

Rapid Transport Market Assessment

The Impact of 'Truckjackings' in Darfur

Executive Summary:

- Year-over-year transporter price increases for 2007 – 2008 ranged from 8% to 27% depending on the route; routes around Nyala and Geneina were the most affected
- 51% of 'truckjacking' incidents occurred on the Ed Daein – Zalingei route
- 22% of surveyed transport companies discontinued services to Darfur due to insecurity
- Commodity prices in Darfur increased by twice the national inflation rate on average; 'truckjacking' incidents cannot be excluded as a contributory factor

UNJLC was requested to conduct a rapid assessment on the incidence of commercial trucks being hijacked in the Darfur region and the effects on transporter and market pricing. The following summary highlights the geographical areas most affected and evaluates the impact on commercial supplies to Darfur. Detailed survey results are available upon request.

Methodology: Survey commercial transporters and local vendors to assess whether the reported 'truckjackings' were affecting transport availability, transport pricing and the local market prices for commodities.

Survey 01: Assessment of Hijacking Incidents

On the available data, 'truckjacking' incidents in Darfur between November 1st, 2007 and January 31st, 2008 were mapped.

Key Findings:

- 39 incidents were reported along 14 routes.
- 51% of the incidents took place on the Ed Daein – Zalingei route (approximately 450 kms), specifically 33% was between Ed Daein and Nyala and 18% between Nyala and Zalingei.
- Two of the nine transporters involved in known incidents, or 22%, indicated that 'truckjackings' over the last 12 months have directly resulted in discontinuing transport services to Darfur.

Survey 02: Routes and Rates Survey

15 transporters were surveyed and asked to provide their average rates for January 2007 and January 2008 per metric ton on specified routes. Nine routes with three or more transporters per route were analyzed.

Key Findings:

- The transporters surveyed estimated a 10% average increase from January 2007 – January 2008 and expect a further increase of 15% – 18% by January 2009.
- Specifically, in Khartoum and El Fasher, the 2007 – 2008 estimated increase was 8%.
- Transporters from El Geneina and Nyala indicated a 27% increase from 2007 to 2008.

Survey 03: Vendor Survey

29 vendors were surveyed in the Nyala, El Fasher and El Geneina towns regarding prices and availability of commodities. January 2008 prices were compared with January 2007 prices when possible.

Key Findings:

- Availability was reported to have decreased for most commodities in Nyala and El Geneina, while availability in El Fasher was reportedly not affected.
- Price increases were as follows:

Commodity	Price Increase %
Groceries	16
Fresh Produce	26
Furniture	11.6
Fuels, Oils, and Vehicle parts	23
Clothing	17
Building Materials	15
NB: Sudanese Inflation Rate	5.3% ¹ - 9% ²

¹ CIA World Fact Book, 2 Feb 2008: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/su.html#Econ>
² IndexMundi, 2 Feb 2008: [http://www.indexmundi.com/sudan/inflation_rate_\(consumer_prices\).html](http://www.indexmundi.com/sudan/inflation_rate_(consumer_prices).html)