

TABLE 15: DPRK - AVERAGE RATIIONS IN PDS-DEPENDENT HOUSEHOLDS

Province	County	Households ed	PDS ration (corresponding to March 2019)	
			g/pp/day	kCal/pp/day
Ryanggang	Pungso	5	312	977
	Paekan	3	281	888
South Hamgyong	Rakwon	4	293	1,064
	Hungdok	4	282	1,023
North Pyongan	Gujang	3	300	1,089
	Unjon	2	300	1,088
South Pyongan	Kaechon	4	334	1,212
	Sunchon	3	302	1,095
	Anak	5	308	1,113
North Hwanghae	Bongsan	5	314	1,143
	Unpa	2	339	1,229

Source: FAO/WFP rapid Food Security Assessment, April 2019

when calories are compared, surveyed Ryanggang households in April on average receive 944 kcal/pp/day, whereas households in other provinces receive 1,115 kcal/pp/day on average.

For cooperative farmers, the situation seems to appear less challenging as they receive 2,285 kcal/pp/day on average. However, it should be noted that there are differences between farming households depending on where they live (relating to productivity of the area and cooperative). For those who live in a deficit county where local production hardly meets the consumption needs and those who have been on the frontline of natural disasters in the past few years, post-harvest distribution and overall food consumption can be substantially affected in a negative manner. In addition, the issue of food losses at household level may be more challenging given the larger amount of food distributed and the poor storage facilities.

A preliminary analysis of PDS rations to workers and officers, and post-harvest distributions to cooperative and state farmers in different provinces shows variation in the daily amount available, either in the form of grams per household member or in kcal/pp/day (see Table 14-15). However, this analysis is so far based on the April data (only 54 households) as the additional analysis from the November dataset was not available at time of writing. Further research on geographical diversity of rations and allocations is thus needed.

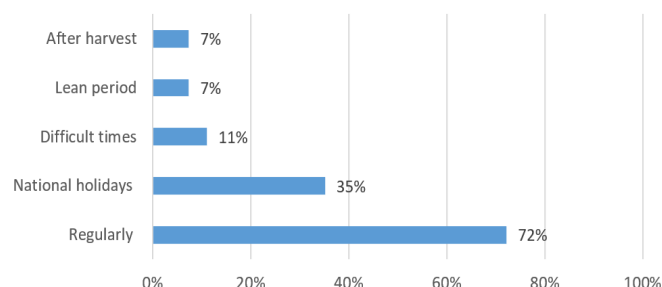
6.2 THE ROLE OF MARKETS IN HOUSEHOLD LIVELIHOODS: FARMERS' MARKETS AND STATE SHOPS

Different types of state shops exist in DPRK and serve as one of the food sources selling daily food items such as salt, oil, bean paste, eggs, other processed foods, as well as vegetables and fruits in specific seasons. Food items at state shops are sold at a fixed, subsidized price, which does not change through the year or by season. People visit the shop, show their coupons and pay in cash. Coupons work as entitlements to buy certain kinds of food items (the amounts per household are indicated on the coupon and those amounts vary by households depending on the household member occupation, hard or light labour, and number of dependents). Coupons are a means to distribute the relatively small supply of certain items as compared to the total population in the area being serviced.

In addition to state shops, markets play an important role in food systems as a place to source foods, receive cash or barter items. The relevance and importance of this mechanism has been growing relentlessly since the severe food shortages in the 1990s but remains poorly understood. One form of market is the farmers' markets, where people from farming families gather on the 11th, 21st and 31/1st of each month and sell or exchange food products (vegetables and animals), largely coming from their kitchen gardens¹². A farmers' market can be as sizable as 600-700 sellers, reflecting the widespread need among people to satisfy their food consumption needs through market exchanges, plus the need for cash to purchase other items. In November 2018, around one third of farming households reported having participated in market selling.

In April, all the surveyed households reported buying food

FIGURE 10: DPRK - FREQUENCY OF HOUSEHOLDS BUYING AT MARKETS



Source: FAO/WFP rapid Food Security Assessment, April 2019

at farmers' markets either in specific periods or on multiple occasions (Figure 10), with 72 percent visiting farmers' markets regularly to purchase food, which is consistent with the November datasets (71 percent of visited households regularly buy at market). These households are assumed to have steady access to cash. For some other households, buying at the market is only possible after their kitchen garden produce is harvested and sold so that they have bartering or purchasing capacity at the market.

Going to the market during the vegetable lean season (April-June) or during difficult food consumption periods (July-September) reflects, to some extent, the market's role in overcoming food challenges for people. The latter is only reported by PDS-dependent households living in urban areas. On the other hand, prices at farmers' markets compared to state shops are substantially higher, which may partially explain the relatively low reporting of visiting markets during periods of financial difficulties.

According to food prices collected by WFP's monitoring and evaluation (M&E) team in DPRK during regular market monitoring surveys in 2018/19, prices of food items sold in state shops are highly subsidised as indicated in Table 16. Prices of sea fish have almost tripled, and basic (and more affordable) sources of proteins such as eggs have double in price from 150 KPW/piece to 300 KPW/piece. It is worth mentioning that eggs in state shops (when available, which is often not the case) only cost 10-12 KPW. However, many interviewed households did not report eating eggs, or barely ate them and if they did, only during special holidays (such as the International Women's Day). This means that

TABLE 16: DPRK - FOOD PRICES IN STATE SHOPS

Rice	44-46 KPW/kg
Maize	24-25 KPW/kg
Wheat	24-26 KPW/kg
Potatoes	9 KPW/kg
Soy bean	25-45 KPW/kg
Bean paste	23 KPW/kg
Cabbage	10 KPW/kg
Eggs	10-12 KPW/unit
Pork meat	170-180 KPW/kg
Fish (dried)	35-80 KPW/kg
Oil	210 KPW/l

Source: Prices were collected during state shop visits in November 2018 and April 2019. All items require coupons to be purchased at subsidized prices.

even when state shops have eggs, any given household cannot access them unless they hold a special coupon that entitles them to buy eggs at low prices. A general trend of increasing market prices can be identified from this sample since last year. The prices spiked in February 2019 and have maintained that new high level in March, which is likely to cause further stress on people's access to food and worsen the overall food consumption situation.

12 - Reports collected during the Mission also indicate those products may come from slope land production or household surplus from post-harvest allocations.

TABLE 17: DPRK - FOOD PRICES AT MARKETS IN 2018, 2019 AND FOOD PRICES IN STATE SHOPS

ITEM	State Shop prices KG 18-19 KPW/	2018	2019					
		11 Apr - S. Hwanghae (Yunan) Up (urban area) 200 sellers + 400 cust. when visited	Jan - S. Pyongan (Tokchon) Prices reported in Feb for this month	21 Aug - Kangwon (Anbyon) Urban area, 100 sellers + 150 cust.	Oct - N. Hamgyong (Pohang) Urban area, 250 sellers + 300 cust.	Dec - N. Hwanghae (Pongsan) Prices reported in Feb for this month	11 Feb - N. Hwanghan (Pongsan) Up, 200 sellers + 300 cust.	21 Feb - S. Pyongan (Tokchon) Up, 200 sellers + 300 customers
Rice	45							
Maize	25							
Wheat	90							
Seaweed (dry)		1,000	500		600			1,150
Sea fish (dried)	35-80	550	600		500	550	1,400	1,500
Crab					4,000			
Pork meat	170-80	3,000	3,000	3,500	5,000			7000
Chicken meat					3,000			
Duck meat				3,500	5,000			
Eggs	10-12	150 piece		200 piece	300			
Bean paste	23		650					1,500
Soybean	25-45	700	730		800	720	1,700	1,700
Mushrooms		450						
Spinach		500				350	600	
Carrot		900	300			300	650	650
Pumpkin			200	200				450
Tomato					1,500			
Apple			700	800	1,400			1,600
Peach				600				
Grape				600				
Cabbage	10	300	300		400			600
Radish			100		300			230
Onion			500		1,000			1,150
Garlic		1,400		1,200	1,200			
Eggplant				200				
Potato	9		300	300	300	300	600	600
Chili pepper					1,600			
Cucumber			300			300	700	650

Source: WFP DPRK Country Office Market Monitoring surveys 2018-2019.

6.3 THE ROLE OF KITCHEN GARDENS

Kitchen gardens are a common household asset, mostly for those living in single-storey houses in semi-urban and rural areas. Around 90 percent of cooperative farmer households have a kitchen garden, while only 40 percent of PDS-dependent households do (according to the both November 2018 and April 2019 datasets). Kitchen gardens serve as a critical food and/or cash source where households can plant, consume and/or sell vegetables and fruits, and raise livestock such as poultry, rabbits, pigs or goats. Among the surveyed households who have a kitchen garden (both in November 2018 and April 2019), the most common vegetables are cabbages (90 percent), spinach (60-70 percent) and radish (50-60 percent). Having a kitchen garden seems to be positively associated with increased food consumption as illustrated in the chart below (Table 18).

6.4 THE INFORMAL NETWORK: SUPPORT FROM RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Family and social networks have proved to be important in DPRK, despite the fact that there is no marked wealth

difference among most of the population. Mutual aid relationships usually take place between rural farmers with higher amounts of staple food received as post-harvest allocations and from their own kitchen gardens, and their urban relatives/friends with more cash from wages but no harvest from kitchen gardens (70 percent do not have kitchen gardens or livestock).

In November 2018, 17 percent of surveyed households indicated that part of their household income came from friends and relatives, whereas 44 percent indicated receiving food from relatives or friends. Most reported food items that households received as gifts from family and friends are pulses (13 percent of total consumed at home), cereals (10 percent), cabbage and fruits (around 5 percent).

Furthermore, receiving food from people's social networks has become a relevant coping strategy, as 24 percent of surveyed households resorted to other's help during the lean season. With the nationwide decreased food availability since the last harvest, the capacity of people to help and support each other may be compromised accordingly, which will further weaken people's food access and dietary diversity.

TABLE 18: DPRK - HOUSEHOLD FOOD CONSUMPTION AND KITCHEN GARDENS

Household Type	Household Number	Food consumption score		
		Poor	Borderline	Acceptable
Total	54	46%	46%	7%
With kitchen garden	30	40%	47%	13%
Without kitchen garden	24	54%	46%	0%

Source: FAO/WFP rapid Food Security Assessment, April 2019

FOOD SYSTEMS AND SOURCES

7. FOOD SECURITY AND VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS

7.1 HOUSEHOLD FOOD CONSUMPTION

Close to one third of cooperative farming households, either living in rural or urban areas, has acceptable Food Consumption Score (FCS), against less than 10 percent of PDS-dependent households according to both the November 2018 and April 2019 assessments. Having more than two income earners in the household and a kitchen garden seems to indicate a positive effect on the FCS, although the difference is not statistically significant due to the sample size. Food consumption seems to have worsened for PDS-dependent households between November 2018 and April 2019 but appears to have remained stable for cooperative farming households.

The FCS, as a proxy indicator reflecting household level food access and dietary diversity, points to an overall alarming situation. Among surveyed households in April 2019, only 7 percent had an acceptable diet with a more frequent intake of high-protein foods and fruits (see Table 19). The other 93 percent (poor and borderline food consumption) of the households reported a daily diet that is insufficient in diversity and nutrients.

When compared to the November 2018 dataset, the food security situation is clearly worsening (as seen in Table 19), with poor food consumption rising and acceptable

consumption diminishing. Likewise, the current situation is much worse than the one reported in 2013.

The distribution of this indicator has shown obvious differences between PDS-dependent and cooperative farming households (Table 20a). Rural cooperative farmers seem to have an overall better food consumption than urban PDS-dependent households, yet consistently in both surveys 29-35 percent of cooperative farmers have poor food consumption. No surveyed PDS-dependent households' diet reached acceptable levels in April 2019, while 29 percent of cooperative farming households have acceptable food consumption. In November 2018, only 9 percent of PDS-dependent households had an acceptable food consumption, compared to 24 percent among cooperative farming households (Table 20b).

The number of income earners that contribute to the food basket seems to positively influence food consumption at the household level. The prevalence of poor food consumption among households that have more than three income earners (29 percent) is almost half of that found among households that have only one income earner (62 percent). This trend is confirmed by the November dataset.

Analysis of household expenditures from the November assessment confirms the importance of cash at household

TABLE 19: DPRK - FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE BY DATASET

Field research dates	Food Consumption Score		
	Poor	Borderline	Acceptable
November 2013 (CFSAM 2013 data)	34%	51%	16%
November 2018	37%	50%	13%
April 2019	46%	46%	7%

Source: FAO/WFP rapid Food Security Assessment, April 2019

TABLE 20A: DPRK - FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE FOR NOVEMBER 2018 DATASET

November 2018 Household type	Food Consumption Score		
	Poor	Borderline	Acceptable
PDS	37%	54%	9%
Cooperative Farmer	35%	41%	24%
Mixed (Farmer + PDS)	40%	60%	0%

Source: FAO/WFP rapid Food Security Assessment, November 2018

TABLE 20B: DPRK - FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE FOR APRIL 2019 DATASET

April 2019 Household type	Food Consumption Score		
	Poor	Borderline	Acceptable
PDS	53%	48%	0%
Cooperative Farmer	29%	43%	29%

Source: FAO/WFP rapid Food Security Assessment, April 2019

Analysis of household expenditures from the November assessment confirms the importance of cash at household level to access food and non-food items from markets and state shops. Preliminary findings indicate better food security for households with higher expenditures.

As per our analysis, the education level of the household head¹³ does not seem to be relevant in explaining the FCS. Neither does the occupation of the household head (either worker, officer or retiree), nor the size of the household. Only cooperative farmer households, as expected by the high post-harvest allocations, stand out from other professions as the only ones having acceptable food FCS (24-29 percent) although to be taken with caution given the small sample size of cooperative farmers in April assessments (10 households).

7.2 QUALITY OF DIETS

Dietary diversity is low and dependent on PDS rations and post-harvest allocations; animal protein consumption is also very low, reported mostly during national holidays (when subsidized meat is found in state shops) or anniversaries. These facts correspond well with the very low food consumption scores, especially for PDS-dependent households. Almost all surveyed households, regardless of the different wealth levels observed, had poor dietary diversity.

Carbohydrates dominate the diet (rice, maize or potatoes), often prepared in different forms (soup, porridge, fried, noodles), and supplemented by with small portions of dried seaweed, dried radish leaves, and more rarely bean paste. In addition, a typical meal contains kimchi (processed cabbage with spices, salt and vinegar) and usually seasoned with salted vegetables (either from own kitchen garden or purchased in the market when prices are low and then preserved in salted water at home).

The low food consumption score can be attributed to the very low consumption of animal proteins and low level of vegetable proteins. Most households visited consume no or only small quantities of meat, with those meals restricted to anniversaries, when guests arrive or during occasional events such as a visit to Pyongyang or feasting of ancestors. For anniversaries or unexpected visits, households either have to buy meat in the market (at prices that are 20 times more expensive than those in state shops) or to sacrifice one of their own animals. Another source of relatively affordable animal protein is eggs. However, there is a huge price gap between state-fixed prices (10-12 KPW/piece) and commercial market prices (300 KPW/piece in October 2018), which limits access to those households who do not have hens or cannot procure eggs through state shops.

13 - Everybody has a level above primary school (mandatory) in DPRK

7.3 HOUSEHOLD LEVEL COPING MECHANISMS

CONSUMPTION COPING MECHANISMS

Corresponding to the widespread suboptimal food consumption is the frequent adoption of food-related coping behaviours at the household level to mitigate food shortages. This is also verified by the higher rate of coping behaviours among households with poor food consumption compared to those with a borderline or acceptable diet.

The most frequently-adopted strategy for both PDS and cooperative farming households is "consuming less preferred foods". Among the surveyed PDS-dependent households in the November 2018 and April 2019 datasets, 89 percent and 82 percent respectively reported using this coping behaviour in the week prior to the survey while 57 percent and 76 percent of cooperative farming households respectively reported it in April and November (see Table 21). Other most frequently adopted coping strategies are "limiting the portion sizes", "restricting adult intake for children to eat", "borrowing food or relying on help from family or relatives" and "reducing number of meals". And both Nov and Apr datasets show that PDS dependents resort to these coping behaviours more often than the cooperative farming households. In several areas in Ryanggang, urban households reported that they are no longer able to depend on their relatives living in rural areas as they are affected by lower vegetable production.

LIVELIHOOD COPING MECHANISMS

Besides tackling food consumption challenges through consumption related behaviour, households also reported adopting livelihood coping strategies to overcome food related difficulties during the April assessment. Compared to the November dataset, in which no households reported adoption of livelihood-based coping strategies, we may

TABLE 21: DPRK - CONSUMPTION COPING MECHANISMS

Coping Strategy	Nov.2018		Apr.2019	
	PDS Households	Cooperative Farmer	PDS Households	Cooperative Farmer
Consuming less preferred foods	89%	76%	82%	57%
Borrowing food or relying on help from family or relatives	60%	35%	29%	0%
Limiting the portion sizes	47%	76%	57%	29%
Restricting adult intake for children to eat	40%	19%	40%	14%
Reducing number of meals	6%	0%	18%	0%

Source: November 2018 and April 2019 datasets.

TABLE 22: DPRK - LIVELIHOOD COPING MECHANISMS

Livelihood coping mechanisms used in the last 30 days due to lack of food or money to buy food		
	PDS Households	Cooperative Farmer
Spent savings	48%	29%
Borrowed money	30%	7%
Bartered or sold animals or household goods	5%	14%
Send children to eat at public institutions or relative's home	20%	14%

Source: FAO/WFP rapid Food Security Assessment, April 2019

safely assume the household resilience in food security has declined as a combined result of reduced PDS ration, rising prices at food markets and other factors.

Consistently with other results, PDS-dependent households show higher adoption rates of livelihood-related coping strategies than their cooperative farmer counterparts (except in selling livestock because they do not have any). Among both groups, spending savings has been the most resorted to short-term solution, indicating a lack of monetary resources at household level to maintain or improve their food security situation. Borrowing money is far more frequent within PDS-dependent households (most likely in urban areas) than rural farmers. On the contrary, selling livestock is the second most used mechanism in rural areas (Table 22).

7.4 SEASONALITY AND STORAGE

A marked pattern of seasonality easily emerges in DPRK when it comes to food consumption difficulties¹⁴ and food storage challenges. Both November and April datasets confirm that May and June are the peak months when food consumption challenges are reported (see Figures 11 & 12). One of the main reasons behind this is that the first season crops are not yet harvested, the winter stocks of kimchi are running out, and the lack of vegetables during these two months coupled with the consequent relatively high prices of vegetables at the market (Figure 13). The reported period where most difficulty in terms of food consumption is between April and September. Also, for cooperative farming households, October-December can be challenging as they are likely to experience a food gap while finishing their distribution from last year's harvest and waiting for the new post-harvest distribution to arrive. Another factor that affects food consumption at household level is related to storage conditions. In April, more than 75 percent of households reported experiencing difficulties in stocking food for some months of

the year. July and August are clearly the worst months to preserve stored food reserves (Figure 14), as they are the hottest months of summer with high humidity due to the rainfall and the storms. Additionally, the frequent occurrence of natural disasters during these two months including floods and heat waves have further stressed the storage condition and caused further loss. Such trends are also verified by the November dataset, with half of interviewed households recalling storage challenges in July and August.

Almost a third of households indicated no particular facilities available at home to store food (often stored in one of the rooms of the house or apartment). Additionally, 14 percent indicated open-air storage, a similar percentage mentioned traditional storage facilities, and only a few reported underground storage cells (6 percent), mostly for potatoes in Ryanggang. However, a closer look at the sample shows the differences between PDS-dependent and cooperative farming households. Food stocking challenges were mentioned by half of the visited farming households. Compared to PDS households, cooperative farmer households face higher risks of spoilage during storage.

7.5 MATERNAL, INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD NUTRITION

According to the 2017 Multi Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) carried out by CBS with technical and financial support from UNICEF, higher stunting rates are registered in older children. According to the survey, the prevalence of stunting in DPRK can be as high as 32 percent in some provinces. It also showed that young children in rural areas are more likely to be stunted than those living in urban areas.

During the April 2019 assessment, Mission teams visited eleven nurseries to better understand the daily food consumption and nutrient intake among children between 6-59 months. All the nurseries report serving

¹⁴ - A time period when households report having difficulties to get access to enough food to satisfy needs. This period is commonly known as "food gap".

FIGURE 11: PDS AND FARMING HOUSEHOLD REPORTING FOOD CONSUMPTION DIFFICULTIES BY MONTH, APRIL 2019 (%)

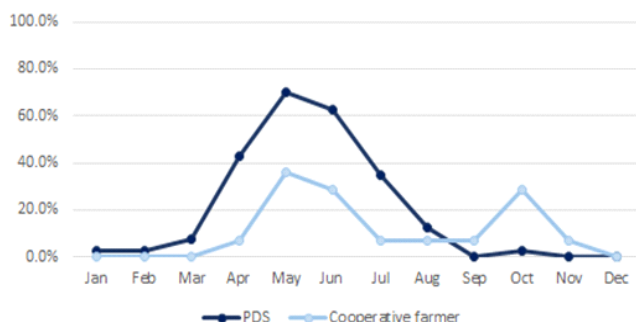


FIGURE 12: PDS AND FARMING HOUSEHOLDS REPORTING FOOD CONSUMPTION DIFFICULTIES BY MONTH, NOVEMBER 2018 (%)

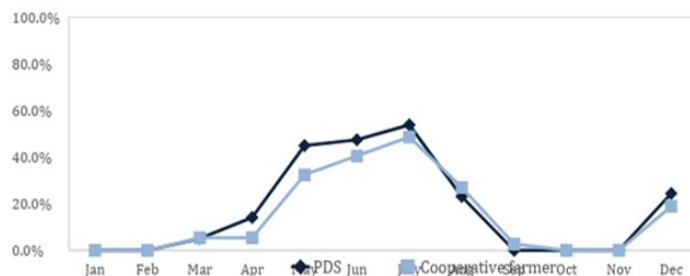
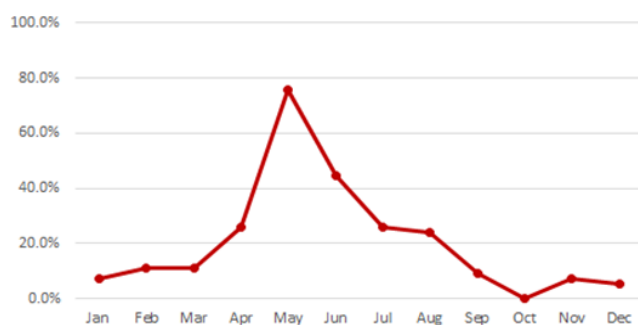
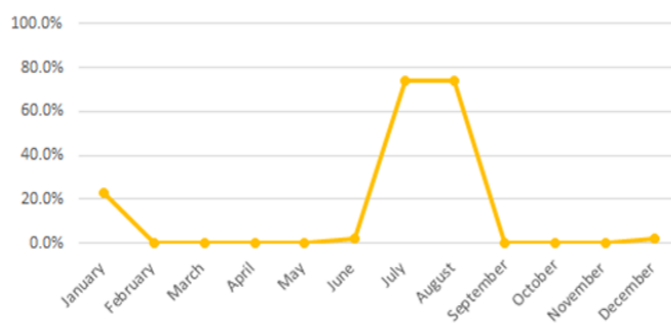


FIGURE 13: HOUSEHOLDS REPORTING HIGHER FOOD PRICES, BY MONTH (%)



Source: FAO/WFP rapid Food Security Assessment, April 2019

FIGURE 14: HOUSEHOLD REPORTING FOOD STOCKING DIFFICULTIES, BY MONTH (%)



Source: WFP Food Security Assessment, November 2018

three meals per day and have a regular height and weight monitoring system to supervise the adequate growth of the children. Based on that monitoring system, several nurseries reported percentages of undernourishment between 15-25 percent.

Like the household dietary structure, staple cereals and vegetables are the most frequently consumed foods. Soybeans are usually provided two-three times per week in the format of soymilk or bean soup. Meat and fish are consumed at intervals across all the nurseries visited. For meat (in most cases pork), the consumption frequency ranges from once per month to 3 or 4 times per year. Fish is usually eaten once per month or once per quarter. Fruits are

consumed seasonally only during June to October.

Among visited nurseries, kitchen gardens did not play a significant role in the food supply of these institutions. Of the 11 visited nurseries, 6 had kitchen gardens of sizes from 20 pyong to 100 pyong (1 pyong=3.3 square meters). However, the reported contribution from garden harvest is mainly vegetable and the proportion of such produce among overall consumption is minimal (about 15 percent on average).

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

TABLE 23: DPRK - ESTIMATED FOOD INSECURE POPULATION

	Poor food consumption (%) (Nov 2018/April 2019 weighted sample)	2019 population (millions) (source: CBS)	Estimated food insecure population (millions)
PDS Dependents	43%	17.5	7.5
Cooperative Farmers	34%	7.7	2.6
TOTAL	40%	25.2	10.1

Based on the analysis and converging findings of the November 2018 and April 2019 household assessments, the Mission estimated that 10.1 million people are food insecure and in urgent need of assistance, including 7.5 million PDS dependents and 2.6 million farmers (Table 23).

The food gap stands at 1.36 million mt for the whole marketing year 2018/2019.

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

The Mission concluded that the food insecurity situation is serious and could become critical during the upcoming lean season. A humanitarian intervention is therefore urgently required to mitigate the food production shortfall. The 2019 production season has already begun and in addition to the immediate humanitarian actions, there is an urgent need to ensure that food security needs are met for the winter of 2019-2020 through to the main harvest in the autumn of 2020. The following immediate actions are recommended:

FOOD SECURITY-RELATED

- **Targeted general food distribution of a diversified basket containing cereals and pulses** (preferable soybeans or other culturally accepted pulses) for an original duration of six months (June to November 2019).
- **Prioritise counties where food deficits per capita are higher, and counties that have been most affected by climatic extremes** in 2018 (heatwave, localized floods and frosts) and the dry spell in 2019 (affecting the early cropping season).
- **Expand coverage of nutrition programmes and provide additional fortified foods and pulses to highly vulnerable groups** (including children in

nurseries and kindergartens, Tuberculosis patients in hospitals and outpatients, institutions for disabled children, and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PLW) in prioritised counties).

- **Expand food distributions** through asset creation programmes focused on disaster risk reduction work to mitigate potential negative impacts of climate events during the next season.
- **Ensure a robust monitoring system** to verify effective distributions of humanitarian assistance to prioritised groups and areas.
- **Conduct an update of the food security situation at the end of the lean season (August/September)** to assess the outcome of the main agricultural season in 2019, to estimate the food insecurity situation for the next agricultural year starting November 2019 and to inform the duration of the required humanitarian assistance.

AGRICULTURE-RELATED

- **Provide mobile water pumps** in preparation for the summer season, to be distributed where they are needed to avert crop failures.
- **Import agriculture chemicals** for the control of pests and diseases, to be distributed where they are most needed during the cropping season in response to any significant outbreaks of pests or diseases.
- **Provide ready-to-install greenhouses and plastic sheeting** to extend the growing season for vegetables in 2019 and allow early preparation of seedlings for the 2020 planting season.

- **Provide high quality vegetable seeds** - using a nutrition-sensitive agriculture perspective - for growing in greenhouses over the fall/winter of 2019, supplying households for use in kitchen gardens (both in for cooperative members and urban agriculture) and preparing seedlings for early transplanting in the 2020 planting season.
- **Improve the level of biosecurity of livestock farms** and strengthen the capacity of farmers and cooperatives for early detection, reporting and control of animal disease outbreaks.
- **Provide appropriate amounts of veterinary drugs, medicines, disinfectants and other supplies** to allow a rapid response to any outbreaks of animal diseases.
- **Import appropriate amounts of phosphatic and potassic fertilisers.** Alternative sources of potassium and phosphates need to be urgently identified and their equitable distribution organised.
- **Provide equipment for drying or desiccation** of vegetables, fruits, mushrooms and other foodstuffs for preservation over the winter season, thus providing a varied and more nutritious diet over the winter months.
- **Improve facilities and equipment for food processing and transformation** (e.g. noodles, starch, pickles and preserves) to ensure a more varied and healthy diet in the lean months prior to the main harvest for 2020.
- **Improve the capacity for detecting and controlling outbreaks** of African swine fever.
- **Establish a robust food security and nutrition monitoring system** that can provide regular, seasonal data on food security and nutrition across the country, allowing the detection of potential deterioration and identification of appropriate timely responses.

MEDIUM- TO LONGER-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Sustain nutrition and food security operations** with longer-terms objectives to prevent a deterioration of the nutrition situation, and strengthen disaster-risk reduction capacities and building resilience.
- **Provide machinery and equipment**, such as transportation vehicles and mobile threshers, to facilitate the rapid harvest and threshing of the 2019 main season.
- **Provide assistance to improve and upgrade storage facilities** to minimize post-harvest losses. This includes the upgrade, repair or provision of grain-drying equipment to ensure grains going into storage have adequate levels of moisture content, thereby reducing storage losses and avoiding the occurrence of mold, fungus and mycotoxins. The use of solar grain driers or other alternative forms of energy should be prioritized.
- **Introduce measures to diversify crop production** towards a more resilient and nutrition sensitive agriculture.

Acronyms

CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
EIU	Economist Intelligence Unit
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCS	Food Consumption Score
GDP	Global Domestic Product
GIEWS	Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture
HA	Hectare
HH	Household
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICSP	Interim Country Strategic Plan
JRC	Joint Research Centre – European Commission
KPW	Korean Won
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MoLEP	Ministry of Land and Environmental Protection
Mt	Metric Ton
NCC	National Coordinating Committee
PDC	Public Distribution Centre
PDS	Public Distribution System
RFE	Remote Sensing Rainfall Estimates
rFSAM	Rapid Food Security Assessment Mission
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
US\$	United States Dollar
VHI	Vegetation Health Index
WFP	World Food Programme

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