



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

## WFP DPR Korea Country Brief August 2018



### Operational Context

DPR Korea has experienced widespread food shortages since the mid-1990s. The country does not produce enough food to feed its population, largely because of insufficient arable land, scarcity of quality inputs, low mechanisation and inadequate irrigation. Recurring natural disasters affect agricultural production every year, leaving a larger number of people food insecure. In 2017, DPR Korea had a Global Hunger Index score of 28.2, classified as "serious". Eighty-one percent of the population lacks dietary diversity. One in three children under five years of age are anaemic.

In 2018, WFP is providing nutrition assistance to children and women; aims to implement Disaster Risk Reduction (FDRR) activities and will provide food assistance to crisis-affected people if needed. WFP has been present in DPR Korea since 1995.



Population: **25 million**

Life expectancy: **70.34 years**

Income Level: **Low**

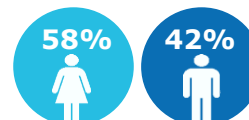
Chronic malnutrition: **28% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**1,060 mt** of food distributed

**US\$ 11.93 m** six months (Sep 2018– Feb 2019)  
net funding requirements

**457,760 people assisted**  
in August 2018



### Operational Updates

- WFP distributed 1,060 mt of fortified food to 457,760 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under-five in nine provinces.
- Capacity building workshops for 11 WFP supported factory staff were completed in August. The workshops covered basic food safety and quality management, and warehouse and stock management. WFP organized the workshops to ensure compliance and food safety requirements for WFP's locally produced fortified foods.
- WFP's Food Security Assessment preparation was ongoing in August; data collection has been scheduled to start in November 2018.
- WFP, the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection and the National Coordinating Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a discussion on design and implementation of sustainable disaster risk reduction projects for the upcoming seasons and outlined a maintenance strategy for the projects. DPRK is prone to natural disaster and climatic shocks. Sustainable DRR projects are vital to improve resilience and food security situation in the country.
- During the last week of August, excessive rainfall caused flash floods in two south-western provinces, i.e. North and South Hwanghae. According to the Government, more than 10,000 residents were displaced, 76 people died, 75 are missing and many more injured. More than 11,000 ha of agricultural lands with crops were destroyed and more than 1,800 houses, bridges, roads and public property damaged or destroyed. WFP, along with the Humanitarian Country Team is monitoring the situation closely.

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Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/korea-democratic-peoples-republic](http://www.wfp.org/countries/korea-democratic-peoples-republic)

## Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Sep 2018 – Feb 2019 Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
<b>52.39 m</b>	<b>23.6 m</b>	<b>11.93 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Vulnerable people in disaster-prone areas have access to food all year round.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**

- Food assistance for disaster risk reduction (community asset creation and disaster risk reduction support activities through food assistance for assets - in-kind food transfer modality in the targeted project counties.)

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable people in disaster-prone areas have access to food all year round.

**Focus area:** Crises Response

**Activities:**

- Provide in-kind food assistance to crises affected people (immediate response / rehabilitation and recovery)

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Children and pregnant and lactating women in DPRK have improved nutrition by 2030.

**Focus area:** Nutrition

**Activities:**

- Nutrition assistance to children and pregnant and lactating women, capacity strengthening of local food production (650,000 children in child institutions and pregnant and lactating women are provided with a ration of fortified biscuits and cereals each month, in sixty counties of nine provinces; capacity strengthening is provided to local food production factories to improve quality and safety of locally produced food.)

- In terms of supply chain management, six months lead-time is required for international procurement and shipping. Delays in procurement and shipping of food commodities due to the sanctions continue to hinder timely implementation.
- Data collection continues to be a challenge; but this needs to be understood within the country context. UN Sector Working Groups have been established to share information where WFP is an active partner.

## Partnerships

- WFP Co-Chairs the Food Security and Agriculture Working Group. Its main aim is to share information and provide real time technical forecast of crop growing season. Additionally, it acts as a coordinating body during emergencies for assessment and response. Participants include FAO, Deutsche Welthungerhilfe, Concern Worldwide, Premiere Urgence, Food Security Office, SDC, and Italian Development Cooperation.
- WFP Co-Chairs the Nutrition Sector Working Group which aims to share information, develop nutrition advocacy and communication materials. It also acts as a coordinating body during emergencies for assessment and response. Participants include UNICEF, Save the Children, Deutsche Welthungerhilfe, and Triangle Génération Humanitaire.

## Donors

Canada, France, Sweden, Switzerland, Russian Federation

## Monitoring

- During August, WFP monitoring missions were conducted to the programme sites, ports, warehouses and factories. Data collection was done by the field monitors for the assessment of the project and received feedback from the field to improve programming.

## Challenges

- Critical funding shortfalls persist.
- The lack of a banking channel remains a serious challenge. To mitigate its impact, WFP minimizes the amount of in-country expenditure and procures all required food and non-food commodities internationally.