Dedication

To my family, to my friends, to all rural people I dedicate this work.
Acknowledgement

I am greatly indebted to my supervisor, Dr. Mohamed Abdo Desougi and co-supervisor Dr. Mahir Salih Suleiman for their valuable advice, helpful supervision and keen guidance throughout the study period.

My appreciation extends to Sudan University of Science and Technology and to my colleagues in the College of Forestry and Range Science, in particular, Dr. Elfeel, Dr. Tagel Sir, Elgamri, Dr. Ibnouf, Dr. Abdel Hafeez Dr. Farah, Dr. Ahmed, Prof. Musnad, Ali, Musab, Abdel Basit, Abd Elwadud, Dr. Amani, Mahgoub, Ibrahim Rahmtalla, Talaat, Eltyeb, Tawfeeg and Khogli. Also my appreciation extends to Gedaref, Doka and Shuwak Forest Staffs.

My thanks extend also to all the people of Rawashda, Tawareet and Kambo Khamsa who patiently responded to all my questions and interviews and greatly contributed in this study.

For all those whom I may have forgotten to mention, I offer my thanks.
Abstract
Community Forestry Strategies in the Sudan
(with special reference to Gedaref State)

The expansion of the mechanized farming and the increase of population led to a large-scale destruction in tree cover in Sudan. However, this process is very apparent in Gedaref State.

During previous years, numerous efforts and various approaches had been adopted for developing community tree growing in the area. However, these initiatives were not evaluated.

This study investigated actual experiences and practices of community forestry in Gedaref State. The overall objective of this study is to look into the initiatives and to analyze the experiences to improve the existing approaches or to introduce new ones in order to enhance people participation in development and management of forest resources.

For data collection, a combination of methodological instruments such as reconnaissance survey, structured and semi-structured interviews, snowball sampling techniques, group discussion, observation, literature and archive and ranking and scoring techniques were used.

The main findings of the study revealed existence of several models of community forests. Community forestry practiced in the study area constituted fundamental and main source of multiple socio-economic and environmental values to stakeholders. The study also revealed that, the principal stakeholders of community forestry in the area were the local people's categories and FNC. Fuel wood, building materials, grazing, and intangible services constituted main components of the stakeholders' benefits, needs and rights from community forestry in the area. The stakeholders were found to have positive perceptions and attitudes toward tree growing and community forestry in the area. They were successfully engaged in implementation phase of community forestry. The stakeholders suggested that, management of community forestry has to be shared between FNC and local people. The results indicated that, contribution of the stakeholders was in the form of general forest protection, provision of land and seedlings and labor supply.

Finally, the study presented recommendations pertinent to enhancement of the community forestry programmes.
ملخص الدراسة
استراتيجيات الغابات الشعبية في السودان
(دراسة حالة ولاية القضارف)

لقد أدى التوسع في الزراعة الآلية وزيادة السكان للتحكم في الغطاء الشجري في السودان. وموارد الغابات في ولاية القضارف هي مثل للمناطق التي تواجه مثل هذه المشاكل.

خلال السنوات الماضية بذلت عدة جهود ومحاولات لتنبئ وتطوير زراعة الأشجار بالمشاركة الشعبية، ولكن تلك المشاريع لم تجد حظاً من التقييم.

أجريت هذه الدراسة لتدرس ممارسات وخبرات الغابات الشعبية في ولاية القضارف، وذلك بغرض النظر في تلك المبادرات وتحليل الخبرات الناجحة بهدف تطوير الطرق القائمة أو إدخال طرق جديدة يمكن أن تساعد في إشراك المواطنين لتطوير موارد الغابات.

وقد استخدم البحث خليط من الأدوات البحثية لجمع المعلومات، مثل: المسح الاستطلاعي، المقابلات المخططة وشبه المخططة، طرقية كرة التلج، مجموعات النقاش، الملاحظات، الأدبيات والارشيف وكذلك تقنية الربت.

كشفت الدراسة عن وجود العديد من نماذج الغابات الشعبية بالمنطقة. وتمثل تلك الغابات الشعبية المصدر الرئيسي لفوائد الاقتصادية الاجتماعية والبيئية المتعددة للمجموعات المعنية بأمر الغابات الشعبية. وأوضحت الدراسة أيضاً أن المجموعات الأساسية المعنية بالمجموعات المعنية بأمر الغابات الشعبية السكان المحليين والهيئة القومية للغابات. وتمثل حطب الوقود مواد البناء، الرعي والخدمات غير المباشجة المكونات الأساسية للمجموعات المعنية من فوائد وأمتيازات واحتياجات وحقوق.

وقد ألمح العلماء إلى أن السكان المحليين نظراً لبيئته لا يجب عليهم التدخل بشكل مباشر في الحماية العامة للموارد. كما أشاروا أن التدخل غير المباشر لهيئةпатية تجاه إشراك الأشخاص والتأثيرXD في المنطقة. كما أنهم شاركوا بأن يكون الطريقة لتنفيذ أن الغابات الشعبية أن تكون إدورتها شرارة بين المواطنين المحليين والهيئة القومية للغابات، وذلك لأنها توفر الخدمات وتحقيق الفوائد ودور المعنى بأمر الغابات الشعبية تمثلت في الحماية العامة للموارد. توفر الأرض والشتل والقوي العاماء، وأخيراً خلصت الدراسة إلى بعض التوصيات والتي يمكن أن تساهم في تطوير تجربة الغابات الشعبية.

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List of Abbreviations

FNC  Forests National Corporation
GDP  Gross Domestic Products
FAO  Food and Agriculture Organization
ILO  International Labor Organization
NGOs  Nongovernmental Organizations
GOs  Governmental Organizations
SSFS  Sudanese Social Forestry Society
CIDA  Canadian International Development Agency
ICRAF  World Agroforestry Centre
UN  United Nations
ODI  Overseas Development Institute
VFAs  Village Forestry Associations
VAU  Village Associations union
NFFAU  National Federation Forestry Associations union
JFM  Joint Forest Management
S.T.K.  Sit Thi Thamkim
SREP  Sudan Renewable Energy Project
UNSO  United Nations Sahelian Organization
SOS  Safes our Souls
CBOs  Community-based organization
Bildat  Small piece of land for traditional cultivation
Karabland  Sloping land
Khor  Gulley, seasonal watercourse
Dura  Grain sorghum
Ghazaz  Pole of 10-14 cm mid-diameter
Dagag  Wooden rod 7-10 cm diameter and two meter long use as support structures on ground for grass hut or enclosure
Korki  Pole of less than 8 cm mid-diameter and 5 meters long used for ceiling structure of the grass hut
Hafir  Water storage reservoir filled by harvesting rain water in a catchment
Khalwa  Informal Islamic Education
Hadiths  The sayings of the Prophet Mohamed
Gubraka  Home Garden
Gutia  Traditional round hut
Zariba  Fence to keep out livestock
SUST  Sudan University of Science and Technology
IRISHAID  Irish Government Aid
UNAID  United States Agency for International Development
Abu  The name of a khor or watercourse draining into the Rahad River
Fargha  The name of a khor or watercourse draining into the Rahad River
Taungya  Cultivation inside the forest
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