MARKET PRICE TRENDS

Month: Sept to Nov 2019

Exchange Rate: The South Sudanese currency against one USD currency continued to drop since seven years back. In Juba, the average exchange rate for three months of September to November 2019 was 315 ssp per one US Dollar in the parallel market, while the official rate was 159.40 per US Dollar, compared to 159.88 and 159.91 SSP respectively, in the previous month.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) for South Sudan October 2019.

South Sudan annual consumer price Index increased by 170.5 percent from October 2018 to October 2019. The increase was mainly driven by high price in food and non-alcoholic beverages.

The annual consumer price index increased in Juba by 97.4 percent, in Malakal by 352 percent and Wau by 178.3 percent from October 2018 to October 2019.

The South Sudan monthly consumer price index increased by 3.5 percent from September 2019 to October 2019. The monthly consumer price index increased by 2.9 in Juba, by 10.6 in Malakal, and by 2.3 in Wau.

Figure 1.2, Annual and Month-on-month index growth in Juba and Wau, Oct 2019.

Source: NBS CPI 2019.
Annual consumer price index.

The annual growth of consumer price index for South Sudan increased by 170.5 percent in October 2019 compared to 41.8 percent for October 2018. Food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 188.5 percent from October 2018 to October 2019, while the prices for health increased by 41.5 percent and restaurants and hotels increased by 52.9 percent over the same period. The high prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages were mainly driven by higher price of oil and fats.

Monthly consumer price index.

The monthly consumer price index increased by 3.5 percent between September 2019 to October 2019 over this period the price for food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 4.1 percent and health increased by 10.7 percent.

The increased of price for food and non-alcoholic beverages was mainly caused by high price of beverages.

Figure 3,4. Annual and Month-on-month growth, Oct 2019.

Source: NBS

South Sudan states market price are mainly monitored periodically every week to determine food availability and households' ability to access food.

Cereal prices: Staple cereal prices and other food items was shown in figure 5 in the month of November 2019. Compared to September 2019, prices of sorghum and maize grains has increased in Jonglei and greater Central Equatoria by 25 percent to 13 percent, while it has remained stable in other markets within the country. The price of maize flour has increased in Jonglei by 100 percent. In the same market trend, Western Equatoria state market has witnessed a significant decrease by -31 percent of sorghum prices over the last three months as compared to other states. Maize prices in Western Equatoria state market decreased by -41% in the last three months as compared to the previous months (Figure 2). The price of field beans increased in three months of monitored markets, in Jonglei 100 percent and former Upper Nile was 100 percent; while it remained stable in the remaining markets. Compared to last year, prices of cereal as well as field beans increased significantly in all monitored Markets.
Fuel Prices: Market prices for fuel increased in most of the monitored markets by more than 11 percent. In Jonglei state, diesel price increased by 95 percent, while petrol price increase ranged from 56 to 88 percent in November 2019.
As can be seen in the figure 9 and 10 below, the larger increase in the livestock price was noted in the greater Upper Nile market by a rise of 10 percent per bull, 79 percent per goat and 53 percent per sheep. A lowest decrease was observed in Warrap state Markets of by -10 percent per bull, was noted -8 percent per goat and 18 percent per sheep.

The increasing prices of livestock could be due to high demand for cereal for food among the people, the pastoralist sell more animals to acquire enough cereals to meet their food demands. The situation of livestock market prices in greater Upper Nile and Warrap states were different to what has been experienced in the other markets. In the greater Upper Nile State, prices of cattle, goats and sheep declined by 10 percent for a bull, 79 percent for a goat and 53 percent for a sheep due to increase in supply of livestock in the market. Similarly cattle and goat prices remain relatively stable in Warrap state market as from Sept to Nov 2019.

*Figure 9: greater Upper Nile State livestock price in selected market (Sep to Nov 2019)*

*Figure10: Warrap State livestock price in selected market (Sept to Nov, 2019)*

*Source: Climis*
Livestock to sorghum Terms of Trade (TOT) has shown mixed trends in most markets. As indicated in figure (11), goat to sorghum TOT in Central Equatoria state has increased by 68 percent. This has put the livestock households in a disadvantageous position in terms of the amount of Kgs of sorghum that they get from selling a goat. They were receiving persistently more amount of sorghum in exchange for a goat. While in that same period the TOT markets had shoot up in favour of livestock owners and has improved food security situation of most pastoral households.

Figure 11: CE state TOT of Sorghum, to Goat price selected market (Sep to Nov 2019)

Source: Climis