



WFP DPR Korea Country Brief

Highlights

- With the support of United Nations Central Emergency Response Funding (CERF) resourcing, WFP completed four months of nutrition assistance to prevent undernutrition that supported 143,000 women and children in 23 drought-affected counties.
- In December, WFP reached 578,480 women and children and delivered 1,700 mt of fortified food.
- WFP will implement a Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (T-ICSP) from January – December 2018. The T-ICSP has a budget of USD 52.64 million.

WFP Assistance

Nutrition Support for Children and Women and Strengthening Community Capacity to Reduce Disaster Risks	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6-month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)* ¹
PRRO 200907 and T-ICSP** (July 2016 - Dec 2018)	128.6 m	45.72 m (36%)	13.51 m (52%)

*January – June 2018

Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan**



WFP's protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO 200907) was launched in July 2016 to provide nutrition support for children and women, and to strengthen community capacity to reduce disaster risks. In line with WFP's new strategic planning process, the ongoing PRRO 200907 has been adjusted to reflect the new programme structure and WFP plans to implement a Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (T-ICSP) for a year starting from January 2018.

The main areas of assistance for PRRO 200907 are:

- Nutrition assistance to stabilize or reduce undernutrition, including micronutrient deficiencies among young children, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers.
- Disaster risk reduction (DRR) to address livelihood assets, enhance resilience and reduce risks from disasters and shocks faced by food-insecure communities and households.

In addition, WFP will provide emergency response assistance as needed (mainly for floods and droughts).

WFP's operation contributes to the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 - Zero Hunger, SDG 17 - partnerships and to the outcomes of the United Nations Strategic Framework for DPR Korea (2017-2021). The needs identified in the PRRO are reflected in the Needs and Priorities document as presented by the Humanitarian Country Team in DPR Korea.



Credit: WFP/Bushra Rahman
Caption: A WFP beneficiary mother in Nampo, DPR Korea who received WFP's fortified cereals until her baby was six months old. To address the first 1,000 days of life of a child, targeted pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers are provided with fortified cereals containing important micronutrients, fats and proteins vital for a child's cognitive and physical development.

¹ 6 month net funding requirements as per the country office pipeline.

In Numbers

10.3 million

people in DPR Korea are believed to be undernourished

578,480
people assisted
December 2017



Main Photo Credit: WFP/Colin Kampschoer
Caption: Children in a WFP-supported institution in South Pyongan Province.

December 2017

Operational Updates

- WFP completed four months of nutrition assistance that supported 143,000 young children, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers with a provision of fortified food in the 23 drought-affected counties. Utilizing United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) rapid response funding of USD 2.5 million, WFP implemented this nutrition assistance to prevent undernutrition and further deterioration of the health and nutrition status of the targeted beneficiaries in the drought-affected areas. Nine of those counties, which are WFP's regular operational areas, will continue to receive support in 2018.
- In December, WFP reached 578,480 women and children in 74 counties through nutrition assistance (both regular nutrition support and drought assistance) and delivered 1,700 mt of fortified food.
- Autumn disaster risk reduction activities were completed while food distributions are planned for January 2018. Considering recurring disasters, especially floods, WFP implemented seven projects during autumn. The objective was to prepare for and mitigate disaster risks by empowering communities, intended to improve agriculture and food security in the targeted areas. Activities included tree planting, rehabilitation and reconstruction of waterside embankments and reservoirs.
- Limited resources forced WFP to suspend assistance to 190,000 children in kindergartens twice in 2017 (from May - July and November to the present). WFP will resume assistance for children in kindergartens as soon as adequate funding is confirmed.

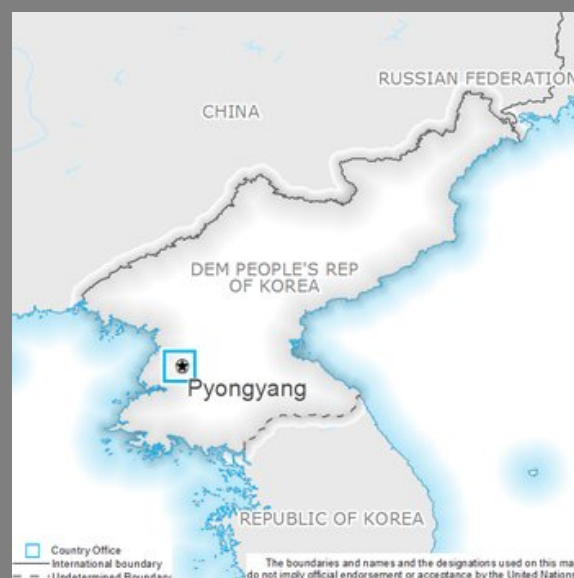
Challenges

- Critical funding shortfalls remain the principal challenge.
- Regardless of the exemptions for humanitarian assistance provided under the United Nations Security Council resolutions, indirect effects are noticeable on WFP's operations (unstable banking channels limiting access to cash for operation costs; unforeseen delays in logistics and international procurement as a result of misinterpretations of sanctions by the suppliers and transporters).
- At least six months of lead time is required for international purchases of food commodities and raw materials and shipment to DPR Korea.

Partnerships

- WFP is part of the Humanitarian Country Team and co-chairs the DPR Korea Food Security and Agriculture Sector Working Group and the Nutrition Sector Working Group.

Country Background & Strategy



DPR Korea has experienced widespread food shortages since the mid-1990s. Despite efforts to achieve agricultural self-sufficiency, the country does not produce enough food to feed its population. Production is largely constrained by insufficient arable land, over-cultivation, a scarcity of quality fertilisers and pesticides, low mechanisation and low levels of irrigation. These factors leave the agricultural system prone to climate shocks. In 2017, DPR Korea had a Global Hunger Index score of 28.2, classified as "serious".

The 2012 National Nutrition Survey confirmed that the nutritional status of children had improved since 2009, with chronic malnutrition falling from 32.4 to 27.9 percent. Nonetheless, WFP's 2014 mid-term review of PRRO 200532 revealed that 81 percent of DPR Korea's population do not have acceptable diversity in their diet. People consume 25 percent less protein and 30 percent less fat than required for a healthy life, according to international standards. One in three children under 5 years of age, and almost half of the children between 12 and 23 months of age, are anaemic. In 2015, WFP conducted a food security and nutrition assessment among children in WFP-supported nurseries, which showed that a 25.4 percent stunting prevalence in WFP-supported nurseries is at moderate to high levels.

WFP provides nutrition assistance to children and women, and implements food for disaster risk reduction (FDRR) activities.

WFP has been present in DPR Korea since 1995.

Population: 24.8 million

Chronic malnutrition: 25.4% of children between 6-59 months in WFP-assisted nurseries

Donors in 2017

Canada, CERF, France, Liechtenstein, Russian Federation, Switzerland and Private Sector

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/korea-democratic-peoples-republic