

Trade and Market Headlines West Darfur



Darfur Development and Reconstruction Agency

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September to November 2015

- Cereals:** Cereal prices stabilised this quarter (September to November 2015) in most monitored markets in West Darfur. The exception was Beida where prices fluctuated due to the movement of cereals from Chad, in turn controlled (and banned) by the Chadian authorities. Foro Baranga (a sorghum-producing area) reported the highest millet prices and Seleia (a production area) reported the lowest, which is the normal pattern in West Darfur. See Figure 1.

The stabilisation of millet prices was partly due to the distribution of millet by the West Darfur State Labour Union, a policy initiative of the new Governor of West Darfur in an effort to stabilise food security. Fifteen thousand sacks of millet were distributed to government workers in September, and again in October, within Geneina and across the state, on credit (to be repaid on a monthly basis through deductions from their salaries over a year). In addition, the Strategic Reserve distributed 12,000 sacks of flour in

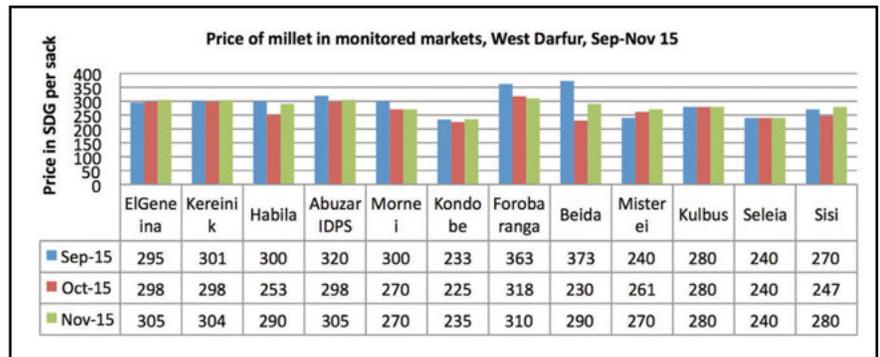


Figure 1: Price of millet in the monitored markets in West Darfur, September to November 2015

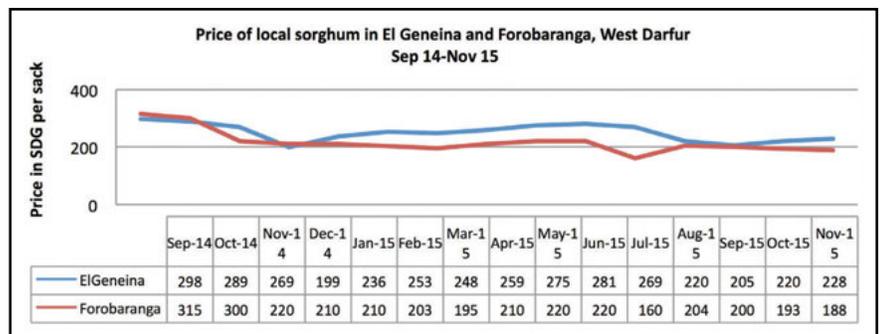


Figure 2: Price of local sorghum in El Geneina and Foro Baranga markets in West Darfur, September 2014 to November 2015

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. Five CBOs plus DDRA are monitoring 11 markets across West Darfur, including two markets in IDP camps, 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.

Participating CBOs and the markets they monitor

El Massar Organization for Nomad Development and Environment Conservation (MONEC) [El Geneina, Kerenik and Habila]

Pioneers of Peace and Development Organization (PPDO) [Mornei and Kirinding IDP camp]

Community Development Association (CDA) [Foro Baranga and Kondobe]

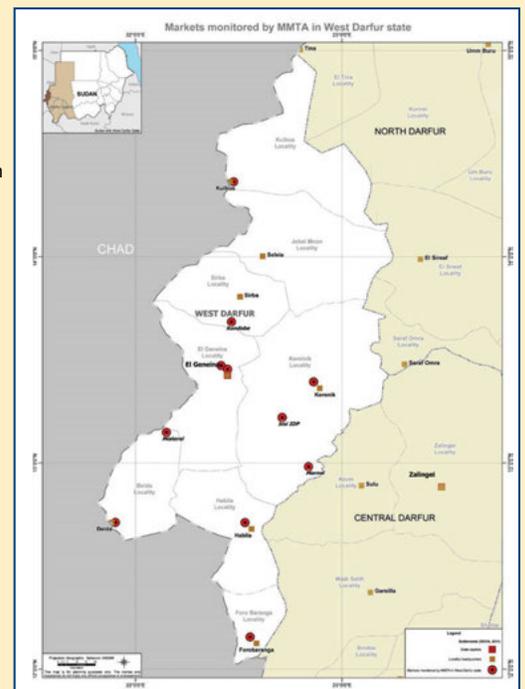
Beida Organization for Relief and Development (BORD) [Beida and Misterei]

Sarabeel Organization for Services and Development (SOSD) [Kulbus]

Darfur Development and Reconstruction Agency (DDRA) [El Geneina and Sisi IDP camp]



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September and October, also to government officers on credit.

Local sorghum prices also remained stable in El Geneina market (the biggest consumption market in West Darfur) and in Forobaranga (the main production market in West Darfur). See Figure 2.

- **Livestock:** Generally livestock prices were stable or decreased this quarter in West Darfur. The price of **sheep** was either stable or decreased in most monitored markets where sheep were gathered. Unusually, there were no traders buying from El Geneina for sale in Omdurman. **Cattle** prices followed a similar trend to sheep for the same reasons. See Figures 3, 4 and 5.

There were no **camel exports** reported in Forobaranga, the main market in West Darfur for exporting camels, during September and October because the camels were in the north, far from the markets, returning in November, which is normal at this time of year.

- **Cash crops: Groundnut prices** were stable or decreased across most monitored markets in West Darfur this quarter. The price of **groundnut oil** decreased in El Geneina market (from a quarterly average price of SDG 360 last quarter to a quarterly average price of SDG 320 per 16kg jerry can this quarter) but **groundnut-cake** prices increased (from a quarterly average price last quarter of SDG 90 SDG to a quarterly average price this quarter of SDG 100) reflecting its importance as animal feed, especially in the big towns in West Darfur. See Figure 6.

Dried okra and **dried tomato** prices increased this quarter in most monitored markets in West Darfur because it was the off season.

- **Fruit and Vegetables: Onion** prices rose in most of West Darfur's markets this quarter as it was the off-season, with the exceptions of Mornei, an onion-producing area, and Seleia market, which was supplied by Saraf Omra in North Darfur. See Figure 7. The price of fresh tomatoes decreased in most West Darfur markets, reflecting normal seasonal trends. Orange prices were stable in most markets during the quarter.

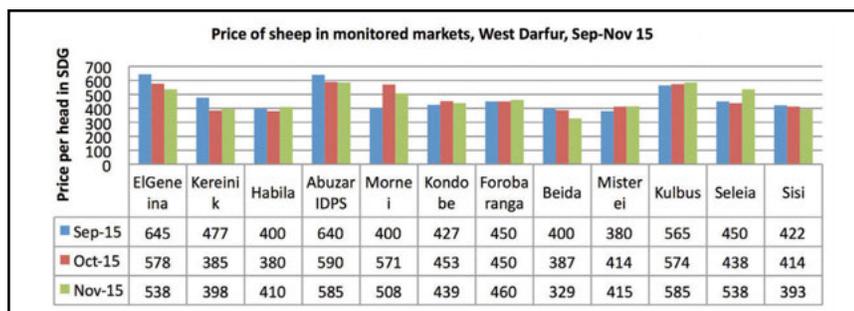


Figure 3: Price of sheep in monitored markets in West Darfur, September to November 2015

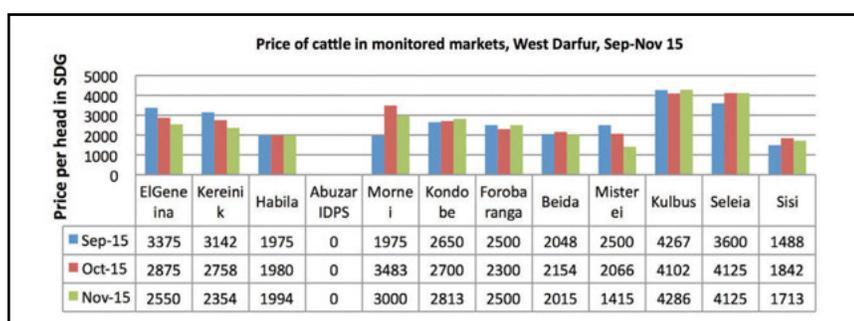


Figure 4: Price of cattle in monitored markets in West Darfur, September to November 2015

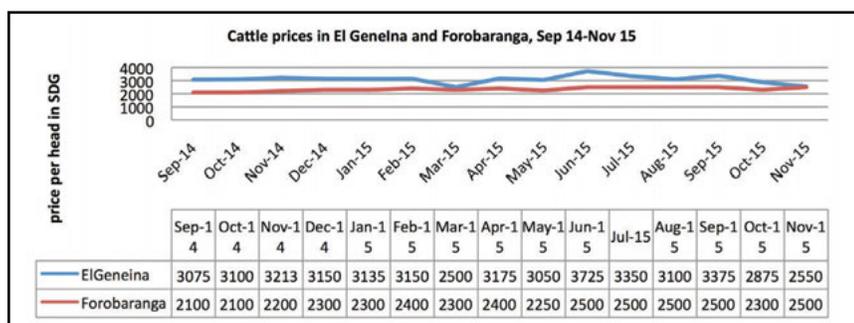


Figure 5: Price of cattle in El Geneina and Forobaranga, September 2014 to November 2015

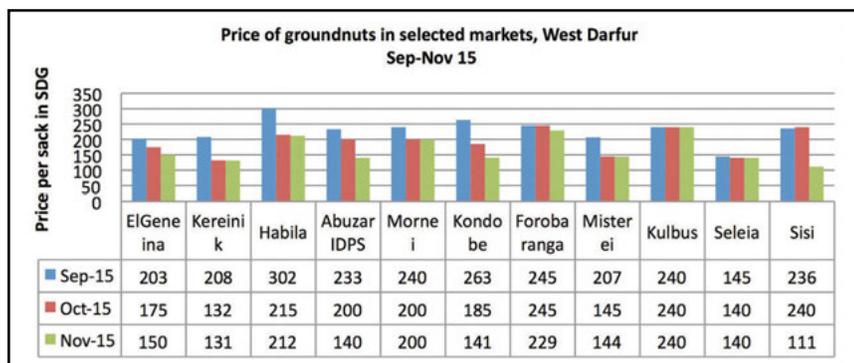


Figure 6: Price of groundnuts in selected markets in West Darfur, September to November 2015



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- **Trade routes and access:** There were no significant changes in the main trade routes that connect West Darfur markets internally, or with other states, and no major disruption from wadis flooding, especially as the rainy season ended early. Transportation costs also remained stable.
- **Daily labouring:** Daily labouring opportunities were mainly in agricultural operations, especially harvesting, during October and November. The wage was between 60 SDG and 70 SDG per day.

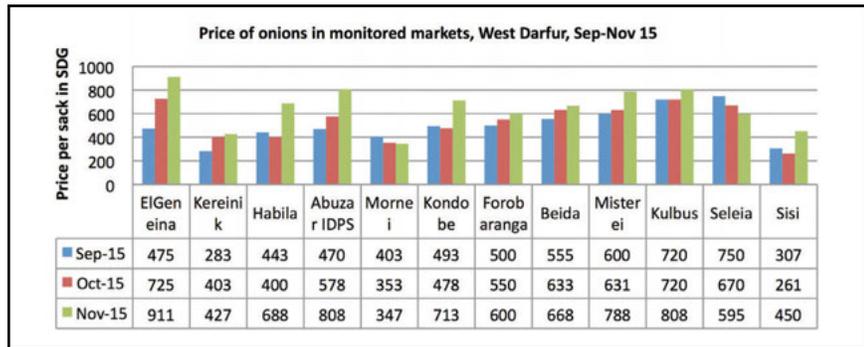


Figure 7: Price of onions in monitored markets in West Darfur, September to November 2015