

Food Security Monitoring

West Darfur, Sudan, May 2016

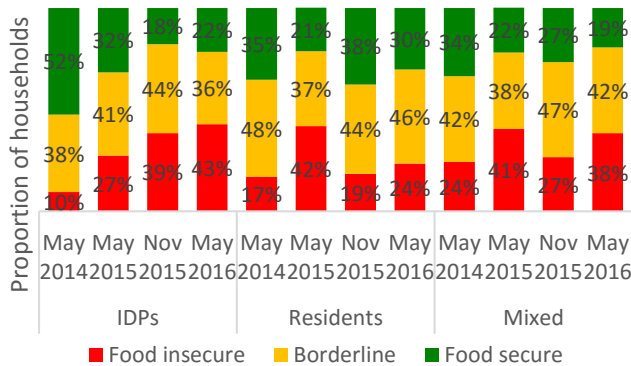


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Summary

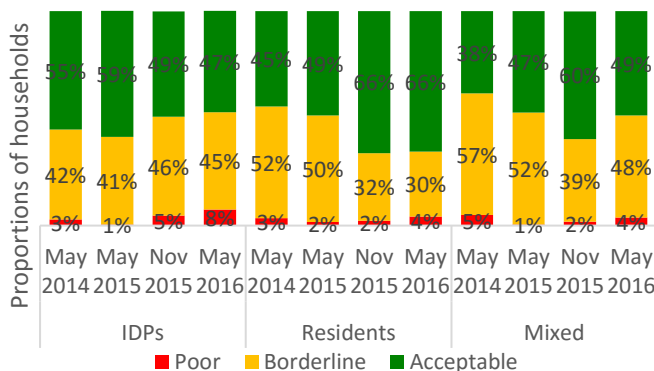
Food security deteriorated for sampled IDP households compared to the same time last year. Resident communities, which had roughly similar levels of food insecurity as IDPs and mixed communities in May 2015, saw a clear improvement in this round. IDPs were less food secure compared to resident communities, likely as a result of limited access to cultivation and livelihood options.

Food Security



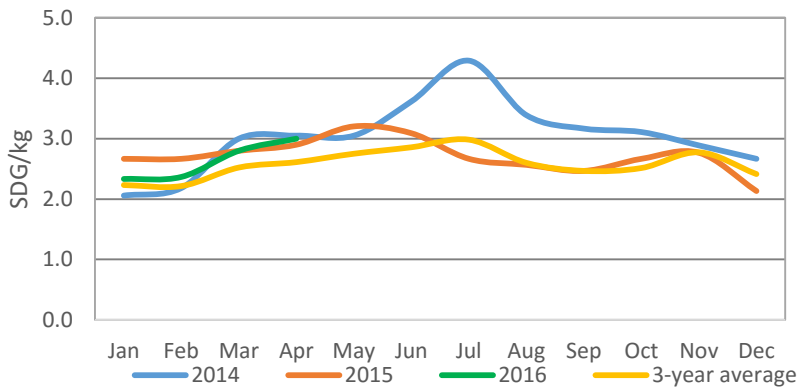
The proportion of IDP households found to be food secure, while largely unchanged compared to November 2015 (the most recent round of monitoring), climbed 15 percentage points higher than the same time last year. Food insecurity among mixed communities held steady, while there was a marked reduction in the share of food insecure households among resident communities compared to May 2015. IDPs and mixed communities were less food secure than resident community households, likely as a result of limited access to cultivation and livelihood options.

Household Food Consumption



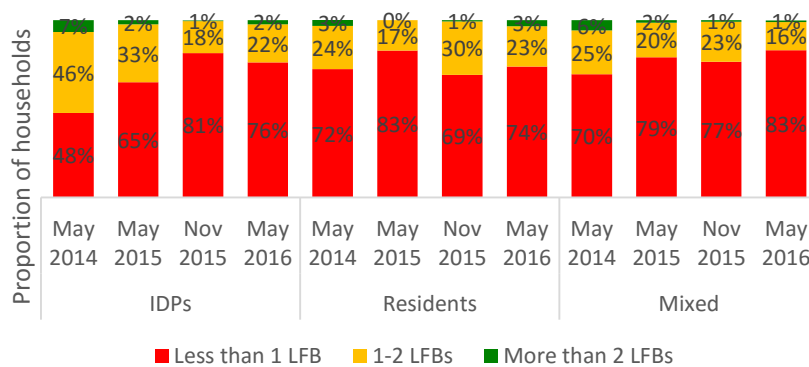
Household food consumption exhibited minor deterioration compared to both November 2015 and May 2016 among IDP, resident and mixed communities. Cultivating households in resident and mixed communities were reliant on food stocks remaining from the last harvest, while many IDPs were more dependent on the market. One third of households in resident communities had either poor or borderline food consumption, compared to over half of all IDP households surveyed.

Market Prices



Sorghum prices in El Geneina in May 2016 had increased following a typical seasonal pattern for this time of the year in West Darfur compared to the previous month. Unlike other Darfur states however, 2016 prices have kept lower in West Darfur, closer to previous years' trends. The relatively lower cost of Sorghum is thought to be due to the State's significant amount of crop stocks from 2014/2015's bumper harvest.

Purchasing Power



The vast majority of households were found to have weak purchasing power. After a long-term trend of deterioration, households' purchasing power remained highly fragile in May 2016, with only a small minority of households being able to afford the cost of more than one local food basket. The weakest purchasing power was found among mixed communities, where over 80 percent of households were unable to afford the cost of even one local food basket, but households in IDPs and resident communities reported similar conditions.

Methodology

WFP conducts continuous food security monitoring across Sudan. The household data collection for this round was conducted in May 2016 which constitutes the start of the lean season. Across Darfur, a total of 5,830 households across 101 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. Weights were based on the nutritional density of the foods. Using standard thresholds, households were classified as having either poor, borderline or acceptable food consumption.

Contact

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