

Trade and Market Headlines East Darfur



Darfur Development and Reconstruction Agency

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December 2015 to February 2016

- **Cereal prices** (millet and local sorghum in particular) fluctuated in most monitored markets across East Darfur this quarter. Millet prices decreased during the harvest in January in most monitored markets, and continued decreasing in February in production areas such as Alferdus, Shearia, Muhagiria and Khazangadeed. In non-production areas prices started increasing in February as the harvest period phased out, for example in Asalaya, Abu Matarig, Kelakel, Omsenina and Yassneen. See Figure 1.

The price of **local sorghum** showed an upward trend in most monitored markets this quarter, particularly in areas with livestock markets such as Ed Daein, Asalaya, Abu Gabra, Abu Matarig and Selyia. This was mainly because local sorghum was being used as animal fodder to fatten livestock destined for market, and because of poor pasture. Additionally, local sorghum was being exported to South Sudan (exports appear to have increased this year compared to last year). See Figure 2.

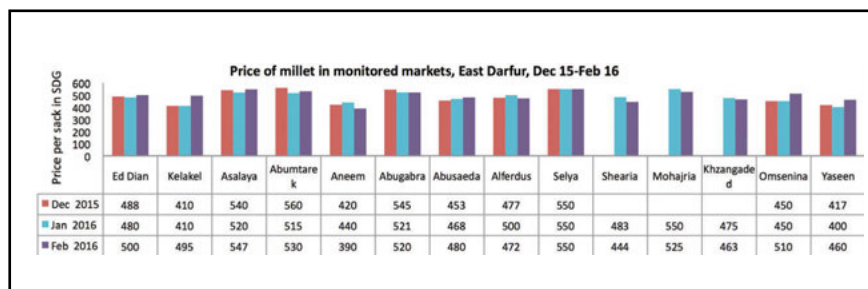


Figure 1: Price of millet in monitored markets in East Darfur, December 2015 to February 2016.

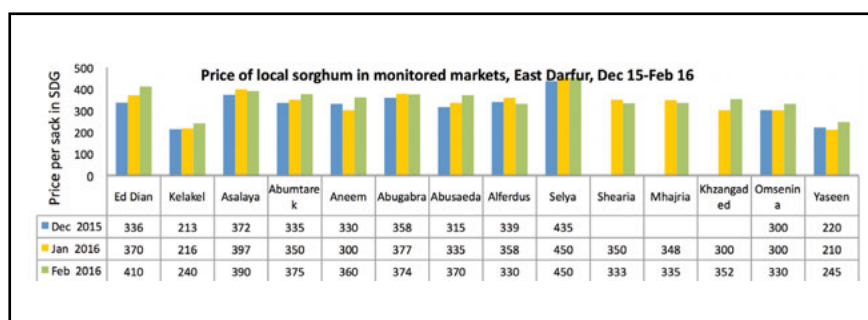


Figure 2: Price of local sorghum in monitored markets in East Darfur, December 2015 to February 2016.

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. Eleven CBOs/NGOs are monitoring 14 markets across East 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 participant CBOs/NGOs, monitoring markets and localities in East Darfur

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|--|---|
| Ed Daein — Global Aid Hand | Selyia — Alshroog Organisation for Social and Cultural Development |
| Alneem — White Hand Organization | Abuseida — Massaye for Humanitarian Services |
| Kelakel and Yaseen — Al Dar Organisation for Development and Reconstruction | Abugabra — AlShoaa Organisation |
| Abumatarig — Altmaas Development Organization | Shearia, Khazangadeed and Muhajria — Mercy Organisation for Peace and Development |
| Alferdus — El Massar Organization for Nomad Development and Environment Conservation | Omsenina — Banoon Charity |
| Asalaya — Massaye Organisation for Women's Development | |

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- **Livestock prices**, sheep and cattle in particular, differed from market to market according to local conditions this quarter: prices increased in markets where livestock moved away from in search of water or pasture and decreased in areas around which they gathered.

Sheep prices fluctuated in Ed Daein, Kelakel, Asalaya, Abu Gabra, Omsenina and Yassneen, increased in Abu Matarig and Abu Seida, and decreased in Alferdus and Selyia, according to local market conditions. The highest monthly average price during the quarter was reported in Abu Gabra, the main livestock market in East Darfur, at SDG 1,021. See Figure 3.

Cattle prices fluctuated in most monitored markets and some stability was reported in Ed Daein market, the state capital and main market, which is supplied from many different markets. See Figure 4.

- Despite the poor harvest, **groundnut prices** were stable this quarter because of reduced demand. This appears to be due to falling demand from other parts of Darfur which are now importing oil from outside the Darfur region, so groundnut oil is only being used for local consumption. See Figure 5. **Dried okra** and **dried tomatoes prices** increased in some markets because East Darfur is not a production area and because of intermittent flow of the commodities from Jabal Marra area due to some local disputes during the quarter. Prices decreased a little in February in Ed Daein, the main market, which received supplies from South Darfur (Nyala). See Figure 6.

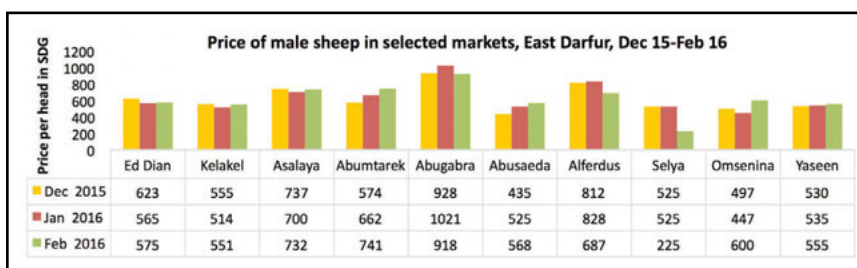


Figure 3: Price of male sheep in selected markets in East Darfur, December 2015 to February 2016

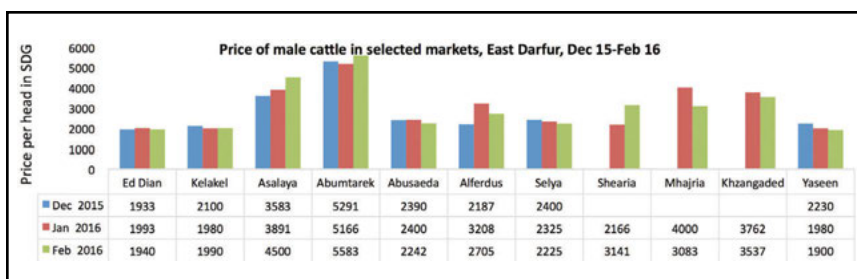


Figure 4: Price of male cattle in selected markets in East Darfur, December 2015 to February 2016.

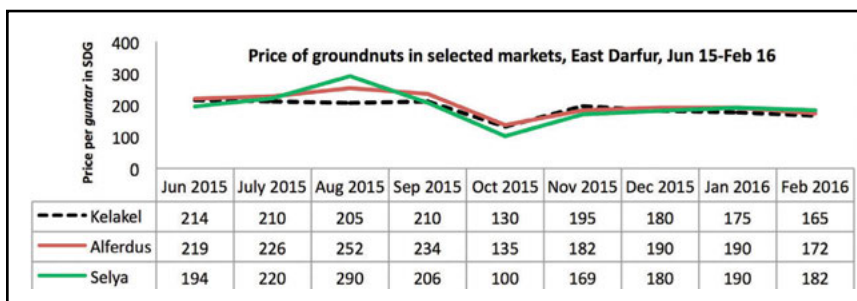


Figure 5: Price of groundnuts in selected markets in East Darfur, June 2015 to February 2016

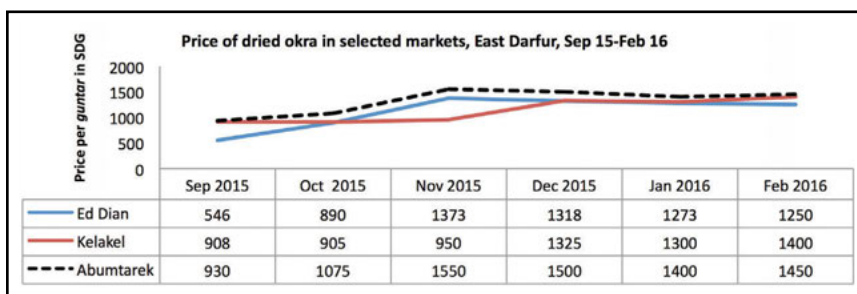


Figure 6: Price of dried okra in selected markets in East Darfur, September 2015 to February 2016



- Although East Darfur is not considered a production area, the price of **fruit and vegetables, onions** and **fresh tomatoes** in particular, decreased over the quarter as they were in-season, normal for this time of year. Fresh tomato prices remained stable in Abu Matarig and Abu Seida as pastoralists gathered in these areas, thus increasing demand. See Figures 7 and 8. The fruit and vegetables in East Darfur are supplied mainly from other Darfur states such as South and North Darfur.
- Due to the early phase out of the harvest this year, the main **labouring opportunities** this quarter were looking after livestock as well as domestic work with some opportunities in construction. There was an increase in the number of labourers looking for work due to an influx of labourers from South Sudan, yet opportunities in the labour market were limited.
- During this quarter most **trade routes**, internal and external, were stable, indicating the stability of the security situation throughout East Darfur.

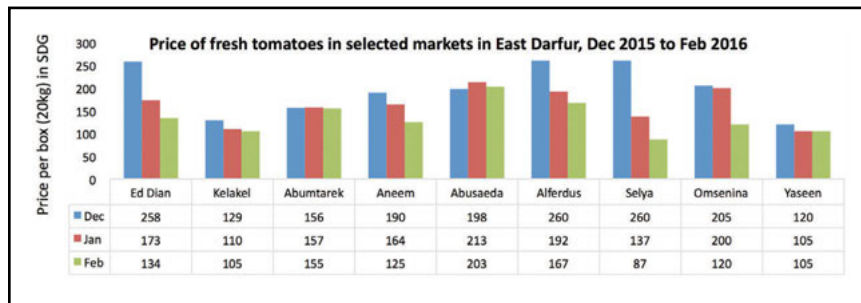


Figure 7: Price of fresh tomatoes in selected markets in East Darfur, December 2015 to February 2016.

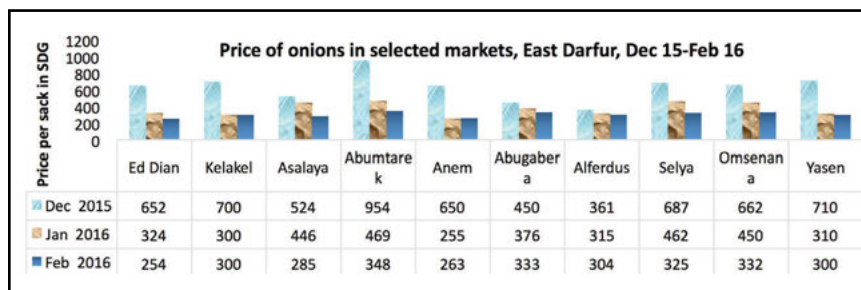


Figure 8: Price of onions in selected markets in East Darfur, December 2015 to February 2016.