

Food Security Monitoring

East Darfur, Sudan, November 2015

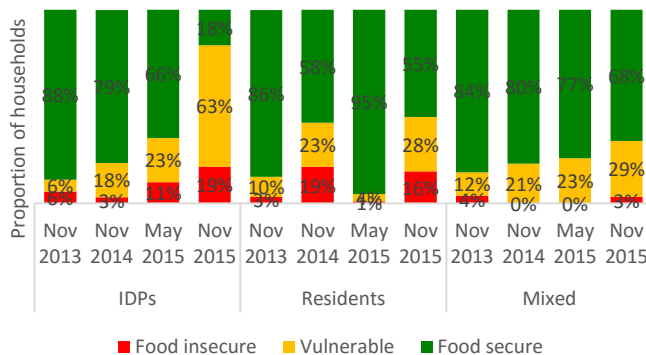


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Summary

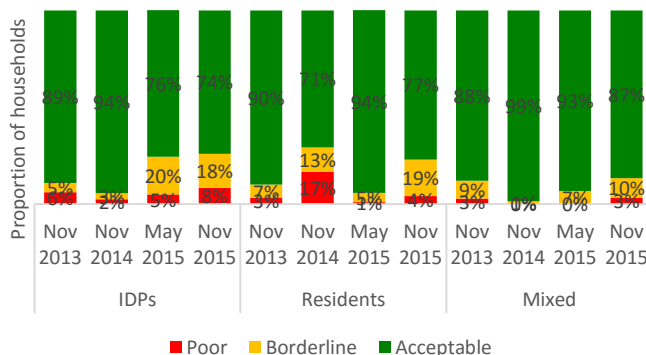
Purchasing power weakened dramatically in East Darfur resulting in a deterioration of food security among sampled households. Despite the deterioration, less than one in five households were food insecure and fewer than 25 percent of households had poor or borderline food consumption, overall a relatively good situation compared to other Darfur states. IDPs in camps were more likely than households in resident or mixed communities to be food insecure.

Food Security



Food security deteriorated among sampled households compared to May 2015 (the most recent round of monitoring) and for IDPs and households in mixed communities it was also worse than in November 2014 (the comparable time last year). The drop among sampled IDP households was very significant and as a result IDPs were much less food secure than residents and households in mixed communities, which had not always been the case in earlier rounds. The deterioration from May was unexpected even given the poor harvest and contrary to typical seasonal pattern (lean season to pre-harvest).

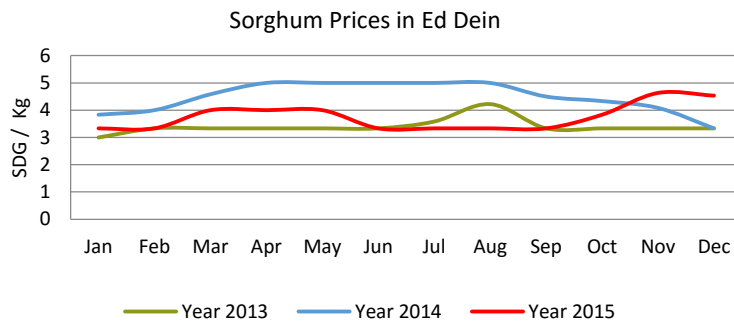
Household Food Consumption



Food consumption was largely unchanged among IDPs and households in mixed communities, while sampled residents registered a deterioration. Despite the deterioration more than three-fourths of households had acceptable food consumption. The deterioration among residents was believed to be linked to recent increases in the price of important foods, impacting residents the most as other groups tended to rely in part of food assistance.

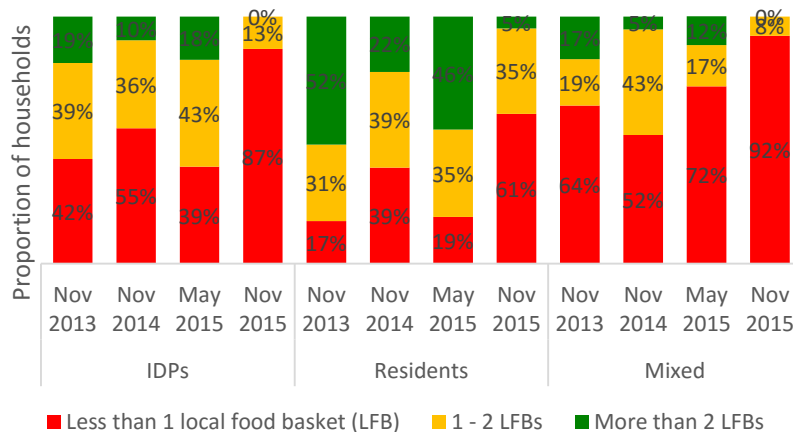
Market Prices

Sorghum prices in Ed Dein market had been increasing for a couple of months during a time of the year when sorghum prices are typically in decline (see 2014 price trend in the below chart). As a result, the price of sorghum was 30 percent higher than in December 2014. Sorghum prices were expected to keep increasing due to the poor agricultural season.



Purchasing Power

A large majority of sampled households reported having weak purchasing power. The deterioration from the previous rounds of food security monitoring was dramatic, driven in part by the increases seen in the price of cereals and not helped by the poor agricultural season. After the deterioration, purchasing power in East Darfur was more similar to the levels observed in other Darfur states.



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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