

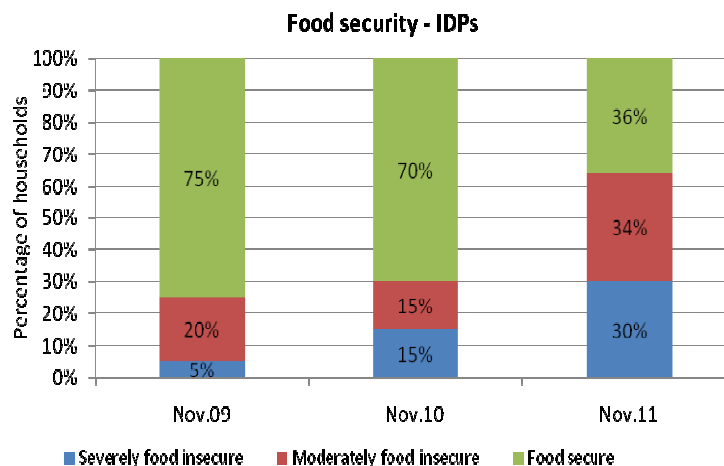


## Executive Summary

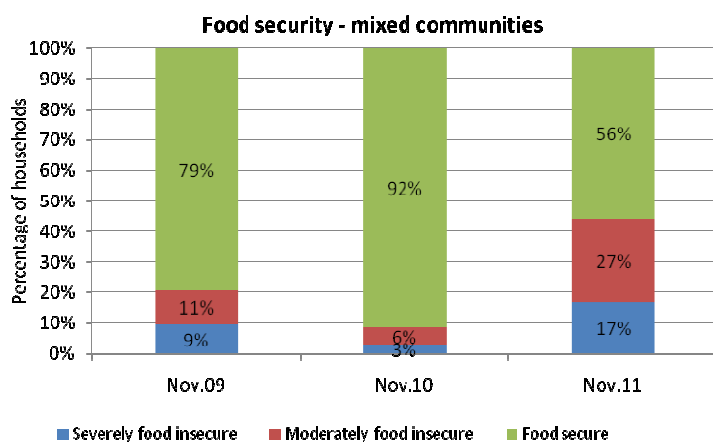
- The overall food security situation has considerably deteriorated compared to November 2010. However, findings indicate a slight increase in the proportion of food insecure households among all community groups compared to the last FSMS round of May 2011. This increment is significant in comparing results of November when food availability and access is remarkably better compared to May which marks the start of the lean season. The early deterioration in food security situation is mainly attributed to a combination of a below-average harvest and an unusually increasing demand for food commodities.
- Gender and education level of household head has a clear impact on the households food security status.
- The food consumption score (FCS) in November 2011 remained similar to that reported in May 2011, when three-fifth, four-fifth and over three-fifth of households in camps, mixed and resident communities respectively had acceptable FCS. However, there is a slight increase in the proportion of households having poor FCS within IDP camps.
- The price of the minimum healthy food basket (MHFB) has increased by 30 percent in November compared to May 2011; it has also increased by 75 percent in comparison to results reported in November last year. Of the eight food items included in the MHFB, the majority of the increases have been reported in cereals and cooking oil.
- The immediate increase in the cost of MHFB prices has considerably affected the purchasing power of all community types. In November, two-third of camp IDPs in addition to approximately half of the mixed and resident communities were unable to afford the cost of MHFB.
- Camp IDPs are heavily reliant on wage labour as their most important income source as it secures about 56 percent of households' income. Wage labour also contributes over one third of income within mixed communities. However unlike the camp IDPs, households in the mixed community can access more diverse options of income opportunities.
- Income sources within resident communities is reportedly more balanced; sources such as salaries, wage labour, firewood and dry grass collection, sale of livestock, small businesses as well as sale of cash crops are fairly contributing to households' income.
- Overall, some 68 percent of households' expenditure was spent on food which is above the threshold of 65 percent. However, households are maintaining expenditure on a variety of food items with 16 percent of their expenditure is spent on cereals.
- The proportion of households who are not faced with food shortage has drastically dropped within camp IDPs; in November only 35 percent of the surveyed households were not facing food shortage compared to 76 percent reported in May 2011. The proportion of households who have not faced food shortage among mixed and residents communities has not changed compared to the previous rounds.
- The proportion of children who consume more than four food items has significantly decreased among camp IDPs compared to the last rounds conducted in May and November 2010. For the mixed and residents communities, there is a slight reduction in the proportion of children who consume more than four food items.
- According to the mid upper arm circumference (MUAC) measurements, approximately 10 percent of the children were severely or moderately malnourished.

# 1. FOOD SECURITY

The month of November is the beginning of the harvest season when new production prospects avails food and income opportunities, particularly agricultural activities. This, coupled with increased supplies of locally produced commodities to markets, has resulted in decreased prices compared to the lean season. In November, the proportion of food secure households among IDPs in the camps has significantly dropped to 36 percent compared to 70 percent reported in November 2010. The percentage of food secure households have shown a slight drop compared to the last round undertaken in May 2011.



In November 2011, 30 percent of the camp IDP households are reportedly severely food insecure, while 34 percent are moderately food insecure. The current proportion of food insecure households is the highest compared to results reported in all previous FSMS rounds.



A significant increase, compared to last year, in the proportion of severely and moderately food insecure households has also been reported among the mixed communities compared to November 2010.

Mixed communities in areas of Kebkabiya and Saraf Omra are relatively better compared to other communities in the state, with a reported improvement in crop production prospects compared to other localities. In addition, unlike other areas in the state, there are

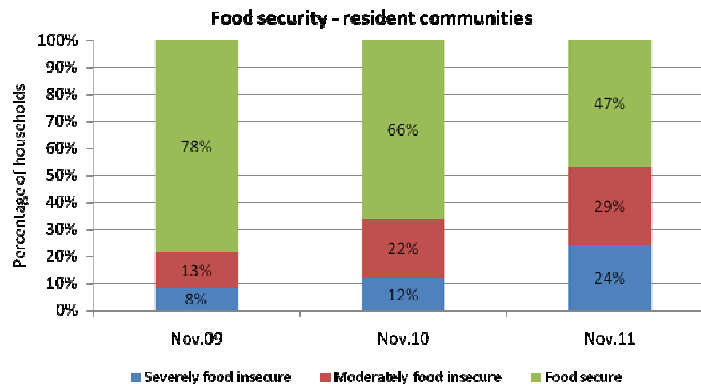
opportunities of winter cropping in these localities by cultivating a variety of cash crops through irrigation in the next three to four months.

In November, 24 percent of the resident community households are found to be severely food insecure, while 29 percent are moderately food insecure. Comparison with results from November 2010 indicate a considerable deterioration in the food security situation of resident communities, who represent above 60 percent of the targeted caseload.

This group of beneficiaries are supported through seasonal support, with food assistance provided based on the prospects of the agricultural season. As apposed to mixed communities and camp IDPs, the resident communities are more affected by poor harvest particularly poor households with limited resources.

Overall, the food security situation of all communities in November has deteriorated significantly compared to last year. The food security situation is expected to improve during the harvest season due to the availability of food from local production and increased income brought in by harvesting activities. However, this season turned to be poor in terms of crop production, limiting both access and availability of food commodities.

Recovery from the lean season is very unlikely as the prices of food commodities remained high combined with reduced income opportunities particularly in the rural areas. Thus, predictions for the 2012 food security situation remain bleak in terms of food availability and accessibility, unless different modalities of support are undertaken early next year.



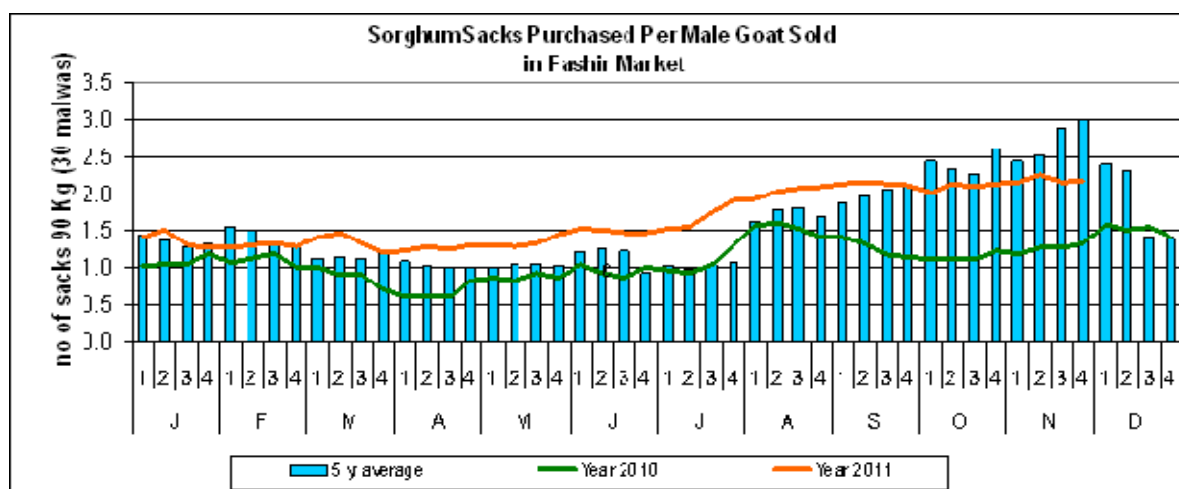
Market intervention is required for stabilizing food prices as well as provision of free food assistance to those in need. Further deterioration of the current food security situation is expected should these interventions do not take place.

## A. Market Situation

Between October and November, sorghum prices in El Fasher town remained high and were not influenced by harvest expectations. Normally, cereals prices start to decline at the end of September and/or October as a result of crop production and availability. However, sorghum prices are higher than prices of last year and have almost doubled compared to the five-year average. Currently, local markets in the state are facing low to scarce supplies of sorghum, a cheaper cereal for many poor households at cereal scarcity periods.

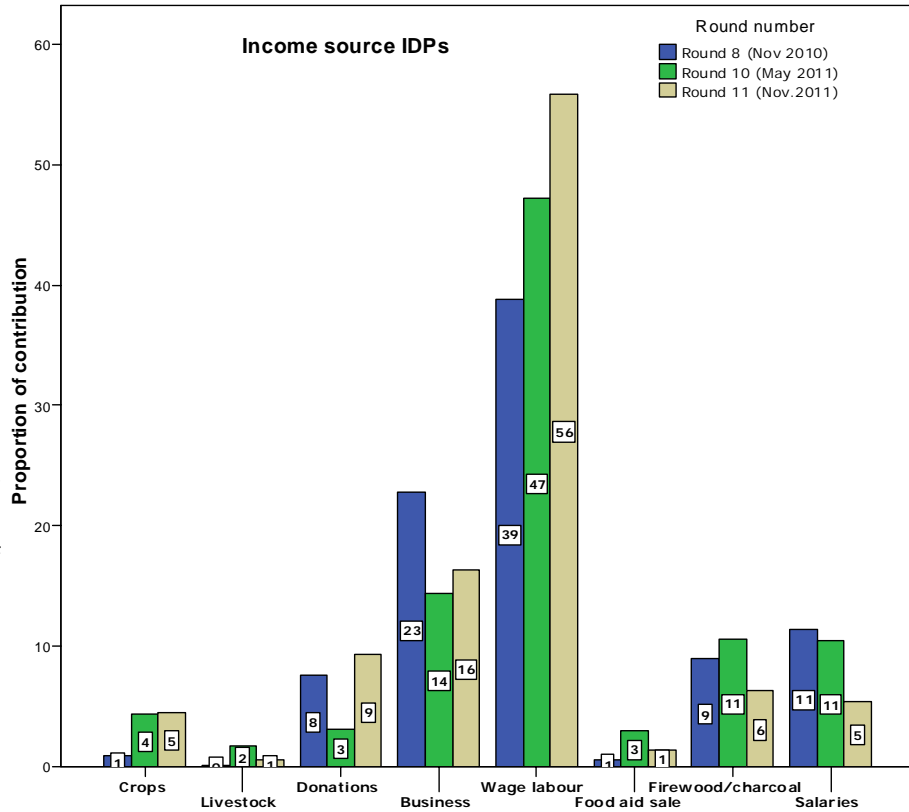
The Terms of Trade (ToT), between sorghum and male goat (the quantity of sorghum that can be purchased by selling a male adult goat) in October and November remained high compared to previous months. The quantity of sorghum that can be purchased in November is reportedly higher than last year's. However, it remains slightly below the five-year average. Goat prices in October and November remain high due to the combined demand of *Eid Edha* (a major religious festival) and the normal local consumption demand. Nevertheless, in the light of the poor pasture and shortages of drinking water anticipated next year, combined with poor crop production, livestock prices are expected to decrease in the next dry season with the current ToT reversed in favour of cereal sellers.

The price of the minimum healthy food basket (MHFB) has increased to 2.12 SDG per person per day in this round; an increase of 30 percent compared to May 2011 75 percent compared to November 2010. The increase in price mainly includes cereals and cooking oil, with the latter's price expected to drop upon availability of new production. The current prices reflect end season prices. Sorghum prices are satisfactory and expected to remain stable. The MHFB consist of eight food items and is calculated based on the kilo calories (Kcals) required for each item per person per day (2020 kcals p/p/d). The eight items are: cereals (sorghum), milk, dry vegetables, cooking oil, goat meat, onion, sugar and cow meat.



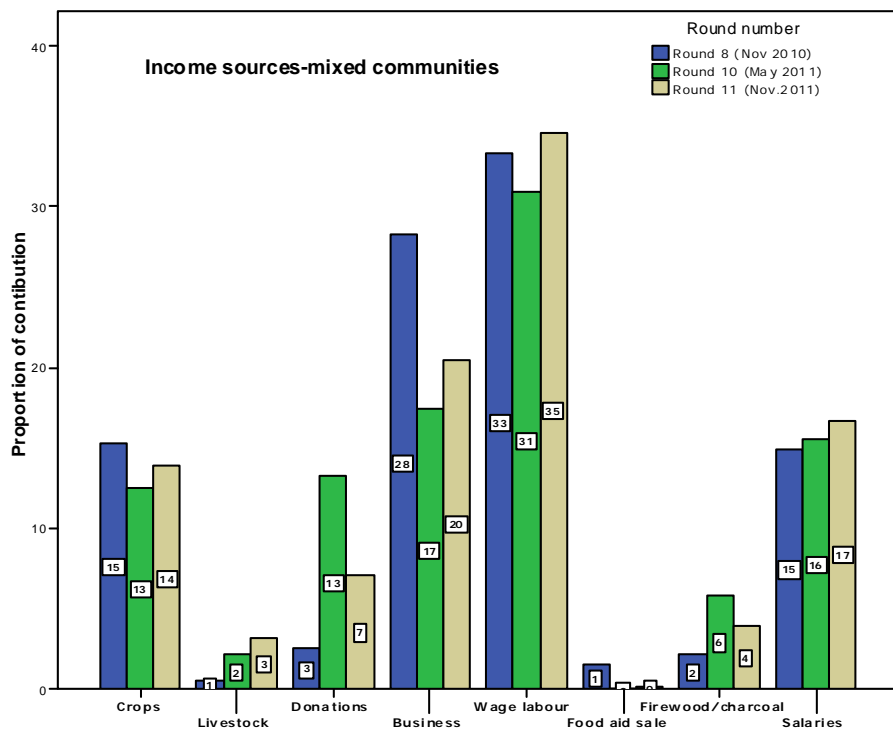
## B. Income Sources

Wage labour remains the single most important income source for camp IDPs. In November 2011, this activity contributed about 56 percent of the overall IDP household income. The current contribution of wage labour to household income remained similar to that of May 2011, yet it is higher than that of November 2010, when wage labour contributed around 39 percent of household income. The contribution and importance of wage labour continue to



grow in each round indicating an increasing vulnerability of camp IDPs, particularly in shortage or absence of labour opportunities. Other income sources include small businesses, sale of firewood, kinship and remittance, sale of crops as well as salaries. These sources collectively contribute to about two-fifth of the total income. During the harvest period, labour opportunities should normally be available allowing households to be better prepared for the dry season when these sources decrease significantly. However, the lower harvest prospects this season will reduce labour income, particularly among the camp IDPs in rural settings.

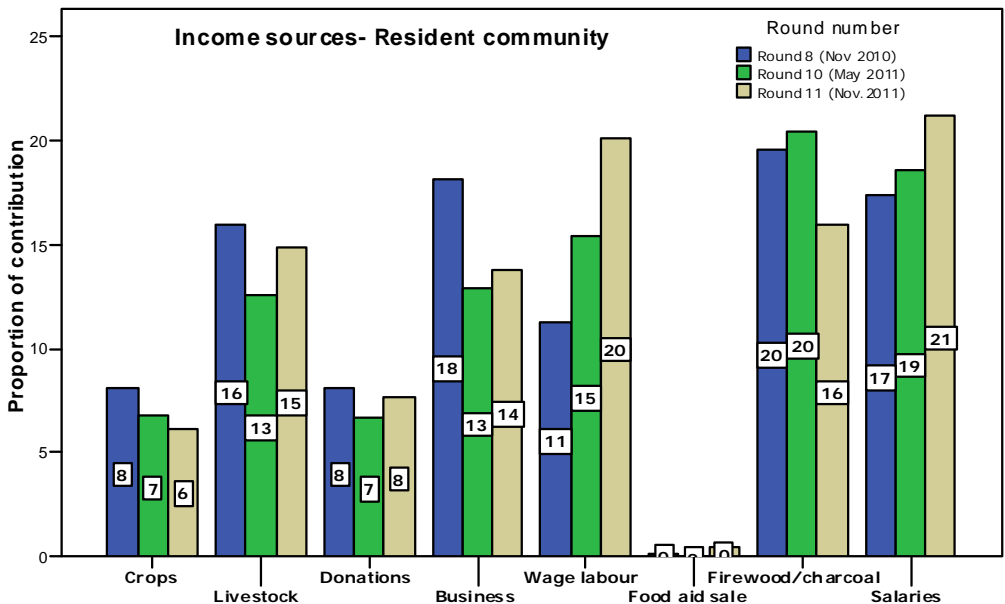
The mixed communities continued to maintain relatively diverse income sources in comparison to the camp IDPs in November, which has been the pattern in all



rounds. In November 2011, although wage labour contributes up to 35 percent of household income, other sources such as small businesses, salaries, sale of crops and donations/kinship also contribute a significant portion of the household income. These sources contribute about three-fifth of the household income.

Within the mixed communities in Kebkabiya and Saraf Omra towns, IDPs represent more than 70 percent of the total caseload. This subsequently implies that the majority of the IDP population and the poorest of the town population compete on scarce work opportunities provided by the better off households in these towns. Unlike other localities in the *Wadi*, areas of Kebkabiya and Saraf Omra provide agricultural labour opportunities for longer periods of time that goes up to March of next year, as a result of the winter cropping of irrigated cash crops.

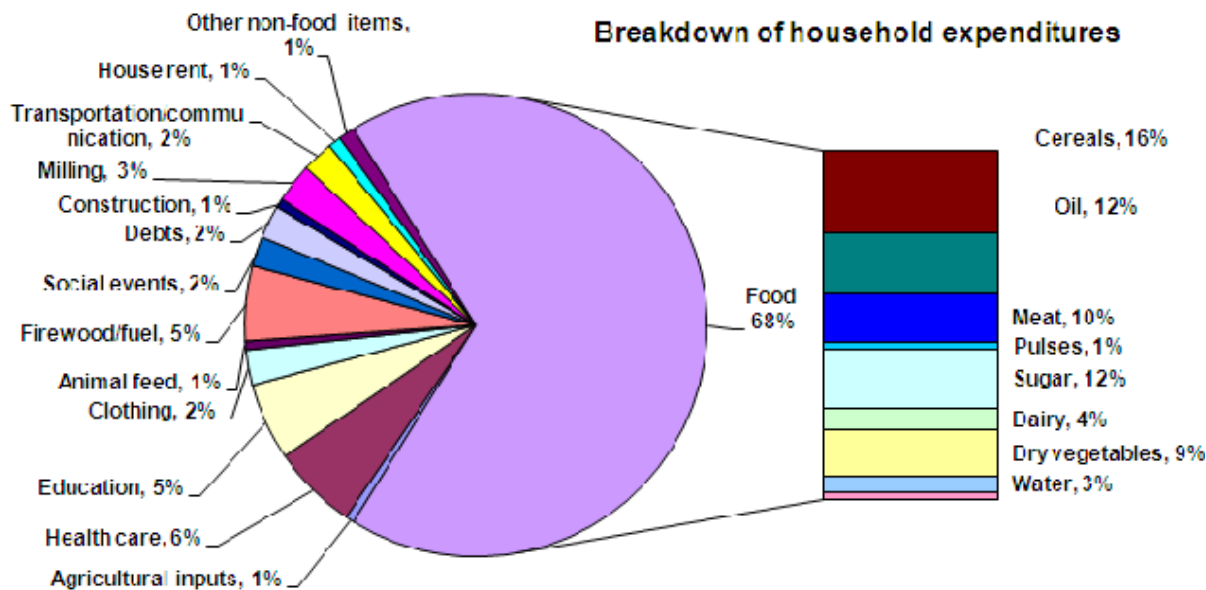
The resident communities similar to the mixed communities have more diverse and relatively balanced income sources, such as salaries, wage labour, firewood and charcoal collection, sale of livestock, donations/



kinship and sale of crops. In November 2011, the contribution of both salaries and wage labour have slightly increased, compared to the last round and the same month last year. However, the proportion of income that is generated through small businesses, sale of crops and sale of livestock has slightly decreased compared to November 2010.

### C. Expenditure

In November 2011, a higher percentage of households spend more than 65 percent of their total expenditure on food items compared to November 2010. For IDPs, 67 percent of the households spend more than 65 percent of total monthly expenditure on food items, compared to 57 percent of the resident households and 54 percent of mixed community households .



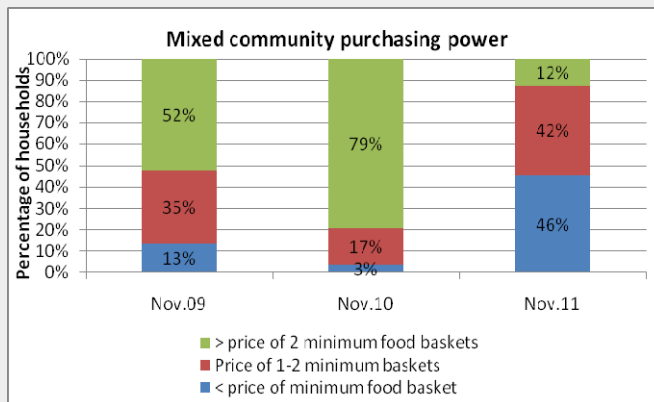
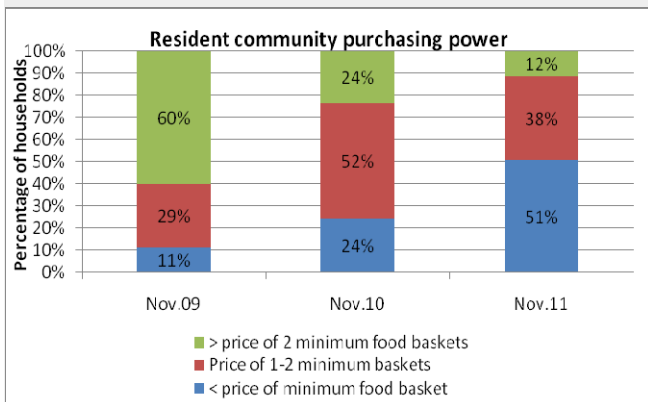
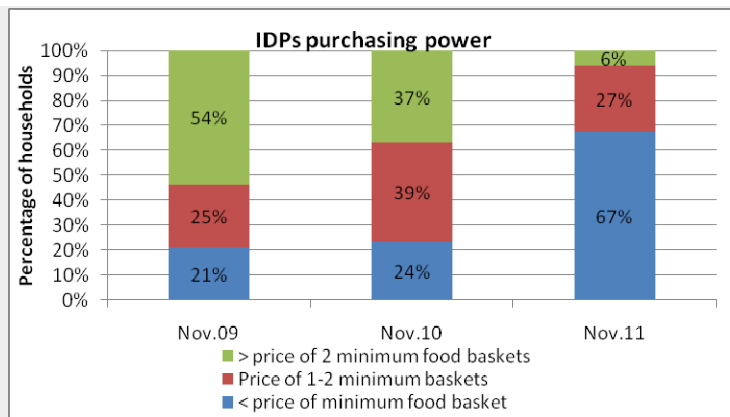
The increases in the cost MHFP are expected to have drastic effects on all community groups as it has a serious impact on the camp IDPs and resident communities. The effect is expected to be less on the mixed communities in the short term due to better harvest prospects in the areas where mixed communities are settled.

The proportion of households who are unable to afford the cost of MHFB price within the camp IDPs has significantly increased compared to May 2011 and November 2010. In November 2011, about 67 percent of the households in the camps were found to be unable to afford the MHFP.

On the other hand, the proportion of households who can afford more than twice the price of MHFP has significantly dropped compared to November 2010. This is mainly due to a substantial increase in prices of cereals and cooking oil contrary to the usual pattern of prices at this time of the year.

A considerable reduction was reported in the proportion of households among mixed communities who can not afford the cost of the MHFB in November 2011, compared to May and to November 2010. In November 2011, 46 percent of households can not afford the cost of MHFB compared to 18 and 3 percent reported in May 2011 and November 2010 respectively. Consequently, the proportion of households who can afford twice the cost of MHFB has remarkably dropped in comparison with May 2011 and November 2010 rounds.

In addition, approximately half of the resident community households can afford the cost of MHFB; a substantial increase compared to November 2010. In conclusion, there is a considerable increase in the cost of MHFB in November compared to the last round in May and compared to November 2010. In November 2011, the cost of MHFB has increased by 30 and 75 percent to that of May 2011 and November 2010 respectively.



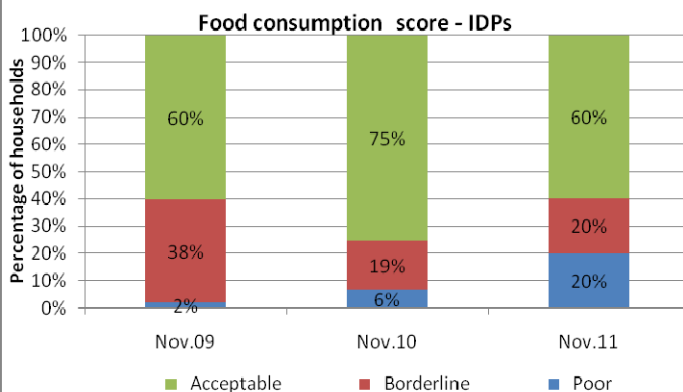
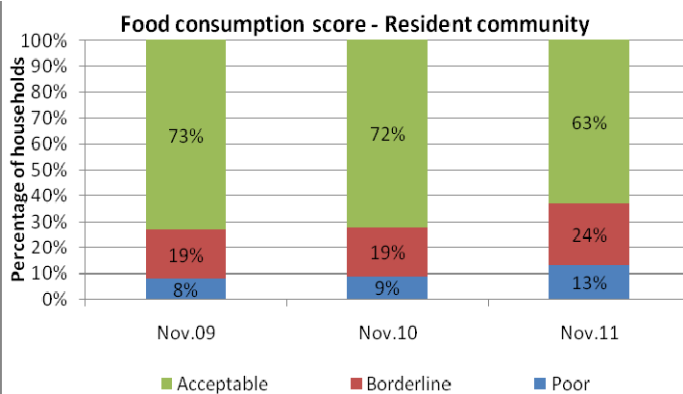
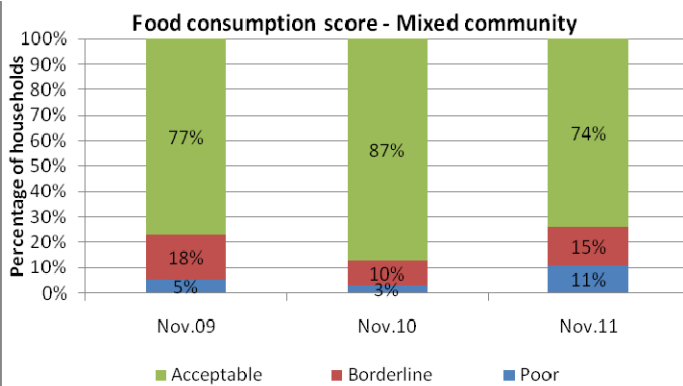
## D. Food Consumption

Findings indicated that 60 percent of the IDPs in camps have an acceptable food consumption score (FCS), a slight reduction compared to May 2011 and November 2010. Compared to previous rounds, a slight increase is reported in the proportion of households who have poor food consumption within camp IDPs.

Slight increases have also been reported in the proportion of households among mixed and residents communities who have acceptable FCS in comparison with results from last May and November 2010 rounds.

Most surveyed locations have acceptable FCS, except Rwanda camp in Tawila which has a poor FCS. This particular camp continues to record low FCS and low income levels persistently through all rounds. This is mainly attributed to the fact that this camp is characterized by lack of other interventions such as health and education. IDPs in this camp continue to cover health and education expenses through sale of food.

During this round, locations such as Um Maraheek, Neina and Goz laban fall in the borderline of FCS. These rural resident populations are much reliant on crop production which turned to very poor this season.

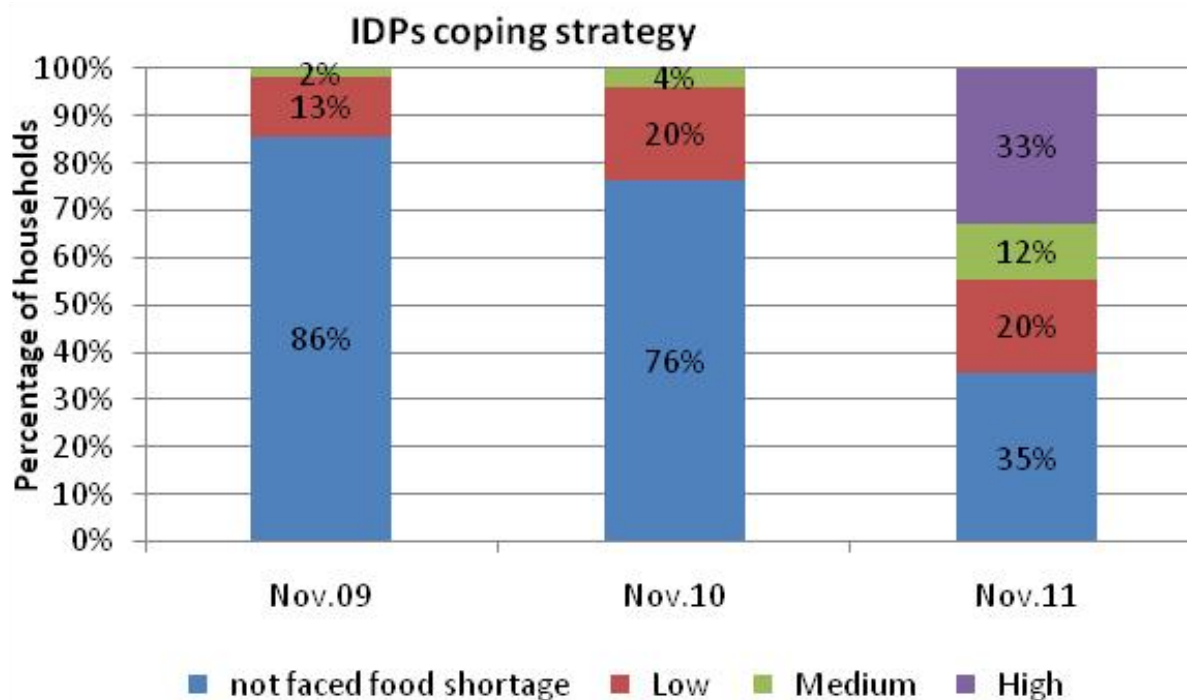


## 2. Agriculture

Rapid assessment conducted earlier indicated a poor crop production this season due to low and poorly distributed rainfall. The rains were way lower compared to last year's in most of locations with rain gauges, and have also been lower than the five-year average. Long dry spells, particularly during the months of June and July, combined with pests during all stages of crop cultivation as well as insecurity in Dar El Salam and Kalmindo localities are among the reasons behind poor production. Planting has only started in August in several locations.

Harvest expectation varies from very poor to complete failure in Kuma and Malha localities; poor to below average in Fasher, Mellit and Kutum localities; average in Kalmindo, Dar El Salam and North Kebkabiya; and good in Umkadada, Al La'ait, Tewaisha and southern Kebkabiya localities. The CFSA findings support the findings of the rapid assessment. Cereal production in Kebkabiya, Kalimendo, El Seraif Beni Hussein, Saraf Omra and El La'ait and Tewaisha localities is expected to cover households' needs for at least four to six months following the harvest season. The remaining localities are expected to undergo either complete failure or poor production which will barely be sufficient to cover three-month requirements.

### 3. Coping Strategy Index



In November, the proportion of households in camps who have not faced food shortage, has significantly dropped compared to last May and November 2010 rounds. In November 2011, only 35 percent of the camp IDP households have reported facing food shortage in the last 30 days at the time of the assessment.

In May 2011 and November 2010, about three-quarters of the interviewed households indicated facing food shortage. Of those households facing food shortage, there are about 44 percent employing severe coping strategies to access food.

Within the mixed communities, the proportion of households who have not faced food shortage remained similar to that of May 2011 and November 2010. In November, approximately half of the household were not faced with food shortage compared to May 2011.

For the resident communities, approximately 64 percent of the households are not faced with food shortage. However, 14 percent of the households are engaged in severe strategies that have long and short terms effects.

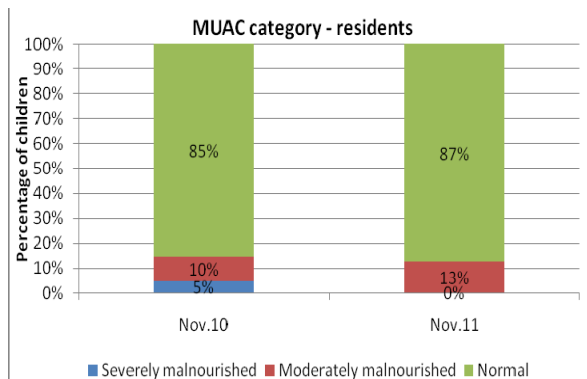
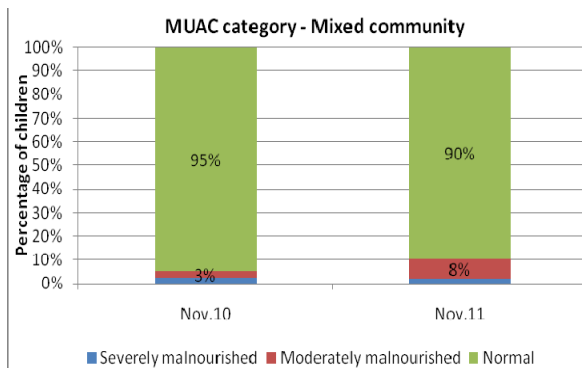
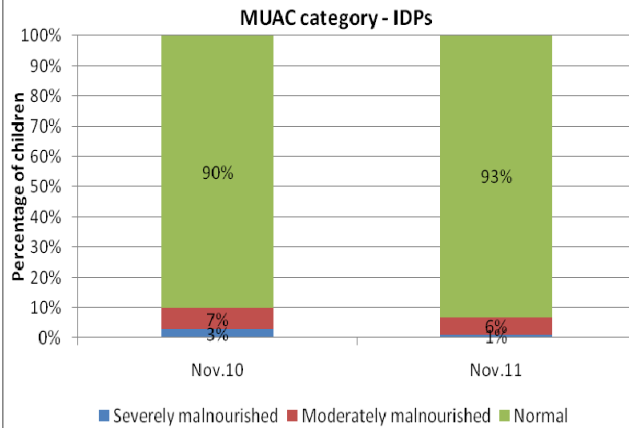
Another 10 percent of the households have also pursued coping strategies that have short term negative consequences. The second group include poor households who were affected by halting of seasonal support.



## 4. Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC)

A total of children 708 in North Darfur had their Mid Upper Arm Circumference measured. Of IDP children, 1 percent is severely malnourished and 6 percent moderately malnourished which is a slight increase compared to November 2010.

There is a minor increase in the proportion of children recorded a moderately malnourished MUAC (115-125 mm) within the mixed and resident communities; 8 and 13 percent respectively.



## 5. Child Health and Dietary Diversity

The proportion of children who consume less than four food items in 24 hours has significantly increased among the camp IDPs. In November, 94 percent of the surveyed children have consumed less than four items compared to 50 percent reported last May. There was a slight increase in the proportion of children who consume less than four food items compared to last May among mixed and resident communities. This means that a very high percentage of children in North Darfur do not get enough nutrients required for growth.

## 6. Food Assistance

Food assistance is provided regularly to camp IDPs. In November, over 90 percent of the camp IDPs reported receiving food assistance, while above 70 percent of the mixed community households have also reported receiving food assistance in the last three months. The resident communities continued to receive seasonal support until October when it was halted. However, some areas continued to receive seasonal support only until September. In November 2011, only 6 percent of the total households within resident communities have reportedly received food assistance.

Seasonal support was provided to rural resident population. However, in 2011 with the relative improvement in the overall situation, WFP was able to apply household targeting approach. This has resulted in that only poor households were entitled to receive free food assistance. Localities were classified according to vulnerability, the basis on which targeting was applied. In some localities 60 percent of the households were targeted while in others 40 percent were entitled to receive free food assistance. Targeting was implemented by local community. The implementation and monitoring of this approach is envisaged to further improve the eligibility criteria.

## 7. Who are the food insecure?

### Food security by gender of head of household

*Camp IDPs:* one out five food secure households is a female-headed household. Meanwhile, of every ten severely food insecure households, four are female-headed. As the camp IDPs are heavily reliant on wage labour, it represents the single most important income generating activity to the camp IDPs. The number of adult working members is of significance as those households that are female headed are likely have less family members at working age.

For the mixed communities, approximately five out of 10 food secure households are female headed household while for severely food insecure households one out of five households are female headed. The mixed communities are dependent on casual work related opportunities which largely depend on the number of able bodied members of the household. However, unlike the camp IDPs they have relatively diverse income sources and are grossly dependent on one source.

Within the resident communities, there are no remarkable differences in the food security situation judged by gender of household's head. However, five out of ten 10 food secure households are found to be male headed households, while four out of ten households are female headed.

### Food security by education level of head of household

When analyzing food security by education level of the household head, finding show that education has an effect in mixed and resident households. In mixed communities, 86 percent of the severely food insecure households are headed by an uneducated person compared to 74 percent of moderately food insecure households and 36 percent of food secure households. In resident communities, 70 percent of the severely food insecure households are headed by an uneducated person, compared to 55 percent of moderately food insecure households and 27 percent of the food secure households. For IDPs, education does not have any impact on the food security status.



### DEMOGRAPHICS

- All the 19 primary sites visited;
- 36 percent of the households assessed are female headed;
- Average household size is 6.8 persons;
- 42 percent of the households are IDPs living in camps; 33 percent resident; 23 percent IDPs outside camps; and 2 percent returnees.