Twelfth Steering Committee Meeting of the Regional Platform on IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI)

Sudan Progress Report

March 2021
Presentation Outline

A. key update on the implementation of recommendations of 11\textsuperscript{th} Steering Committee Meeting

B. key update on the implementation of projects

C. Challenges, Lessons learnt, and The way forward (Recommendations)
A. key update on the implementation of recommendations of the last Platform Steering Committee 11th Meeting:

Recommendation(11.1), To undertake regular performance reviews at national and sub-national levels.

The National Expert Panel (NEP) has been established with diverse representation (18an M&E and planning experts from 10 ministries, institutions). NEP tasks are:

✓ To strengthen the coordination mechanism at national and state level.
✓ To contribute to mainstreaming of CPP elements in the national plan and budget.
✓ Reporting:
  - Quarterly, half year and annual, in result-based activities of ministries and institutions,
  - Regional Steering Committee platform meetings (two/annum reporting).

The tasks conducted by the NEP During the reporting period include:

• 5 meetings were held for strengthening of IDDRSI coordination mechanism among all stockholders and process the mainstreaming of (CPP) Priorities Intervention Areas (PIAs) in the national plan and national budget.
• 4 field visits (4 state out of 18 state), met the State Steering Committee to discuss and agree on how to mainstream the CPP elements in the state plan and budget, preparing bankable project proposals within IDDRSI framework, and to strengthen monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in the all ministries and institutions.
• Prepared key indicators report for all sectors contribute to implement IDDRSI activities.
• Prepared report linking the states projects with the Country Programme Paper(CPP) Priorities Intervention Areas(PIAs), also with key indicators (result based) for monitoring and evaluation (See Appendix 1 ).
• Conducted a national workshop for Planners and development officers for the same objective as per bullet above.
• Participate in preparing the Country Progress Report.
Recommendation (11.2), Strengthening of IDDRSI Coordination Mechanism.

The Drought Disaster Resilience Coordination Mechanism strengthened at national level through reestablishment and enhancement of IDDRSI national platform as follows:

1. The high Council of the initiative (10 Ministers, Chaired by the Minister of the Cabinet).
2. The Initiative Steering Committee (24 members, Chaired by the Secretary General of the Council of Ministers).

The sub-national Steering Committees that was formed (8 state out of 18 state):

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<th>State name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Nile State</td>
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<td>North Kordofan State</td>
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<td>Kassala State</td>
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<td>White Nile State</td>
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<td>Khartoum State</td>
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<td>Al-Jazeera State</td>
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Sudan progressed in mainstreaming of CPP elements within the national development plans.

The Government of Sudan prepared The Triple Program for Stability and Economic Development (2021-2023) by ministry of finance and Economic Planning within the tenth transitional government strategic priorities. The Drought and disaster Resilience Coordination Mechanism strengthened at national level and contributed to mainstreaming of CPP elements in the national plan; The concept is processed through:

- Held National workshop (30 participants).
- Held 2 steering committee meeting at national level (40 participants).
- Held 4 steering committee at state level (4 state out of 8 state).

**Recommendation (11.5), To document information about IDDRSI related projects and share with stakeholders.**

- The Government of the Republic of Sudan recognizes the is an urgent of a Comprehensive Agricultural Census (CAC) in order to develop the agricultural sector through sampling for producing reliable and timely statistics. Many activities were finalized by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) including:
The meeting with donors, where the attendants ensured the speedy conduct of the census according to the work plan for the comprehensive agricultural census 2020-2022 and Joint meeting of Technical Committee held.

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Natural resources (MoANR) in the framework of E-agriculture created Electronic Agricultural services during linked all administrations by viber network.
- The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning has been linked the state budget projects and programs with the Country Programing Paper: Recommendation (11.6), Put in place the fiscal stimulus to support recovery from multiple hazards.

Mitigation of floods impact:
- The government of Sudan responded positively to the impact of floods by establishment of rapid impact assessment missions composed of experts, FAO, NGOs to assess the impact on agriculture, livestock production, livelihoods, and food security and also recommend short-, medium- and long-term interventions.
- The rapid impact assessment missions concluded to a plan containing a recovery program to compensate the losses.
- A flood response plan currently being finalised sets out key emergency agricultural, livestock, forestry and fishery interventions to be implemented in severely affected localities.
The ministry of Animal Resources adopted mitigation practices as response to flooding.
When large, flood water courses were receding, selected range plants seeds were broadcast to enrich the range post floods to support animals feed with range and waters in the water courses.

**Impact of COVID-19 on Food Security and Agriculture Sector:**

- The COVID-19 pandemic has further aggravated and compounded the already fragile situation, which in addition to the economic crisis, conflict, displacement and a lack of basic services, is exacerbated by climate-induced disasters such as floods and drought and the food chain crisis (desert locust and other plant and animal pests and diseases).
- According to the newly released Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, an estimated 9.6 million people are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse levels of severe acute food insecurity, and in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.
- During flood time, the ministry cleaned feeder lines of big water pools to increase the quantity of harvested water and that extends the period of water availability in the pools during summer.
Recommendation (11.7), The plans and progress in the development of the next phase of the Drought Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods Programme (DRSLP).

- The national experts team carried out the following activities:
  ✓ Conducted meeting with the expert’s panel, Ministry Animal Resources, and national steering committee for data collection.
  ✓ Visit the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to include the Drought Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods Programme in the list of projects to be supported under the country’s next allocation from the African Development Bank.
  ✓ Finalized the Desk work.
B. Key update on the implementation of Program's projects

1- Drought Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods Program (DRSLP-II & III) - PIA (1,2,3,5,8)

- The DRDLP was able to perform and implement activities during the reporting period that expected to provide enhancement of drought resilience in Programme areas:
  - Digging of 10 boreholes (water station).
  - Establish of 15 Integrated Services along 3000 km stock routes.
  - Supply appropriate equipment for state Veterinary labs for three Veterinary Labs at Three States.
  - Construction of 3 standard livestock market centers.
  - Construction of 5 agricultural produce/crop market centres.
  - Supply of Modern Biological Pest Control Equipment ARC Gazera State

- In spite of the challenges and the unattainable work environment created by the repercussion of COVID19, project understaffing, power outage, fuel crisis and transport shortage, etc., signature of some big contracts for civil work had taken place. Preparing the annual budget for the Government counterpart fund for the fiscal Year 2021 and discussed with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning.
Enabling Youth Sudan Program- PIA (2,3,8)

- AFDB The objective of the program is to create business opportunities and decent employment for young women and men along priority agricultural value chains in Sudan.

- The number of youth has been trained, skilled and linked to financing institutions around (1000) in the following value chains:
  - Vegetables production under closed system (green house).
  - Improved seeds production (wheat, cotton, sesame, melt).
  - Animal fattening.
  - Poultry production and marketing.
  - Aquaculture protection for producing finger link and table fish.

- The program also established Risk Sharing and Finance Marketing Mechanism (RSFM) to provide collateral and serve as guarantee for youth to access financial (RSFM 18 million dollars).

- The Enable Youth Program for Agripreneurship in collaboration with The Ahfad University launched the National Report of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM), The report is Sudan's first national report.
The Rural Poor Stimulus Facility ("RPSF") an IFAD initiative project - PIA (3)

- The main objective of the project is to prevent and mitigate the negative impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the smallholder farmers in the rural areas by increasing agricultural productivity, production and farm incomes with improved technical practices and varieties and quality certified seeds.
- The project intervenes in 48 rural communities across North Kordofan, South Kordofan, West Kordofan and Sinnar states
- The RPSF4IAMDP project builds upon and consolidates the investments supported by the on-going IAMDP-IFAD project by moving from crops production demonstration to the scaling up of public-private partnership models.

Belgium and FAO Assist Food Insecure Household Impacted by Floods - PIA (3)

- To mitigate the devastating impact of the floods on the food security, With The Government of Belgium generous support, FAO will assist 1 830 households (9 150 people) by providing them with season-sensitive agricultural inputs, accompanied by cash transfers and trainings in good agricultural practices, to improve their food security and nutrition in Kassala and Blue Nile states.

ACSAD Sudan Master Land Use Map Project - PIA(5)

- The project based on agreement between Ministry of agriculture and the Arab Centre for Studies of Arid Zone and Dry land ACSAD for the Master Land Use Mapping in Sudan.
The second phase which resulted in land use maps becoming available for Khartoum, River Nile and the Northern States.

The third phase of land use map aimed to study a new three states: El Gazera, White Nile, and Sennar.

Rice Production – PIA (3)
- Sudan started to produce rice at experimental field in the White Nile State where the production is 8.1 ton per Hectare. The cultivated area was 170 Hectares.
- This is a promising result towards food security and drought resilience program.

Cross-border Projects:
- The implementation of the cross border projects at parts of the Sudan borders is going on, for north-east border of Sudan-Eretria (LPI); for east border Sudan-Ethiopia (GIZ).
Challenges and lessons learnt - Operational Challenges and their solutions

Challenges:

There are various challenges that face the implementation of IDDRSI

1. Covid-19 represented a strong challenge at national level, state, and local in the Sudan (The government of Sudan prepared a plan for reducing the negative impacts of Covid-19 on the agricultural sectors).

2. Conflict on land, water, natural resources. (The transitional government of Sudan set strategic priorities to reduce conflict over resources and build comprehensive justice and sustainable peace building).

3. Limited financial support is one of the major handicaps against sustainable implementation of drought resilience projects and programme (Solutions should be based on strong policies, resources mobilization, and financial planning).
Lessons learnt include:

• The Triple Program for Stability and Economic Development (2021-2023) by ministry of finance and Economic Planning provide Indication for mainstreaming of Drought Disaster Resilience programme and budget in the national plan and budget.
• Small scale farmers and pastoralists under the guide of the project acquired increased knowledge and perceived the importance of their participation in environmental management, it’s up-scaling is possible.
• Cross border project deepens the roots of the historic relation between the cross border community and reduces conflicts.
• The Youth programme provides facilitation to reduce impact of unemployment where the youth represent human resources for investment and development of value chain.
**Recommendations:**

- Elaborate on mainstreaming of the drought resilience intervention areas in the on-going Plans and budget within the national programming.
- Enhance development and implementation of M&E supported by capacity building at national and state levels.
- Support for the financial release for the implementation of the DRSLP is needed to reduce the drought impacts on animal resources and support the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities who are experiencing reduced and unpredictable rain-fall patterns with increasing frequency of extreme weather events (droughts and floods).
- Increased financial support for the small farmers and pastoralist’s climate resilience project in order to continue progress on people mobilization, rehabilitating degraded lands
- Continue Following the on-going processes for cross borders activities and project management.
Thank You