

OVERVIEW

A long period of abnormally dry weather has caused drought in DPR Korea (DPRK) affecting agricultural production, reducing access to water and leading to a deterioration of health, nutrition and sanitary conditions.

18 million

affected in PDS-dependent households who are vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition.

According to official meteorological data, all provinces received below average rainfall, particularly in May and June this year.

Since late July, most of DPRK saw moderate rainfall raising the cumulative rainfall total for 2015¹. However, single rain events will not break the drought, only providing short-term relief. Torrential rain may provide additional benefits, but may also have adverse impacts. Most of the rain will run off rather than soak into the ground and flooding may result². This happened during rains in August, affecting several provinces.

WHAT IS THE OUTLOOK?

To significantly improve drought conditions, more rain is required over several months to return conditions to within the normal range². According to the International Research Institute for Climate and Society, DPRK should expect near normal rainfall for the rest of 2015. However, it is unclear how much this will mitigate the initial damage crops suffered as a result of insufficient water during planting.

36% received to address total humanitarian needs in DPRK as of August 2015.

RESPONSE

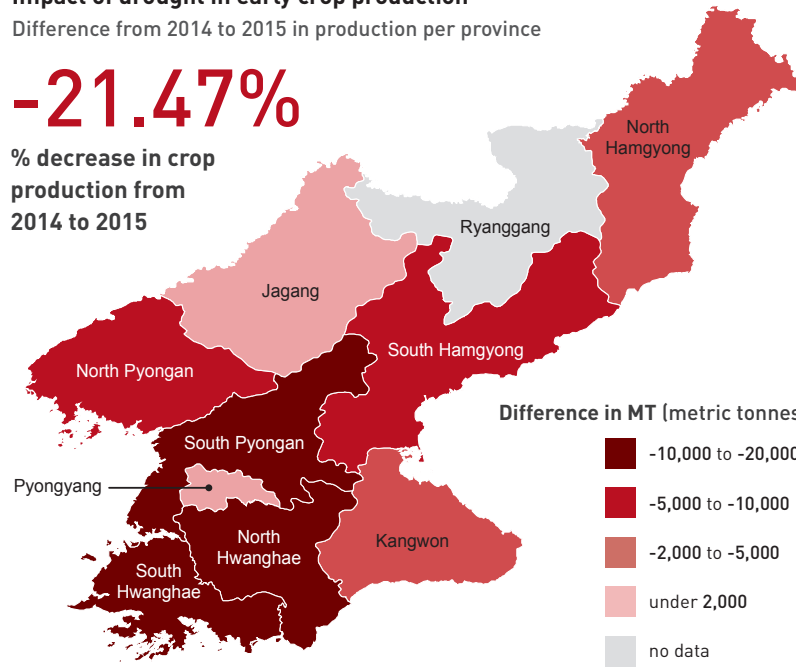
The full impact of the drought will not be clear until after the main crop harvest (Sep/Oct). FAO tentatively forecasts rice production to be 12% below 2014³. UN agencies are providing assistance to 1.3 million people in nutrition and WASH, in addition to their normal humanitarian programmes. In 2015, UN agencies are requesting \$117 million to address needs in DRPK.

Impact of drought in early crop production

Difference from 2014 to 2015 in production per province

-21.47%

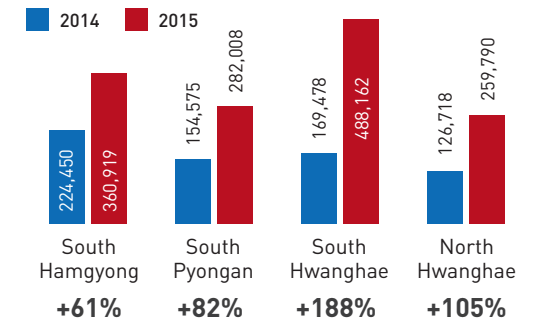
% decrease in crop production from 2014 to 2015



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Data provided by National Coordinating Committee, DPRK Government, June 2015.

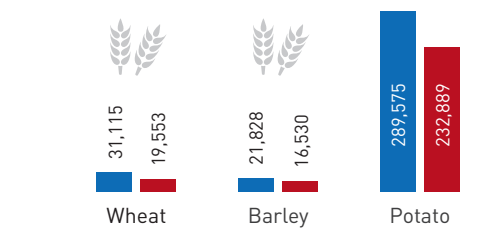
Rates of diarrhea reported by province

in 2014 and 2015



Wheat, barley and potato yields

comparing 2014 and 2015 (MT)



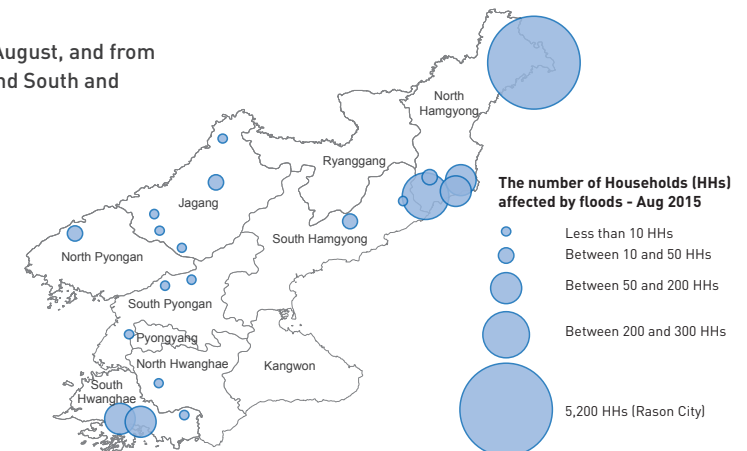
DPR KOREA FLOODING

DPRK experienced flooding associated with seasonal rains in early August, and from Tropical Cyclone Goni on 22-23 August, affecting South Hwanghae and South and North Hamgyong Provinces.

14,648 people displaced

4,011 hectares of crops damaged

For both flooding events, the Government of DPRK supported by the DPRK Red Cross undertook assessments identifying the immediate needs as drinking water, emergency shelter, warm clothing, cooking facilities and hygiene kits. The government and the Red Cross provided relief assistance, including food, tents, tarpaulins, water purification tables and other non-food items.^{4,5}



Sources: 1. US Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agriculture Service, 20 July 2015, 2. US Geological Survey, Water Fact Sheet, 1993, 3. FAO, El Nino in Asia, 29 July 2015, 4. IFRC, 5. DPRK Red Cross