



Food Security Monitoring

South Darfur, Sudan, May 2016

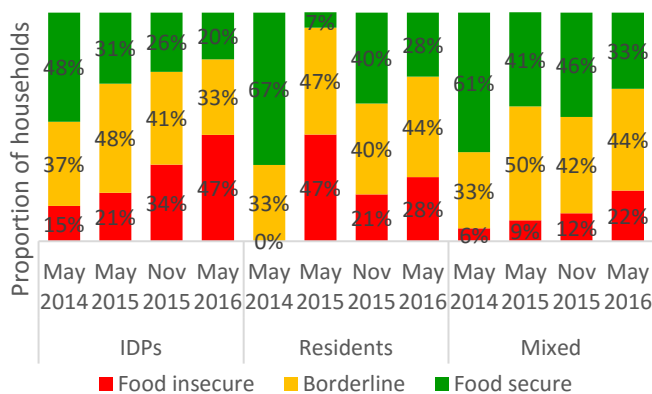


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Summary

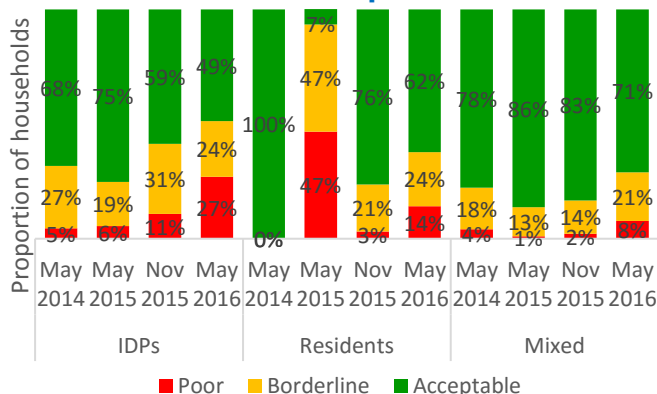
Almost half of sampled IDP households were found to be food insecure, a substantial deterioration compared to previous rounds of monitoring (May 2015 and November 2015). Food security levels among sampled households in resident communities improved compared to May 2015, while mixed communities deteriorated over the same period. The main drivers of food insecurity included the poor growing season which created fewer labour opportunities in the agricultural sector, combined with steadily increasing prices.

Food Security



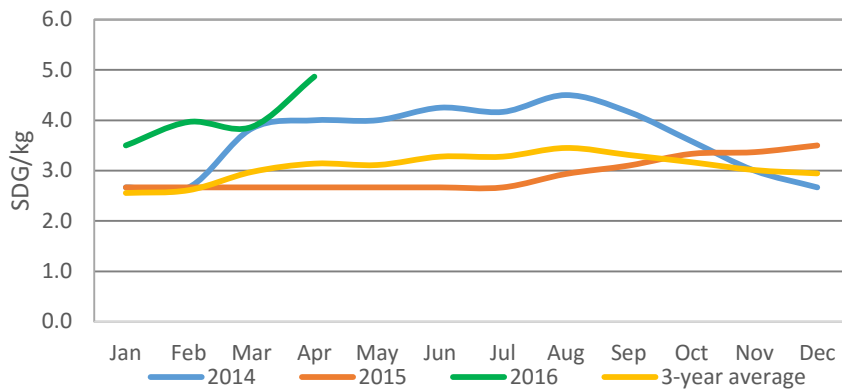
Household food security continued to decline among IDP communities compared to November 2015 (the most recent round of monitoring) and compared to May. Resident communities' food security worsened slightly since the last round, but registered a marked improvement from the same time last year. The moderate deterioration in food security among the assessed communities in May 2015 could be attributed to the high cost of food which negatively affected households' purchasing power.

Household Food Consumption



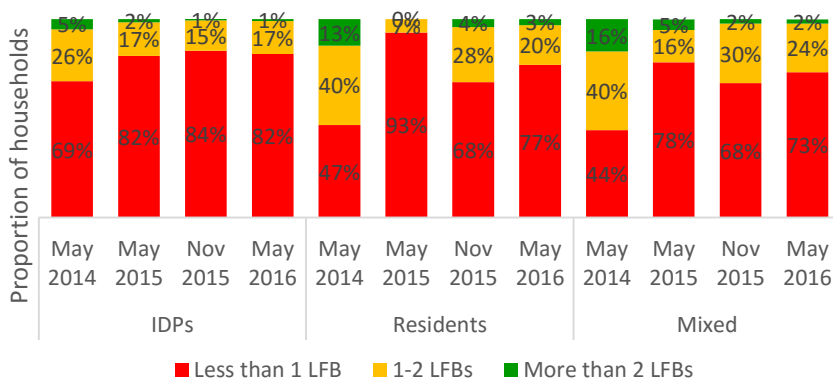
Household food consumption for IDPs in camps worsened in May 2016 compared to the same time last year. The proportion of IDP households that experienced poor food consumption increased, with only 49 percent found to have acceptable food consumption. This was through to be due to limited agricultural production, high dependency on markets and relatively high food prices. A large majority of households in mixed communities reported acceptable food consumption, while residents experienced a moderate decline in food consumption compared with the previous round, but were in better condition than this time last year.

Market Prices



Sorghum prices in Nyala market in May 2016 have been well above the three-year average all year, and are continuing to increase, despite prices historically levelling off at this time of year. Given the below-average production in the main 2015/16 season, prices were expected to continue to increase until the pre-harvest period.

Purchasing Power



Households' purchasing power remained very weak in May 2016 for all community types, in keeping with the trend from recent rounds of monitoring. More than 70 percent of all households were unable to afford the cost of one local food basket. Limited agricultural labour opportunities coupled with high food prices contributed to this ongoing trend.

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 threshold, households were classified as having either poor, borderline or acceptable food consumption.

Contact

For more information, please contact Anders Petersson, Head of Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping, WFP Sudan.

anders.petersson@wfp.org