

Trade and Market Headlines West Darfur



Darfur Development and Reconstruction Agency

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June to August 2015

- Cereals: Cereal prices**, millet in particular, were lower than they were last quarter across West Darfur but remained stable this quarter (June-August 2015), reflecting the availability of supply in most monitored markets. The highest millet price was recorded in Forobaranga in August (SDG 378), and the lowest price was in Seleia in August (SDG 200), a millet production area. See Figure 1. This was because Forobaranga is a sorghum production area and this quarter flooding *wadis* restricted millet supplies coming into the market from Chad. Millet is transported from Chad into the border regions of West Darfur, crossing *wadis* by small cars, camels or donkeys. When the *wadis* flood transporting goods along these routes becomes difficult. Cereal prices this quarter were a little bit lower compared to the same quarter last year (June-August 2014) due mainly to the good harvest last season (2014-2015) and the subsequent availability of cereals in the market. See Figures 2 and 3.

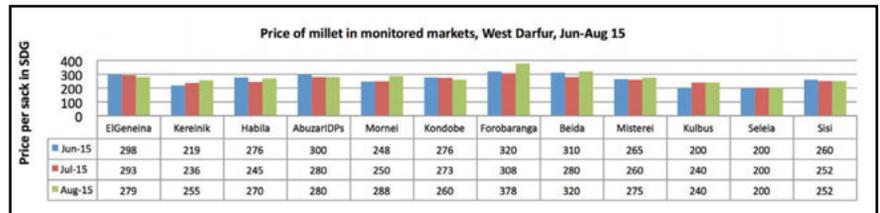


Figure 1: Price of millet in monitored markets, West Darfur, June to August 2015

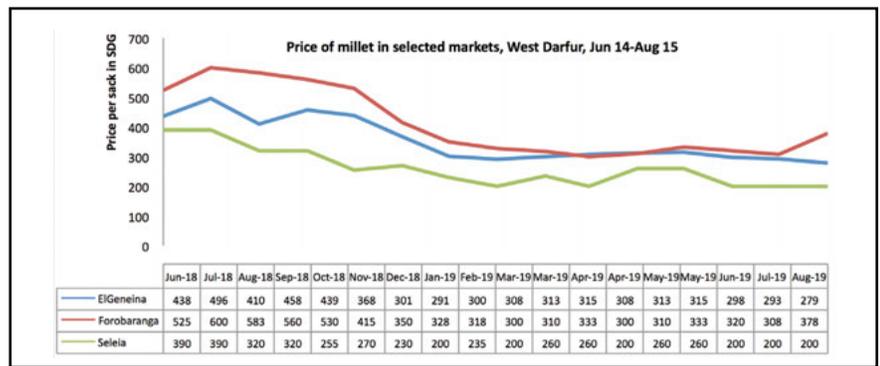


Figure 2: Price of millet in selected markets, West Darfur, June 2014 to August 2015

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

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

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

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

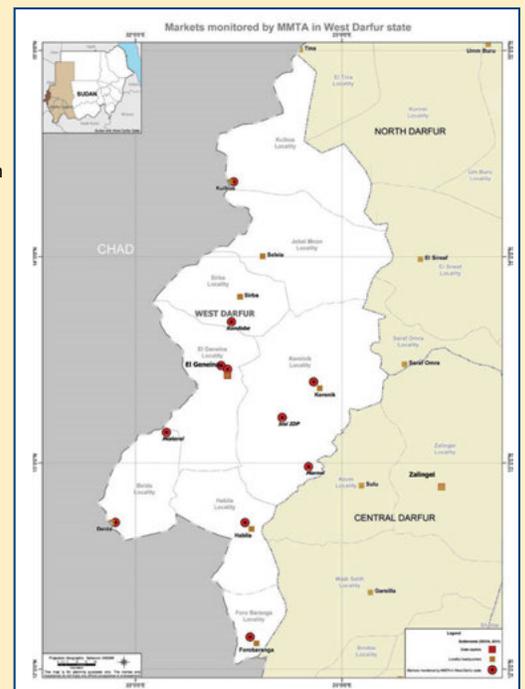
Beida Organization for Relief and Development (BORD) [Beida and Misterei]

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

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



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- Livestock:** During this quarter livestock prices were stable across the monitored markets in West Darfur. The stability in **sheep prices** was a result of pasture availability around market areas. The exception to this was in El Geneina, where some traders started to buy sheep in June through their agents for transportation to Omdurman during the rainy season, thus pushing the price up in June especially, but during the rainy season in general. This is normal at this time of year. See Figures 4 and 5.

Cattle prices were stable in both El Geneina and Forobaranga. Cattle moved from Forobaranga (a production area) to El Geneina (a consumption area) as water became available along this route, which pushed prices down in El Geneina. The movement of cattle from Forobaranga to El Geneina due to water availability at this time of year is considered normal. See Figure 6.

- Cash crops: Groundnuts prices** remained stable this quarter in most of West Darfur's monitored markets. See Figure 7. There was also stability in the price of both groundnut oil and groundnut cake, with quarterly average prices in El Geneina of SDG 360 (jerry can of 36 pounds) and SDG 90 (40kg sack) respectively. This was contrary to the expectation voiced last quarter (March to May 2015) that groundnut prices would rise as farmers bought up groundnut seeds ready for the new season. The stability in prices may have been due to stores of groundnuts in some markets being released, lower than predicted demand and good production levels of sesame reducing the demand for groundnut oil, although these need to be verified. **Sesame** was reported in 5 out of the 12 monitored markets reflecting the good production season last season. Prior to last quarter (March to May 2015) sesame had not been seen outside of El Geneina and Forobaranga. The price of sesame in production areas such as Habila, Mornei, Forobaranga and Beida increased a little over the course of this quarter but remained stable in El Geneina, a key market and consumption area. See Figure 8.

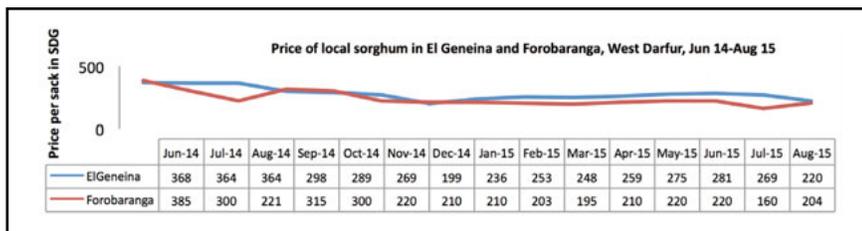


Figure 3: Price of local sorghum in El Geneina (consumption area) and Forobaranga (production area), June 2014 to August 2015

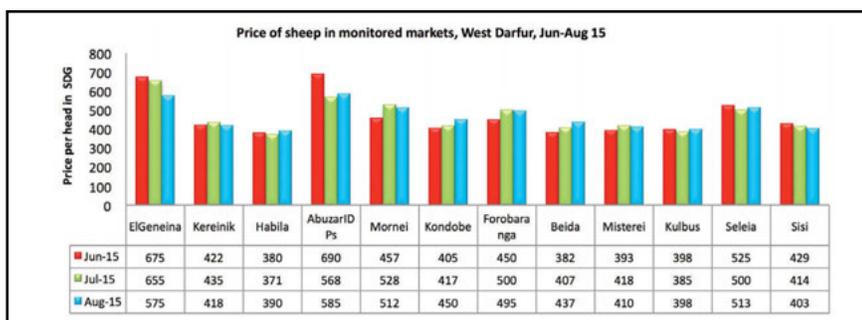


Figure 4: Price of sheep in monitored markets, West Darfur, June to August 2015

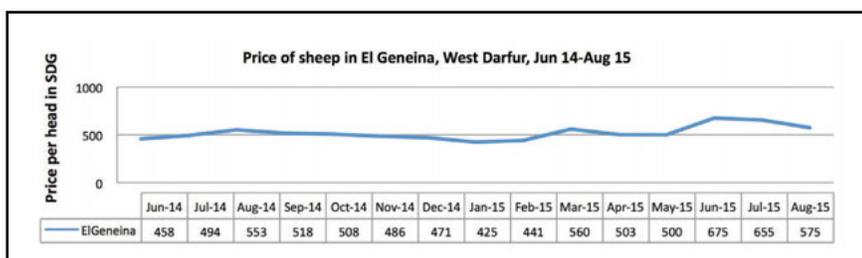


Figure 5: Price of sheep in El Geneina market, West Darfur, June 2014 to August 2015

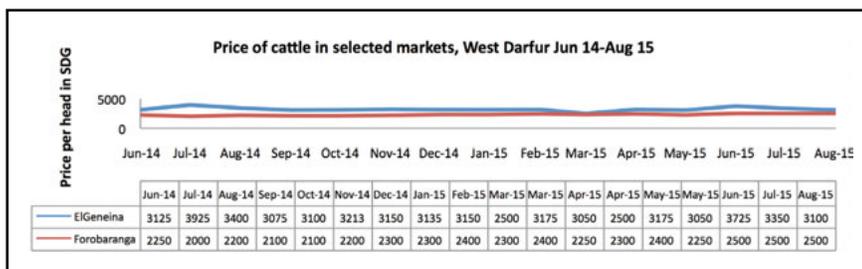


Figure 6: Price of cattle in two markets, West Darfur, June 2014 to August 2015



Dried tomato and **dried okra** prices stabilised this quarter due to the rainy season, when people are able to use fresh okra and fresh tomatoes as well as other local alternatives.

- **Fruit and Vegetables:** **Onion** prices increased in most of West Darfur's markets during this quarter reflecting the off-season, which is normal at this time of year. See Figure 9. **Fresh tomato** prices increased sharply for the same reason. **Orange** prices were stable in most markets except El Geneina: as the main market in West Darfur, El Geneina saw increased supply due to oranges coming in for sale from a number of other areas both within and outside of West Darfur (e.g. local production areas, Jebel Mara and Khartoum), and therefore orange prices decreased. See Figure 10.

- **Trade routes and access:** In terms of **trade routes and access** there were no significant changes to the main trading routes within the state, or between West Darfur and other states. Some minor difficulties such as those in Forobaranga were reported due to the rains starting and *wadis* flooding.
- **Daily labouring:** The main daily labouring opportunities were in agricultural operations this quarter, and the daily rate was between SDG 50 and 60. This rate is broadly similar to rates for the same quarter last year (June to August 2014).

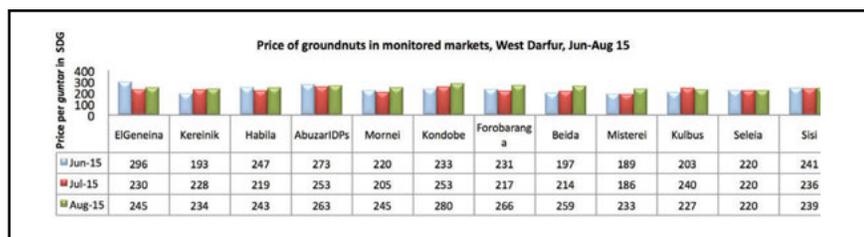


Figure 7: Price of groundnuts in monitored markets, West Darfur, June to August 2015

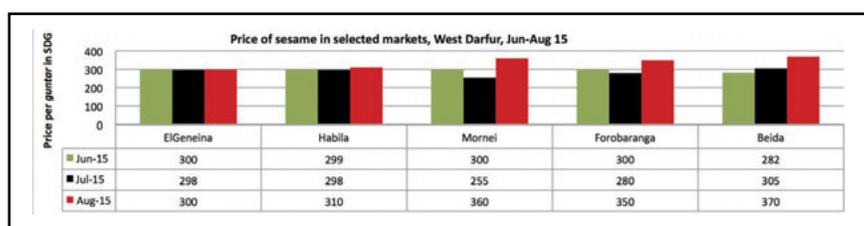


Figure 8: Price of sesame in selected markets in West Darfur, June to August 2015

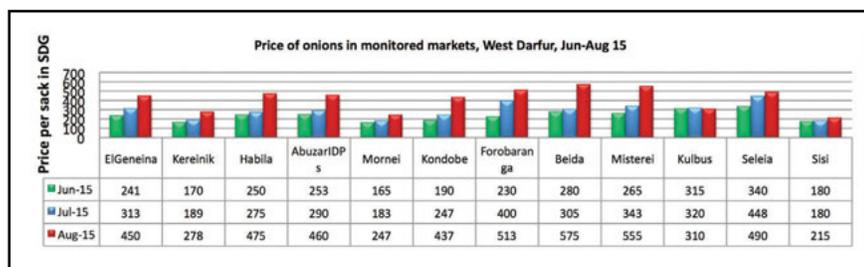


Figure 9: Price of onions in monitored markets in West Darfur, June to August 2015

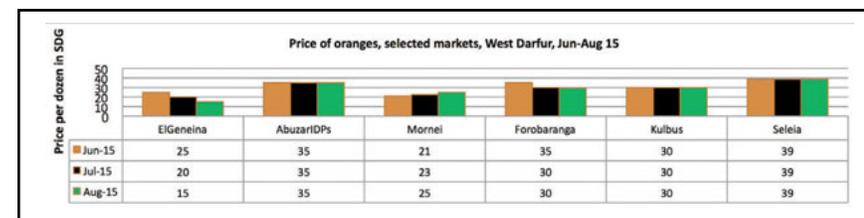


Figure 10: Price of oranges in selected markets, West Darfur, June to August 2015