



Food Security Monitoring

North Darfur, Sudan, November 2015

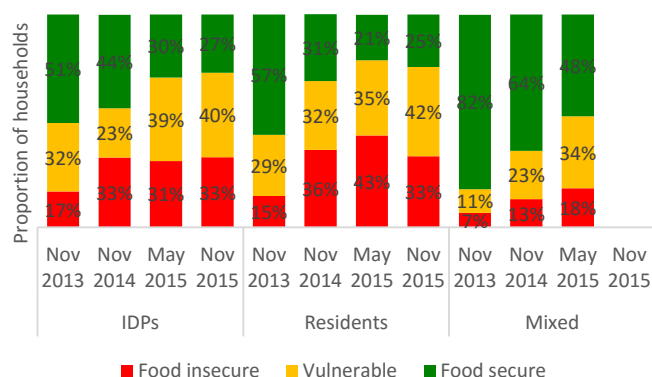


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food security analysis

Summary

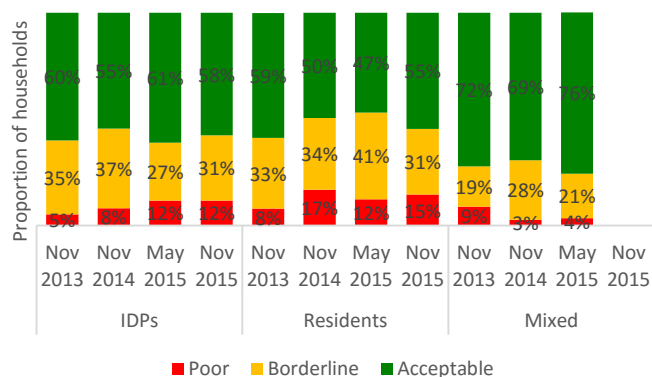
One third of sampled resident and IDP households were found to be food insecure – a similar situation as seen in recent rounds of food security monitoring, but continuing a multi-year, long-term trend of deterioration. Despite very weak purchasing power, more than half of surveyed households were able to achieve acceptable levels of food consumption. The expected improvement in food security typically seen from the lean season to the pre-harvest period did not materialize, partly due to the below-average harvest and persistent high prices.

Food Security



Food security among IDP households were largely unchanged compared to May 2015 (the most recent round of monitoring) but had worsened since November 2014 (the comparable time last year). A very minor improvement was seen among resident communities compared to May 2015, but food security was still much worse compared to November 2013. The sample for mixed communities were not collected in this round due to operational constraints.

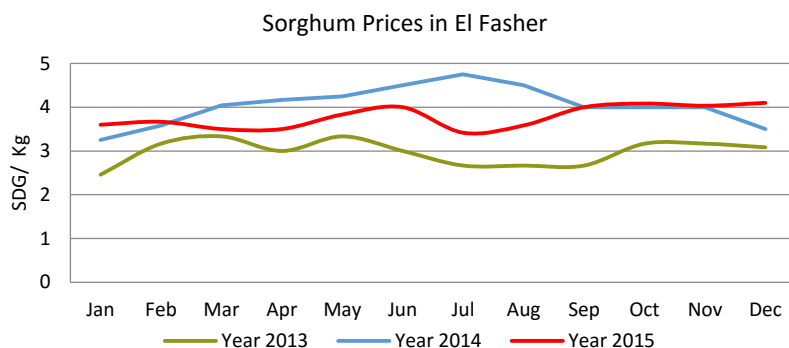
Household Food Consumption



The dietary diversity and food frequency of sampled IDP households was similar to previous rounds. Food consumption among resident communities had improved very slightly compared to May. The improvement was attributed to better availability of food items during the pre-harvest period.

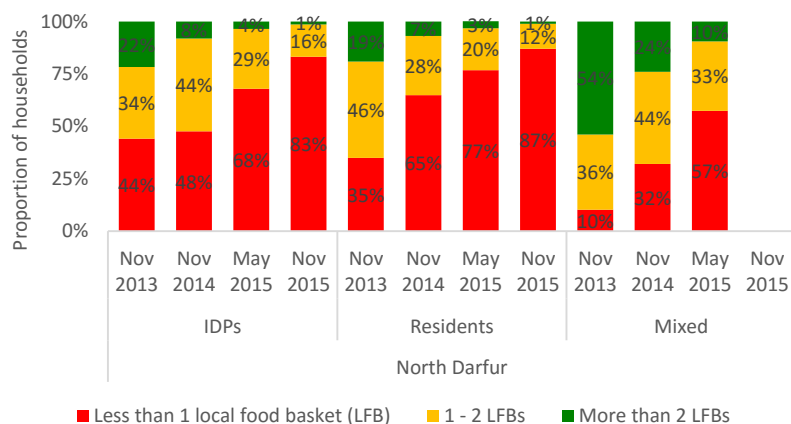
Market Prices

Sorghum prices in El Fasher in December 2015 were stable compared to previous months. Prices typically decline this time of the year as a result of the approaching harvest, but prices in El Fasher remained high due to the expectation of a poor agricultural season. Sorghum prices were 17 percent higher compared to same time last year.



Purchasing Power

In a continuation of a long-term trend, households' purchasing power deteriorated in November 2015 for both IDPs and resident. Nearly 90 percent of households were unable to afford the local food basket. Limited agricultural labour opportunities coupled with high food prices contributed to the negative trend.



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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