Trade and Market Headlines North Darfur





Darfur Development and Reconstruction Agency

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- During this quarter (June to August 2013) cereal prices have shown an upward trend in almost all the 15 markets monitored by this
 project throughout the state. The main reason appears to be the poor rainy season. The rains started a month late, in early August,
 and finished early at the end of August. A very poor harvest is therefore anticipated. Once again, Malha and El Lait markets
 registered the highest millet prices, while Saraf Omra market registered the lowest price.
- Livestock prices were fairly stable during the quarter with some localized fluctuations. The exception is the price of camels for
 export as trade between Darfur and Libya slowed because of high risks currently associated with this cross-border trade. The price
 therefore fell.
- Unlike the last quarter there was a steady upwards trend in groundnut prices this quarter. This is an expected seasonal trend at this time of year, but is exacerbated by the poor rainy season and anticipated poor harvest as well as the increasing price of all cooking-oils, partly associated with the devaluation of the Sudanese currency and with increasing transport costs.
- The price of dry tombac was stable during the quarter, following the normal seasonal trend.
- Onion prices have also followed normal seasonal trends, gradually increasing during the 'off-season'. The price of fresh tomatoes has similarly risen in almost all monitored markets in North Darfur, as expected during the 'off-season'.
- The trade route connecting El Fashir, Kutum, Kebkabiya and Saraf Omra was calm and remained open during the quarter. Other
 trade routes linking El Fashir with Nyala and Zalingei were blocked by flooding wadis. The trade route between Omdurman and
 Nyala through Elnuhood, Al Lait, and Ed Daien shifted during the quarter because of insecurity, now passing from Elnuhood
 through Gabir, Wadda and Khazan Jadeed to Nyala.
- Agricultural labouring was the main activity for daily labouring this quarter, instead of brick making and construction. This follows normal seasonal trends.

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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. Seven CBOs plus DRA are monitoring 15 markets across North Darfur, including three 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. DRA holds quarterly analysis workshops with the CBO enumerators.

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Participating CBOs and the markets they monitor

EVNRHD El Fashir, Tabit, Tawilla, and Wadda KEADS Kutum and Kassab KSCS Kebkabiya and Saraf Omra URDP Um Kadada and El Lait

Abu Shook and ZamZam camps

SAG Mellit DWDA Dar Alsalam Buzza Malha

