

Food Security Monitoring

East Darfur, Sudan, May 2016

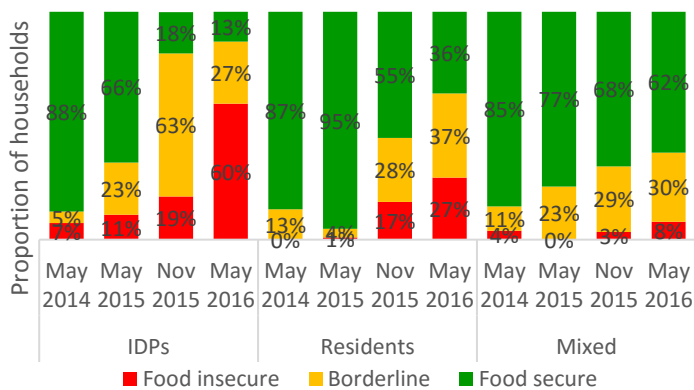


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food security analysis

Summary

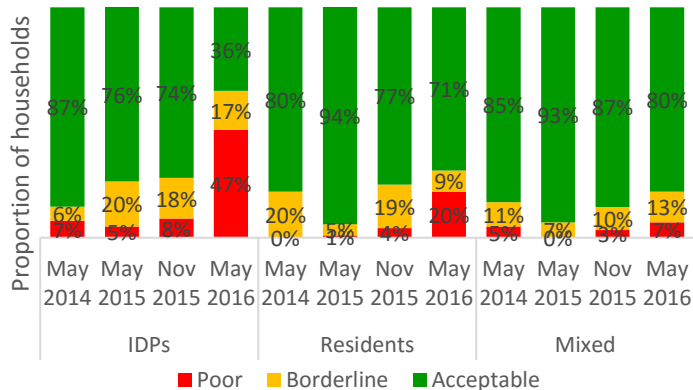
Food security deteriorated drastically among sampled IDP households in East Darfur. The deterioration was moderate for sampled resident households, and minor for sampled households in mixed communities. Despite deteriorating food security and worryingly low levels of purchasing power across all households, food consumption issues continue to be overwhelmingly concentrated among IDPs. IDPs were more likely to be food insecure than resident or mixed community households.

Food Security



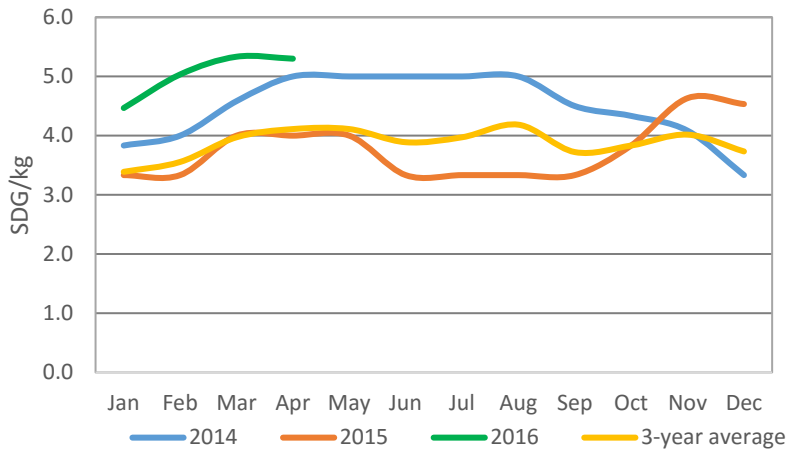
Food security significantly deteriorated among sampled IDP households, with a six-fold increase in the proportion of food insecure households compared to May of last year. In contrast, while food insecurity among resident and mixed communities increased over the last three FSMS rounds, these populations maintained significantly lower overall levels of food insecurity. The overall deterioration since November was mainly due to price increases and reduced participation in agricultural labour due to the poor previous agricultural season. IDPs, less likely to cultivate on land they own, were affected by a decrease in the demand for seasonal agricultural labor.

Household Food Consumption



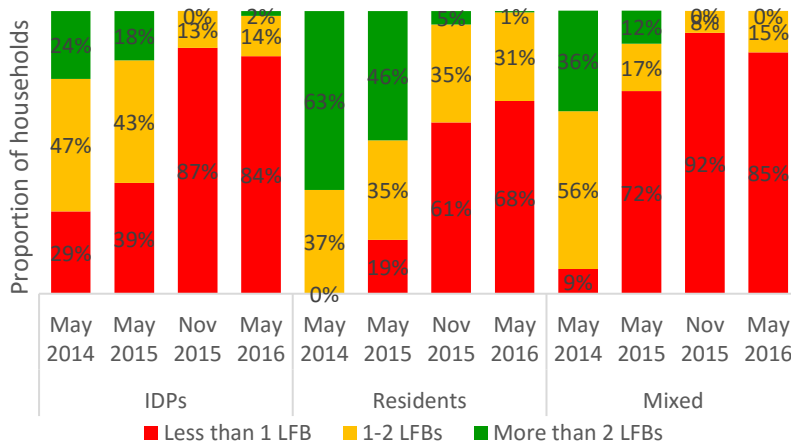
Food consumption deteriorated sharply among IDP communities, greatly contributing to the increase in food insecurity. Nearly half of IDP households exhibited poor food consumption, an near record level of vulnerability. This trend also held for resident and mixed community populations, although they registered much better absolute levels of food consumption compared to the IDPs.

Market Prices



Sorghum prices in Ed Dein in May 2016 increased following a typical seasonal pattern for this time of the year, although holding as high as 40 percent above prices at the same time last year. A slight downward trend over the last month suggests that prices could be settling closer to 2014 levels in the coming months, though still far above the 3-year average.

Purchasing Power



Households' purchasing power maintained alarmingly high levels across all groups, with over 80 percent of all households surveyed unable to afford the cost of one local food basket. For IDPs and residents, purchasing power has declined sharply since May 2015, while the downward trend started earlier for mixed communities. This sharp deterioration was driven in part by the increases seen in the price of cereals, and further exacerbated by poor agricultural production in the last season.

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

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