



December¹ 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Fuel Prices:** In November 2017, the prices of petrol and diesel decreased in many monitored markets. The observed decrease was linked to the involvement of private companies in the business and also due to the end of rainy season that led to opening of crossing points mainly for markets closer to Sudan borders. Compared to October 2017, petrol price decreased in Juba (7 percent), Rumbek (9 percent), Torit (23 percent) and Wunrok (33 percent). Aweil, Yida, Bunj and Mingkaman markets showed stability with price changes within 5 percent.
- **Terms of Trade (ToT):** Despite the overall seasonal sorghum price stability, goat to sorghum ToT declined in Juba (31 percent), Aweil and Yida (each 16 percent) and Wunrok (13 percent) compared to October 2017. A drop in sorghum price and increase in goat prices in Bor, Torit, Rumbek, Wau and Mingkaman have resulted in improvements of ToT by 10-20 percent. Compared to one year ago, ToT has deteriorated in Bor (15 percent), Rumbek (13 percent), Juba (50 percent) and Yida (65 percent) while it has improved in Aweil, Torit, Kapoeta South and Wau. In November 2017, one average goat fetched 10 to 20 malua of cereal in Rumbek, Wau, Mingkaman, Yida and Juba while it fetched 21 to 33 malua in Bor, Aweil, Torit and Wunrok markets.
- **Cereal prices:** The retail price of key staple cereal, sorghum, continued its seasonal decline or stability in most markets, compared to October 2017. The decrease in price of sorghum was within seven to 13 percent in Rumbek, Wau and Wunrok; while Agok, Bor, Torit and Bunj witnessed price decreases of 27 to 38 percent. Few markets such as Wunrok, Juba and Yida experienced price increases of 17 to 32 percent. The price decreases were associated with the harvest season, humanitarian assistance and improved road access.
- **Currency Exchange rate:** In Juba, exchange rates between UD Dollar and SSP remained at elevated level, however, it was relatively stable with increases of 2.2 percent in the parallel market and 2.7 percent in the official rate compared to the previous month. The parallel market rate was 46 percent higher than the official rate. In November 2017, one US Dollar was exchanged at SSP 182 in the parallel market.
- **Outlook:** The upcoming festivities (Christmas and New Year) are likely to increase demand for food and hence higher prices that impact the purchasing power of poor and very poor households.

¹ The analysis is based on prices data of November 2017

Photos: WFP/Ryan McDonald (top left) and WFP/George Fominyen (top right)

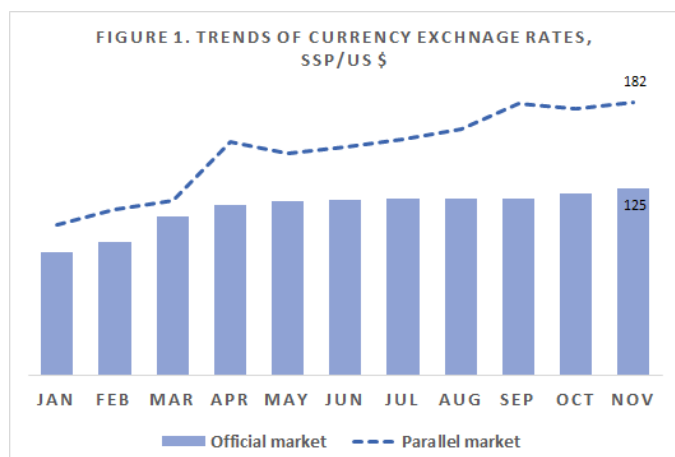
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Parallel market exchange rate for USD stood 46 percent higher than official rate

In Juba, exchange rate between US Dollar and SSP continued to remain at elevated levels. In November 2017, one US Dollar was exchanged at SSP 182.16 in Juba parallel market, while the official rate was 125 SSP. The exchange rate was higher by 2.2 percent and 2.7 percent respectively in parallel and official markets compared to the previous month. Compared to one year ago, the exchange rate increased by 117 percent in parallel market and by 75 percent in official.

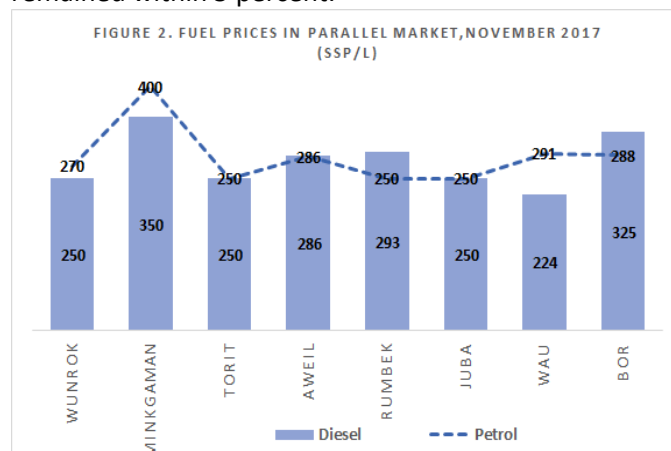


Source: Bank of South Sudan (Official) and WFP (Parallel)

Improved availability of fuel and decrease in prices in most markets

In November 2017, the prices of petrol and diesel have decreased in many monitored markets. The decrease in prices in Juba and nearby markets was most likely due to improvements of availability associated with removal of subsidies. Following information about the removal of subsidies, Juba market benefited relatively from improved availability but at a price of one US Dollar/L or equivalent SSP as per parallel market exchange rate. However, fuel sales along Juba roads continued to exist at a price of SSP 250/L. The end of rainy season resulting in better access to crossing points and transport were among the factors for markets closer to Sudan border. Compared to October 2017, petrol price has decreased in Juba (7 percent), Rumbek (9 percent), Torit (23 percent) and Wunrok (33 percent). Markets like Aweil, Yida, Bunj

and Mingkaman showed stability where price changes remained within 5 percent.



Source: WFP

Compared to a year ago, fuel prices have increased in all markets; lowest increases were observed in Agok (64 percent for diesel) and 35 percent for petrol) and the highest in Mingkaman (578 percent for diesel and 560 percent for petrol).

Most markets witnessed seasonal price stability or decreases for key staple cereal

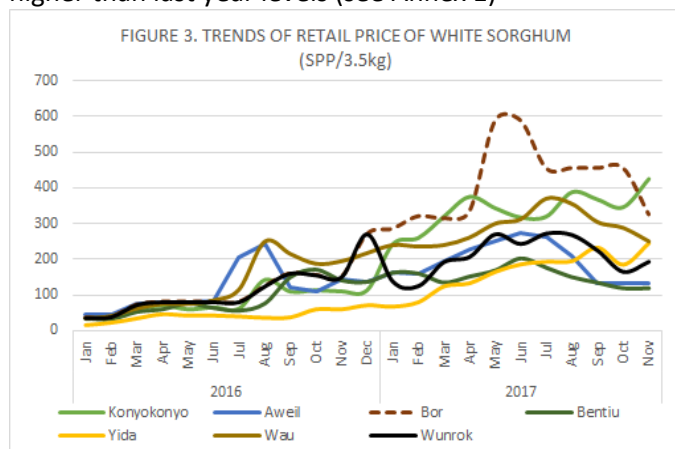
The retail price of key staple cereal, sorghum, decreased in half of the monitored markets while it remained stable in a quarter of the markets, compared to October 2017. The decrease in price of sorghum was within seven to 13 percent in Rumbek, Wau and Wunrok. Similarly, Agok, Bor, Torit and Bunj witnessed price decreases of 27 to 38 percent. Prices remained stable in some markets such as Aweil, Bentiu and Kapoeta South. On contrary, few markets such as Wunrok, Juba and Yida experienced price increases of 17 to 32 percent against October 2017. Despite these seasonal changes, sorghum prices increased at least by 200 percent in Yida, Rumbek and Juba compared to one year ago while the increases were within 20-60 percent in other markets (see Annex 1).

The prices of substitutes to sorghum (maize grain, maize flour, wheat flour and rice) have shown mixed trends. Except in Bor (maize flour), Juba (wheat flour) and Rumbek (wheat flour), the rest of the markets experienced stability and decreases of prices compared

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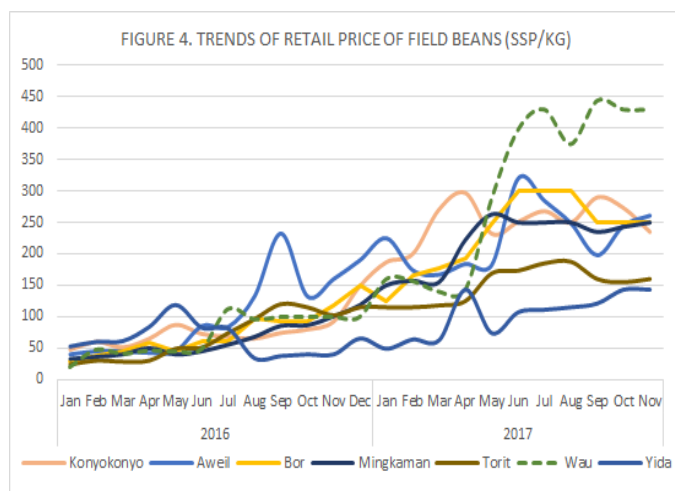
to October 2017. However, prices stood significantly higher than last year levels (see Annex 1)



Source: WFP

Stability in field beans, increase in cooking oil prices

In Juba and Bentiu, field beans price has decreased by 14 percent and 46 percent respectively, compared to October 2017. On contrary, Aweil and Wunrok markets experienced price increases of 7 percent and 12 percent, respectively. All other monitored markets showed stability in prices, with changes within 5 percent. Unlike field beans, the price of cooking oil has increased in half of monitored markets, ranging from 13 to 20 percent in Bor, Mingkaman and Bunj whilst the increase was the highest in Yida (60 percent) and Wunrok (78 percent) compared to October 2017.

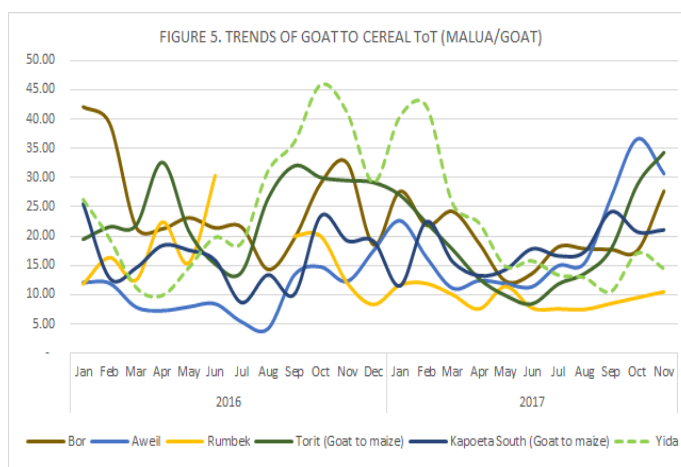


Source: WFP

Terms of Trade (ToT): Purchasing Power

Goat to sorghum: Despite the overall seasonal sorghum price stability, goat to sorghum ToT declined in Juba (31 percent), Aweil and Yida (each 16 percent) and Wunrok (13 percent) compared to October 2017. The decrease in Juba was a combined effect of drop in goat price and soared sorghum price. In Wunrok, increase in sorghum price led a ToT to decrease while in case of Aweil, a decrease in goat price was the reason for the worsening of ToT. On contrary, a drop in sorghum price and increased goat price in Bor, Torit, Rumbek, Wau and Mingkaman have resulted in an increase of ToT by 10-20 percent against the preceding month. Compared to one year ago, ToT has deteriorated in Bor (15 percent), Rumbek (13 percent), Juba (50 percent) and Yida (65 percent) while it has improved in Aweil, Torit, Kapoeta South and Wau. In November 2017, one average goat fetched 10-20 malua of cereal in Rumbek, Wau,

Mingkaman, Yida and Juba while it fetched 21-33malua in Bor, Aweil, Torit and Wunrok markets.



Source: WFP

Wage to sorghum: In Juba, ToT has deteriorated by 35 percent due to drop in wage and increased sorghum price. ToT also deteriorated in Aweil (8 percent) and Torit (19 percent), mainly due to a fall in wage compared to October 2017. The ToT has improved in Wau (30 percent) and Bor (57 percent) mainly as a result of decreased cereal price and increase in wage rate. Compared to

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November 2016, ToT stood lower in Juba and Bor; while it showed improvement in Aweil, Torit and Wau. A daily wage fetched 0.70-1 malua of sorghum in Juba, Aweil, Wau and Bor. In Torit, it fetched 2.38 malua of maize grain.

Food Security Outlook

In the last two months, prices of staple food remained stable which had prevented further deterioration of households' purchasing power. In the coming month,

there will be an increase in demand of food items to celebrate festivities (Christmas and New Year). Furthermore, the devaluation of Sudanese currency (effective from January 2018) is likely to have an effect on prices of food supplies from Sudan through cross border trade. It is thus likely to cause an increase in prices of food commodities mainly in major urban centers. As a consequence, the purchasing power of resource constrained poor and very poor households will be further eroded making them more vulnerable.

Table 1: Retail prices by market and month-on-month price changes-November 2017

	Lowest Price			Highest Price		
	Market	SSP	M-on-M (%)	Market	SSP	M-on-M (%)
White sorghum (3.5KG)	Bentiu	119	0	Mingkaman	524	-8
White maize(3.5KG)	Aweil	2	-8	Juba	388	-3
Wheat flour(KG)	Wau	130	-18	Yida	493	-2
Maize flour (KG)	Aweil	71	0	Bor	220	10
Field beans (KG)	Bentiu	134	-46	Wau	430	0
Cooking Oil (L)	Aweil	146	4	Yida	800	60
Groundnuts (KG)	Rumbek	98	-35	Juba	360	0
ToT* (goat to sorghum)	Rumbek	11	11	Torit	34	19
ToT* (wage to sorghum)	Aweil	0.67	-8	Torit	2.38	-17
Petrol** (L)	Rumbek	250	-9	Yida	403	1
Diesel**(L)	Wau	224	-14	Bor	325	48
*ToT in malua			** Parallel market price			

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ANNEX 1: Commodity prices by market and trend of price changes (November 2017)

		SSP	Price Change (%)									SSP	Price Change (%)					
	Major Commodity	Nov	1M	3M	1Y	1M	3M	1Y			Major Commodity	Nov	1M	3M	1Y	1M	3M	1Y
Konyokonyo	White Sorghum	425	23	10	286	▲	▶	▲	Yida	White Sorghum	245	32	26	308	▲	▲	▲	
	White Maize	388	-3	-3	245	▶	▶	▲		Rice	490	-2	-2	202	▶	▶	▲	
	Field Beans (Janjaro)	235	-14	-6	154	▼	▶	▲		Vegetable oil	800	60	39	233	▲	▲	▲	
	Maize flour	157	-17	-16	142	▼	▼	▲		Wheat flour	493	-2	52		▲	▲		
	Wheat Flour	149	11	-19	71	▲	▼	▲		Petrol	403	1	26	55	▶	▲	▲	
	Vegetable oil	210	-5	4	14	▶	▶	▶		Bor	Maize flour	220	10	22	66	▲	▲	▲
	Petrol	250	-7	-33		▼	▼				Field Beans (Janjaro)	250	0	-17	113	▶	▼	▲
	TOT (wage to sorghum)	0.74	-35	-33	-28	▼	▼	▼			Wheat Flour	150	-25	18	36	▼	▲	▲
Kapota South	White Maize(Grain)	350	0	-18	92	▶	▼	▲	Mingkaman		Vegetable oil	270	13	-5	125	▲	▶	▲
	Field Beans (Janjaro)	250	0	56	178	▶	▲	▲		Rice	248	24	11	91	▲	▲	▲	
	Vegetable oil	200	0	0	65	▶	▶	▲		Petrol	288	31	46	476	▲	▲	▲	
	Wheat Flour	120	0	-16	29	▶	▼	▲		Rumbek	Maize flour	182	1	-17	73	▶	▼	▲
	Maize flour	140	0	-7	-3	▶	▶	▶			Field Beans (Janjaro)	250	3	0	148	▶	▶	▲
	TOT(Goat to maize)	21	2	21		▶	▲				Wheat flour	215	-1	1	105	▶	▶	▲
Aweil	White Sorghum	132	0	-37	-7	▶	▼	▶	TOT (Goat to sorghum)		19	19	112		▲	▲		
	Field Beans (Janjaro)	261	7	5	63	▲	▶	▲	Vegetable oil		460	15	28	217	▲	▲	▲	
	Wheat Flour	132	2	32	15	▶	▲	▶	Petrol	400	4	-14	530	▶	▼	▲		
	Vegetable oil	146	4	-6	2	▶	▶	▶	Rumbek	White sorghum	420	-7	-3	68	▼	▶	▲	
	Rice	240	3	20	85	▶	▲	▲		Maize flour	196	1	35		▶	▲		
	Petrol	286	-2	17	154	▶	▲	▲		Field Beans (Janjaro)	192	-4	-9	75	▶	▶	▲	
Wau	White Sorghum	250	-13	-30	28	▼	▼	▲		Wheat flour	400	33	34	264	▲	▲	▲	
	White Maize(Grain)	210	-13	-44	-2	▼	▼	▶	TOT (Goat to sorghum)	10.5	11	40	-13	▲	▲	▶		
	Field Beans (Janjaro)	430	0	15	330	▶	▲	▲	UNIT OF MEASUREMENTS									
	Wheat Flour	130	-18	-7	107	▼	▶	▲	Sorghum/maize/cassava		3.5kg							
	Vegetable oil	300	0	7	150	▶	▶	▲	Maize flour		kg							
	Diesel	224	-14	-10	189	▼	▶	▲	Field beans/Groundnuts		kg							
	Petrol	291	21	27	258	▲	▲	▲	Rice		kg							
Wunrok	White sorghum	193	17	-28	29	▲	▼	▲	Wheat flour		KG							
	Maize flour	80	-11	-33	-40	▼	▼	▼	Vegetable oil/Petrol/Diesel		L							
	Field Beans (Janjaro)	321	12	-2	173	▲	▶	▲	TOT		# of malwa per goat or daily wage							
	Wheat flour	200	0	12	82	▶	▲	▲										
	Rice	250	18	20	92	▲	▲	▲										
	Petrol	270	-33	1		▼	▶											
	Symbol Key																	
▲	Prices increase above normal																	
▼	Normal price changes																	
▶	Prices decrease below normal																	
▲ Price increases above normal ▶ Normal price changes ▼ Price decreases below normal																		
Price fluctutation is considered normal if the price change is 5% within one month, 10% within 3 months and 20% within one year																		