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Photo 1: JADNP, Rahad Locality, NK, 19 August 2022, by Saada Naiel

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARD PROCEDURE GUIDELINES

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United Nations Development Program

Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources

**Strengthened Protected Areas System and Integrated Ecosystem
Management in Sudan**

SPAS

**Social and Environmental Safeguard
Procedure (SESP)**

Guideline

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Sudan, Khartoum, Sept. 2022

List of Abbreviations:

ARC	Agricultural Research Corporation
BNR	Blue Nile Region
CBC	Community Based Committee
DBMINP	Dungonab Bay Mukkawar Island National Park
DNP	Dinder National Park
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
FNC	National Forest Corporation
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Concept
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HCENR	Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
IPP	Indigenous Peoples Plan
JADNP	Jebel El Dair National Park
PAPs	Project`s Affected Persons
PERSIGA	The protection of the environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
PMU	Project Management Unit
RPA	Range and Pasture Administration
SECS	Sudanese Environment Conservation Society
SESP	Social and Environmental Screening Procedure
SPAS	Strengthened Protected Areas System
SRM	Stakeholder Response Mechanism
SUDIA	The Sudanese Organization for Development
SWPS	Sudanese Wildlife Protection Society
UNDP	United Nations` Development Program
UNEP	United Nations for Environment Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNIDO	United Nations for Industrial Development Organization
WCGA	Wildlife Conservation General Administration
WRC	Wildlife Research Centre

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1. Introduction:

The project will comply with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES), which came into effect 1 January 2015, that updated and approved in 2019 and effective as in 1 January 2021, where incorporation of provisions to strengthen alignment with the 2018 Global Environment Facility (GEF) safeguards policy, UN Model Approach to Environmental and Social Standards, and World Bank Environmental and Social Framework. The SES underpin UNDP's commitment to mainstream social and environmental sustainability in its Programmes and Projects to support sustainable development. The objectives of the standards are to:

UNDP-SES programming level principles 2021:

1. Leave No One Behind
2. Human Rights
3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
4. Sustainability and Resilience
5. Accountability

- strengthen the quality of programming by ensuring a principled approach;
- maximize social and environmental opportunities and benefits;
- avoid adverse impacts to people and the environment;
- minimize, mitigate, and manage adverse impacts where avoidance is not possible;
- strengthen staff and partners capacities for managing social and environmental risks;
- ensure full and effective stakeholder engagement, including through a mechanism to respond to complaints from project-affected people.

The UNDP's Social and Environmental Safeguard standards (SES) are an integral component of quality assurance and risk management approach to programming. It includes the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP). The key elements of SESP at the project level includes:

- Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management
- Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks
- Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security
- Standard 4: Cultural Heritage
- Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement
- Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples
- Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions
- Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency

1.1. SPAS project:

The objective of the SPAS is To Strengthen the National Protected Areas (PA) System and Promote Integrated Ecosystem Management in Adjacent Areas to Reduce Threats to Biodiversity, Mitigate Land Degradation, Sustain Ecosystem Services and Improve Livelihoods. The project is funded by GEF and administered by the UNDP to implement main 3 components. At the landscape level, developed through the second and third components, the project will work in and around three selected Protected Areas in Sudan: Dinder National Park (terrestrial), Jebel El Dair National Park (terrestrial), and Dungenab Bay Mukkawar Island National Park (marine).

The SPAS project focuses specifically on the protection of marine and terrestrial parks and safeguarding the health of ecosystems for indigenous communities. SPAS is supportive in IP's livelihood needs and the role they will play in maintaining their ecosystem health for their enhanced resilience and life qualities. This said, some risks are always associated in terms of engagement and unintended consequences. These have been taken up in the project design, as well as the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Analysis.

The project has thus been given a **high-risk** rating as in the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure included in Annex D of the Project Document. There is some social risk in this Project because the project will be working directly with communities to find alternative livelihood options. The project is designed to mitigate this risk in a way that ensures gender and socially responsiveness by placing adequate consideration on differential needs of men and women, and other disadvantaged groups. Component 3 directly responds to the resource requirements of people living in the vicinity of protected areas as well as finding mechanisms to increase livelihoods options and management systems. These aspects will be implemented with relevant planning and guidelines based on the best practices and lessons learned from multiple NRM efforts in Sudan, including ensuring good governance, building capacity and reaching equitable agreements.

1.2. Need of the Guideline

1. A standard code of practice synthesized from the UNDP/GEF standards to cope with its programming principles as regarded to Social and Environmental Safeguards (SES).
2. A practical guide based on the SPAS project document to be understood by all stakeholders to collaborate, cooperate and coordinate to plan and act accordingly.
3. Practical guidance to be used by the SPAS - PMU, partners and stakeholders during the implementation of projects on the correct selection of technologies under different conditions and their sequentially correct implementation bearing in mind to prevent, avoid and reduce harm to people and the environment.
4. Assistance in the selection of appropriate technologies according to biophysical niches and social needs considering the biosphere reserved rights.
5. Attracts attention to the risks and mitigation action suitable for protected areas treatment plan, with major focus on biodiversity, social coexistence and conservation
6. Advice on activities, interventions and measures which are useful to be adopted and scaled-up to include other protected areas in Sudan.

1.3 Scope

- The Guideline is prepared based on the UNPD/GEF principles and standards of SES and built on the SESP plan of the SPAS project document. It is covering few geographical protected areas in Sudan (terrestrial and marine), however, it can be used for larger geographical coverage and with this respect adjustments and flexibility would be required.
- This guideline needs to be regularly updated to cope with the expected changes in the Sudanese context at all levels (environmental, social, economic and institutional)

1.4 Objective and rationale

The overall objective of the Guideline is to provide a set of procedures and hands-on tools for use in planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of social and environmental safeguard procedures which can be used by the different stakeholders and partners and local communities to prevent, avoid, reduce the different types of harm that could have any adverse impact on the implementation of the project and to set practical mechanisms to respond to claims and grievance redress

More specifically, the guideline covers the following:

1. providing practical guidance in terms of institutional and legal framework to update and planning for stakeholder's engagement, with clear roles and accountability mechanisms.
2. preparation of indigenous peoples' plan, developing of effective grievance redress mechanisms to be implemented by the project staff, partners and stakeholders.
3. Planning for risk management and setting of mitigation measures to be a part of the institutional framework.
4. Guidance on documentation of lessons learned for the SPAS and other projects of the same nature implemented in Sudan.

2. Methodology:

This guidelines document is prepared during 6 months from March- August 2022. The methodology followed includes:

- Desk work and literature review.
- Site visits.
- Partners official meetings.
- Stakeholders meetings.
- Key person consultations (national, state and local levels).
- Open discussions with communities.
- Focus group discussions.
- Regular consultations with PMU and UNDP officers.

3. Screening the environmental and social safeguard concerns:

According to the project document (section D) The project will be developing capacities of and working with key stakeholders to ensure socio-political sustainability (particularly through policy finalisation of wildlife protection), as well as implement direct-on the ground interventions that will restore degraded land. The project will make efforts to screen all interventions related to SLM for practices that may be maladaptive. With this respect scoping, screening and mitigation measures (if there is / are ESMF concerns) considered prior to the write up and approval of the plan by the PMU.

The management plans prepared by the partners in collaboration with CBCs need to be scrutinized before implementation. These plans have to be prepared to prevent, minimize, mitigate or

compensate for adverse impacts. Thus, to ensure that any undesirable impacts are avoided or mitigated; environmental risks and social issues have to be mainstreamed. The implementation of environmental and social management Plan (ESMP) helps to sustainably manage the natural resources by integrating the different partners and stakeholders in the management process including planning and implementation on accountable bases. SPAS project poses low risks in terms of potential environmental impacts. Much rather, it has been designed to promote environmental safety by ensuring continued existence of environmental resources including wildlife habitats and species, and for sustainable access to and use of natural resources by people living in the vicinity of protected areas, nevertheless, the following are required:

- Identification of impacts of proposed interventions (Annex 1).
- Design mitigation measures according to the existing and potential risks after analysing the interventions and their impacts.
- Inclusion of the mitigation measures into the SPAS annual plans and M&E system.
- Linking these plans with the knowledge management systems.
- Identification of institutional capacities, roles and key partners accounted to respond to the identified measure (Annex 2).
- Assessment of capacities needed at the institutional and individual levels to be inclusive in the plans. (Annex 2)

3.1. Identification of impacts of intervention:

The various development activities and rehabilitation measures which could be implemented in a protected area (Marine or terrestrial) may have side effects on the environment and social stability of the community. Therefore, it is always mandatory to scrutinize each intervention properly and identify the possible impacts. Those interventions/projects/activities with no or insignificant potential impacts can be directly approved and implemented. Whereas, those interventions likely to have low to moderate to high adverse impacts and unknown impacts should be tagged as projects/interventions of environmental and social concern before referring the plan for approval. (A list of potential environmental concerns attached in Annex 1)

3.2. Design mitigation measures:

After analysing the intervention measures properly and understanding the level of impacts they will have on the environment and the community in general, possible mitigation measures have to be identified. The mitigation measures proposed have to be again included in the PA plan document. Potential mitigation measures are proposed in Annex 2.

4. Environmental and social safeguards, legal framework and measures:

4.1. Environmental safeguards:

Implementation of activities under component 3 in accordance with the international and national legal framework. Sudan signed and ratified more than 8 conventions covering issues such as cultural heritage, endangered species, law of the sea, conservation of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, combating pollution by oil; Vienna convention for protection of Ozone layer and Nagoya protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources. It should also comply with the environmental laws and legislations, forest and rangeland laws, and regulations and customary

laws governing land use and land tenure. Introduction of invasive species in the forest and pasture activities and the removal of indigenous species under the fire lines opening are of high concern. Thus, avoiding the dense area is recommended. Avoiding new species of range plants to enter DNP and **JADNP**. Adaptive indigenous species should be used in community forests and range rehabilitation. Revisions of protected areas laws and management plants would be of a great support for the different partners and stakeholders.

4.2. Social safeguards:

Community participation should be enhanced through formation of CBCs, gender segregated. Encouragement of women's participation through the establishment of gender sensitive activities and techniques bearing in mind the culture of the communities. Communities should be prior informed with the interventions and the activity indicating mitigation measures that are of particular environmental and social concern. Transparency is essential and a community member should be trained and capacitated to play the role of environmental and social safeguard focal point to observe, uptake, register and claim the concern at the local level to the state level and receive the feedback from the PMU with a clear planned GRM. During the implementation, of community forests and pastures, land tenure is a real concern and an official signed free of conflict documents should be issued and agreed upon between the partner, CBC and Chief of village and PA specialist. Indigenous peoples' rights should be enhanced in clear prior informed plan. Indigenous people in the targeted areas include (Kadalo people in DNP around the BNR, Bija people in Dungonab Bay Mukkawar Island National Park (**DBMINP**), and Nuba in **JADNP**). The rights of IP in the genetic resources management and benefit sharing is guaranteed with Nagoya protocol- ABS and in accordance to the biosphere reserved rights laws especially for DNP and JADNP areas.

5. Stakeholder engagement Plan:

5.1. Engagement Strategy and Actions

The Objectives of the Plan is to ensure the involvement of all who may be affected by the project interventions from all group of all stakeholders especially locals and those who are interested in the project so as to guarantee their voice and concerns are taken in considerations in addition to the Identification of stakeholders and their roles which will help in building trust and partnership and engagement and create sense of communication. Communicating with the identified stakeholders and the potential new ones in direct and regular consultations will help give evidence of transparency and improve trust. The stakeholders' engagement plant will Keep in mind all GEF, UNDP and World Bank guidelines and stakeholders' participation principles which is summarized in the project document as follows:

Table 1: A summary of GEF, UNDP and World Bank guidelines and stakeholders' participation principles

Principle	Stakeholder participation will:
Value adding	Be an essential means of adding value to project
Inclusivity	Include all relevant stakeholders
Accessibility and access	Be accessible and promote access to the process
Transparency	based on transparency and fair access to information main provisions of the project plans and result will be published in local mass - media
Fairness	ensure that all stakeholders are treated in a fair unbiased way
Accountability	Be based on a commitment to accountability by all stakeholders
Constructive	Seek to manage conflict and promote the public interest
Redressing	Seek to redress inequity and injustice
Capacitating	Seek to develop the capacity of all stakeholders
Heeds Based	Be based on the needs of all stakeholders
Flexible	Be flexibly designed and implemented

5.2. Stakeholder analysis:

During the project preparatory phase (2018), stakeholders were identified and their roles analysed as main contributors to the project as inclusive to Implementing and executing partners, Government, Local communities, NGOs, Previous and ongoing initiatives and projects, International organizations and Private sector. In addition to Financing and implementing partners which include Global Environment Facility (GEF): The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): Higher Council of Environment and Natural Resources (HCNER): Wildlife Conservation General Administration (WCGA): Ministry of Finance:

However, when the project started after 4 years, and after the Sudanese Revolution (April 2019), the political and economic situation changed. Accordingly, some stakeholder's roles are changed, some became inactive and new ones appear potential to be considered. the detailed list of stakeholders is updated with their corresponding roles as appear in the tables below.

Table 2: Updated list of SPAS stakeholders and their corresponding roles

A. Government

Name of Institutions	Role in the Project	Remarks / analysis
Range and Pasture Administration (RPA) At national level	Component 3 Land use agreement development Enforcement of 2015 Act Registration of rangeland in surrounding PAs Leading the range reserves work	The Range and Pasture Administration is a well-qualified and experienced institution in such work and it will be a key institution in most of component 3 activities as well as participation in PAS and wildlife polices establishment
Range and Pasture Administration (RPA) state level	Rangeland rehabilitation and fire lines operations, supporting land use workshops, capacity building especially in bailing pasture and adoption of community management of grazing land, reseeding rangeland	Collaborative work with FNC, WLCA and administrative units at locality level
Range and Pasture Administration (RPA) local level (CBCs)	Implementation of range rehabilitation activities. Provision of conflict free lands.	Corresponding GRM between pastoralists and farmers
National Forest Corporation (FNC) At national level	Mostly key implementer in parts of Component 3 Land use polices Participate in any assessment of any sustainable use of any tree species in selected PAs.	The National Forest Corporation is a well experienced and qualified institution to undertake and lead the reforestation aspects of the project
FNC at State and local level	Establishment of private and community forest around Pas Replanting of forest areas, also supporting in the mangrove areas Baseline data collection	Roles and responsibilities should set clearly on accountability bases.
Wildlife Research Centre (WRC)	Will support activities in Component 2, mainly through leading some of the ecological monitoring inside PAs	WRC is a specialized Centre designated for all research aspects about wildlife in Sudan Although the Centre has no official relation with PAs and wildlife authority, the two organization is work

	Will to a lesser extent participate in component 3 activities viz. sustainable use of PAs resources, give inputs to the park authorities about any interventions or activities	together in surveys training since the Centre's establishment And the Centre staff include all those who can perform the ecological monitoring and needed data about PAs and their surroundings
Ministry of Agriculture and Forests at federal and local level	Will likely be a member of the high body governing the project To help and facilitate the decision of replanting of 10% of rain fed around PAs will contribute to the success of the project and land use reform and hence communities' livelihood and a key member of technical committee at all level	Agriculture sector has a negative or positive impact on PAs and wildlife and their habitats Land degradation and tenure system and poor communities around PAs due to land use plans make the agriculture sector an important party in the project
Ministry of Agriculture and Forests at state level- Red Sea state	Responsible of Mangrove management activities	Agreements needed with Red Sea university, College of Marine Research
Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, at federal and local level	The livestock species that found in Sudan especially cattle, sheep, camels, goats and others occupy large amounts of land in Sudan, the estimated number exceeds the carrying capacity of the rangeland that resulted in a huge trespassing in PAS especially Dinder this trespassing is considered the high ranking threats to wildlife habitat and invasive spp. Invading the parks, therefore the protection of these areas could not be achieved without provision of land to these animals and awareness to nomads and rehabilitation of the range land, provision of water, increase yields from small numbers of herd. In this	To solve a very acute threats to all Pas in Sudan, land use workshops and CBNRM planning will directly involve the ministry.

	<p>regard, the ministry will play a large role in the land use workshops as part of Component 3.</p> <p>The fisheries resources are used by local people for generating income as well as a food especially in Marine parks in addition that wetlands of Dinder produce a huge amount of fish; the ministry will be supporting the project to enhance sustainability, and particularly also supporting in the setting up of a pilot fish farm and rehabilitation of the Dinder mayas</p>	
Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC)	ARC will play a leading role in various elements of Component 3, particularly the conducting (and capacity development of other institutions) of biophysical land condition assessments	ARC is a well-established institute and with experience of more than 100 years, its HQ are located in Madani and states branches in Aldamazine, Attbra, Gadarif and Alobied, which are suitable for project sites
Tourism authorities at national and local level	Support the tourism areas of the project in all components	One of the important elements in the project is to maximize Pas economic values therefore, the development of ecotourism simple infrastructure in Pas and production of advertisement materials and training to communities is essential. The Tourism authorities should be present in committees established to guide the project interventions at national and local level
Higher Council for Tourism- Red Sea state	Focal point at DBMINP	Agreement needed with WCGA
Water Resources Authorities National and local levels	To support project in interventions related to improve wildlife habitat, livestock and communities	Water resources are at the top priority to communities as well as rehabilitation of rangeland and community forest and wildlife habitat therefore the presence of water institutions in the project stakeholders list is oblivious

B. NGOs

Name of Institutions	Role in the Project	Remarks
Sudanese Environment Conservation Society (SECS)- Main office	Leading various parts of Component 3 focusing on Dinder and Jebel El Dair National Parks, including facilitating workshops, leading CBNRM work, managing grant facility.	SECS is oldest environmental organization, has experience in all part of Sudan more than 100 branches and 1000 members, it also works in polices, EIA studies; it has branches in Alrahad, Dinder, Port Sudan and Attbra, therefore it is an important NGO in the implementation of project activities especially awareness, lobby and communities' programmes and NRM and financing SECS has a common work with WCGA and international organization
Sudanese Environment Conservation Society (SECS)- state branches	Community mobilization and implementation of activities	Roles and responsibilities should set clearly on accountability bases. With due concern to institutional capacity building for the branches.
The Sudanese Organization for Development (SUDIA)	Leading various parts of Component 3 focusing on Dungonab. Training, facilitation, support to business development, facilitating sustainable tourism and sustainable fisheries value chains (development and process) for the park communities as well as managing the grant facility	SUDIA is an active organization in Dungonab and Jebel Al Dair (as well as Darfur) and has a common work with WCGA and international organization like Cousteau and Darwin Initiative, its advantage for the project to work with such an NGO and they can complement each other in some interventions, especially in NRM and communities' livelihood and SUDIA staff includes 15 well qualified staff in Khartoum and Port Sudan
Sudanese Wildlife Protection Society (SWPS)	Support capacity only, engaging them in some Component 2 work on ecological monitoring together with WRC, grant facility management.	A well-established society with dedicated staff and has good relations with migratory species and wetlands International organizations as well as an excellent community outreach in terms of local leaders and activists

C. Initiatives

Name of Institutions	Role in the Project	Remarks
Sudan Integrated Natural Resources Sustainable Management	Align some activities that include increase of green areas and improve rangeland, through communities' leadership	SSNRMP is a project that fall under Great Green Wall Initiative and it has been active in the last 5 years in 3 states mainly Kassala. Aljazera and White Nile. The project is now extending its work to North kordofan and River Nile states and other states, synergy between Pas project and SSNRMP will be needed in Aldair and Alhassania N. Parks Mainly in buffer zones activities related to forest and range lands
GEF projects And other projects	There are 5 projects under implementation by HCNER but most of them will end in this year or the next, it will be important that synergies are made with those.	Climate change Adaptation project which will finish in 2020 is working in White Nile which is not covered by the project Although climate change risk financed will end December 2018 there is a possibility of cooperation Also, there is Reed project is implemented by forest Corporation and there is livestock development working in 5 states PAs project can corporate with them especially in component 3

E. Private Sector

Name of Institutions	Role in the Project	Remarks
Tour Operators and Tourism agencies in Khartoum and States	Advertize eco- tourism in PAs, diving, wildlife safari and connection the antiquities tourism with nature tourism and infrastructure investment	The project needs the collaboration with such organization so as to maximize PAs economic values and providing jobs to local

F. Communities

Name of Institutions	Role in the Project	Remarks
<p>Communities in and around PAs (20 Km app.) (or Dinder this includes river Rahad villages in and outside the park (Gedarif State); Kadallo, Magano in the Blue Nile Region in addition of Sennar zone Ummbagra and neighbouring villages)</p> <p>Sidra and Kimla villages in JDPA, NK State</p> <p>Dungunab and Mohammed Goal in DPA, Red Sea state</p> <p>Nomads and farmers</p> <p>Local and native leaders</p> <p>Youth and women groups (resistance committees)</p> <p>Change and services committees at village level and state level.</p>	<p>To provide land for project interventions in collaboration with the government and NGOs, co-implement all aspects of component 3, organize all communities work and select the representatives to represent the communities in the engagements.</p> <p>The entry point for all services provided by agents or any outsider body. Responsible of observation and monitoring people`s rights. Advocating for people`s rights Facilitating the project presentation, and support implementation at local level</p>	<p>All needs to be included in the project. Detailed information has been provided in the baseline of the project document; the communities are essential parties to the smooth running of project performance and achievement of its objectives the output should be reflected in their future involvement and participation in PAs management and governance. Local leaders should be taken sensitively, if they are not really engaged, neglected or not consulted they might hinder the implementation.</p> <p>Resistance committees and Change and Services committees are community-based organizations established at all local levels after the Sudanese revolution in April 2019. It represents both political and development arms at the local level and it became the main decision-making body and the most trusted in the community. The main power of the RC is that it is elected on democratic bases to include youth, both males and females.</p>

G. International organizations

Name of Institutions	Role in the Project	Remarks
UNESCO	To develop science, education and cultural work around the world, in relation to this project Man and Biosphere Reserves work	UNESCO office in Khartoum and through the National committee is very active through MAB committee, the MAB program me is very active in PAs through Biosphere Reserves Initiative it can bring small grants and co – fund all the PAS project components during the 5years project Plans

		<p>MAB committee succeeded in recognition of both Dinder and Aldair as a biosphere Reserves and led the inclusion of Marine Parks in the Natural World Heritage List and working to enhance cooperation between Dinder and Alatesh Park in Ethiopia so as to have a transboundary Protected area not by technical advice bur funds</p> <p>The MAB committee is also active in PAs expansions in marine and terrestrial PAs and in Biosphere adopted methods which is found to be suitable for Sudan PAS system</p>
PERSIGA	The protection of the environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and promotion of establish MPAs and their appropriate management	<p>Component I policies related to marine PAs and legal and institutional capacities</p> <p>Effective management</p> <p>Component 3 community livelihood and sustainable use</p> <p>PERSGA was very active in Sudan its work supported the establishment of Dongonab</p> <p>They also engage in training MPA staff and provision of boats to communities therefore coordination between the project and PERCEGA will maximize the project work as well as increase the opportunity of co – financing</p>
United Nations Environment Programme		<p>UNEP expressed their interest in the project and asked the PPG to provide them with project document so as to discuss the way of collaboration between them and the project</p>
UNIDO	Interested in entrepreneurship and small industries development at the community level especially food processing (drying and packing Fish and sea-food).	<p>United Nations for Industrial Development organisation is present at Red Sea state and express interest in the project activities related to sea food industries and small business. / DPA</p>
IFAD	Present at both Sennar and NK states working in livestock development, Range rehabilitation (reseeding and routes), NRM, including community forests, training, women agricultural activities including marketing development.	<p>IFAD is implementing the Livestock Marketing Development Project (LMDP)/(Sennar State- DNP).</p> <p>And Integrated Agriculture and Marketing Development Project (IAMDP)/ (North Kordofan/ Rahad locality – JDNP)</p> <p>Both projects expressed interest in collaboration with the SPAS in the two specified locations.</p>



Photo 2: A local woman interoperating the concept of safeguard in a local language for a gather of females from Kadalu area

Location: Abu Jingir village, Kadalu, BNR,

Date: May 2022.

By Saada Naiel, SES national consultant

6. Indigenous People's Plan

One of the main social concerns prescribed as a risk is that the project results might negatively impact indigenous people in the targeted areas. It is of at most importance that the project involves activities that are contingent on establishing legally recognized rights to lands, territories or resources that indigenous peoples have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired and that people are achieving legal recognition of such ownership, occupation, or usage with the support of the relevant authority, including the manner in which delimitation, demarcation, and titling shall respect the customs, traditions, norms, values, land tenure systems and effective and meaningful participation of the affected peoples, with legal recognition granted to titles with the full, free prior and informed consent of the affected peoples; and list of the activities that are prohibited until the delimitation, demarcation and titling is completed.

However, in the project areas the identification of indigenous people is debatable. In Sudan, the identification of indigenous people is not used, however, UNDP introduces groups in the targeted areas as minorities. The minority groups are identified as follows in the project area:

- Gumuz in Kadalo area, BNR, DNP.
- Beja in Dongonab and Mohammed Goal, Red Sea, DBMINP
- Nuba in Sidra and Kimla, NK, JADNP

Nevertheless, the IP plan should include the following:

1. Identification of IP. (Annex 3)
2. Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) for the implemented activities based on an agreed upon meaningful consultations.
3. Identification of measures to maximize the benefit of IP.
4. Capacity support: Description of measures to support social, legal, technical capabilities of indigenous peoples' organizations in the project area to enable them to better represent the affected indigenous peoples more effectively.
5. Grievance Redress: A description of the procedures available to address grievances brought by the affected indigenous peoples arising from project implementation.
6. Institutional Arrangements: Describe schedule and institutional arrangement responsibilities and mechanisms for carrying out the measures contained in the IPP.
7. Monitoring, Reporting, Evaluation: Describe the monitoring framework for the project and key indicators for measuring progress and compliance of requirements and commitments.
8. Budget and Financing: Include an appropriately costed plan, with itemized budget sufficient to satisfactorily undertake the activities described.



Photo 3: CBC consultations on SES, meeting for Kimla community, NK, Rahad locality, JADNP

Location: Kimla village, Kimla school

Date: 19 August 2022

By: Dalia Esmail, SECS, Rahad branch

Grieves Redress Mechanism (GRM):

The project GRM as recommended by UNDP (2014) was set to address the project affected persons' (PAP) grievances, complaints, and suggestions. The GRM will be managed and regularly monitored by the PMU as appear in Annex 4. It will comply with the following requirements:

Table 3: Required GRM actions- step by step mechanism

Required action	description	Responsible person	Mechanism
Uptake	The GRM will have multiple uptake locations and channels PMU or members of PB in person	Recommended focal persons for social and environmental grieves at both community level and state institutions (Annex 2)	by phone, via delegated people, via mail, email, and/or via special page of the Project web-site
Sort & process (Registration)	All grievances will be registered by PMU All complaints submitted to PMU or members of PB will be registered by the PMU. These data are important to assess trends and patterns of grievances across the Project regions and for monitoring & evaluation purposes	PA specialist Concerned partner at state level	The complaint will be assigned a unique tracking number upon its submission. The PMU will maintain a database with full information on all submitted complaints and responses taken.
Investigate and act	Strict complaint resolution procedures will be developed and observed, and personnel at the PMU will be assigned to handle the grievances	M&E specialist	The PMU will develop clear and strict grievance redress procedures, and assign responsibilities
Provide feedback	Feedback will be provided in response	M&E and Project manager	The PMU will provide feedback by contacting the complainant directly (if

	to all registered grievances		his/her identity is known), by reporting on actions taken in community consultations and/or by publishing the results of the complaints on the Project web-site, local newspapers and as part of project materials.
Enable appeals	Complainants will be notified of their right to appeal the decision taken by the PMU	Local focal points and PMU	If complainants are not satisfied with PMU response to their grievance, they will be able to appeal the PMU decision to members of SC and UNDP CO via mail, e-mail or the Project web-site
Monitor & Evaluate	The performance of the GRM will be regularly monitored. As all information about the grievances and their resolution will be recorded and monitored	PMU M&E specialist PA specialists Partners	conduct in-depth analyses of complaint trends and patterns, identify potential weaknesses in the Project implementation, and consider improvements. This data will be used to Environmental and social grievances will be reported to the GEF in the annual PIR

7. Accountability:

As one of the UNDP/ SES standards; accountability is based on responsibilities and commitments. Different levels of accountability adhere to different roles of the stakeholders and partners. They are financially and ethically accounted to the resources and technical work based on the agreed up-on plans. All the stakeholders are accountable, so the roles should be set very clear and transparent. In order to ensure UNDP’s ultimate accountability, Project Board (steering committee) decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition

- Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources (HCENR) as the main implementing Partner is fully responsible and accountable for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in the project document.

- The Project Manager will ensure that all project staff maintain a high level of transparency, responsibility and accountability in M&E and reporting of project results.
- The stakeholder's engagement plan is laid to agreement on assessment and evaluations of their performance according to the project procedure and GEF policies and guidelines which include transparency, accountability and safeguards of the social and environmental areas.
- Empowering people to know and claim their rights by increasing the ability and accountability of individuals and organisations responsible for upholding those rights in society.
- The Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM) helps project-affected stakeholders, governments and others partners jointly resolve concerns and disputes. It is available when Implementing Partner and UNDP project-level stakeholder engagement processes have not successfully resolved issues of concern. UNDP Country Office management normally leads in Stakeholder Response; a headquarters function will also support the SRM.

8. Lessons learned from other NRM projects implemented in Sudan:

8.1. Lessons learned

Putting in place the right policies regarding land use around PAs in support of the integrity of PAs, and equitable access and sharing of resources, the project will improve the enabling environment, in turn institutionalizing this approach. The improved policies, laws, and capacity of institutions put in place under the project will support effective management of PAs, as well as mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation principles in surrounding landscapes with due consideration to the involvement of the different stakeholders and local communities. The learnt lessons should include also the best practices followed by the project as well as the draw backs appear to the interventions and implementation of activities. It can include but not limited to all or some of the following:

- Demonstrating the PAs approach in a few target – both terrestrial and marine and adoption of approach by the government of Sudan (WCGA and other relevant departments) and scaling up effective buffer zone management, SLM and INRM practices and approaches developed under this project to all PAs in the national system in a phased manner.
- document the lessons learnt (positive and negative) from the project site investments on law enforcement as related to biosphere reserved rights.
- Mention all the positive initiatives driven by communities to enhance peaceful coexistence and the involvement of minorities including IDPs and people with disabilities.
- Specify a menu of activities which can be undertaken using community self-help resources that would enhance indigenous people`s physical assets.

- Identify the community share in protected areas management and NRM activities within village boundary that can facilitate the involvement of existing organization/s into a number of working groups, and can ensure timely accomplishment of the activity such as rehabilitation of range, forests, mangroves and ecotourism activities.
- Document any positively reflected interventions in a certain individual or group that adopted by others (who are not targeted) without direct influence from the project part.
- Document any institutional strategic plans that evolve the PAS management activities within their routine work which implemented and developed accordingly.
- Track any changes and harvest the outcomes of your interventions and link them with the knowledge sharing tool of the project.
- Set any GR data base within the project`s knowledge sharing tracking tool and link them to the SRM.
- Link the community innovations with the concerned partner and develop community-led innovations in regard to farming systems, NRM and environmental conservation.

8.2. Best practices and Innovations:

The project is likely to implement best practices that could lead to desirable results in terms of SES, NRM and livelihood improvements patterns. The practices enhance the concept of the enabling environment should be then documented, developed and shared with others to be adopted with the concerned stakeholders and used as a main asset for the scaling -up phase table 4 providing some guidance to register and document the BP by communities, it can be developed and updated according to the changing context. The innovative ideas, practices and technologies developed at the community level should also be considered by the different partners and develop it to a community lead actions.

Table 4: a proposed matrix lay out to select the best practices of the SPAS by communities and partners:

#	field	Selection of best practice	What are the purpose of the best practice	Who are the beneficiaries	No of beneficiaries		What is the mechanism used?	What are the direct benefits	What are the indirect benefits	How it will sustain	Who is responsible of sustainability	Means of scaling up and spreading	No of adopters within and outside community		Means of functioning	Any other external cooperative agency to support sustaining the practice among new adopters
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1																
2																
3																
4																

9. Annexes:

Annex 1: Projects as described for Environmental Concern

Feature of Concern	Project Screening result	Decision			
		Accepted	Accepted with modification	Re-designed	Rejected
project require the physical relocation or displacement of residents					
Community groups (particularly marginalised, and gender disaggregated) are engaged in decisions that affect their land and access to resources					
Indigenous people are prior informed and intending to agree					
Compulsory loss of assets or deny access to assets					
Women access to resources, decision-making, and socio-economic benefits are secured					
Potential to lead to conflict on land and resources					
Project likely to support investors on the expense of small-scale holders					
project likely to have adverse impacts on indigenous peoples and vulnerable social groups					
Project will support livelihoods and employment that adhere to labour standards and laws					
project likely to use pesticides or other agro-chemicals					
project located within National Park core zone					
Project located in wildlife area or buffer zone					
project located in a Priority Forest Area					
project involve draining of, or disturbance to, a wetland					
project located within a recognised Cultural Heritage site					

Project intend to expand the protected area boundaries					
Project encourage investment, trading and export					
Project is likely to threaten the plant indigenous and endangered species					
Project is likely to introduce alien invasive species (Plants, trees and fish)					
Project is likely to cause air/ water pollution					

Annex 2: Checklist to describe the project sites and partners information:

Institutional and administrative				
Sub-project title				
Location				
Scope of project and activity				
Institutional arrangement	Main partner	Technical staff	Environmental Responsibility	Social Responsibility
Implementation arrangements				
Site description				
Name of site				
Describe the location			Attachment1: site map (Y)(N)	
Land ownership			Attachment2: land use lease	
Description of the physical , biological and socio-economic context				

Public consultation	
Identify when / where the public consultation process took place	
Institutional capacity building	
Will there be any required capacity building?	

Annex 3: Checklist for IP identification:

Existing local people	Year of existence	Having special features	Having special language	Religion or ethnicity	Having special cultural heritage			
					marriage	dressings	food	Other

Annex 4: Checklist for GRM for the use of partners and PMU

Site	Registered Complaint		Date	Responsibility of uptake	Responsible partner	Responsible personnel at PMU	Response mechanism ¹	Details
	environmental	social						

¹ in person, by phone, via delegated people, via mail, email, and/or via special page of the Project web-site

10. References:

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Strengthened Protected Areas System and Integrated Ecosystem Management in Sudan; project document (2018). UNDP/GEF project implemented by HCENR- Sudan.

UNDP Draft Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF), (2022). Published online.

Community Watershed Management and Soil and Water Conservation Guidelines (2015). Eastern Nile Community Watershed Management Project (ENWMP), Sudan Component, World Bank, Global Environment Facility, Government of Finland, Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Community Mobilization and Capacity Building Component within Dinder Sub-watershed Area (2016). By: Saada Naiel, technical assistant staff, community mobilizing specialist.

<https://www.undp.org/accountability/audit/secu-srm/stakeholder-response-mechanism>

<https://hcenr.gov.sd/>



Photo 4: DBMINP, Red Sea, Dungunab village, 5 July 2022, By: Saada Naiel