



NBD Information sheet Sudan

The Nile Basin in Sudan

Nile communities in Sudan face considerable challenges including poverty, instability, rapid population growth and environmental degradation. The Sudan National Discourse Forum (SNDF) seeks to provide a mechanism for community participation in Nile decision making, to ensure that Nile-related decisions bring social and environmental benefits, and not costs, to the people of the basin. The SNDF works in four ways to strengthen this participation:

- Bringing together Nile stakeholders and developing common areas of understanding
 - Building capacities of Nile communities and growing an alliance for change which can influence Nile policies at local, national and regional levels
 - Lobbying for better living conditions for Nile communities
 - Forging links between the NBD and NBI activities

Nile in our Hearts – Raising Awareness

The SNDF, with the Ministry of Irrigation, the NBIs' Micro Grant and Confidence Building and Stakeholder Involvement Programs and media, organised a week of awareness-raising activities: the Nile in Our Hearts Week. Activities have also been carried out with children such as singing songs about the Nile, in conjunction with NBI partners. A workshop recently held on water-borne diseases helped to increase understanding of this issue, as well as improving understanding of the challenge of disease among the SNDF itself.

Engagement and Study of the NBI

The SNDF recently organised a joint workshop with the NBI, titled "Dams on the Nile: Lessons learnt and future perspectives". This workshop brought together the experiences of many stakeholders on the impacts of dams – positive and negative. It led to an agreement that future dams planning should recognise the interconnected nature of the Nile region and should include strong public consultation, to ensure the greatest benefits to basin people and the avoidance or mitigation of negative impacts. The NBD and NBI are now working together to develop guidelines for stakeholder consultation on dams projects, a partnership success story. With regard to NBI projects in Sudan, the SNDF plans to carry out pro-poor audits and studies of stakeholder participation in project planning and implementation. It will also train NDF members to carry out community needs assessments, and in communication skills and advocacy. In addition to monitoring the NBI in Sudan, the SNDF has developed a monitoring and evaluation framework to ensure its own transparency and accountability.

The SNDF has its own website at www.sndf.org

Sudan Contact

Hafiz Mohammed

Email: a.hafizm@yahoo.com

