

Update 11: North Korea - Plans to Extend COVID-19 Restrictions; Warns of Food Shortage in Country Due to Extension of Restrictions

- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un indicated that the country would extend its pandemic lockdown despite the stress on its economy
- He warned about possible food shortages due to the extended COVID-19 restrictions
- Meanwhile, the economy has decayed further amid pandemic border closures, which choked off trade with China
- The devastating typhoons and floods have destroyed the crops
- Monitors assessing the situation in North Korea have yet to see signs of mass starvation or major instability
- While some analysts have stated that conditions could be aligning for a situation that undercuts food and exchange markets and triggers public panic
- Kim Jong-un had urged officials to find ways to boost agricultural production, stating that the country's food situation is getting tense
- Supply Wisdom will continue to monitor and issue alerts for any relevant developments

Source(s)

<https://www.firstpost.com/world/kim-jong-un-warns-of-food-shortages-longer-covid-19-lockdown-in-north-korea-9721601.html>
<https://www.indiatoday.in/world/story/kim-jong-un-warns-of-longer-covid-lockdown-in-north-korea-1815409-2021-06-16>
<https://zeenews.india.com/world/kim-jong-un-warns-of-tense-food-situation-longer-covid-lockdown-in-north-korea-2369478.html>

Targets Affected:

North Korea

Category(s):

Geo-Political Risk

Event:

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Incident(s)

Guidance

Actions to consider:

- SW Subscribers having a presence of business operations in North Korea are advised to ensure that Business Continuity plans and programs are commensurate with the level and types of risk exposures of the location
- It is advised that current Business Continuity Plans are updated and activated as required as per the changing risk environment to ensure no or minimal disruptions
- In an event of extended risk disrupting business operations, evaluate options to migrate critical processes to nearby unaffected regions
- Consider implementing suggested actions related to 'Lockdown/Emergency/Extension of Lockdown/Other Restrictions' under the 'COVID-19: Actions to Consider' section below / next page

Related Alerts

May 5, 2021

Low

Update 10: North Korea - Faces
Economic Crisis Amid COVID-19
Pandemic

April 22, 2021

Medium

Update 9: North Korea - Tightens
Border Restrictions with China Amid
COVID-19 Pandemic

Nov. 30, 2020

High

Update 8: North Korea - Government
Toughens Border Restrictions Amid
COVID-19 Pandemic

Nov. 28, 2020

High

Update 7: Pyongyang, North Korea -
Orders Execution of Two Lawmakers
and Announces Lockdown in Capital
Amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Nov. 16, 2020

Medium

Update 6: North Korea - Announces
Tightening of COVID-19 Restrictions

Nov. 7, 2020

High

Update 5: Hyesan, North Korea -
Imposes Lockdown to Avoid Spread of
COVID-19

Oct. 27, 2020

Medium

Update 4: North Korea - To Resume
International Train Service with China
from November 30, 2020

Aug. 14, 2020

Medium

Update 3: Kaesŏng, North Korea - Lifts
Lockdown in Border Town Amid
Decrease in COVID-19 Cases

July 26, 2020

Immediate

Update 2: North Korea - Declares
Lockdown in Border as It Reports First
Suspected COVID-19 Case

May 20, 2020

Medium

Update 1: North Korea - Relaxes
COVID-19 Restrictions on Foreign
Diplomats

May 7, 2020

Medium

North Korea - Reports Speculate
Economic Woes and Panic Buying
Amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Impact level Definitions

Impact Level	Definitions
Immediate	Certain - Supply Wisdom recommends considering prompt action. Examples of Immediate level alert events may include bankruptcy filings, data breaches, unexpected curfews, strikes, power black-outs, major geo-political events etc.
High	Highly likely to occur in the near term (within 3 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends being in a state of readiness to take quick action. Examples of High level alert events may include withdrawal of rating by ratings agencies, hostile takeover, multiple cyber-attacks, new business policies causing significant hardship etc.
Medium	Likely to occur in the mid-term (within 3 to 6 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends reviewing current mitigation steps and being ready to take proactive actions if and when situation deteriorates further. Examples of Medium level alert events may include unplanned C-level exits, suppliers caught in bribery cases, economy slipping into recession.
Low	Possible in the long-term (after 6 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends taking proactive action if situation does not resolve. Examples of Low level alert events may include lawsuits filed against suppliers, client losses, air pollution alerts issued by country's local authorities, unexpected holidays announced for the location etc.
Informational	The event is pertinent information but does not have a risk element associated with it. Examples of Info level alert events may include launch of new solutions, partnerships signed, industry outlook, positive changes in government policies, announcements regarding launch of software parks/ free trade zones/special economic zones etc.