

IDDRSI COUNTRY PROGRESS SUMMARY REPORT SUDAN



IDDRSI

IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative



Photo: SOS Sahel UK

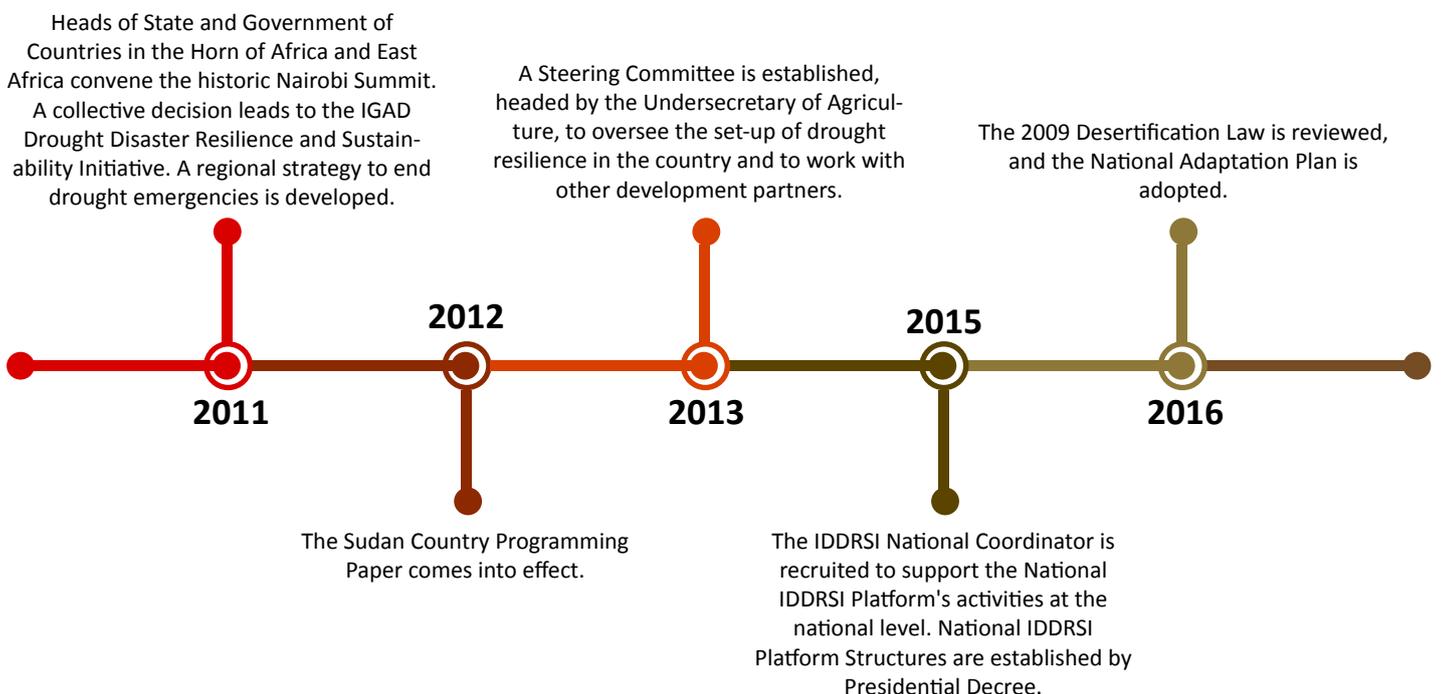
The Sudan Country Programming Paper (CPP) for building drought resilience in the country was prepared and endorsed in 2012. The objective of the country programme is to improve livelihoods and increase resilience capacities of the different economic sectors of the drought prone communities in the rain fed and irrigated areas of the country.

INTRODUCTION

The Sudan CPP was prepared in full consultation of all development partners and stakeholders. The process ensured inclusion and harmonisation of different strategies and development plans that serve drought prone areas. It was further elaborated during the formulation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) National Agricultural Investment Projects (NAIP), where “building better” underlines the formulation of

the priority investments in the agriculture sector. The CPP is in line with the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) 15-year regional strategy. It calls for the integrated and holistic approach for development in general, and this required that future interventions for sustainable development should consider the entire value chain from producers to consumers.

KEY NATIONAL IDDRSI EVENTS



COUNTRY CONTEXT



Disclaimer: The country borders shown on the map are only indicative and do not represent the position of IGAD.

Sudan is a typical Sahelian zone country with low level of rainfall, scarcity of water, and short agricultural season (3-4 month). The Sudan, with an area of 181 million hectares, is endowed with 61 million hectares of arable land, 14 million hectares of natural pasture and 21 million hectares of forests (only about 11.6% of the country area). About 60.2% is arid and semi-arid. The rangelands of Sudan support about 104 million heads of cattle, sheep, goats, and camels, and a wide range of wildlife species. The abundance of water resources is represented in the country's share of the Nile water, from seasonal rivers, ground water, and annual recharge from seasonal rainfall. These huge and diverse agricultural resources are envisaged, not only to meet the domestic needs for sustainable food security, employment opportunities, and foreign exchange earnings, but also to enable Sudan to contribute significantly to regional and international trade and food security.

By 2016, the population was 39 million. Poverty incidence, according to official estimates averages 46.5% nationally. Drought is a recursive phenomenon and frequent drought cycles extending over 2-3 years are common. The interaction of high levels of poverty, regional inequality and fragile social cohesion underpin ongoing rivalry over scarce resources, mass group mobilization and conflict.

GDP growth was estimated at 3.7% in 2014, up from 0.3% in 2011. The overall deficit dropped to about 1% of GDP in 2014 compared to over 2% in 2013 and nearly 4% in 2012. Women comprise only 23% of the formal economy, but 70% of the informal economy, with 53% of them focused on agricultural production activities.

POLICY FRAMEWORK

The use of CAADP as an overall framework, both for public policy and development assistance, was essential for harmonising national policies with those at regional levels. Improved coordination of development interventions to ensure their effectiveness, build institutional capacity for efficient service delivery and ensure sustainability also appear as key priorities in the government development documents. This has been reflected in the formulation of the National Agricultural Investment Programme (NAIP).

The Government of Sudan formulated integrated policies for the revival of the agriculture sector, reflected in the Agricultural Revival Executive Programme (AREP). The Government, through the Agricultural Revival Action Plan continued its commitment to expand the capital base in basic infrastructures, to open space for more foreign and domestic investment in different sectors of the economy. The executive programme for Agricultural Revival has defined the macro and sectoral priorities, in line with the CAADP pillars, to create a conducive investment environment for achieving food security, contributing to poverty alleviation, reviving the different production systems towards commercialisation and value added industrialisation. This is reflected in the priority areas for the period 2016-2020 agreed upon at the national level when setting the Sudan National Agricultural Investment Programme.

The Investment Encouragement Act was enacted in 2013 and adjusted in 2016. In addition, the High Investment Council headed by the President was established, to oversee private investment and resolve all policy issues with Federal and States Ministries and Departments. Also in 2016, the Desertification Law was reviewed and the National Adaptation Plan was adopted.

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture is the focal point for IDDRSI implementation in the Sudan. The approval of the National IDDRSI Platform of Sudan was signed by Head of State (Presidential Decree Number (380) for the year 2015). It is composed of three levels.

Core Group

- Ministerial level committee of nine ministers; chaired by the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and co-chaired by the Minister of Environment, Natural Resources and Physical Development
- Formulates policies that support resilience building and oversees the operation of the Extended Group

Extended Group

- Committee of Undersecretaries of the nine ministries and additional 25 members of natural resources directorates, civil society organisations and representatives of NGOs; chaired by the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and co-chaired by the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Physical Development
- Ensures that the drought agenda is included in development plans and strategies

Focal Point, Technical Support and Coordination Unit

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry hosts the National IDDRSI Platform
- Provides technical backup for the upper two levels as the focal point; coordination unit with mandate to organise the different levels coordination meetings, and act as secretary for the Extended Group

INVESTMENTS IN RESILIENCE BUILDING SINCE 2011

Investment in the drought prone areas continued from different financial sources. The share of agriculture and related infrastructure out of total public expenditures consistently increased from 6.4% in 2011 to 8.2% in 2014. About 60% of this is directed towards water harvesting structures such as dams, and 22% towards paved roads and rail. Within the core agriculture activities, most federal development resources are spent on irrigated agriculture.

The state share of agriculture expenditures to total public expenditures averaged 16% during 2012–2016, but with a declining trend. Out of this, 46% was recurrent expenditures, of which 70% went to wages and salaries. This trend is replicated at the federal level, where one third of the 19% dedicated to agriculture went to recurrent expenditure.

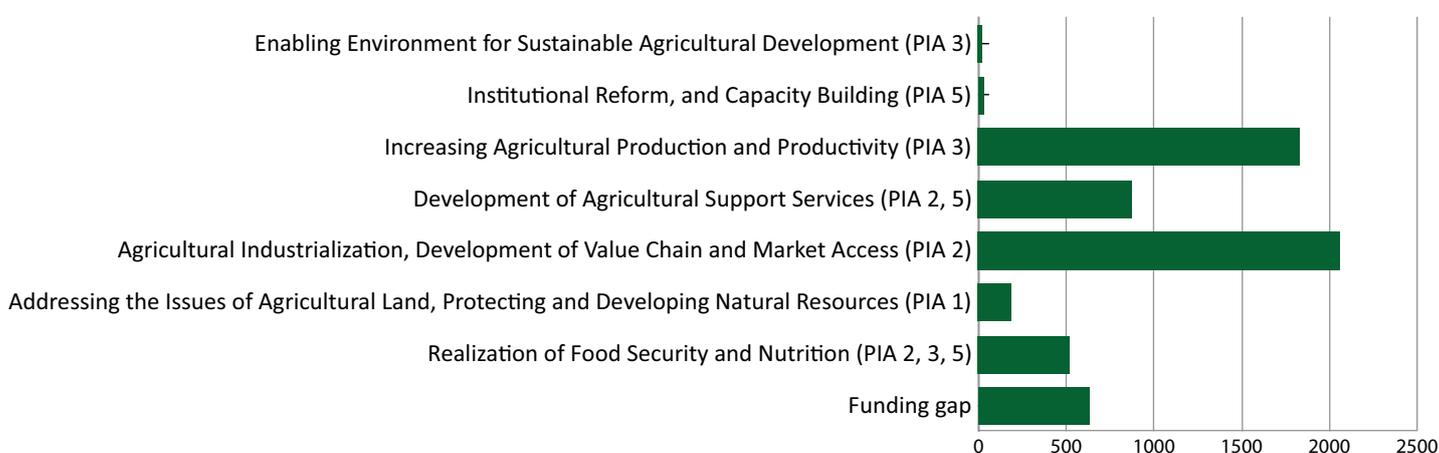
During the period from 2010–2016, the Dam Implementation Unit (DIU) implemented 741 projects distributed in all states of the Sudan, such as dams, excavations and wells, which harvested 125.5 million cubic metres of rain water that has been added to the number of other water services projects. Under the umbrella of the Ministry of Water Resources, the DIU launched “Zero Thirst”, which targets to achieve a distance not exceeding 2km to drinking water source in rural and urban areas.

Spending on agriculture related sectors

Item	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Agriculture expenditures: Federal (%)	27	12	19	18	21
Agriculture related sectors expenditures: Federal (%)	52	74	69	66	62
Agriculture expenditures: States (%)	21	14	12	16	17
Total (%)	100	100	100	100	100

Extracted from the Sudan NAIP (2016-2020), October 2015

Percent Share of the Sudan NAIP Investment Programme Areas



Sudan National Agricultural Investment Plan (2016-2020), October 2015, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Khartoum, Sudan

Some of the investment was a result of policy reforms, such as the case for the Gum Arabic Liberalisation Policy that boosted the private sector investment in its trade, export and value addition. The North Kordofan Integrated Gum Belt Programme, worth 40.2 million Sudanese pounds was signed in June 2016 as part of the plan of the Ministry of Welfare and Social Security on poverty alleviation (comprehensive projects).

The pastoral and livestock sectors received support of development partners such as the African Development Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development, the European Union and World Bank, among others. Programmes were implemented in the areas of livestock marketing, sustainable water management, sustainable natural resources management, carbon sequestration and climate adaptation.

The Investment Encouragement Act issued at national and state level helped to catalyse private sector investment in irrigated fodder, using underground water, for export and to supply the domestic markets. This promoted development of the domestic dairy sector.

RESPONDING DIFFERENTLY TO DROUGHT

The Government of Sudan developed a draft national strategy for disaster risk reduction to better guide its programming and reduce vulnerability to disasters in the years ahead. In 2015, there were localised drought waves, particularly in some western and eastern states. The existing resilience capacity in form of water conservation structures, strategic reserves and social support systems reduced the associated effect of emergencies.

Food aid assistance targeted the displaced communities due to the insecurity events, with special focus on Darfur states, South Kordofan and Blue Nile states.

Some cases of disputes between farmers and herders were resolved using the local peace resolution system.

Compared to 2011, the dry season of 2015 did not have a drought emergency, which is a reflection of the impact of the different resilience building interventions.

KEY MESSAGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The National IDDRSI Platform should be encouraged to benefit from the technical capacities of the Regional IDDRSI and IGAD structure for building the national human and institutional capacities.
- The regional platform should make use of the lessons learned from Sudan's experiences in Public Private Partnership for resilience building investments for the benefit of other Member States.
- Supporting inclusive growth will require a multi-pronged package of macroeconomic and structural reforms that address weaknesses identified in the Doing Business surveys, such as trading across borders, protecting investors, access to credit, resolving insolvency and excessive regulations and exploitation. Reforms should focus on empowering the private sector and unlocking entrepreneurship to complement public investment in infrastructure and public services.
- The Sudan Food Security Initiative is based on the need to expand opportunities for agriculture and livestock development and projects to mitigate the effects of drought on a large scale in the IGAD region. The initiative does not focus on Arab countries of the IGAD only, but can extend to all IGAD Member States.
- New opportunities in the field of risk reduction by integrating indigenous, traditional knowledge, experience and history on hazards and risks detection and management alongside the scientific approach that currently drives this field of activity should be strengthened.
- Policies should provide opportunities for women, e.g. through supporting equal access to education, supporting working parents, reducing the gender wage gap and increasing mobility and equal opportunity.
- Strengthening regional infrastructure and connectivity will facilitate the flow of factors of production and goods are needed to lower production and transportation costs, and improve productivity and market access.
- Encouraging investment by the diaspora would involve reforming the foreign exchange market (to facilitate transfers via official channels) and improving the business environment.

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