

**EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR'S  
KEY MESSAGES ON DPR KOREA  
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**I. Key Messages**

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1. More than 6 million people need food assistance in the DPR Korea, and the outside world is not giving enough. People are suffering through no fault of their own. They deserve our help.
2. This crisis is caused primarily by a complex mix of chronic poverty and underdevelopment, in addition to natural disasters. Agricultural production is constrained by soil degradation, difficult weather conditions, and very limited mechanization. DPRK does not have enough arable land to produce all the food it needs, and will not be self-sufficient for the foreseeable future. Creative solutions are needed.
3. An unacceptable number of children under the age of five are malnourished. One in three children are chronically malnourished nationwide; and almost one in two in the north. This will have long-term implications, even if drastic action is taken today.
4. Humanitarian assistance is making a real and measurable difference. The UN and partners have received only one third of the US \$218m needed to tackle this crisis. I hope donors will give more.
5. The DPRK government must share more information to show what the challenges are, and to reassure donors that their money is being well spent. More international support will depend on the credibility of this information. Monitoring and access conditions for international humanitarian organizations also need to continue to improve.

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