

# Trade and Market Headlines North Darfur



## Darfur Development and Reconstruction Agency

www.dra-sudan.org • mzakaria065@gmail.com

### March to May 2013

- Cereal prices remained stable this quarter in all 15 monitored markets in North Darfur, as a result of the good harvest in the last season. As in previous quarters, Malha and El Lait markets registered the highest millet prices while Saraf Omra market registered the lowest price. There was a small price increase in markets where millet is one of the items in WFP's food voucher system, such as Kebkabiya.
- Livestock prices in North Darfur have also been fairly stable this quarter with some fluctuations. For example when pastoralists moved away from certain areas and certain markets as part of their seasonal migration, prices rose. Saraf Omra and Kutum markets registered an increase in the price of sheep since the Jebel Amir conflict ended. The export of camels to Libya stopped after the Jebel Amir conflict because of insecurity: the price of export camels in North Darfur has therefore fallen during the quarter.
- Tombac prices remained stable this quarter in anticipation of trade resuming between Sudan and South Sudan
- Groundnuts prices have continued to fall this quarter, reflecting the high production of the last season and limited market outlets for groundnuts.
- Onion prices decreased sharply in most markets in North Darfur. This follows normal seasonal trends but may also indicate some recovery of onion production since the Jebel Amir conflict has subsided and a fall in demand since the gold prospectors left the Jebel Amir site.
- The price of fresh tomatoes rose in almost all monitored markets in North Darfur as this quarter marks the beginning of the 'off-season'.
- The trade route connecting El Fashir, Kutum, Kebkabiya and Saraf Omra was more stable this quarter.
- There is generally high availability of daily labourers this quarter after the closing of the Jebel Amir gold prospecting site and also the end of the school year in North Darfur. Daily wage rates remained stable, however, as construction activities were stepped up in many towns before the rainy season begins – a normal seasonal trend.

### 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	SAG	Mellit
KEADS	Kutum and Kassab	DWDA	Dar Alsalam
KSCS	Kebkabiya and Saraf Omra	Buzza	Malha
URDP	Um Kadada and El Lait		
DRA	Abu Shook and ZamZam camps		

