturing crop species and drought resistant seed varieties.  120 scientific validation trials achieved during the previous season convinced the farmers practically to use it as a tool to reduce the impact of climate change and adoption the technology, Micro Finance companies are now ready to support the targeted farmers and pastoralist, the MF services will be linked to the use of the technologies released by the Agriculture Research Cooperation (ARC), however, this component need more effort by the project to be implemented this season 2019.  The insurance team of the project facilitate 6 workshops for targeted states on WII to build the capacities of the insurance companies and MF institutions and MOA , moreover they held awareness-raising workshops in the six project targeted states focusing on the process of weather index insurance documentation. The ministry of animal resources was also facilitate considerable efforts to execute training courses in the six targeted states, (8) workshops targeted the communities leaders , extensions officers and pastoralists were completed.  The memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Microfinance institutions to complete the WII requirements by including national revised policies and regulations, awareness raising and commitment to support individuals and associations lending. Remote Sensing Authorities (RSA) delivered GPS, GIS training for 28 participants comprising extension agents, insurance brokers and SMA agents. |
| 3.4.% of the productivity and income of rain-fed farmers and pastoralists who use adaptation options/packages linked with MF/MI (as compared with non-participating farmers/pastoralists) | 3.4 TBC | *(not set or not applicable)* | 3.4. 10% increase in yield and/or income for rain-fed farmers and pastoralists who have access to improved financial services linked with adaptation technologies | 30 % increase in the productivity for farmers who used improved seeds and water harvesting technology in the target stats | A 45 % increase in productivity for farmers who used water harvesting technology in White Nile State after rainy season and who used technologies from ARC had been reported. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Progress not set** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 67.75% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 67.75% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 3,861,725 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 100,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 5,700,000 |
| Co-financing | 18,800,000 |

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| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | Nov 5, 2012 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Apr 21, 2014 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Sep 29, 2014 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | May 16, 2016 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | Nov 30, 2017 |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Jun 30, 2020 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Dec 30, 2018 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | Jun 30, 2020 |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |

# Critical Risk Management

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| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Operational | 1. Index insurance and the adoption of creative solutions, such as remotely sensed data-based indices, are likely to be challenging for insurance companies. Consequently, they will not have the experience and knowledge to adapt the product to new crops and  Management :  cloud system was created and intensive training to all relevant partners has been conducted    2. The procurement process for many soft and hardware devices, recruitment of consultants is lengthy and will result in difficulty completing outputs within the agreed timeline.    Management:  Procurement has improved during the past few months resulting in acquiring most of the important items such as weather stations and Sectroradiometer and international consultants. Procurement of other items are in progress |
| Political | The initially pledges local contribution, both cash and in-kind contribution, by the states is relatively low.  Management  The project exerted a lot of efforts in meeting with state Walis (Governors) to secure the states buy-in for the project and considerable achievement was made on the financial commitments. |
| Organizational | 4) The procurement process for many soft and hardware devices, recruitment of consultants is lengthy and will result in difficulty completing outputs within the agreed timeline.    Management  Over the reporting period, UNDP assisted in the recruiting the international consultants and the procurement of equipment such as procurement of the automated weather station and software licenses to run it. |

# Adjustments

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

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| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| not applicable. |

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| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| not applicable |

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| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| Following the mid-term review and assessment of progress to date, the project was granted a one-year extension, which is ending in June 2020. No other extensions of the projects will be granted, and the project therefore need to focus efforts on activities that realistically can be concluded with success in the short time remaining. It would also be prudent for the project team to start planning for the final evaluation as soon as possible. The final evaluation is important for capturing projects achievements and record lessons learned. It is important that the final evaluation is done in full accordance with UNDP guidelines, and look at both the administrative, institutional and technical project experiences and results. The evaluation and recommendations from this LDCF-funded project will be of value both internally in Sudan when it comes to developing future climate change adaptation projects (including GCF), as well as in other countries in the region and beyond where similar adaptation interventions are planned. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | The State of DO rating is Satisfactory (S). this period from June 30th 2018 to June 30th 2019 ,The following activities of (CRF) Climate finance project were implemented by adopting integrated mechanism between all partners to achieve real project results and overcome such challenges faced project before extension to emulate past ebdmences such as management aspects , delays of products , low level of engagement of partners. Also the project strengthen the capacities of insurance ,reinsurance companies and Micro Finance institutions to learn and apply the weather index insurance product in Sudan .  The all stakeholders of the CRF Project including the donors a conveyed the project management meat in 2019. through the Project Board, technical committee meetings.  The piloting of the WII has been applied among small farmers as one of success story of the Project in addition to that the project is implementing this season different technical packages sanctions by the ARC , WII and Micro Finance to both farmers and pastoralists  The Project Major achievements during the Period:  The Project established of 246 Farmers and pastoralists Production associations. More than 50 workshops and 30 awareness sessions have been organized at targeted states and communities led by the project partners from the related institutions , the project support the initiative of Insurance policies in Sudan, however the WII pastoral documents only applied for this season since the beginning of the project.  The annual work plan and budget for 2019 has been approved by HCENR ,UNDP and Partners by considering all related activities approved in project extension.  The procurement process of the soft and hardware equipments for all activities completed with 80% according to the procurement plan such as the renewal of licenses for RSA and SMA for high-resolution remote sensing , additional rain-gauges and (25) automatic stations will be installed in upcoming days to increase monitoring and observation services. As the part of the early warning system the project completed 100% I-cloud activities . during this period the project has successfully completed the validation trials for farmers which have been conducted in the six states (Kassala, White Nile, South Darfur, North Kordofan, Gedarif and River Nile) in the fields owned by farmers of the targeted communities’ members (men and women 50 - 50%) the positive implications of this activities increased germination rates recorded based on ARC recommendations packages with cost efficiency and positive results. The project is supporting 1500 farmers in target rain-fed areas and another 1000 pastoralist in the pipeline during this season. The EBDAA Bank for microfinance paid the first premium on behalf of the piloted farmers and pastoralist through their associations/ groups for this season.  The RSA update the land cover of the six targeted states in order to get the clearest picture of the land cover of the pilot states, a field work was decided to be carried out. The main goal of this field work is to get the correct coordinates of some gauge stations installed by the project in some of the targeted villages in Gadaref, Kassala and Northern states, as well as the White Nile and North Kordofan states.  The project contained its support on strengthening the EWS institutions and hosted a mission of a UNDP regional adviser on EWS, who provided training to EWS stakeholders on early monitoring of draught & capacity of EWS in some states, The mission also helps in setting good conditions amongst the various institutions dealing with EWS.  CRFP established (6) Early warning units at the targeted states. Each unit is well equipped with relevant tools. More over, CRFP established three committees for early warning three levels: national level, state level and at Locality/community level.The main role of the EWC is to provide the project and the community with products that are critical for early decisions to protect peoples and environmental degradation.  The newly established units and EWCs are expected to support efficient, robust collection and interpretation of weather/climate information for risk mapping, rainfall forecasting and drought early warning which will help reducing or preventing further environmental degradation and CRFP will achieved its objectives to:  Address residual climate risk to rural livelihoods in the states of greatest rainfall variability through parametric insurance products  Improve access of vulnerable farmers and pastoralists to financial services for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.  The capacity of Hydrological modeling within the Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and electricity was also build through purchasing of sophisticated measuring equipment’s, 40 participation of hydrological engineers in 8 of training sessions at National and state level.  The scientific validation trials achieved during the previous season convinced the farmers practically to use them as tool to reduce the impact of climate change and adoption the technology, Micro Finance companies are now ready to support the targeted farmers and pastoralist, the MF services will be linked to the use of the technologies released by the Agriculture Research Cooperation (ARC), however, this component need more effort by the project to be implemented this season 2019.  The insurance team of the project facilitate different workshops for targeted states on WII to build the capacities of the insurance companies and MF institutions and MOA , moreover they held awareness-raising workshops in the six project targeted states focusing on the process of weather index insurance documentation. The ministry of animal resources was also facilitate considerable efforts to execute training courses in the six targeted states, (8) workshops targeted the communities leaders , extensions officers and pastoralists were completed.  The memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Microfinance institutions to complete the WII requirements by including national revised policies and regulations, awareness raising and commitment to support individuals and associations lending. Remote Sensing Authorities (RSA) delivered GPS, GIS training for 28 participants comprising extension agents, insurance brokers and SMA agents.  Project results and outcomes:  Outcome 1: The progress of the project in 2019. All the Automatic weather stations requested in the project document for the six targeted states were installed and operating, the process of purchase of the recommended additional 18 Automatic stations is in progress, Installation of 2 acoustic Doppler flow meters, and 3 manual hydrological is in progress and purchase of 8 water level meters, 3 manual hydrological stations and 3 current meters provided by the project , Digitalization of hydro metrological data is in progress ,although this activity was hindered by the lack of communication and delay of response between the targeted institutions, namely Sudan Metrological Authority (SMA), Remote Sensing Authority (RSA) and Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity through the actual dialogue the rating is Satisfactory (S).  Outcome 2: The project provides weather index insurance (WII) services for 1000 farmers in (4) targeted states and 120 Pastoralist in 2 targeted state. The operations successfully are done because all insurance companies agree upon to developed the first documents of WII of pastoralist in Sudan. Other activities relevant to telecommunication, weather insurance and microfinance are in process for this season 2019. Rating is satisfactory (S).  Outcome 3: Deals with increasing the target group's access to microfinance services. A team for microfinance was developed with the participation of the private sector an intensive program to execute the activities planned in the project document is in progress Approved adaptation technologies have been applied in the six targeted states, this has been achieved through MoU and management plans with Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC). The project support the women groups by linking them with MFIs and insurance companies in livestock and home farming activities , based on succfull results achived the insurance companies are requesting to get a head of the WII products. And have start mobilizing communities to joint WII activities to mitigate climate risk to increase the resilience among the targeted beneficiaries. Also the companies support the project with relevant documents (Legally and regulatory) for WII .  Action plan: Post the technical committee meeting approval of the 2019 plan, the project held 10 meeting to arrange for improved collaboration between the committee members. A detailed implementation plan was prepared and shared among the partner's .  The methods of communications has explain continuous field visits , group meetings , Posters , Pamphlets and telecommunications have been developed and strengthened of the beneficiaries.  A list of national and international consultants are being recruited to facilitate the project activities in different fields to strengthen capacities and address project delay and challenges’ thereby supporting the project to achieve its intended objectives.  The way forwards and ongoing activities for this year 2019:  - Renewal and purchase of hydrological modeling licenses of hydro met software including training for engineers with modeling software (Remote Sensing Authority (RSA), Sudanese Metrological Authority (SMA) & MOWRE  - Effective use of community base radios, mobile phones and SMS communication services to enable fast transmission of manually collected hydrological data  - Knowledge sharing between RSA, SMA and MOWRE on hydrological modeling.  - Continue transfer all available Knowledge and data into digital one to enable smooth flow of information between the project partners.  - Digitization of written hydrological/metrological/climate/agricultural data for data rescue purposes and to facilitate the generation of climate predictions, weather forecasts and agricultural advisories.  - Installation of additional (18) automatic weather stations  - Validation of soil and land cover / use satellite images using field observations to serve weather index and insurance needs  - Knowledge transfer between Sudan NHMS (RSA, SMA, MOWRE and the Ministry of Agriculture) and regional and international agencies on vegetation and drought monitoring  - Formalized coordination with the DRR project National Early Warning Committee to ensure forecast bulletin or alert information is provided  - Capacity reinforcement by a National financial expert on long-term sustainable budgeting and establishing sustainable cost-recovery mechanisms with revenues generated from selling tailored weather  - establishment of a farm information management system  - Scale up of a mobile-phone partnership between SMA, ARC, extension service representatives and a mobile phone company so that rain-fed farmers and pastoralists can receive forecast/climate information and risk / agricultural / pest / livestock advisories by SMS  - Implementation of a formalized feedback mechanism from beneficiaries to NHMS/ARC on the utility of alerts, weather/climate info/forecasts/predictions and agricultural advisories | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Satisfactory | Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The overall assessment of the performance of the CRF project during the period July 2018 to June 2019, from UNDP perspective is satisfactory. While UNDP acknowledges the delays experienced in the past three years, for this period of the project's extension, lots of measures were taken jointly with the Government to enhance the performance. These included strong technical and management support, strong engagement of all relevant partners and the rigorous monitoring from UNDP side. To construe, main achievements are summarized below:  • The project has managed to strongly engage and ensure contribution of relevant partners on technical issues. These partners included: MFIs (Microfinance Institutions (8) ARC (Adapted research), Remote Sensing, Metrology Department, Early Warning System (EWS), Insurance Companies (3), and Range and Pasture Department. A series of meetings and joint field visits were conducted to the six states. Moreover, each partner was requested to provide training and information on related procedures and expected processes on the WII. The objectives of these activities were consolidating projects' activities, improving performance, agreeing on products to meet the objective of enhancing the resilience to and performance of pastoral and agriculture systems to climate change in Sudan.    • Awareness, advocacy and Training: More than 50 workshops and 30 awareness sessions have been organized at targeted states and communities. Accordingly, more engagement for different related sectors was felt through increased desire to join and adoption of the WII. Strong linkages between MF and MI and the pastoralist and farmer are now operational. Some farmers (120) were supported with smart mobiles to pilot connection with partners and improve exchange timely information.    • All partners are now working on finalizing their products in support of the WII. Final products will be presented and advocated for during a planned national event in September. It is anticipated by end 2019 all products produced by the CRFP be demonstrated in a wider context which would facilitate sustainability and engagement at nation level. Moreover, early Warning Systems are now operational in all states and data flow to partners is established regular on hourly basis.    • The Project manages to develop and operationalized the I-cloud database for the Project. The i-cloud data base system was populated with data and the process is still on progress (https://www.facebook.com/pg/Climate-Risk-Finance-Project-CRFP-514261509043371/posts/?ref=page\_internal).    • During the reporting period, the project provided weather index insurance (WII) services for 1000 farmers in (4) targeted states and 120 Pastoralist in 2 targeted state. Moreover, a series of more than 10 consultation meetings with partners culminated in drafting the Pastoral WII guiding document that govern the implementation of the WII.    • During the reporting period, UNDP supported the procurement of additional 18 automatic weather stations and additional 250 rain gauges which were all now installed in the six states and users were trained. A Spectroradiometer for the implementation of the NDVI (normalized difference vegetation index) was procured. Plans for procurement of drones for agriculture and drought monitoring, including specialized training and study tour to enhance awareness and capacities on this front are planned.  That set, the project has faced a number of challenges during the closing, including:  1. Frequent changes in Government structures and reshuffling of functions and roles between ministries. Two relevant ministries were liquidated; these are Ministry of International Cooperation (Key counterpart for UNDP) and Ministry of Environment where most of its functions were transferred to HCNER (Key implementing partner of the Project without increasing its capacity.  2. Economic crises and shortage of cash in the banks limited the Project's access to financial resources to implement activities.  3. Political turmoil and social unrest delayed the implementation of activities.  4. The project extension process took up to 8 Months. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Moderately Satisfactory | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Overall Assessment | Progress towards the project’s Development Objective of increasing the climate resilience of rain-fed farmer and pastoral communities in regions of high rainfall variability through climate risk financing in Sudan, is rated moderately satisfactory – despite some shortcomings and interruptions. The reason for the MS rating, despite a number of inherent shortcomings, is because of accelerated delivery rates during the reporting period, and recent progress towards achieving tangible results. The project is now into its final year of implementation and has, after many initial delays and problems, started to deliver to its full potential, and achieved some important milestones. The project has also responded positively to the mid-term review and acted proactively on the review recommendations. This is paying off when it comes to delivering more tangible outputs and has improved delivery. The performance is even more impressive, when it is considered that implementation has taken place in an extremely challenging development context due to political turmoil and fragmentation, economic crisis and security issues in Sudan during 2019.    As implementation related to the three main components is concerned, there has been good progress towards outcome 1, which focuses on Institutional and technical capacity for climate observation, forecasting and early warning strengthened at national and local levels. This includes, for example, establishment and operationalizing of all the automatic weather stations identified for the six targeted states, installation of acoustic Doppler flow meters, as well as purchase and installation of water level meters, manual hydrological stations and current meters. provided by the project. Under outcome 2 on Residual climate risk to rural livelihoods in the states of greatest rainfall variability addressed through parametric insurance products, significantly more work has taken place, including more tangible on-the-ground activities in the pilot areas. This includes, inter alia, providing weather index insurance (WII) services for 1000 farmers in four targeted states and to 120 Pastoralist in two targeted state. This work has been carried out in close collaboration with several national insurance companies, who have been engaged in the project from the outset. Other activities relevant to telecommunication and weather insurance are also in process. Outcome 3 is dedicated to Improved access of vulnerable farmers and pastoralists to financial services for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. Here approved adaptation technologies have been applied in all six targeted states in partnership with the Agricultural Research Corporation. The project has also conducted various capacity building programme for the micro-finance institutions and developed financial and insurance packages for farmers and pastoralists, enabled by national micro-finance policy. Field visits to project sites have also been conducted, in close partnership with associated national institutions and local communities. The high level of monitoring should continue, and technical report outlining findings and results should be prepared and retained for future evaluations.    Implementation Progress for the project is also rated moderately satisfactory. The cumulative delivery against total approved amount is 67.75%, which is not fully acceptable at this stage of project implementation and will make it difficult to reach a 100% delivery rate at the end of the project in June 2020. This is especially true, since a number of risks that can delay the work or prevent progress towards expected outcomes and outputs have been identified, both at the operational, political and organizational level. These risks have to be seriously considered and, to the extent possible, mitigated when the project team plan for the last ten months of implementation. In order to stay on course, it is also important for the project team to continue to comply with the agreed log frame, work plan and M&E plan in the project document, and make sure any changes are justified and agreed by stakeholders, including UNDP.    Some progress has been made when it comes to communicating project impact and managing knowledge, but this is an area where more efforts should be dedicated during the remaining life of the project, including more focus on social media. To date the project has not invested enough in such activities which is unfortunate, since the adaptation work carried out in Sudan, especially on index-based insurance and micro financing, is in some ways innovative and cutting edge, and has broad interest for stakeholders, development partners and donors beyond the immediate target groups. However, recently the project recruited an international communication expert to support the outreach efforts, and it’s expected major improvements will be made in this area over the coming months. It is important that all project activities, including field visits, meetings and workshops are well documented, and kept with the project team - together with all technical reports and assessments - as these will be crucial for the final evaluation. Likewise, due attention should be paid to producing and retaining knowledge management products that can be shared with stakeholders, practitioners and donors, both in Sudan and beyond.    The project has established useful partnerships with government departments and institutions, both at national and provincial levels, as well as with CSO/NGOs, indigenous peoples and the private sector, which has facilitated implementation progress. The Project is also working closely with many stakeholders including counterparts representing the insurance sector, microfinance sector, and early warning systems institutions. As the project targets farmers and pastoralists, it is also building a strong partnership with the Farmer’s and Pastoralist’s Associations, to ensure that key project messages are communicated through these institutions. Women are also actively participating in the project at all levels and gender has been mainstreamed into all project activities, baseline- and technical studies, and was considered in establishment of community organization, state and national committees.    One area that has to be seriously assessed is the project co-financing. A large amount in pledges (USD 18.8 million) were made during project design, and it’s important for the project’s success and credibility that those pledges are brought to bear and validated. In case some co-financing did not materialize, it’s also important to understand why that was the case and learn from the experience.    Following the mid-term review and assessment of progress to date, the project was granted a one-year extension, which is ending in June 2020. No other extensions of the projects will be granted, and the project therefore need to focus efforts on activities that realistically can be concluded with success in the short time remaining. It would also be prudent for the project team to start planning for the final evaluation as soon as possible. The final evaluation is important for capturing projects achievements and record lessons learned. It is important that the final evaluation is done in full accordance with UNDP guidelines, and look at both the administrative, institutional and technical project experiences and results. The evaluation and recommendations from this LDCF-funded project will be of value both internally in Sudan when it comes to developing future climate change adaptation projects (including GCF), as well as in other countries in the region and beyond where similar adaptation interventions are planned.    Overall this important project is now finally starting to deliver to its potential and some significant milestones have been reached during the reporting period. The project, with its ambitious aim to provide climate risk finance for sustainable and climate resilient rainfed farming and pastoral systems in Sudan, is still highly relevant and has made meaningful progress on a very important national issue, which future projects will also benefit from, but the last 10 months of implementation will be critically important for the project's legacy and all efforts and resources have to be put towards a strong consolidated final push for success. | |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning.  The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

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| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** *not available* |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
| [2019-GEF-PIR-PIMS4591-GEFID4958-Draft2\_LH\_Aug23.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4591/213401/1729234/1744286/2019-GEF-PIR-PIMS4591-GEFID4958-Draft2_LH_Aug23.docx) |

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| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: No |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: No |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes |
| Not applicable: No |

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| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN2:** gender equality as significant objective |

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| **Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.**    **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| Women, of different ages represent the most vulnerable groups in Sudan socially and economically wise. This project will results in empowering the target groups (including youth and women) through providing financial services (MF/MI) and adaptation technologies for small producers farmers and pastoralist through women associations. The percentage of females participating had increased in the implementation of the project activities as WII piloting in rainy season 2017, awareness camping, community female leaders or on technical committees has increased from 20% in 2015 to 60% in 2019 reported.  This is expected to increase the production and productivity, household income and consequently alleviate poverty form the target groups, of whom at least 50% are expected to be women and youth. During 2019, the validation trails for farmers and pastoralist targeted women and men equally in each community.  Gender has been mainstreamed in all project activity, baseline and technical studies and was considered in the project formulation of community organization, state and national committees (at least 50% of the membership should be women at all levels).  12 awareness sessions were conducted to raise the knowledge around climate change in the 6 targeted states.  50% of the established associations were women focused association.  200 home gardening are established with adoption of the new technologies packages.  More than 600 female are linked to microfinance institutes for agriculture, pastors and others to enhance their living status. |

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| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| The project advanced gender equality in all processes including recruitment of the project staff; 2 out of 4 project Staff are female.  The project currently informing the target communities on Weather Index Insurance that was designed in a way to be accessible to female in the targeted communities and microfinance which can be accessible. Criteria for validation trials, training workshops and awareness camping are to be soft enough to equally benefit women. |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

The Project Manager and/or the project’s Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

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| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| No |

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| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| NA |

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| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.** |
| No |

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| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| NA |

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| **SESP:** [ESSP Checklist and Summary Sudan.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4591/213401/1665153/1665434/ESSP%20Checklist%20and%20Summary%20Sudan.docx)  **Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework:** *not available* |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| Not Applicable |

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| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| NA |

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| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.** |
| NA |

# Communicating Impact

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| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.**  **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| This project is about addressing climate risk on the farming and pastoral system and providing financial services to increase target groups resilient through funding adaptation measures and providing timely and accurate climate information as well as complementary micro-finance and weather-based index insurance services for rain-fed farmers and pastoralists to improve their ability to manage and adapt to climate risks.. It aims to improve target institutions and groups financially, technically and operationally while also making it more integrated or cohesive through MF/MI policies and legislations. It is intended to harmonies and increase cooperation between (EWS ) early warning system institution, build their technical and institutional capacity. The beneficiaries of this project are the government institutions, non-government entities, communities (farmers and pastorals) living or working within the identified climate vulnerable regions through improvement in the livelihoods, production capacity, reduction of poverty, improve adaptive capacity and ability to mitigate climate risks that this project is aiming to achieve. The CRFP, through focusing on reducing the risks associated with climate change, is planning to enhance the effectiveness of on-going development investments, and early warning institutions to provide timely and accurate weather and climate data to the target sectors and groups.  Insurance companies require a well-established infrastructure for early warning institutions. WII will create high confidence between financial institutions and producers which will enable large numbers of small farmers and pastoralists to gradually linking them with the economic cycle (finance institutions & market) which enable them to adopt adaptive climate changes technologies. Due to the project interventions, linking between microfinance and weather index insurance became a reality in Sudan and supported legislated by laws and regulations. The project enabled Sudan Metrological Authority (SMA) Services to cover remote areas of targeted states, initiation of remote sensing services within the states ministries of agriculture and animal resources have been implemented. Agricultural yield increase through agricultural technologies e.g. water harvesting techniques which widely acceptable by target communities as reported .The project facilitate their approach to finance agents which help them not only to develop agriculture but also create other services like making water pipe net inside the village for drinking water through a bank loan. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

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| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.**    **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| The project was lagging behind in terms of documenting stories and developing advocacy material. To overcome this challenge, an International Communication Expert has been recruited to assist in endeavor. So far the expert prepared an inception report and a plan which will be conducted soon. |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important!  All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| Yes |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| No |
| No |

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| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |
| No |

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| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| Yes |
| Yes |

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| **CEO Endorsement Request:** [RESUBMISSION\_4591\_Sudan\_GEF CEO Endorsement\_26Mar2014.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4591/213401/1665154/1665444/RESUBMISSION_4591_Sudan_GEF%20CEO%20Endorsement_26Mar2014.docx) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| The Project is also working closely with many stakeholders including counterparts representing the insurance sector, microfinance sector, and early warning systems institutions.  As the project targets farmers and pastoralists, it is building a strong partnership with the Farmer’s and Pastoralist’s Associations to ensure that key project messages are communicated through these institutions. Relevant NGOs such as Practical Action, Youth and Female Society Organizations and the Sudanese Climate Change Network as well as SOS Sahil (a Pastoralist NGO), are being contracted by the project to ensure that awareness campaigns about weather index insurance are communicated to the targeted communities across the villages and localities of the six targeted states.  The project is building a strong partnership with the Farmer’s and Pastoralist’s Associations to ensure that key project messages are communicated through these institutions and to facilitate linking between financial institutions.    The project targets farmers and pastoralists in selected villages in the six targeted states. The project is conducting extension campaigns and training awareness at the grass-root level to ensure that the project concept of weather index insurance is well understood and facilitate to access to financial services. Chairs of Pastoralists and Farmers Associations are already part of the technical committee and have always been involved in the project plan formulation to implementation. Unions for farmers and pastoralists in the six targeted states are now partners for the project.  Insurance and some microfinance institutions in Sudan is a private sector. The project is well engaging with (Elnilain , Altaawnia, and Aleslamia ) insurance companies that are involved in the implementation of the project. Some insurance companies, financial institutions, and micro-finance agencies are partners of the project. The microfinance institutions especially the (Microfinance Unit of the Bank of Sudan, Alfal microfinance company and Ebdaa microfinance bank) are having an extended partnership with the project form the design phase through to the implementation phase. Both insurance and microfinance sectors are represented in the Project Board and to provide adequate guidance in both fields |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.