

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.

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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 لتدهور كبير للغطاء الشجري في السودان. وموارد الغابات في ولاية القضارف هي مثال للمناطق التي تواجه مثل هذه المشاكل.

خلال السنوات الماضية بذلت عدة جهود و محاولات لتبنى و تطوير زراعة الأشجار بالمشاركة الشعبية، ولكن تلك المبادرات لم تجد حظها من التقييم. أجريت هذه الدراسة لتحري ممارسات وخبرات الغابات الشعبية في ولاية القضارف، وذلك بغرض النظر في تلك المبادرات وتحليل الخبرات الناتجة بهدف تطوير الطرق القائمة أو إدخال طرق جديدة يمكن أن تساعد في إشراك المواطنين لتطوير إدارة موارد الغابات.

إستخدم البحث خليط من الأدوات البحثية لجمع المعلومات، مثل: المسح الاستطلاعي، المقابلات المخططة وشبه المخططة، طريقة كرة الثلج، مجموعات النقاش، الملاحظات، الأدبيات والأرشيف وكذلك تقنية الرتب. كشفت الدراسة عن وجود العديد من نماذج الغابات الشعبية بالمنطقة. وتمثل تلك الغابات الشعبية المصدر الرئيس للفوائد الاقتصادية-الاجتماعية والقيم البيئية المتعددة للمجموعات المعنية بأمر الغابات الشعبية. وأوضحت الدراسة أيضا أن المجموعات الأساسية المعنية بالغابات الشعبية في منطقة الدراسة هي مجموعات السكان المحليين و الهيئة القومية للغابات. ويمثل حطب الوقود، مواد البناء، الرعي والخدمات غير المباشرة المكونات الأساسية للمجموعات المعنية من فوائد واحتياجات وحقوق وامتيازات. كما وجد أن للسكان المحليين نظرات واتجاهات ايجابية تجاه إنماء الأشجار والغابات الشعبية في المنطقة. كما أنهم شاركوا بنجاح في مرحلة تنفيذ الغابات الشعبية بالمنطقة. لقد اقترحت المجموعات المعنية بأمر الغابات الشعبية أن تكون إدارتها شراكة بين المواطنين المحليين و الهيئة القومية للغابات. أوضحت النتائج أن مساهمات و دور المعنيين بأمر الغابات الشعبية تمثلت في الحماية العامة للغابات، توفير الأرض والشتول والقوي العاملة. وأخيرا خلصت الدراسة إلى بعض التوصيات والتي يمكن أن تسهم 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
<i>Ghazaz</i>	Pole of 10-14 cm mid-diameter
<i>Dagag</i>	Wooden rod 7-10 cm diameter and two meter long use as support structures on ground for grass hut or enclosure
<i>Korki</i>	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
<i>Gubraka</i>	Home Garden
<i>Gutia</i>	Traditional round hut
<i>Zariba</i>	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	
Taungya	Cultivation inside the forest

List of common names of local trees

<i>Eucalyptus species</i>	Kafur
<i>Cupressus lusitanica</i>	Saro
<i>Casuarina species</i>	Kazorina
<i>Conocarpus lancifolius</i>	Damas
<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	Neem
<i>Acacia seyal</i>	Talih
<i>Acacia nubica</i>	Laot
<i>Acacia tortilis</i>	Samar
<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	Sunt
<i>Acacia mellifera</i>	Kitir
<i>Acacia senegal</i>	Hashab
<i>Faidherbia albida</i>	Haraz
<i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i>	Higlig
<i>Capparis decidua</i>	Tundop
<i>Combretum hartmannianum</i>	Habil