

Highlights

- Although August is traditionally the peak lean season, when households become dependant on market purchases because household food stocks are depleted, results of the 3rd round of FSMS show an increase in the proportion of food secure households in all locations and community types compared to the May round.
- A key income source in this round is agriculture labour, producing a significant improvement in household income levels compared to the previous round.
- The seasonal support of food aid to rural resident communities, in addition to regular GFD to IDPs in camps and mixed communities, as well as, the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme for 271,000 children, have had a positive impact on the food consumption levels which remain acceptable in all locations.
- Sale of food aid has greatly increased to 31% of recipients selling or swapping food aid for other foods not included in the basket and to cover milling costs.

METHODOLOGY

- ⇒ Purposively selected sentinel sites covering IDPs in camps, residents and mixed communities. Complemented with market price monitoring and seasonal metrological and agricultural information.
- ⇒ 471 households were surveyed. Replacement sites are used when insecurity prevents visit to original site.

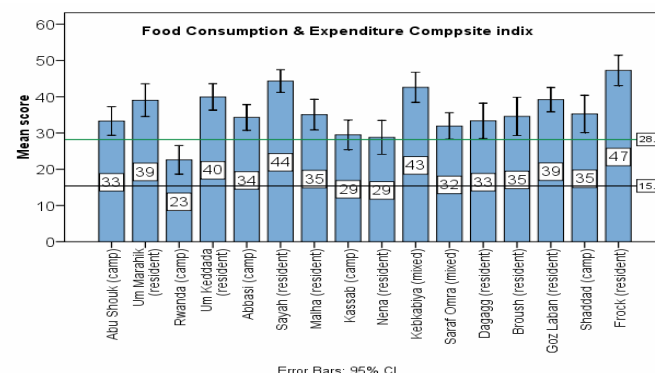
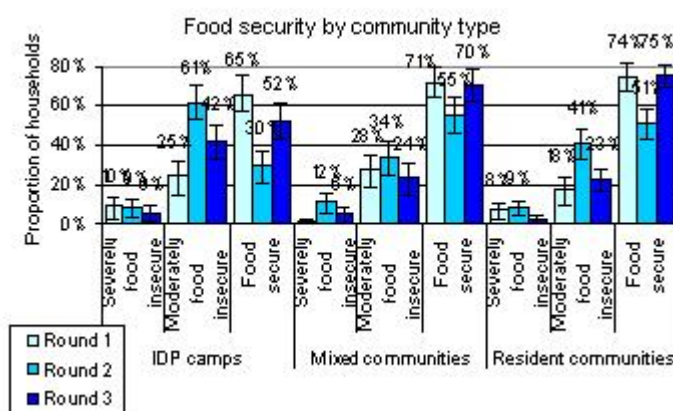
Food Security Situation

52% of households in IDP camps are considered food secure in this round compared to 30% in May. There is also a significant drop in the moderately food insecure category compared to May, however there is no change in the severely food insecure households in August compared to that of May.

For the mixed communities, 70% of the households are food secure in August compared to 55% in May. There is also drop in the moderately food insecure households in August, with a similar pattern appearing among severe food secure households, yet the changes are not significant.

For the resident communities, there is a significant increase in proportion of food secure households. The improvement in the food security situation could be a result of scaling up of the seasonal support that occurred in all areas during the lean season.

The food consumption and expenditure composite indicator by location reveals that most locations fall above the upper threshold of 28.2, with the exception of the Rwanda Camp in Tawila which continues to score the lowest score in all rounds. The continued low score of the Rwanda Camp is due to the lack of income opportunities within and around the camp, forcing camp residents to sell food aid in order to pay for education, water and health costs.



- ⇒ Dietary Diversity and Consumption Score: Using a 7-day recall period, information was collected on the variety and frequency of different foods and food groups to calculate a weighted household food consumption score. Weights are based on the nutritional density of the foods. Households are classified as having either 'poor', 'borderline' or good consumption based on the analysis of the data.

- ⇒ The Food Security Indicator is a composite score that combines values for food consumption, relative expenditure and absolute expenditure. The lower thresholds is 15.4 while upper one is 28.2.

- ⇒ The Coping Strategy Index is classified into four categories: 0=no coping; 1-5=low coping; 6-10 medium coping; and 11>= high coping.

These findings are not representative for the State but only for the targeted locations due to the sampling method.

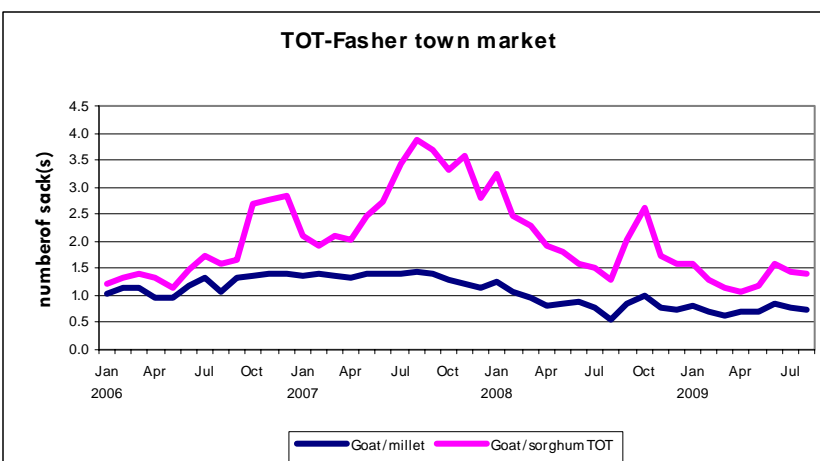
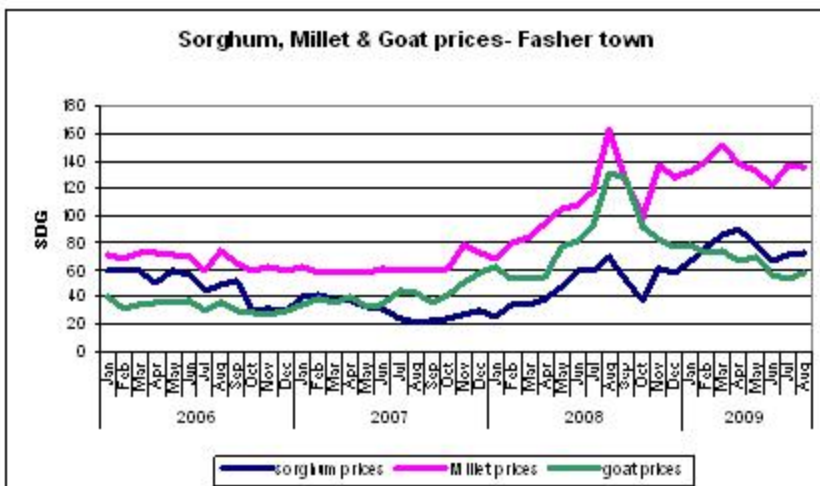
Market situation

Cereal prices of millet and sorghum in 2009 remain the highest over the last five years. Prices in 2009 steadily increased until April, at which point they either stabilized or slightly decreased when WFP seasonal support to rural residents started, a contributing factor in the prevention of further price increases. A combination of late and low rains in many parts of the State in July and August led to a reduction in millet supplies in all state markets. *The sorghum considered for the analysis is Fatarita, the cheapest which is also the food aid sorghum and constitutes the most in the markets of north Darfur.*

Goat prices have remained high since mid 2005, as a result of the loss of livestock by IDPs and a reduced ownership by rural communities at the beginning of the conflict due to stress sales or looting.

The goat sorghum terms of trade (TOT), the amount of sorghum and millet that can be purchased for one male goat, has been low in 2009 compared to 2007 & 2008. This is mainly due to the fact that sorghum and millet prices steadily increased while goat prices remained relatively stable in 2009. However, the current TOT is similar to those of 2004, 2005 and 2006.

2007 and 2008 were un-proportionally favourable for livestock owners, since July 2008 the TOT has dropped drastically to the level that is regarded as "normal" and pre-conflict.



Agriculture

Almost all residents (80%) are cultivating this year despite the late start of the rains. 48% of households in mixed communities cultivate while only 11% of the IDPs have access to land and can cultivate. IDPs do, however, benefit from the agricultural season through daily labour employment.

53% of the households who cultivate this season reported cultivating the same land size as last year while about 30% of the households cultivate smaller farm size than last year and

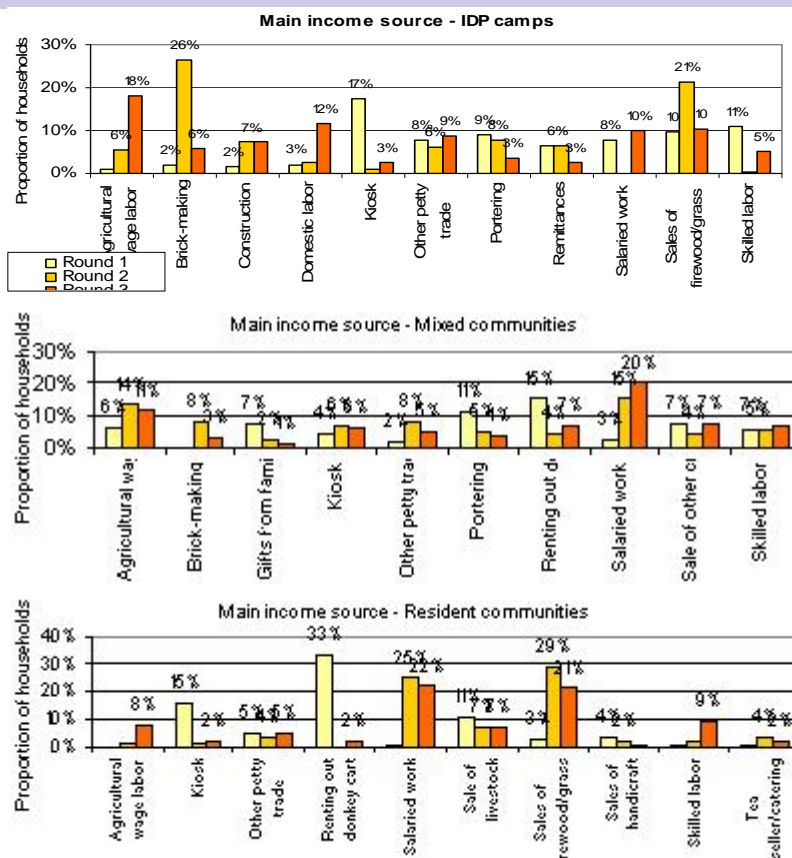


Income Sources

In August agricultural wage labour is by far the most important source of income for the camp population followed by domestic labour, salaried work and sale of firewood/grass. Kiosk and skilled labour were most important in round 1, while brick making and sale of firewood were most important sources of income in round 2. Among the three community groups, IDPs seem to be most dependant on seasonal work.

For the Mixed communities there has been only small changes from one round to the other in terms of importance of income sources. Renting of donkey carts has lost in importance for salaried work from round 1 to round 3. Agricultural labour was already important in round 2 and has remained the second most important income source.

Residents' highest income sources—salaried work and sale of firewood—remains consistent for both round 2 and 3. However, the 3rd round shows a slight reduction in importance of these sources as we see an increase among the skilled and agricultural labour sources.

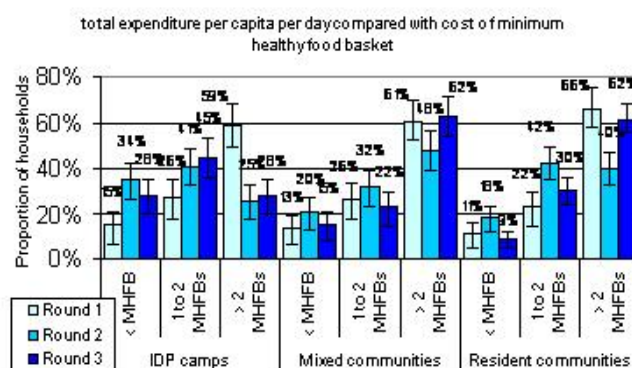
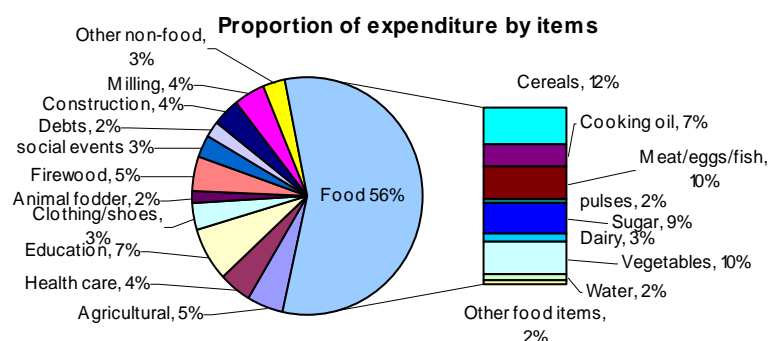


Expenditure

In August, 56% of the expenditure was spent on food compared to 63% in May and 60% in February. Main food items include: cereal (12%), meat and dry vegetables (10% each), and sugar and cooking oil (9% and 7% respectively). Key non food expenditure items are education (7%), agricultural tools and seeds and firewood (5% each), and health care, milling and construction and repair of house (4% each).

Absolute expenditure is used as a proxy indicator for income. There is very little change in income levels in all locations compared to the two previous rounds. Rwanda Camp remains the location with the lowest income, and the mean income does not cover the cost of a minimum healthy food basket which in this round cost 1 SDG per person per day.

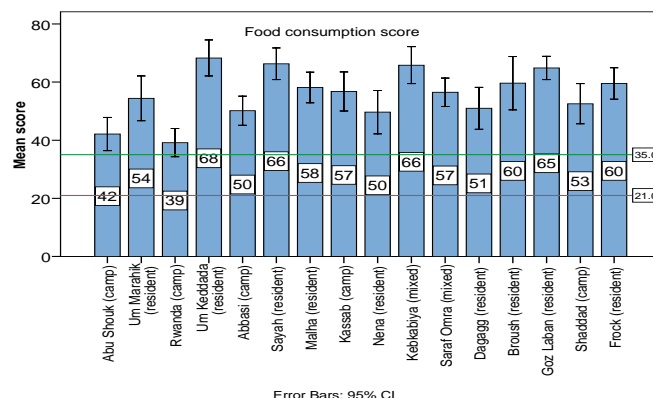
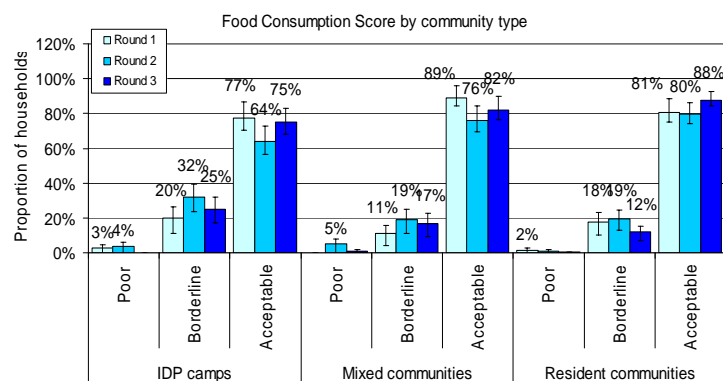
There is very little change among the IDPs in camps from round 2 and nearly a third of households cannot afford a minimum healthy food basket (MHFB). The income situation for mixed communities and residents have improved, with 62% in both community types having an income that allows them to spend more than the double amount of what the food basket costs, to cover other essential non-food expenditures.



Food Consumption

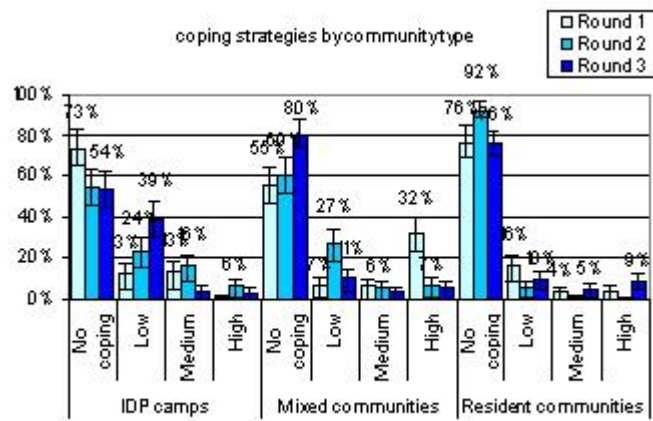
All locations have an acceptable food consumption score (FCS) in this round, due in large part to the fact that all locations are receiving GFD or seasonal support in addition to BSFP. Rwanda Camp that had borderline consumption in round 2 has improved and is also in the acceptable category in round 3. The scaling up of seasonal support in the rural areas in August (peak of lean season) is one reason for the maintained consumption score.

There is no significant difference in trends between the first, second and third rounds in terms of FCS in the three community types. There is almost no one with poor consumption which is encouraging.



Coping Strategy Index

The reduced coping strategy list is used as per the CSI manual. Households were asked if they faced a food shortage or money shortage to buy food in the last seven days. In this round, 54% of the IDPs report not having faced any food shortage and this is the same as in round 2. There is a shift from medium and high coping scores to the low category indicating an improvement for households who did face shortage as the strategies they used in this round were less severe than in round 2. Mixed communities have improved as 80% of the households report not having faced any food shortage. For residents, however, there is a slight deterioration where those not facing any food shortage dropped from 92% to 76%. In this round, those using strategies to cope have a score that puts them in the low risk (10%) or high risk (9%) category.



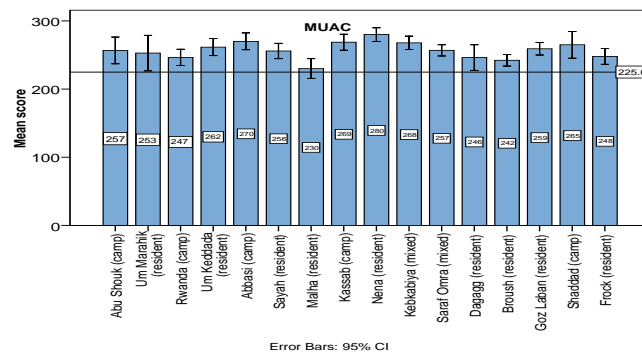
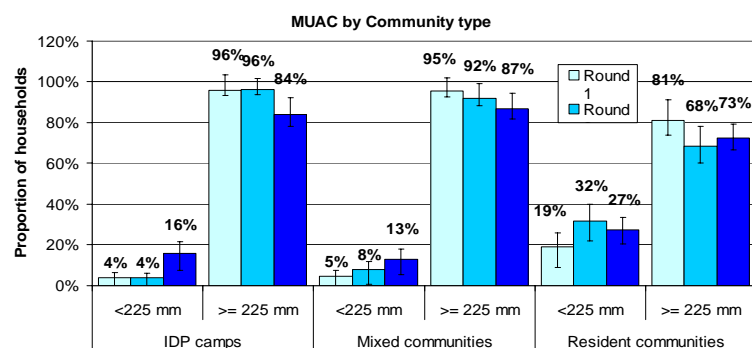
DEMOGRAPHICS UPDATE

- ⇒ 471 households were interviewed
- ⇒ 41 percent are female-headed households
- ⇒ Average household size is 6.8 persons
- ⇒ 27% IDPs live in camps
- ⇒ 15% IDPs outside camp
- ⇒ 57% residents
- ⇒ 1% returnees

Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC)

In this round, 432 adult women were measured for MUAC with 18% of the women recorded as having low MUAC (below 225 mm). All locations have a mean MUAC above 225 mm, with the exception of Malha town where roughly half of the women recorded low MUAC despite an acceptable food consumption.

The MUAC by community type indicate that of adult women, 16% in camps, 13% mixed and 27% resident communities are malnourished. This is a significant deterioration amongst IDPs which is not reflected in a similar deterioration in the consumption or food security situation as presented earlier in this report.



Population movements/insecurity

There is nothing significant to report in this round. However, there are reports of troop build-up/movements in northwest Kutum areas, and the possibility of increased tensions that might steer displacement or localised population movement in those areas.

Food Aid

31% of the households assessed reported that they have sold food aid. The increase in food sales in this round could be attributed to the exhaustion of seasonal income sources such as brick-making and sales of firewood and grass for IDPs in particular. The main reasons for sale of food aid items include: buy other food items, milling to pay for milling cost, pay for education fees, pay health services and repay loans. IDPs in camps represent the majority (63%) of the households who sell food aid.

The proportion of food items sold by household who reported selling of food aid is as follows: cooking oil (32%), cereals oil (16%), CSB (6%) and pulses (5%).



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Annex 1 – Profile of Sentinel Sites

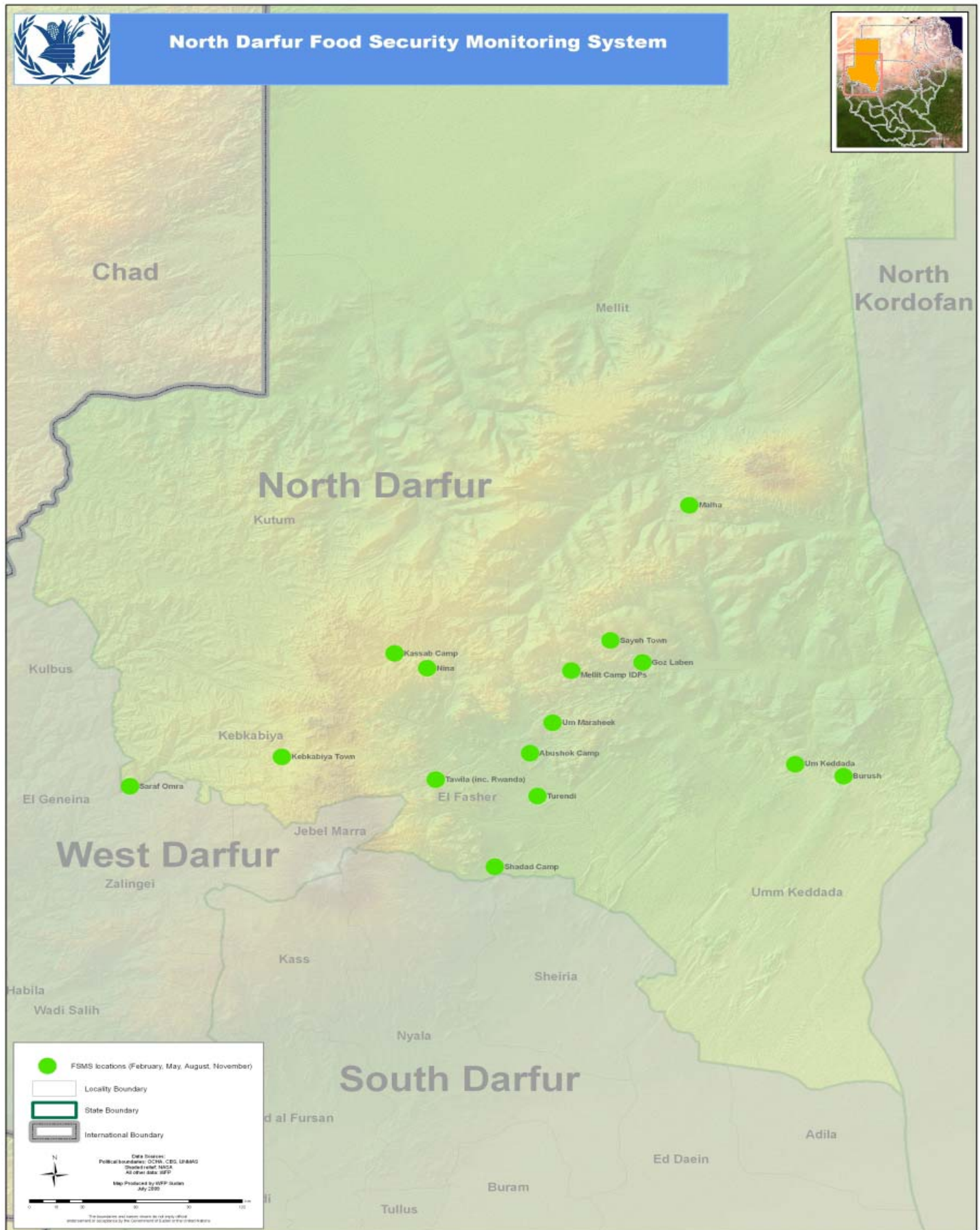
Name of Site	Geographical characteristics	Residential category	Livelihood zone	GFD modality
Abu Shouk	Fasher town IDP camp	IDPs in Camp- in town setting	town setting camp	Regular full ration (GFD on monthly basis, 8 August)
Um Maraheek	rural satellite village	residents	Goz	Seasonal half ration(14 July, for July & August)
Torendi	rural satellite village	residents	Goz	Seasonal half ration(16 July, for July & August)
Rwanda Camp	Tawaila small town	IDP camp in Rural setting	Tombac	Regular full ration (GFD on monthly basis)
Shedad	Shangil Tobayi	IDP camp in Rural setting	Tombac	Regular full ration (15 August, GFD on monthly basis)
Umkedada	Umkedada town	residents	Goz	Seasonal half ration (10 August , for Aug & Sep)
Burush	rural satellite village	Residents	Goz	Seasonal half ration(6,August for Au & Sep).
Abbasi camp	Mellit town IDP camp	IDPs in a town setting	Goz	Regular full ration (GFD on monthly basis, 3 August)
Sayah town	Sayah	residents in small town	Goz	Seasonal half ration (6,August for Aug & Sep).
Goz Laben	rural satellite village	residents	Goz	Seasonal half ration((6,August for Aug & Sep).
Malha town	town in pastoral area	residents	pastoral	Seasonal half ration(7 July, for July & August)
Kassab camp	Camp in town setting	IDP camp	Wadi	Regular full ration (monthly)
Neina	rural satellite village	residents	Agro-migrant	Seasonal half ration(13 August, for Aug & Sep)
Kebkabiya	town in Wadi zone	mixed	Wadi	Regular half ration
Saraf Omra	town in Wadi zone	mixed	Wadi	Regular half ration(11 August, for Aug & Sep)
Forock	rural satellite village	Residents	Agro-migrant	Seasonal half ration

1– In the Sedentary Farmers livelihood zone (Goz) millet is cultivated and is the main activity supported by collection & sale of dry grass , own small sized livestock mainly goats and local & short seasonal migration into towns in the summer season in search for agricultural labour opportunities. This zone supplies most of the millet to markets of the main towns of the State.

2- The Wadi areas of Kutum, Kebkabiya and Saraf Omra provide a unique cultivation system in North Darfur State that is dependant on irrigation for various cash crops. Cash crops, such as onions, beans and a variety of vegetables are cultivated using shallow wells, although the area being cultivated has reduced, due to conflict and because of limited access to distant farms and reduction of engine pumps, the cultivation concentrates around the main towns of Fata Borno, Kutum, Kebkabiya, Saraf Omra and Birka Syra. However, the Wadi cultivation continues to provide income and work opportunities in winter and summer seasons.

3- Tombac is a chewing tobacco cultivated on moist retained alluvial clay soils along the wadis (seasonal water courses). Tombac cultivation & harvesting is a labour-intensive activity. The area cultivated by individual households is usually very small, less than 1 feddan, but traders cultivate larger areas employing casual labourers in all stages of cultivation from terrace making, seed transplanting, leaf picking and leave fermentation. Apart from being the main cash crops in those areas, it also provides work opportunities to households. Importantly the work opportunities extends up to February, minimizing households sales of cereals at a time when cereals prices usually are low.

Annex 2 – Map of Sentinel Sites



Annex 3 – Results by Indicator by sentinel site

Locations highlighted in red or green have a statistically significant change

North Darfur

Food consumption and expenditure indicator			
Location	Round 1 (Feb 2009)	Round 2 (May 2009)	Round 3 (Aug 2009)
Abu Shouk (camp)	36	30 (-17%)	33 (13%)
Um Marahik (resident)	22	20 (-8%)	39 (96%)
Rwanda (camp)	22	23 (3%)	23 (0%)
Um Keddada (resident)	35	36 (4%)	40 (10%)
Abbasi (camp)	29	31 (6%)	34 (11%)
Sayah (resident)	37		44
Malha (resident)	32	34 (7%)	35 (2%)
Kassab (camp)	29	30 (3%)	29 (-2%)
Neina (resident)	23	20 (-12%)	29 (43%)
Kebkabiya (mixed)	35	36 (4%)	43 (18%)
Saraf Omra (mixed)	38	32 (-16%)	32 (1%)
Dagagg (resident)		23	33 (47%)
Broush (resident)		33	35 (4%)
Goz Laban (resident)		37	39 (6%)
Shaddad (camp)		28	35 (28%)
Frock (resident)			47

Food consumption score			
Location	Round 1 (Feb 2009)	Round 2 (May 2009)	Round 3 (Aug 2009)
Abu Shouk (camp)	71	45 (-36%)	42 (-7%)
Um Marahik (resident)	33	43 (30%)	54 (27%)
Rwanda (camp)	39	34 (-12%)	39 (16%)
Um Keddada (resident)	66	67 (2%)	68 (2%)
Abbasi (camp)	54	53 (-2%)	50 (-6%)
Sayah (resident)	62		66
Malha (resident)	59	61 (5%)	58 (-5%)
Kassab (camp)	53	61 (16%)	57 (-7%)
Nena (resident)	47	42 (-12%)	50 (19%)
Kebkabiya (mixed)	63	62 (-1%)	66 (6%)
Saraf Omra (mixed)	60	55 (-8%)	57 (2%)
Dagagg (resident)		45	51 (13%)
Broush (resident)		62	60 (-4%)
Goz Laban (resident)		62	65 (5%)
Shaddad (camp)		56	53 (-6%)
Frock (resident)			60

Income proxy (total expenditure per capita per day)			
Location	Round 1 (Feb 2009)	Round 2 (May 2009)	Round 3 (Aug 2009)
Abu Shouk (camp)	2.3	2.2 (-1%)	2.1 (-5%)
Um Marahik (resident)	1.4	1.3 (-7%)	2.4 (87%)
Rwanda (camp)	1.1	0.7 (-36%)	0.7 (0%)
Um Keddada (resident)	3.4	3.2 (-7%)	2.8 (-10%)
Abbasi (camp)	1.5	1.2 (-20%)	1.9 (63%)
Sayah (resident)	3		3.3
Malha (resident)	3.4	2.7 (-21%)	2.5 (-7%)
Kassab (camp)	2	1.6 (-22%)	1.6 (2%)
Nena (resident)	1.9	0.8 (-56%)	1.6 (85%)
Kebkabiya (mixed)	2.6	2.9 (12%)	3.4 (18%)
Saraf Omra (mixed)	2.7	2.3 (-15%)	2.4 (3%)
Dagagg (resident)		1.3	1.9 (54%)
Broush (resident)		2.5	2.7 (10%)
Goz Laban (resident)		2.2	2.5 (14%)
Shaddad (camp)		1.3	1.9 (50%)
Frock (resident)			3.2

Proportion of expenditures spent on food			
Location	Round 1 (Feb 2009)	Round 2 (May 2009)	Round 3 (Aug 2009)
Abu Shouk (camp)	65%	59% (-10%)	46% (-21%)
Um Marahik (resident)	60%	76% (28%)	45% (-41%)
Rwanda (camp)	63%	59% (-5%)	65% (9%)
Um Keddada (resident)	65%	66% (2%)	57% (-14%)
Abbasi (camp)	63%	59% (-5%)	51% (-15%)
Sayah (resident)	58%		46%
Malha (resident)	63%	64% (1%)	58% (-9%)
Kassab (camp)	64%	71% (12%)	67% (-6%)
Nena (resident)	72%	73% (1%)	62% (-15%)
Kebkabiya (mixed)	59%	61% (3%)	51% (-17%)
Saraf Omra (mixed)	52%	63% (20%)	64% (2%)
Dagagg (resident)		72%	54% (-25%)
Broush (resident)		66%	62% (-7%)
Goz Laban (resident)		56%	54% (-3%)
Shaddad (camp)		70%	50% (-28%)
Frock (resident)			33%

Mid upper-arm circumference (mm)			
Location	Round 1 (Feb 2009)	Round 2 (May 2009)	Round 3 (Aug 2009)
Abu Shouk (camp)	247	264 (7%)	257 (-3%)
Um Marahik (resident)	269	263 (-2%)	253 (-4%)
Rwanda (camp)	254	255 (0%)	247 (-3%)
Um Keddada (resident)	250	254 (2%)	262 (3%)
Abbasi (camp)	265	258 (-3%)	270 (5%)
Sayah (resident)	266		256
Malha (resident)	244	234 (-4%)	230 (-2%)
Kassab (camp)	266	280 (5%)	269 (-4%)
Nena (resident)	266	259 (-3%)	280 (8%)
Kebkabiya (mixed)	278	270 (-3%)	268 (-1%)
Saraf Omra (mixed)	265	256 (-3%)	257 (0%)
Dagagg (resident)		266	246 (-7%)
Broush (resident)		259	242 (-7%)
Goz Laban (resident)		253	259 (2%)
Shaddad (camp)		256	265 (4%)
Frock (resident)			248