

# Trade and Market Headlines West Darfur



## Darfur Development and Reconstruction Agency

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### June to August 2014

- Scarce supplies in the face of high local demand pushed up **cereal prices** in most of the monitored markets in West Darfur this quarter. For example, in El Geneina (a consumption area) the quarterly average price of millet was 34% higher than last quarter, in Foro Branga (cash crop area) the quarterly average price was 49% higher, and in Seleia market (production area), it was 21% higher. The cross-border flow of cereals from the Republic of Chad was disrupted by flowing wadis this quarter. As a result, the average price of local sorghum increased by 31% compared with the last quarter in El Geneina market. But in Foro Branga market the price of locally-produced sorghum decreased this quarter as demand for sorghum for livestock fodder fell as green grass became available.

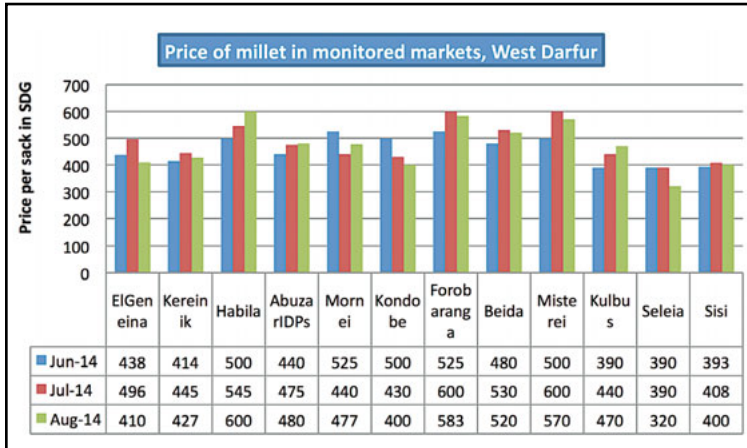


Figure 1: Millet prices in monitored markets in West Darfur, June to August 2014

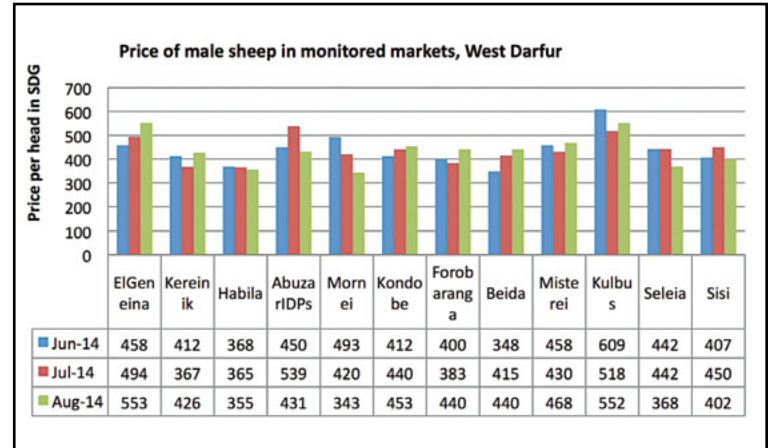


Figure 2: Price of sheep in monitored markets in West Darfur, June to August 2014

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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. Five CBOs plus DRA 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. DRA 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]

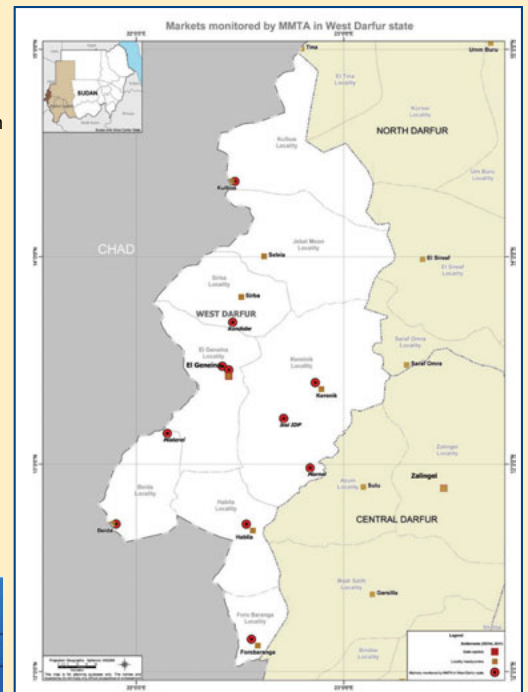
Community Development Association (CDA) [Foro Baranga and Kondobe]

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

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

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

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- Trends in **livestock prices** varied from one market to another, although **sheep prices** slightly increased in some monitored markets this quarter, because of growing demand for sheep for Eid al-Adha, within Sudan and from Saudi Arabia. Therefore local livestock traders and agents of big livestock merchants in Omdurman started buying sheep, to be sold during the Eid al-Adha.
- **Cattle prices** were stable or fell in most monitored markets this quarter, reflecting availability of cattle yet poor local demand. The quarterly average price decreased by 5% in El Geneina market. But the quarterly average price increased by 13 % in Forobrange market, due to the presence of Omdurman traders as mentioned in the last bulletin.
- In terms of **cash crops**, the price of groundnuts, cooking oil and groundnut cake all increased during the quarter, reflecting the limited supply of groundnuts. The quarterly average price of groundnuts increased in El Geneina market by 86% compared with the last quarter; the quarterly average price of a jerry can (of 36 lbs) of groundnut oil increased from SDG 395 to SDG 450 in El Geneina market, a 14% increase. Dried tomato and dried okra prices were high in most monitored markets as this is off-season.
- For **fruit and vegetables**, onion prices increased sharply this quarter, reflecting seasonal trends. Fresh tomatoes were not available in many monitored markets, as this is the off-season. Orange prices rose in areas of consumption such as Forobaranga and Seleia, and fell in production areas such as El Geneina and Mornei.
- Heavy rainfall in August caused some damage to Mornei Bridge on the El Ingaz road, almost equidistant between El Geneina and Zalingei. This caused a one-week delay for trucks using the route from Nyala through Kass, Zalingei, Mornei and El Geneina. On the Kulbus trade route, the **transportation cost** per sack increased by 50% this quarter, from 40 SDG to 80 SDG. It is now permitted to transport fuel to Kulbus, as long as it is approved by the authorities; this is indicative of improved security.
- During this quarter most **daily labouring** was in agricultural operations, especially, planting, weeding and ploughing, for which the payment was SDG 250 to SDG 300 per *mukhamis*.

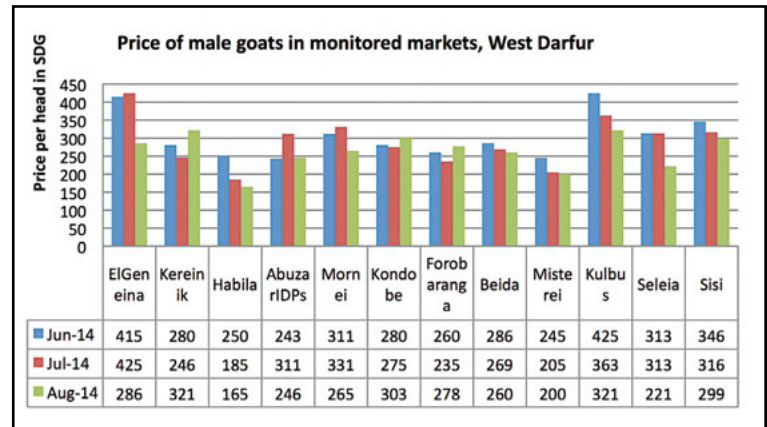


Figure 3: Price of goats in monitored markets in West Darfur, June to August 2014