

North Korea's Decade-Long Reforestation Drive: Real Gains, Verified Shortfall

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · North Korea

Quality score: 40/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Satellite analysis found North Korea added 1.22M ha of forest in 2015-2024 — 73% of target — reversing prior decline, even as peer-reviewed fieldwork documents afforestation failures in mountainous provinces.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	2/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-09-10

DPRK Ministry of Land and Environment Protection — accessed 2026-09-10

Trees, Forests and People (ScienceDirect, open access) — accessed 2026-09-10

Anadolu Agency — satellite forest-gain analysis — accessed 2026-09-10

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