

HIGHLIGHTS

- Above average harvest expected for 2016-2017 season, according to FEWS NET.
- Sorghum and millet prices decreased by 5 and 25 per cent between August - September and could decline further, FEWS NET reports.
- Sudan's Food Security Technical Secretariat reports improvement in nutrition in Blue Nile State.
- The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation will fund two projects in eastern Sudan aimed at improving WASH situation and preventing malnutrition.



A farmer (left) in his sorghum field in Blue Nile State (2014, UN)

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Food security to improve in most areas due to expected above average harvest – FEWS NET

A new [report](#) by FEWS NET on food security in Sudan states that the 2016-2017 harvest, starting in October/November, is expected to significantly reduce the number of people in Crisis level or higher of food security (Crisis level is equivalent to Phase 3 of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)).

An increase in food produced by households for their own consumption, a reduction in staple food prices, improved harvest labour opportunities and increased livestock productivity should improve access to food and result in Minimal (IPC Phase 1) or Stressed (IPC Phase 2) levels of food security in most areas, according to the FEWS NET report.

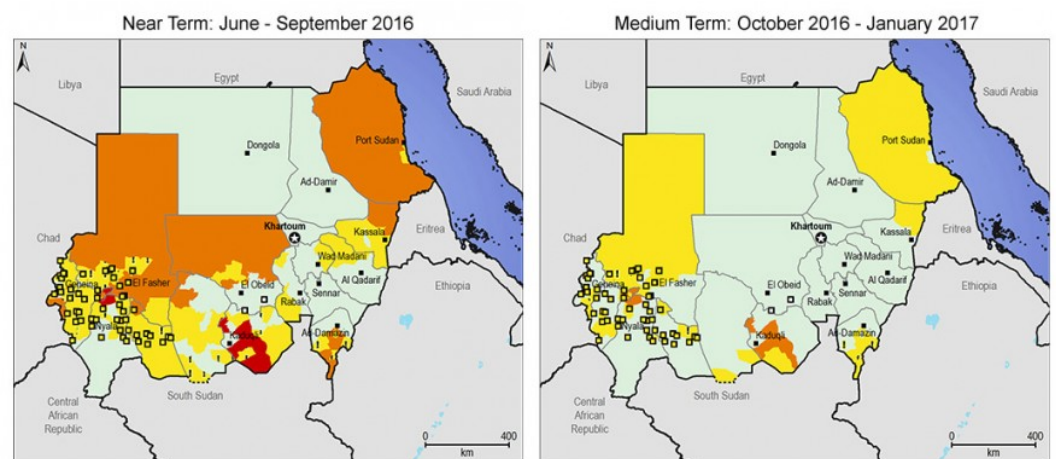
FEWS NET provides a projected outlook on food security across Sudan based on analysis of current national agricultural and food security conditions, climatic evidence and other factors affecting food security.

However, according to FEWS NET, conflict, insecurity, and additional displacement will continue to drive Crisis (IPC Phase 3) acute food insecurity in parts of South Kordofan and Blue Nile states and the Jebel Marra area in Darfur between October 2016 and May 2017. In conflict areas, limited access to cultivatable land is likely to reduce production at the household level, while dry spells in September are likely to result in below-average production in parts of South Kordofan and North Darfur.

Rainfall was above average in many areas during most of the main 2016 rainy season (June to September), leading to possible good harvests and the likelihood for above-average 2016/17 crop production and pasture regeneration in Sudan.

November 2016 - January 2017, February - May 2017 food security outlook

Source: FEWS NET



IPC 2.0 Acute Food Insecurity Phase

Presence countries: 1: Minimal 2: Stressed 3: Crisis 4: Emergency 5: Famine ! Would likely be at least one phase worse without current or programmed humanitarian assistance

FIGURES 2016 HRP

Displaced people in Sudan (as of Dec 2015)	Up to 3.2 million
Displaced people in Darfur (as of Dec 2015)	Up to 2.6 million
GAM caseload	2.1 million
South Sudanese refugee arrivals in Sudan - since 15 Dec 2013 (registered by UNHCR) - as of 31 October 2016	261,800
Refugees of other nationalities (registered by UNHCR) - as of 31 Oct 2016	139,580

FUNDING

427 million US\$ received in 2016
43.5% Reported funding

Sorghum and millet prices decreased by five and 25 per cent between August and September and are likely to decrease further, according to FEWS NET

Sorghum and millet prices decreasing in most markets

The promising 2016/17 harvest season is leading to price decreases for locally produced cereals (sorghum and millet) in the markets of main production areas. Sorghum and millet prices decreased by 5 and 25 per cent respectively between August and September and are likely to decrease further. Despite this declining price trend, current staple food prices remain above average across many markets, FEWS NET reported.

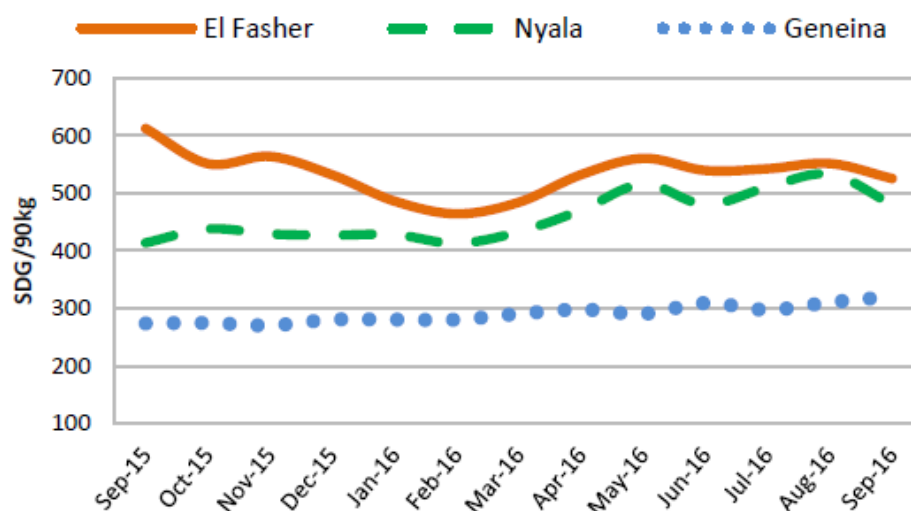
Sorghum, wheat and millet are the three main staple foods in Sudan. Sorghum is the staple food for most people living in Sudan, except for the northern areas (River Nile and Northern states) where wheat is more common. Millet is the main preferred staple food in Darfur.

Meanwhile, market stocks of locally produced wheat are dwindling, which is why wheat prices are rising, according to the October 2016 [Sudan Monthly Market Update](#) by the Food and Agriculture Market Information System (FAMIS) Sudan. Supported by Sudan's Food Security Technical Secretariat (FSTS) and FEWS NET, FAMIS collects crop, livestock, and horticultural and animal products prices from major markets on a weekly basis. Using a standard methodology, FAMIS gathers data from a national network of market watchers through a web platform.

In Blue Nile State, sorghum retail prices in Ed Damazine market decreased by 15.7 per cent in October 2016 in comparison to September as a result of the ongoing harvest season of cash crops, according to the October 2016 Food Security and Nutrition Update for Blue Nile State by Sudan's FSTS. FSTS is an inter-ministerial body between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Department of Nutrition of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rangelands, and the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation.

Nominal millet prices in three Darfur state capitals

Source: FAMIS



Seasonal decline in malnutrition admissions

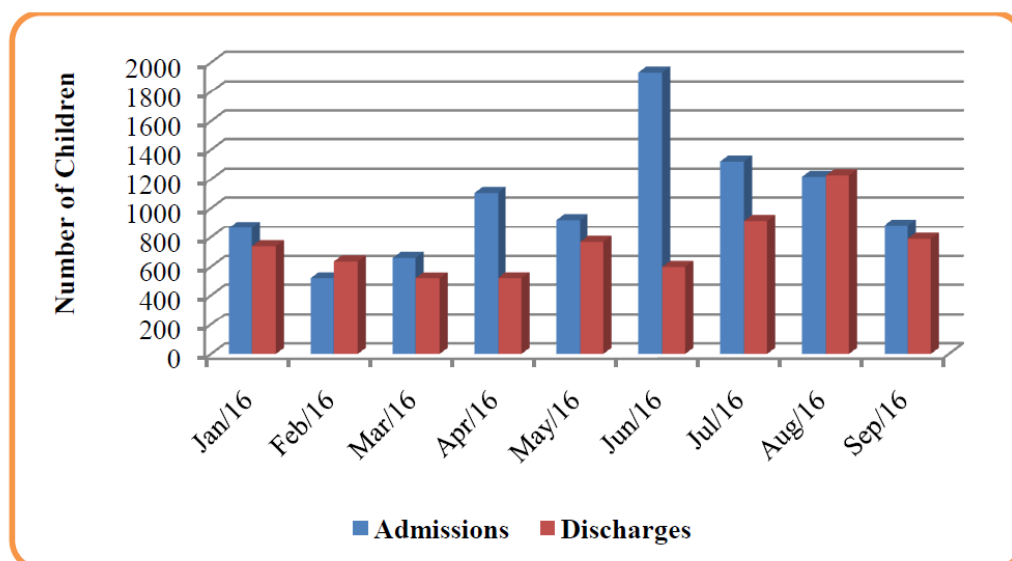
According to the FSTS update for Blue Nile State, the nutrition situation in the state has improved in September in comparison to August based on the results of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) monitoring among children under five years old. This was due to the decrease in admission and discharge cases by 27.6 and 35.7 per cent respectively compared to August figures.

Admissions for SAM are decreasing in line with usual seasonal trends according to the Nutrition Sector, with a gradual decrease in admissions of children with SAM since the peak in June (Blue Nile Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) database). The reduction in admissions is likely to be due to the seasonal decline in childhood illnesses (diarrhoea and fever) as well as the start of the harvest season. The

In Blue Nile, retail sorghum prices in Ed Damazine market decreased by 15.7 per cent in October, according to FSTS

SAM case admissions and discharges in Blue Nile State in 2016

Source: Ministry of Health, Department of Epidemical diseases, Blue Nile State



Admissions for SAM are decreasing in line with seasonal trends, with a gradual decrease in admissions of children with SAM since the peak in June

ongoing harvest season has resulted in improved household purchasing power as well as decrease in staple food prices and improved food consumption, especially among rural households and vulnerable groups, according to FSTS. The Nutrition Department of the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) with support from partners continues to provide therapeutic nutrition services through stabilisation centres and outpatient therapeutic feeding programmes.

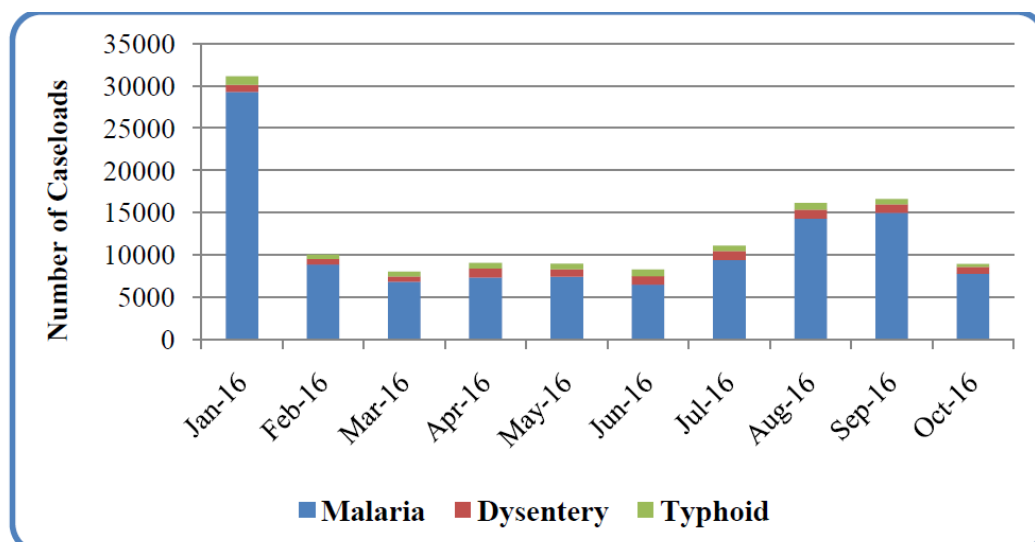
According to the [2016 Humanitarian Needs Overview \(HNO\)](#), there are 105,000 IDPs and residents in Blue Nile State who are in need of humanitarian assistance.

Moreover, there has been significant decline in the registered incidences of malaria, dysentery and typhoid in October across Blue Nile by 48, 18 and 52.3 per cent respectively compared to September figures. Compared to the challenging health situation during the past three months, environmental sanitation conditions have improved. These decreases are attributed to the end of the rainy season and the drying out of stagnant water pools. In addition, intensive interventions, including vector control activities, were carried out to improve water quality and quantity in response to acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) and malaria, according to WHO.

SMoH and its partners, including national and international aid agencies, continue to carry out awareness campaigns and provide prompt access to appropriate treatment,

Number of malaria, dysentery and typhoid cases in Blue Nile (2016)

Source: Ministry of Health, Department of Epidemical diseases, Blue Nile State



Malaria, dysentery and typhoid cases in Blue Nile decreased by 48, 18 and 52.3 per cent in October

leading to a decrease in the number of watery diarrhoea cases. SMOH and the World Health Organization (WHO) are also preparing to conduct a comprehensive malaria indicator survey during the first week of November. The survey will provide baseline data that could help combatting malaria and its vectors. Regarding accessibility of safe drinking water from the Blue Nile River, the chlorination at household level of the water taken from the river is now more effective as river water turbidity and silt decreased after the rainy season. Consequently, the cost of filtering water reduced, the FSTS report said.

New funding to improve water, sanitation and nutrition in eastern Sudan

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) has announced that it will fund two projects in eastern Sudan—totalling €1.3 million (about \$1.45 million)—aimed at improving water, sanitation and hygiene services in Kassala State in treating and preventing malnutrition in Red Sea State.

The Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector is only 14 per cent funded as of 6 November, according to the [Financial Tracking Service](#) (FTS) for Sudan, which tracks financial contributions against the 2016 Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

In Kassala State, the €800,000 (US\$ 891,000) one-year project—to be implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM)—will address the severe need for water and waste management services. The project will provide sustainable access to water infrastructure and waste collection management systems in Kassala and Khashm El Girba towns. In order to ensure the sustainability of the project, communities will be trained in the management of these activities. The project will be implemented in coordination with the Government's Water, Environmental Sanitation Department (WES) for Kassala State and the State Water Corporation, as well as national partners.

According to a [press release issued by IOM](#), Kassala State has suffered from years of underdevelopment and limited infrastructure. This has severely affected the livelihoods of communities in the region and placed pressure on already scarce resources.

According to the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), Kassala is an arid or semi-arid climatic zone and environmental resources such as water and pasture are limited and variable across the state. Water resources are scarce in the area due to low, unpredictable rainfall in addition to groundwater shortages, except along the shallow aquifers in El Gash basin area, the capital. Pastures are limited due to livestock overgrazing combined with already minimal graze lands in rocky and partially mountainous areas in the north/southeast parts of Kassala.

Project for controlling and preventing malnutrition in Red Sea State

In Red Sea State, AICS will provide the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) with €500,000 (US\$ 549,300) to implement a one-year project in the state for controlling and preventing malnutrition, targeting children under 5 years of age as well as pregnant and lactating women. The Nutrition Sector is only 27 per cent funded as of 6 November, against the 2016 Sudan HRP.

Red Sea State has some of the highest malnutrition rates in the country. According to the Sudan National S3M survey carried out in 2013, some localities in the state have Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates as high as 46.7 per cent (Toker locality) and 37.4 per cent (Agig locality). The survey also indicates that GAM levels in Sudan are at 16.3 per cent, above the emergency threshold of 15 per cent. Over two million children under 5 years are acutely malnourished in Sudan every year, according to the Sudan 2016 HNO.

AICS has announced that it will fund two projects in eastern Sudan totalling €1.3 million (about \$1.45 million) aimed at improving WASH situation and preventing malnutrition