



# Democratic People's Republic of Korea

## Agricultural Rehabilitation and Recovery Programme 2009

### Presentation to Donor Meetings in Pyongyang, Beijing and Seoul – October 2008

Special Emergency Programmes Service  
Emergency Operations and Rehabilitation Division  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

# State of Agriculture in DPR Korea



- ❑ Harvest losses due to 2007 floods – set pattern for 2008, i.e. standing crop losses, seeds for next season, food shortages, high food price rises.
- ❑ Damage to farm infrastructure, dams, reservoirs, irrigation systems, many watercourses remain heavily silted.



# State of Agriculture in DPR Korea (cont'd)



- ❑ Farm equipment poor condition, shortages spare parts, fuel.
- ❑ Critical shortage of fertilizer.
- ❑ China exports tax introduced 1 Jan 2008 heavy blow (since increased)



# Response within Farming Sector



- ❑ Heavy reliance on animal draught power, but animals not numerous, limited by feed, overworked.



- ❑ Use of alternative fertilizer during main season but large amounts needed. Not sustainable. Very labour-demanding.

## Response within Farming Sector (cont'd)



- ❑ Mass mobilization to repair farm infrastructure, but temporary, lack of materials.
- ❑ Expansion of Double Cropping, emphasis on potatoes – temporary alleviation of food shortage.
- ❑ Main crops – weather favourable, no major pest outbreaks, but fertilizer shortage.



# FAO/WFP Rapid Food Security Assessment Recommendations – June 2008



- ☐ Prioritize agricultural inputs – fertilizer, plastic sheeting, wheat, barley seeds.
- ☐ Conservation Agriculture.
- ☐ Double Cropping.
- ☐ Vegetable production.
- ☐ Agro-forestry.
- ☐ Recovery of livestock sector.



# Longer-Term Measures



- ❑ Varietals improvement.
- ❑ Pest eradication.
- ❑ Control of avian influenza (AI), foot-and-mouth disease (FMD).
- ❑ Rehabilitation/expansion of gravity-fed irrigation systems.



# Review of FAO Activities in 2008



- ❑ Seeds, fertilizer, plastic sheeting provided for spring 2008 crops to farms which lost essential inputs during 2007 floods.
- ❑ Initiative Soaring Food Prices – Agricultural inputs provided through UN Common Emergency and Recovery Fund and FAO Technical Cooperation Programme. Further submission to EC.
- ❑ Conclusion of Swedish-funded project on support for agriculture and horticulture (CA, fruit production, soil testing, coordination activities).



## Review of FAO Activities in 2008 (cont'd)



- ❑ Continuity of CA through Netherlands-funded project – integration of potatoes into Double Cropping – main objective in 2008 is building improved potato storage.
- ❑ AI and FMD – building laboratory facilities for rapid diagnostic capability.
- ❑ Forestry protection – eradication of pine caterpillar threat to pine forests in watershed areas bordering western granary areas– insecticide treated bands.

# Training



- ❑ Foot and Mouth Disease lab diagnostics – China
- ❑ Fruit production study tour – China
- ❑ Conservation Agriculture study tour – Italy
- ❑ Soil laboratory training – China
- ❑ Training staff for BSL-2 operational standards in Avian Influenza and FMD laboratories – China





# Rationale for Future Projects

- ❑ Diversity – range of sectors, through involvement of ministries and technical institutes, encourage cross fertilization ideas.
- ❑ Retain focus on agriculture in higher potential cropping areas.
- ❑ Develop opportunities for coastal and highland areas.

# Rationale for Future Projects (cont'd)



- ☐ Disseminate technical innovations over wider area.
- ☐ Economizing/rational use of high-cost inputs, i.e. fuel, fertilizer.
- ☐ Consumption, food processing/preservation.
- ☐ Emergency Preparedness – DPR Korea prone to range of natural disasters.



# Projects for 2009



- ☐ Double Cropping/Conservation Agriculture
- ☐ Agro-forestry/Sloping Land Management
- ☐ Fisheries
- ☐ Soybean processing





## Projects for 2009 (cont'd)

- ☐ Expanding dairy production
- ☐ Integrated crop/livestock
- ☐ Improved livestock feed
- ☐ Preparedness planning
- ☐ Vegetable seed multiplication



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