

Strengthening Resilience through Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation



Final Evaluation Report

September 2025

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Cover page photo: Women’s Focus Group Discussion in Thamiam community, Red Sea State. Final project evaluation. June 2025. Photo: Zainab Mauwia, SRCS

Abbreviations

CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CDRT	Community Disaster Response Team
CEA	Community Engagement and Accountability
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EVCA	Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment
EWCS	Early Warning Committees
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
KII	Key Informant Interview
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
NSD	National Society Development
PGI	Protection Gender and Inclusion
PPS	Psychological Support
PwDs	Persons with Disabilities
ToR	Terms of Reference
SRC	Swedish Red Cross
SRCS	Sudanese Red Crescent Society

1 Summary

1.1 Brief project overview

This project, implemented by the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) in partnership with the Swedish Red Cross (SRC), aimed to strengthen community resilience to disasters and climate change in eight high-risk communities across three Sudanese states. Running from June 2022 to June 2025, the project focused on disaster risk reduction (DRR), climate change adaptation (CCA), and the integration of Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA). Funded by the Swedish Embassy in Sudan, the project combined community-based interventions with institutional capacity building and technical support from SRC.

1.2 Purpose of the evaluation

The purpose of this evaluation was to assess the performance, results, and sustainability of the intervention implemented between June 2022 and June 2025. It provides an evidence-based analysis of the intervention's relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability in strengthening community resilience to disasters and climate change across the targeted geographic areas.

1.3 Methodology summary

The evaluation was conducted internally by SRCS with technical support from SRC. A mixed-methods approach was used to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the project's performance, outcomes, and lessons learned. Four primary data collection methods were used:

1. Community consultations (using Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs))
2. Endline survey
3. Final project review workshop
4. Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with SRSC staff

1.4 Key findings (by evaluation criteria)

Relevance

The evaluation found that the project was largely relevant to the needs and priorities of the target communities. Community consultations and Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA) processes ensured that interventions such as flood terraces, water access improvements, agricultural support, and first aid training were in line with community priorities. In several cases, activities, such as the type of seeds used, were adapted based on community feedback, demonstrating responsiveness and participatory planning. However, relevance varied by location and group. In some communities, key risks such as mining waste, mesquite infestations¹, and palm tree fires remain unaddressed. Similarly, youth and persons with disabilities (PwDs) expressed that their specific needs—such as vocational training and inclusion in livelihood activities—were not sufficiently considered. The inability of the project

¹ Mesquite is a genus of trees and shrubs (*Prosopis*) that originally comes from the Americas, but is now found in several parts of the world. In many of these regions, mesquite is considered an invasive species because it spreads rapidly and uncontrollably outside its native range, often taking over pastures, grasslands, or agricultural land and outcompeting native plants. A mesquite infestation means that mesquite dominates an area in this way, causing ecological and economic problems

to meet all needs was partly due to budget constraints and therefore, activities to address all needs were not planned in the original project proposal.

At the institutional level, the project contributed to the SRCS's National Society Development (NSD) needs in DRR, CCA, PGI, and CEA, particularly at branch level through training and participatory planning. Staff and volunteers were trained in key thematic areas, and branches were actively involved in project design and implementation. However, the project had limited impact on headquarters-level capacity building, partly due to adaptation made after the outbreak of the war, and did not fully respond to evolving strategic priorities, such as the development of a DRM policy. Overall, the project addressed the most urgent needs within its scope and budget, though some expectations remained unmet.

Effectiveness

The evaluation found that the project largely achieved its intended outcomes as per the revised log frame. Outcome 1, which focused on strengthening SRCS technical capacity in DRR and CCA, was fully met. Outcome 2, related to mainstreaming PGI, CEA, and environmental sustainability, was partially achieved; fewer individuals were trained in environmental sustainability than targeted, and the gender marker score was not met in all branches. Outcome 3, which aimed to increase community capacity to cope with disasters and climate change, was not fully achieved. While fewer people than targeted demonstrated knowledge of preparedness and mitigation measures, the project contributed to a significant increase from baseline levels. Despite these gaps, the evaluation concluded that the project made substantial progress and was effectively implemented, especially given the outbreak of war during implementation.

The evaluation also identified several unintended outcomes that influenced the project's effectiveness. Positive outcomes included increased community ownership, local initiative, and strengthened social cohesion. Communities took independent steps to sustain project structures and form partnerships with local authorities. In Delay, community-led actions attracted external funding and improved infrastructure. Social cohesion was notably strengthened across all communities, with shared resources, joint activities, and communication platforms fostering collaboration and inclusion. These developments reinforced the project's goal of strengthening community resilience. Some unintended negative outcomes were also noted, such as tensions arising around resources and due to the appointment of only one mobilizer per community. However, these had limited impact on overall effectiveness, given the strong gains in cohesion and local engagement.

Sustainability

The evaluation found that local communities have been empowered to a substantial extent to maintain and sustain DRR interventions, and to a more limited extent CCA interventions. This empowerment is reflected in the continued operation of Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs) and Early Warning Committees (EWCs), community-led initiatives, and contingency planning. Statistically significant improvements were observed across all five DRR-related indicators between baseline and endline, indicating increased preparedness, response capacity, and ownership in the communities. However, CCA interventions—such as tree belts and home gardening—were less consistently sustained, partly due to a more limited project focus on CCA. Disparities were noted across gender and geography, with women and PwDs in Delay and Salib reporting limited access and confidence, while communities in Haya, Nadi, and Al Sadabiya demonstrated strong engagement.

The evaluation also found that the NSD tools, frameworks, and training materials developed during the project have strong potential for future use and adaptation. Materials such as videos, booklets, posters, and presentations were well-aligned with community needs, easy to

understand, and used effectively in response efforts across all three states. Their relevance was confirmed by key informants.

However, challenges remain that may limit long-term sustainability and broader uptake. These include limited technical capacity in early warning systems, inconsistent community participation, lack of a dedicated DRR/CCA budget line, and limited dissemination of materials beyond targeted branches. While the tools are adaptable and have proven effective, their continued use depends on addressing these institutional and operational gaps.

Cross-Cutting Key Areas

The evaluation found that the project strengthened the capacity of SRCS staff and volunteers at branch level to implement community-based DRR activities. Training in DRR, CCA, and resilience reached slightly more individuals than planned, and materials were described as practical, locally adapted, and easy to use. Branch representatives confirmed improved technical knowledge and preparedness, supported by tools such as videos, booklets, and posters.

PGI principles were intentionally integrated into project design and implementation, with efforts to include women, youth, and PwDs. Participation varied across states, with River Nile and Northern States showing stronger inclusion. Women took on leadership roles in emergency teams, and PwDs were involved in planning, training, and early warning systems. However, barriers such as inaccessible venues, lack of assistive devices, and cultural norms limited full participation, particularly in Red Sea State. PGI focal points and separate CDRTs for men and women were introduced to support inclusive engagement.

Community engagement and social cohesion were consistently strong. Communities were involved throughout the project cycle and demonstrated ownership through financial contributions, volunteerism, and local initiatives. The feedback system was widely known and used, though responsiveness varied. In several communities, feedback led to concrete actions and strengthened trust. Project activities also fostered collaboration and improved relationships within and between communities, contributing to high levels of social cohesion across all communities.

1.5 Top-line recommendations

Recommendation 1: Ensure project design allows for flexibility and responsiveness to evolving community and institutional needs.

Recommendation 2: Institutionalize inclusive practices and targeted support to strengthen PGI mainstreaming across all levels.

Recommendation 3: Strengthen meaningful community engagement and ownership and improve the functionality and inclusiveness of the feedback system.

2 Introduction

2.1 Project background and context

The SRCS, in partnership with SRC, has implemented the project “Strengthening resilience of communities through disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation” between June 2022 and June 2025. The initiative builds on a previous intervention (2018–2020) and aims to enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities in Sudan to climate-related hazards and disasters.

Initially planned for four states, the project was adjusted due to the outbreak of conflict in April 2023, which led to the exclusion of North Kordofan. The final implementation covered three states—Red Sea, River Nile, and Northern State—targeting eight communities (Haya, Tahamiam, Durdeb, Delay, Al Sadabiya, Nadi, Salib and Artigasha) identified as highly vulnerable to climate change, desertification, flooding, and other natural hazards.



Map over Sudan showing the location of the eight target communities

The project was designed to strengthen both community-level and institutional capacities. It focused on building technical skills in DRR and CCA, mainstreaming PGI, and promoting CEA. SRCS governance, staff, and volunteers were supported through training, development of practical tools, and advocacy efforts. The project also contributed to environmental sustainability and indirectly benefited non-targeted branches through shared resources and capacity-building outputs.

Funded by the Swedish Embassy in Sudan under Sweden’s development cooperation strategy (2018–2022, extended to 2025), the project was implemented with a total budget of 10.7 million SEK. It has been delivered through a collaborative model involving SRCS field teams and technical support from SRC, including remote assistance following the conflict.

2.2 Evaluation purpose and objectives

The purpose of this final evaluation was to assess the performance, results, and sustainability of the project. The evaluation served three core functions: to support evidence-based

management decisions, promote learning for future programming, and ensure accountability to donors and affected communities.

Specifically, the evaluation aimed to:

- Examine the relevance of the project in addressing the needs of targeted communities and SRCS' institutional priorities.
- Assess the effectiveness of the project in achieving its intended outcomes, including any unintended results.
- Evaluate the sustainability of project interventions and the potential for continued use of developed tools and capacities.

The evaluation also looked specifically at three key areas of interest, namely, National Society capacity, PGI and CEA. Due to the limited time frame and the challenging situation in Sudan, other areas that would also have been of interest to examined further, such as environmental sustainability, was not included in the evaluation.

The findings will inform SRCS and SRC strategic planning and will be shared with the Swedish Embassy in Sudan and Sida to guide future cooperation and support.

3 Methodology

3.1 Data Collection Methods

The evaluation was conducted internally by SRCS with technical support from SRC. A mixed-methods approach was applied to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the project's performance, outcomes, and lessons learned, as well as to triangulate findings. Four primary data collection methods were used:

1. Community consultations (using FGDs and KIIs)
2. Endline survey
3. Final project review workshop
4. KIIs with SRCS staff

In addition, project reports were used as a data source for the evaluation and clarification on some of the findings were provided by project staff and involved SRC staff.

Community Consultations

FGDs were conducted in all targeted communities. Originally, it was planned to conduct separate FGDs with women, men, youth and PwDs in each of the communities. However, in the end only two FGD discussions (one with men and one with women) were conducted in five of the communities. In the remaining three communities additional FGDs were conducted (in Nadi; a FGD with youth; in Salib, a FGD with youth and one with PWDs and elderly, and in Delay; a FGD with PWDs). In total 20 FGDs were conducted as compared to the planned 32 FGDs. This was due to the fact that recruiting participants for the FGDs proved more challenging than foreseen. Preparation at the branch level was limited and most participants were only informed on the day of the consultations rather than in advance as planned.

In addition to the FGDs, three KII with PwDs were conducted as a complement. This approach was used as there were difficulties mobilizing large groups of PwDs for specific FGDs.

Endline Survey

A structured questionnaire was administered to a representative sample of direct people targeted to collect quantitative data on key project indicators. This enabled comparison with baseline data and helped measure the changes and outcomes achieved throughout the project. Data collection was conducted using Kobo Toolbox, with trained SRCS volunteers administering the surveys in the targeted communities.

The sampling methodology used for the survey was stratified simple random sampling, ensuring representation across different community groups. To determine the appropriate sample size for this baseline assessment, the Yamane formula was applied:

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N \cdot e^2}$$

n = sample size

N = population size

e = margin of error (set at 0.05 for this survey)

Since the population size of each community was finite and approximately known, this formula was suitable.

In total, 588 respondents were included in the endline survey.

Key Informant Interviews

Semi-structured interviews were conducted with key SRCS staff, including the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Director, the NSD Director, the three branch managers of the targeted branches and one former branch manager who was the branch manager during large part of the implementation period. Hence, in total six KIIs were conducted; two with HQ staff and four with branch staff.

Final Project Review Workshop

A final project review workshop was conducted with branch staff and community members. The workshop served as an internal assessment exercise to capture key successes, challenges, lessons learned, and recommendations with a specific focus on the National Society's needs and capacity building in DRR, CCA, PGI, and CEA. Using participatory methodologies, the workshop combined self-evaluation and structured reflection to strengthen ownership and shared understanding among project staff.

3.2 Limitations

The evaluation faced several limitations that may have influenced the depth and scope of the findings. Limited access to project sites due to security and logistical challenges, including disruptions in flight operations, affected the ability of key staff to be part of the data collection team. Therefore, the facilitator from HQ had to manage multiple tasks, including the final project review workshop, KIIs, FGDs, and the PGI review, without professional support on the ground. Moreover, the SRCS PMER department was not able to provide support during the final evaluation process due to the combination of limited staffing and high workload.

Since the evaluation was conducted internally by SRCS, volunteers served as note takers and data collectors. It was acknowledged from the outset that many of them would not be able to collect data as effectively as an external consultant, which ultimately resulted in the loss of some information during transcription. Several FGDs were further impacted by the presence of dominant participants—such as community leaders—while others remained passive throughout the discussions. The process of note taking, followed by transcription and subsequent translation into English, also affected the overall quality of the data. In some communities, Arabic was not the primary spoken language, and certain participants had to translate responses for the facilitator to ensure understanding.

This resulted in less detailed documentation from FGDs and KIIs than envisioned, potentially leading to the loss of information and deeper nuances in participants' responses. The final project review workshop was also modified due to these constraints, which meant that some intended topics were not addressed, resulting in limited data to assess, particularly the relevance of the NSD activities.

Additionally, the evaluation was conducted before the full completion of the implementation period. As a result, some activities—such as small-scale mitigation measures and awareness sessions—were still ongoing at the time of data collection. However, community members were able to share their perceptions of these activities, and it is not believed that this timing impacted the overall evaluation findings.

To mitigate the potential risk of bias from conducting the evaluation internally, several measures were implemented to promote objectivity and credibility. These included the use of standardized tools and data collection protocols, triangulation of findings through multiple sources and methods, and the active involvement of diverse stakeholders—including community members and volunteers—in the evaluation process. Furthermore, the majority of data analysis was carried out by Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) advisors from the SRC, who had not previously been involved in the project, to ensure a balanced and impartial interpretation of the findings.

4 Findings

The findings are presented below. Firstly, the findings for the evaluation questions are presented. Thereafter the thematic analysis of three key areas: National Society Capacity, Mainstreaming of PGI, and Community Engagement and Social Cohesion are presented.

4.1 Relevance

To what extent does the project address the identified needs and priorities of the target communities?

The evaluation found that the project demonstrated a substantial degree of relevance to the identified needs and priorities of the target communities. Community consultations, EVCA processes, and participatory planning were consistently cited by community members in the majority of the targeted areas as mechanisms through which local needs were identified and addressed.

“The project started with the priorities that came directly from community consultation at the beginning of the project”- Youth, FGD, Salib

Many interventions—such as flood terraces, shelterbelts, tree belts, first aid training, and agricultural support—were directly aligned with community priorities and were appreciated by community members.

For instance, in Tahamiam, the mitigation activity was changed during verification meetings to rehabilitate a crucial water well damaged by flooding, indicating responsiveness to evolving needs. In Nadi, the community selected terrace rehabilitation over shelterbelts after consultations, which effectively protected the village from floods. Similarly, in Artigasha, the terrace and tree planting addressed flood and erosion risks.

“The project was able to protect the village from annual floods through the earthen terrace that have been built with the project support. In previous years, floods caused extensive damage to homes and property”- Man, FGD, Nadi

However, the evaluation found that the project also showed limitations in fully addressing all community needs. In Al Sadabiya, while flood mitigation measures were implemented, participants noted that mining waste and mesquite tree infestations—identified as major challenges—were not addressed. In Salib, flood risks and palm tree fires remained unaddressed despite being significant. In Delay, while water access was improved through fencing and solar systems, silt accumulation in Hafir and lack of agricultural support for PwDs were noted gaps. The gaps were large due to budget constraints – with a project budget unable to address the specific needs of for instance PwDs and all the needs of the communities. In addition, the needs and priorities of some of the communities had shifted between the EVCA and project planning process and the community consultations at the time of the evaluation. According to SRCS staff this partly explains why all needs and priorities had to be addressed. The project had not been able to adapt to address all new emerging needs.

Gender and Geographic Variations

The evaluation found that while the project was relevant across all three states, the degree to which it addressed community needs varied. In Red Sea State, the project was generally well-aligned with local priorities, particularly in water access, flood mitigation, and agricultural support. Communities like Tahamiam and Delay benefited from infrastructure improvements, though some needs—such as silt removal and emergency equipment—remained unmet.

In River Nile State, relevance was high in Nadi, where terrace construction and training addressed key risks. However, in Al Sadabiya, gaps remained, including unaddressed environmental hazards and the exclusion of nearby at-risk villages.

In Northern State, the project was moderately relevant. While training and awareness activities were appreciated in Salib and Artigasha, critical risks such as palm fires and agricultural pests were not fully addressed.

The evaluation found that perceptions of how well the project addressed community needs varied across different groups, particularly between men and women, youth, and PwDs. These differences were shaped by the types of interventions implemented, the extent of community involvement, and the alignment of activities with group-specific priorities.

Women across several communities consistently emphasized the value of household-level support and livelihood activities. In Tahamiam and Salib, women highlighted the importance of home gardening, palm leaf distribution for shelter construction, and training in home nursing and first aid. These activities were seen as directly contributing to both household resilience

and income generation. In Haya and Delay, women appreciated the improvements in water access and the protective role of tree belts but also pointed out that challenges such as sand encroachment and silt accumulation in water reservoirs remained unresolved. The evaluation found that women often expressed a desire for more practical support, such as fencing for shelterbelts and increased access to agricultural inputs.

Men tended to focus more on infrastructure, emergency preparedness, and broader environmental risks. In Al Sadabiya and Nadi, male participants emphasized the need for evacuation vehicles, improved flood drainage, and action on mining waste and mesquite tree infestations. While acknowledging the relevance of terraces and training, men in several communities expressed concern that the scale of support was insufficient to address the magnitude of the challenges. The evaluation found that men were more likely to critique the project's limitations in addressing systemic or large-scale risks.

Youth participants, in Salib and Nadi, expressed that their specific needs were not fully considered. The evaluation found that while youth appreciated training in emergency response and agricultural techniques, they felt excluded from livelihood opportunities. Requests for vocational training and targeted support for youth employment were repeatedly mentioned, indicating a gap between project activities and youth aspirations.

PwDs also reported unmet needs. In Delay, PwDs noted that while water access had improved through the creation of a separate drinking area and fencing of the Hafir, their requests for agricultural support, training in first aid, and inclusion in livelihood activities were not addressed.

Conclusion

The evaluation found that the project largely succeeded in addressing the identified needs and priorities of the target communities, particularly in areas related to flood mitigation, water access, agricultural support, and disaster preparedness. The participatory approach, including EVCA and community consultations, ensured that interventions were relevant and appreciated.

However, the evaluation found that the project did not fully meet all community needs and community members in some communities appeared to have had higher expectations on the project. Nonetheless, the project seems to in most cases have addressed the communities' most urgent and prioritized needs given the available budget and the scope of the project.

To what extent does the project address the identified DRR, CCA, PGI and CEA NSD needs of the National Society?

The evaluation found that the project contributed to addressing the NSD needs of SRCS in the areas of DRR, CCA, PGI and CEA. The project design was well in line with the strategical priorities of SRCS at the time of the project development. However, the extent of this contribution to addressing NSD needs was uneven, with gaps in institutional capacity building, particularly at the headquarters level, and mixed responsiveness to evolving strategic priorities.

Training and capacity building were central components of the project. According to one KII the project contributed to building the capacities of staff and volunteers in the three targeted branches, with some impact also noted at the headquarters level. Endline assessments confirmed an increase in the number of individuals trained at branch level across various

thematic areas, including First Aid, PGI, Psychosocial Support (PSS), EVCA, assessments, code of conduct, green response, environmental assessments, and the principles and fundamentals of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. However, in some areas – such as training in disaster management, early warning systems, and rapid emergency response – which were identified as priorities by the branches at the beginning of the project, no increase in the number of trained individuals was observed.

The National Society was actively involved in the planning and implementation of the project, including during the proposal development stage, which involved collaboration with the branches concerned. This participatory approach contributed to the relevance and ownership of the project at the branch level.

Despite these strengths, the project exhibited limitations in addressing institutional NSD needs, particularly at the headquarters level. One KII noted that the project was somewhat narrow, focusing primarily on volunteer and branch-level activities, with limited attention to strengthening the National Society's broader capacities. There were few training opportunities for headquarters staff, and no annual plan or budget for capacity building was developed as part of the project. According to SRC staff the project was initially to have more HQ focused activities. However, when the conflict started, the project was adapted to decrease national level activities as it was not possible to bring HQ level staff together. Therefore, national activities were removed/adapted to more branch/state level. Materials and tools developed during the project were used within targeted states and projects, but not widely distributed to non-targeted branches, limiting their broader institutional uptake.

Furthermore, the project did not adequately respond to evolving NSD priorities. The outbreak of war in April 2023 led to a shift in the National Society's priorities, including the urgent need to develop a DRM policy and standard operating procedures. The project did not contribute to these efforts. Nonetheless, SRC has confirmed that they will financially support the policy development in late 2025, outside the scope of this project. Moreover, the new strategic priorities of SRC include a clearer focus on institutionalizing CEA which the project contributed to, especially at community and branch level.

The project has partially addressed the identified NSD needs of the National Society in the domains of DRR, CCA, PGI, and CEA. Its strengths lie in participatory planning and practical training for volunteers and branch staff. However, it falls short in institutional capacity building, particularly at the headquarters level which was partly explained by the outbreak of the war, forcing an adaptation of project activities and did not adapt sufficiently to evolving priorities such as the development of DRM policies in response to the conflict.

4.2 Effectiveness

To what extent has the project achieved its intended outcomes (as per the log frame)?

The evaluation found, when comparing the revised targets for the project indicators with the actuals at the end of the project, that the project overall achieved its intended results. In regard to outcome 1” *SRCS governance, staff and volunteers have DRR and CCA technical capacity to deliver and support community based DRR and CCA programming*”, the project met all its

expected results and reported slightly more trained staff, volunteers and governance in DRR, CCA and resilience in the targeted branches than planned.

In regard to outcome 2 “*SRCS governance, staff and volunteers have the technical capacity at programme and institutional level to mainstream PGI, CEA and environmental sustainability*” the project did not meet all its planned results at output level. Fewer staff, volunteers, and governance members in targeted branches were trained in environmental sustainability mainstreaming (68% as compared to a target of 75%). Moreover, the project did not meet the result in relations to number of targeted branches with a score “2” on the gender marker during annual assessments.

For outcome 3 “*Increased capacity of women, girls, men, and boys, in the targeted communities to cope with, mitigate, prepare for and respond to disasters and climate change*”, the project did not reach its intended results on outcome level. Fewer people than planned were able to identify at least three preparedness and response measures (61% as compared to the target of 65%) as well as at least three mitigation measures related to DRR, climate change and natural hazards (50% as compared to the target of 65%) at the time of the endline. However, it is noteworthy that the project nonetheless contributed to significant increase in people’s knowledge of these measures as the figures at baseline was only 4% respectively 3%. Finally, slightly fewer people than planned participated in the early action simulation exercises implemented in their community (1,450 compared to the target of 1,600).

To conclude; although the project did not fully achieve all its targets, considerable progress was made also regarding the results not fully met indicating an effective project implementation – especially considering that the war in Sudan broke out during project implementation.

Were there any unintended positive or negative outcomes resulting from the project? If so, how did these outcomes affect the effectiveness of the project?

The evaluation identified some unintended outcomes—both positive and negative—that emerged during the implementation of the project.

Unintended Positive Outcomes

The most prominent unintended positive results were increased community ownership, local initiative, and social cohesion.

Community Ownership

In River Nile State, the Al Sadabiya community demonstrated strong ownership by offering venues for CDRTs and EWCs to hold regular meetings. These spaces were not provided by the project but initiated by the community itself, reflecting their commitment to sustaining the structures introduced by the project.

In Northern State, the prestige and influence of the SRCS branch increased, leading to its inclusion in state-level disaster prevention and emergency response committees. This recognition was partly due to the communities’ active involvement in project activities, which elevated the visibility and credibility of SRCS at the local level.

Local Initiative

In Delay community, residents took independent action to plant over 50 fruit trees around the Hafir area and advocated for further improvements. Their efforts attracted external funding to build a storage room and rehabilitate the diversion dam, thereby enhancing water access and sustainability. These actions were not part of the original project plan but emerged from community-driven initiative.

Similarly, in Al Sadabiya, CDRTs and EWCs initiated their own support mechanisms for vulnerable individuals, going beyond the project's intended scope and demonstrating proactive engagement in community welfare.

In Northern State, partnerships were formed between community leaders and local authorities such as the Forests Corporation and Roads and Bridges Corporation. These collaborations supported technical and in-kind contributions to rehabilitation efforts, showing initiative in leveraging external resources for community benefit.

Social Cohesion

A particularly significant unintended positive outcome was the strengthening of social cohesion across all project communities going beyond the expected results of the project. This was evident in both intra-community and inter-community relationships and was consistently reported across gender and age groups.

In Red Sea State, improved access to shared resources such as water and agricultural land led to greater collaboration and reduced conflict. In Delay, the Hafir became a communal hub, attracting people from surrounding villages and fostering cooperation across geographic boundaries.

In Salib, Tahamiam, and Haya, regular meetings, joint trainings, and shared agricultural activities brought people together, deepening relationships and promoting mutual support. Maintenance of shared infrastructure, such as wells and terraces, was a key driver of this cohesion.

In Nadi and Al Sadabiya, the creation of WhatsApp groups facilitated continuous communication and coordination. These platforms evolved from administrative tools into spaces for social connection and collective action, including fundraising initiatives and emergency response coordination.

The project also played a role in integrating displaced individuals—particularly youth who had arrived from Khartoum due to the war—into host communities. Their inclusion in project activities helped foster a sense of belonging and purpose.

Across all states, participants consistently emphasized that the project helped them feel more like one community, encouraged teamwork, and created opportunities for dialogue and shared problem-solving.

The positive unintended results of the project contributed to reinforce the project's goal to contribute to strengthened resilience of women, girls, men and boys in targeted high-risk vulnerable communities in Sudan.

Unintended Negative Outcomes

Despite positive developments, including increased social cohesion across all targeted communities, the final evaluation identified several unintended negative effects. These were mainly observed by participants during the final project review workshop.

Community consultations, which were intended to enhance participation and ownership, occasionally led to misunderstandings and tensions. This highlights the challenges of managing diverse expectations. The decision to appoint only one community mobilizer per community inadvertently heightened sensitivity among different groups, potentially undermining inclusivity and equitable representation. This was particularly evident in Red Sea State communities, where similar challenges were encountered also in the selection of volunteers, as tribalism remains a persistent issue.

Community members in some communities began to rely on the incentives provided to volunteers, which negatively affected project ownership and weakened the spirit of volunteerism.

The rehabilitation of the Hafir addressed the community's water shortage but at the same time intensified conflicts over the agricultural land surrounding it. Similarly, the water harvesting interventions in Haya and Dordeb created tensions, as the availability of water made the land more productive, leading to disputes between farmers and landowners. In one community the conflict was solved during the implementation period with the support of local authorities.

These negative outcomes appear to have had a limited effect on the project's overall effectiveness, in the light that the evaluation found an increase in social cohesion across all targeted communities.

4.3 Sustainability

To what extent are local communities empowered to maintain and sustain the DRR and CCA interventions?

The evaluation findings demonstrate that targeted communities have, to a considerable extent, been empowered to maintain and sustain DRR and – to a lesser extent – CCA interventions. This empowerment is evident through the establishment and continued operation of CDRTs and EWCs, the implementation of community-led initiatives, and the development of contingency plans. These efforts have contributed to increased preparedness, response capacity, and ownership of interventions. This is further demonstrated in a comparison between baseline and endline survey responses revealing statistically significant² improvements across all five indicators related to communities' DRR capacities. The analysis showed that communities reported increased agreement with statements such as their ability to prevent and prepare for disasters, provide emergency services, support recovery, and share information during crises. These shifts in perception suggest that local communities have become more empowered and better equipped to maintain and sustain DRR interventions over time.

² Using a Chi-square test for independence, conducted with AI support (Copilot).

“We can use the skills we gained—like emergency response, early warning, and disaster preparedness—with more trust and confidence”- Man, FGD, Tahamiam

In Artigasha, for example, CDRT members responded effectively to a fire incident, utilizing project-provided extinguishers and coordinating evacuation effort. This is coupled with an increased sense of confidence. Similarly, in Haya, practical disaster simulation exercises increased community confidence and preparedness. Communities in Al Sadabiya and Nadi have demonstrated strong ownership of early warning systems, using loudspeakers, WhatsApp groups, and mosque microphones to disseminate alerts. These examples reflect a high level of community initiative and capacity to sustain interventions.

The evaluation reveals that DRR interventions have generally been more widely implemented and sustained than CCA interventions. CCA interventions, while promising, show less consistency in implementation and maintenance. Tree belt initiatives and home gardening practices show signs of sustained community engagement in some locations, such as Salib and Nadi, but are absent or inactive in others. In Salib, participants reported regular irrigation and seed exchange to maintain the tree belt and home gardens. In Nadi, a committee was formed to monitor the shelterbelt, and the community expressed strong ownership. However, both communities also reported challenges, including the need for fencing and irrigation support, indicating that while sustainability efforts are underway, they remain fragile and require continued support. This is explained by a more limited focus on CCA than originally planned in the project. Written documentation explains that this was due to the original overall objective of integrating the model for DRR and CCA was too ambitious given the short timeframe of the project and the fact that the target area was not experienced in DRR or managing external project funds.

Moreover, the findings also reveal disparities in DRR and CCA empowerment. In Delay, women and PwDs reported limited access to early warning systems and insufficient skills to respond to disasters. In Salib, several focus group discussions indicated that early warning system was not operational.

Gender and Geographic Variations

Gender-based differences are evident in the evaluation findings. Women’s focus group discussions often emphasized household-level preparedness, including food storage, roof reinforcement, and home gardening. Men’s discussions, on the other hand, focused more on committee formation, coordination with authorities, and technical aspects of emergency response. Women in Salib and Delay reported lower confidence and fewer active systems, while women in Haya and Nadi demonstrated strong engagement and practical knowledge.

Geographic variations also emerged. In Northern State, Artigasha showed strong DRR response capacity, while Salib presented mixed results, with inactive early warning systems and limited sustainability of CCA measures. In Red Sea State, Haya and Tahamiam exhibited high levels of empowerment, with active committees and sustained interventions. Delay, however, revealed significant gaps in early warning systems and skills, particularly among women and PwDs. In River Nile State, communities in Nadi and Al Sadabiya displayed strong ownership and continued engagement in both DRR and CCA activities.

Conclusion

The evaluation concludes that local communities have been empowered to a considerable extent to maintain and sustain DRR interventions and to some extent CCA interventions. This conclusion is supported by qualitative evidence from focus group discussions and key informant interviews, as well as quantitative data from baseline and endline surveys.

To what extent can the NSD tools, frameworks, or training materials developed during the project be used or adapted for future use?

The evaluation reveals that the NSD tools, frameworks, and training materials developed during the project have strong potential for future use and adaptation. The materials were generally well-aligned with community needs, practical in application, and contributed to institutional capacity building. However, several limitations—particularly related to dissemination, technical capacity, and institutional support—may hinder their sustained use and scalability.

The project successfully developed a range of tools and materials that enhanced SRCS's ability to deliver DRR and CCA messages. These included the "Preparedness in 60 Seconds" video, awareness booklets, posters, and presentations, which were praised for their clarity and accessibility by key informants. The materials were adjusted to local contexts and were described by key informants as easy to understand.

KIIs confirmed that the tools were relevant and frequently used. For example, in Red Sea State, DRR/CCA tools were applied during floods and cholera outbreaks, and first aid trainees actively participated in response efforts. In River Nile State, tools were described as useful and appropriate to community needs. In Northern State, their use was recommended for other states such as Gazira and Sinnar.

At the HQ level, materials were shared with other partners and used to develop additional resources, including early warning tools. A KII noted that the tools are adaptable for use in other branches facing similar disasters, such as floods and epidemics, and have already been used in other projects.

The PGI and CEA tools were also noted for their integration into SRCS policies, particularly the development of a code of conduct for working with children.

Despite these successes, several challenges were identified that may limit long-term sustainability and broader use of the tools. A major concern was the lack of advanced technical capacity in early warning systems, which restricted SRCS's ability to move beyond basic preparedness.

Community mobilization was another challenge. Awareness sessions often struggled to attract consistent participation, reducing the reach and impact of the materials. Additionally, the absence of a dedicated budget line for DRR/CCA within SRCS was cited as a barrier to sustaining activities and ensuring continued use of the tools after project closure.

Dissemination of tools was also uneven. While materials were used within targeted states and projects, they were not widely distributed to non-targeted branches, limiting their broader institutional uptake. According to SRC, the project had initially planned for the tool development to take place at the national level with inputs from different branches which was expected to lead to a wider interest and uptake of the tools. However, after the outbreak of the war the plan had to be revised, and the tools were instead developed at branch/state level.

To conclude, the NSD tools, frameworks, and training materials developed during the project are largely suitable for future use and adaptation. They have proven effective in building DRR and CCA capacity, aligning with community needs, and supporting emergency response efforts. Their adaptability across different states and disaster contexts further supports their relevance for broader application. However, sustainability is contingent on addressing key challenges:

improving technical capacity in early warning, enhancing community engagement, securing institutional funding, and ensuring wider dissemination of materials which is even more challenging in a conflict situation such as the one in Sudan.

4.4 Cross-Cutting Key Areas

National Society Capacity

The evaluation confirms that the project contributed to strengthening the capacity of SRCS staff and volunteers in implementing community-based DRR activities, primarily through training and provision of tools.

Training was a central component of the project. Endline assessments confirmed an increase in the number of individuals at branch level trained in DRR-related topics, including First Aid and EVCA. The project met its expected results under Outcome 1, reporting slightly more trained staff, volunteers, and governance members in DRR, CCA, and resilience than planned.

Training materials were described as practical, locally adapted, and easy to understand, enhancing their effectiveness and usability. Tools such as the “Preparedness in 60 Seconds” video, awareness booklets, and posters were considered clear and accessible.

Representatives from all targeted branches confirm that the capacity of their branch in DRR has improved during the project implementation period. For example, one branch manager noted that the project reinforced practical concepts regarding disaster response and emphasized the role of knowledge exchange and training workshops.

Mainstreaming PGI

The evaluation found that PGI principles were intentionally integrated into the project design and implementation, with notable efforts to include women, PwDs, and other marginalized groups. However, the extent and quality of inclusion varied across states and communities, and deep-rooted social norms and logistical constraints limited full integration in some areas.

From the outset, the project incorporated PGI into its planning tools. Women were actively involved in planning, training, and implementation across most communities. In River Nile and Northern States, their participation broke cultural barriers and led to increased leadership roles in emergency response teams. In Nadi, women participated in home gardening, first aid, and decision-making, and were trusted with responsibilities in emergency teams.

“Women and people with disabilities were given a chance to join trainings, even those organized in the city, and they were trusted with specific responsibilities”- Woman, FGD, Nadi

In Al Sadabiya, women joined consultative meetings and contributed to early warning. However, in Red Sea State, cultural norms and unsuitable meeting venues limited women’s participation, and in some communities, their voices were represented indirectly through male relatives.

PwDs were also included in planning and implementation. In Artigasha, a visually impaired female community mobilizer served as a role model and advocate. In Durdeb and Nadi, PwDs participated in feedback systems and received training. In several communities, PwDs were involved in early warning teams and community consultations. However, inclusion was not systematic, and challenges such as lack of assistive devices, inaccessible venues, and limited targeted activities persisted, particularly in Red Sea State.

Children and youth were engaged in awareness campaigns, tree planting, and emergency preparedness activities across several communities, including Salib, Artigasha, and Haya.

Despite these successes, the evaluation found persistent gaps. Women's participation in leadership and decision-making roles remained low across all states due to entrenched social norms. PwDs were often included in general activities but lacked access to dedicated services or infrastructure to support their full participation. The project responded to some of these challenges by creating separate CDRTs for men and women in Red Sea State to ensure safe and meaningful participation, and by appointing PGI focal persons within committees to monitor inclusion.

State level variance

River Nile State showed the strongest PGI integration, with high community ownership and financial accountability, and broad inclusion of women and PwDs. Northern State demonstrated successful inclusion of PwDs in leadership and training, though cultural norms still limited full participation. Red Sea State faced the most significant challenges due to deep-rooted gender norms and logistical constraints but still achieved meaningful progress in engaging women and PwDs.

Differences in Perception Between Groups

The evaluation found notable differences in perception between men, women, and PwDs regarding the extent to which the project reached and supported different groups.

Women generally expressed appreciation for being included in planning and training activities, especially in River Nile and Northern States. Many reported that their participation in decision-making had increased compared to before the project. However, in more conservative areas, women noted that their involvement was often indirect, with men representing their views in meetings. Some women also reported limited access to feedback systems due to physical placement of complaints boxes or social norms.

Men tended to report broader and more visible participation of all community segments, including women and PwDs. In several FGDs, male participants described inclusive activities and acknowledged the contributions of women and PwDs in training, planning, and implementation. However, some men also noted that women were less involved in fieldwork and emergency response actions.

While many PwDs appreciated being invited to meetings and included in feedback systems, they also highlighted persistent barriers to full participation. These included lack of assistive devices, inaccessible venues, and absence of dedicated support services. PwDs expressed a desire for more targeted interventions, such as income-generating activities and mobility support, and noted that while their inclusion had improved, it was not yet sufficient or systematic.

Conclusion

The evaluation found that PGI principles were strategically integrated into the project through inclusive planning tools and targeted efforts to engage women, youth, and PwDs. These efforts led to notable improvements in participation and representation, particularly in River Nile and Northern States. However, systemic barriers—including cultural norms, logistical limitations, and lack of targeted support—continued to restrict full inclusion, especially in Red Sea State.

Community Engagement and Social Cohesion

Community Participation and Ownership

“From the very beginning, meetings were organized with us, all the community. In these gatherings, we had the chance to talk openly about the problems we face and the most important needs of our community. We were also encouraged to share our own opinions and suggestions directly in those meetings.”- Woman, FGD, Haya

The evaluation found that the project demonstrated a high level of community participation and ownership across most of the targeted communities. Community members were consistently involved from the initial assessment and planning stages through implementation, monitoring, and feedback. This participatory approach was evident in both qualitative feedback from FGDs and documented reports.

Several communities exemplified strong ownership, particularly through financial contributions, volunteerism, and initiative-taking. For example, in Nadi, the community paid monthly contributions to maintain the green belt, a clear sign of sustained ownership and accountability. Similarly, in Delay, the

community independently planted over 50 fruit trees around the Hafir and secured additional funding from another organization.

The EVCA process was widely cited as a key mechanism for fostering ownership. Communities were not only informed about the process but were also involved in identifying the main problems in the community and how best to address them.

“Together with the project team, we discussed what interventions would be most appropriate and who can do it.”- Woman, FGD, Tahamiam

However, some challenges were noted. In certain areas, poor scheduling of activities during peak farming seasons or holidays led to reduced participation. Additionally, exclusion of specific groups was reported. For instance, a woman with a disability in Delay stated that she did not participate in any meetings or activities.

Feedback system

The evaluation found that the feedback system was widely known, accessible, and used across most communities, and in many cases, it contributed to active communication and responsiveness between the community and the project team. However, the effectiveness of the system in triggering action varied significantly across locations and issues raised.

According to endline data, 92% of respondents knew how to complain, 90% confirmed the existence of a feedback system, 87% found it easy to use, and 75% stated that the National Society responded to complaints. These figures suggest a generally well-functioning system in terms of awareness and accessibility.

In Nadi, the feedback system was particularly effective. Community members used multiple channels — boxes, phone calls, and meetings — to raise issues such as mosquito infestations, water contamination, and shelterbelt maintenance. The project responded by forwarding health-related concerns to the Ministry of Health and providing equipment for road and shelterbelt maintenance. This responsiveness fostered a strong sense of ownership and trust.

“We also gave feedback about the types of seeds and tree varieties that would actually work well here with our climate and soil. The project listened to us and took our suggestions into account when implementing the tree belt and home gardening activities. That showed us that our voices were valued” Youth, FGD, Tahamiam

In Tahamiam, both men and women reported using the feedback system actively. Issues raised included well maintenance, agricultural equipment, and maternal health services. While some requests were addressed (e.g., well maintenance), others were acknowledged but not acted upon due to being outside the project’s scope.

In Durdeb, the feedback system led to tangible outcomes such as veterinary care workshops, cleanliness campaigns, and coordination with other organizations. This indicates a high level of responsiveness and integration with broader service delivery.

However, in Salib, Artigasha, and Al Sadabiya, the feedback system showed mixed or weak functionality. In Salib, several groups, including youth and PwDs, reported that their feedback had not led to any action. In Artigasha, complaints about loader usage and unsuitable plants were acknowledged but not resolved due to budget constraints. In Al Sadabiya, women were largely unaware of the complaints box, and some participants stated they had no idea whether any action had been taken based on their feedback.

The evaluation found some gender-based disparity in the use or perception of the feedback system. Both men and women in communities like Tahamiam, Nadi, and Durdeb reported using the system and receiving responses. However, awareness gaps were noted among women in Al Sadabiya, where most were unaware of the complaints box. In Delay, women preferred using the phone, while others—including a woman with a disability—preferred direct communication with the complaints officer. This suggests that communication preferences vary, and multiple channels are necessary to ensure inclusiveness.

The evaluation found some state level disparity in the use and perception of the feedback system, where it had a lower level of functionality in the communities in Northern state compared to the other states. However, disparity also existed within the states, where the system appeared to be better functioning in Nadi (River Nile) than in Al Sadabiya (River Nile).

To conclude, the evaluation found that the feedback system was generally well-established and accessible, with high levels of awareness and usage across most communities. In several locations, the system enabled two-way communication, community-driven adjustments, and referrals to relevant authorities, contributing to increased trust and ownership. However, the effectiveness of the system in triggering action was inconsistent. The National Society showed high level of responsiveness to feedback that was within the scope and budget of the project but faced more challenges in addressing or reporting back on feedback outside the scope and budget. The evaluation also found that multiple feedback channels (e.g., boxes, phone, face-to-face) were essential to accommodate different preferences and literacy levels.

Social Cohesion

The evaluation found that the project had a strong and positive impact on social cohesion across all targeted communities. Project activities consistently brought together diverse segments of the community, fostered collaboration, and strengthened both intra- and inter-community relationships. This was achieved through a combination of joint planning and implementation, inclusive training sessions, and communication platforms such as WhatsApp groups.

In many communities, the project created new spaces for dialogue and cooperation, such as regular meetings, social media groups, and community committees. These platforms not only facilitated project coordination but also evolved into social networks that enhanced trust, solidarity, and mutual support.

“The project really helped bring people together. The activities gave us a chance to connect with each other and exchange knowledge. The project also made the different communities involved feel closer. It created stronger bonds, not only inside our village but also between us and the other communities targeted by the project” Man, FGD, Haya

No evidence was found in the data to suggest a decline or lack of social cohesion in any of the communities. On the contrary, the project appears to have either maintained or improved cohesion in all locations.

The evaluation found no significant gender-based differences in perceptions of social cohesion. Both men and women across all communities consistently reported that the project brought people together, improved communication, and fostered cooperation.

The evaluation found consistently high levels of social cohesion across all three states, though the ways in which it was fostered varied. In Red Sea State, cohesion was largely built through shared access to natural resources and the integration of displaced people. In River Nile State, youth engagement, digital communication, and collaboration between communities played a central role. In Northern State, training, volunteerism, and partnerships with local institutions were key drivers of strengthened community ties.

Conclusion

The evaluation found that the project significantly strengthened community participation, ownership, and social cohesion across all targeted areas. Communities were actively involved in planning and implementation, with several demonstrating initiative and accountability. The feedback system was widely known and used, though its responsiveness varied depending on scope and resources. Social cohesion improved notably, with project activities fostering collaboration, trust, and stronger ties both within and between communities.

5 Recommendations

The recommendations listed below are based on the findings of the evaluation and have been identified with input from SRSC staff involved in the project implementation.

Recommendation 1: Ensure project design allows for flexibility and responsiveness to evolving community and institutional needs.

Rationale: The evaluation found that the project did not fully address all the needs and that community needs shifted during implementation. It also found that HQ-level NSD priorities evolved due to the conflict. Budget rigidity limited responsiveness.

Recommendation 2: Institutionalize inclusive practices and targeted support to strengthen PGI mainstreaming across all levels.

Rationale: The evaluation found that PGI was intentionally integrated with clear achievements. However, participation varied across states and groups. Barriers to inclusion persisted, especially for women and PwDs.

Recommendation 3: Strengthen meaningful community engagement and ownership and improve the functionality and inclusiveness of the feedback system.

Rationale: While community ownership was strong in some areas, the evaluation noted gaps in participation, expectation management, and sustainability mechanisms—especially in less proactive communities. The feedback system was widely known and used, but the effectiveness in triggering actions varied.

Recommendation 4: Strengthen the integration of conflict sensitivity into project planning and implementation to prevent unintended harm.

Rationale: The evaluation found that some project activities unintentionally reinforced tensions (e.g., land use near water points and selection of only one community mobilizer)

Recommendation 5: Increase support for the sustainability of CCA interventions through targeted resources, training, and community ownership mechanisms.

Rationale: The evaluation found that DRR interventions were more sustained than the CCA interventions.

Recommendation 6: Strengthen capacity building for staff and volunteers to ensure long-term institutional resilience.

Rationale: The evaluation found that the training was central to success but uneven—especially at HQ level and in technical areas like EWS. Addressing this gap is key to sustaining project outcomes.

Recommendation 7: Standardize and culturally adapt early warning systems to improve preparedness and inclusivity.

Rationale: The evaluation found that the EWS systems were appreciated but varied in functionality. Cultural adaptation and PGI integration were key to effectiveness but not consistently applied.

Recommendation 8: Promote internal learning and dissemination of tools and materials to enhance institutional uptake and sustainability.

Rationale: The evaluation found that tools and materials developed were relevant and appreciated but not widely shared outside the project limiting sustainability.

6 Annexes

6.1 Evaluation ToR

Terms of Reference (TOR) for final evaluation of: ***Strengthening resilience of communities through disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation***

1. Summary

1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the performance, results, and sustainability of “*Strengthening resilience of communities through disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation project*” implemented by Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) in partnership with the Swedish Red Cross (SRC) between June 2022 and June 2025. This evaluation aims to provide an evidence-based analysis of the project’s relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability in strengthening community resilience to disasters and adaptation to climate change across the targeted geographic areas.

1.2 Audience:

The results of this final evaluation will be used by the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) and the Swedish Embassy to reflect on lessons learned, improve future programming, and strengthen their approach to resilience and disaster risk reduction. The Swedish Embassy in Sudan and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) will utilize the findings to evaluate the relevance, effectiveness, and impact of their support, and to inform future cooperation. The evaluation will also serve as a learning resource for other Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners engaged in similar contexts.

1.3 Timeframe:

The evaluation is scheduled to take place over a period of **12 to 15 days in June 2025**, during which all data collection activities, including field visits, surveys, FGDs, and interviews, will be conducted. Data analysis and report drafting will follow (**July and August 2025**), with the Final Evaluation Report expected to be completed and submitted **by September 2025**.

1.4 Methodology summary:

The evaluation will be conducted internally by the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) with technical support from the Swedish Red Cross. A mixed-methods approach will be applied to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the project’s performance, outcomes, and lessons learned. Four primary data collection methods will be used:

5. Community Consultations (using Focus Group Discussions - FGDs).
6. Endline Survey.
7. Final Project Review.
8. Key Informant Interviews (KIIs).

1.5 Location:

- a. The SRCS HQ office in Port Sudan, Red Sea State.
- b. SRCS Red Sea State branch office in Port Sudan.

- c. Red Sea State, four targeted communities (Haya and Tahamiam communities in Haya locality – Dordeb and Delay communities in Dordeb locality).
- d. SRCS River Nile State branch office in Atbara.
- e. River Nile State, two targeted communities (Nadi community in Abu Hamad locality – Al Sadabiya community in Barber locality).
- f. SRCS Northern State branch office in Dongola.
- g. Northern State, two targeted communities (Artigasha Island in Al Burgaig locality – Salib community in Al Dabbah locality).

2. Background

2.1 Project Background

The Sudanese Red Crescent (SRCS), in partnership with the Swedish Red Cross (SRC), is implementing the project “Strengthening resilience of communities through disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.” This initiative builds upon the previous intervention carried out from 2018 to 2020.

The project initially started in four states: Red Sea State, River Nile State, Northern State, and North Kordofan in Sudan. North Kordofan, River Nile, and Northern State were selected during the assessment conducted by SRCS and SRC in 2017, as these areas were identified as the most vulnerable to climate change and disasters, including floods, desertification, and sand drift. Additionally, the SRCS possessed strong structures, including a solid volunteer base in these states. The assessment also classified Red Sea State as high-risk for disaster and climate change, and it was therefore incorporated into this project. However, after the conflict broke out in April 2023, North Kordofan has been excluded from implementation due to security and accessibility reasons, as it is considered a high-risk conflict zone. Hence, in the end, the project has been implemented in three states: Red Sea State, River Nile State, and Northern State. In total, the project targeted eight communities, four in Red Sea State, two in River Nile State, and two in Northern State.

The project's duration has been extended following a request for a no-cost extension. This was due to several factors, including delays in the recruitment of staff, an extended initial phase that exceeded the planned timeline, and an interruption caused by the conflict (April to August 2023). Originally, the project was set to end in May 2024, but it will now conclude in June 2025. Hence, the implementation period for the project has been from the 1st of June 2022 to the 30th of June 2025.

The project is supported by a total budget of 10.7 million SEK, funded by the Swedish Embassy in Sudan. The financial support is provided under the Strategy for Sweden's development cooperation with Sudan (2018–2022), which is extended until 2025.

The project seeks to enhance the resilience of women, girls, men, and boys in high-risk communities in Sudan through community-based DRR and CCA interventions, focusing on PGI, and community engagement to mitigate, prepare for, and respond to natural hazards and climate change. It is implemented by enhancing the capacity of SRCS governance, staff, and volunteers in community-based DRR, CCA, and resilience. It also advocates for relevant stakeholders such as religious leaders, community leaders, and other NGOs to improve mitigation, preparedness, and response in these communities.

Moreover, the project supported the development of institutional capacity within SRCS related to PGI/CEA and environmental sustainability. The SRCS branches, in turn, worked to strengthen capacity within these areas in the targeted communities. Additionally, the SRCS

non-project branches and other communities indirectly benefited from the project outputs, including the practical tools developed from the community-based DRR, CCA, and resilience handbook, IEC materials, and the capacity of trained staff and volunteers.

2.2 Objective and outcomes

The project's overall objective is to contribute to the strengthened resilience of women, girls, men, and boys in targeted high-risk vulnerable communities in Sudan through the reduction of disaster risks, including adaptation to climate change. Three outcomes underpin the overall objective:

Outcome 1: SRCS governance, staff, and volunteers have DRR and CCA technical capacity to deliver and support community-based DRR/CCA programming.

- Output 1.1 Capacity of SRCS governance, staff and volunteers to support and implement DRR, CCA and resilience activities is strengthened.
- Output 1.2 Practical tools are developed and made available for SRCS staff and volunteers to implement quality PGI/CEA sensitive DRR/CCA/resilience activities.
- Output 1.3 Advocacy and awareness raising activities in PGI/CEA sensitive DRR and CCA are held with relevant stakeholders.

Outcome 2: SRCS have the technical capacity at the programme and institutional level to mainstream PGI, CEA and environmental sustainability, throughout the programme cycle.

- Output 2.1 The SRCS staff and volunteers' capacities in PGI/CEA have been strengthened and the development of PGI/CEA policy, tools and guidelines have been supported, contributing towards the process of institutionalising PGI/CEA mainstreaming.
- Output 2.2 The SRCS staff and volunteer capacities in environmental sustainability have been strengthened, contributing towards the process of environmental sustainability mainstreaming.

Outcome 3: Increased capacity of women, men, girls, and boys in the targeted communities to cope with, mitigate, prepare for, and respond to disasters and climate change.

- Output 3.1 Women, girls, men, boys and SRCS local volunteers are aware of natural hazards and climate change risks and have the capacity to mitigate the risks and adapt.
- Output 3.2 Women, girls, men and boys and SRCS local volunteers in target communities including schools have the capacity to prepare for and provide effective response to disasters.
- Output 3.3 PGI sensitive community-based Early Warning Systems enhanced

2.3 Target groups and communities

The eight targeted communities were identified at the beginning of the project based on specific criteria to ensure relevance and accessibility. The primary target groups are:

- Women, girls, men, and boys in communities most vulnerable to climate change, natural hazards, and disasters, constituting approximately 14,500 households (106,000 people).
- SRCS governance, staff, and volunteers at the national, branch, and community levels, with special consideration for SRCS local community volunteer networks, approximately 45 governance members (national and branch level), 45 staff, and 90 volunteers (about 30 per branch).

2.4 Targeted States

The project targeted communities in three states; River Nile State, Northern State and Red Sea State.

River Nile State

The River Nile state straddles both desert and semi-desert zones. Agriculture is the dominant economic activity. Increasing temperatures and a decrease in rainfall are decreasing agricultural production, especially in winter crops and rain-fed agriculture. Flooding also causes widespread damage, destroying property and livestock herds. In the River Nile State, the project is targeting two communities:

- **Al Sadabiya community** – Barber locality with an approximate 18,000 population.
- **Nadi community** – Abu Hamad locality with an approximate 1600 population.

Northern State

In the heart of the desert zone, the Northern state is marked by low rainfall, extreme temperatures, and sparse vegetation. The local economy relies on both irrigated and rain-fed agriculture. Rising temperatures, decreasing rainfall, fluctuations in the Nile River, and increased wind speeds have led to a combination of drought and flooding, which has adversely affected crop yields, rangelands, animal production, and riverbank erosion. In Northern State, the project is targeting two communities:

- **Artigasha Island** – Al Burgaig locality, with an approximate population of 3,000.
- **Salib community** – Al Dabbah locality with an approximate 2600 population.

Red Sea state

The state has been recognized as significant, as it is one of Sudan's most marginalized and underserved regions. Its drought-affected population has some of the worst statistics in Sudan concerning access to safe water and the lowest health indicators in Northern Sudan. The state has faced frequent and increasingly severe climate-related droughts, as well as a continuous expansion of desertification, since the early 1990s. In Red Sea State, the project is targeting four communities:

- **Haya community** – Haya locality with an approximate 16,000 population.
- **Tahamiam community** – Haya locality with an approximate 5,200 population.
- **Dordeb community** – Dordeb locality with an approximate population of 21,000.
- **Delay community** – Dordeb locality, with an approximate population of 6,200.

The project is funded by Sweden's government agency for development cooperation and is a partnership project between the following organisations:

Organisation	Role and Responsibilities in the Programme
SRCS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for implementing activities across the three states. • The SRCS project team manages and implements activities daily.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SRCS team is led by the Project Coordinator, the DRR Senior Officer, the PGI Senior Officer at HQ, and the Project Officer in each state, who collaborate closely with the Swedish Red Cross Project Delegate.
Swedish Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRC provided a project delegate who was based at the SRCS HQ in Khartoum before the conflict and thereafter provided support remotely. The delegate is offering technical support to the SRCS team.

3. Evaluation Purpose & Scope

This evaluation is conducted with the dual objectives of accountability and learning. Therefore, it will fulfil its aim of accountability to the donor (the Swedish Embassy in Sudan) and the affected populations. Additionally, it will enable partners, including the Swedish Red Cross (SRC) and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS), to assess their achievements.

3.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this final evaluation is to assess the project's performance and generate findings that can guide future planning and decision-making. It will support **management** by providing evidence to inform the design and implementation of upcoming activities. It will promote **learning** by identifying key lessons—both strengths and areas for improvement—that can enhance future programming and strategic direction. Finally, it will serve **accountability** purposes by evaluating whether the project met its objectives and was delivered in accordance with agreed-upon standards, commitments, and the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

This evaluation aims to provide an evidence-based analysis of the project's relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability in strengthening community resilience to disasters and adaptation to climate change across the targeted geographic areas.

The primary audience for the evaluation is as follows:

- DRRCCA project teams in SRCS.
- DRM department in SRCS
- SRC Sudan office and technical advisors.

Secondary users of this evaluation are as follows:

- Donor partners (The Swedish Embassy)
- The target communities
- SRCS partners such as IFRC, ICRC, and other RCRC national societies

The results of this final evaluation will be used by the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) and the Swedish Red Cross to reflect on lessons learned, improve future programming, and strengthen their approach to resilience and disaster risk reduction. The Swedish Embassy in Sudan and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) will utilize the findings to evaluate the relevance, effectiveness, and impact of their support, and to inform future cooperation. The evaluation will also serve as a learning

resource for other Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners engaged in similar contexts.

3.2 Scope

This evaluation will focus on assessing the implementation and results of the DRRCCA project as a single intervention carried out by the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) with support from the Swedish Red Cross. The evaluation will cover the entire project period, from June 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025, and will consider the funds actually spent by the time of the evaluation. In terms of geographic scope, the evaluation will encompass all target locations where the project was implemented, including SRCS HQ and the three targeted branches in the states of Red Sea State, River Nile State, and Northern State. The evaluation will seek input from a diverse group of stakeholders, including women, men, girls, and boys from the three target communities - with special attention to people with disabilities and youth, SRCS staff and volunteers working in SRCS branches in these states, as well as key management staff at SRCS headquarters (DRM director and NSD director).

4. Evaluation Criteria & Questions

Evaluation Criteria	Evaluation Question	Data Collection Method
Relevance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To what extent does the project address the identified needs and priorities of the target communities? 2. To what extent does the project address the identified DRR, CCA, PGI and CEA NSD needs of the National Society? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 FGD 2.1 KII (NSD director and DRM director) 2.2 Final Project Review
Effectiveness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To what extent has the project achieved its intended outcomes (as per the log frame)? 2. Were there any unintended positive or negative outcomes resulting from the project? If so, how did these outcomes affect the effectiveness of the project? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 DRR self- capacity assessment 1.2 PGI self- capacity assessment 1.3 Endline/ compared to baseline 2.1 Final review workshop 2.2 Report from the experience sharing workshop 2.3 Report from the exchange visits between branches 2.4 Annual reports (years 1 and 2)
Sustainability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To what extent are local communities empowered to maintain and sustain the DRR and CCA interventions? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 FGD 1.2 Endline/compared to baseline results

	<p>2. To what extent can the NSD tools, frameworks, or training materials developed during the project be used or adapted for future use?</p>	<p>1.3 Report from Experience Sharing Workshop</p> <p>1.4 Report from Exchange visits between branches</p> <p>1.5 Annual reports (years 1 and 2)</p> <p>2.1 Final Review Workshop</p> <p>2.2 KII (NSD & DRM, and the targeted branch directors)</p>
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5. Evaluation Methodology

The evaluation will be conducted **internally** by the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) with technical support from the Swedish Red Cross. A **mixed-methods approach** will be applied to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the project's performance, outcomes, and lessons learned. **Four primary data collection methods** will be used:

9. **Community Consultations (using Focus Group Discussions - FGDs).**
10. **Endline Survey.**
11. **Final Project Review.**
12. **Key Informant Interviews (KIIs).**

In addition to assessing the project's overall performance, the evaluation will include a focused thematic analysis of three key areas: 1) **National Society Capacity** – examining the development and effectiveness of SRCS staff and volunteer capacity in implementing community-based DRR activities, including training, coordination, and field-level engagement. 2) **Mainstreaming Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI)** – assessing how PGI principles have been integrated into the project design and implementation, with attention to how different groups (e.g., women, children, persons with disabilities) have been reached and supported. 3) **Community Engagement and Social cohesion** – analyzing the extent and quality of community participation, ownership, and the sense of connectedness within and across communities as a result of the project interventions.

The use of multiple methods will allow for data triangulation, ensuring that findings are robust, balanced, and grounded in the experiences of both implementers and community members.

5.1 Focus Group Discussions

Focus group discussions (FGDs) will be conducted separately with women, men, youth, and people with disabilities in each of the selected target communities, ensuring diverse and

inclusive representation. A total of **thirty-two focus group discussions (FGDs)** are planned—**four in each community**—with a particular emphasis on providing the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities. Where accessibility or mobility challenges arise, this group may instead be engaged through **key informant interviews (KIIs)** to ensure their perspectives are still captured. The FGDs aim to gather varied insights on the project's **relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability**, while promoting inclusive participation and applying a **gender-sensitive approach** to analysis. Discussions will be facilitated by experienced members of the evaluation team, supported by **two notetakers or interpreters to document the views shared accurately**.

Data collection tool: A semi-structured FGD guide.

5.2 End-line Survey:

A **structured questionnaire** will be administered to a representative sample of direct beneficiaries to collect **quantitative data** on key project indicators. This will enable a comparison with baseline data and help measure the changes and outcomes achieved throughout the project. Data collection will be conducted using Kobo Toolbox, with trained SRCS volunteers administering the surveys in the targeted communities. The sample will include a diverse cross-section of community members: **women and men, the elderly, and people with disabilities**.

Data collection tool: structured questionnaire using Kobo toolbox for collection

5.3 Key Informant interviews

Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with key SRCS staff and possibly key community members (people with disabilities). SRCS's key staff members are: the Disaster Risk Management Director, the National Society Development Director, and the three branch managers of the targeted branches. These interviews will provide insights into coordination, challenges, best practices, and contextual factors that influence project outcomes.

Data collection tool: an interview guide with open-ended questions.

5.4 Final Project Review:

One final participatory project review workshop will be conducted in Atbara, River Nile State. The workshop methodology will take its point of departure from the participatory project review method, a combination of methods drawing on key elements from, e.g., 1. Empowerment Evaluation and 2. The Most Significant Change Technique. In the workshop, participants (SRCS project staff and volunteers) produce and analyze the findings themselves, guided by a facilitator. Therefore, the review itself is an activity that engages participants productively. The workshop provides a structure to elicit responses from participants in a confidential manner.

In the workshop the participants will focus on identifying success, challenges and recommendations relating to the NSD components of the project and thereby data will be collected to answer the evaluation questions; "To what extent does the project address the

identified DRR, CCA, PGI and CEA NSD needs of the National Society?” and “To what extent can the NSD tools, frameworks, or training materials developed during the project be used or adapted for future use?” Moreover, the participants will be asked to reflect on unintended results of the project and thereby generate data to answer the evaluation question: “Were there any unintended positive or negative outcomes resulting from the project? If so, how did these outcomes affect the effectiveness of the project?” The workshop will be facilitated by SRCS HQ project staff.

6. Limitations

To ensure the accuracy and credibility of the evaluation, the project team acknowledges the factors listed below that will influence the whole process. These factors are – but not limited to:

- Limited access to project sites due to security or logistical challenges.
- Reliance on self-reported data may introduce bias, along with the potential influence of power dynamics during community and stakeholder consultations, especially in culturally sensitive contexts.
- The availability of staff to oversee the entire process is impacted by the current security situation.
- Time constraints arise because the project implementation period concludes on June 30, 2025.
- The evaluation will occur before the end of the implementation period, and thus, some activities, such as small-scale mitigation measures and awareness sessions, are still ongoing.
- The evaluation will be an internal process conducted by the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS), which is considered a key limitation due to the potential risk of bias, as the organization assesses its own performance. However, to mitigate this, several measures will be implemented to promote objectivity and credibility. These include the use of standardized tools and data collection protocols, triangulating findings through multiple sources and methods (FGDs, endline survey, KIIs, and the participatory project review workshop), and actively involving diverse stakeholders—including community members and volunteers—in the evaluation process. Additionally, senior management and the Swedish Red Cross, as a partner, will critically review the findings to validate the results and ensure balanced interpretation.

Recognizing these factors early allows for the design and implementation of evaluation methods that are inclusive, context-sensitive, and methodologically sound, thus enhancing the credibility and overall utility of the evaluation results.

7. Deliverables

The primary deliverable of this evaluation will be a Final Evaluation Report, which presents key findings, conclusions, and practical recommendations based on the analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data. The report will be written by the evaluation team with technical support in analysis from the Swedish Red Cross and the PMER department in SRCS. The report will include an executive summary, methodology, results organized by evaluation criteria, lessons learned, and annexes such as data collection tools and participant lists. The report will be written in clear and accessible language to serve both internal and external audiences.

Additionally, SRCS will prepare a Management Response Plan outlining how the organization intends to implement the evaluation's recommendations. This will include specific actions, responsible parties, and timelines, and will serve as a tool for learning and accountability across the organization and with its partners.

8. Timeline

The evaluation is scheduled to take place over a period of **12 to 15 days in June 2025**, during which all data collection activities, including field visits, surveys, FGDs, and interviews, will be conducted. Data analysis and report drafting will follow (**July and August 2025**), with the Final Evaluation Report expected to be completed and submitted **by September 2025**.

Date	Day	Team 1 Schedule	Team 2 Schedule
June 2025 (15 th)	Sunday	Travel day	-
June 2025 (16 th)	Monday	PPR workshop	-
June 2025 (17 th)	Tuesday	PPR workshop	-
June 2025 (18 th)	Wednesday	River Nile training	Travel day
June 2025 (19 th)	Thursday	RN Data collection	Red Sea training
June 2025 (20 th)	Friday	Day off	Data collection
June 2025 (21 st)	Saturday	RN Data collection	Data collection
June 2025 (22 nd)	Sunday	Travel day	Red Sea training
June 2025 (23 rd)	Monday	Northern State training	Data collection
June 2025 (24 th)	Tuesday	Data collection	Data collection
June 2025 (25 th)	Wednesday	Data collection	Travel day
June 2025 (26 th)	Thursday	Raw data finalizing	Raw data finalizing
July 2025		Deliverables (PPR report, Endline report, FGD transcripts, KII transcripts)	
August 2025		Data analysis	

September 2025		<p>Final Report submitted</p> <p>Presentation on findings to SRCS HQ</p> <p>Presentation of findings to the communities</p>
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9. Appendices

9.1 Evaluation Criteria and Questions

Evaluation Criteria	Evaluation Question	Data Collection Method	Questions to ask in FGD and KII to collect the needed data
Relevance	<p>1. To what extent does the project address the identified needs and priorities of the target communities?</p> <p>2. To what extent does the project address the identified DRR, CCA, PGI and CEA NSD needs of the National Society?</p>	<p>1.1 FGD</p> <p>1.2 Final Project Review</p> <p>2.1 Final Review Workshop</p> <p>2.2 KII (NSD director and DRM director)</p>	<p>End-line Survey questionnaire.</p> <p>FGD groups questions :</p> <p>1.1.1 How has the project addressed your main challenges and needs?</p> <p>1.1.2 Were there any main needs or challenges that the project did not address? If yes, explain which ones?</p> <p>1.1.3 A) What kind of feedback did you share with the National Society on the implementation of project activities? B) Was any action taken based on your feedback?</p> <p>1.1.4 How was the community involved in decisions about how the project was planned and implemented?</p> <p>KII CRRCCA questions:</p> <p>2.2.1 How has the project addressed the National Society's main NSD priorities within DRR and CCA?</p> <p>2.2.2 Where any of the National Society's</p>

			<p>main NSD priorities within DRR and CCA not addressed by the project? If yes, explain which ones?</p> <p>2.2.3 How was the National Society involved in the decisions about how the NSD components of the project were planned and implemented?</p> <p>2.2.4 Did the National Society's NSD priorities in DRR and CCA change during the project implementation? If yes, how did they change? And how was the project adjusted to address the new priorities?</p> <p>KII PGI/CEA questions:</p> <p>2.2.5 How has the project addressed the National Society's main NSD priorities within PGI and CEA?</p> <p>2.2.6 Where any of the National Society's main NSD priorities within PGI and CEA not addressed by the project? If yes, explain which ones?</p> <p>2.2.7 How was the National Society involved in the decisions about how the NSD components of the project were planned and implemented?</p>
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			2.2.8 Did the National Society's NSD priorities in PGI and CEA change during the project implementation? If yes, how did they change? And how was the project adjusted to address the new priorities?
Effectiveness	<p>1. To what extent has the project achieved its intended outcomes (as per the log frame)?</p> <p>2. Were there any unintended positive or negative outcomes resulting from the project? If so, how did these outcomes affect the effectiveness of the project?</p>	<p>1.1 DRR self-capacity assessment</p> <p>1.2 PGI self-capacity assessment</p> <p>1.3 Endline/ compared to baseline</p> <p>2.1 Final review workshop</p> <p>2.2 Report from experience sharing workshop</p> <p>2.3 Exchange visits between branches</p> <p>2.4 Annual reports (year 1 and 2)</p>	(PPR: to incorporate the evaluation questions into the process-specific themes)
Sustainability	<p>1. To what extent are local communities empowered to maintain and sustain the DRR and CCA interventions?</p> <p>2. To what extent can the</p>	<p>1.1 FGD</p> <p>1.2 Endline/compared to baseline results</p> <p>1.3 Report from Experience sharing workshop</p> <p>1.4 Report from Exchange visits</p>	<p>1.1.5 A) What new knowledge or skills have you learned from this project? B) How confident do you feel using these skills on your own to prepare for or respond to disasters and climate change?</p> <p>1.1.6 A) What small-scale mitigation measures have been done in your</p>

	<p>NSD tools, frameworks, or training materials developed during the project be used or adapted for future use?</p>	<p>between branches</p> <p>1.5 Annual reports (year 1 and 2)</p> <p>2.1 Final Review Workshop</p> <p>2.2 KII (NSD & DRM, and the targeted branch directors)</p>	<p>community to reduce disaster or climate risks? B) How are these actions being looked after or kept going to make sure they continue helping the community?</p> <p>1.1.7 A) How does your community manage and keep the early warning systems introduced by the project working? B) How are the early warning committees working? C) To what extent are the early warning systems accessible to everyone in the community, including vulnerable groups such as the elderly or people with disabilities?</p> <p>1.1.8 What do you think has been the most significant change in your community because of this project?</p> <p>Key Informant Interview:</p> <p>2.1.1 Which tools or training materials developed during the project have you used most frequently? Why?</p> <p>2.1.2 How well did the tools and trainings align with the needs of your branch and the communities you serve?</p> <p>2.1.3 Were there any challenges in applying the tools in your local context? If yes, describe which ones?</p> <p>2.1.4 Have you made any adaptations to the tools to better suit your branch's needs?</p>
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			<p>2.1.5 Do you feel that the branch's capacity in PGI and CEA has improved as a result of the project?</p> <p>2.1.6 Do you feel that the branch's capacity in DRR and CCA has improved as a result of the project?</p> <p>2.1.7 Would you recommend these tools for use in other branches or future projects? Why or why not?</p> <p>KII DRCCA questions:</p> <p>2.2.1 How effective have the developed tools, materials and training materials been in building DRR and CCA capacity among staff and volunteers?</p> <p>2.2.2 How adaptable are the developed tools, materials and training materials for use in other branches or future projects?</p> <p>2.2.3 To what extent have the tools, materials and training materials developed already been used by other branches or projects?</p> <p>2.2.4 What feedback have you received from staff or volunteers regarding the usability and relevance of these tools?</p> <p>2.2.5 How do you see these tools, materials and training materials contributing to</p>
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			<p>long-term resilience programming in SRCS?</p> <p>KII PGI/CEA questions:</p> <p>2.2.6 To what extent have the PGI and CEA tools and frameworks developed during the project been integrated into SRCS policies or standard operating procedures?</p> <p>2.2.7 How adaptable are the tools, materials and training materials developed for use in other branches or future projects?</p> <p>2.2.8 To what extent have the tools, materials and training materials developed already been used by other branches or projects?</p> <p>2.2.9 What feedback have you received from staff or volunteers regarding the usability and relevance of these tools?</p> <p>2.2.10 Have the tools, materials and training materials supported long-term capacity development in PGI/CEA? If yes, how?</p>
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6.2 FGD Questionnaire

Focus Group Discussion with Community Members

Four focus group discussions (FGD) will be done in each of the targeted communities. In each community FGD will be arranged for the following groups: women, men, youth and people with disabilities. Document the answers to each question, in detail, as this is important information to feed into the final evaluation

Location:	
Date:	
Name and role of focus group discussion facilitator:	
Names of community members participating (sex, age and disability disaggregated)	

6.1 Questions to ask the in the FGDs

Question 1: How has the project addressed your main challenges and needs?

Question 2: Were there any main needs or challenges that the project did not address? If yes, explain which ones?

Question 3: How was the community involved in decisions about how the project was planned and implemented?

Question 4A: How have different groups (girls, boys, women, and men of different backgrounds, including persons with disabilities) in your community been involved in the project activities?

Question 4B: How have their challenges or needs been addressed?

Question 5: What kind of feedback did you share with the National Society on the implementation of project activities?

Question 6: Was any action taken based on your feedback?

Question 7: How has the project activities brought the community together?

Question 8: What new knowledge or skills have you learned from this project?

Question 9: How confident do you feel using these skills on your own to prepare for or respond to disasters and climate change?

Question 10A: What small-scale mitigation measures have been done in your community to reduce disaster or climate risks?

Question 10B: How are these actions being looked after or kept going to make sure they continue helping the community?

Question 11A: How does your community manage and keep the early warning systems introduced by the project working?

Question 11B: How are the early warning committees working?

Question 11C: To what extent are the early warning systems accessible to everyone in the community, including vulnerable groups such as the elderly or people with disabilities?

Question 12: What do you think has been the biggest change in your community because of this project?

6.2 KII Questionnaire HQ staff

Key Informant interview guide

Five key informant interviews (KII) will be conducted with key SRCS staff. Who are: The Disaster Risk Management director, the National Society Development director, the Red Sea State branch director, the River Nile State branch director, and the Northern State branch director.

The answers to each question will be documented in detail, as this is vital information to feed into the final evaluation.

Location:	
Date:	
Name of the interviewer	
Name of the interviewee	
Role of the interviewee	

Key Informant Interviews with DRM/NSD directors:

KII DRRCCA questions:

- 2.2.1 How has the project addressed the National Society's main NSD priorities within DRR and CCA?
 - 2.2.2 Where any of the National Society's main NSD priorities within DRR and CCA not addressed by the project? If yes, explain which ones?
 - 2.2.3 How was the National Society involved in the decisions about how the NSD components of the project were planned and implemented?
 - 2.2.4 Did the National Society's NSD priorities in DRR and CCA change during the project implementation? If yes, how did they change? And how was the project adjusted to address the new priorities?
-
- 2.2.1 How effective have the developed tools, materials and training materials been in building DRR and CCA capacity among staff and volunteers?
 - 2.2.2 How adaptable are the developed tools, materials and training materials for use in other branches or future projects?

- 2.2.3 To what extent have the tools, materials and training materials developed already been used by other branches or projects?
- 2.2.4 What feedback have you received from staff or volunteers regarding the usability and relevance of these tools?
- 2.2.5 How do you see these tools, materials and training materials contributing to long-term resilience programming in SRCS?

KII PGI/CEA questions:

- 1.1.1 How has the project addressed the National Society's main NSD priorities within PGI and CEA?
 - 1.1.2 Where any of the National Society's main NSD priorities within PGI and CEA not addressed by the project? If yes, explain which ones?
 - 1.1.3 How was the National Society involved in the decisions about how the NSD components of the project were planned and implemented?
 - 1.1.4 Did the National Society's NSD priorities in PGI and CEA change during the project implementation? If yes, how did they change? And how was the project adjusted to address the new priorities?
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- 2.2.6 To what extent have the PGI and CEA tools and frameworks developed during the project been integrated into SRCS policies or standard operating procedures?
 - 2.2.7 How adaptable are the tools, materials and training materials developed for use in other branches or future projects?
 - 2.2.8 To what extent have the tools, materials and training materials developed already been used by other branches or projects?
 - 2.2.9 What feedback have you received from staff or volunteers regarding the usability and relevance of these tools?
 - 2.2.10 Have the tools, materials and training materials supported long-term capacity development in PGI/CEA? If yes, how?

6.3 KII Questionnaire Branch staff

Key Informant interview guide

Five key informant interviews (KII) will be conducted with key SRCS staff. Who are: The Disaster Risk Management director, the National Society Development director, the Red Sea State branch director, the River Nile State branch director, and the Northern State branch director.

The answers to each question will be documented in detail, as this is vital information to feed into the final evaluation.

Location:	
Date:	
Name of the interviewer	
Name of the interviewee	
Role of the interviewee	

Key Informant Interview with Branch Directors:

- 2.1.1 Which tools or training materials developed during the project have you used most frequently? Why?
- 2.1.2 How well did the tools and trainings align with the needs of your branch and the communities you serve?
- 2.1.3 Were there any challenges in applying the tools in your local context? If yes, describe which ones?
- 2.1.4 Have you made any adaptations to the tools to suit your branch's needs better?
- 2.1.5 Do you feel that the branch's capacity in PGI and CEA has improved as a result of the project?
- 2.1.6 Do you feel that the branch's capacity in DRR and CCA has improved as a result of the project?
- 2.1.7 Would you recommend these tools for use in other branches or future projects? Why or why not?

6.4 Final Project Review Presentation

Final Project Review of: *Strengthening resilience of communities through disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation*



Purpose

- Identify key successes, challenges and recommendations of the NSD components of the project
- Identify unintended results of the project (NSD components and community component)

The findings from the workshop will feed into the final evaluation of the project.



Agenda

Time	Topic
8.45–9:10	Welcome and Introduction
9.10–9:30	Group Work: Defining Timeline
9:30–11:00	Group Work: Identifying Successes, Challenges and Recommendations in addressing CEA and PGI NSD needs
11.00–11.15	<i>Break</i>
11.15–12.45	Group Work: Identifying Successes, Challenges and Recommendations in addressing DRR and CCA NSD needs
12.45–14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00–15.30	Group Work: Identifying Successes, Challenges and Recommendations in NSD developing tools, frameworks and training materials
15.30–16.00	Group Work: Identifying Unintended results
16.00–16.30	Next Step and Evaluation



Step 1. Historical Timeline

- Each participant gets two papers
- **Write down a significant event that has occurred in the project** (one per paper). It can be an activity or a deliverable, something you feel is worth noting.
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall, along the timeline.



Step 2: **Successes** in addressing the PGI and CEA NSD needs of the National Society

- Each participant gets two papers
- **Write down one or two significant successes from how the project has been addressing/supporting the SRCS's NSD needs in PGI and/or CEA (one per paper).**
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall



Step 3: **Challenges** in addressing the PGI and CEA NSD needs of the National Society

- Each participant gets two papers
- **Write down one or two significant challenges/weaknesses from how the project has been addressing/supporting the SRCS's NSD needs in PGI and/or CEA (one per paper).**
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall



Step 4: **Recommendations** in addressing the PGI and CEA NSD needs of the National Society

- Each participant gets two papers
- **Write down one or two recommendations for how a similar project could address/support the SRCS's NSD needs in PGI and/or CEA in a different/better way? (one per paper).**
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall



Step 5: **Successes** in addressing the DRR, and CCA NSD needs of the National Society

- Each participant gets two papers
- **Write down one or two significant successes from how the project has been addressing/supporting the SRCS's NSD needs in DRR and/or CCA (one per paper).**
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall



Step 6: **Challenges** in addressing the DRR and CCA NSD needs of the National Society

- Each participant gets two papers
- **Write down one or two significant challenges/weaknesses from how the project has been addressing/supporting the SRCS's NSD needs in DRR and/or CCA (one per paper).**
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall



Step 7: **Recommendations** in addressing the DRR and CCA NSD needs of the National Society

- Each participant gets two papers
- **Write down one or two recommendations for how a similar project could address/support the SRCS's NSD needs in DRR and/or CCA in a different/better way? (one per paper).**
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall



Step 8: **Successes** in developing tools, frameworks and training materials

- Each participant gets two papers
- **Write down one or two significant successes from how the project has been developing NSD tools, frameworks and training materials (one per paper).**
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall



Step 9: **Challenges** in NSD developing tools, frameworks and training materials

- Each participant gets two papers
- **Write down one or two significant challenges/weaknesses from how the project has developing NSD tools, frameworks and training materials (one per paper).**
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall



Step 10: **Recommendations** in the development of NSD tools, frameworks, and training materials

- Each participant gets two papers
- **Write down one or two recommendations for how a similar project could develop NSD tools, frameworks and training materials in a different/better way?** (one per paper).
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall



Step 11. Unintended positive or negative results

- In pairs, discuss if anything happened because of the project that was not expected (it can be both positive and negative things)
- **Write down one or two unintended/unexpected positive or negative result that has occurred in the project** (one per paper).
- Write if the result is “positive” or “negative” on the paper
- No names on the cards.
- Stick your cards on the wall.

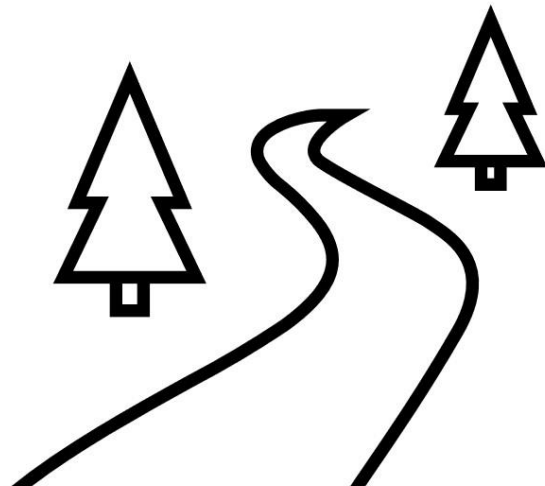


Next Steps



Next Steps

The findings from this review will feed into the final evaluation of this project together with the findings from the community consultations, KIIs and endline survey.



6.5 Logframe

Objectives	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Actuals at end of project
Goal: To contribute to strengthened resilience of women, girls, men and boys in targeted high-risk vulnerable communities in Sudan through the reduction of disaster risks including adaptation to climate change.				
Outcome 1 SRCS governance, staff and volunteers have DRR and CCA technical capacity to deliver and support community based DRR and CCA programming	1.1 % of targeted branches which have an improved scoring in their DRR/CCA technical capacity self-assessment by the end of 2024	0%	100%	100%
Output 1.1 Capacity of SRCS governance, staff and volunteers to support and implement DRR, CCA and resilience activities is strengthened.	1.1.1 % of SRCS governance, project related staff and volunteers trained in DRR, CCA and resilience in the targeted branches	30%	75%	82%
Output 1.2 Practical tools are developed and made available for SRCS staff and volunteers to implement quality PGI/CEA sensitive DRR/CCA/resilience activities	1.2.1 Awareness materials for 1) natural hazards, climate change risks and mitigation measures and 2) preparedness and response are standardized and contextualized, by May 2024	0	2	2
	1.2.2 Practical tools based on the SRCS Handbook on Community Based DRR, CCA	0	1 set	1 set

Objectives	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Actuals at end of project
	and Community Resilience are developed by SRCS project staff			
	1.2.3 Practical DRR/CCA tools are piloted by SRCS project staff/ volunteers in at least two communities and revised based on feedback from women, girls, men and boys	0	2	2
	1.2.4 SRCS staff and volunteers utilise the relevant tools in all targeted communities	0	8	8
Output 1.3 Advocacy and awareness raising activities in PGI/CEA sensitive DRR and CCA are held with relevant stakeholders	1.3.1 # of PGI/CEA sensitive DRR/CCA awareness raising/advocacy activities conducted at locality level with relevant stakeholders in the three target branches	0	18	18
	1.3.2 # of awareness raising activities in PGI/CEA sensitive DRR/CCA conducted at community level with other stakeholders in the three target branches	0	24	24
Outcome 2 SRCS governance, staff and volunteers have the technical capacity at programme and institutional level to mainstream PGI, CEA and environmental sustainability	2.1 % of targeted branches have an improved scoring in PGI capacity assessment report	60%	100%	100%
	2.2 SRCS has a PGI/CEA policy and related action plan in place by March 2023	Not in place	N/A	N/A
	2.3 % of community action plans that have environmental considerations	0	100%	100%

Objectives	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Actuals at end of project
Output 2.1 The SRCS staff and volunteers' capacities in PGI/CEA have been strengthened and the development of PGI/CEA policy, tools and guidelines have been supported, contributing towards the process of institutionalising PGI/CEA mainstreaming.	2.1.1 % of SRCS governance, project related staff and volunteers in the targeted branches that have participated in PGI/CEA mainstreaming training	0	75%	78%
	2.1.2 PGI/CEA training mainstreaming materials and tools that have been translated and contextualized.	0	1 set	1 set
	2.1.3 # of targeted branches which score "2" on the gender marker during annual assessments	0	3	2
	2.1.4 % of targeted communities with a feedback and complaint mechanisms, as agreed upon in consultation with the community.	0	100%	100%
	2.1.5 % of complaints and suggestions that have been responded to within a timeframe agreed upon in consultation with the community	0	70%	74.6%
Output 2.2 The SRCS staff and volunteer capacities in environmental sustainability have been strengthened, contributing towards the process of environmental sustainability mainstreaming	2.2.1 % of SRCS governance, project related staff and volunteers in the targeted branches that have participated in environmental sustainability mainstreaming training	0	75%	68%

Objectives	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Actuals at end of project
	2.2.2 % of small-scale mitigation activities that consider environment sustainability	0	100%	100%
Outcome 3 Increased capacity of women, girls, men, and boys, in the targeted communities to cope with, mitigate, prepare for and respond to disasters and climate change	3.1 % of women, men, girls and boys who can identify at least 3 preparedness, and response measures	4%	65%	61%
	3.2 % of women, men, girls and boys who can identify at least 3 mitigation measures related to DRR, climate change and natural hazards	3%	65%	50%
Output 3.1 Women, girls, men, boys and SRCS local volunteers are aware of natural hazards and climate change risks and have the capacity to mitigate the risks and adapt	3.1.1 # of women, girls, men, boys, who take part in EVCA (including risk mapping) in each community	0	500	532
	3.1.2: % of targeted communities which have implemented small-scale mitigation measures	0	100%	100%
Output 3.2 Women, girls, men and boys and SRCS local volunteers in target communities including schools have the capacity to prepare for and provide effective response to disasters.	3.2.1 % of targeted communities with contingency plans developed with support from local SRCS staff/ volunteers	0	100%	100%
	3.2.2: # of community disaster response teams (CDRT's) trained in DRR and using tools and equipment.	0	8	8
Output 3.3 PGI sensitive community-based Early Warning Systems enhanced	3.3.1: # of women and men community-based Early Warning Committee (EWC) members trained	0	60	60

Objectives	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Actuals at end of project
	3.3.2: # of women, girls, men and boys that have participated in early action simulation exercises implemented in their community	0	1600	1450
	3.3.3 % of women, girls, men and boys who report that they are satisfied with the EWS	37%	70%	87%