

Price Monitoring and Analysis Country Brief

Sudan

May 2010

Key Messages

- The increases in cereal prices are worsening the already extreme food security situation.
- Insecurity and ongoing conflict, together with lower production have resulted in deteriorating food security situation.
- The food insecure population has exceeded 10 million people and concerned agencies agree on a high risk of hunger at least until the September harvest.
- Continued food aid is needed to assist the population particularly in conflict affected areas.

Background

The total population in Sudan was 41.34 million in 2008, with an annual growth rate of 2%. About 21% of the population was estimated to be undernourished.

Economic Indicators	View Data
Total Population - 2008 (WB)	41347723
Population growth rate - 2008 (WB)	2%
GNI per capita, \$ PPP - 2008 (WB)	1930
Population below 1\$ PPP per day	n.a.
Rural population - 2007 (WB)	57%
Agriculture, value added (% of GDP) - 2008 (WB)	25%

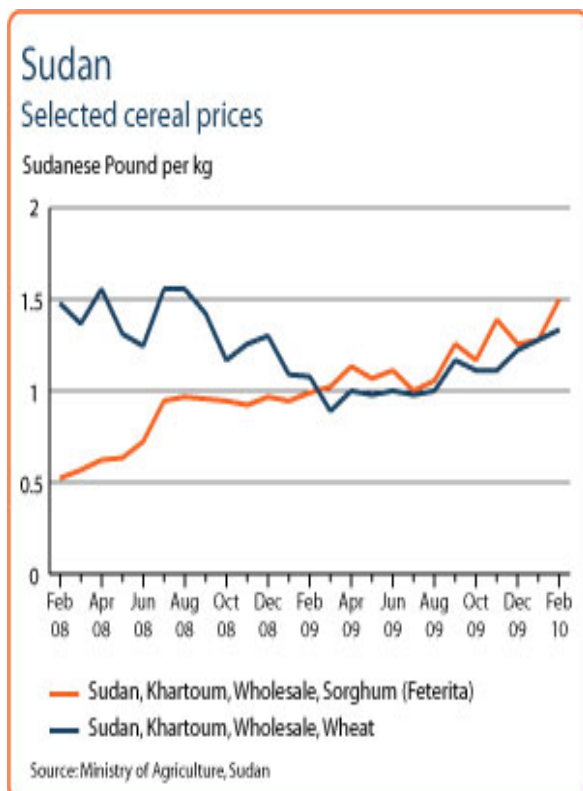
Food Consumption	
Undernourished Population - 2005 (FAO)	21%
Cereal share in total dietary energy consumption - 2005 (FAO)	49%
Meat share in total dietary energy consumption - 2005 (FAO)	5%

Health Indicators	
Pop. with sustainable access to improved sanitation - 2006 (WHO)	35%
Life expectancy at birth (years) both sexes - 2006 (WHO)	60
Pop. with access to improved drinking water sources - 2006 (WHO)	70%
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged >= 15 years - 2005 (WHO)	1%

Prices

Cereals: Sorghum wholesale prices in Khartoum increased to 1.44 SDG/kg in April from 1.28 registered in March. In Al Damazin sorghum prices gradually declined to 1 SDG/kg in April, but remained much higher than pre crisis levels. Since January (1.28 SDG/kg) wheat wholesale prices in Khartoum followed an increasing trend and were 1.61 SDG/kg in April. Millet prices remained stable but high at 1.67 in Jan/Feb/ March, but fell to 1.33 in April. Sorghum prices in Khartoum in April were 628.68 USD/T, 3.9 times higher than the international prices of US Sorghum No2 Yellow, US Gulf (160.44 USD/T).

Livestock: In March 2010, increases in livestock prices were higher than cereal prices, thus favouring pastoralists' terms of trade.



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Natural Disasters, Drought and Conflicts

The elections held last April confirmed President Omar al-Bashir and his National Congress Party (NCP); the result widened divisions with the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLM) and increased the risks of the secession of Southern Sudan in the upcoming January 2011 referendum. Conflict and insecurity continues: OCHA estimated that the south civil war displaced around 4.5 million people, while in Darfur ongoing conflict continues to force displacement with an estimated 2.7 million IDPs. According to WFP, in Southern Sudan the number of people in need of food aid quadrupled to 4.3 million in 2010, with the areas most affected by the conflict being Jonglei, Warrap, Unity and Lake States and Western Equatoria. Clashes on the border of Western Bahr El Ghazal State and South Darfur continued where 4.6 million need food assistance, while in Central and Eastern and Three Areas, 1.7 million people needed assistance because of drought.

Refugees and IDPs	2006	2007	2008
Total in the country	1622222	1695573	1499683
Total outside the country	2124513	2007976	1749536

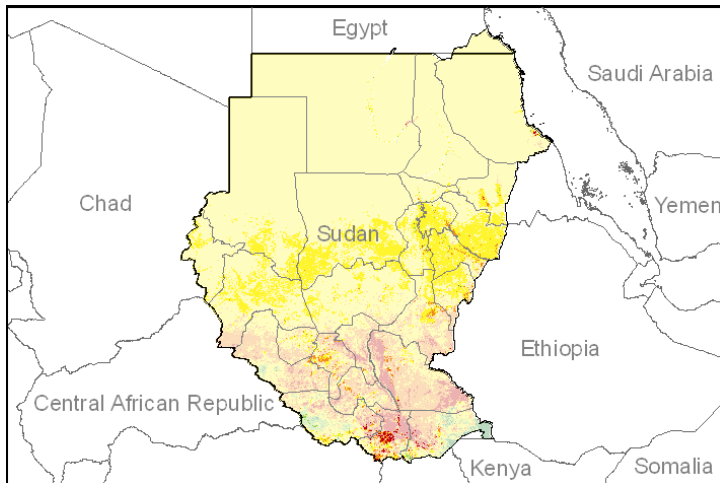
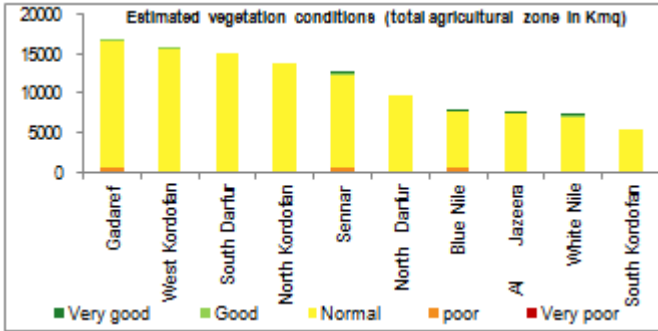
Source: UNHCR Statistical Online Population Database, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Data extracted on 22/10/2009.

Disaster Type (last year)	Date	Location	Alert
Flood	2009-08-16	Khartoum	2/3
No Earthquakes	-	-	-

Source: Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System - 3 = 1000 or more people killed or 800000 or more people displaced. 2 = 100 or more people killed or 80000 or more displaced.

Vegetation Condition

At the beginning of the rainy season, normal vegetation conditions are observed for the major part of the country except for the South provinces (Bahr Al Jabal, Jongley,...) where poor to very poor conditions are observed. The general indicator of vegetation condition provided below is the relative difference between the NDVI for April 2010 and the average of the last 10 years, calculated on the agricultural zones derived from the GLOBCOVER land cover database (2005).



Source: JRC MARS & FoodSec

Food Security Situation

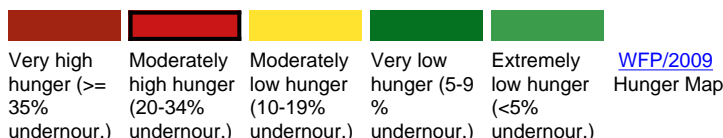
The conflict, drought and high prices have severely affected food security in Sudan. The number of people depending on food aid of WFP is estimated at 10.6 million people. GIEWS and FEWSNET report severe localized food insecurity in the short term; WFP and IFPRI predict moderately high and alarming hunger in the long term.

CURRENT EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT



There are currently about 6.8 million food insecure people in Sudan, including 2.3 million internally displaced people (IDPs). In northern Sudan, the food insecure population of 5 million is concentrated in [...more](#)

SCALE OF HUNGER



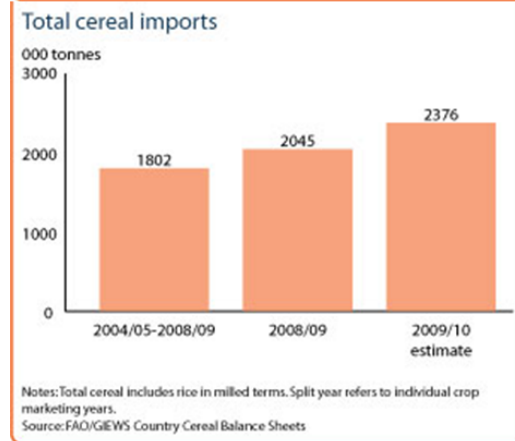
Food Balance Sheet

The 2009 crop production was estimated at some 3.5 million tonnes (coarse grains at 3.1 million tonnes; wheat at 403,000 tonnes). This marked a significant decline from 2008 output of 5.5 million tonnes with a consequent increase in import requirements estimated at 2.4 million tonnes (1.5 million tonnes wheat; 750,000 tonnes sorghum) compared to 2 million tonnes last year.

Sudan Cereal production

	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 estimate	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	4008	4192	2630	-37
Millet	635	630	471	-25
Wheat	556	642	403	-37
Others	89	87	72	-17
Total	5287	5551	3576	-36

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Government Policies

The Govt is relying on aid agencies to support the population. The last FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission, estimated food aid requirements for 2010 at 155,000 tonnes/month. At the end of 2009 the Govt implemented cereals subsidy programme to lower/stabilize prices; however it was affected by the lack of coordination with other actors such as the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission.

Consumer and market oriented measures	Price support.
Producer oriented measures	n.a.
Trade policy measures	n.a.
Safety net (increased or introduced)	Relief assistance fro humanitarian agencies.

Different sources

Current events to watch (Click to see the full report)

- [SUDAN: Unsettled prospects for Jonglei State](#)
- [SUDAN: Key post-referendum issues](#)
- [SUDAN: Bol Manyiel, "I can still buy more guns with my remaining..."](#)
- [SUDAN: Disarmament doubts in Lakes State](#)
- [SUDAN: Urgent cash needed for demining](#)

For more information, contact: Information-for-action@fao.org
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