



## 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**

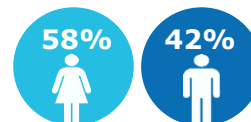
Chronic malnutrition: **28% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**363 mt** of food distributed

**US\$ 15.56 m** 2018 six months (Dec 2018 – May 2019) net funding requirements

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



## Operational Updates

- WFP distributed 363 mt of fortified food among 457,760 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under-five in nine provinces to support their nutritional needs. Due to delayed arrival of raw materials, WFP was unable to produce and distribute planned tonnage of food in November.
- WFP’s Food Security Assessment qualitative data collection from the field has been completed in November. Data analysis is underway. The tiered approached assessment has been tailored for DPR Korea and is expected to provide a snapshot of the food security situation from a food systems lens, and to inform WFP’s strategy and programme designs. The final assessment report will be published in the first quarter of 2019.
- Mid-term assessments for the ongoing 7 of 9 autumn disaster risk reduction (DRR) projects were completed during November. Project activities included tree planting, riverbed excavation, rehabilitation of embankments and agro-forestry and terracing of mountains. Mid-term assessment assured that the projects will be completed within the planned timeframe. Sustainable DRR projects are vital to minimize or avoid the losses caused by natural hazards, strengthen resilience and improve food security situation in DPR Korea as the country is prone to natural disaster and climatic shocks.
- WFP organized a field mission for representatives from the Norwegian Embassy in Beijing, the Norwegian Embassy in Seoul, and Oslo to WFP’s programme sites in Sinwon country, South Hwanghae province. The delegation visited a nursery where WFP provides nutrition support for children under-five and WFP’s disaster risk reduction projects on river excavation, embankment and reservoir construction. The delegation appreciated WFP’s efforts to make the lives of vulnerable population better through the nutrition and DRR support. Norway supported WFP’s humanitarian operation in DPR Korea until 2014.

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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\$)	2018 Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
<b>52.23 m</b>	<b>22.62 m</b>	<b>15.56 m</b>

WFP's new Interim Country Strategic Plan for 2019-2021 is under development.

### 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.)

## Challenges

- Unintended impact of sanctions on supply chain remains a major constraint. Six months lead-time is required for international procurement and shipping.
- Due to critical funding shortfalls, WFP implemented only high priority programme activities in 2018.
- 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.
- Access to valid and accurate data continues to be a challenge; but this needs to be understood within the country context. WFP closely works with the Sector Working Groups and the Humanitarian Country Team to share information and collect data from the most credible and available sources.

## Monitoring

- Monitoring missions continued throughout November to WFP programme sites, ports, warehouses and factories. WFP's field monitors and continued data collection from the visited institutions, households, county and provincial authorities for programme assessment and evaluation.

## Partnerships

- WFP co-chairs the Food Security and Agriculture Working Group. Its main aim is to share information about food security and provide technical support on crop and livestock production. Additionally, it acts as a coordinating body during emergencies for assessment and response. Sector members 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 about nutrition, develop nutrition advocacy and communication materials. It also acts as a coordinating body during emergencies for assessment and response. Sector members include UNICEF, Save the Children, Deutsche Welthungerhilfe, and Triangle Génération Humanitaire.

## Donors

Canada, France, Sweden, Switzerland, Russian Federation, UN CERF, Liechtenstein