June to August 2015

- **Cereals**: Cereal prices, millet in particular, were stable during June and July of this quarter in some monitored markets but fluctuated in others. In most monitored markets prices started increasing in August due to poor rainfall. The poor rainfall led people to predict a poor harvest next season and therefore they started to reduce the quantities of cereals released to the market. The highest quarterly average price was SDG 467 per sack reported in Al-Methag (a consumption area) and the lowest price was SDG 264 per sack reported in Abori market (a production area). See Figures 1 and 2.

- **Livestock**: The trend in livestock prices varied from market to market reflecting the seasonal mobility of livestock to the north, as is usual at this time of the year. Livestock prices, sheep and cattle in particular, were stable or increased slightly in those areas from which livestock moved away (e.g. cattle prices in Um Genah in June), and were stable or slightly decreased in areas around which livestock gathered. See Figures 3 and 4.

**Background and methodology**

The goal of this community-based market monitoring initiative is to deepen analysis and understanding of the shifting patterns of trade and markets in Darfur, on an ongoing basis for key agricultural and livestock commodities, to identify how livelihoods and the economy can be supported through trade, and to identify peace-building opportunities through trade. Sixteen CBOs/NGOs are monitoring 22 markets across South Darfur on a weekly basis. Quantitative data, for example the price of Darfur’s main cereals, livestock, cash crops and fruits and vegetables are collected weekly as well as qualitative data, for example on sources of supply. Some data are collected on a monthly basis, for example transport costs, transport routes and the impact of the conflict on flows of commodities. DDRA holds quarterly analysis workshops with the CBO enumerators.

**List of CBOs and markets monitored in South Darfur**

- Al Methag Organization: Nyala
  - Rehead – Al-Faisal for Rural Development: Intokaina
  - Ghanaf for Peace and Development: Gerada
  - Alag Al Mustaghi: Bukol Tambo, Tockus
  - Al Ruhma for Development: Tareeb, Um Morgo
  - Al Shorouq Organization: Sitru, Um Labasa, Markondi
  - United Peace Organization: Birag
  - Save Motherhood and Children’s Organization: Um Ganah, Al-Athern
  - Al Shamal for Humanitarian Support: Al Ban Gadeed
  - Al Methag Organization: Kas
  - Rehead – Al-Faisal for Rural Development: Aborey
  - Ghanaf for Peace and Development: Um Dalooq
  - Alag Al Mustaghi: Balal, Koma, IDP camp
  - Al Shorouq Organization: Abu-Ayora
  - United Peace Organization: Al-Safia

This project is funded by the EU
• **Cash crops:** Cash crop prices this quarter, groundnuts in particular, decreased in some monitored markets during July, reflecting availability from stored supplies, but started to increase in August in almost all monitored markets due to poor rainfall. Sesame was available in some monitored markets and the price was stable. The price of dried tomatoes increased sharply reflecting the off-season, whereas the price of dried okra started to decrease as it came into season. See Figures 5 and 6.

• **Fruit and vegetables:** The price of fruit and vegetables, onions in particular, increased in almost all monitored markets in South Darfur this quarter reflecting the off-season, as is usual at this time of year. Onion prices in Rajaj spiked in August due to tribal conflict in the area. Fresh tomato prices sharply increased reflecting the off-season. Orange prices were stable this quarter and oranges were available in most monitored markets. See Figures 7 and 8.

• **Trade routes and access:** Due to an improvement in the security situation this quarter, the trade routes connecting South Darfur to other states, and internally within the state, were stable. A few routes were affected by minor localised tribal conflicts, such as the route connecting Burum and Tulus. Despite being the rainy season no trade routes were restricted by rainfall this quarter.

• **Daily labouring:** The main daily labouring opportunities this quarter were agricultural labouring, as well as looking after animals and house labouring. The income was SDG 50-100 per person for agricultural work, SDG 30-50 for animal work and SDG 15-20 for house labouring.