Capacity building

The project is helping to build capacity of Korean technical staff and institutions to enable them to initiate contact with non-Korean institutions. This will strengthen their expertise to alleviate the problems of food security using their own national means. Furthermore it empowers the Korean project partners to discuss and define which food security actions would be the most appropriate in the DPR Korea context and how they can best approach them.

Activity areas
The covered sectors in the project activities are: organic arable crops and vegetable production, organic fertilisers, natural resource management, livestock husbandry as well as managerial issues and organic production standards (at the model farm).

Contact and further information

Funding
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Dates of project
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Project partner
Academy of Agricultural Sciences - Organic Agriculture Research Institute (AAS – OARI), Pyongyang, DPR Korea

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EXCELLENCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Organic agriculture contributes to food security in DPR Korea

The Establishment of a Competence Centre for Organic and Sustainable Agriculture in the DPR of Korea; Project Nr.: DCI-FOOD/2010/233-922

This project is funded by The European Union

Organic agriculture in DPR Korea

Organic agriculture (OA) offers a unique combination of low external input technology, environmental conservation and input/output efficiency. Under conditions where access to plant protection products and fertilizers is limited, OA has proven to increase agricultural productivity compared to traditional agriculturale systems as long as the introduction of these techniques coincide with training and capacity building.

The national strategy of DPR Korea promotes low input and organic agriculture. Therefore, professionals in the agricultural sector in DPR Korea are determined to strengthen their knowledge, technique and experience in the field of OA. That said, several constraints are seen when introducing OA on a larger scale, as a comprehensive farming system going beyond individual farming techniques. Within the framework of this project, first steps are taken to overcome these obstacles and to introduce OA in DPR Korea.

Aims of the project

The primary objective of the project is to contribute to food security in DPR Korea by applying enhanced organic techniques to achieve a sustainable agricultural production.

Within this project partnership, the following results shall be acomplished:

- Achievement of theoretical and practical knowledge in OA; one farm unit converted to OA, serves as a model farm.
- Development and implementation of an on-farm research concept; initial scientific results on the application of OA techniques in DPR Korea are demonstrated.
- Establishment of a competence centre to disseminate OA technology know-how.
- Expertise and training on OA gained through a Korean expert team familiar with OA techniques and qualified to run an organic agricultural competence centre.

Korean Competence Centre for Organic Agriculture (KCCOA)

Central to this project is the establishment of a Korean Competence Centre for Organic Agriculture (KCCOA). FiBL is supporting the local partner - the Academy of Agricultural Sciences - Organic Agriculture Research Institute (AAS - OARI) - in building the centre on a farm for:

- research and training purposes
- practical application and demonstration of OA techniques
- introduction and dissemination of OA techniques in DPR Korea

The model farm and the research activities provide the basis for achieving practical experience with organic production and for developing locally adapted farming techniques, crops and livestock systems while considering the specific conditions in DPR Korea (e.g. climate, soils, crops and socio-economic conditions).

Location
The KCCOA is implemented on a 30 hectare state-run experimental farm (Mirim farm) managed by AAS - OARI. The selected farm is about 5 km from Pyongyang's city centre and 8 km from the research complex of AAS - OARI.