

ReliefWeb

Briefing Kit for **DPR Korea: Floods - Jul 2011**
Compiled on 09 Aug 2011

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Democratic People's Republic of Korea - Flood Update

DPRK affected by serious floods following torrential rains in July

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea was hit by excessive rains during the second and third dekad of July (see Figure 1) causing severe flooding and localised crop damage to standing crops of the 2011 main season in the cereal bowl of the country, particularly in the southern provinces. The counties reporting serious damage were Chongdan, Jaeryong, Anak and Unchon in South Hwanghae Province and Hoichang and Pyongwon from South Pyongan Province. Reportedly, some 250 mm rainfall was received during five days in the most affected areas.

Food and Agriculture Organization

09 Aug 2011

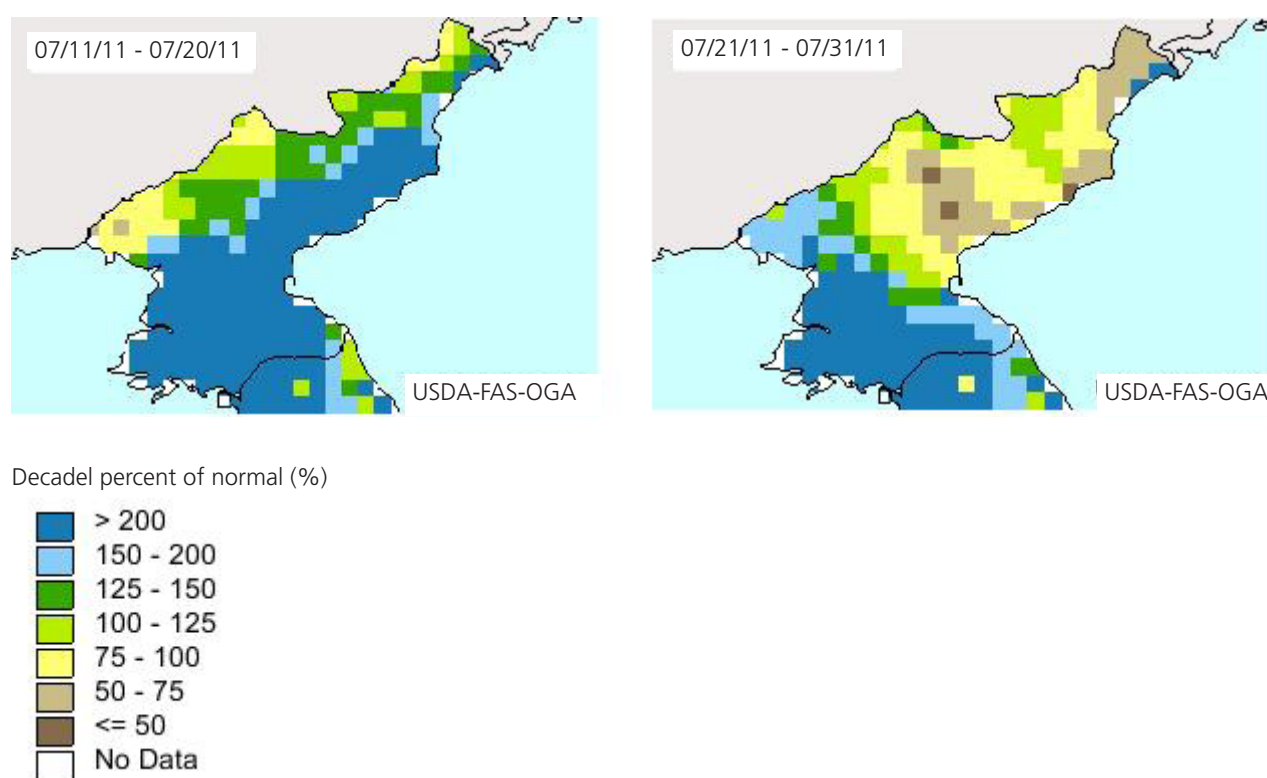
Democratic People's Republic of Korea - Flood Update

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Figure 1: AFWA/LIS Decadal percent of normal precipitation



Source: United States Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service

The initial estimates provided by the National Coordinating Committee indicate that 59 340 hectares of cropland have been affected (submerged, buried, washed-away or fell down) nationwide. The total area affected amounts to about five percent of the total area under cereal cultivation (see Table 1). Although no precise crop damage estimates are yet available, the paddy crop, currently at the initial growing stage, is likely to be affected the most in the low lying areas. Damage to agricultural infrastructure was also reported. However, in surrounding areas, the abundant rains are likely to benefit the growing crops. The net effect on total production would need to be assessed later in the season.

Table 1: DPRK - Main-season crop areas in 2010 and the area affected by recent floods (000 ha)

Province	Paddy ¹	Total (cereals and potatoes) ¹	Area affected by floods ²
Pyongyang City	16	27	
South Pyongan	83	156	8.1
North Pyongan	101	205	
Chagang	7	50	
South Hwanghae	146	253	39.7
North Hwanghae	70	168	
Kangwon	34	79	
South Hamgyong	60	124	1.3
North Hamgyong	25	91	0.88
Ryanggang	2	33	
Nampo City	27	38	1
DPRK	570	1 224	59.3*

¹ Source: Ministry of Agriculture as reported in FAO/WFP CFSAM 2010 report.

² Source: National Coordinating Committee for UNDP

* Total including 8 300 ha from Kaesong City.

According to the last FAO/WFP/UNICEF Rapid Food Security Assessment (March 2011) the country is facing over one million tonnes of cereal deficit, or about a quarter of its annual requirements, for 2010/11 marketing year (Nov/Oct). Further details can be found in GIEWS Country Brief at <http://www.fao.org/giews/countrybrief/index.jsp>. So far both, food aid and commercial imports, have been very slow in materializing.

The rainy season typically continues until September. FAO/GIEWS will continue to monitor crop development and weather hazards affecting food security in the region.

Russia to Send 50,000 Tons of Food Aid to N.Korea

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov says his country will send 50,000 tons of grain to North Korea to help it cope with food shortages after devastating floods.

Lavrov spoke to reporters Monday after a meeting with visiting South Korean counterpart Kim Sung-hwan. The South Korean minister for foreign affairs and trade arrived in Moscow Sunday to discuss a wide range of topics, including the situation on the Korean peninsula and joint ventures with Russia.

The two officials said Moscow and Seoul favor a peaceful solution of the North Korean nuclear problem through political and diplomatic efforts. Lavrov said Moscow is discussing ways to overcome the current impasse in the six-nation talks on North Korea's nuclear disarmament with officials in Pyongyang. The last round of those talks was held in 2008 in China.

Russia's top diplomat also said that North Korean leader Kim Jong-il has a standing invitation to visit Russia again. Kim last visited Russia in 2002 when he met with then President Vladimir Putin in the eastern city of Vladivostok.

Lavrov told the news media Monday that he and the visiting South Korean official discussed tripartite economic projects, including the construction of a gas pipeline from Russia to South Korea via North Korea, and an electric power line along the same route. He said leaders of all three countries would support these projects if their corporations strike a deal.

He said he and Kim also looked into the possibility of connecting the Korean Railway lines with the Trans-Siberian Railway.

Relations between the two Koreas deteriorated last year with Seoul blaming Pyongyang for the sinking of its warship in March and Pyongyang launching an artillery attack on a South Korean island. Fifty South Koreans were killed in the two incidents.

VOA News / Aug. 09, 2011 08:10 KST

Voice of America

08 Aug 2011

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Democratic People's Republic of Korea - Flood Update 8 August 2011

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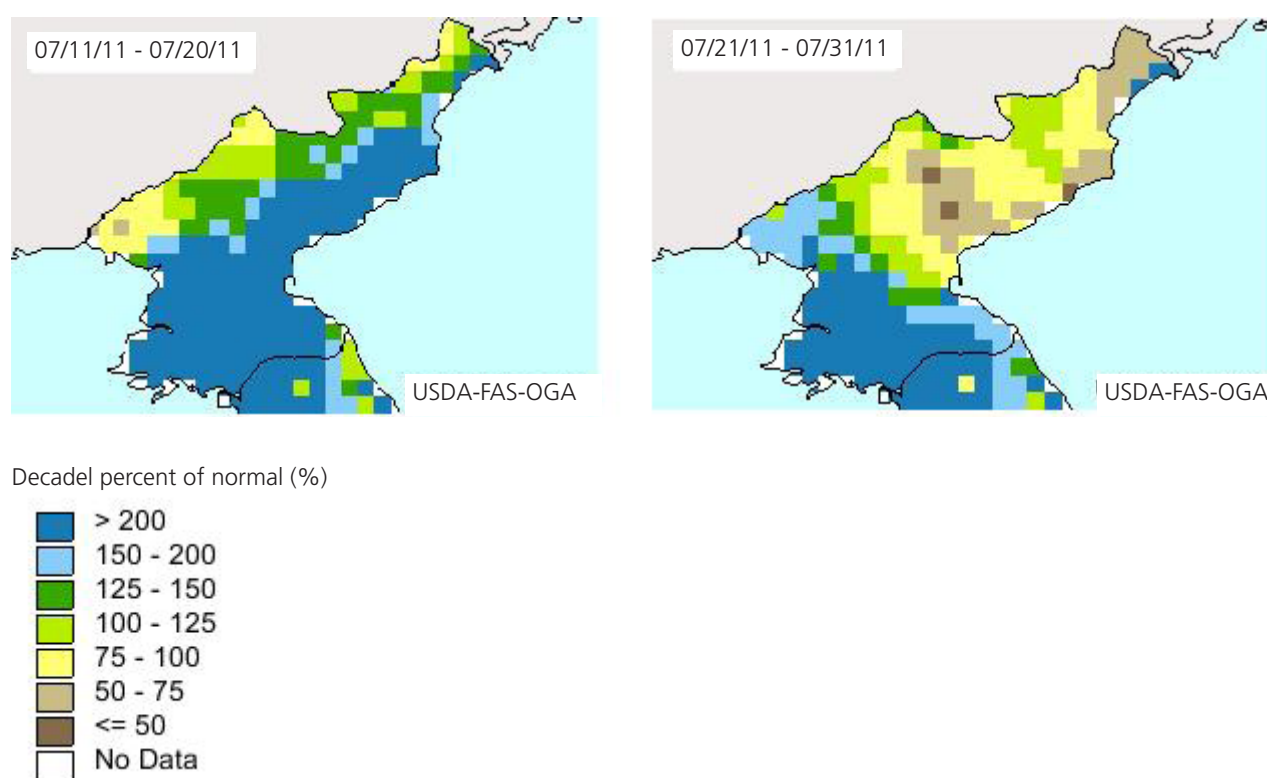
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GIEWS Country Brief: Democratic People's Republic of Korea 08-August-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

Heavy rains affect standing crops of the 2011 main season.

Winter wheat, spring barley and spring potato harvests in 2011 estimated to be lower by about 232 000 tonnes than earlier forecast due to the severe winter this year.

Rise in international prices of cereals, especially maize, has reduced the country's ability to import needed quantities.

More than six million vulnerable people are estimated to face food deficit as chronic food insecurity continues throughout the country.

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In February/March a WFP/FAO/UNICEF Mission visited the country to re-assess the food security situation in view of the potential losses to winter wheat and spring potatoes due to severe cold weather. The mission revised the winter/spring wheat/barley and potato production (in cereal equivalent) for the 2010/11 marketing year (Nov/Oct) downwards to 180 000 tonnes and 414 000 tonnes, respectively. The revised total supply for the current marketing year is estimated at 4.25 million tonnes of staple food including milled rice, other cereals, potatoes in cereal equivalent and soybeans. This is similar to the low production of 2009/10 but some 232 000 tonnes less than the earlier estimates by the joint FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) in November 2010.

Food and Agriculture Organization

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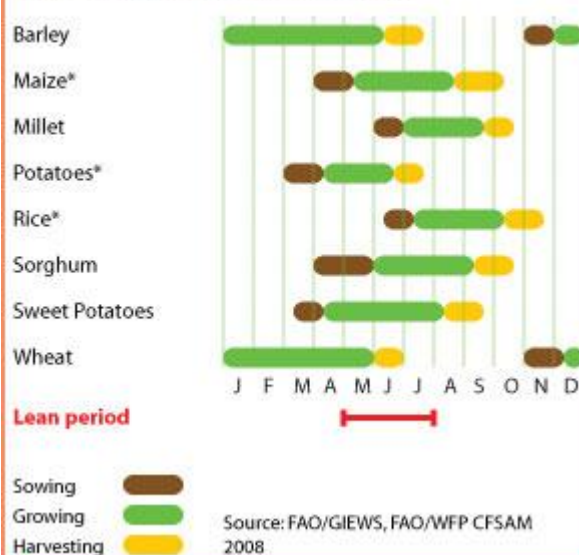
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Cereal import requirements are forecast to rise further

The revised total cereal import requirements are raised to 1.086 million tonnes. According to the report, the commercial import capacity of DPRK in 2010/11 has been reduced as a result of reductions in export earnings, as well as higher international food and fuel prices. The government currently plans to import 200 000 tonnes of cereals, a reduction of 125 000 tonnes from the 325 000 tonnes that was informed to the CFSAM mission in October 2010. As of mid July, the government had imported some 146 000 tonnes

Democratic People's Republic of Korea **Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)**

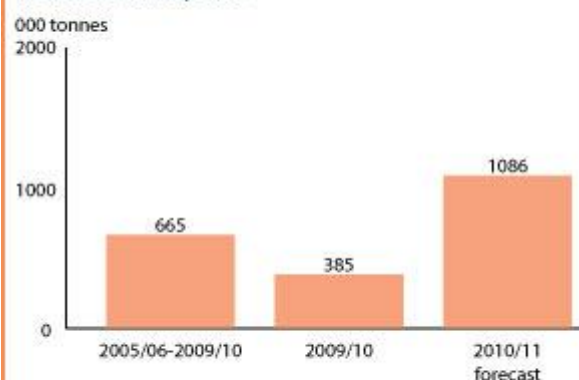


Democratic People's Republic of Korea **Cereal production**

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 forecast	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	2 226	2 426	2 460	1
Maize	1 676	1 683	1 700	1
Wheat	154	130	170	31
Others	79	34	34	0
Total	4 200	4 323	4 434	3

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Democratic People's Republic of Korea **Total cereal imports**



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

and received 34 500 tonnes of food aid.

Food insecurity in the country worsening

The WFP/FAO/UNICEF mission had concluded that 6.1 million vulnerable people are in urgent need of international food assistance, due to a substantial reduction of agricultural production and commercial imports, as well as a decrease or curtailment of bilateral assistance. Most vulnerable to food insecurity are: children; pregnant and lactating women; elderly; large families with a high dependency ratio (i.e. few income earners, but many children and elderly dependants); people unable to work because of prolonged or chronic illnesses, particularly those with tuberculosis (TB); and people with disabilities.

Following the UN mission, WFP has started an emergency operation (EMOP) which appeals for a distribution of food aid of 310 500 tonnes to an estimated 3.5 million most vulnerable and food insecure people for 2011/12 (April/March) period. Also, there has been an appeal for donor funding in the order of USD 82.4 million for 2011 to respond to key humanitarian priorities, including USD 7 million for agriculture and food security projects.

Flood Damage Gets Serious

Pyongyang, August 5 (KCNA) -- The flood caused by heavy rainfalls in late July claimed some 30 lives in the DPRK, according to results of the latest survey.

Over 6,750 dwelling houses were destroyed in the disaster, leaving more than 15,800 people homeless.

Over 48,000 hectares of cropland were submerged, buried and washed away in the country, seriously affecting this year's grain output.

Torrential rains and flood pulled down some 350 production facilities and public buildings and heavily damaged riverbanks, tide embankments and waterways.

Landslides wrecked railroads and severed bridges and roads extending more than 6,900 meters, making it difficult to supply relief goods and materials to the afflicted areas.

The largest victim is South Hwanghae Province.

Korean Central News Agency

06 Aug 2011

Seoul Greenlights Food Aid for N.Korea, But Not Rice, Cement

The North Korean Red Cross asked for food and cement as flood relief aid in a message to its South Korean counterpart on Thursday morning.

The request came in response to an offer made by Seoul via its respective Red Cross agency the previous day to send W5 billion (US\$1=W1,061) of daily necessities, medicines and other aid to the flood-stricken North.

The Unification Ministry informed the North through the relief agency on Thursday afternoon that it would provide the emergency goods as promised the previous day.

"We are not considering sending food such as rice and flour, or cement," said a ministry official. "But we are going to deliver nourishing food and instant ramen noodles, which are less likely to be diverted to the North Korean military."

Based on the North's past practices, Seoul suspects that other materials like cement could be diverted to the regime's military, or its privileged class in Pyongyang to bolster the country's massive construction plan of 100,000 homes in the capital, at the expense of the flood victims who are in dire need of assistance.

Last year when Seoul offered to send relief aid to Sinuiju, the Sino-Korean border city that was ravaged by floods, the regime called for "rice, cement, and heavy equipment." At the time, Seoul dispatched 5,000 tons of rice and 3,600 tons of cement as a partial compromise.

Chosun Ilbo

05 Aug 2011

Nationwide Relief Effort Launched for S. Hwanghae Province

Pyongyang, August 4 (KCNA) -- In the wake of human and material losses in the DPRK caused by typhoon-5 and heavy rains from late June to mid-July, a rain-triggered flood has harassed the country again from late July.

South Hwanghae Province has suffered most seriously from the flood.

The government has launched a nationwide effort to stabilize the flood victims' living and rebuild wrecked dwelling houses and public buildings.

Ministries, national institutions and provincial people's committees have sent food, drinking water, utensils, garments and other daily necessities to the flood-afflicted areas.

The ministries of agriculture, electric power industry, and land and environmental conservation have dispatched officials to learn about damages and find out what they should do to help the victims.

Cement, steel, timbers, plate glass and other emergency relief materials have been trucked to the damaged province.

Korean Central News Agency

05 Aug 2011

Downpour Batters DPRK Again

Pyongyang, August 4 (KCNA) -- A torrential rain as much as 50 to 80mm fell in some areas of South and North Hamgyong, Kangwon and South and North Hwanghae provinces from 18:00 Wednesday to 09:00 Thursday, according to data available at the Central Meteorological Research Institute.

It rained 89mm and 72mm respectively in Sepho and Cholwon counties, Kangwon Province, 85mm in Kilju County, North Hamgyong Province and 70mm in Pukchong County, South Hamgyong Province.

55mm downpour hit Kilju County, Pukchong and Toksong counties from 03:00 to 06:00 Wednesday and from 00:00 to 03:00 Thursday.

The consecutive rainfalls have severely affected the people's living and grain output throughout the country.

Korean Central News Agency

05 Aug 2011

Damage from Heavy Rains

Pyongyang, August 4 (KCNA) -- Some areas of the DPRK have suffered damage from heavy rains from Wednesday afternoon.

According to results of an initial survey, the railway service between the Paekgumsan and Tonsan railway stations in South Hamgyong Province has been suspended by landslides from early Thursday morning.

A concrete bridge was destroyed in Pukchong County of the same province, cutting off road traffic.

Kaesong City has 105 hectares of rice field flooded and some 180m-long riverbank collapsed.

Korean Central News Agency

05 Aug 2011

Red Cross Relief Activities Launched in DPRK

Pyongyang, August 4 (KCNA) -- The Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has launched relief activities for flood victims with flood damages getting serious in the country.

The society dispatched inspection teams to the flood-hit cities and counties of South Hwanghae and Kangwon provinces, Kaesong City and other areas to learn about damages and convey emergency relief materials to victims.

It has also rendered medical services to flood victims, while taking measures to prevent outbreak of epidemics.

Meanwhile, a number of Red Cross volunteers are taking part in relief activities in the afflicted areas. The DPRK-resident delegation of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is joining the relief work.

Korean Central News Agency

05 Aug 2011

S. Korea offers N. Korea flood aid

SEOUL — South Korea offered North Korea flood relief aid worth 5 billion won (\$4.7 million) on Wednesday after the communist state reported dozens of casualties and thousands made homeless by torrential rain.

Seoul's unification ministry said the offer of medicine and daily necessities was made through the South's Red Cross. If the North accepted it, talks would be held on shipping arrangements.

The offer came amid signs of an easing of high cross-border tensions. Nuclear negotiators from the two Koreas held rare talks last month on the sidelines of a regional security meeting in Bali.

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Agence France-Presse

03 Aug 2011

Floods (as of 29 Jul 2011)

Link: *Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Floods DREF operation n° MDRKP003*

IFRC

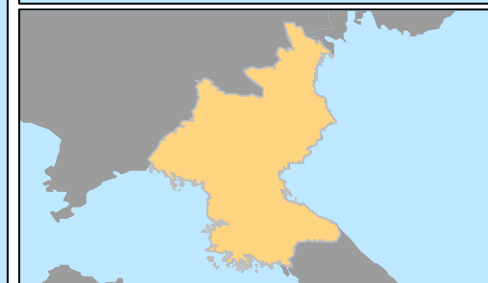
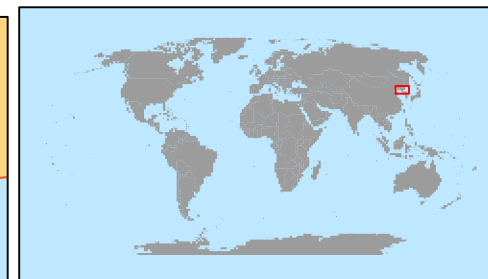
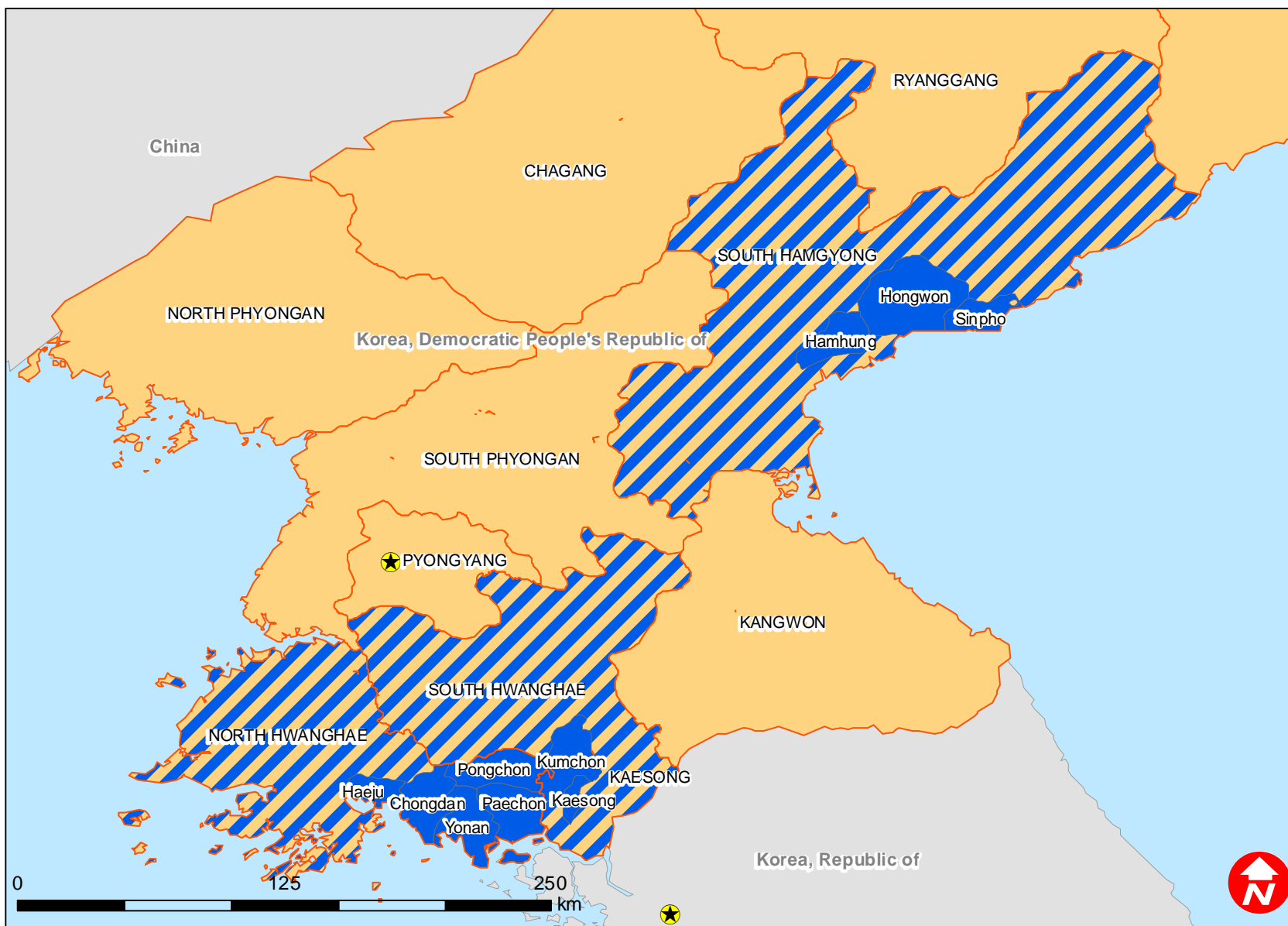
02 Aug 2011





International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

MDRKP003
29 July 2011
FL-2011-000096-PRK

Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Floods



 Affected counties
 Affected provinces

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.
Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, International Federation - MDRKP003

Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Floods DREF operation n° MDRKP003

GLIDE n° FL-2011-000096-PRK

Summary:

CHF 453,413 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Red Cross in delivering immediate assistance to some 15,380 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

From 23 June to 16 July 2011, the provinces of south Hamgyong as well as north and south Hwanghae in the DPRK were hit by torrential rains which resulted in extensive flooding. The Korean Central News Agency reported damage to 15,000 hectares of farmland, buildings, bridges, and other infrastructure.

Initial information on damage collected by the Red Cross county and provincial branches, was confirmed by two DPRK Red Cross headquarters assessment teams and joint DPRK Red Cross/IFRC teams during two subsequent visits. A total of 3,076 houses were partially or totally damaged by the floods, with two clinics completely destroyed and seven partially damaged. Reports of polluted wells, boreholes, and submerged pump stations are raising serious health concerns. A total of 96 people were injured, and there were no casualties reported.

This operation is expected to be implemented over six months, and will therefore be completed by 1 February 2012; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation, by May 2012).

IFRC

02 Aug 2011

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRKP003
GLIDE n° [FL-2011-000096-PRK](#)
2 August 2011

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

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Totally collapsed house in Sinyang-ri, Yonan county, south Hwanghae province. The accumulated effect of years of poor maintenance, aggravated by strong winds during a typhoon at the end of June, as well as extended heavy rainfall have taken its toll on over 3,000 houses so far. **Photo: Kamal Niraula/IFRC**

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[<click here for the DREF budget;](#)
[here for contact details;](#)
[here to view the map of the affected areas>](#)

The situation

Torrential downpour from 23 June – 16 July resulted in extensive floods in the provinces of south Hamyong, north Hwanghae and south Hwanghae. To date, information available indicate that a confirmed total of 3,076 houses have been partially or totally damaged by the floods, leaving the affected population living under plastic sheeting or in the remnants of dwellings which are at risk of imminent collapse. Two clinics were found completely destroyed, and seven were partially damaged. Reports of polluted wells, boreholes, and submerged pump stations have raised serious health concerns.

Local government authorities immediately responded to the floods, which included providing emergency food to the disaster-affected communities. Other response activities include:

- Rehabilitation and recovery of infrastructure: roads, bridge and communication facilities
- Rehabilitation of public services;
- Cleaning mud which overflowed onto the paddy and corn fields
- Repair of dams, embankment and reservoirs
- Distribution of emergency medicines to the hospitals and clinics
- Repair of destroyed houses and basic facilities



With the rainy season continuing at full strength, some people are living under plastic sheeting, as their houses were totally destroyed or at risk of collapse due to severe damage. **Photo: Yu Ju Yong/DPRK Red Cross**

Coordination and partnerships

At the request of the government, the inter-agency contingency planning group was activated. DPRK Red Cross and IFRC were a part of the joint inter-agency team which visited a limited number of affected areas on 25 July. A more in-depth visit and assessment by in-country UN agencies and Save the Children International, together with the government, will follow, to determine the support from different UN agencies to flood-affected communities.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Before the start of the rainy season, the DPRK Red Cross activated its emergency task force at headquarters and branch levels in close coordination with the national flood damage response committee.

On 18 July, after receiving notification from the county and provincial Red Cross branches, two rapid assessment teams were mobilized to north and south Hwanghae provinces on 19 - 21 July. Each team comprised of three national disaster response team members from the health, water and sanitation and disaster management departments. The rapid assessment teams confirmed the findings collected by the branches.

Follow-up visits from two joint DPRK Red Cross/IFRC teams to north and south Hwanghae provinces on 25-27 July corroborate the gravity of the situation.

Reports from the affected areas show that all Red Cross county branches activated their early warning systems, alerting the population of the upcoming rains, based on data provided by the county meteorological bureaus. Thanks to the raised awareness about the flood risks, no casualties were reported, as all people managed to leave their houses in time.

During the floods on 12 - 17 July, a total of 1,521 Red Cross volunteers were mobilized to help the affected families evacuate to the nearest community evacuation centre and to deliver rescue and first aid services,

relief items as well as hygiene messages to the families, in close cooperation with the local authorities and other public organizations. DPRK Red Cross also supported the transportation of seriously injured individuals (reportedly 14) to referral hospitals.

Based on the assessments, the following relief items were released from DPRK Red Cross's disaster preparedness warehouses to the flood-affected population:

Province	Quilts with cover	Cooking set	Plastic sheeting	Water container (jerry can)	Water purification tablet	Family hygiene kit *	Evacuation tent
<i>South Hwanghae</i>	10796	2460	2460	2460	647760	2460	30
<i>North Hwanghae</i>	336	102	102	336	20160	102	2
<i>South Hamgyong</i>	1273	293	293	921	76380	293	8
<i>Kaesong city</i>	757	221	221	757	45420	221	4
Total	13162	3076	3076	4474	789720	3076	44

** One family hygiene kits contains body soap, laundry soap, sanitary pads, hand towel, mirror, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush, razor, and a comb.*

Two inter-agency emergency health kits were pre-positioned to south Hwanghae province previously. The release of the kits, which provides basic medicines for 10,000 people for three months, will be decided jointly with the ministry of public health in the coming days.

Emergency relief kits, family hygiene kits, and water purification tablets were quickly dispatched to the affected areas. Delivery to south Hwanghae was temporarily delayed due to more flooding on 26 - 27 July.

Follow-up visits from two joint DPRK Red Cross/IFRC teams to north and south Hwanghae provinces on 25-27 July confirm the gravity of the situation, observing up to 90 per cent partial damage and an estimated 50 per cent total damage to all dwellings in some communities. The accumulated effect of years of poor maintenance, aggravated by strong winds during a typhoon at the end of June as well as extended heavy rainfall are now taking their toll.



Flood-affected families received relief items from DPRK Red Cross's disaster preparedness stocks which include tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen set, jerry can, water purification tablets, and family hygiene kit.

Photo: Kim Kwang II/DPRK Red Cross

One DPRK Red Cross/IFRC team witnessed extensive flooding in Chongdan county, south Hwanghae province. As the nearby water reservoir had reached peak levels, 700 community volunteers were mobilized to ensure the smooth evacuation of over 6,000 people, including the DPRK Red Cross/IFRC team, in the evening of 26 July. One co-operative farm reported 100 per cent of all its farmland flooded.

While the rainy season has yet to reach its peak, information on more damage is reported every day. Initial assessment data collected by county and provincial Red Cross branches from the latest torrential rains on 26 - 27 July show an estimated number as high as 6,000 damaged houses in total. In-depth assessment to collect accurate data is ongoing.

DPRK Red Cross and IFRC are expecting an even higher number of affected households throughout the entire rainy season.

The needs

Shelter

A total of 3,076 houses have been partially or totally damaged to date. Some people moved in with relatives and neighbours, others are living under plastic sheeting, while most are staying in the damaged dwellings, at great risk of collapse.

Food security and nutrition

Damaged crops due to flooding of arable land is expected to threaten the already fragile food security situation in the affected counties. Most affected families reported sudden loss of food stocks due to the floods, severely affecting their households and belongings.

Water and sanitation

Flooding of water sources has reduced the quality of the water available in the affected areas. Pump stations were also submerged and pipelines damaged, further hampering the supply of safe drinking water.

Health

Clinics in the affected areas have reported an increase in gastrointestinal and respiratory infection cases. Malaria is endemic in the flood-affected areas.

Data on the two completely destroyed and seven partially damaged *ri* clinics has been shared with the ministry of public health (MoPH). The clinics and hospitals in the affected areas had recently received their quarterly essential drug distribution from UNICEF, as a part of regular essential medicine programme.

The proposed operation

The operation targets over 15,000 people (3,076 families) affected by the recent floods occurring from 23 June to 16 July 2011, who have become homeless and/or displaced in 10 counties¹ in north Hwanghae, south Hwanghae, and south Hamgyong provinces. The affected population has already received one emergency relief kit and one family hygiene kit per family, including water purification tablets.

Each emergency relief kit contains one tarpaulin, four blankets, a cooking set and a jerry can. Besides water purification tablets, each family also received a hygiene kit which consists of body soap, laundry soap, sanitary pads, hand towel, mirror, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush, razor, and comb. The kits for north Hwanghae and south Hamgyong have already been delivered to the flood affected population at time of reporting. Delivery of the kits for south Hwanghae was temporarily delayed due to severe flooding occurring on 26 - 27 July.

The distributed emergency kits were dispatched from the central disaster preparedness warehouse in Pyongyang, and are part of the available prepositioned stocks in country, for 23,000 families total.

In combination with the distribution of water purification tablets, trained Red Cross volunteers are conducting hygiene promotion activities.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: To provide 3,076 affected and displaced families (approximately 15,380 individuals) in ten counties in north Hwanghae, south Hwanghae, and south Hamgyong provinces, with essential non-food items to meet their immediate needs.

Expected results

3,076 flood-affected and displaced families (15,380 people) have received non-food assistance.

Activities carried out and/or planned

- Identification and registering of affected and displaced families based on agreed criteria;
- Distribution of non-food items from existing stocks to identified beneficiaries;
- Continuously monitor relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions;
- Conduct ongoing assessment of the impact of the flood and review support strategies;
- Replenishment of stocks based on approved budgets and IFRC procurement requirement

¹ Hamhung city, Hongwon county and Sinpho city in South Hamgyong province, Kaesong city and Kumchon county in North Hwanghae province, Chongdan county, Haeju city, Paechon county, Pongchon county, and Yonan county in South Hwanghae provinces

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: Provision of water purification tablets and hygiene promotion activities to 3,076 families (approximately 15,380 flood-affected people) in ten counties in north Hwanghae, south Hwanghae, and south Hamgyong provinces

Expected results

Provision of water purification tablets and hygiene promotion activities to 3,076 families (approximately 15,380 flood-affected people) short of clean and safe water for one month

Activities carried out and/or planned:

- Provision of water purification tablets, appropriate sanitation and hygiene promotion for 3,076 families in ten counties in north Hwanghae, south Hwanghae, and south Hamgyong provinces
- Conduct training/information programmes for Red Cross volunteers and beneficiaries on hygiene promotion and the safe use of water purification tablets.

How we work

All Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to:

Inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

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IFRC regional office in China: Mr Martin Faller, Head of regional office, email: martin.faller@ifrc.org phone: +86.10.65327162, fax: +86.10.65327166

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Please send pledges of funding to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org

<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>

DREF OPERATION

29/0+/2011

MDRKP003 DPR Korea : Floods

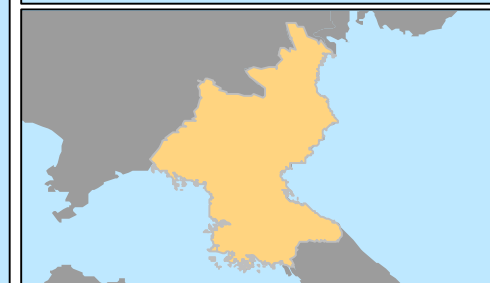
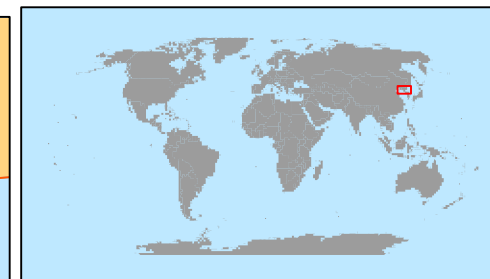
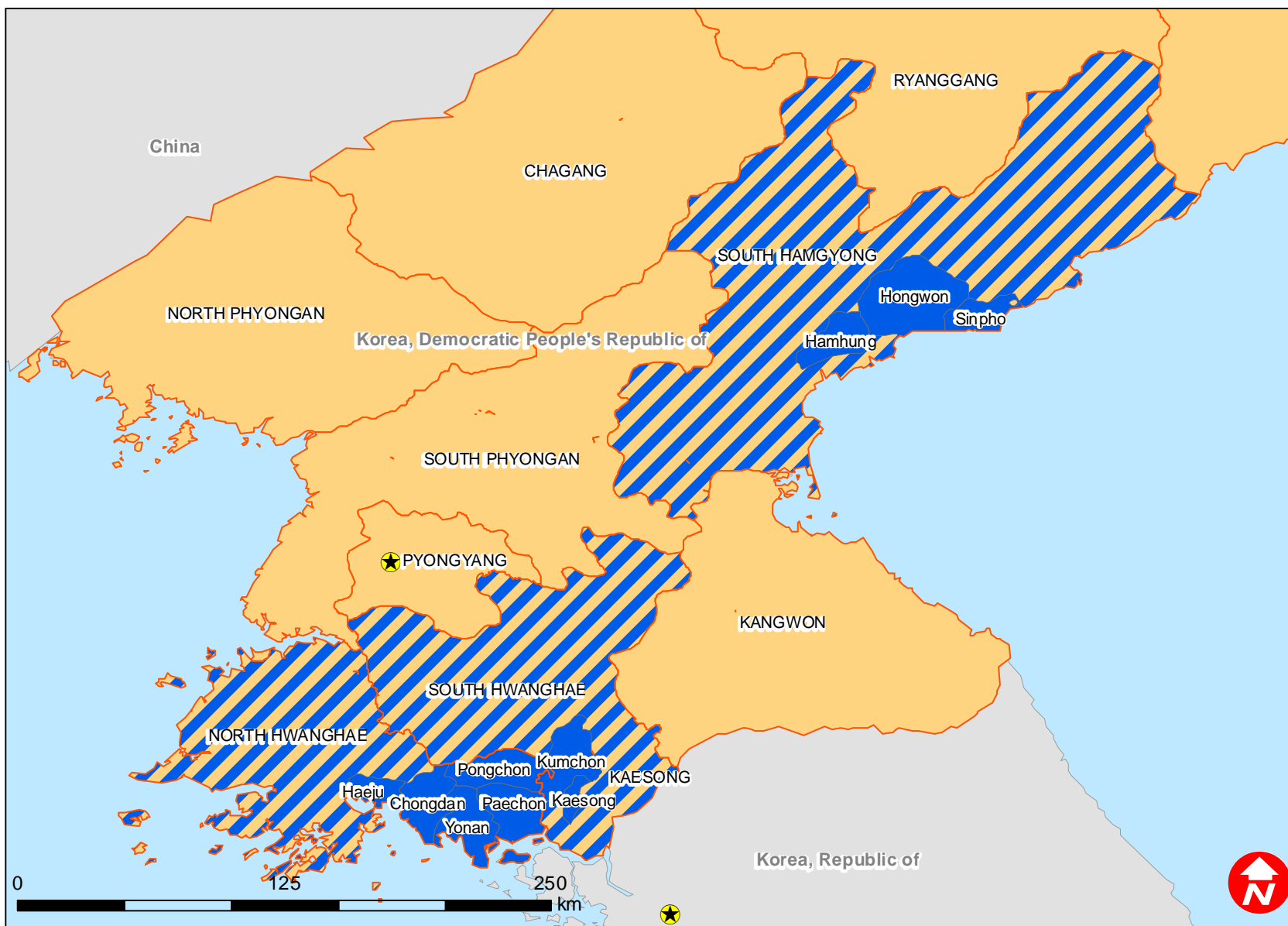
Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	77,400
Clothing & Textiles	174,240
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	59,200
Ustensils & Tools	74,400
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	385,240
Storage, Warehousing	5,000
Dsitribution & Monitoring	10,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,000
Logistics Services	9,500
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	26,500
National Staff	400
National Society Staff	600
Total PERSONNEL	1,000
Workshops & Training	12,000
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	12,000
Information & Public Relations	200
Communications	800
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	1,000
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	27,673
Total INDIRECT COSTS	27,673
TOTAL BUDGET	453,413





International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

MDRKP003
29 July 2011
FL-2011-000096-PRK

Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Floods



 Affected counties
 Affected provinces

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.
Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, International Federation - MDRKP003

N. Korea PM inspects flooded region: state media

SEOUL — North Korea's prime minister has inspected flood-hit areas, state media said Tuesday, a day after it reported dozens of casualties and widespread damage.

Premier Choe Yong-Rim inspected areas of South Hwanghae province in the country's southwest and held a meeting on efforts to repair the damage, the official KCNA news agency said.

He underscored the need to get people's livelihoods in afflicted areas back to normal as soon as possible, it said, without giving the date of the visit.

The agency said Monday that a tropical storm and heavy rain over the past two months had left dozens dead, injured or missing and destroyed 2,900 homes.

Some 8,000 homeless were living in makeshift buildings, it said. From late June to mid-July, nearly 60,000 hectares (148,200 acres) of farmland was submerged or washed away, raising concerns about this year's grain harvest, it said.

North Korea has relied heavily on international aid to feed its 24 million people since natural disasters and mismanagement sparked a 1990s famine in which hundreds of thousands died.

After decades of deforestation to create land for arable farming and provide firewood, the impoverished North is particularly vulnerable to flooding. In 2007 it reported at least 600 dead or missing due to such conditions.

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Agence France-Presse

02 Aug 2011

N. Korea storm, rains 'kill dozens': state media

SEOUL — A storm and heavy rains in North Korea over the last two months have left dozens of people dead, injured or missing, while thousands more are homeless, state media said on Monday.

The impoverished communist state was hit by a tropical storm in June and heavy rains last month which together destroyed 2,900 homes, leaving about 8,000 people with nowhere to live, the official Korean Central News Agency said.

The rains flooded farmland, raising concerns about this year's grain production.

Strong winds and floods also toppled 300 electricity poles and 8,400 roadside trees while 170 public buildings and factories collapsed, the agency said.

North Korea has relied heavily on international aid to feed its 24 million people since natural disasters and mismanagement devastated its economy in the mid 1990s. Pyongyang has stepped up appeals for food aid this year.

After decades of deforestation to create land for arable farming and provide firewood, the impoverished North is particularly vulnerable to flooding.

In 2007 it reported at least 600 dead or missing after it was hit by devastating floods.

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Agence France-Presse

01 Aug 2011

N. Korea state media says China to send flood aid

SEOUL — China will send flood aid to North Korea after it was hit by rain-triggered floods and landslides that washed away homes, roads and farmland and caused casualties, the North's state media said Sunday.

Chinese President Hu Jintao expressed "deep sympathy" in a message sent to the North's leader Kim Jong-Il on Friday, the Korean Central News Agency said, adding that China's Red Cross and government have decided to offer relief aid.

"The emergency aid... will greatly boost recovery efforts of North Korean people at flood-stricken areas," KCNA said, without giving details.

Heavy downpours that pounded the communist country from July 12 to 15 left homes, roads and more than 20,000 hectares (50,000 acres) of farmland submerged, and caused unspecified casualties, KCNA said two weeks ago.

The torrential rain that dumped more than 250 millimetres (about 10 inches) of rain in some areas also seriously damaged coal mines, power production and railway lines, it said.

Earlier this month, state media said a tropical storm that hit the country in June had caused casualties and left more than 150 homes and some farmland submerged or destroyed.

After decades of deforestation, the impoverished North is particularly vulnerable to flooding. In 2007 it reported at least 600 dead or missing from devastating floods.

China is the North's sole major ally and economic prop, supplying the bulk of its food and fuel needs.

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Agence France-Presse

31 Jul 2011

Rain leaves trail of destruction in North Korea

SEOUL — Heavy rains that left 59 people dead in South Korea last week also affected the North, flooding farmland, destroying bridges and damaging roads and railways, Pyongyang's state media reported Sunday.

Korean Central Television and Korean Central Broadcasting Station said Chongdan County in South Hwanghae province had received 522 millimetres (more than 20 inches) of rain in 12 hours on Tuesday, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported.

More than 14,200 hectares (35,000 acres) of farmland in the county were flooded along with a further 10,200 hectares in Yonan County, both in the west of the country, northwest of Seoul, it said.

It said that other counties were suffered heavy rain over the weekend, and that in Yonan alone, 13 bridges were destroyed, while roads and railways across the province were also damaged.

There was no word on casualties.

The floods will deepen concerns about North Korea's ability to feed its people, who already face severe food shortages.

North Korea has relied heavily on international aid to feed its 24 million people since natural disasters and mismanagement devastated its economy in the mid 1990s and Pyongyang has stepped up appeals for food aid this year.

Last week's record rainfall in the South left at least 59 people dead and more than 11,000 homeless. Power supply was cut to 130,000 houses nationwide, the disaster management agency said.

A total of 301.5 millimetres (just over 12 inches) of rain fell in Seoul on Wednesday, the largest single-day rainfall in July since records began in 1907. Thousands of troops, police, firefighters and volunteers were drafted in to help with the cleanup.

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Agence France-Presse

31 Jul 2011

Floods wash N. Korean landmines into S. Korea

SEOUL — North Korean landmine parts apparently churned up by torrential rains have washed up across the border in South Korea, prompting a search for more weapons, the defence ministry said Saturday.

The wooden shells of two North Korean landmines were found Thursday in a cistern near the Hantan River in Cheolwon County, just south of the inter-Korean border, it said.

"They were just empty wooden shells of landmines. They have no explosives and detonators inside. We assume they might have been washed away," a spokesman for the defence ministry told AFP.

Soldiers were searching areas near the Hantan and Namdaecheon rivers for other North Korean mines, the spokesman said.

Banners have been put up and leaflets handed out to warn holidaymakers in the area of the possibility of stray mines and ask them to report anything suspicious to authorities, he added.

North Korean mines have been carried across the border by floods and landslides in the past. Last year, dozens of wood-cased mines washed up in the South after heavy rains, killing one South Korean and injuring another.

A landslide triggered by this week's torrential rains also dislodged mines planted decades ago on Mount Umyeon in southern Seoul to protect a military installation.

Soldiers said they were still looking for about 10 mines there. Most of the 1,000 mines laid at the site were removed between 1999 and 2006, but a few remain unaccounted for.

Heavy rains have pounded the Korean peninsula over the past week, killing at least 59 people and leaving thousands homeless in the South alone.

South Korea's Yonhap news agency quoted an unidentified military source as saying floods had forced the North to downscale a rare intra-services military exercise involving its army, navy and air force in the tense Yellow Sea.

The North initially assembled about 20 navy vessels including landing craft off the western port of Nampo and deployed MiG-21 fighters to Onchon airbase in the same area.

"However, it hurriedly withdrew troops and equipment (from the southern part of North Korea) on Thursday and Friday, apparently in order to help with restoration work," the source said.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency said the downpours had caused "great damage to the people's economy".

According to a preliminary tally, in the North 35,700 hectares (88,223 acres) of rice paddies were inundated, while thousands of homes and hundreds of workplaces were destroyed, along with schools and public buildings, KCNA said.

The south and east were the worst-hit regions, where downpours of up to 500 millimetres fell from Tuesday to Thursday, it said.

The impoverished communist state is already suffering from serious food shortages.

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Agence France-Presse

30 Jul 2011

DPRK Hit by Heavy Rain Again

Pyongyang, July 28 (KCNA) -- Many areas of the DPRK have been seriously affected by heavy rainfalls again.

According to data available for the Hydro-meteorological Service, 100-500mm torrential rains came down in some areas of North and South Hwanghae, Kangwon and South Hamgyong provinces and Kaesong City from around 00:00 Tuesday to noon Thursday.

It rained 564mm, 469mm, 339mm and 337mm in South Hwanghae Province's Chongdan, Pongchon and Kangryong counties and Haeju City respectively. And it rained 397mm in Kaesong City and 343mm, 333mm, 328mm in Kangwon Province's Sepho, Phyonggang and Changdo counties respectively and 341mm in Phyongsan County, North Hwanghae Province.

The downpours severely damaged economic sectors in the afflicted areas.

An initial survey shows more than 36,000 hectares of cropland were flooded in South Hwanghae Province, some 20,000 hectares of them being submerged.

Thousands of dwelling houses and hundreds of industrial establishments, schools and public buildings were destroyed.

Korean Central News Agency

29 Jul 2011

S.Koreans on landmine alert after deadly mudslides

28 Jul 2011 09:28

Source: Reuters // Reuters

About 10 landmines have not been recovered

Damage from storms seen at hundreds of millions of dollars

North Korea also hit by storms (Adds president, details, updates toll)

By Jeremy Laurence and Seongbin Kang

SEOUL, July 28 (Reuters) - South Koreans were cautioned about rogue landmines and explosives on Thursday after scores of deadly landslides in and around the capital swamped homes, a monastery and military sites after the heaviest rainfall in a century, officials said.

Read the full report on the *Alertnet*

Reuters - AlertNet

28 Jul 2011

Floods - July 2011

Links: *Floods: Situation Report #1*

Heavy Rain Damage: Situation Report #2

UN Country Team in DPRK

28 Jul 2011

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

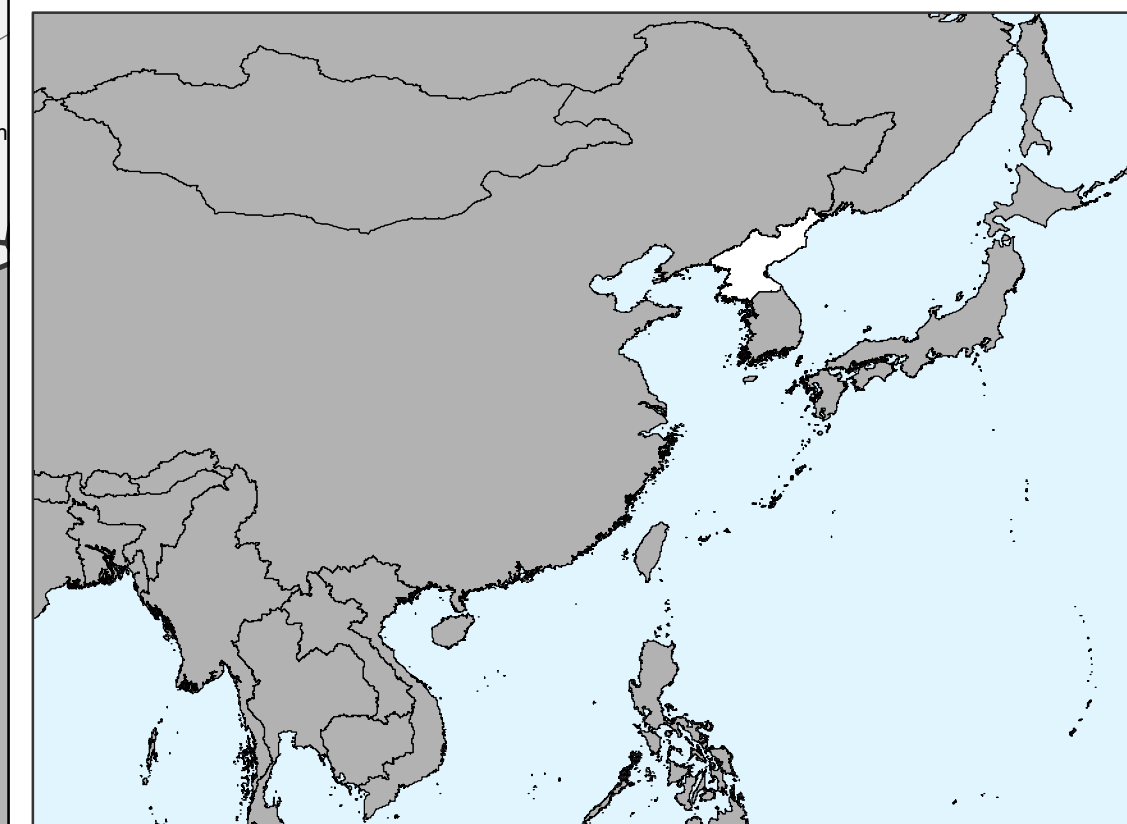
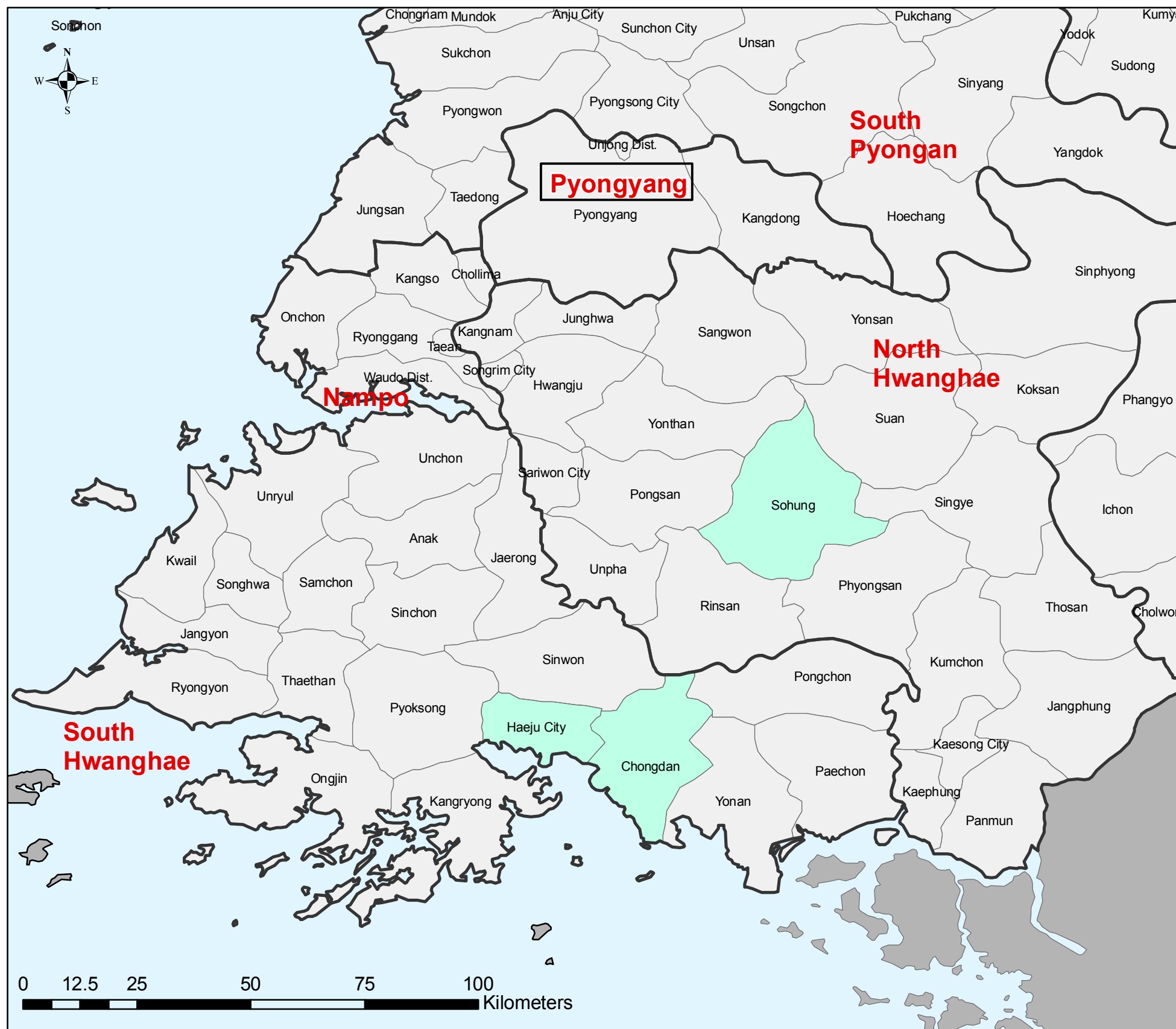
Floods - July 2011



UN - DPRK

 Counties to be visited in North and South Hwanghae provinces by the Interagency Assessment Team on Monday 25 July 2011

 Provinces/areas reported to be affected by floods and heavy rains between 10-15 July 2011



DISCLAIMER:
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

SPATIAL REFERENCE:
Geographic Coordinate System WGS 1984.

MAP DATA SOURCE(s):
GAUL, UN Cartographic Section, WFP

MAP PRODUCED BY:
WFP DPRK / VAM Unit, 22 July 2011

Heavy Rain Damage: Situation Report #2

This report details the effects of heavy rain occurring in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). It is based on information from the Government of DPRK and preliminary information gathered by an inter-Agency visit to the affected areas. A request for specific, sectoral data on extent of damages and supported needed, has been forwarded to the Government.

SITUATION

UN agencies and the IFRC accompanied the Government to the following areas for a joint visit on Monday 25 th July: Chongdan County in South Hwanghae, Haeju City and Sonhung County in North Hwanghae.

Preliminary information from local authorities as reported below:

Water and Sanitation:

There is no evidence of flood damage of WASH infrastructure in the areas visited. However, since many families rely on shallow dug wells and hand pumps, the heavy rain has affected the groundwater quality temporarily and diarrhoeal cases are expected to rise. It is important that the dug wells are cleaned and disinfected and people advised to home treat the water (by boiling or with purification tablets) before consumption. The county should plan to repair or replace the two submerged /damaged pump station as soon as possible to restore the water supply. Any support needed for restoration should be provided as soon as possible.

Golsan Ri, Chongdan County, South Hwanghae

× Local authorities reported 107 houses (of 2,000) and 2 nurseries (of 12) damaged or destroyed. Children from one of the damaged nurseries now placed in the ri (district) office building. Observed damage was more due to prolonged rain; no sign of flood in the village visited.

× Local authorities reported damage to the ri's water pumping system. Team however observed no sign of existing water system in the area. Residents confirmed traditional water collection through wells or roar pumps. Team observed two collapsed houses.

Chongdan County, Pumping Station:

Authorities reported that 4 pumping stations serve 7,000 families of Chongdan County; two of these were reported submerged or damaged from the recent rain. The team observed submerged and damaged equipment at one pumping station. The water well was also submerged and seems to be contaminated from flood and rain. Affected families are currently obtaining water from dug wells and hand pumps.

Yongyang ri, Haeju City:

There was no observed piped water system in this ri; locals use dug wells which were affected by heavy rain. The water is reported contaminated.

Haeju City:

No flooding was observed in Haeju city despite local authorities reporting that water sources had overflowed, releasing muddy water into the city water supply network. Reportedly, 30% of the city dwellers do not have access to clean water as a result. Due to poor road connectivity, authorities advised the team not to visit the affected source.

28 Jul 2011

DPRK: Heavy Rain Damage: Situation Report #2
July 27, 2011

This report details the effects of heavy rain occurring in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). It is based on information from the Government of DPRK and preliminary information gathered by an inter-Agency visit to the affected areas. A request for specific, sectoral data on extent of damages and supported needed, has been forwarded to the Government.

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Reportedly, 30% of the city dwellers do not have access to clean water as a result. Due to poor road connectivity, authorities advised the team not to visit the affected source.

Health:

Chongdan County, south Hwanghae Province

It was reported that 10 health facilities were completely or partially damaged, and diarrhoea among children increased 20 % above average. 370 doctors, 250 nurses and 48 midwives are currently working at the affected areas.

Haegu City, south Hwanghae Province

- × The 40-bed Infectious Diseases Hospital has completely crumbled. All the patients were evacuated to other hospitals.
- × Reportedly, 5 health facilities were completely or partially damaged, and diarrhoea among children increased by 15% above average.

Sohung County, north Hwanghae Province

- × 8 health facilities were completely or partially damaged, out of total 32. Diarrhoeal cases increased 40% above average among the children.
- × 90 doctors, 40 nurses and 12 midwives are currently working in flood affected areas.

Major health problems & expressed needs

- × Diarrhoea, ARI incidence increase for 25-40% particularly among children; malaria incidence increased, skin diseases are increased in all the affected areas.
- × 70~80% of all registered health staff and volunteers are mobilized for the emergency health care activities which include health education, injury dressing, medical check-up, 1st aid care, anti-epidemic activities, referral, etc., while all the available health facilities and disease surveillance posts, ambulances and warehouses are on 24-hour vigilance status.
- × The health authorities expressed the needs for augmentation of the medicine & vaccine stock, essential drugs such as antipyretics and antibiotics, IV fluid, nutritious food such as plumpy-nuts and F100, medical consumables such as gauze and dressings and the transportation means such as ambulance and motorbikes.

Food Security and Agriculture:

- × It is not possible to estimate food related problems at the moment. It is reported that food stocks that people kept in the houses have been washed away. As reported by officials, only a limited number of households seem to have been in need of assistance presently. Damage to houses appears to be limited in number, affecting few hundred households.
- × Damage to agriculture land was reported as serious in some visited counties. It is possible that damages to both early (wheat, barley and potatoes) and main crops (mainly rice) could reduce the overall food production and availability. Estimate of the reduction of paddy production has not yet been calculated.

RESPONSE:

1. IFRC released 600 family kits and 2,460 family kits to South and North Hwanghae Provinces which are being distributed to the families by local Red Cross.
2. WHO released the following items to local authorities:
 - a. 4 Household Doctor Bags to Chongdan County, South Hwanghae Province

- b. 9 Household Doctor Bags to Haeju City, South Hwanghae Province
- c. 7 HHD Bags to Sohung County, North Hwanghae Province

3. UNICEF released the following items to the affected population:

Item	Qty per County			Total for 3 Counties *	
	Qty	Unit	Packing	Qty	Packing
ORS	1,000	sachet	2 CTN	3,000	6 CTNs
Leaflet	500	each	1 Pack	1,500	3 Packs
Water Purification Tablet	20,000	each	2 CTN	60,000	6 CTNs
Soap	600	bar	3 CTN	1,800	9 CTNs
ECD Kit	1	kit	1 box	3	3 boxes
* 3 Counties include Chongdan County & Haeju City in South Hwanghae Province and Sohung County in North Hwanghae Province. UNICEF handed over the emergency supplies to the designated official of respective County People's Committee during their joint UN assessment mission on 25 July 2011.					

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Dr. Libby Kennard
Representative, Save the Children
Co-Chair, IACP Group
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libby@eupsunit2.com

Floods: Situation Report #1

This report on the floods occurring in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is based on information from the Government of DPRK and other sources. A map of flood-affected area is below.

SITUATION

The average annual rainfall in DPRK has been recorded at 1000 mm per year. Between June 23 and July 16, 2011, Nampo city, South Hamyong, North and South Hwanghae were hit by torrential rains, causing extensive flooding. It is reported that precipitation levels reached 250 mm i.e., a quarter of the annual rainfall within five days.

Some preliminary details as below:

Kaesong City and North Hwanghae Province: 9,500 ha of paddy land submerged and almost 900 dwelling either fully destroyed or partially damaged.

South Hwanghae Province: Of a total 15,000 ha of farmland, 10,000 ha are currently submerged. Also reported as affected are houses, public buildings, and roads. A total of 2,460 dwellings were partially or fully destroyed in five counties: Haeju (350), Pongchon (38), Paechon (440), Yonnan (733), Chongdan (899). In addition, two clinics were found completely destroyed while seven were partially damaged. There are also reports of polluted wells, boreholes, and submerged pump stations raising serious health concerns. Kindergartens and nurseries are also reportedly damaged. In Hamhung City it has been reported that there have been some casualties, some houses destroyed, and transportation difficulties.

The Government and International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) assessments are still ongoing. Detailed statistics about affected population, extent of affected housing stock, and priority areas for response are currently not known.

Immediate forecasts (21-28 July) suggest light rains over the weekend and further rain at the beginning of the week, with a peak in the Pyongyang area.

UN Country Team in DPRK

28 Jul 2011

DPRK Floods: Situation Report #1
July 22, 2011

This report on the floods occurring in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is based on information from the Government of DPRK and other sources. A map of flood-affected area is below.

SITUATION

1. The average annual rainfall in DPRK has been recorded at 1000 mm per year. Between June 23 and July 16, 2011, Nampo city, South Hamyong, North and South Hwanghae were hit by torrential rains, causing extensive flooding. It is reported that precipitation levels reached 250 mm i.e., a quarter of the annual rainfall within five days.
2. Some preliminary details as below:
 - Kaesong City and North Hwanghae Province: 9,500 ha of paddy land submerged and almost 900 dwelling either fully destroyed or partially damaged.
 - South Hwanghae Province: Of a total 15,000 ha of farmland, 10,000 ha are currently submerged. Also reported as affected are houses, public buildings, and roads. A total of 2,460 dwellings were partially or fully destroyed in five counties: Haeju (350), Pongchon (38), Paechon (440), Yonnan (733), Chongdan (899). In addition, two clinics were found completely destroyed while seven were partially damaged. There are also reports of polluted wells, boreholes, and submerged pump stations raising serious health concerns. Kindergartens and nurseries are also reportedly damaged.
 - In Hamhung City it has been reported that there have been some casualties, some houses destroyed, and transportation difficulties.
3. The Government and International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) assessments are still ongoing. Detailed statistics about affected population, extent of affected housing stock, and priority areas for response are currently not known.
4. Immediate forecasts (21-28 July) suggest light rains over the weekend and further rain at the beginning of the week, with a peak in the Pyongyang area.

RESPONSE:

1. The Government has begun mobilising its own resources to support the flood-affected population. The Government has also requested that emergency pre-positioned stocks from the UN be released for the flood-affected populations.
2. Given the formal request from the government to respond, the Inter-Agency Contingency Planning Group has been activated.
3. An inter-agency team (UN agencies and Save the Children International) is to visit affected areas (Haeju City, Chongdan county/South Hwanghae Province) and (Sonhung County, North Hwanghae Province) in a joint assessment mission with the Government.
4. In all affected areas, local Red Cross volunteers responded by providing first aid to the injured. The Red Cross also provided transport of the most serious cases to referral hospitals. A total of 859 Red Cross volunteers helped affected populations with evacuation and temporary shelter. Another 630 volunteers were mobilised for hygiene promotion activities combined with the distribution of water purification tablets.

5. The Red Cross has also distributed over 600 emergency relief kits to affected families in Kaesong and North Hwanghae (one emergency relief kit contains 2 tarpaulins, 4 blankets, one cooking set, and one jerry can). In South Hwanghae, besides water purification tablets, family hygiene kits (body soap, laundry soap, sanitary pads, hand towels, mirror, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush, razor, comb) will be distributed to 2,460 affected families in the coming days.

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Coal Mines Damaged by Heavy Rain

Pyongyang, July 20 (KCNA) -- Coal mines in the DPRK suffered damage from heavy rainfalls that hit the country from July 12 to 15.

Tens of pits and some 150 cutting faces of over 30 coal mines in the western part of the country were submerged. And hundreds of thousands of tons of coal were washed away from some 40 coal yards.

Bridges were destroyed and railways wrecked by landslides in Sunchon, Tokchon and Pukchang, causing obstacle to coal transport in the areas.

Production has been suspended in coal mines belonging to the Hamnam and Chonnae area coal mining complexes with many pits and cutting faces inundated and pumping equipment not working properly for electricity shortage.

The recent downpours seriously affected the coal output and transport and electricity production of the country.

Korean Central News Agency

21 Jul 2011

Floods Hammer Homes And Fields

Dramatic flooding following heavy rains is adding a new challenge for the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, many of whom are already going hungry as food supplies run thinner and thinner. Children in particular remain highly vulnerable to malnutrition.

A recent World Food Programme (WFP) mission to Wonsan and Hamhung, east of the capital Pyongyang, witnessed widespread flooding and damage to farmland. Rivers have broken their banks and in many cases forced people from their homes.

The flooding has only deepened concerns for the overall food supply situation in the country.

"The rivers are swollen, brown in colour and gushing down," said WFP DPRK Country Director Claudia von Roehl. "We have seen large fields completely swamped, with people wading around in the water trying to salvage whatever they can – normally potatoes."

Given the scale of the flooding, it is likely any foodstuff rescued from the fields will be useful only for animal feed.

DPR Korea is highly vulnerable to floods – last year Sinuiju province suffered particularly badly – and also poorly equipped to mitigate damage and deal with the aftermath of inundations. This year's floods come at a particularly bad time – in the middle of a nationwide campaign to ensure the best possible rice and maize harvest later in the year. Although it is too early to know the true impact of the floods on food production, in some areas it will clearly be significant.

WFP's current operation in DRPK aims to provide vital food supplies to 3.5 million of the most vulnerable children, their mothers and the elderly, and requires about US\$18 million per month in funding to ensure proper coverage.

World Food Programme

20 Jul 2011

Heavy Rains Hit DPRK

Pyongyang, July 16 (KCNA) -- Heavy rains hit different parts of the DPRK from July 12 to 15, causing damage.

Hard hit were North and South Hwanghae provinces and South Hamgyong Province. Rainfall registered more than 250 mm in all parts of South Hwanghae Province.

The downpour left at least 15 000 hectares of farmland inundated, taking the province as a whole. 10 000 hectares of them completely went under water and a lot of dwelling houses, public buildings and roads were destroyed.

More than 3 000 hectares of paddy and non-paddy fields were submerged or brought under silt in Chongdan County. Haeju City, Thaethan, Ongjin, Pyoksong, Jaeryong and Sinchon counties were also hit hard by torrential rain.

Several dykes were destroyed and at least 5 900 hectares of paddy and non-paddy fields were inundated or brought under silt in North Hwanghae Province. Heavy rains caused damage to some parts of South Hamgyong Province.

Torrential rain hit Hamhung City on Thursday and Friday, leaving dwelling houses destroyed and causing casualties. It also left hundreds of hectares of farmland completely inundated and roads destroyed to bring traffic to suspension.

Steps are being taken to recover from the damage in the afflicted areas.

Korean Central News Agency

16 Jul 2011

DPRK Hit by Heavy Rainfalls Again

Pyongyang, July 15 (KCNA) -- Many areas of the DPRK were hit by torrential rainfalls again on Thursday and Friday.

On Thursday it rained 40 mm in Samchon County, South Hwanghae Province from 19:25 to 20:25 and 82 mm in Jaeryong County, 71 mm in Thaethan County, 64 mm in Sinchon County, South Hwanghae Province and 50 mm in Hwangju County, North Hwanghae Province from 18:00 to 21:00.

From 21:00 to 24:00, Sungho County of North Hwanghae Province, Sonchon County of North Phyongan Province and Samsok District of Pyongyang had 62 mm, 60 mm and 56 mm rainfalls respectively.

In particular, there were 58 mm, 67 mm and 54 mm downpours in Pukchang County, South Phyongan Province at three-hour intervals from 21:00 Thursday to 06:00 Friday.

The torrential rainfalls brought damage to cropland, collieries, mines and other economic establishments in South and North Hwanghae Provinces, Nampho City and other areas.

The downpours also did harm to transport.

A survey of the damage is now under way.

Korean Central News Agency

16 Jul 2011

Some Areas of DPRK Hit by Heavy Rain

Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA) -- Some areas of the DPRK were affected by heavy rainfalls caused by the front hovering over the central part of the country.

From 06:00 Tuesday to 09:00 Wednesday, Sohung, Koksan, Sinphyong and Rinsan counties, North Hwanghae Province had 201 mm, 161 mm, 141 mm and 137 mm rainfalls respectively and Thaethan, Chongdan, Pyoksong and Ongjin counties, South Hwanghae Province had 177 mm, 139 mm, 120 mm and 113 mm rainfalls.

It rained more than 100 mm in most areas of South Phyongan, South Hamgyong and Kangwon provinces and Kaesong City.

From 21:00 to 24:00 Tuesday, there were an 89 mm downpour in Thaethan County and 62 mm in Samchon County in South Hwanghae Province and 61 mm in Nampho City. It rained 80 mm in Sohung County, North Hwanghae Province and 63 mm in Sinyang County, South Phyongan Province from 03:00 to 06:00 Wednesday.

Heavy rains are likely to fall throughout the country until July 16.

Korean Central News Agency

14 Jul 2011