

Food Security Monitoring

West Darfur, Sudan, November 2015

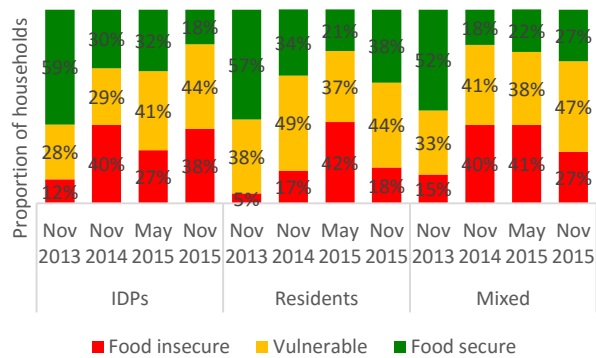


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food security analysis

Summary

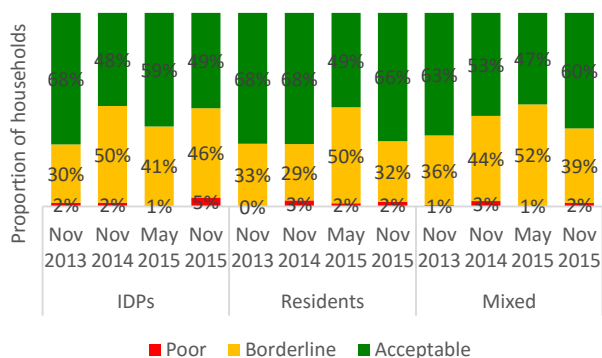
Food security deteriorated for sampled IDP households during the May 2015 to November 2015 period and was also moderately worse than at the same time last year, while sampled households in resident and mixed communities saw their food security improve over the same period. Residents and households in mixed communities benefited from the early harvest, while IDPs faced fewer-than-average job opportunities due to the poor agricultural season.

Food Security



The proportion of IDP households found to be food secure decreased compared to May 2015 (the most recent round of monitoring) to a situation moderately worse than in November 2014 (the comparable time last year). The trend of households in resident and mixed communities were reversed, and followed an expected seasonal pattern of improvement in the pre-harvest period. IDPs were substantially less food secure compared to residents and households in mixed communities, likely as a result of limited access to cultivation options, coupled with fewer-than-average labour opportunities in the agricultural sector due to the below-average growing season.

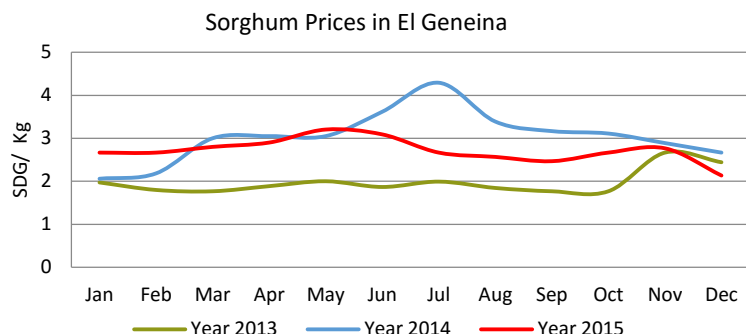
Household Food Consumption



Household food consumption exhibited minor deterioration compared to May 2015 among IDP communities, while for households in resident and mixed communities an improvement was registered over the same period. Cultivating households in resident and mixed communities would have access to early harvest, while many IDPs typically are more reliant on the market. One third of households in resident a mixed communities had poor or borderline food consumption, compared to half of all IDP households.

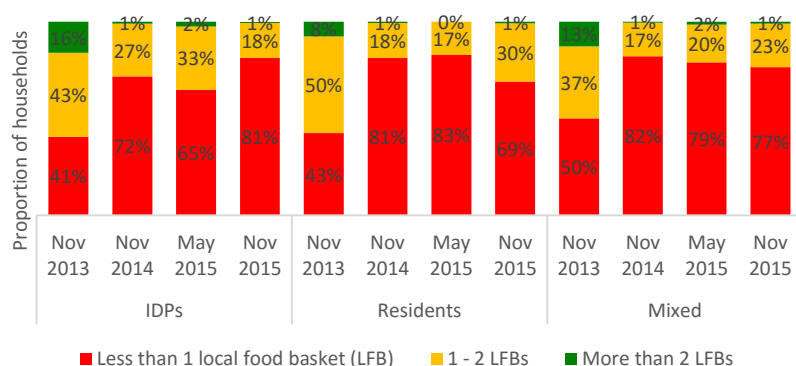
Market Prices

Sorghum prices in El Geneina Nyala had decreased considerably compared to the previous month, despite the expectation of a below-average harvest, partly as a result of reports of significant amount of crop stocks from last year's bumper harvest, available to stabilize market supply. The price was at levels comparable to the same time in previous years.



Purchasing Power

The vast majority of households were found to have weak purchasing power. The weakest purchasing power was found among IDPs, where more than 80 percent of households were unable to afford the local food basket, but households in resident and mixed communities reported similar conditions. As with food consumption, the trend was moderately improving for residents and households in mixed communities, while it deteriorated for IDPs, in part related to their respective level of participation in the agricultural season.



Methodology

WFP conducts continuous food security monitoring across Sudan. The household data collection for this round was conducted in November-December 2015 which constitutes the start of the harvest season. Across Darfur, a total of 6,094 households across 125 sentinel sites were interviewed for this monitoring round.

Food Security

Food security was determined, as per WFP Emergency Food Security Assessment standards, by cross-tabulating economic food access indicators with food consumption (see below).

Purchasing Power

The price of a local food basket (LFB) was used as a benchmark against which to compare household total expenditure (a proxy for income), to determine the level of purchasing power. Purchasing power was determined by calculating how many baskets households could afford.

Household Food Consumption

Food consumption data was collected and analyzed using standard WFP methodology: the variety and frequency of foods consumed over a 7-day period was recorded to calculate a food consumption score (FCS). Weights were based on the nutritional density of the foods. Using standard threshold, households were classified as having either poor, borderline or acceptable food consumption.

Contact

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