



WFP DPR Korea Country Brief

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)*
PRRO 200907 (July 2016 - Dec 2018)	128.6 m	42 m (33%)	10.74 m (42%)

*August 2017 – January 2018

GENDER MARKER **2A**  PRRO 200907

WFP's protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 200907, which plans to assist 1.7 million women and children, was launched in July 2016 for a period of 2.5 years until December 2018.

The PRRO has two components:

1. Nutrition support for children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW), which aims to prevent undernutrition and reduce micronutrient deficiencies, including through the local production of fortified foods; and
2. Food for Disaster Risk Reduction (FDRR) activities which focus on mitigating the impact of natural disasters on local communities.

In addition, if food needs increase due to natural disasters such as floods or droughts, WFP will allocate resources for an emergency response.

WFP's operation contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 2, Zero Hunger, and to the outcomes of the United Nations Strategic Framework for DPRK (2017-2021).

WFP nutrition assistance is part of the Humanitarian Country Team's Needs and Priorities document, which outlines humanitarian needs and programmes by the humanitarian community in DPRK.

WFP co-chairs the DPRK Food Security and Agriculture Sector Working Group and the Nutrition Sector Working Group.

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

Highlights

- Due to funding constraints, WFP will continue providing reduced rations (66 percent of the standard ration, which is the minimum required for a nutritional impact) through the end of the year for children and pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- Since mid-July, the government-supported Public Distribution System ration has decreased to 300 grams per person per day.



Credit: WFP/Bushra Rahman
Caption: Children in a nursery in Nampo City. WFP aims to reach approximately 650,000 PLW and children every month with nutrition support, through provision of fortified food which is produced at WFP-supported local factories, and contains important micronutrients, fats and proteins vital for cognitive and physical development.

In Numbers

18 million

People in DPRK do not eat a sufficiently diverse diet

568,711
People Assisted
July 2017



July 2017

Operational Updates

- In July 2017, WFP reached 568,711 people through nutrition support and Food for Disaster Risk Reduction (FDRR) activities and delivered 1,559 mt of food assistance. WFP continued to provide children and PLW with two-thirds of standard rations (66 percent) of fortified cereals (66 g per child, 132 g per PLW) and biscuits (40 g per child).
- As of mid-July, the government-provided Public Distribution System (PDS) ration decreased from 400 to 300 grams per person per day. This is lower than the standard PDS ration, which is 573 g per person per day.

Challenges

- Funding constraints remain the major challenge in WFP operations in DPRK. A steady decrease in funding and delayed confirmations of funding significantly affect WFP operations in the country.
- It takes a minimum of six months (including procurement time, shipping and local food production) from the date of confirmation of funding to when fortified foods reach beneficiaries. Given this long lead-time, it is essential that WFP's operation in DPRK receive timely and consistent commitments from donors.

Partnerships

WFP partners with the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This partnership facilitates WFP access to counties covered by the operation. WFP supports 11 local factories, which produce fortified blended food and fortified biscuits. The Government contributes by providing factories, warehouses, staff, electrical power and maintenance. The Government is also responsible for transporting ingredients from ports to factories, and distributing fortified foods directly to WFP-supported institutions or through the PDS for PLW.

Country Background & Strategy



DPRK 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 2016, DPRK had a Global Hunger Index score of 28.6, classified as "serious".

The 2012 National Nutrition Survey confirmed that the nutritional status of children had improved since 2009, with chronic malnutrition rates falling from 32.4 to 27.9 percent. Nonetheless, WFP's 2014 mid-term review of PRRO 200532 revealed that 81 percent of DPRK'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 five 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 a 25.4 percent stunting prevalence (moderate to high levels).

In support of the Government's efforts to reduce hunger, WFP provides nutrition assistance to children and women, and implements Food for Disaster Risk Reduction (FDRR) activities.

WFP has been present in DPRK 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, Russian Federation, Switzerland

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