



منظمة دارفور للتنمية واعادة التعمير

منظمة دارفور للتنمية واعادة التعمير DARFUR DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION AGENCY

30th June 2011

The Darfur Development and Reconstruction Agency (DRA) has the pleasure to launch its 1st pilot Quarterly Bulletin (QB) on Trade and Markets in North Darfur. The Bulletin presents the findings and analysis of regular weekly market monitoring of 15 markets across North Darfur State by DRA and seven community-based organizations, which began in January 2011.

The overall purpose of the project is to:

"Improve detailed monitoring and analysis of trade and markets and of the impact of the conflict on key commodities in Darfur (cereals, livestock, cash crops), and to identify how livelihoods, economic recovery and peace-building can be supported through trade."

DRA has a number of technical partnerships with market and trade-related institutions in North Darfur. The project is funded by UKAID from the Department of International Development, through UNEP, and is implemented with technical advisory support from the Feinstein International Center of Tufts University.

I would like to emphasise that this first bulletin is a pilot, based on the first two months' of market data collection, for which we would very much welcome comments. As our first bulletin, it has taken somewhat longer to produce than future bulletins, which we aim to circulate on a quarterly and timelier basis. As the project becomes established and builds its database we will eventually be making recommendations for action to support livelihoods based on our analysis, probably towards the end of 2011.

The project, and this bulletin, primarily focuses on trade, the economy and livelihoods rather than on household food security. However, it may also provide information of use to organizations and institutions concerned with food security.

This project is part of DRA's overall programme of support to livelihoods in Darfur. This initiative is intended to complement other official and voluntary efforts to facilitate and improve humanitarian programming through the provision of up-to-date information and analysis to humanitarian and development planners at various levels.

The second Bulletin is currently being prepared and will soon be available for dissemination. These quarterly Bulletins will soon be available on DRA's website www.dra-sudan.org.

As we greatly value your views and feedback, I would like to invite comments on this bulletin from recipients. Your comments should be directed to dra-sudan@dra.org and mohamedharoun12@yahoo.com

Sincerely yours,

Youssif El Tayeb

DRA Chief Executive