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Contact Info

Mei Liu mei.liu@wfp.org

Country Director

Darlene Tymo

Further Information http://www.wfp.org/countries

SPR Reading Guidance

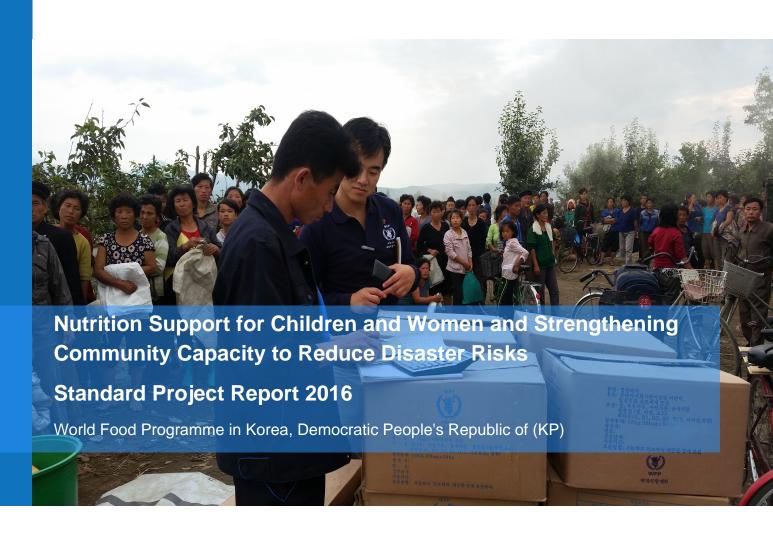






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Country Context and WFP Objectives



Country Context

Despite efforts to achieve agricultural self-sufficiency, DPRK does not produce enough food to feed its population. The country has experienced widespread food shortages since the mid-1990s. Food and nutrition security remain a significant challenge. Food consumption at household level is limited in quantity, and 73 percent of the population do not eat a sufficiently diverse diet. WFP's mid-term review in July 2014 of the ongoing operation found that the population consumes 25 percent less protein and 30 percent less fat per person than the required amount for a healthy life. One in three children aged 6-59 months, and nearly half of children aged 12-23 months, are anaemic. The Government's Public Distribution System, established over seven decades ago, continues to provide food rations, but consistently at lower levels than its target of an average of 573 grams per person per day. In 2016, DPRK had a global hunger index score of 28.6, classified as "serious" and largely unchanged from the previous year [1].

Production in DPRK is constrained by both human-induced and natural factors. Insufficient arable land, over-cultivation, low levels of irrigation, low mechanisation, and scarcity of quality fertilisers and pesticides are all underlying causes of food insecurity. In addition, inclement weather shortens the cropping season and droughts are common. Mountains and upland slopes comprise 80 percent of the country's terrain, and historic food and energy shortages have forced people to cultivate on steep slopes, as well as cut trees for fuel. As a result, the country is prone to flash floods, landslides and dangerous flows of debris, which undermine further the country's food security outlook. In 2016, heavy rainfall at the end of August in the north led to some of the worst floods the country has recently experienced, affecting 143,000 people who either partially or completely lost their homes.



DPRK's political and economic isolation from the rest of the world also negatively affects its food security outlook. During the first six months of 2016 when the protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 200532 was active, the country was under sanctions mandated by United Nations (UN) Security Council Resolutions 1718 (2006), 1874 (2009), 2087 (2013), 2094 (2013) and 2270 (2016)*. On 30 November 2016, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 2321, which strengthened sanctions on DPRK.

[1] According to the 2016 Global Hunger Index, published by the International Food Policy Research Institute.

Response of the Government and Strategic Coordination

WFP's position is unique in DPRK among humanitarian organizations. Through partnership with the Government since 1995, WFP has built a network of local partners which facilitates rapid access during emergencies, as well as monitoring access beyond that of any other agency in the country. WFP operates with the principle of "no access, no assistance", which is enshrined in the Letter of Understanding between the Government and WFP. Furthermore, local food production remains a core dimension of WFP's work in DPRK. WFP has supported local food production factories since 1998, contributing not only to food security but also to capacity development. WFP's work is aligned with the Government's strategic priorities for nutrition, food security, agriculture, social development and the environment.

WFP's activities in DPRK directly contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 2 - End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. Through PRRO 200532, and continued under PRRO 200907, WFP strives to enhance nutrition security for children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). In DPRK, more than 70 percent of the population are food insecure. Many suffer from chronic malnutrition because they do not consume sufficient essential proteins, fats, vitamins and minerals, and children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) are particularly vulnerable. WFP's provision of nutrient-dense, specialised foods helps fill the nutrition gap for these beneficiary groups. PRRO 200532 adhered to the goals of the United Nations Strategic Framework for 2011-2015 (extended to 2016); while PRRO 200907 is in line with the new United Nations Strategic Framework for 2017-2021. Both operations support WFP's Strategic Objective 2 - Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies.

Successful partnerships with other United Nations (UN) agencies and humanitarian stakeholders strengthen WFP's work in DPRK. Together with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), WFP co-chairs the Food Security and Agriculture Sector Working Group. WFP also co-chairs the Nutrition Working Group with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Under PRRO 200907, WFP will continue to collaborate on nutrition work with UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO), and work together on disaster risk reduction with FAO, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

Notably, WFP and UNICEF's nutrition programmes complement each other under the overall umbrella of Community Management of Acute Malnutrition. Under PRRO 200532, WFP implemented treatment for moderate acute malnutrition at the institutional level, while UNICEF implemented treatment for severe acute malnutrition at hospital level.

WFP also collaborates with UNICEF and UNDP to provide information and communications technology (ICT) services and support to all resident UN agencies, since there is a limited number of United Nations ICT personnel in-country. Under a business continuity plan signed by the heads of the UN agencies in DPRK, this collaboration enables UN agencies to temporarily move in to the premises of other agencies should their internet connectivity be disrupted.

Summary of WFP Operational Objectives

WFP concluded PRRO 200532 in June 2016. Upon signing a new Letter of Understanding with the Government of DPRK, WFP resumed humanitarian assistance activities in July under the new PRRO 200907. There were no major changes to WFP's focus on preventing undernutrition among women and children. In 2016, WFP received a USD 60,000 trust fund from a private donor, which is being used to strengthen the capacity of local food factories.

Relief Operation: PRRO 200532 (2013-2016), approved budget USD 195.8 million, focused on providing nutrition assistance to children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). WFP distributed fortified foods to these vulnerable groups through school and pre-school meals, and other targeted support. The specialised foods were produced in WFP-supported local factories. Though nutrition assistance was the primary focus of this operation, WFP also carried out food for community development (FFCD).



Relief Operation: PRRO 200907 (2016-2018), approved budget USD 128.6 million, continues to provide humanitarian assistance to children and PLW with nutrition support at its core. Fortified cereals and biscuits, produced at WFP-supported local factories, contain important micronutrients, fats and proteins vital for cognitive and physical development. WFP also continues to implement asset creation activities through food for disaster risk reduction (FDRR) projects. These activities are aimed at reducing the effects of natural disasters and enhancing community capacity to restore livelihoods and improve food security. They will continue to be implemented under the technical guidance of the Ministry of Land and Environmental Protection, in addition to WFP's partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. While PRRO 200907 prioritises nutrition over FDRR, the FDRR projects will always be implemented on some scale because they are in line with government priorities.



Country Resources and Results

Resources for Results

Funding for the WFP DPRK country office decreased in 2016, which is in line with the overall trend of declining funding in recent years. During the PRRO 200532 programme lifetime, WFP received USD 98.5 million which equalled roughly 50 percent of overall project requirements. In light of consistent funding shortfalls, WFP scaled back the operational scope of PRRO 200907, which commenced in July 2016. Instead of targeting 87 operational counties as under the previous programme, the new PRRO targets 60 operational counties. Based on funding trends, and given the tension and political situation in the Korean Peninsula, funding may decrease further in 2017.

WFP in DPRK continuously adjusts its operations based on available and projected funding. Taking into account the long procurement lead time of four to six months, this often results in preemptive cuts to ration sizes or coverage. For example, in December 2016 the country office reduced fortified biscuit rations in anticipation of breaks in assistance in April 2017, which were a result of funding shortages. However, these constant adjustments risk diminishing nutritional results for beneficiaries. Therefore, in preparation for the launch of PRRO 200907, WFP prepared a new prioritisation strategy, drawing lessons from previous practise. The new strategy is designed to maximise nutritional results for high priority beneficiaries, particularly children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW), in the event of funding shortfalls.

WFP continuously seeks ways to ameliorate funding shortages by adjusting its internal processes to deliver the best value for money. For example, the fleet management staff made a more concerted effort to reduce fuel costs by encouraging carpooling on journeys within Pyongyang. Five old less efficient vehicles were also sold. Wherever possible, the procurement team sought long-term agreements for regularly purchased items to save time and costs.

Until the third quarter of 2016, WFP field internet connectivity was offered via three offices in Wonsan, Chongjin and Hamhung. However, the high cost of maintaining the fibre optic network and frequent connectivity failure prompted the country office to seek alternative methods. WFP tested the use of portable dongles for internet connectivity and, after finding them effective, introduced them for staff use in June 2016. The new dongles provided cost and time savings, as field staff could access the internet wherever Koryolink (a local telecommunications network) service was available, instead of having to travel to a field office. Due to alternate connectivity options, as well as cash shortages in-country related to the United Nations sanctions on DPRK, WFP decided to close its three field offices in summer 2016. These office closures resulted in annual cost savings of USD 28,800 in rent alone.

The Government also provides significant in-kind contributions to the WFP programme, including office space which equates to annual rent savings of USD 132,842.

Achievements at Country Level

In 2016, WFP food rations helped fill the nutrition gap for more than one million people in DPRK, providing essential protein, fat and energy for the most vulnerable children, and pregnant and lactating women (PLW).

WFP made further improvements to its food rations under the new PRRO 200907, based on lessons learned from previous operations. In 2016, dried skimmed milk was added to fortified biscuits which enhanced the protein content and taste of the biscuits.

Many of WFP's achievements in DPRK cannot be captured by figures alone. Successive Letters of Understanding between WFP and the Government, under which WFP operates in-country, show increasing mutual confidence and trust. WFP has a long-established field presence in country which is unmatched in scope by other agencies. When Typhoon Lionrock caused devastating flooding in North Hamgyong province in August, WFP was the first humanitarian agency from the United Nations to arrive on the scene to deliver aid. WFP's rapid response was enabled by its longstanding partnerships in the region, notably with a factory in neighbouring Chongjin city which produces fortified biscuits.

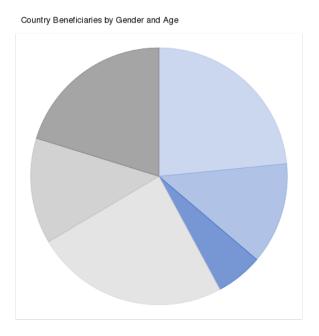
County and household level capacity strengthening was carried out formally and informally. In August 2016, WFP convened workshops for national officials in all nine provinces where WFP was operational to introduce the new PRRO, which were attended by more than 350 DPRK Government officials ranging from local to national level. Frequent visits to beneficiary households by field monitors provided opportunities to share advice on proper food storage, preparation and safety. WFP also introduced nutrition messages which were added to WFP logbooks and ration cards. Dissemination of nutrition messages helped to raise nutrition awareness amongst the children's caregivers and PLW.



Annual Country Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total	
Children (under 5 years)	312,186	324,785	636,971	
Children (5-18 years)	170,235	177,181	347,416	
Adults (18 years plus)	78,760	269,239	347,999	
Total number of beneficiaries in 2016	561,181	771,205	1,332,386	











Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country PRRO	18,895	1,119	2,635	_	4,034	26,683
Total Food Distributed in 2016	18.895	1,119	2,635	-	4,034	26,683

Supply Chain

WFP is reliant on international procurement for all food commodities since local purchase is not possible. The procurement lead time is approximately four to six months. Under WFP oversight, the Government of DPRK manages the handling, storage and transport of commodities from port to local food production factories, and eventually to the beneficiary institutions. Thus the Government contributes significantly to the programme. Through a network of WFP-supported factories across the country, WFP produces the fortified blended food (FBF) and fortified biscuits which are distributed to beneficiaries.

WFP faces several logistical challenges in DPRK. While United Nations Security Council sanctions are not intended to negatively affect humanitarian assistance, the country office faced significant logistical challenges following Resolution 2270 (2016), which may be related to the sanctions. For example, at least one shipment was delayed from May to July 2016 since private shippers were unwilling to risk delays given the required inspections mandated by sanctions for goods entering or exiting DPRK. WFP also expects to potentially face difficulties in importing new machinery and spare parts as factory reconfiguration is set to take place in 2017. More broadly, road conditions in the country's mountainous north are sometimes difficult in the winter (December to February). Electricity supply also becomes unstable in the winter, which disrupts factory operations. In addition, a lack of storage capacity forces some factories to distribute fortified foods fast, leaving limited extra stocks available. Despite these challenges, the logistics operation runs throughout the year with no seasonal halts.

In 2016, WFP carried out a range of capacity development activities and efficiency improvements. More long-term agreements were signed with suppliers to reduce procurement time. The country office also made a significant effort to improve local food production practices. WFP hired three external consultants (two food technologists and one engineer) to evaluate and suggest improvements, with many recommendations being subsequently implemented. One of the recommendations for the production process was to add soya lecithin to the fortified biscuit recipe, which decreased mixing time and thus production time. Skimmed milk powder was also added to biscuits, which improved the taste as well as the nutritional value. Machine parts in the production line were fixed to ensure proper processing during production, which resulted in improved the taste, texture, safety and acceptability of food rations among beneficiaries.

WFP also reiterated to staff at WFP-supported factories the importance of food safety and quality control management in local food production. WFP provided tools and training on the use of new quality control and production equipment for factories, which will help improve the consistency, safety and quality of products.

There were no post-delivery losses in 2016 except for some losses in local food production. WFP mitigates the risk of loss by providing pest control tools, pallets, tarpaulins, storage tents and other equipment. Stack cards were also provided to keep track of and organise commodities. WFP provides warehouse training as well as a manual on warehouse management translated into Korean for local staff. WFP staff monitor warehouse practices on a monthly basis. During each warehouse visit, checklists are completed which address quality control, storage conditions, and verify production and distribution figures. By using these checklists systematically WFP's record keeping in the above mentioned areas has improved.





Commodity	Local	Regional/International	Total
Beans	-	3,744	3,744
Maize	-	7,590	7,590
Plain Dried Skimmed Milk	-	2,047	2,047
Sugar	-	2,677	2,677
Vegetable Oil	-	1,101	1,101
Wheat	-	7,713	7,713
Wheat Flour	-	5,983	5,983
Total	-	30,855	30,855
Percentage	-	100.0%	

Implementation of Evaluation Recommendations and Lessons Learned

In 2016, the DPRK country office implemented several modifications and improvements to its programming. Many changes that were introduced under PRRO 200907 were based on lessons learned from PRRO 200532, which concluded in June 2016.

WFP completed an end of project review for PRRO 200532 in November 2015, implementing several of its recommendations. For example, the new PRRO prioritises the first 1,000 days of life, in line with review findings that proper nutrition had the greatest impact during this period. The review also found that the previous PRRO's multiple commodity basket did not have demonstrable additional impact, while complicating production. Subsequently, the food basket was simplified to two fortified blended food (FBF) cereals for the new PRRO. As disaster risk reduction activities, such as tree planting, were assessed to have positive effects on food security, the new PRRO continued relevant activities under a new Food for Disaster Risk Reduction scheme. Based on the recommendation that the country office design a new, more focused monitoring system, monitoring visits were increased under the new programme. Field monitor questionnaires were also revised to better reflect programmatic decision-making needs. For the new PRRO 200907, an updated prioritisation strategy for use during funding shortfalls was also introduced. For example, the review determined that providing rations below 66 percent of planned ration size led to sub-optimal nutritional impact. Therefore, under the new PRRO 200907, ration sizes will not be reduced by more than 34 percent even during funding shortfalls.

In April 2016, WFP also introduced for the first time standard operating procedures (SOP) for supply chain monitoring. The document consolidates and clarifies the extensive supply chain monitoring procedures already occurring. In addition, based on recommendations from evaluations conducted by external experts, the country office increased its investment in local food production in 2016.



Project Objectives and Results

Project Objectives

PRRO 200907 is aimed at preventing undernutrition among women and children through the provision of specialised foods which are rich in nutrients often missing from their diets. The average household in DPRK consumes on a regular basis a diet below acceptable levels of food diversity. This is a particularly serious problem for young children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). The programme thus prioritises and aims to provide an essential baseline of nutrition support for these most vulnerable groups. The project covers 60 counties in DPRK, reduced from the 87 covered under the previous PRRO 200532 in light of consistent funding shortfalls during that operation. PRRO 200907 also aims to support the DPRK Government in reducing hunger and undernutrition through the local production of the fortified foods which are distributed to beneficiaries, thereby enhancing local production capacity. Finally, PRRO 200907 aims to enhance food security by implementing activities to mitigate disaster risk and increase agricultural output.

Project activities planned for 2016 included:

- 1. Continued provision of nutrition support to children and PLW in the form of fortified blended food (FBF) and fortified biscuits, which contain vitamins, minerals, proteins and fats. Rations for children will be delivered through children's institutions such as nurseries and paediatric wards of hospitals. PLW will receive food rations on a monthly basis through government-run public distribution centres, using WFP ration cards.
- 2. Continued production of FBF at WFP-supported local factories.
- 3. Food for disaster risk reduction activities including embankment fortification, agricultural land protection and tree planting.



Approved Budget for Project Duration (USD)

Cost Category	
Direct Support Costs	11,625,690
Food and Related Costs	108,600,934
Indirect Support Costs	8,415,864
Total	128,642,488

Project Activities

Project activities carried out during the first six months of operation of PRRO 200907 from July-December 2016 are as follows:

Strategic Objective:

Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies (SO2)

Outcomes:

2.1 Adequate food consumption reached or maintained over assistance period for targeted households and 2.3 Stabilised or reduced undernutrition, including micronutrient deficiencies among children aged 6-59 months, preschool children, and pregnant and lactating women (PLW)

Activities:

Nutrition assistance to targeted beneficiary groups

WFP's nutrition assistance programme supported PLW, children aged 6-59 months, orphans at boarding schools and children in paediatric wards. These vulnerable groups are largely the same beneficiary groups supported under the previous programme, with the notable exception that WFP no longer targets orphanages (including baby homes and children centres) since they were observed to be receiving increased government support. However, nutrition



support for orphans at boarding schools (children 7-16 years) has continued. A prioritisation strategy is also in place in case funding shortfalls dictate a reduction of assistance. The first 1,000 days of a child's life have a significant impact on their health in the long term and is thus the main focus of WFP's assistance. Without essential nutrients during this period, physical and cognitive development are seriously and irreversibly impaired. Malnutrition can be life-threatening for children aged 6-23 months. WFP support to PLW also protects the practice of exclusive breastfeeding by providing additional nutritious food to women until their babies are ready for complementary feeding.

WFP delivered nutrition assistance through provision of fortified biscuits and fortified blended food (FBF, which are fortified cereals). These rations helped fill a vital nutrition gap by providing protein, fats, vitamins and minerals that many households do not consume in adequate quantities for a healthy life. For example, WFP's rations provided 100 percent of beneficiaries' daily micronutrient requirements. Fortified biscuits were distributed as snacks, while field monitors reported beneficiaries used fortified cereals in a variety of ways, including making bread and porridge. As a result of the local operating context, the DPR Korea country office was unable to immediately produce Super Cereal Plus according to the latest WFP food safety standards introduced in November 2015 [2]. WFP therefore decided to produce a modified recipe for PRRO 200907. The country office is in the process of assisting the Government to upgrade local food production factory capacity to meet the requirements of the improved recipe, and the initial stage of upgrades is estimated to be finalised by March 2017. In the meantime, WFP continued to produce safe and nutritious FBF using the same recipe as the previous operation, PRRO 200532.

The food rations distributed to beneficiaries were produced at WFP-supported local food production factories. In agreement with and under oversight by WFP, the Government was responsible for transporting raw ingredients from the point of entry in-country to production facilities, and subsequently to distribution points. Children received food rations at nurseries, kindergartens, hospital paediatric wards and boarding schools (orphanages). PLW received FBF rations at public distribution centres on a monthly basis, using their WFP ration cards. This distribution system proved cost-effective, with the in-country transportation and storage services provided by the Government, and some other production costs, equalling USD 7.6 million in 2015. The distribution system is also time efficient, as most children attend Government-run institutions.

WFP was largely successful in meeting its target beneficiary and food distribution figures in 2016. More targets were reached during the first six months of 2016 (when PRRO 200532 was in operation) as a result of WFP's scaling back of its programme under the new PRRO, including planned beneficiary targets, in light of consistent funding shortfalls in recent years.

In July 2016, there was a brief pause in assistance between the end of the previous PRRO 200532 and the launch of the new programme. During this period, WFP and the Government discussed the important programme adjustments under the new PRRO, as well as arrangements for an orientation on the new operation for provincial and county officials in provinces with WFP operations, and signed a new Letter of Understanding. WFP only distributed food to beneficiaries during the last week of July, which accounts for the lower than planned outputs. However, WFP was able to meet its planned beneficiary figures for the rest of 2016. Due to the implementation of emergency assistance following severe flooding in the country's north, a significantly higher percentage of beneficiaries were reached in September and October than planned (122 percent and 120 percent respectively). This additional emergency assistance accounts for the significantly higher number of beneficiaries reached under general distributions than was planned in 2016. Dried whole milk and enriched dried skimmed milk, as well as wheat and wheat flour, were used interchangeably, hence the discrepancy in some of the planned and actual figures for distributed commodities.

Strategic Objective:

Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies (SO2)

Outcomes:

2.2 Improved access to assets and/or basic services, including community and market infrastructure

Activities:

Food for disaster risk reduction (FDRR) [3]

To promote food security and community resilience against natural disasters, five FDRR projects were implemented in autumn 2016 (FDRR is typically carried out twice a year, in spring and autumn). As can be seen from the annual project beneficiary chart, a smaller number of beneficiaries were targeted through FDRR projects compared to nutrition assistance.

WFP selected projects based on site visits conducted following proposals that were submitted. Four projects focused on river bank rehabilitation (three of the projects took place in counties which were seriously affected by flooding in late August), while one was focused on tree planting. Project participants were given take-home rations of cereal (mainly maize), pulses and oil at the beginning and end of projects. WFP also provided equipment such as



gloves, pick-axes and stretchers to transport soil. WFP field monitors conducted both mid-term and final project assessments, per normal practice, and found all five projects were completed successfully and on time. Although five FDRR projects were implemented, actual beneficiary and food distribution numbers for FDRR (represented in the chart as food assistance for assets) were lower than planned in 2016 as greater priority was placed on emergency flood response and the nutrition programme.

FDRR projects not only help to protect the environment, farmland and community facilities, but also offset the negative effects of natural disasters which DPRK is prone to experiencing. Mountains and upland slopes comprise 80 percent of DPR Korea's landscape, and historic food and energy shortages have forced people to cut down trees for fuel, as well as cultivate crops on steep slopes. These factors have led to severe land erosion, leaving the country prone to natural hazards such as flash floods, landslides and dangerous flows of debris which can have a devastating effect on people's livelihoods. The additional WFP take-home rations, allocated per participant for an average of four household members, also helped improve dietary diversity. FDRR activities therefore also contributed to food security.

Strategic Objective:

Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies (SO2)

- Outcomes:
 - 2.4 Local manufacturing of specialized nutritious foods are sustained
- Activities:

Production of fortified blended food (FBF) and fortified biscuits at WFP-supported local factories

WFP supported 11 local factories to produce the fortified foods which were distributed to beneficiaries [4]. With WFP oversight, the factories produced fortified biscuits and fortified cereals (specifically corn-soy milk and cereal-milk blend). Production consistently met planned targets and there were no major losses.

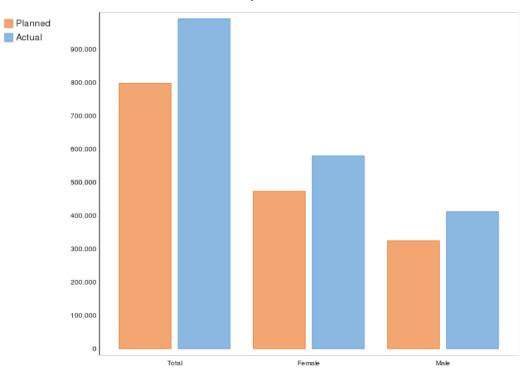
Local food production has several benefits which are in line with WFP priorities in DPRK and has been a key aspect of WFP's operations. Foremost, local production encourages long-term national food and nutrition security by enhancing the capacity of local factories and staff, mainly through training, monitoring visits and technical assessments. For example, in November and December 2016, WFP provided training sessions for WFP national staff, factory managers and factory employees on good manufacturing practices.

Furthermore, local production brought significant cost and time savings for the programme. Under agreement with WFP, the Government covered the cost of factories, warehouses, staff, electrical power and maintenance, thus contributing significantly to the operation. In turn, WFP provided raw materials (including vitamin and mineral premix), spare parts, some production equipment and packaging. With several local factories operating, WFP was also able to readily adjust the mixture and degree of production output as required.

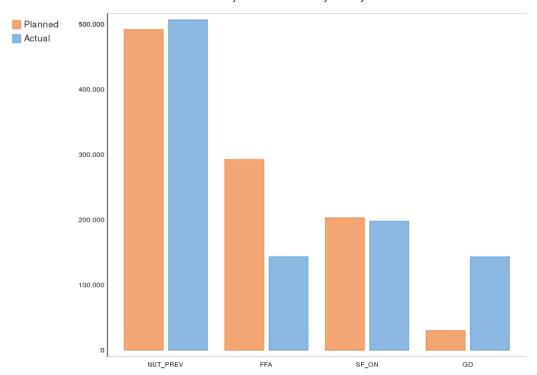
- [2] Based on local food production capacity challenges (equipment and human resource), cost-efficiency calculations and likely difficulties in importing the necessary upgraded equipment.
- [3] FDRR activities are referred to as food assistance for assets (FFA) in the tables and charts in this report.
- [4] Following PRRO 200907 Budget Revision 1 in November 2016, WFP increased the number of factories it supported from 10 to 11 in order to meet capacity needs.



Annual Project Beneficiaries

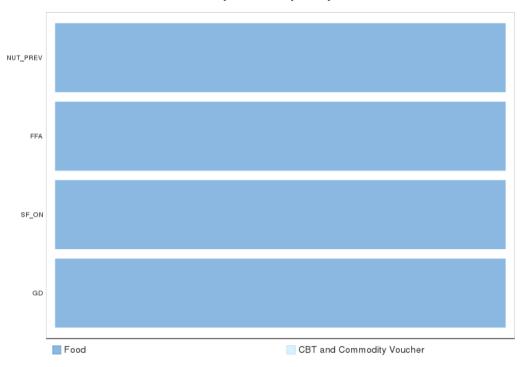


Annual Project Beneficiaries by Activity



NUT_PREV: Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition FFA: Food-Assistance-for-Assets SF_ON: School Feeding (on-site) GD: General Distribution (GD)

Modality of Transfer by Activity



GD: General Distribution (GD)
SF_ON: School Feeding (on-site)
FFA: Food-Assistance-for-Assets
NUT_PREV: Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Mainutrition



Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Beans	4,897	1,844	37.7%
Dried Whole Milk	-	924	-
Enriched Dried Skimmed Milk	1,037	-	-
Maize	8,038	3,220	40.1%
Sugar	1,890	1,531	81.0%
Vegetable Oil	1,649	743	45.0%
Wheat	10,141	3,408	33.6%
Wheat Flour	-	4,003	-
Total	27,652	15,672	56.7%

Operational Partnerships

WFP continued its longstanding partnership with the National Coordinating Committee of the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs to implement PRRO 200907. Without this strong partnership with the Government, access to WFP's operational areas would be impossible. In 2016, WFP also continued to pursue cooperation with other functional line ministries including the Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Land and Environment Protection. In addition, WFP's partnership with local food production factories contributed to strengthened local capacity.



WFP directly and indirectly cooperated with a range of other United Nations organizations and humanitarian stakeholders in DPRK. WFP continued to co-chair the food security and agriculture sector working group with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the nutrition sector working Group with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

In disaster risk reduction, WFP cooperated with FAO, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). WFP also participated in an advisory group to ensure coordination in disaster risk reduction. The World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF's work in vaccinations also complemented WFP's operations.

WFP conducted frequent bilateral and multilateral programme discussions and consultations with international organizations including Save the Children, Concern Worldwide, SDC, and IFRC. WFP staff frequently participated in workshops organised by other humanitarian stakeholders, which contributed to mutual capacity development and information sharing. These partnerships provide value for WFP operations as good nutrition is also impacted by other factors such as drinking water, health and hygiene.

Under an existing agreement, WFP continued to collaborate with UNICEF and UNDP on information and communications technology (ICT) service provision and support.

During field visits, WFP teams met with women's groups and pregnant and lactating women. These meetings offered important opportunities for information sharing on households' food security and nutritional situation. Qualitative discussions with beneficiaries, as well as officials and employees at children's institutions which receive WFP rations, are important in helping WFP understand the results of its activities and can also add to the effectiveness of its programmes. For example, field monitors reported that they were often able to correct beneficiaries' improper storage of WFP food rations during their field visits, therefore helping to prevent food from being wasted.

Performance Monitoring

WFP has the broadest monitoring reach of any humanitarian agency operating in DPRK, working under an agreement with the Government of "no access, no assistance". The country office implemented a robust process monitoring system and produced weekly and monthly internal monitoring reports, as well as quarterly reports which are publicly available. Every effort was made to ensure data collected was as accurate as possible. However, like other humanitarian stakeholders, WFP faced restrictions in collecting certain monitoring information in DPRK.

The country office collected performance monitoring data through regular field visits to beneficiary households, children's institutions, public distribution centres and WFP-supported local food production factories. These meetings with beneficiaries and county officials offered opportunities for field monitors to collect not only quantitative data, but also qualitative information through interviews and observations. These meetings provided vital insights into how beneficiaries perceived WFP operations, as needed capacity development and awareness raising (such as on the importance of nutrition), and also allowed WFP to build trust with those it serves.

As PRRO 200532 drew to a close, WFP conducted an internal end of project review which included an evaluation of monitoring and evaluation practices. Based on recommendations from the review, lessons learned and monitoring requirements demanded by the new programme, WFP streamlined and updated its monitoring processes. For example, WFP introduced focus group discussions during monitoring trips to food for disaster risk reduction (FDRR) project sites. This new initiative allows WFP to collect data on cross-cutting gender and protection indicators. Focus group discussions were held once during the implementation of FDRR projects in 2016. During the pre-assessment, checks were conducted to determine if project sites met the project requirements. The pre-assessment excluded beneficiaries and therefore no focus group discussions were conducted. Focus group discussions took place during the mid-term assessment when beneficiaries had started their construction work and tree planting. Lastly, the final assessment will confirm the results achieved by the project after it is finished. Since the time between the mid-term assessment and the end of the project is usually short, it does not allow for additional focus group discussions, explaining why the country office has collected baseline data but no end values in 2016 for cross-cutting indicators on gender and protection.

WFP has improved the objectivity of household visit selection by installing randomisation software on monitors' data collection tablets. Previously, the households to be visited were negotiated with county officials, a process which field monitors reported was possibly subject to selection bias. Questionnaires which field monitors use to collect information from beneficiaries were also streamlined, with extraneous questions removed and others clarified. A gender component was also added.



Results/Outcomes

Strategic Objective:

Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies (SO2)

Outcomes:

2.1 Adequate food consumption reached or maintained over assistance period for targeted households and 2.3 Stabilised or reduced undernutrition, including micronutrient deficiencies among children aged 6-59 months, preschool children, and pregnant and lactating women (PLW)

Activities:

Nutrition assistance to targeted beneficiary groups

Monitoring data collected on households' food consumption scores (FCS) suggests no major changes to people's food security outlook during the last six months of 2016 (the first six months of PRRO 200907). At the household level, FCS is collected, analysed and used as a proxy indicator for food access, based on the food groups that households consumed during the seven days preceding the interview. The number of households with acceptable FCS levels in December was largely unchanged from June, and remains below the project target of 60 percent [5]. There was a significant decrease in the percentage of households with poor FCS, from 23 percent in June to 5.6 percent in December. However, this may be explained by the increase in households with borderline FCS during the same period (35 percent in June to 50 percent in December). It should also be noted that the latest follow-up FCS figures were recorded in December, after the main crop harvest. Therefore the improved household dietary diversity score, indicating beneficiaries had better access to nutritious foods, must be considered against this backdrop.

The improved monitoring questionnaire used under the new operation allowed for data collection about children aged 6-59 months in WFP-assisted areas and provided valuable information on the population eligible for nutrition assistance. Field monitoring data showed 75 percent of children aged 6-59 months attended children's institutions supported by WFP (such as nurseries) and that 100 percent of these children participated in an adequate number of WFP food ration distributions, significantly exceeding the corporate target for participation.

No agreement was reached in 2016 between the United Nations (UN) and the DPRK Government to conduct a nutrition survey. As a result, no data were available on the prevalence of acute malnutrition among children aged 6-59 months. A Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey is expected to take place in 2017 which will provide data for future monitoring in this area.

Strategic Objective:

Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies (SO2)

Outcomes:

2.2 Improved access to assets and/or basic services, including community and market infrastructure

Activities:

Food for disaster risk reduction (FDRR)

WFP completed all five planned FDRR projects in autumn 2016 (activities are typically carried out in the spring and autumn). Three of the projects focused on river bank rehabilitation in counties which had been seriously affected by flooding following Typhoon Lionrock in August 2016—Hoerryong, Musan and Yonsa. WFP also implemented a river bank rehabilitation project in Ryanggang province's Samjiyon county and a tree planting project in South Pyongan province's Songchon county. These activities contributed to food security through enhancing environmental vitality, offsetting disaster risk and protecting arable land.

Strategic Objective:

Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies (SO2)

Outcomes:

2.4 Local manufacturing of specialized nutritious foods are sustained

Activities:

Production of fortified blended food (FBF) and fortified biscuits at WFP-supported local factories

WFP-supported local factories were successful in meeting their production targets, demonstrating the continued appropriateness of utilising local production. The only month in which factories did not meet their planned output was November, when production was intentionally lowered because of the availability of stock from the previous



month. Production was slightly higher than the planned targets in October and December (102 and 106 percent, respectively), as a result of increased production in anticipation of an irregular power supply in the winter months.

[5] It should also be noted that FCS targets for PRRO 200907 were adjusted from WFP corporate targets, in order to serve as a better measure of achievement in light of the operational focus on food distributions through children's institutions.

Progress Towards Gender Equality

DPRK has many notable achievements in the area of gender equality, however it is evident that fundamental inequalities persist. For example, while equal numbers of girls and boys enrol in primary and secondary school, girls comprise only 28 percent of tertiary level enrolments. Female university students also tend to pursue careers in what are considered traditionally appropriate fields for women, such as education, health and welfare. As such, managers and employees at the children's institutions that WFP supports are almost always women. There is no gender inequality index for DPRK, as official data about gender inequality are limited. WFP has also been unable to carry out detailed gender analysis due to political sensitivities.

WFP significantly enhanced its contribution towards gender equality and women's empowerment in DPRK under its new PRRO 200907. The new PRRO's gender marker of 2A indicates it has "potential to contribute significantly" to gender equality, an improvement upon the previous country programme [6]. The programme delivers direct aid to pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and WFP staff are able to listen to their concerns directly during household monitoring field visits. In line with the project prioritisation strategy, if funding shortfalls necessitate a re-distribution of assistance, PLW are the second highest priority beneficiary category after children. Women and female children comprised 58 percent of WFP beneficiaries in 2016.

As part of an overall upgrade to the project's monitoring and evaluation framework, WFP also monitors additional gender indicators under this operation (more than were monitored under the previous PRRO 200532) to help evaluate the impact of WFP's programmes on gender equality. For example, since July 2016 WFP measures not only the proportion of women in leadership positions of food for disaster risk reduction (FDRR) committees, but also the proportion of women project management committee members trained in modalities of food, cash or voucher distribution.

WFP actively encourages greater involvement of women in FDRR projects. Under PRRO 200907, each county where FDRR projects are being carried should form a project management committee comprised of at least 50 percent women. This target was exceeded in 2016. Under PRRO 200907 in 2016, 67 percent of FDRR team leaders were women, and women comprised 61 percent of project participants overall. On project sites, female participants received priority distribution of boots and gloves. Food assistance through FDRR projects has improved food security in families, particularly for women, as women are always the ones to consume less food whenever there is a food shortage at home. WFP found that women and men make decisions together regarding the use of food rations received after participating in FDRR projects.

The WFP DPRK country office also created its first ever gender action plan in November 2016. The action plan promotes the understanding and implementation of gender equality among country office staff as well as in WFP's programming. Activities such as gender training for WFP staff are planned in January 2017.

[6] IASC Gender Marker, August 2012.

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

WFP field monitors conducted regular visits to households, children's institutions, hospitals and other locations where WFP food rations were distributed. International monitors ensured that operations were running as per agreements, protocols and standards. During visits, monitors were able to confirm that WFP rations had been received, and were being stored and used correctly. Field monitors were also able to share advice on good health practices, food safety, the importance of healthy diets and general nutrition information. The visits were also good opportunities for WFP to receive feedback from beneficiaries, and to answer any questions.

In 2016, field monitors found no indication of safety problems encountered by beneficiaries while travelling to, from or at programme sites. Visits to households confirmed that women and men participating in all WFP programmes faced no safety issues.



Figures and Indicators

Data Notes

Cover page photo © WFP/Colin Kampschoer. WFP was the first United Nations humanitarian agency to arrive on the scene to deliver aid following devastating flooding in the country's north, here seen distributing fortified biscuits in Hoeryong city, North Hamgyong province in September 2016.

Overview of Project Beneficiary Information

Table 1: Overview of Project Beneficiary Information

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Total Beneficiaries	324,553	473,309	797,862	411,935	579,726	991,661	126.9%	122.5%	124.3%
By Age-group:									
Children (6-23 months)	68,113	70,890	139,003	84,475	87,924	172,399	124.0%	124.0%	124.0%
Children (24-59 months)	102,166	106,339	208,505	126,712	131,885	258,597	124.0%	124.0%	124.0%
Children (5-18 years)	110,727	115,251	225,978	137,249	142,849	280,098	124.0%	123.9%	123.9%
Adults (18 years plus)	43,547	180,829	224,376	63,499	217,068	280,567	145.8%	120.0%	125.0%
By Residence	status:								
Residents	324,554	473,308	797,862	417,506	574,155	991,661	128.6%	121.3%	124.3%

Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality

Table 2: Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
General Distribution (GD)	30,000	-	30,000	143,330	-	143,330	477.8%	-	477.8%
School Feeding (on-site)	203,070	-	203,070	197,987	-	197,987	97.5%	-	97.5%
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	292,500	-	292,500	143,438	-	143,438	49.0%	-	49.0%
Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition	492,060	-	492,060	506,906	-	506,906	103.0%	-	103.0%



Annex: Participants by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
General Distribution (GD)	30,000	-	30,000	143,330	-	143,330	477.8%	-	477.8%
School Feeding (on-site)	203,070	-	203,070	197,987	-	197,987	97.5%	-	97.5%
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	75,000	-	75,000	36,779	-	36,779	49.0%	-	49.0%
Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition	492,060	-	492,060	506,906	-	506,906	103.0%	-	103.0%

Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)

Table 3: Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)	
General Distribution (GD)	General Distribution (GD)									
People participating in general distributions	14,700	15,300	30,000	70,232	73,098	143,330	477.8%	477.8%	477.8%	
Total participants	14,700	15,300	30,000	70,232	73,098	143,330	477.8%	477.8%	477.8%	
Total beneficiaries	14,700	15,300	30,000	70,232	73,098	143,330	477.8%	477.8%	477.8%	
School Feeding (on-site)	,	,								
Children receiving school meals in pre-primary schools	96,099	100,021	196,120	93,919	97,752	191,671	97.7%	97.7%	97.7%	
Children receiving school meals in primary schools	3,406	3,544	6,950	3,095	3,221	6,316	90.9%	90.9%	90.9%	
Total participants	99,505	103,565	203,070	97,014	100,973	197,987	97.5%	97.5%	97.5%	
Total beneficiaries	99,505	103,565	203,070	97,014	100,973	197,987	97.5%	97.5%	97.5%	
Food-Assistance-for-Assets										
People participating in asset-creation activities	36,750	38,250	75,000	18,022	18,757	36,779	49.0%	49.0%	49.0%	
Total participants	36,750	38,250	75,000	18,022	18,757	36,779	49.0%	49.0%	49.0%	
Total beneficiaries	143,326	149,174	292,500	70,284	73,154	143,438	49.0%	49.0%	49.0%	

Nutrition Beneficiaries

Nutrition Beneficiaries



Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Nutrition: Prev	ention of Acute	Malnutrition							
Children (6-23 months)	68,342	71,130	139,472	65,666	68,345	134,011	96.1%	96.1%	96.1%
Children (24-59 months)	102,511	106,693	209,204	98,497	102,515	201,012	96.1%	96.1%	96.1%
Children (5-18 years)	3,862	4,022	7,884	3,710	3,865	7,575	96.1%	96.1%	96.1%
Pregnant and lactating women (18 plus)	-	135,500	135,500	-	164,308	164,308	-	121.3%	121.3%
Total beneficiaries	174,715	317,345	492,060	167,873	339,033	506,906	96.1%	106.8%	103.0%

Project Indicators

Outcome Indicators

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
SO2 Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in	fragile settings	and following	emergencies	
Adequate food consumption reached or maintained over assistance period for targeted h	ouseholds			
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score				
DPR KOREA, Project End Target : 2018.12, Monitoring checklist, Base value : 2015.11, WFP survey, Food security assessment, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP household monitoring checklist	<13.00	19.00	-	5.60
FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score				
DPR KOREA, Project End Target : 2018.12, Monitoring checklist, Base value : 2015.11, WFP survey, Food security assessment survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP household monitoring visit	<27.00	34.00	-	50.00
FCS: percentage of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score				
DPR KOREA, Project End Target : 2018.12, Monitoring checklist, Base value : 2015.11, WFP survey, WFP food security assessment, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP household monitoring checklist	>60.00	47.00	-	44.40
Diet Diversity Score				
DPR KOREA, Project End Target : 2018.12, Monitoring checklists, Base value : 2015.11, WFP survey, FSNA household checklist, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP household monitoring checklist	>4.00	4.00	_	5.40
Project-specific Project-specific	I.			



Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions				
DPR KOREA, Project End Target : 2018.12, Monitoting checklist, Base value : 2016.05, WFP programme monitoring, monitoring checklits, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, Pipeline and monitoring data	>66.00	0.00	-	100.00
Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)				
DPR KOREA, Project End Target : 2018.12, Monitoring checklist, Base value : 2016.05, Secondary data, DPRK's government report, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, Field monitoring data	>70.00	61.00	-	75.00
CAS: percentage of communities with an increased Asset Score				
DPR KOREA, Project End Target : 2018.12, WFP FDRR's monitoring, Base value : 2016.07, WFP programme monitoring, FDRR's monitoring when new PRRO will be implemented., Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP's FDRR monitoring report	>80.00	0.00	-	100.00
Prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under 5 (weight-for-height as %)				
DPR KOREA, Project End Target : 2018.12, Nutrition survey questionnaires, Base value : 2015.11, Joint survey, FSNA survey questionaires	<5.00	1.10	-	-
Percentage increase in production of fortified foods including complementary foods and special nutritional products				
DPR KOREA, Project End Target : 2018.12, Monitoring to local food production factories, Base value : 2016.07, WFP programme monitoring, Local food production factory 's monitoring, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, LFP monthly production report	>95.00	100.00	-	106.40

Output Indicators

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned	
SO2: Food-Assistance-for-Assets					
Hectares (ha) of forests planted and established	На	280	280	100.0%	
Kilometres (km) of feeder roads built and maintained	Km	15	15	100.0%	

Gender Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
KOREA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2018.12, Base value : 2016.12	>50.00	100.00	-	-
Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
KOREA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2018.12, Base value : 2016.12	<30.00	0.00	-	



Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
KOREA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2018.12, Base value : 2016.12	<20.00	0.00	-	-
Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees				
KOREA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2018.12, Base value : 2016.12	>50.00	65.00	-	-
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
KOREA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2018.12, Base value : 2016.12	>60.00	74.00	-	-

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
KOREA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2018.12, Base value : 2016.12	=90.00	90.00	-	-
Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site				
KOREA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2018.12, Base value : 2016.12	=90.00	100.00	-	-

Resource Inputs from Donors

Resource Inputs from Donors

			Purchased in 2016 (mt)	
Donor	Cont. Ref. No.	Commodity	In-Kind	Cash
Australia		Maize	-	1,840
Australia		Vegetable Oil	-	501
Canada	CAN-C-00529-05	Beans	-	1,408
Canada	CAN-C-00529-05	Wheat	-	1,127
India	IND-C-00062-01	Beans	-	968
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Wheat	-	1,985
Private Donors	WPD-C-03639-01	Maize	-	92



		Purchased in 2010		in 2016 (mt)
Donor	Cont. Ref. No.	Commodity	In-Kind	Cash
Private Donors	WPD-C-03767-01	Maize	-	828
Switzerland	SWI-C-00519-01	Sugar	-	675
Switzerland	SWI-C-00531-01	Plain Dried Skimmed Milk	-	1,167
Switzerland	SWI-C-00542-01	Plain Dried Skimmed Milk	-	400
Switzerland	SWI-C-00556-01	Plain Dried Skimmed Milk	-	480
UN CERF	001-C-01499-01	Maize	-	483
UN CERF	001-C-01499-01	Sugar	-	552
UN CERF	001-C-01499-01	Vegetable Oil	-	200
UN CERF	001-C-01500-01	Vegetable Oil	-	109
UN CERF	001-C-01500-01	Wheat	-	1,519
		Total	-	14,334