# SUDAN FOOD SECURITY UPDATE

## JANUARY 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Highlights</th>
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</table>
| North Darfur     | • Cereal prices continue to increase in all markets of the state in the post harvest period.  
• About 500 MT of millet was provided by the Agricultural bank into El Fasher market. The widely mentioned larger amounts (5,000/6,250 MT) from Strategic Reserve intervention have not yet materialized.  
• The post harvest field work has been completed; initial results are expected towards the third week of February 2012. |
| West Darfur      | • The post harvest assessment analysis has been completed but not circulated to stakeholders, pending the formation of the new government.  
• Sorghum prices have increased by an average of 20% in January 2012 compared to December 2011.  
• State Ministry of Health (SMoH) with WFP support has started more frequent radio broadcasting on raising awareness of iodine deficiency disorders through Geneina radio. |
| South Darfur     | • In most areas of South Darfur state the cereal harvest is average or below average while livelihood opportunities are limited and prices on food items increasing.  
• Groundnut production is good in most areas in South Darfur.  
• The main issue is access to food as most of the households have a low purchasing power and are having difficulties purchasing food. |
| Blue Nile        | • Cereal prices and other food commodity prices remained high in Damazine market, which is atypical for the post-harvest period.  
• In January 2012, cereal prices are 41% higher compared to same time last year.  
• Low supply of cereals and insecurity are the main factors behind the high prices. |
| South Kordofan   | • Cereal prices have increased by 13% compared to December 2011 due to reduced supply and lower expected crop production this season.  
• A total of 5,365 new IDPs were reported by the HAC commissioner in South Kordofan during January 2012.  
• HAC South Kordofan has organized a joint rapid assessment for the state in 12 localities. The data collection finished around mid-February. |
| North Kordofan   | • In January 2012, the State Ministry of Agricultures shared the post harvest report. The main findings indicate that there is a 25% food gap in the state, with only two out of 13 localities reported to be food secure.  
• Compared to January 2011, prices of sorghum, millet, groundnut and sesame have increased significantly.  
• In January 2012, goat prices are 11% below the prices in December 2011. |
| Red Sea          | • The significant shortage of rainfall has negatively affected the food security situation, especially in the rural areas of Red Sea.  
• In January 2012, the price of one 90 kg bag of sorghum has increased by 41% compared to same time last year.  
• The planned Farmers to Markets project was not implemented in the traditional farming areas of the state due to the poor rainfall. |
**Sudan Food Security Update: NORTH DARFUR**

*Updated January 2012*

### Highlights
- Cereal prices continue to increase in all markets of the state in the post harvest period.
- About 500 MT of millet was provided by the Agricultural bank into Fasher market. The widely mentioned larger amounts (5,000/6,250 MT) from Strategic Reserve intervention has not yet materialized.
- The post harvest field work has been completed; initial results are expected towards the third week of February 2012.

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<th>Rainfall /Agriculture Situation</th>
<th>Food Availability</th>
<th>Food Access/Prices</th>
<th>Nutrition, Health and Food Utilization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Comprehensive Food Security Assessment (CFSA) preliminary findings indicate poor harvest prospects particularly for cereals, but these findings need to be confirmed by the post harvest assessment results that are expected in the third week of February 2012.</td>
<td>This post harvest period is atypical, with low supply of cereals and high cereal prices in all the markets in the state.</td>
<td>Cereal prices are increasing in the post-harvest period.</td>
<td>The baseline survey of Knowledge Attitude and Practices (KAP) was conducted in 10 locations which is the prerequisite for the implementation of the Integrated Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (IBSFP).</td>
<td>The low levels of crop production in the State this season have raised expectations for an intervention by the Strategic Grain Reserve.</td>
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<td>Low and unevenly distributed rainfall is the main reason behind the poor harvest prospects.</td>
<td>The expected good production of groundnut in south Um Kadada and Dar El Salam localities has had no effect on cooking oil prices; on the contrary prices have continued to increase.</td>
<td>Scarcity of cereals is seen in most of the markets in the state, with the exception of Fasher and Kebkabiya/Saraf Omra markets. These markets have a relatively stronger connection to market outside of North Darfur State.</td>
<td>Community mobilization training was conducted on awareness raising regarding feeding practices, preparation of local recipes, community gardens etc.</td>
<td>So far about 500 mt of millet was brought by the Agricultural Bank where most was used in Fasher town market and for the Fasher camps where food voucher programmes are being implemented.</td>
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<td>Currently, the rural population around the main towns are relying heavily on collection and sale of dry grass at a time when they should be depending on agriculture-related income sources. The prices of dry grass have increased to double to that of last year in Fasher town market.</td>
<td>To date, livestock prices remain high, but have remained stable in the last three months. However, there is sign of increased supply particularly of cattle in Fasher markets.</td>
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<td>Screening of children age 6-36 months was done in 25 locations to identify target beneficiaries for IBSFP implementation.</td>
<td>State authorities claim that the state is in process of providing 100,000 -125,000 sacks (50kg) of cereal to offset the food gap that is likely to arise due to the poor crop production.</td>
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### Rainfall /Agriculture Situation
- The Comprehensive Food Security Assessment (CFSA) preliminary findings indicate poor harvest prospects particularly for cereals, but these findings need to be confirmed by the post harvest assessment results that are expected in the third week of February 2012.
- Low and unevenly distributed rainfall is the main reason behind the poor harvest prospects.
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### Food Availability
- This post harvest period is atypical, with low supply of cereals and high cereal prices in all the markets in the state.
- The expected good production of groundnut in south Um Kadada and Dar El Salam localities has had no effect on cooking oil prices; on the contrary prices have continued to increase.

### Food Access/Prices
- Cereal prices are increasing in the post-harvest period.
- Scarcity of cereals is seen in most of the markets in the state, with the exception of Fasher and Kebkabiya/Saraf Omra markets. These markets have a relatively stronger connection to market outside of North Darfur State.
- To date, livestock prices remain high, but have remained stable in the last three months. However, there is sign of increased supply particularly of cattle in Fasher markets.

### Nutrition, Health and Food Utilization
- The baseline survey of Knowledge Attitude and Practices (KAP) was conducted in 10 locations which is the prerequisite for the implementation of the Integrated Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (IBSFP).
- Community mobilization training was conducted on awareness raising regarding feeding practices, preparation of local recipes, community gardens etc.
- Screening of children age 6-36 months was done in 25 locations to identify target beneficiaries for IBSFP implementation.

### Comments
- The low levels of crop production in the State this season have raised expectations for an intervention by the Strategic Grain Reserve.
- So far about 500 mt of millet was brought by the Agricultural Bank where most was used in Fasher town market and for the Fasher camps where food voucher programmes are being implemented.
- State authorities claim that the state is in process of providing 100,000 -125,000 sacks (50kg) of cereal to offset the food gap that is likely to arise due to the poor crop production.
- However, in January 2012 there is no clear plan on how to respond to the poor harvest this season.
**Sudan Food Security Update: WEST DARFUR**

**Updated January 2012**

### Highlights
- The post harvest assessment analysis has been completed but not circulated to stakeholders, pending the formation of the new government.
- Sorghum prices have increased by an average of 20% in January 2012 compared to December 2011.
- The State Ministry of Health (SMoH) with WFP support has started more frequent radio broadcasting of messages to raise awareness on iodine deficiency disorders through Geneina radio.

### Rainfall /Agriculture Situation | Food Availability | Food Access/Prices | Nutrition, Health and Food Utilization | Comments
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
- The post harvest assessment results have been completed but not circulated to stakeholders but will be circulated in coming weeks after the formation of the new government. | Locally produced sorghum is scarce in some of the West Darfur markets, such as Geneina and Zalingei. | In the Geneina market, the price of a 90 kg bag of sorghum has increased by 20 percent. | SC-Sweden released preliminary findings of a nutrition survey conducted in August 2011 in Furbaranga, Gemiiza, Hajar Bagar and Un Jokoti. A total of 3,251 children under 5 were screened. GAM rates were found to be 14.3% and SAM at 2.4%, which are close to the emergency thresholds. | Cereal prices are expected to continue to rise during the post harvest period and into the lean season. |
- The state committee (stakeholders committee) for the Farmers to Markets activity held meetings on loan repayment. | Food aid sorghum is the dominant sorghum in all the main markets in the state. | In other main markets, such as Zalingei and Mukjar sorghum prices have remained stable compared to December 2011 prices. | WFP is working closely with INGOs and CBOs to have livelihoods support activities through FFR/T/A particularly in the locations where beneficiaries were being graduated from GFD in 2011. |
- Farmers associations from good localities should repay 100% of the loan. | For millet, there are good quantities available in the Geneina market. However, traders consider these quantities to be lower than last year due to the poor harvest of this year. | In Habila market, sorghum prices (local product and food aid) have increased by 10% compared to December 2011. | In January 2012, VAM presented the preliminary results of the Comprehensive Food Security Assessment (CFSA) to the State Ministry of Agriculture. |
- Farmers associations from localities of medium production should repay 60% of the loan. | In the Geneina market, the price of a 90 kg bag of sorghum has increased by 20 percent. | Average price of groundnuts has slightly increased (5-10%) in all the main markets in West Darfur. As a result, the price of oil has increased to SDG 190 for one 16 kg jerry can of oil. | The State Ministry of Health (SMoH) with WFP support has started more frequent radio broadcasting of messages to raise awareness on iodine deficiency disorders through Geneina radio. |
- The heads of bank have to decide on the percentage to be repaid by farmers from localities with poor production. | Food aid sorghum is the dominant sorghum in all the main markets in the state. | In other main markets, such as Zalingei and Mukjar sorghum prices have remained stable compared to December 2011 prices. | World Relief carried out MUAC Screening in their operational areas (Azerni, Sanidadi, Umtajok). A total of 1674 children were screened for malnutrition and 322 children (19%) were found to have a low MUAC and were referred to SFPs. | |
- Some farmers associations have already started repaying in kind. | Food aid sorghum is the dominant sorghum in all the main markets in the state. | In other main markets, such as Zalingei and Mukjar sorghum prices have remained stable compared to December 2011 prices. | | |

- The State Ministry of Health (SMoH) with WFP support has started more frequent radio broadcasting of messages to raise awareness on iodine deficiency disorders through Geneina radio.
Sudan Food Security Update: SOUTH DARFUR

Updated January 2012

**Highlights**

- In most areas of South Darfur state the cereal harvest is average to below average, livelihood opportunities limited and prices on food items increasing.
- However, groundnut production is good in most areas in South Darfur.
- The main issue is access to food as most of the households have a poor purchasing power and are having difficulties purchasing food.

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<td>• Staple and cash crops have been harvested.</td>
<td>• Millet and sorghum production this season in South Darfur are below average.</td>
<td>• Cereal prices in the main markets of South Darfur have increased in January 2012 compared to December 2011, and are higher compared to same time last year.</td>
<td>• Findings from nutrition assessments carried out during hunger season (June- August 2011) show high rates of global acute malnutrition (GAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in South Darfur in 2011, with GAM rates of 23% and SAM rates of 5.3%.</td>
<td>• As a consequence of the poor pasture situation in the northern part of the state, the herders are still moving with their animals towards the southern part of the state and South Sudan looking for better pasture and water.</td>
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<td>• The State Ministry of Agriculture prepared the post-harvest assessment report which will be circulated to stakeholders after the approval by the State Cabinet.</td>
<td>• Groundnut production is good in most areas of greater South Darfur state</td>
<td>• Groundnut prices in South Darfur have increased significantly in January 2012 compared to December 2011 largely due to export of this commodity to other states.</td>
<td>• The reasons behind these malnutrition rates are problems in food availability, poor coping mechanisms among the displaced people, poor infant and young child feeding practices, and diseases.</td>
<td>• VAM Khartoum visited Nyala and the mission met the State Minister of Agriculture and presented the preliminary findings of the Comprehensive Food Security Assessment in South Darfur to the Minister and staff from planning unit. The preliminary findings were also shared with all CPs.</td>
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<td>• This harvest season, the agricultural production constraints have been delay of agricultural credit, high agricultural labour costs and uneven distribution of rainfall.</td>
<td>• This harvest season, the agricultural production constraints have been delay of agricultural credit, high agricultural labour costs and uneven distribution of rainfall.</td>
<td>• The term of trade (TOT) between sorghum and goat is still in favour of livestock owners.</td>
<td>• No nutrition surveys carried out this month.</td>
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# Sudan Food Security Update: BLUE NILE STATE

Updated January 2012

## Highlights
- Cereal prices and other food commodity prices remained high in Damazine market, which is atypical for the post-harvest period.
- In January 2012, cereal prices are 41% higher compared to same time last year.
- Low supply of cereals and insecurity are the main factors behind the high prices.

## Rainfall /Agriculture Situation
- A workshop was conducted in Damazine in January 2012 on the Farmers to Markets project to discuss the success, challenges and recommendations regarding the project.

## Food Availability
- The low crop production and limited food availability in the State is attributed to the following factors:
  - Farming costs were higher compared to last cropping season.
  - Insecurity problems were the main reason for no harvesting in some areas.
  - Other areas were affected by nomads’ animals.
  - Some areas suffered from shortage of rains, other areas were affected by floods.

## Food Access/Prices
- Cereal prices in January 2012 are increasing and are 41% higher compared to same time last year.
- Low supply of cereals and insecurity are the main factors behind the high prices.
- Goat prices are stable compared to December 2011.
- There has been a significant increase (40%) in cash crop prices (groundnut) in January 2012 compared to December 2011 prices.

## Nutrition, Health and Food Utilization
- No nutrition assessments have been done in January 2012.
- SFP programmes to support children younger than 5 years have not yet resumed.

## Comments
- The below average harvest in 2011 coupled with conflict and current insecurity especially surrounding Bau & Karmuk localities may have a negative impact on the food security situation in the state.
- A Food Security Assessment needs to be conducted to map the food security situation in the State.
## Sudan Food Security Update: SOUTH KORDOFAN

### Update – January 2012

**Highlights**

- Cereal prices have increased by 13% compared to December 2011 due to reduced supply and lower expected crop production this season.
- A total of 5,365 new IDPs were reported by the HAC commissioner in South Kordofan during January 2012.
- HAC South Kordofan has organized a joint rapid assessment for the state in 12 accessible localities. The data collection was expected completed in mid-February 2012. The objective of the assessment is to assess the overall humanitarian situation in South Kordofan.

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<td>The rainfall this year was late and unevenly distributed.</td>
<td>The current conflict in South Kordofan has isolated some parts of the state from accessing markets; hence food availability in the inaccessible locations is considered to be minimal or lacking.</td>
<td>Insecurity since the beginning of the South Kordofan crises in June 2011 has limited the availability of agricultural wage labour in the state. This has had a negative impact on the harvesting which is reflected in the high sorghum prices.</td>
<td>No information</td>
<td>According to HAC, about 3,365 new IDPs arrived during January 2012 to Kadugli, coming from Elburam locality and mainly from Elteis, Tarogi, Eleheimer and Korongo villages. An additional 2,000 new IDPs arrived in Tarogi village in Elburam locality.</td>
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<tr>
<td>In January 2012, harvesting of sorghum under mechanized farming is ongoing and expected to be completed during February 2012.</td>
<td>In January 2012, sorghum prices are 13% higher the prices in December 2011.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>A total of 5,365 new IDPs were reported by the HAC commissioner in South Kordofan during January 2012.</td>
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<td>The Crop Cutting Survey conducted by the State Ministry of Agriculture is finished. However, the final report has not been produced or shared with partners.</td>
<td>Goat prices have increased by 10% compared to December 2011 prices.</td>
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<td>HAC South Kordofan has organized a joint rapid assessment for the state in 12 localities.</td>
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<td>WFP, FAO, UNICEF, WHO and IOM joined the assessment teams in addition to line ministries of MOA, MOH, MOSW and NGOs. The assessment will be completed by mid-February. The objective of the assessment is to assess the overall humanitarian situation in South Kordofan.</td>
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**Sudan Food Security Update: NORTH KORDOFAN**

**Update – January 2012**

**Highlights**

- In January 2012, the State Ministry of Agricultures shared the post harvest report. The main findings indicate that there is a 25% food gap in the state, with only two out of 13 localities reported to be food secure.
- Compared to January 2011, prices of sorghum, millet, groundnut and sesame have increased significantly.
- In January 2012, goat prices are 11% below the prices in December 2011.

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| The rainfall in season 2011/2012 was described as late and unevenly distributed with long dry spells. | As per SMOA post harvest report:  
- The main findings indicate that there is a 25% food gap in the state.  
- Only two out of 13 localities are reported to be food secure.  
- Main challenge is the provision of cereal crops to the state markets.  
- However, this can be done through active partnership that will secure continuous provision of cereal at subsidized prices for the population. | Compared to January 2011, prices on sorghum, millet, groundnut and sesame have increased significantly.  
In January 2012, goat prices are 11% below the prices in December 2011. | No information | Due to delay in rainfall and the short rainy season, millet and sorghum crops experienced a poor harvest.  
Due to poor pasture in the northern part of the state, the nomads in these areas have to travel long distances looking for better pasture.  
The WFP Sub-Office conducted a meeting with SMOA to discuss the planned Food Security Assessment in March. |
# Sudan Food Security Update: RED SEA

Updated – January 2012

## Highlights
- The significant shortage of rainfall has negatively affected the food security situation, especially in the rural areas of Red Sea.
- In January 2012, the price of one 90 kg bag of sorghum has increased by 41% compared to same time last year.
- The planned Farmers to Markets (F2M) project was not implemented in the traditional farming areas of the state due to poor rainfall season.

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<td>No major rainfall has been reported in the rural areas of Red Sea except sporadic rains in Haya locality in September 2011.</td>
<td>WFP has distributed 209 mt of assorted food commodities on the ground at CPs stores.</td>
<td>Sorghum prices have increased by 41% in the main markets compared to same time last year.</td>
<td>WFP-supported legislation to ban the production of non-iodized salt is progressing well.</td>
<td>Food security and market price monitoring is being conducted on a weekly basis.</td>
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<td>Harvest of vegetables (tomato, cucumber, and water melon) in delta region of Tokar is ongoing. The planned WFP Farmers to Market project, in collaboration with State Ministry of Agriculture and CBOs was not implemented due to shortage in rainfall.</td>
<td>This amount of food will prevent a deterioration of the current food security situation, especially among the most vulnerable groups.</td>
<td>Goat prices have increased by 40% compared to December 2011.</td>
<td>No major seasonal movement of herds from one locality to another has been reported.</td>
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<td>Following the 2011/2012 flood in Khor Arab of Haya Locality, the farmers completed the plantation; however shortage in rainfalls has resulted in crop failure.</td>
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<td>The planned F2M loans disbursement has not started due to shortage of rainfalls in the planned targeted areas. The WFP allocated/approved funds for this project were not utilized.</td>
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