



## 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**

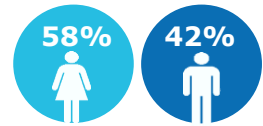
Chronic malnutrition: **28% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**1,083 mt** of food distributed

**US\$ .98 m** 2018 net funding requirements

**475,760 people assisted**  
in October 2018



## Operational Updates

- WFP distributed 1,083 mt of fortified food to 475,760 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under-five in nine provinces.
- WFP organized a study tour for the representatives of the National Coordinating Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and representatives from the Central Bureau of Statistics in DPR Korea to Lao PDR in October. The objective of this visit was to have a first-hand experience of WFP’s programme implementation process following a Country Strategic Plan. The delegation had several meetings with WFP’s National Counterparts in Laos and visited WFP’s programme activities in the field. The delegation also met WFP’s team in the Regional Bureau of Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok and discussed WFP’s upcoming Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021) in DPR Korea and way forward.
- Six autumn disaster risk reduction (DRR) projects started in October. Project activities include, tree planting, riverbed excavation, rehabilitation of embankments and agro-forestry and terracing of mountains. WFP is preparing for mid-term assessment of these projects in November. Sustainable DRR projects are vital to improve resilience and food security situation in DPR Korea as the country is prone to natural disaster and climatic shocks.
- The UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) confirmed a USD 2.7 million contribution to WFP for nutrition assistance. With CERF funding, WFP will provide nutrition support to pregnant and breastfeeding women and under-five children prioritizing the first 1000 days of life.
- As part of a task force, WFP is working with UNICEF, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and DPR Korea Ministry of Health to update Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) guidelines for DPR Korea.

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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>52.39 m</b>	<b>19.6 m</b>	<b>0.98 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**

- Funding shortfalls persist. In 2018, WFP implemented only high priority programme activities due to funding shortfalls.
- 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.
- Unintended impact of sanctions on supply chain remains a major constraint. Six months lead-time is required for international procurement and shipping.
- 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 October to WFP programme sites, ports, warehouses and factories. Data collection continued by the field monitors from the visited institutions, households and 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 and provide real time technical forecasts 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, UN CERF