

Subject: Sudan's Response to CUNFCCC Secretariat Attention: COP 30 Presidency

COP30-TAFF-Roadmap@unfccc.int

COP30-Forest-Roadmap@unfccc.int

Distinguished UNFCCC Secretariat,

Reference is made to the invitation from the COP 30 Presidency to submit contributions to the COP 30 Presidency Roadmaps. In my capacity as General Secretary of the Higher Council of Environment and Natural Resources, and as Sudan's UNFCCC Focal Point, I am pleased to submit Sudan's contribution with regard to item (B): the COP 30 Presidency Roadmap on Halting and Reversing Deforestation and Forest Degradation by 2030.

Sudan's forests contribute to biomass energy by 70%, yet currently experiencing severe loss of forest cover, largely driven by the ongoing conflict and the increased reliance on forest products, as a source of income, and over logging for biomass energy (fuelwood & charcoal), coupled with limited sources of energy alternatives. According to Sudan FRL (2025) deforestation in Sudan results in conversion of annual forest area of about 254,000 hectares to non-forest area mostly agriculture, releasing emissions 9.32 million t CO₂e/year. FRL (2025), which contributes to deforestation, resulted in the widespread degradation of forested areas, however special consideration for Sudan forest rehabilitation is urgently needed.

Sudan's Contribution to the COP 30 Presidency Roadmap

1. Critical Barriers

- Physical:

Impacts of climate change (drought, irregular rainfall, floods and wildfires), soil degradation and desertification. Competing land-use priorities (e.g., agriculture, livestock grazing, and urban expansion)

- Economic/Financial:

Limited funding for sustainable forest management.

Weak market incentives for sustainable practices.

The lack of financial incentives, subsidies, or access to green markets discourages investment in sustainable forestry and environmentally friendly energy solutions. complex procedures for accessing climate finance

- Institutional: Weak governance frameworks, unclear land tenure systems limited institutional & technical capacities and infrastructure.

- Technological: Limited access to modern technologies for sustainable forest management, inadequate forest monitoring and data systems.

- Social:

Conflicting land-use interests, encroachment on forest lands. Over exploitation for biomass energy, due to the current war. Limited awareness in environmental sustainability.

2. Potential Levers for Action

a. Economic Incentives:

- Simplified procedure to access climate finance, with no restrictions.

- Promotion of green finance mechanisms and micro credit expanding access to affordable grants and financial services enables households and entrepreneurs to invest in sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly businesses.

- Development of carbon markets and payments for ecosystem services

- Support for sustainable value chains (e.g., certified timber and non-timber forest products)

- Expansion of eco-tourism and green employment opportunities, and encourage communities and private actors to engage in reforestation and conservation activities

b. Institutional Strengthening:

- Clarification of land tenure and property rights

- Strengthening of law enforcement and monitoring systems

- Promotion of community-based forest management

- Capacity-building to enhance access to climate finance.

- Investing in training, technical expertise, and institutional infrastructure can improve planning, monitoring, and implementation of environmental and forestry programs.

c. Technology and Innovation:

- Improved access to clean and alternative energy sources.
- Introduction of new technologies and innovation systems
- Utilization of satellite monitoring and digital planning.
- Adoption of sustainable forestry practices such as agroforestry and reforestation

3. Successful Examples

- Gum Arabic Agroforestry (Sudan): Linking restoration to value chains and community livelihoods
- community forestry; in Sudan the Government represented in Forests National Corporation; encourage the community forests and supported by awareness, supply of seedlings, and management practices.

4. Relevant Initiatives

- Carbon Partnership Facility supporting REDD+ Readiness in Sudan.
- UN-REDD Programme: Promoting awareness raising in Sudan.
- Community-based forest management: Empowering local communities

Conclusion

Forest protection, sustainable management, and rehabilitation efforts must take into account the diverse national circumstances of countries. For countries facing severe degradation or conflict, priority should be given to halting further forest loss, rehabilitating degraded areas, and providing alternative energy sources and sustainable livelihoods.

The rights of indigenous peoples and local communities must be respected, their knowledge recognized and documented, and they must be meaningfully involved in decision-making and benefit-sharing processes.

We look forward to continued collaboration and engagement with the UNFCCC Secretariat and the COP 30 Presidency.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Suliman Elboni Suliman

Secretary General

The Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources.