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# **UNIFICATION WHITE PAPER**

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Ministry of Unification



2023

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Ministry of Unification

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## PREFACE



Since the liberation in 1945, the Republic of Korea has experienced remarkable growth and development in almost all areas including politics, society, and culture, as well as the economy. Through the efforts of the entire nation in cooperation with the international community, we have achieved abundance and prosperity, while building a society where the values of freedom and human rights have been established.

However, the peace and unification of the Korean Peninsula remains an unfinished task. Since its establishment in 1969, the Ministry of Unification has done its utmost to bridge the separation and pave the way for unification. While we have accomplished many meaningful achievements along the way, they were not enough to bring unification of the Korean Peninsula. We feel a deep sense of regret and a heavy responsibility.

The Korean Peninsula is facing major crisis and challenges. The international order is being shaken up by new factions, and the situation on the Korean Peninsula has been further destabilized by North Korea's ongoing nuclear threats and military provocations.

In these challenging times, the Yoon Suk Yeol administration, which took office in May 2022, reaffirmed the responsibility of “peaceful unification based on the basic free and democratic order” assigned to us by the Constitution, strived to normalize inter-Korean relations and lay the foundation for the unification of the Korean Peninsula in line with the values and principles we aspire to.

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Under the vision of creating a denuclearized, peaceful and prosperous Korean Peninsula, the Yoon Suk Yeol administration's unification and North Korea policy has three principles that we will not tolerate military provocations of any kind, develop mutually beneficial inter-Korean relations and lay the foundation for peaceful unification. The key tasks to accomplish the vision and principles are normalizing inter-Korean relations based on mutual respect, promoting human rights of North Korean people and addressing the pain brought by the national division, restoring ethnic homogeneity through open access and communication, as well as preparing for unification with the Korean people and the international community.

In particular, over the past year, the Ministry has been working hard to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue, which is the root cause of the threat to peace on the Korean Peninsula and the lives and property of the Korean people, and improve human rights situation of the North Korean people. We have also been working hard to secure the trust and support of the Korean people and the international community.

The government decisively responded to North Korea's nuclear threats and military provocations, and proposed the 「Audacious Initiative」 for North Korea's denuclearization. We also strived to improve the everyday lives and human rights situation of the North Korean people so that people in the North can realize freedom and human rights. Efforts were also made to resolve the human rights problems that the North Korean authorities are inflicting on our people, including separated families, abductees, and prisoners of the Korean war.

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The English version of the 2023 Unification White Paper includes detailed description of the Ministry of Unification’s work. As such, I hope that the White Paper will help enhance the international community’s understanding of the Yoon Suk Yeol administration’s unification and North Korea policy, and interest and will for the unification of the Korean Peninsula.

The Yoon Suk Yeol administration will work closely with the international community to spread understanding and consensus on the unification of the Korean Peninsula, and take courageous steps toward the future of peaceful unification based on liberal democracy.

Thank you.

August 2023  
Minister of Unification  
**Kim YungHo**



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# The Yoon Suk Yeol Administration's Unification and North Korea Policy

- A Denuclearized, Peaceful, and  
Prosperous Korean Peninsula

**Section 1.** Policy Background

**Section 2.** Vision and Principles

**Section 3.** Key Tasks

**Section 4.** Policy Achievements

**UNIFICATION WHITE PAPER**



# The Yoon Suk Yeol Administration's Unification and North Korea Policy

- A Denuclearized, Peaceful, and Prosperous Korean Peninsula

As the circumstances on the Korean Peninsula have become more severe in 2022, the stalemate between the two Koreas has continued. During President Yoon's New Year's Address and the address to commemorate the March 1<sup>st</sup> movement, the government of the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to as "the government") has repeatedly expressed its will for dialogue and cooperation. Also, in April, there was an exchange of letters between the leaders of the two Koreas. Yet, despite such efforts, North Korea has maintained its strong stance against the government and the United States. Even while facing protracted economic challenges, North Korea has continued its nuclear and missile threats as well as provocations which have escalated a sense of uncertainty and insecurity on the Korean peninsula.

In the midst of such circumstances, the Yoon Suk Yeol administration, which came into existence on May 10, 2022, proposed a "denuclearized, peaceful and prosperous Korean peninsula" as the vision for its unification and North Korea policy. The top priority of the government is to find a fundamental solution for North Korea's denuclearization through the 「Audacious Initiative」, a policy designed through the collaborated efforts of the related government agencies. On the National Liberation Day (August 15), President Yoon presented the 「Audacious Initiative」 to North Korea with the aim of bringing significant improvements to the North Korean economy and people's livelihood in accordance with practical steps that North Korea takes towards denuclearization.

A principled, and practical inter-Korean framework is the basic direction that the

Yoon administration set for its North Korea policy. Under the Yoon administration, the spirit of inter-Korean agreements secured by previous administrations was respected, and the accomplishments of the agreements were inherited. Yet, issues concerning North Korea's irrational stances and wrongdoings were reviewed so that the government could recalibrate its policies in accordance with the standards of the Korean people. The government has since taken a firm stance against North Korea's provocations and demanded that the North promote human rights and improve North Korean residents' livelihood. While the government has tried to implement its North Korea policies in a way that is based on universal values, the door for dialogue between the two Koreas was kept open and dialogue was proposed whenever there was an opportunity to do so.

The government has worked to establish a foundation for peaceful unification in coordination with the Korean people and the international community. The government made efforts to spread understanding and consensus among the Korean people about the government's unification and North Korea policy. During bilateral dialogues with foreign governments and on other occasions, the government outlined its unification and North Korea policies to gain support and understanding from international counterparts.

Under the Yoon administration, the focus of unification and North Korea policy has shifted to issues including North Korea's denuclearization, the normalization of inter-Korean relations, promotion of human rights in North Korea, and preparations for a unified future. The Ministry of Unification's role and structure were adjusted to meet the new policy direction of the government. The ministry especially sought to devise new strategies for a unified future while strengthening the foundation for unification. Accordingly, an advisory committee was established as a platform to collect diverse and creative ideas from experts outside of government.

Since 2020, North Korea has repeatedly rejected requests for inter-Korean and US-North Korea dialogues and instead has concentrated its efforts on developing its nuclear weapons and missile capabilities. In early 2022, North Korea began to fire ballistic missiles repeatedly, and on March 24, following an Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (hereinafter ICBM) test, North Korea officially declared that it had abandoned its moratorium for “nuclear and ICBM tests.” By the end of 2022, North Korea had fired over 70 rounds of ballistic missiles, a military provocation we have never witnessed in the history of inter-Korean relations. On September 8, during North Korea’s Supreme People’s Assembly’s passage of the Law on Nuclear Forces Policy (hereinafter referred to as the Nuclear Force Law), the North announced it would not abandon its development of nuclear weapons and even declared that they could be used preemptively. This demonstrates that North Korea continues to take an aggressive stance with its nuclear policy. On the one hand, the North Korean regime has made efforts to develop its economy based on self-reliance, a paradoxical circumstance that was created due to self-imposed isolation measures and border shutdown following the outbreak of COVID-19. On the other hand, throughout that same period, the Workers’ Party strengthened its internal control and disciplinary measures and scheme to restrict the flow of information as part of its efforts to strengthen solidarity under the regime.

The international order changed significantly following deepened strategic competition between the United States, China as well as the war in Ukraine, which started in February 2022 and continues until today. Other events have likewise solidified the confrontation between blocs. Such changes have led to stronger ties among North Korea, China, and Russia. North Korea has openly supported China and Russia on the China-Taiwan issue and Russia’s invasion of Ukraine respectively. Meanwhile, China and Russia have sided with North Korea in the United Nations Security Council, thereby strengthening strategic solidarity among three countries. The solidarity has brought new challenges to the international community’s implementation of sanctions against

North Korea.

As the division of two Koreas becomes a prolonged issue and as North Korea continues to develop its nuclear capacities while engaging in repeated provocations, a sense of fatigue regarding the North Korean issue has grown. According to the 2022 School Unification Education Survey, jointly conducted by the Ministry of Unification and Ministry of Education, 31.7% of elementary, middle and high school students responded that unification is not necessary, demonstrating that more young people than ever before feel that the South does not need to unify with the North.

The Yoon Suk Yeol administration, which came into office at a time when North Korea's nuclear and missile capacities had advanced and tension on the Korean Peninsula was escalating, emphasized its priority to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue and normalize inter-Korean relations. To bring back people's interest in issues pertaining to unification, the government has prioritized both preparing for unification and regaining

#### The audacious plan as mentioned in President Yoon's Inaugural Address (May 10)

"If North Korea genuinely embarks on a process to complete denuclearization, we are prepared to work with the international community to present an audacious plan that will vastly strengthen North Korea's economy and improve the North Korean people's quality of life."



#### The 「Audacious Initiative」 as proposed by President Yoon on Korea's 77<sup>th</sup> Liberation Day (August 15)

"The 「Audacious Initiative」 that I envision will significantly improve North Korea's economy and the North Korean people's livelihoods in stages if the North ceases the development of its nuclear program and embarks on a genuine and substantive denuclearization process."



people’s interest in unification-related issues.

During his inauguration speech, President Yoon declared that the government would prepare an “audacious plan” (later formalized as the 「Audacious Initiative」) on May 10 to resolve North Korea’s nuclear issue.

Following his inauguration address, in a speech commemorating Korea’s 77<sup>th</sup> Liberation Day on August 15, President Yoon introduced the 「Audacious Initiative」 as a means of finding a fundamental solution to the North Korean nuclear issue that has gotten worse over the past 30 years.

The 「Audacious Initiative」 is designed to build upon the denuclearization measures of past presidential administrations and learn from their mistakes in order to adapt to the changing environment for unification policy. The 「Audacious Initiative」 involves a step back from the government’s previous stance that the nuclear issue is something that needs to be discussed by the United States and North Korea. Instead, the initiative stipulates that the ROK government should take a leading role in the process. If North Korea returns to denuclearization negotiations, the government will take audacious initial measures. These will include corresponding economic measures based on North Korea’s steps towards denuclearization as well as military and political measures to address North Korea’s security concerns. Also, the initiative aims to swiftly take measures in ways that are phased and simultaneously pursued by the South and North to achieve the denuclearization of North Korea.

In doing so, the government will neither neglect nor deny the unification and North Korea policies of previous governments, but will instead pursue a “relay race” that inherits past accomplishments and learns from past mistakes.

#### Inauguration Speech by the Minister of Unification (May 16)

“We cannot ensure a development of unification policy by neglecting achievements of the past and changing everything.”

“As I seek to embark upon a new and bright future, I will craft a unification philosophy for the new government by building upon the achievements of previous governments.”



The government has respected and developed previous inter-Korean agreements, and tried to resolve the problems of the past such as acceding to North Korea and neglecting human rights issues. The government has also tried to normalize inter-Korean relations based on universal values like freedom and human rights.

To accomplish the ultimate goal of peaceful unification with its unification and North Korea policy, the government has worked to secure support from within and outside of the Korean Peninsula. In doing so, the government aims to take a balanced approach unlike previous North Korea policies that focused on improving relations with North Korea did. Considering the changing prospects for unification and the increasing gap between the two Koreas, the government is working to build upon the National Community Unification Formula as part of its effort to inherit and develop previous policies. To meet these objectives, the government systematically crafted and announced the Yoon Suk Yeol Administration's Unification and North Korea policy in November of 2022.

The government’s vision for its unification and North Korea policy is to establish a “denuclearized, peaceful and prosperous Korean peninsula,” which is supported by 3 principles and 5 key tasks.

### Unification and North Korea Policy of Yoon Suk Yeol Administration

#### Vision

A Denuclearized, Peaceful and Prosperous Korean Peninsula

#### Principles

- ① Ensure that military provocations of any kind will not be tolerated
- ② Develop mutually beneficial inter-Korean relations
- ③ Lay the foundation for peaceful unification

#### Key Tasks

- ① Create a virtuous cycle of denuclearization and trust building between the two Koreas
- ② Pursue normalization of inter-Korean relations based on mutual respect
- ③ Promote the human rights issues of North Korean people and address the pain brought by national division
- ④ Restore ethnic homogeneity through open access and communication
- ⑤ Prepare for unification with the Korean people and the international community

## 1 Vision

The establishment of a “denuclearized, peaceful, and prosperous Korean peninsula” is the vision of the government’s unification and North Korea policy.

## 2 Principles

### (1) Ensure that military provocations of any kind will not be tolerated

The government has made clear that it does not seek to alter the status quo through force nor has any hostility towards North Korea. Yet, the government's stance is that it will not tolerate North Korea's nuclear threats or military provocations. Therefore, the government will effectively deter and respond to North Korea's military provocations with its solid ROK-US alliance, and if necessary, will jointly respond to North Korea by working closely with the international community. While the government made coordination with the international community, continuous efforts were made to prevent accidental military clashes between the two Koreas and build confidence on military related issues.

#### President Yoon's press conference following his first 100 days in office (August 17)

"The ROK government and I will not seek to change North Korea by force. The most important thing is to establish sustainable peace between the two Koreas. If North Korea naturally changes as a result of our economic and diplomatic assistance, we will welcome such changes."



### (2) Develop mutually beneficial inter-Korean relations

Believing that all inter-Korean issues should be resolved through dialogue, the government will try to establish a state of inter-Korean relations based on mutual benefit and flexible reciprocity. Such an approach will create a new order for inter-Korean relations so that both Koreas can prosper. The government will maintain its principles while taking a pragmatic approach that considers the shared interests of the two Koreas as well as the differences between them.

### **(3) Lay the foundation for peaceful unification**

The government does not seek unification by absorption but instead will pursue peaceful unification based on a basic free and democratic order (as stipulated by Article 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Korea). Peaceful unification will remain an ultimate goal of the government, and in the process of accomplishing such a goal, the government will work for a denuclearized, peaceful, and prosperous Korean peninsula while enhancing cooperation and pursuing dialogue, both domestically and internationally. By doing so, the government will create the conditions for unification, via a step-by-step process.

Based on its vision and principles, the government has set five key tasks.

### 1 Create a Virtuous Cycle of Denuclearization and Trust-Building Between the Two Koreas

The government will implement the 「Audacious Initiative」 as the driver in its effort to completely denuclearize North Korea and thereby achieve sustainable peace and prosperity on the Korean peninsula. The 「Audacious Initiative」 has a policy goal of finding a fundamental resolution for North Korea's nuclear weapons, which have gotten worse over the past 30 years. The initiative seeks denuclearization measures in ways that are phased, simultaneously pursued by the South and North, and are accompanied by mutually-beneficial political and military actions. The 「Audacious Initiative」 is not simply about making proposals and waiting for North Korea's response; rather, it entails a comprehensive “3D” approach outlined below. In short, the government is focused on: deterring North Korea's nuclear threat; dissuading the North with sanctions and pressure from further developing its nuclear capabilities; and using dialogue to create an atmosphere for North Korea to return to denuclearization negotiations on its own accord.

The initiative also involves practical economic assistance as well as corresponding political and military measures following North Korea's progress in taking steps towards denuclearization. Such measures will help create an environment for North Korea to fundamentally abandon its pursuit of nuclear weapons. As the Republic of Korea is a country directly involved in Korean peninsula affairs, the government will be the key actor in achieving the denuclearization of North Korea while also coordinating closely with the United States. The North Korean nuclear issue is a priority that absolutely has to be addressed in order for there to be sustainable peace and prosperity on the Korean peninsula. Thus, the government needs to take more proactive role in creating a new

framework to increase people's confidence that there can be an ultimate resolution to the North Korean nuclear issue.

If North Korea returns to denuclearization negotiations with sincerity, the government will take measures listed in the 「Audacious Initiative」 that will improve North Korean people's lives and build trust between the two Koreas. As part of these initial measures, the government will move forward with the Resources for Food Exchange Program (R-FEP) as well as measures that could improve North Korean people's lives such as pilot projects in the areas of healthcare, water and sanitation, forestry, agriculture, and so on. If North Korea takes subsequent steps toward denuclearization, additional projects will be pursued. In coordination with the international community, R-FEP will partially exempt North Korea from sanctions to make it possible for them to export minerals and use the profits to purchase food, fertilizer, medication, and other humanitarian supplies.

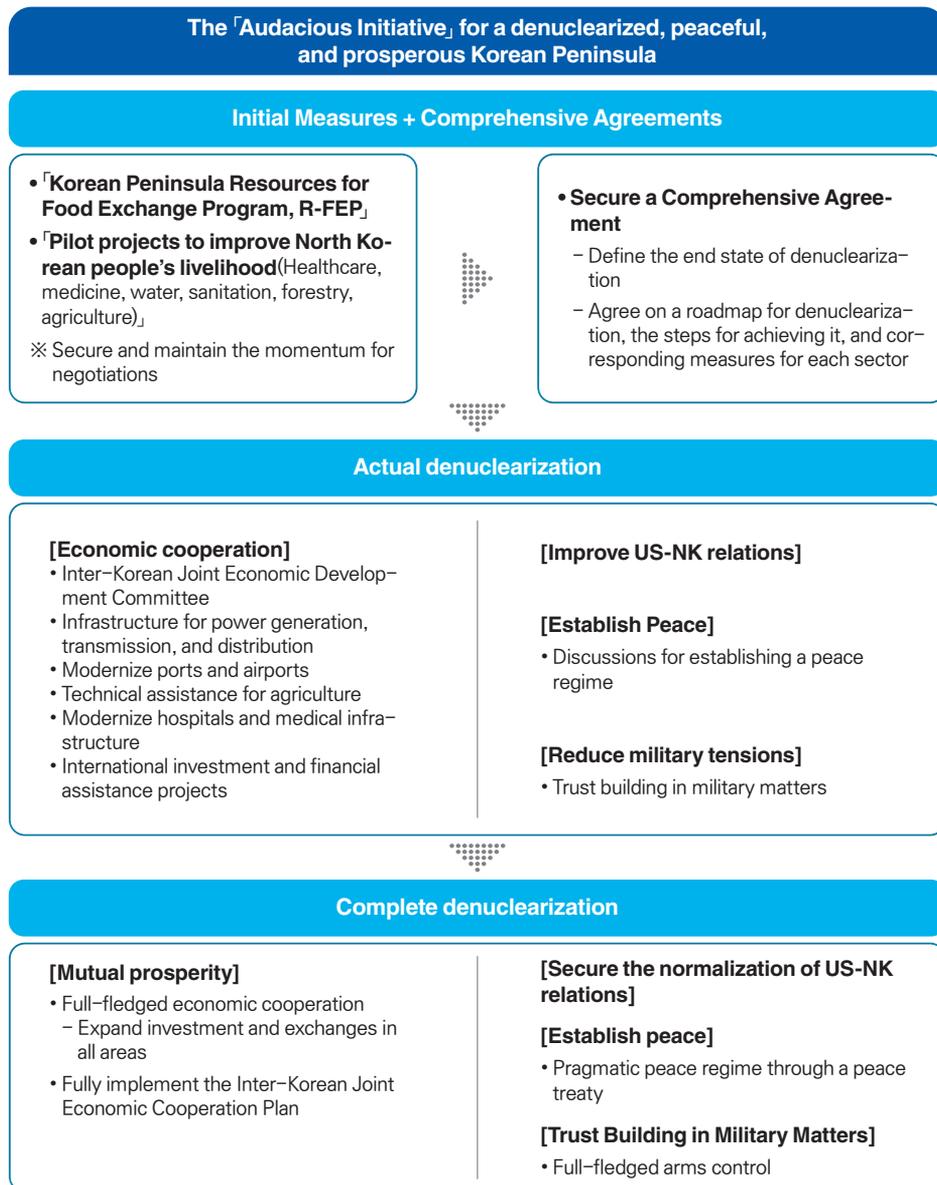
Initial measures following North Korea's steps toward denuclearization will build momentum for negotiations to help establish a comprehensive agreement. Such an agreement will include a definition for the end state of denuclearization and corresponding measures for each step North Korea takes. Once a comprehensive agreement is secured, it will be used to implement a comprehensive set of measures for the economic, political, and military sectors, based on steps that the North takes towards denuclearization.

During the “actual denuclearization” stage, five key projects for three sectors, namely, infrastructure construction, improving people's lives, and economic development, will be the main target areas to be pursued. The key projects include assistance with power generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure, modernizing ports and airports, technical assistance to enhance agricultural productivity, modernizing hospitals and medical infrastructure, promotion of international investment, and financial support initiatives. The Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Committee (its formal name is yet to be determined) will be established to coordinate and calibrate the above-mentioned economic cooperation measures between the two Koreas. For political and military measures, the government will assist North Korea to improve its relations with the United States through diplomatic measures and will discuss ways to establish a peace regime on the Korean peninsula, as well as build confidence between the two Koreas to reduce tensions and prevent accidental military clashes.

Once the two Koreas reach the “complete denuclearization” stage, the Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan will be implemented. This will involve inter-Korean economic cooperation taking place in all sectors to expand investment and trade be-

tween the two Koreas. For political and military measures, the government will support North Korea to normalize relations with the United States, signing a peace agreement to establish a peace regime on the Korean peninsula, and begin processes of arms control to further build confidence.

As part of an effort to create momentum for North Korea's denuclearization and build



trust between the two Koreas, the government will adhere to its principle that inter-Korean government-level talks can take place regardless of the time, place, and topic of discussion. The government will also continue to adhere to its principle that all issues between the two Koreas should be resolved through dialogue. Moreover, cooperation to resolve humanitarian issues including humanitarian assistance and separated family reunions will be carried out continuously regardless of the political and military situation. In the area of inter-Korean exchange and cooperation, socio-cultural exchanges, climate change cooperation, and human life protection will be prioritized to restore Korean homogeneity and build trust between the two Koreas.

## **2 Pursue Normalization of Inter-Korean Relations Based on Mutual Respect**

The government wishes to build inter-Korean relations based on mutual respect and reciprocity. To this end, it will establish a set of structures and traditions whereby “even the smallest agreements between the two Koreas are implemented.” Based on this foundation, the government will be receptive to discussing a variety of issues regarding inter-Korean cooperation from denuclearization and establishing peace regime on the Korean peninsula to economic, humanitarian and socio-cultural cooperation.

The government will maintain a practical and flexible approach for inter-Korean relations while upholding its national dignity and core values. Throughout the process, the government will point out North Korea’s wrongful conduct while demanding that the North refrain from such action.

A normalization of inter-Korean relations will be attained on a legal and principled basis. Engagement and dialogue will take place as stipulated by the Development of Inter-Korean Relations Act. Even if the process takes time, the government will increase the transparency of its North Korea policies by seeking consultations and taking all steps that are required through a domestically coordinated process.

### 3 Promote the Human Rights of North Korean People and Address the Pain Brought About by National Division

The government upholds its stance that humanitarian cooperation will continue to be implemented regardless of what the political or military circumstances are. This policy is in consideration of humanitarianism and inter-Korean solidarity.

The government will take proactive measures such as supporting vulnerable populations in North Korea (including children, infants, and pregnant women) and responding to pandemics and disasters. This will take place through coordination with the international community, civil society organizations, and other institutions.

The government will take practical steps to improve human rights in North Korea. As promoting human rights will give people in North Korea more freedom and a better quality of life, such efforts will bring North Korea a step closer towards the universal values of humanity. The government will prioritize establishing the North Korean Human Rights Foundation and a North Korean Human Rights Advisory Committee to reestablish government-civil society cooperation in the area of North Korean human rights and support the human-rights-centered activities of civil society organizations. Also, to ensure that universal values based on international norms are respected in North Korea, the government will work closely with the international community, including North Korea itself, to cooperate with efforts to promote human rights.

The government will actively seek to relieve the pain brought about by the division of the peninsula including supporting separated families and addressing other humanitarian issues. Considering the advanced age of separated family members, the issue is dire and requires a timely and practical solution. Confirming the life or death of all separated family members, arranging regular separated family meetings, and other basic solutions should be pursued while remaining prepared for future exchanges, video messages, DNA tests, and so on. Action will also be taken to confirm the life or death as well as return prisoners of the Korean Wars, abductees, and detainees. Domestically, the government will designate Separated Families Day as a national commemorative day to share the pain brought about by the division and promote understanding of the difficulties separated family members face.

Lastly, the government will closely assist North Korean defectors and improve the social safety net for their successful settlement in South Korean society. Institutional support will also be provided to defectors so that they can become proud members of

our community. This will include an effective early support system as well as tailored job training and education programs to improve their prospects for employment and their quality of life. Especially for people in potential blind spots of social services, the government will establish an integrated support system to resolve their challenges.

#### **4 Restore Ethnic Homogeneity through Open Access and Communication**

As it is important to increase understanding of one another and restore ethnic homogeneity, the government believes that exchanges and cooperation are the most practical ways for improving inter-Korean relations. As such, the government will carry out inter-Korean exchanges and cooperation even before North Korea denuclearizes. These initiatives will include the publishing of the “Grand Dictionary of the Korean People” (Gyeoremal-Keun-sajeon), the archeological excavation of the Gaeseong Manwoldae area, and other projects dealing with culture and history that the two Koreas already agreed to pursue but have since suspended. Once such projects move forward again, the government will try to ensure that they are implemented in a sustainable manner. Also, the government will actively support exchanges and cooperation that citizens initiate in the areas of sports, art, religion, academia, and so on while creating opportunities for youth to take part in such endeavors.

The government will take gradual steps to open up media, journalism, and communication channels between the two Koreas. Based on the perception of the maturity of the Korean people, the government will open access to North Korean media to a level that is socially acceptable and will gradually open up access to information in areas that can be agreed upon between the two Koreas as part of an effort to restore ethnic homogeneity.

The government seeks to establish a Green Détente between the two Koreas for climate change policy and environmental sustainability on the Korean peninsula. An appropriate response to climate change and environmental pollution is a challenge that we all face right now, and an issue that crosses borders. Thus, the government will take a step-by-step approach for an inter-Korean Green Détente as a joint response between the two Koreas.

Starting with the areas of forestry, drinking water, and sanitation, inter-Korean cooperation will be expanded to environmentally-friendly cooperation between towns, coopera-

tion in disaster and crisis response, joint use of water resources, and others. Later such cooperation could help establish the infrastructure for responding to environmental issues and climate change. Furthermore, the Demilitarized Zone will be developed to become a space for cooperation, communication, ecology, culture, peace, and global security.

## 5 Prepare for Unification with the Korean People and the International Community

30 years has passed since the government announced the National Community Unification Formula in 1994. The government will improve and develop its unification policy in accordance with the status quo so that the people can relate to. Throughout this process, the government will listen to public opinion inside and outside the Korean peninsula to reignite the interest and determination of the Korean People.

To prepare for unification in a legal and institutional manner, the government will introduce the Peaceful Unification Foundation Establishment Act(tentative) which will include building a foundation for unification and training people for a unified Korean peninsula. This will ensure Korea systematically prepares for unification.

To promote understanding about unification among people from all backgrounds, the Social Dialogue project will be expanded throughout the country to include people from different backgrounds, including those in their 20s and 30s, to take part and discuss unification and North Korea policy. For more people to have better access to high quality unification-related administrative services and benefits, Unification+Centers will work with local agencies related to unification to provide integrated services. In addition, to help improve the future generation's perceptions about unification, the government will use media platforms, the metaverse, and other forms of media to provide diverse contents related to unification education for the younger generation.

The government also wishes to encourage support from the international community for the peaceful unification of the Korean peninsula. Through close coordination and cooperation with related countries, the government will promote understanding and support from the international community. To promote the international community's understanding of unification, public diplomacy initiatives related to unification will be expanded, and the government will support the activities of the civilian sector and overseas Koreans.

### 1] Implement the 「Audacious Initiative」

In 2022, the Yoon Suk Yeol administration established a framework to bring about a denuclearized, peaceful and prosperous Korean peninsula. First of all, the government repeatedly urged the North to respond to the 「Audacious Initiative」 that President Yoon proposed during his August 15<sup>th</sup> Liberation Day address. Although North Korea made a statement on August 18 that misrepresented and rejected the initiative, the government's approach would not be swayed by North Korea's reaction and would move forward with its plan to implement the initiative. Following the announcement of the initiative, the government published policy booklets (November 21) that outlined the vision and direction of the Yoon administration's unification and North Korea policy.

To secure people's support for the 「Audacious Initiative」, the government held a seminar on the 「Audacious Initiative」 (November 21) as well as conferences (including one held with the people of South Chungcheong province on December 14) with the aim of discussing how a denuclearized, peaceful, and prosperous Korean peninsula can be attained with the participation of the Korean people.

The government has reaffirmed the international community's support for and un-



Open seminar on the 「Audacious Initiative」  
(November 21)



A conference with residents of South Chungcheong for  
denuclearized, peaceful,  
and prosperous Korean peninsula (December 14)

derstanding of the 「Audacious Initiative」. On November 13, President Yoon, the United States President Biden, and the Japanese Prime Minister Kishida Fumio delivered a Joint Statement in Phnom Penh that expressed their joint support for the 「Audacious Initiative」. During a summit between The Republic of Korea and China on November 15, Chinese President Xi Jinping also expressed his support and stated that China would actively cooperate with the 「Audacious Initiative」 if North Korea responded positively to the initiative. In addition, a spokesperson of the European Union in charge of security and external relations policies stated on March 22 that the EU is interested in the proposals the new government made for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. The spokesperson furthermore stated that the EU wishes to continue to discuss this issue in detail. Then on October 4, the Minister of Unification had a meeting with the German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier to explain and reaffirm the government's 「Audacious Initiative」 Initiative.

#### Phnom Penh ROK-US-Japan Joint Statement (November 13)

“We reaffirm that a DPRK nuclear test would be met with a strong and resolute response from the international community.”

“We express support for the goals of ROK's 「Audacious Initiative」.”



## 2 Principles to Build Inter-Korean Relations Based on Mutual Respect

The government sought to reestablish inter-Korean relations in a way that was based on unwavering principles. The government condemned North Korea's repeated provocations and warned that they would only lead to a stronger and faster response to demonstrate ROK-US deterrence capabilities. Regarding North Korea's violation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement, the government issued a statement declaring that the North should abide by inter-Korean agreements and cease its provocations. In addi-

tion, following North Korea's illicit use of South Korean facilities at Gaeseong Industrial Complex on July 11 and demolition of facilities in the Mt. Geumgang tourist region on October 18, the government clearly stated that such actions were a violation of inter-Korean agreements and that North Korea is liable for such violations.

#### The Ministry of Unification's statement following North Korea's infringement of ROK property rights (July 11)

"It is unfortunate that North Korea's action is a clear violation of inter-Korean agreements, and an infringement of our property rights. North Korea should immediately cease such actions, and all responsibility pertaining to this incident lies in the hands of North Korea."



Nevertheless, the government is maintaining its stance that all issues between the two Koreas, including North Korea's nuclear weapons development, should be resolved through dialogue. It is therefore attempting to resume inter-Korean negotiations. On June 21, Minister of Unification Kwon Youngse, made it clear that South Korea is willing to engage in talks with North Korea regardless of the time, place, and topic of discussion. As part of this effort, the government asked the North on two occasions (June 28 and September 5) to notify South Korea if it wished to open its dam and has repeatedly requested that North Korea engage in discussions. Although the North has yet to

#### Minister Kwon's dialogue with reporters accredited to the MOU's office (June 21)

"The government is adhering to its stance that all issues between the two Koreas should be resolved through dialogue. As Minister of Unification, I am willing to talk to Ri Son Kwon of United Front Department of North Korea."



respond to the South Korean government's requests, the government is trying to build trust between the two Koreas with consistent unification and North Korea policy.

### **3 Resolve Humanitarian Issues including the Human right Situation in North Korea and Separated Families**

The government has made efforts to promote human rights situation of North Korean residents and resolve the pain brought by the division. These efforts are being carried out based on the principle that humanitarian cooperation should be carried out regardless of political or military considerations. After North Korea announced its COVID-19 outbreak on May 12, the ROK government, on May 16, suggested working-level meetings between the two Koreas, an extension of cooperative projects with the North in the areas of nutrition and healthcare, and other initiatives to try to improve the humanitarian situation that the North Korean people were confronting.

With respect to North Korean human rights, the government has decided that promoting human rights in North Korea is a top policy priority and has therefore invested efforts in addressing the issue. To support the establishment of a North Korean Human Rights Foundation, the government recommended board members of the foundation to implement the North Korean Human Rights Act (September 13). For the purpose of comprehensively reviewing the government's North Korea policy, the government held a consultation meeting on its North Korean human rights policies for the first time in two years (August 25). The government also held consultative meetings for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Plan for the Promotion of North Korean Human Rights (December 9) and other measures were taken to come up with genuine alternative proposals to resolve the human rights situation in North Korea. To secure domestic support for promoting human rights in North Korea, the government held a workshop on North Korean human rights with civil society organizations (October 31) and held the 2022 International Dialogue for North Korean Human Rights (December 14).

To find a resolution to issues pertaining to separated families, the government proposed inter-Korean dialogue between authorities (September 8), and for the first time ever, the Minister of Unification had a meeting with families of abductees (October 21). Both acts were part of the government's efforts to resolve issues brought about by division including separated families, abductees, and prisoners of the Korean War.

#### **4 Establish a Foundation for Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation**

To restore homogeneity between the two Koreas, the government signaled its support for exchanges and cooperation that could be carried out even before North Korea's denuclearization and thereby prepared for a resumption of inter-Korean exchange and cooperation. In the realm of socio-cultural cooperation, the government supported a resumption of exchanges between people of the two Koreas in the areas of Korean culture, history, sports, religion, academia, the arts, and other sectors. The government also worked to establish infrastructure for addressing the climate-related and environmental issues of the Korean peninsula and implemented projects for its proposed inter-Korean Green Détente. The inter-Korean Green Détente projects starts with cooperation related to forestry, water, and sanitation and then expands to joint efforts in developing eco-friendly projects for towns, joint disaster and crisis responses, and joint usage of water resources between the two Koreas. In November, the government participated in the Conference of Parties (COP) 27 meeting at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to publicize the government's policy for a Green Détente.

#### **5 Prepare Unification by Communicating with the People and Spread Awareness to the International Community**

When implementing its policies, the government upholds Article 4 of the ROK constitution, which states "The Republic of Korea shall seek unification and shall formulate and carry out a policy of peaceful unification based on the basic free and democratic order." In accordance with this, the government started preparation to inherit and develop the National Community Unification Formula of 1994. To enable the Minister of Unification to start a "relay race" of discussions on unification, the government launched the "Sa-Tong-Pal-Dal" (running in all directions) initiative. As a result, 31 Social Dialogues were held throughout the country with 2,253 participants to bring together people's desire for unification.

The government also worked to secure support from the international community for its unification and North Korea policy through dialogues, both multilateral and bilateral. These discussions includes the Minister of Unification's meeting with the Deputy Sec-

retary of State of the United States Wendy Sherman (June 8), the Japanese Ambassador to the Republic of Korea Koichi Aiboshi (August 8), German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier (October 4), Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly (October 14), and more. Each official reaffirmed their support for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and unification. From September 14-15, a ROK-Germany advisory committee for unification was held in Seoul with government officials and experts from both countries taking part in the discussions. From August 30 to September 1, the Korea Global Forum for Peace 2022 was held with experts from over 20 countries participating. On December 16, the “UniOn” (Unification On) Talks were held with foreign diplomats and government officials in attendance as part of the government’s efforts to facilitate the international community’s understanding of the government’s unification and North Korea policy.

# 02

## Promote Human Rights of North Korean People and Relieve the Pains of Separation

**Section 1.** Practical Promotion of North Korean Human Rights

**Section 2.** Resolve Issues Concerning the Separated Families

**Section 3.** Resolve Issues Concerning Prisoners of War, Abductees and Detainees

**Section 4.** Improve the Humanitarian Situation of North Korean People

UNIFICATION WHITE PAPER



## Promote Human Rights of North Korean People and Relieve the Pains of Separation

The government is making continuous efforts to provide North Korean residents with humanitarian relief regardless of political or military circumstances and is making a constructive efforts to protect and promote the human rights of North Korean people. Additional efforts are being made to relieve the pains of separation such as resolving issues concerning separated families, abductees, prisoners of the Korean War, and detainees.

When North Korea announced its outbreak of COVID-19 on May 12, the government swiftly suggested that two Koreas should cooperate in healthcare and quarantine measures on May 16. The government made clear that we are willing to provide medications, masks, test kits, vaccines and other resources while exhibiting our will to carry out technical assistance. On September 8, the Minister of Unification suggested dialogue between the two Koreas to resolve issues concerning separated families. Nevertheless, North Korea has not responded to our suggestions.

Instead, North Korea maintained its extensive border closure in response to COVID-19 and is taking a passive stance towards help from the outside world. As the prospects for humanitarian cooperation between the two Koreas became more difficult, the government worked to expand cooperation and support from the international community. The government closely cooperated with international organizations like the World Food Program and UNICEF, and returned to its position as a co-sponsor for a North Korean Human Rights Resolution at the 77<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The government will continue to improve North Korea's humanitar-

ian situation and promote human rights in North Korea simultaneously by expanding its cooperation with the international community and civil society organizations, taking a balanced approach throughout the policy implementation process.

### 1] Develop and Implement Policies that Promote North Korean Human Rights

As the government believes that protecting and promoting human rights in North Korea is a universal value of humanity and a matter of inter-Korean solidarity, a series of steps were taken to find solutions. In 2016, the North Korean Human Rights Act was enacted with support from both parties in the National Assembly. The Human Rights Act states that “The State shall affirm that North Koreans have dignity and worth as human beings and the right to pursue happiness, and shall endeavor to protect and promote the human rights of North Koreans (Article 2(1)).” The government firmly upholds liberty and human rights as key values, and the promotion of human rights in North Korea is a task that it prioritizes. In line with such a principle, the government has joined the efforts of the international community to improve the overall human rights situation in North Korea and is working hard to enforce the North Korean Human Rights Act by establishing a North Korean Human Rights Foundation.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs previously had an Ambassador for International Cooperation on North Korean Human Rights in accordance with the Human Rights Act, but this position remained vacant for five years. Therefore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs appointed (July 19) Professor Shin-wha Lee of Korea University as the ambassador, and the government became a co-sponsor of the North Korean Human Rights Resolution at the 77<sup>th</sup> United Nations General Assembly.

Although the North Korean Human Rights Act requires the government to establish a North Korean Human Rights Foundation, six years have passed without the National Assembly recommending board members to such a foundation. Thus, to facilitate the timely establishment of such a body, the government explained the need for the foundation to the National Assembly, and also worked to secure support for it from the South Korean people.

According to the North Korean Human Rights Act, the foundation is responsible for research, policy design, and support for civil society organizations dedicated to promoting human rights in North Korea. After the formation of the 21<sup>st</sup> National Assembly, the government officially requested the National Assembly to recommend board members (July 25), and the Minister of Unification recommended Professor Lee Junghoon of Yonsei University and Director Kim Bum-soo of Save NK to serve as board members (September 13).

On August 25, for the first time in two years and three months, the government restarted inter-governmental consultation meeting on North Korean human rights, which was facilitated by the Vice Minister of Unification. At the first meeting, those in attendance discussed the publication of a Report on North Korean Human Rights by the Center for North Korean Human Rights Records. The consultation meeting were initiated in accordance with Article 17 of the North Korean Human Rights Act's enforcement decree to share information and coordinate policies concerning North Korean human rights among government agencies. However, the meeting had been temporarily suspended since May 11, 2020. On December 9, 2022, the agenda of the consultation meeting shifted to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Master Plan and Action Plans to Improve Human Rights in North Korea (2023-2025), which include the policy vision of the new government. The plan is based on the North Korean Human Rights Act, which stipulates that such plans need to be developed every three years in consultation with the North Korean Human Rights Advisory Committee for the Promotion of North Korean Human Rights. However, as the 2<sup>nd</sup> rounds of the advisory committee was not established, it has been a challenge to draft the official introduction to the basic plan.

Article 5 of the North Korean Human Rights Act requires the Ministry of Unification to have a North Korean Human Rights Advisory Committee under its auspices. However, after the term of the first cohort of committee members, who were appointed in January 2017, concluded their term in January 2019, the committee was not reestablished and the National Assembly has yet to recommend members for a second round. According to the North Korean Human Rights Act, the committee's role is to provide advice for the Master Plan and review the work of the Human Rights Foundation.

## 2 Work with Civil Society Organizations to Spread Awareness Among the Korean People

As a practical approach for improving the human rights situation in North Korea, the government has strengthened its cooperation with civil society organizations. Specifically, to improve people's perceptions and understanding of North Korean human rights, the government organized a dialogue program with organizations working on North Korean human rights and humanitarian affairs. In early March, 12 organizations actively involved in issues concerning human rights, humanitarian assistance, and development came together to discuss opportunities for civil society organizations to collaborate with each other and the role of the government in addressing North Korean human rights issues (March 2-4).

Since 2020, the government has also carried out capacity-building training programs for human rights organizations. In 2022, the 3<sup>rd</sup> year since the start of the initiative, a workshop on budget, financing, and organizational management was held with officials from 12 organizations participating (April 19-20). On October 31, 35 civil society organizations focusing on North Korean human rights who were registered under the Ministry were brought together for a joint workshop. This was the first of such event in five years. The workshop pioneered a way for the ministry to explain the government's policy on North Korea and hear perspectives from civil society organizations.

Additionally for the first time in six years, the Minister of Unification had a meeting with North Korean defector representatives of human rights organizations (August 26) to reaffirm the government's stance that it would accept all defectors who wishes to settle in South Korea. This meeting took place to relieve concerns raised following an instance of forcible repatriation, and it was a good opportunity for the Minister to listen



Capacity-building workshop for human rights organizations (April 19-20, Andong)



Capacity-building workshop with civil societies (October 31, Seoul)

to the challenges that human rights organizations face.

The government has also worked to spread awareness of its North Korean Human Rights Policy with the people. The government opened the North Korean Human Rights Portal to share information related to North Korean human rights, and established the North Korean Human Rights Forum with experts and scholars to promote a balanced discussion on North Korean human rights among the Korean people.

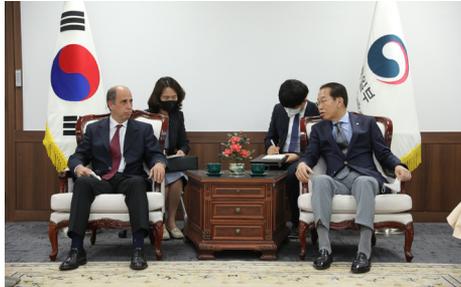
### **3 Strengthen International Cooperation to Promote North Korean Human Rights**

The government has also strengthened its cooperation with the international community, including the United Nations, to substantially improve the human rights of North Korean people. The Ambassador for International Cooperation on North Korean Human Rights has been in close contact with civil society organizations in the international arena, calling for elevated attention on issues pertaining to accountability and constructive engagement with respect to North Korean human rights.

After a four-year absence, the government returned to its role as a co-sponsor of the North Korean Human Rights Resolution at the 77<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly, thus joining international efforts to promote human rights in North Korea. The resolution maintained the existing framework and content regarding the human rights situation in North Korea. It also addressed North Korea's human rights violations against citizens of other countries, including abductions and detentions, and called for a full disclosure of information to be provided to the families of victims and the relevant authorities. Cooperation with the international community on COVID-19 vaccines was also added to the resolution.

The government has also been in close communication with the UN special rapporteur on human rights in North Korea and the UN Human Rights Office in Seoul to strengthen the cooperation to promote human rights in North Korea. On June 29, the Minister of Unification met with Ohea Quintana, then special rapporteur on North Korean human rights, to express his appreciation for rapporteur's hard work and requested that his continued attention and cooperation in addressing the human rights situation of the North Korean people. On September 2, when the Minister met with the new special rapporteur on human rights in North Korea, Elizabeth Salmón, he emphasized the need

to take greater responsibility for the human rights of North Korean people who were suffering, explaining its policies to improve human rights and the humanitarian situation in North Korea and pledging the government's close cooperation and support.



The Minister of Unification's meeting with special rapporteur Ohea Quitana (June 29)



The Minister of Unification's meeting with special rapporteur Elizabeth Salmón (September 2)

The government has also continued its working-level discussions on North Korean human rights policies with governments who have similar positions on North Korean human rights, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, and the European Union. The government explained its' North Korean Human Rights policy to diplomatic community in Korea and foreign government officials who visited Korea while coordinating ways to promote human rights situation in the North. In December, on the occasion of Japan's North Korean Human Rights Week (December 10-16), the Minister of Unification visited Tokyo and Niigata to listen to public opinion in Japan on North Korean human rights, including former abductees and the North Korean diaspora community, and observe the activities of civil society organizations.

The Ministry of Unification also organized the 2022 International Dialogue on North Korean Human Rights (December 14), an international conference on North Korean human rights, to raise international awareness of the issue. Former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon delivered a congratulatory address, and Ewha Womans University President Kim Eun-mi, and former U.S. Special Envoy for North Korean Human Rights Robert King were also a part of the discussions. Also joining the conference were Victor Cha, Deputy Director of the Center for International and Strategic Studies, Ki-wook Shin, Director of the Asia-Pacific Institute at Stanford University, Andrew Yeo, Korea Chair at the Brookings Institution, Greg Scarlattu, Executive Director of the U.S. Committee for Human Rights in North Korea, Lee Jung-hoon, Professor of International

Relations at Yonsei University, Kim Bum-soo, Director of Save NK, and Joanna Hosiak, Deputy Director General of Citizens' Alliance for North Korean Human Rights. The meeting assessed the international community's efforts to improve human rights in North Korea over the past two decades, examined various issues, and discussed future challenges.

In addition, the government has worked to establish the policy infrastructure essential to promote North Korean human rights. Since there has been a delay in establishing the North Korean Human Rights Foundation, the government allocated a separate budget of 2 billion KRW to support the activities of civil society organizations to promote North Korean human rights. Even though the United States provides more than 5 million USD annually to human rights organizations working on North Korea the State Department and the National Endowment for Democracy as a means to enforce its North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004, there has been no official support from the South Korean government for North Korean human rights activities. The government's support for North Korean human rights related activities aims to increase the international community's attention and response to North Korean human rights issues and improve the human rights situation of North Koreans. In addition, as part of its strategy to constructively engage with North Korea in the area of human rights, the government has allocated a new budget of 500 million KRW from the Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund to the Cooperative Promotion of Human Rights in North Korea project for the purpose of financially supporting private and international organizations' efforts to promote human rights in North Korea.

The government joined the United Nations and international community's strategy to improve human rights in North Korea through accountability and engagement, and continues its efforts to widely and accurately inform the international community about the



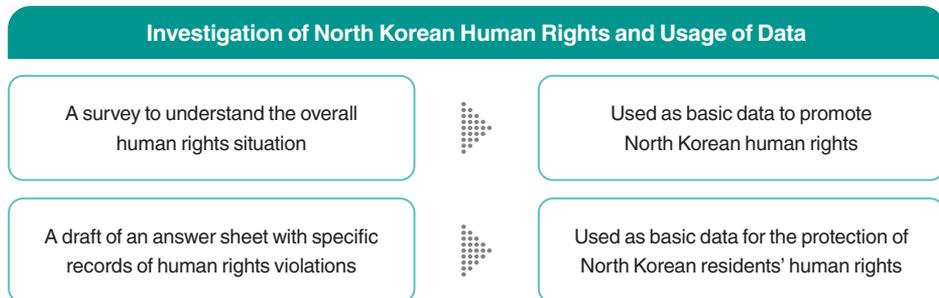
2022 International Dialogue on North Korean Human Rights' (December 14, Seoul)

reality of human rights in North Korea. It does so while maintaining its cooperation and solidarity with the international community as well as domestic and international civil society organizations to improve human rights in North Korea.

## 4 Center for North Korean Human Rights Records

### (1) Overview

In 2022, the Center for North Korean Human Rights Records (hereinafter referred to as “the Records Center”) conducted a survey based on the principles of human rights research in line with international standards to produce basic data for the government. After conducting a face-to-face survey of all North Korean defectors admitted to the Settlement Support Center for North Korean Refugees (hereinafter referred to as Hanawon), a questionnaire was created to record specific cases of human rights violations so that the government could understand the overall human rights situation in North Korea. The questionnaire is managed in accordance with security and privacy regulations, and original records were delegated to the Ministry of Justice based on the relevant laws and regulations.



The North Korean Human Rights Survey covers a wide range of human rights, including civil and political rights (right to freedom) and economic, social, and cultural rights (social rights). Among the survey items, the “right to freedom” includes the right to life; physical freedom and security; freedom of movement; protection of privacy; and freedom of thought, conscience, religion, and freedom of expression; “social rights” include the right to food; the right to health; the right to work; and the right to an education. The report also examined the human rights of vulnerable groups such as women, chil-

dren, and people with disabilities, as well as prisoners of war, abductees, and separated family members in North Korea. The Record Center's major findings on the human rights situation in North Korea are included in the Report on the Status of the Promotion of Human Rights in North Korea, which is reported annually to the National Assembly.

## (2) Records of North Korean Human Rights

The Center for North Korean Human Rights Records surveyed a total of 3,412 North Korean defectors who arrived in South Korea from 2017 to 2022, and in 2022, 47 North Korean defectors who were admitted to the Hanawon. The subjects included 26 women (55.3%) and 21 men (44.7%). By region of origin, 34% were from Pyongyang, and about 38.3% were from Yanggang and Hamgyong provinces. A total of 46 records of specific cases of human rights violations were recorded during the investigation, and the original records from the survey were transferred to the North Korean Human Rights Archive of the Ministry of Justice after the end of each quarter in accordance with the North Korean Human Rights Act.

Number of people surveyed and reported on in each quarter

Class.	1 <sup>st</sup> QT	2 <sup>nd</sup> QT	3 <sup>rd</sup> QT	4 <sup>th</sup> QT	Total
Surveyed	15	8	15	9	47
Reports	15	8	14	9	46

Every year, the Records Center compiles the results of the previous year's survey and publishes the North Korean Human Rights Survey Report. In December 2022, the North Korean Human Rights Survey Report was published based on the 2021 survey, and the results were shared with the relevant government ministries and UN organizations.

Meanwhile, the government has decided to publish a report on the state of human rights in North Korea in the form of a white paper so that the public can understand the overall human rights situation in North Korea. Accordingly, the Center for North Korean Human Rights Records has begun preparing the 2023 Report on North Korean Human Rights for publication in 2023 based on the results of the surveys from 2017 to 2022.

In addition, the government conducted in-depth investigations and research in the field of social rights, such as the In-Depth Survey and Research on Women’s Rights in North Korea and the In-Depth Survey and Research on Labor Rights in North Korea.

### **(3) Systematic investigation and documentation of the North Korean human rights situation**

In 2022, the Records Center established a system for all aspects of North Korean human rights investigations, including methods and procedures, and record management. It has subsequently worked to develop the system.

Based on the survey results accumulated over the past five years, the survey procedures and survey questions for each right were continuously improved upon through expert consultations. The existing complex categorization system was reorganized into rights under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and individual cases were registered based on the reorganized categorization system to help improve people’s utilization of the surveyed data.

The government administers the Advisory Committee for North Korean Human Rights Investigation, whereby 9 experts from academic, legal, and other fields advise the relevant ministries on their work. Regular consultations with experts inside and outside of Korea are also taking place while maintaining a coordination system with the Ministry of Justice and other institutions. A joint workshop was held on November 29 with organizations, including the Ministry of Justice’s North Korean Human Rights Archive and the UN Human Rights Office in Seoul, to strengthen cooperation.



Joint Workshop (November 29)



Briefing with the UN Human Rights Office in Seoul (December 14)

## 1 Status of Separated Families

As of the end of December 2022, there were a total of 133,675 applicants for family reunions registered in the government's Integrated Separated Family Information System. Of those who have registered, 91,051 have died, leaving 42,624 survivors.

### Registered separated family members who are still alive

① Age group (number of people and percentage of the total)

Class.	90 and over	Between 80-89	Between 70-79	Between 60-69	59 and under	Total
Number	12,132	15,817	8,186	3,951	2,538	<b>42,624</b>
%	28.4	37.1	19.2	9.3	6.0	<b>100</b>

② Hometown (number of people and percentage of the total)

Class.	Hwanghae	S. Pyongan	N. Pyongan	S. Hamheung	N. Hamheung	Gyeonggi	Gangwon	etc.	Total
Number	8,912	4,583	2,655	3,999	1,265	1,393	631	19,186	<b>42,624</b>
%	20.9	10.7	6.2	9.4	3.0	3.3	1.5	45.0	<b>100</b>

③ Gender (number of people and percentage of the total)

Class.	Male	Female	Total
Number	26,107	16,517	<b>42,624</b>
%	61.2	38.8	<b>100</b>

④ Current residence

(number of people and percentage of the total)

Class.	Seoul	Busan	Daegu	Incheon	Gwangju	Daejeon	Ulsan	Gyeonggi	Gangwon	N. Chungcheong
Number	10,917	1,850	988	3,452	407	916	349	12,887	2,578	1,422
%	25.6	4.3	2.3	8.1	1	2.2	0.8	30.2	6.1	3.3
Class.	S. Chungcheong	N. Jeonlla	S. Jeonlla	N. Gyeongsang	S. Gyeongsang	Jeju	Saejong	Overseas	Total	
Number	1,339	741	630	1,311	1,035	439	177	1,186	42,624	
%	3.1	1.8	1.5	3.1	2.4	1	0.4	2.8	100	

## 2 Establish a Foundation for Exchanges Among Separated Family Members and Expanding Empathy for Them

### (1) Establishing a foundation for exchanges among separated family members

Despite the aging population of separated family members, inter-Korean family exchanges, including inter-Korean Red Cross talks and family reunion events, have been suspended since 2018. In light of the situation, the government has made efforts to resume inter-Korean family exchanges. On September 8, on the occasion of the Chuseok holiday, the Minister of Unification made an official proposal to the North Korean authorities in order to fundamentally resolve the issue of separated families. While the North has not responded, the government has repeatedly reiterated the validity of the above proposal and urged the North Korean authorities to respond.



Minister of Unification, proposing inter-Korean dialogue for separated families (September 8)

Meanwhile, the government is working with the Korean Red Cross to regularly inspect 20 video reunion centers across the country and manage a database of applicants to the reunion program, remaining prepared to conduct reunions whenever the two Koreas agree to hold them.

Every three years, the government establishes and implements the Basic Plan for the Promotion of Inter-Korean Family Exchanges (hereinafter referred to as the Basic Plan) in accordance with Article 5 of the Act on Confirmation of the Life or Death of Inter-Korean Separated Family Members and Promotion of Exchanges (hereinafter “Separated Families Act”). As the Third Basic Plan expired in 2022, the Fourth Basic Plan was established to provide a policy direction for separated families to cover the three year period from 2023 to 2025. In light of the advanced ages of the first generation of separated family members, the Fourth Basic Plan complements the inter-Korean separated family exchange program, while also specifying measures for the participation of the second and third generations of separated families, documentation and commemoration projects, and measures to secure a public consensus, all of which reflect the policy needs of separated families, as identified in the Third Inter-Korean Separated Family Survey conducted in 2021.

The government is supporting genetic testing procedures and genetic information storage projects for separated families so that family relationships can be confirmed even after death. From 2014 to 2022, a total of 26,682 applicants’ genes were collected

### Overview of 4<sup>th</sup> Basic Plan for the Promotion of Inter-Korean Family Exchanges

<b>Vision</b>	Devise fundamental solutions for the separated families	
<b>Goal</b>	Pursue separated family exchanges without restrictions	Strengthen the capacity and momentum for policies on separated families
<b>Strategy</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>① Use all necessary policy measures in consideration of the advanced ages of separated family members</li> <li>② Design and implement individualized policies in consideration of the different situations of separated family members</li> <li>③ Reconsider the separated families policy framework, and strengthen cooperation at home and abroad</li> </ol>	
<b>Tasks</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>① Resume and promote separated family exchanges</li> <li>② Resolve issues concerning POWs of the Korean War, abductees, and detainees</li> <li>③ Expand the foundation for exchanges of separated families</li> <li>④ Console separated family members and enhance empathy for them</li> </ol>	

for three types of tests (autosomal, Y-chromosome, and mitochondrial). The results of the genetic tests are stored in the Genetic Information Database for Separated Families, which was established in 2015. In 2017, the government enhanced the safety and reliability of genetic sample storage systems by transferring residual genetic test objects (blood, saliva, hair, etc.) that had been stored by private laboratories to the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency's National Biobank of Korea.



Genetic testing



Mid-term report of genetic testing project (September 29)

In 2005, the Ministry of Unification produced 4,013 video letters for separated family members as part of a national database project, and in 2008, 20 video letters from each side of Korea were produced and exchanged as part of a pilot project under an agreement between the two Koreas. In 2012, to preserve the records of elderly separated family members and prepare for future inter-Korean exchanges, the Ministry resumed the production of video letters for those who wished to record them. By 2022, a total of 25,078 video letters were produced. Of these, letters that parties have agreed to disclose are posted on the North-South Separated Family Finder website (reunion.unikorea.go.kr). In addition, in collaboration with KBS Radio Korea, which broadcasts in areas



Video message of a separated family member



An open broadcasting event held by KBS Radio for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding

that includes the Korean peninsula, Japan, China, and other countries, the government broadcasted weekly video letters to separated family members and invited separated family members and officials to appear on public broadcasts to call attention to the issue of separated families.

In 2020, the government completely revamped the menu and design of the North-South Family Finder to make it easier for separated family members and the general public to access information on separated families. In addition, the government is continuing its efforts to raise public interest by providing diverse media contents, such as webtoons and videos containing stories of separated families, and establishing the On-line Hometown Photo Gallery service.

## **(2) Consoling separated family members and increase public's empathy**

The government has steadily promoted initiatives to comfort separated families and build a public consensus on the issue of separated families. First of all, the government promoted the idea of designating “Separated Families Day” as a national commemorative day. In July 2022, the Ministry of Unification announced its plan regarding this to the President, and collected opinions from the relevant agencies, civil society organizations, and experts about the appropriate date to commemorate the issue of separated families, hold commemorative events, and facilitate commemorative projects. In the National Assembly, Representative Kim Min-ki of the Democratic Party of Korea, Representative Tae Young-ho of the People Power Party, and Representative Lee Won-wook of the Democratic Party proposed amendments to the Separated Families Act in September 2021, August 2022, and September 2022, respectively, to designate Separated Families Day as a national commemorative day. The government actively supported the parliamentary deliberation of these bills. As a result, an amendment to the Separated Families Act, which designates the two days before Chuseok (August 13 on the lunar calendar) as “Separated Families Day” and allows the government and local governments to hold commemorative events, was passed by the National Assembly’s Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee in December 2022. It was subsequently passed in a plenary session of the National Assembly.

Every year since 2008, the government has organized events to comfort elderly separated family members living in South Korea. In 2020 and 2021, the events were held on-

line in consideration of the health and safety of elderly separated family members during the COVID-19 pandemic. But in 2022, the in-person invitation event was resumed in consideration of the continued needs of separated family members. On Lunar New Year and Chuseok, the Minister and Vice Minister of Unification personally attended a memorial event at Imjingak Mangbadan in Paju City to console separated family members. In addition, from May to December, the government invited separated family members to informational sessions in the western and northeastern regions of Seoul, Gyeonggi, and Daejeon and collected their opinions. In particular, the event in northeast Seoul was held at the Blue House, and the event in Gyeonggi was held at the Inter-Korean Transit Office and Panmunjom. In addition, the government promoted a project to digitally restore and present photographs of North Korean family members, and personally visited the homes of elderly separated family members who live alone and are vulnerable, delivering comfort food and gifts to them during the end of year season and the lunar new year holidays. The government also provides 100 million KRW annually in government subsidies for the promotional, cultural, and academic activities of the Korea Committee



Consolation event in Seoul  
(May 25, Inter-Korean integrated culture center)



Consolation event in Gyeonggi  
(November 23, Panmunjeom)



The Minister of Unification's visit to the home  
of a separated family member (September 7)



53<sup>rd</sup> Memorial Event  
(September 10, Imjingak Park in Paju)

for Ten Million Separated Families, a private organization dealing with issues concerning separated families.

### 3 Support for the Revitalization of Independent Separated Family Exchanges

The government is working to revitalize independent family exchanges alongside official family exchanges. To revitalize them, the Guidelines for Supporting Expenses for Separated Family Exchanges, established in 1998, were revised four times until 2017, and the amount of support for the exchanges was increased to allow exchanges to be funded within 3 million KRW for life or death verification, 6 million KRW for reunions, and 800,000 KRW for continued exchanges such as correspondences. However, since 2020, due to the spread of COVID-19, controls have been tightened in the border areas between Two Koreas, making it difficult to promote private family exchanges.

#### Subsidies provided to support independent separated family reunions

(Cases/Total amount of subsidies in million KRW)

Class.	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10
Cases	96	231	314	279	287	466	303	289	201	151	103	54	23
Subsidies	67	163	279	349	440	692	364	252	235	172	114	76	22
Class.	'11	'12	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20~'22	Total		
Cases	12	16	28	12	10	10	14	12	7	0	<b>2,918</b>		
Subsidies	12	16	51	23	16	18	34	21	15	0	<b>3,431</b>		

## Resolve Issues Concerning Prisoners of War, Abductees and Detainees

### 1 Status

An abductee is a person who was forcibly abducted by North Korea and has been held and/or resided in North Korea ever since. They are categorized into those abducted during the Korean War (wartime abductees) and those abducted after the 1953 signing of the Armistice Agreement (post-war abductees). The precise number of wartime abductees varies depending on when the research was conducted and who carried it out, but they are estimated to have totaled around 100,000. The Prime Minister's Committee on the Truth and Reconciliation of Abductees from the Korean War, which was established in 2010 and operated until 2016, reviewed 5,505 cases of abductees reported over a five-year period from 2011 to 2015 and determined that 4,777 people were wartime abductees. The total number of post-war abductees was 3,835 and 3,319 of them have returned. Of the returnees, 3,310 were repatriated to the South by North Korea, and 9 defected. As of the end of December 2022, there are an estimated 516 postwar abductees still being held in North Korea.

The UN forces and Communist forces exchanged prisoners of war three times between April 1953 and January 1954. At the time, the United Nations estimated the

#### Overview of those who were abducted after the Korean War (estimate)

(number of people)

Class.	Fishermen	KAL Abductions	Military Police	Others		Total
				Domestic	Overseas	
Abductees	3,729	50	30	6	20	<b>3,835</b>
Returnees	Returned by the North	3,263	39	-	8	<b>3,310</b>
	Defected/ Escaped	9	-	-	-	<b>9</b>
Those who have not returned	457	11	30	6	12	<b>516</b>

number of missing ROK soldiers to be over 82,000, but only 8,343 ROK POWs were ultimately returned from the Communist side to the ROK, and it is believed that many of those missing were forcibly detained in North Korea. Since the defection of Lt. Cho Chang-ho in 1994, a total of 80 POWs have defected, as of the end of December 2022.

North Korea detained Kim Jong-wook in 2013 and Kim Kuk-ki and Choe Chun-gil in 2014. As of the end of December 2022, it is estimated that six South Koreans, including three North Korean defectors, are being held against their will in North Korea.

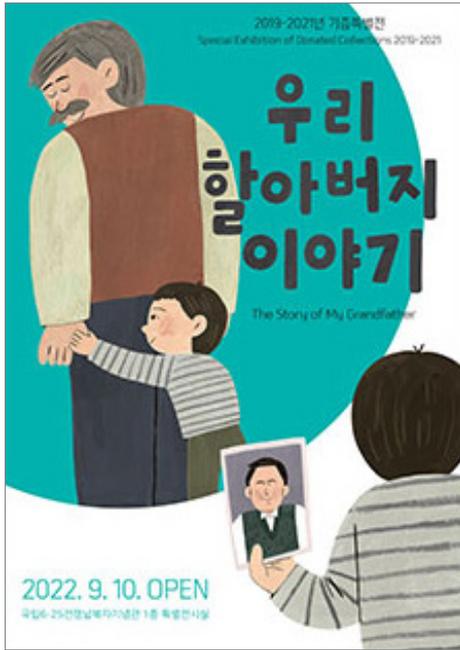
## 2 Efforts to Find Solutions

Through inter-Korean dialogue and international cooperation, the government is steadily working to resolve the issue of POWs, abductees and detainees, implementing projects to restore their honor and stabilize their lives.

The government has been working to uncover the truth about wartime abductions in accordance with the Act on Finding the Truth of the Damage from North Korea's Abductions during the Korean War and Restoring the Honor of the Victims, enacted in 2010. It established the National Memorial Hall for Korean War Abductees (hereinafter referred to as "Memorial Hall") in 2017 as part of the project to restore the honor of abductees. The memorial was established as a space to share the pain of wartime abductions with the public, to remember the abductees who were our family members and neighbors, and to remind future generations of the value of human rights and peaceful reunification. As a type 1 specialized museum, Memorial Hall holds more than 4,900 artifacts related to wartime abductees and runs permanent and special exhibitions based on them. The artifacts consist of photographs, writings, and household items of individual abductees donated by their families, as well as documents, newspapers, books, photographs, and videos related to wartime abductions collected through purchases and replications.

In 2022, Memorial Hall purchased 823 new artifacts, held a special exhibition on the theme "My Grandfather's Story," and developed the content of the exhibition to raise public interest in the issue of wartime abductions and lead people to reflect on the value of peaceful reunification.

The government also expanded its efforts to raise awareness about the wartime abduction issue among the younger generation by publishing a storybook on abductees called



Special exhibition  
"My Grandfather's Story"



The purchased artifact  
"Leaflet on the Free Return of Civilians"



Storybook about abductees:  
"I'm Not Sad at All Now"



Education session:  
"Our Family's Memory Box"



Promotional leaflet  
(in Korean, English, Japanese, and Chinese)



Photo zone with wires  
in the background

“I’m Not Sad At All Now,” and conducting the in-person education program “Our Family Memory Box” and the online education program “Abductees’ Family Stories Cards” on the occasion of the anniversary of the Korean War. In addition, new promotional materials introducing the memorial were produced in four languages (Korean, English, Chinese, and Japanese), and facilities such as shelters, photo zones, and information boards were improved to facilitate the convenience of visitor’s use of them.

To celebrate its fifth anniversary, the Memorial Hall actively promoted special exhibitions, education, publicity, and facility improvements in 2022, attracting 32,082 visitors, a 149.8% increase from 2021. The cumulative number of visitors since its opening has exceeded 159,000, as of the end of December 2022.

The government provides a subsidy of 100 million won per year to the Korean War Abductees Family Union to restore the honor of wartime abductees and promote their rights and interests. In addition, the government continues to promote the remembrance of abductees and comfort their families by showing its support for abductee-related functions such as the Minister of Unification’s participation in a commemorative event for the Day of Remembrance of Korean War Abductees (June 28) held by the union, and holding a ceremony to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the opening of Memorial Hall (November 29) and inviting the families of wartime abductees.



Memorial day event for those who were abducted during Korean War(June 28)



5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Memorial Center (November 29)

Meanwhile, the Review Committee on Compensation and Support for Abductees, established by the Act on Compensation and Support for Abductees Following the Signing of the Agreement on Military Ceasefire on April 27, 2007, paid about 15.2 billion KRW in compensation to victims by the end of December 2022.

The government also continues to support the rights of abductees and restore their

## Compensation for victims of abductions

(Cases/Cases/Millions in KRW)

Class.	Requested	Decision made	Provided
Compensation	438	426	13,211
Subsidy for settlement and living	9	9	1,773
Recompense	14	3	261
Total	461	438	15,245

honor. The statutory organization, the Association of Families of Victims of Postwar Abductees, receives 185 million KRW annually in government subsidies to provide medical and livelihood support for elderly abductees. The government has also continued its interviews with the heads of organizations, visits and meetings with the families of abductees, housing support for abductees without housing, and management and livelihood support programs for returning abductees.

The government has furthermore taken steps to resolve issues pertaining to detainees. In October 2022, the Minister of Unification met with two family members of detainees for the first time to console them and express the government's willingness to resolve detainee issues. The minister then continued to communicate with the families, including visiting them during the holidays.

The government has also strengthened its cooperation with international organizations, including the United Nations, to address the issue of POWs, abductees, and detainees. Resolutions on North Korean human rights adopted by the 49<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Human Rights Council in April 2022 and the 77<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly



The Minister of Unification's meeting with families of detainees (October 21)



The Vice Minister's meeting with families of abductees (September 10)

in December reflected the issues of separated families, unrepatriated POWs, abductees, and detainees. In addition, at the November 2022 trilateral summit among South Korea, the United States, and Japan, the leaders of the three countries reaffirmed their shared commitment to resolving the issues of abductees, and the leaders of the United States and Japan expressed their support for the immediate release of South Korean nationals held in North Korea.

## Improve the Humanitarian Situation of North Korean People

### 1 Promote Humanitarian Cooperation Between the Two Koreas

As the COVID-19 crisis continues to unfold around the world, the government has consistently stated that it is tracking the situation in North Korea with great interest and will provide necessary support and cooperation that are required. This stance is consistent with our commitment to improving the humanitarian situation of the North Korean people.

When North Korea first disclosed its COVID-19 outbreak on May 12, 2022, the government quickly considered providing humanitarian assistance to the North, and President Yoon Suk Yeol pledged his support in his May 16, 2022 address to the National Assembly, stating, “We must spare no effort to provide necessary support to North Koreans exposed to the threat of COVID-19.”

#### President Yoon’s administrative policy speech at the National Assembly (May 16)

“We must provide the necessary assistance to the people of North Korea who are exposed to the threat of the COVID-19. I have repeatedly stated that I am open to humanitarian assistance without regard to political or military considerations in inter-Korean relations. If the North Korean authorities respond, we will provide the necessary assistance, including medicines, medical equipment, staffs and vaccines.”

On the same day, the Ministry of Unification, through the Inter-Korean Joint Liaison Office, attempted to deliver a letter to the North from the Minister of Unification proposing cooperation on COVID-19 prevention. The letter suggested holding working-level consultations as the government was willing to provide vaccines, medicines, masks, and diagnostic tools, and was also willing to conduct technical cooperation, including sharing South Korea’s epidemic prevention expertise with the North. However, by not receiving

the letter, the North did not respond to the government's proposal.

Despite North Korea's passive stance on COVID-19 support from South Korea and the international community as well as ongoing crisis in inter-Korean relations, the government has made steady efforts to promote inter-Korean humanitarian cooperation. In its work report (July 22), the Ministry of Unification announced plans to support vulnerable people in North Korea, including infants and mothers, and to expand inter-Korean healthcare cooperation, including joint responses to infectious diseases.

## 2 Promote Humanitarian Assistance to North Korea by South Korean Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

### (1) Extending the period of nutrition and healthcare cooperation with the North

In order to improve the humanitarian situation for vulnerable people in North Korea suffering from COVID-19, the government has promoted the Nutrition and Health Cooperation Policy Project for North Korea since September 2021. Through the Nutrition and Health Cooperation Policy Project for North Korea, the government provided 100 percent of the project costs for private organizations' project budgets providing aid to North Korea within 500 million KRW. The total amount it allocated for this effort was 10 billion KRW. The Nutrition and Health Cooperation Policy Project for North Korea was scheduled to end in June 2022. However, organizations complained of their difficulties implementing the project due to delays in consultations with the North Korean side. Such delays were due to the COVID-19 outbreak in North Korea and the prolonged border blockade between North Korea and China.

On June 30, 2022, the 327<sup>th</sup> Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Promotion Council deliberated and resolved to extend the project periods until December 10, 2022, in line with the government's "relay race" policy and the requests of organizations. As a result, a total of 14 organizations were granted funding worth 6.73 billion KRW, 1.2 billion KRW of which three organizations delivered supplies to the North. Three of the organizations' shipments consisted of nutritional supplies, two of which could be shipped due to the extension of the project period.

## **(2) Improving the designation system for organizations supporting North Korea**

The government is improving the designation system for organizations providing aids to North Korea in light of recent changes to the humanitarian situation. Since 1999, the Ministry of Unification has designated private organizations that provide humanitarian assistance to North Korea as assistance providers, allowing them to deliver items and/or directly funding these organizations. Upon gathering opinions from organizations and experts, the government has decided to abolish the existing system in order to expand autonomy through deregulation and manage the aid projects under the framework of the Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Act. As part of this move, the government is revising its Regulations on Handling Humanitarian Assistance and Cooperation Projects with North Korea.

The main amendment to the regulations is to abolish the North Korea Support Business Designation System and manage projects based on whether they meet the requirements for export approval. The Ministry of Unification plans to approve or fund North Korea support projects that meet the requirements and apply for export or inter-Korean cooperation funds. The ministry is also overhauling the relevant system to revitalize the private sector's North Korean support projects and expand their autonomy, including removing regulations that did not support expenses for the workers providing support to North Korea and implementing cooperation projects.

## **(3) Support the capacity-building of South Korean organizations**

To strengthen the capacity of domestic organizations, the government introduced the Humanitarian Cooperation Capacity-Building Project for civilians and launched the Youth Communication Platform.

The capacity-building project provides training programs and customized business consulting services to strengthen the capacity and expertise of civilian organizations in the field of humanitarian cooperation so that they can effectively carry out and manage humanitarian assistance projects in North Korea. The program aims to revitalize humanitarian assistance projects in the private sector and expand contacts for inter-Korean cooperation. The government held capacity-building training seminars (talk concerts),

field trips, and case-sharing seminars for NGOs interested in North Korea assistance projects in order to strengthen their organizational, administrative, and business skills. The government also provided customized consulting services to selected organizations after learning of their needs.



Capacity-building seminar (November 22)



Talk Concert for working level officials of organizations supporting North Korea (November 23)

The Youth Communication Platform Project aims to strengthen the foundation of humanitarian cooperation by raising the interest of young people in humanitarian cooperation and fostering the next generation to lead the field of inter-Korean humanitarian cooperation in the future. The Ministry of Unification, in cooperation with the North Korean Council of Cooperative Civil Society Organizations, a body of civil society organizations providing aid to North Korea, dispatched youth trainees to 10 North Korean civil society organizations. As a result of this program, the youth trainees were able to acquire basic knowledge about humanitarian cooperation projects, gain experience in North Korean assistance projects, and form networks in related fields.

#### **(4) Approval of delivering items, sanctions exemptions, and other support mechanisms for the activities of organizations**

While the border between North Korea and China remained closed due to COVID-19, the government actively supported organizations that faced difficulties in transporting humanitarian supplies to North Korea. By doing so, the government aimed to avoid procedural inconveniences and difficulties in applying for exemptions from UN sanctions and reporting their contacts with North Koreans.

In 2022, the Ministry of Unification approved a total of 12 applications from private

organizations to bring humanitarian aid to North Korea under Article 13 of the Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Act. To improve the urgent humanitarian situation of vulnerable people in North Korea, the government approved nutritional, health-related, and medical supplies, in response to active requests from humanitarian organizations.

In addition, the government helped organizations applying for exemptions from UN sanctions on North Korean goods in accordance with the UN Sanctions Committee's Guidelines for Humanitarian Assistance to North Korea (resolution 1718) to expedite the approval of exemptions from UN sanctions. In addition, 85 South Korean citizens seeking direct or indirect contact with North Koreans for the purpose of humanitarian projects in the North were approved under Article 9 (2) of the Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Act.

In order to manage humanitarian assistance projects in an integrated and systematic manner, the government has established and operated the North Korea Assistance Information System ([hairo.unikorea.go.kr](http://hairo.unikorea.go.kr)), which provides comprehensive information related to humanitarian cooperation projects. The system provides information and services to the public such as how to apply to be a donor, how to apply for exemptions from UN sanctions against North Korea, and how to apply for financial support from the Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund. The system also provides information on business procedures related to humanitarian cooperation, statistics on the status of domestic and international assistance to North Korea, and reports on humanitarian cooperation provided by domestic research institutes and international organizations.

### **3 Establish a Foundation for Healthcare Cooperation Between the Two Koreas**

#### **(1) Plenary meetings of the Korean Peninsula Health and Medical Cooperation Platform**

The Ministry of Unification held plenary meetings of the Korean Peninsula Health and Medical Cooperation Platform in 2021 and 2022 as a focal point for communication among various actors involved in humanitarian assistance to North Korea, including the relevant ministries, public institutions, professional organizations, local governments, international non-governmental organization (INGOs), private organizations, and ac-

ademia. The 2022 plenary meeting, held on September 30, focused on consolidating ideas on healthcare cooperation with North Korea, which has been made more urgent by the COVID-19 outbreak in North Korea. It allowed various partners in the field to share their information and analysis of current humanitarian efforts while discussing strategies for cooperation with North Korea. The 2022 plenary meeting was organized into sessions on three high-priority and high-interest topics: (1) Healthcare Cooperation in North Korea in the Post-COVID-19 and Post-Pandemic Eras; (2) Perennial Issues in Healthcare Cooperation: Tuberculosis and Nutrition; and (3) A Strategic Action Plan for Sustainable Healthcare Cooperation on the Korean Peninsula.

In particular, at the 2022 Plenary meeting, organizations supporting North Korea which had been working on projects individually and separately collaborated to develop and present a Strategic Action Plan for sustainable mid-term and long-term cooperation with North Korea. The Strategic Action Plan was based on the mid-term and long-term cooperation plans that UN agencies were jointly preparing with the North. It presented five major areas of cooperation: (1) creating an environment for a health security; (2) reducing the burden of major diseases; (3) building a resilient health care system; (4) collaborating on innovative research and development; and (5) building a sustainable cooperation system.



Poster for the Korean Peninsula Health and Medical Cooperation Platform plenary meeting of 2022



Congratulatory remarks by Minister Kwon

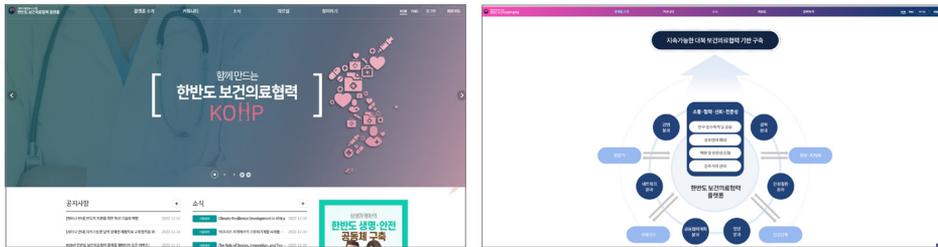


Sessions of the Korean Peninsula Health and Medical Cooperation Platform plenary meeting of 2022

In order to solidify the foundation for healthcare cooperation with North Korea, the government will continue to promote public discussions that actively communicate with various actors interested in inter-Korean healthcare cooperation and help share information on various topics and issues.

## (2) Research by experts in specific sectors

In addition to its plenary sessions, the Korean Peninsula Health and Medical Cooperation Platform created an online bulletin board to enable regular communication between actors in healthcare cooperation. With this bulletin, participants shared relevant materials in various topics of interest, which has helped accumulate a foundation of data for the future archive of healthcare cooperation with North Korea.



Website of the Korean Peninsula Health and Medical Cooperation Platform

Expert webinars on infectious diseases, such as COVID-19, chronic diseases, nutrition, and tuberculosis, were also held from time to time to share the latest information and promote networking among stakeholders in Korea and abroad. For the purpose of devising practical alternative proposals to existing policies, the webinars were linked to the following sectoral studies conducted in 2022: ① Study on Strengthening and Supporting Infectious Disease Control and Epidemic Prevention Response Systems in North Korea; ② Study on Strengthening the Medical System for Chronic Diseases in North Korea; ③ Study on Analyzing the Actual Situation and Cooperation to Improve the Nutrition of North Korean Residents; ④ Study on Assessing the Actual Situation of Tuberculosis in North Korea and Strengthening the Capacity to Address It; and ⑤ Study on Building a Consensus for Cooperation through the Korean Peninsula Health and Medical Cooperation Platform.

## 4 Strengthen Cooperation with Civil Societies, Private Sectors and the International Community

### (1) Cooperating with South Korean organizations through civilian-government policy consultation meetings

The government has endeavored to establish a close cooperation system with various actors involved in humanitarian cooperation. First of all, in order to activate humanitarian cooperation through private organizations, the government collected opinions from the private sector in various forms, such as holding plenary meetings and steering committee sessions of the Public-Private Policy Council for Humanitarian Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as the Public-Private Council), conducting interviews with individual private organizations, consulting with experts, and discussing ways to improve the government's policies and systems.

On June 30, the Minister of Unification had meetings with newly appointed leaders of the NGO Council for Cooperation with North Korea (hereinafter referred to as "NGO Council") to explain that the government would support a "relay race" of efforts, pledging to strengthen cooperation and communication.



The Minister of Unification's meeting with leaders of the NGO Council (June 30)

Through the Public-Private Council co-chaired by the Vice Minister of Unification and the president of the NGO Council for Cooperation with North Korea, the participants shared the status and future direction of humanitarian and development cooperation for North Korea. The Ministry of Unification, the related ministries, and civil society organizations all shared various perspectives on humanitarian assistance to North Korea and exchanged viewpoints about how to revitalize humanitarian cooperation with North Korea. The Public-Private Council also discussed promoting legislation for sustainable inter-Korean cooperation, such as improving the North Korean assistance provider system. As part of these discussions, the government listened to the difficulties private organizations were experiencing in transporting goods. The public and private representatives of the council then jointly promoted a project to train

young people for humanitarian cooperation.

In close cooperation with individual NGOs, the government held regular meetings about contacts, deliveries, and funding, and also initiated a general meeting of NGOs for humanitarian cooperation (March 16) and a meeting with NGOs to hear their experiences and know-how regarding humanitarian assistance. In addition, the government held three policy advisory meetings on humanitarian cooperation with relevant experts (March 21-25, June 23-30, and November 29- December 2) to share information about the status of humanitarian cooperation at home and abroad, inside North Korea, and between South and North Korea in 2022. Other agenda items of these meetings included future policy directions and general issues in the field of humanitarian cooperation.

## **(2) Cooperation with the international community**

Since the first instance of humanitarian cooperation between the government and international organizations in 1995 up until 2022, the government has provided a total of 266.76 million USD in assistance through international organizations. Through steady donations and support for North Korea's vulnerable populations, the government has continued to work to improve the health and nutrition of the North Korean people, including reducing the infant and child mortality rates.

The government cooperated with major international organizations, including the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to address the humanitarian situation in North Korea and carry out aid projects in the country. As a result of these efforts, the government steadily expanded its collaborative



Minister's meeting with the Executive Director of WFP  
(July 14)

relationships to ensure that necessary assistance could be provided in a timely manner. On July 14, 2022, WFP Executive Director David Beasley visited South Korea to share his awareness of North Korea's humanitarian challenges amid the global food crisis, and the government reaffirmed that humanitarian assistance to North Korea's vulnerable populations

would continue regardless of the political situation. The government has continued to jointly address the healthcare situation in North Korea with UNICEF, including limiting the spread of COVID-19, and has been preparing for the resumption of humanitarian assistance in North Korea.

# 03

## Restoration of National Homogeneity through Openness and Communication

**Section 1.** Improving the Foundation for Promoting Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation

**Section 2.** Promoting Exchange and Cooperation to Help Restore National Homogeneity

**Section 3.** Creating a Climate-Focused and Environmentally Sustainable Community with a Green Détente between the Two Koreas

**Section 4.** Ensuring Stable and Systematic Management of Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation

**UNIFICATION WHITE PAPER**

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# 남북공동 경제발전계획 국제포럼

South-North Korea Joint Economic Development Plan International Forum 2022

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## Restoration of National Homogeneity through Openness and Communication

Inter-Korean exchanges and cooperation could not take place in 2022 due to North Korea's ongoing military threats and provocations as well as the continued global spread of COVID-19. Consequently, the government focused on prioritizing programs that could be independently operated, while also making efforts to resume exchanges and cooperation. The government also sought to build a consensus on exchange and cooperation policies, support the capacity-building of the relevant parties, and lay the foundation for future exchange and cooperation.

When it came to social and cultural exchange, efforts were made to resume previously suspended cultural exchange projects such as the publication of the Gyeongnam Keunsa-jeon (Grand Dictionary of the Korean People's Language) as a unified Korean language dictionary, the excavation of Manwoldae Palace site in Gaeseong, and initiatives focusing on ethnic culture and history. Support was provided to promote exchanges in various private sectors such as sports, religion, academia, and arts.

Regarding climate change and the environment, the Green Détente proposal was designated as a national task (94-4). Starting with cooperation in the areas of forestry, water supply, and sanitation, efforts were made to create climate responsive and environmentally sustainable infrastructure on the Korean peninsula, including those pertaining to inter-Korean eco-cooperation at the town level, joint disaster response initiatives, and shared use of water resources. Programs were operated to transform the border area of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) into a globally recognized space for cooperation and communication in pursuit of ecological and cultural values as well as peace and security.

As for economic exchange, the government sought to create a long-term blueprint for inter-Korean economic cooperation known as the Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan in accordance with progress in North Korean denuclearization. This approach reflects the guiding principle of the Yoon Suk Yeol's Administration's 「Audacious Initiative」. Efforts were also made to maintain momentum for inter-Korean economic cooperation, such as networking with the relevant agencies and communicating with businesses engaged in inter-Korean economic cooperation, in preparation for the full implementation of the 「Audacious Initiative」.

The government continued to help stabilize businesses facing difficulties due to the suspension of operations at the Gaeseong Industrial Complex. Through inter-ministerial cooperation, the government offered sector-specific support for the normalization of their business operations, while also providing impetus for their market expansion.

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## Improving the Foundation for Promoting Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation

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### 1] Build the Foundation for Exchange and Cooperation: A Decentralized and Cooperative Governance Approach

The government has been seeking various ways to strengthen the roles and functions of local governments so that they can play an important role in inter-Korean exchange and cooperation. The overall aim of this policy is to grant autonomy to local governments so that they can promote exchange and cooperation among themselves. In particular, the government has tried to maintain momentum for exchange and cooperation with local governments through multifaceted forms of communication and dialogue such as the newly elected 8<sup>th</sup> municipal governments, which entered office in July 2022. The government has also sought to bolster a cooperative governance network between the central government and local governments by actively hosting workshops and forums as well as making direct visits.

Considering the difficulties of holding large-scale meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the government engaged in dialogue by visiting local governments in five regions across the country to explain its unification and inter-Korean policies and listen to opinions about exchange and cooperation programs. By doing so, the government aimed to strengthen its partnerships with the newly established local government initiatives.

In addition, in December 2022, the Consultative Council for Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Policies with Local Governments and the Working Group Council on Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation, which are statutory consultative bodies of the central government and local governments, held meetings to build a consensus on the need to explore new partnerships between the central government and local governments amid the changed environment. As a result of the meetings, the government adopted various measures to improve the operation of the two councils, including making the operation of the meetings more flexible and diversifying the agenda items.

Meanwhile, the Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Promotion Council (hereafter, referred to as the “Exchange and Cooperation Council”) held five meetings to facilitate inter-ministerial consultations and communication with the private sector on inter-Korean exchange and cooperation programs. The council deliberated upon and came to a resolution regarding a total of 18 agenda items, including loan support for businesses invested in economic cooperation, trade, and Mount Geumgang tourism projects with the special economic exchange and cooperation fund. The Exchange and Cooperation Council was established under the Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Act, with the Minister of Unification serving as the chairperson and officials at the Vice-Ministerial level of relevant ministries and experts serving as members.

#### Meetings and Major Resolutions of the Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Promotion Council

Session	Date	Method	Major Resolutions
323 <sup>rd</sup>	January 25	Written	8 agenda items including financial support for the joint publication of the Gyeoremal-Keunsajeon (Grand Dictionary of the Korean People's Language)
324 <sup>th</sup>	February 10	In-person	3 agenda items including loan support for businesses invested in economic cooperation, trade, and Mount Geumgang tourism projects via the special economic exchange and cooperation fund; financial support for business operations; and operational expenses
325 <sup>th</sup>	February 25	Written	3 agenda items including financial support for the development and maintenance of the DMZ integrated system
326 <sup>th</sup>	April 18	Written	2 agenda items including funding genetic testing for separated families
327 <sup>th</sup>	June 30	Written	2 agenda items including extending the implementation period of nutrition and healthcare cooperation policy programs for North Korea

## 2 Support for Exchange and Cooperation Programs by the Private Sector and Local Governments

The government supports the entire process of inter-Korean exchange and cooperation programs, including preparations, contacts, and preliminary reviews to determine whether the cooperative proposals violate the sanctions placed on North Korea. All are being implemented by the South-North Korea Exchange and Cooperation Support Association. The government provided 1,041 consultations on procedures, 30 preliminary rounds of sanctions review on 430 items waiting to be imported from or exported to North Korea, and 13 consultations on inter-Korean trade, cooperation, and humanitarian

assistance. Experts on inter-Korean exchange and cooperation were invited to these consultative meetings. Meanwhile, the government continued its efforts to strengthen the capacities of local governments and the private sector to oversee inter-Korean exchange and cooperation through two traveling briefing sessions (February 24 and September 2) and two sessions of the working-level Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation Academy (June 2-23, October 27 - November 17).



Briefing on Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation  
(September 2, Jeju)



Working-Level Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation  
Academy (June 2-23)

### 3 Legal and Institutional Improvements

In July 2022, the government revised the Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Act (July 26) to align it with the statutory delegation system and enhance the administration's level of transparency. The Act stipulates that the criteria for approving the operation of transportation equipment between the two Koreas shall be applied under Presidential Decree. As such, the criteria for approving the operation of transportation equipment, which was previously stipulated in a notice, were included in the Enforcement Decree to conform to the statutory delegation system. In addition, to enhance administrative transparency and predictability for the benefit of the public, the Enforcement Decree clarified the period of calculating the number of violations for aggravated punishments when imposing fines for violations of the law.

In addition, the government supported the legislative process of 14 amendments to the Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Act pending in the National Assembly and continued its efforts to improve the related legal and institutional framework by holding consultations with relevant ministries and agencies on improving the exchange and cooperation system.

## 4 Inter-Korean Transit Office

Due to circumstances such as the African Swine Fever (2019) and the COVID-19 pandemic, land transit between Two Koreas was suspended. North Korea's unilateral demolition of the Joint Liaison Office on June 16, 2020 has also resulted in a prolonged suspension of transit. Against this backdrop, the Inter-Korean Transit Office conducted exercises with the military, customs authorities, and the Ministry of Justice to inspect personnel and vehicles, implement quarantine measures, and escort convoys in the inter-Korean control zone. This was all done to ensure the stable operation and maintenance of the transit system. In 2022, a total of 66 exercises were performed to prepare for the resumption of entry and exit procedures. These exercises included promoting understanding of the entry and exit manual, inspecting computer systems, and updating the communication network with the relevant agencies.

The Consultative Council for the Operation of the Inter-Korean Transit Office and the Working-Level Council each held four meetings to oversee and coordinate the entire process, from exercises planning to evaluation, through consultations with the relevant agencies.



Vehicle Inspection Exercise (May 12)



Convoy Service in the Inter-Korean Control Zone Exercise (September 20)

The facilities for road and railroad access to the Inter-Korean Transit Office are located near the Dora Observatory and Third Tunnel, enabling Transit Office visitors to take field trips to the border area. Taking advantage of this geographical advantage, the Inter-Korean Transit Office operates tours for affiliated organizations and the general public. In 2022, a total of 9,025 visitors, including key figures, youths, and foreign nationals, visited the Transit Office.



A Visit to the Inter-Korean Transit Office by South Korean University Students (September 16)



A Visit to the Inter-Korean Transit Office by Members of the Immigration Bureau of Thailand (September 19)

### 1 Cultural Heritage Exchange

#### (1) Joint Excavation of Manwoldae Palace in Gaeseong

As part of the Joint Excavation Program of Manwoldae Palace in Gaeseong, eight rounds of archeological investigations were carried out from 2007 to 2018 to preserve the common cultural heritage of the Korean people and restore ethnic homogeneity between the residents of Two Koreas. As a result of the investigations, a total of 19,770 square meters of the planned 33,000 square meters were excavated with over 17,900 artifacts discovered. Despite the strained state of inter-Korean relations, the government has made efforts to resume the Joint Excavation Program and has utilized the excavation results for various nationwide initiatives to build a public consensus on unification, including the operation of the Manwoldae Digital Archive ([manwoldae.org](http://manwoldae.org)), a digital restoration initiative, and an exhibition tour entitled “Twelve Years of Excavation.”

The Manwoldae Digital Archive was launched in December 2020 to provide related content to the general public. Since then, the Digital Archive has rendered 120,000 items of the over 600,000 artifact records into publicly accessible holographic materials and 3D videos. In 2022, the Gaeseong Manwoldae Inter-Korean Joint Development Contest was held, and the four winning works were showcased. Various media contents, including the monthly publication “Monthly Manwoldae,” was also published to elevate the public awareness and interest in the Manwoldae Palace at Gaeseong. The Program for the Digital Restoration of Manwoldae aims to virtually restore the appearance of the royal palace of the Goryeo Dynasty using virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technologies, providing users with an opportunity to experience Manwoldae Palace virtually. This five-year program was launched in 2021, and research on the western part of the site (Zone 1-5) was conducted and the restored architectural structures were developed as VR content for an exhibition tour in 2022.

The exhibition tour entitled “Twelve Years of Excavation,” which began in 2020, aims to increase the public awareness of inter-Korean cultural heritage excavations. In 2022, the exhibition was held in cities south of the Seoul metropolitan area including Buan (April 22 to July 17), Cheonan (May 20 to July 31), Hanam (August 2 to September 18), Daejeon (August 16 to October 15), and Busan (October 15). Compared to the previous two years, the number of visitors to the exhibition significantly increased. While there were 11,950 visitors in two locations in 2020 and 28,067 visitors in four locations in 2021, the total number of visitors jumped to 41,678 in five locations in 2022. The exhibition was evaluated positively, with over 96% of visitors surveyed answering “satisfied”.



Digitally Restored Manwoldae in Gaeseong



VR Experience of the Gaeseong Manwoldae Exhibition Tour (August 16 to October 15, Daejeon)

## (2) Joint Publication of Gyeoremal-Keunsajeon by Two Koreas

The Joint Publication Committee of the Gyeoremal-Keunsajeon(Grand Dictionary of the Korean People’s Language) was established in 2005 to compile a dictionary encompassing the gyeoremal (Korean people’s language) used in South Korea, North Korea, and overseas. To facilitate inter-Korean discussions, the Committee is subdivided into the South Korean Subcommittee and North Korean Subcommittee, both of which are responsible for the compilation of language from their respective regions. Currently, the South Korean Subcommittee has 10 members.

The Committee has held a total of 25 meetings to select 307,000 entries to be included in the dictionary, and it has made efforts to reach an agreement between the South and the North on the style and format of the dictionary in an aim to overcome linguistic differences between the two Koreas.

Despite the suspension of the joint committee’s meetings since 2016, the South Korean Subcommittee (hereafter referred to as “the Subcommittee”) has carried out the work on the project that can be pursued independently, including correction and proofreading work, the compilation of corpora (linguistic data collected from everyday speech and writing samples compiled in a computer-readable format), and the creation of illustrations for entries on which inter-Korean consensus has already been reached. Steps have been taken in preparation for the resumption of the committee’s meetings, including the production of a preliminary version of the Gyeoremal-Keunsajeon for inter-Korean discussions.

To increase the public awareness of the achievements in compiling the dictionary, the Subcommittee has launched various promotional initiatives. An online (3D) public relations center for the dictionary and the YouTube channel Gyeoremal TV have been operated, and infographics focused on jargon and sign language used in Two Koreas have been created and distributed. The Subcommittee has continuously engaged in online PR efforts, including developing a smartphone app “Namnyeokmal Bungnyeokmal”(-South Korean speech and North Korean speech), which facilitates easy comparison of basic everyday terms used in the South and the North. In particular, the mini-dictionary Gyeoremal-Jageunsajeon ㉠-㉡ was published (October 9) as a result of the compilation efforts, and in 2022, the book was distributed to educational offices and libraries nationwide. The process of compiling the Gyeoremal-Keunsajeon was covered in textbooks (32 types, 8 subjects) to foster understanding of the variations of speech in Two Koreas and promote a sense of unification among young adults, who will lead the era of unification.

Furthermore, the in-person event “Jeonguk Gyeoremal Nadeuri” (National Korean People’s Language Excursion) was organized in Busan (July 19), Jeonju (September 27), and Cheongju (November 19) in order to enhance communication about the dictionary



Gyeoremal-Jageunsajeon ㉠-㉡



3<sup>rd</sup> UNESCO - Gyeoremal-Keunsajeon International Academic Forum (November 3-4)

compilation project with the general public. The event was live-streamed on the Gyeoremal TV YouTube channel. In addition, the Committee hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Academic Forum with UNESCO (November 3-4) in November 2022, in the second year in a row and continued with its efforts to secure global support and consensus for the publication of the Gyeoremal-Keunsajeon.

## **2] Religious, Academic, and Cultural Exchange**

There are continuous needs for inter-Korean exchange and cooperation in various fields such as religion, academia, culture, and the arts, and in recognition of this, the government has actively supported such exchange in the private sector. However, the ongoing situation of North Korea's border closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic and military provocations has made it difficult to pursue them.

In the religious sector, South Korean religious groups and organizations such as the Korean Conference of Religions for Peace, along with other Protestant, Catholic, and Buddhist groups, have made efforts to engage in dialogue with North Koreans, including exchanging letters with the North Korean religious group Choson Religionists' Association. However, there has not yet been a response from North Korea. In the fields of academia, culture, and the arts, attempts to establish contact with North Korea have also failed and accordingly such exchanges have remained suspended.

The Minister of Unification has continuously expressed the government's willingness to resume inter-Korean social and cultural exchanges, and has therefore visited religious leaders, urging them to play a role in promoting the normalization of North-South relations and listening to their concerns. Efforts have also been made to encourage North Korea to change its attitude and help create the conditions for the resumption of exchanges.

## **3] Sports Exchange**

In the field of sports, due to North Korea's non-participation in various international sporting events as a result of COVID-19, inter-Korean sports exchanges have not taken place. In September 2021, North Korea was formally barred from participating in the

2022 Beijing Winter Olympics (February 4-20) for not sending a team to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.

Three major events scheduled for the second half of 2022— the 31<sup>st</sup> Chengdu Summer World University Games, the 2022 Hangzhou Asian Games, and the 2022 Hangzhou Asian Para Games— were postponed to 2023, which further delayed inter-Korean sports exchanges that could have taken place during international sports competitions.

The IOC suspension ended on December 31, 2022, and the government intends to establish partnerships with relevant agencies to prepare for the resumption of inter-Korean sports exchanges through various international sporting events scheduled for 2023.

#### 4 Governance System for Social and Cultural Exchange

The government has established a governance system for inter-Korean social and cultural exchange to strengthen policy consultations between the private and public sectors. This initiative aims to create a space for communication through which the government can promote its agenda for social and cultural exchange policies and the private sector can make policy proposals.

In 2022, opinions were collected from three sectors (culture and the arts, religious organizations, and civic organizations) in seven gatherings with cultural and arts organizations, four with religious organizations, and five with civic organizations. An integrated workshop was held at the end of the year (November 30 to December 2), bringing together various organizations engaged in social and cultural exchanges to share perspectives and come up with a future plan for exchange and cooperation.



The Workshop "Building the Governance System for Inter-Korean Social and Cultural Exchange"  
(November 30 to December 2)

## Creating a Climate-Focused and Environmentally Sustainable Community with a Green Détente between the Two Koreas

### 1] Build the Foundation and Expertise for an Inter-Korean Green Détente

Previous governments have proposed that Two Koreas should jointly address climate-related and environmental issues using keywords such as “green growth,” “building an environmental community,” and “carbon neutrality.” Meanwhile, the Yoon Suk Yeol administration inherits key policies pursued by previous administrations in the context of a “relay race,” while also expanding them to both ensure the safety and security of South Korean citizens and improve the livelihoods of North Korean residents.

Two policy research programs were carried out to realize the Inter-Korean Green Détente: an examination of a comprehensive roadmap with various cooperation scenarios and a drafting of a detailed plan to turn the DMZ into the Green Peace Zone.

Additionally, in collaboration with the Korea Forest Service, two symposiums were held (June and November) to listen to experts and provide opportunities to increase the public awareness of the Inter-Korean Green Détente policy initiative.

Furthermore, a training session was provided to enhance the capabilities of members of organizations providing assistance to North Korea, helping them revising existing programs by reflecting on climate change responses. In close consultation with the Ko-



The Symposium “Realization of the Inter-Korean Green Détente” (June 28)



The Symposium “A Joint Climate Change Response” (November 14)

rea NGO Council for Cooperation with North Korea and the Climate Change Center, the training program was planned and improved upon in terms of both the educational content and composition of the instructor pool. The training was carried out in the form of lectures and field trips from July 13 to 15.

## 2] Expand the Base of Domestic and International Advocates in Efforts to Promote the Initiative

The government has made various efforts to expand the base of support and build consensus for the Inter-Korean Green Détente policy by exploring a range of cooperation opportunities and holding discussions with international organizations and NGOs to build an international network.

The government exchanged views with international NGOs in Korea, such as the Hanns Seidel Foundation and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, as well as with international organizations including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO), and the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI). The government also reached out to international NGOs based in third countries, such as the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC). These exchanges aimed to facilitate the sharing of opinions about the implementation of the Inter-Korean Green Détente and garner support for and interest in the government's inter-Korean environmental cooperation programs.

In particular, the Ministry of Unification attended the 27<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27) held in Egypt in November. At seminars and meetings with various international organizations and



Side Event at the Korea Pavilion at COP27 (November 16)



Official Side Event of COP27 (November 17)

NGOs, the Ministry promoted the government’s inter-Korean Green Détente policy and its desire for cooperation with the international community.

The government also attended domestic forums organized by institutions such as the Gaeseong Industrial District Foundation and Halla University to promote the inter-Korean Green Détente policy and request support from these institutions. In November, there was a session during the DMZ International Youth Forum to explain the inter-Korean Green Détente policy to the younger generations, and in December, two events that were part of the Forum on the Inter-Korean Green Détente were held, each targeting youths and experts. These in-person forums were also live-streamed on a YouTube channel and on UniTV, the broadcasting channel of the Ministry of Unification, for easy access by the public.



Forum on the Inter-Korean Green Detente for Youth  
(December 1)



Forum on the Inter-Korean Green Detente for Experts  
(December 7)

### ③ Build Partnerships with Relevant Organizations and the Private Sector

The Ministry of Unification made efforts to establish a system for organic cooperation with relevant agencies to enhance its expertise in program implementation and create a foundation for efficient operations. In particular, the Ministry provided continuous consultations in order to establish detailed action plans for the 「Audacious Initiative」 and the Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan.

In the forestry sector, the Ministry of Unification arranged a Task Force Meeting for Forestry Cooperation Research in the first and second half of the year (April and September) and held discussions on inter-Korean forestry cooperation with relevant orga-

nizations, including the Korea Forest Service, at least once a month. Given that forestry has been an area that the two Koreas have been actively cooperated for, including a joint insect control program in 2018, this includes meetings, symposium and roundtable discussions. Additionally, government officials made visits to institutions such as the Forest Research Institute of Medicinal Resources in Yeongju (May 26-27), the DMZ Botanical Garden in Yanggu (June 29), and the National Forest Seed and Variety Center in Chungju (August 30) to enhance the government's communication with policy practitioners.

In the agriculture sector, the government facilitated consultations with the relevant agencies such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs; the Rural Development Administration; and the Korea Rural Community Corporation, and sent officials on visits to smart farms in Gimje and Jeju.

In the environmental sector, efforts were made to develop specific collaboration plans for current issues such as carbon neutrality, water supply, and sanitation. For water resources in particular, cooperation was strengthened by sharing flood and dam discharge plans with the Ministry of Environment and the Korea Water Resources Corporation.

In addition to sector-specific consultations, the Ministry of Unification sought to establish a comprehensive consultation body with stakeholders in the forestry, agricultural, and environmental sectors to consistently prepare for the establishment of an integrated communication network.

As for the management of shared rivers to address issues of water discharge from the Hwanggang Dam in North Korea, a cooperative network was established among various relevant institutions such as local governments in the border areas, the Korea Forest Service, the Ministry of National Defense, the Ministry of Environment and the Korea Water Resources Corporation. In October, the Ministry of Unification made visits to



Joint Shared Rivers Management Committee's Field Trip  
(October 27, Yeoncheon)



Workshop on the Inter-Korean Green Detente for  
Relevant Agencies (December 8-9, Jeju)

locations such as Yeoncheon County in Gyeonggi Province to gather opinions from different organizations and explore methods of cooperation in disaster response.

The Workshop on the Inter-Korean Green Détente with the Relevant Agencies (December 8-9) was held with the participation of over ten institutions, including the government departments of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs and the Korea Water Resources Corporation; academic organizations; research institutions; and international organizations. The participants of the workshop also visited Jeju Energy Corporation's CFI Center and Resource Recycling Center to enhance their overall understanding of the Inter-Korean Green Détente proposal.

#### **4 Turn the DMZ into the Green Peace Zone**

As one of the initiatives for realizing the Inter-Korean Green Détente, the project of turning the DMZ into the Green Peace Zone aims to transform the inter-Korean border areas, including the demilitarized zone (DMZ) and the Han River estuary, into a peace zone through multifaceted cooperation. Given the shared natural resources such as mountains, rivers, and air in inter-Korean border areas, they are an optimal place to promote inter-Korean cooperation on issues pertaining to water resources, forestry, and infectious diseases. In short, Two Koreas can pursue mutual benefits and strengthen trust by carrying out cooperative projects that are ideal for the border areas.

Despite North Korea's lack of response regarding the fulfillment of inter-Korean agreements, the Ministry of Unification has undertaken various initiatives to build the foundation for future partnerships in consideration of the characteristics and value of the DMZ and the border areas. In particular, efforts have been made to facilitate experience programs in the DMZ and disseminate information about the area in order to increase public awareness of the value the border areas hold with respect to security and peace.

##### **(1) Inspection of the DMZ**

The government has inspected the DMZ with the aim of turning it into a Green Peace Zone. It has endeavored to do so by understanding the status of the forest ecosystem, collecting basic monitoring data, and applying for UNESCO World Heritage status. The

Ministry of Unification, in collaboration with the Korea Forest Service and the Ministry of Environment, conducted a total of 17 inspections of the southern part of the DMZ in 2022. The Ministry of Unification has closely cooperated with the United Nations Command to support the successful implementation of government programs, including ensuring its access to the DMZ. The major results of the DMZ inspections, including enhanced information about its cultural heritage, forest, and ecosystem, have been released, now available in the DMZ Inspection menu of the integrated DMZ system.

The Ministry of Unification conducted research on villages within the DMZ that have disappeared. A number of these lost villages, which were once home to residents before the Korean War, were selected, documented, and filmed. A corresponding metaverse was developed based on the literature, oral history, and results of field surveys of the region. Of the over 400 villages within the DMZ, relatively larger villages were selected, and five rounds of surveys were conducted in Yeoncheon (July 20), Yanggu (September 7), Goseong (September 28), and Cheorwon (October 17-18). Interviews with 24 former residents of these villages were conducted to gather memories of the region, and on-site visits were carried out to confirm the traces of the villages. By compiling the resulting information and content, five 3D villages were created online to allow the public to visit the villages virtually.



Inspection on the Villages of the DMZ  
(July 20, Yeoncheon)



Mundeung-ri, Suyip-myeon, Yanggu-gun in the  
Metaverse

## (2) Garnering support for DMZ Experience Programs and Improving Their Infrastructure

Since 2019, the government has opened certain sections of the DMZ to the public, such as the DMZ Peace Trail, aiming to spread a balanced awareness of the value of se-

curity and peace through direct experience of the DMZ. To enhance the safety of DMZ experiences for the public, the government has financially supported improvements in the Goseong County and Cheorwon County sections in Gangwon Province with investments from the Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund. Road improvements in the Goseong section were completed in June 2022, and Bima Bridge, which was damaged by heavy rain, is currently being restored in the Cheorwon section.

From September to December 2022, the government allowed access to the Peace Trail, which was previously open to the public in 2019 and 2021. The opened areas include the existing sections in Paju, Cheorwon, and Goseong, as well as newly built sections bordering the DMZ in Ganghwa, Gimpo, Goyang, Yeoncheon, Hwacheon, Yanggu, and Inje. A total of 6,574 people visited these sections in 2022.

The Ministry of Unification carried out the 2022 DMZ Unification Walk Program and provided grant to related organizations. Five events were held from June to October 2022 with 251 participants. An event lasting 12 nights and 13 days covering the East-West route from Goseong, Gangwon Province, to Paju, Gyeonggi Province was held three times. Walks lasting three nights and four days walk from Goseong to Yanggu and from Yeoncheon to Paju also took place.

Since 2022, the government has also operated a project to build infrastructure to facilitate DMZ experiences and the DMZ Unification Walk in the border areas. Accommodation facilities and restrooms will be built in the Gangwon Province areas of Cheorwon County, Hwacheon County, Yanggu County, Inje County, and Goseong County upon consultations with local governments in the border areas.

Arrowhead Ridge, located in Cheorwon, Gangwon Province, is a site where fierce battles took place in 1953 during the Korean War as part of an intense struggle for control between the South Korean and Chinese forces. It is known as the Iron Triangle Bat-

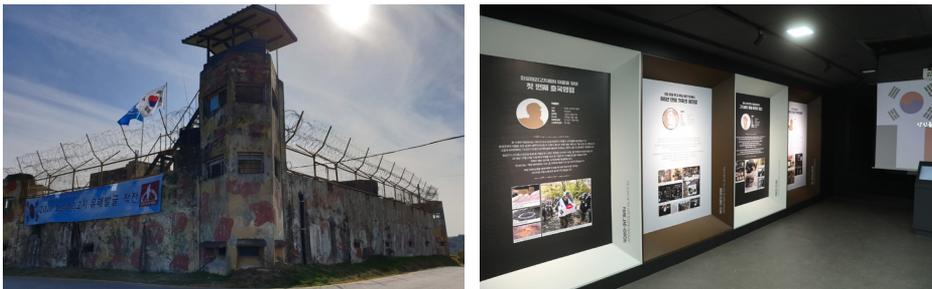


Launching Ceremony of the 2022 DMZ Unification Walk (July 25, Goseong Unification Observatory)



2022 DMZ Unification Walk (October 6, Paju)

tlefield and provides a vivid reminder of the scars of national division. In order to promote peace, the government has recovered the remains of fallen soldiers at Arrowhead Ridge since 2019 and funded Cheorwon County's renovation of Arrowhead Ridge GP into a memorial hall with investments from Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund since 2020. The public can visit the memorial hall, which is located along the Peace Trail in Cheorwon, and explore the newly created exhibition and memorial spaces.



Exterior and Interior of the Memorial Hall of Arrowhead Ridge

### (3) Development and Operation of the Integrated DMZ System

The Integrated DMZ system was designed to facilitate the public's understanding of the DMZ and support the management and operation of programs that promote the peaceful use of the DMZ.

In March 2022, the Ministry of Unification built a related metaverse platform, which marked a first among the central government agencies. The DMZ metaverse enables the public, who have limited access to the DMZ, to experience it online. The “DMZ Universe” website ([www.universe.go.kr](http://www.universe.go.kr)) features a web-based Map of Peace service, which systematically provides information about the DMZ and inter-Korean border



Main Screen of DMZ Universe



Main Screen of the Map of Peace



Main Screen of the DMZ Access System

areas that users can access and explore virtually. The Ministry of Unification has also developed various related media content, such as content about the Unification Walk event, the International DMZ Forum, and surveys on the DMZ conducted by the Ministry and the relevant agencies. The Ministry has also built the DMZ Access System (dmz.universe.go.kr), through which the relevant agencies can easily communicate online, enabling them to swiftly and conveniently discuss administrative tasks related to DMZ access. The system will be piloted in the public sector and then gradually expanded and upgraded.

#### **(4) Network-Building and Reinforcement of Communication between the Public Sector and Private Sector for Cooperation in the DMZ and Inter-Korean Border Areas**

Since 2018, the government has held annual international forums to increase domestic and international interest in the DMZ and inter-Korean border areas and discuss sustainable development strategies. On November 21, 2022, the DMZ Global Forum was held at the Asia Publishing Culture Information Center in Paju, Gyeonggi Province, under the theme “Green Détente Sprouting in DMZ.” The forum consisted of three sessions, with various domestic and international experts and activists participating. Discussions focused on the vision and significance of the inter-Korean Green Détente and turning the DMZ into a Green Peace Zone as well as strategies and challenges for implementing those visions. The forum provided an opportunity for domestic and international participants to engage in meaningful dialogue with each other while realizing the meaning and significance of the inter-Korean Green Détente policy.



DMZ Global Forum 2022 (November 15, 20, and 21)

The DMZ Global Forum for Young Leaders was independently organized in 2022. The two-day forum also included a field trip to the DMZ and border areas in Paju, Gyeonggi Province.

The DMZ Global Forum for Youth Leaders was held at George Mason University Korea on November 15, before the start of the DMZ Global Forum and field trip for young leaders. With its theme of “Transforming the DMZ into the GPZ, Perspectives from the Young Generation,” the Forum for Young Leaders provided a venue for young people to share their views on the DMZ as well as discuss the future role of the young generation in promoting peace and addressing environmental issues in the DMZ.

The government also organized a roundtable discussion among experts to facilitate a sharing of viewpoints about the execution of the Green Détente in inter-Korean border waters (November 18). The discussion elaborated upon peaceful cooperation measures in inter-Korean border waters, including the Han River Estuary. The event brought together over 20 experts from organizations researching maritime and ecological environments as well as international organizations in Korea and overseas. The experts exchanged opinions about the results of waterway and environmental surveys in the Han River Estuary, the prospects for the joint listing of the two Koreas under the Ramsar Convention, and the implementation of the Green Détente policy.



Roundtable Discussion of Experts for the Green Detente in the Inter-Korean Border Waters (November 18)

## Ensuring Stable and Systematic Management of Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation

### 1] Development of the Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan and Management of Major Economic Cooperation Programs

#### (1) Development of the Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan

The government has proposed the Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan and economic assistance to North Korea in exchange for its denuclearization as national initiatives. The government aims to foster mutual growth between the two Koreas through reciprocal economic cooperation based on the level of progress of North Korea's denuclearization and to establish an economic foundation towards the unification of the Korean peninsula. To this end, the government has drafted a master plan regarding the Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan upon consultations with experts and the relevant agencies. This plan contains detailed, comprehensive cooperative measures that encompass various areas such as infrastructure cooperation, economic development, improvement of people's livelihoods, and technological and institutional cooperation.

The government provided a venue that not only promotes local and global discussions and also expands consensus on the vision and imperatives of the Inter-Korean Joint Eco-



Seminar on the Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan and Sanctions on North Korea (October 28, Seoul)



Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan International Forum (December 16, Seoul)

conomic Development Plan. A seminar on the Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan and sanctions on North Korea was held on October 28, followed by the South-North Korea Joint Economic Development Plan International Forum held on December 16. These events provided opportunities for various domestic and foreign experts to discuss sector-specific initiatives related to industry, infrastructure, and the Green Détente as well as cooperative measures with the international community.

## **(2) Response to the Violation of Property Rights in Mount Geumgang and Gaeseong Industrial Complex**

In March 2022, North Korea initiated an unauthorized demolition of South Korean facilities within the Mountain Geumgang Tourist Complex, including Haegeumgang Hotel. Since then, the South Korean government has clearly stated in announcements from the Ministry of Unification (April 8 and July 11) that North Korea's actions constitute a violation of the inter-Korean agreements and South Korean property rights, for which North Korea shall be held fully responsible. The government has demanded that North Korea immediately cease its unilateral act of demolition and resolve the issue through dialogue. However, North Korea has continued its unauthorized removal without responding to the South, and the government is therefore considering subsequent measures to be taken.

The government also requested confirmation from North Korea regarding its use of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex's facilities after a fire broke out at the complex on April 21, 2022. Nevertheless, North Korea has remained unresponsive. Additionally, on July 3, 2022 North Korea's broadcast station Korean Central Television (KCTV) of North Korea ran a story that featured a vehicle identified as a commuter bus of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex being operated in downtown Gaeseong. In response, the Ministry of Unification demanded an immediate halt to the North's violation of the South's property rights on July 11, 2022.

## **(3) Management of Major Inter-Korean Cooperation Programs**

As the stalemate in inter-Korean relations continues, the government has implement-

ed the parts of the inter-Korean cooperation program pertaining to railway and road construction that the South can carry out on its own. On January 5, 2022, the government held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Gangneung-Jejin railroad section (totaling 111.7km) of the Donghae Bukbu Line with the aim of opening the discontinued section by 2027.

Meanwhile, the project for connecting the Gyeongwon Line, temporarily suspended due to North Korea's fourth nuclear test in 2016, is currently undergoing minimal maintenance, such as land acquisition and site management. The government will continue to monitor inter-Korean relations and the overall situation and determine when to resume the construction.

The government has also collaborated with the relevant agencies to prepare for improvements to the current situation, such as North Korea's denuclearization and the resumption of cooperation program for railway and road construction. The government conducted on-site inspections of the South's section of the railway and road facilities and organized workshops for the relevant agencies.

In preparation for future inter-Korean cooperation on resource development, the government has accumulated basic data on North Korean resources, actively built networks with experts, and undertaken research efforts. The government has collected information on North Korea's underground resources through the South-North Korea Exchange and Cooperation Support Association and has unveiled related data on the Information System for Resources of North Korea (irenk.net). The association, in collaboration with the relevant agencies, also organized a symposium on joint climate change responses and resources cooperation on the Korean peninsula (November 8).

#### **(4) Maintaining a Foundation for Economic Cooperation in the Private Sector**

In 2022, the border areas in North Korea remained closed due to the protracted pandemic. Therefore, the private sector continued to suffer difficulties in facilitating trade and economic cooperation. Under such circumstances, the government has sought to maintain a foundation for inter-Korean economic cooperation in the private sector and has actively communicated with and supported businesses engaged in such initiatives so that private-level cooperation resumes when circumstances improve. The government

held regular meetings and closely cooperated with related businesses and organizations, which are the main actors of trade and economic cooperation in the private sector.

The government has also taken measures to support businesses engaged in economic cooperation, trade, and Mount Geumgang tourism projects, which have all faced difficulties due to the prolonged suspension of economic cooperation with the North and the COVID-19 pandemic. In February 2022, the government decided to provide these businesses with loan sourcing from the special economic exchange and cooperation fund and financial support for their operational expenses. Through June 2022, a total of 15.7 billion KRW was provided, including loans and subsidies that amounted to 9.2 billion KRW for 37 companies and 6.5 billion KRW for 270 companies respectively.

## 2 Stable Management of the Situation of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex after Suspension of Operation

### (1) Efforts to Support Businesses Normalization of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex

On January 27 2022, the Constitutional Court rejected a constitutional complaint made on May 9, 2016 (2016 Heonma 364) against the suspension of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex. The Court viewed the government's decision to suspend the complex and subsequent measures as permissible based on the ROK's Constitution and laws. It also argued that substantial support had been provided to compensate for the loss of investment assets and liquid assets of businesses operating in Gaeseong in accordance with the Act on Support for Gaeseong Industrial Complex and the enforcement decree thereof. Separate from the Constitutional Court decision, the government continued with its support for the stable management of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex businesses, taking into account their difficulties caused by COVID-19.

The government has also implemented various measures to support the normalization of businesses that operated at the Gaeseong Industrial Complex, including measures related to finance, taxation, and stable employment so that the businesses could address the challenges they have faced. The measures included a deferment of repayment and maturity extension for policy loans, an extension of national and local tax payment deadlines, a suspension of collection and penalties for overdue payments, and employ-

ment insurance support for uninsured employees. In 2022, the Ministry of Unification has maintained its 1.0% interest rate for special Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund loans since 2021 when the rate fell from 1.5%.

The government conducted a survey immediately after operations at the Gaeseong Industrial Complex were fully suspended and confirmed damages totaling 786.1 billion KRW. In response, the government provided support totaling 513.1 billion KRW (2016) and 64.8 billion KRW (2017) based on the cooperation insurance policy, etc. and offered special loans worth 72.8 billion KRW in total. However, as the suspension of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex continued and was then exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, affected businesses have faced challenges with respect to their business operations and survival. The National Assembly also requested that the government implement support measures for the normalization of businesses that had operated at the Gaeseong Industrial Complex. Accordingly, on February 10, 2022, the government drew up a special support package at the Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Promotion Council and presented to businesses, the National Assembly, and the media the package consisting of special loans, financial support for business operations, and support to compensate for any loss of investment.

The government decided to provide special loans to businesses with the capacity to repay them and financial support for the business operational expenses of those that did not meet the criteria for special loans. Additionally, for investments exceeding the coverage limit of cooperation insurance, the government decided to provide the additional compensation for damages based on the same criteria as uninsured investments. To this end, the government distributed a total of 26.7 billion KRW, including 15.2 billion KRW worth of special loans for 41 businesses, 3 billion KRW worth of financial support for the business operations of 124 businesses, and 8.5 billion KRW worth of additional support for the loss of investment assets of 13 businesses.

## **(2) Customized Support for Businesses of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex**

In 2022, the government, through the Gaeseong Industrial District Foundation, continued to operate performance-based programs and customized programs as well as market development programs that could be of practical benefit to the businesses of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex. It implemented a performance-based support program,

which targets businesses committed to technological and product R&D, in collaboration with universities and research institutes. As a result, in 2022 four companies were selected and granted a total of 165 million KRW for six months. The government endeavored to effectively manage them by making visits, inspections, third-party review meetings.

In addition, the government distributed funds to the customized support program for the normalization of Gaeseong Industrial Complex businesses in order to meet their needs in public relations, marketing, and consulting. A total of 318 million KRW was provided to 41 companies in 2022 through the program.

For businesses facing difficulties in market development, the government cooperated with the relevant domestic agencies to facilitate the businesses' participation in special sales events (Mega Show, Vietnam EXPO, Paju Jangdan Soybean Festival, and a product exhibition at the National Assembly), and in export promotion conferences. They helped the GIC companies expanding their sales channels by exposing and selling their products more frequently.

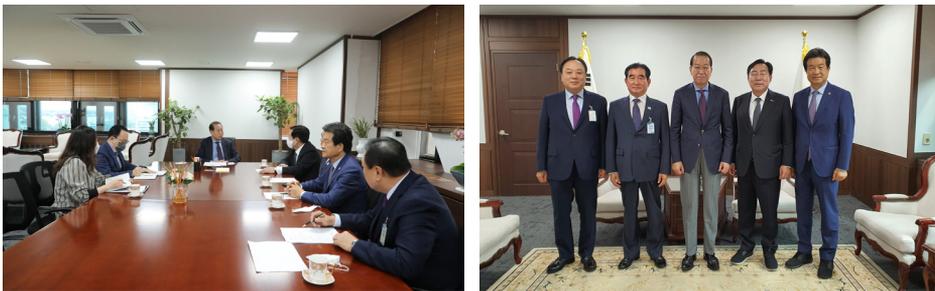
The government continued to operate the Comprehensive Business Support Center within the Gaeseong Industrial District Foundation to maintain a communication channel with businesses and help them address their difficulties. Therefore, in 2022, 350 cases of support in various areas including policy funds and business support were resolved. Since February 14 when the government held three briefing sessions on additional business support mechanisms, the government has operated a dedicated consulting center and handled 469 cases throughout the year.

### **(3) Communication with Businesses of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex**

The government has communicated and cooperated with the companies of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex to remain prepared for the resumption of the operation of the complex, should North Korea make progress with denuclearization, and support the normalization of business operations, as outlined in the government's 「Audacious Initiative」. On August 31, 2022, the Minister of Unification held meetings with the businesses of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex as well as the Korea Federation of Small and Medium Business. The Gaeseong Industrial Complex entrepreneurs requested the administration to strive to resume operations, support and allow them to visit the complex for an on-site assets inspection regarding North Korea's unauthorized operation of the

complex. In response, the Minister of Unification expressed empathy for the businesses' concerns and stated the government's commitment to taking all necessary steps to minimize the damages inflicted on the businesses.

In addition, the government has closely communicated with the businesses of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex through various occasions such as holding regular meetings and working-level consultations between the Director General for Inter-Korean Cooperation District Policy Planning Directorate and the business executives of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex.



The Minister of Unification's Meeting with the Chairman of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex and Chairman of the Korea Federation of Small and Medium Business (August 31)

The government also visited 12 resident businesses of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex from September to December 2022 to assess the situation of their businesses and directly hear from them about difficulties they face.

#### **(4) Maintenance of the Cooperation System between the Public and Private Sectors**

The government has regularly communicated and collaborated with relevant agencies and organizations such as the Gaeseong Industrial District Foundation, the Korea Land and Housing Corporation, and the Export-Import Bank of Korea on major pending issues including re-assessment of the GIC businesses and their support measures.

Throughout 2022, the government held four meetings of the legal advisory council for the Gaeseong Industrial Complex (two written and two in-person meetings) to gather opinions from private experts (lawyers, accountants, researchers, etc.) regarding the im-

provement of laws and institutions applicable to the complex. These sets of discussions aimed to protect the property rights of Korean citizens affiliated with the complex even during the period of suspension.

The government also made joint efforts with the Gaeseong Industrial District Foundation to share the significance and achievements of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex through various methods and channels. For instance, a special exhibition themed “Gaeseong” was held (June 22-25), and a metaverse of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex was piloted on the existing platform (ZEP).

To improve the public’s understanding of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex, the government implemented differentiated education programs, targeting entrepreneurs, youth, and students of elementary, middle, and high schools. Additionally, the government cooperated with offices of education and relevant organizations nationwide to give students of elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, and universities as well as public officials opportunities to share their experiences related to the complex. As the situation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic improved, related in-person educational events were expanded. A total of 131 sessions were carried out in 2022 with 6,112 participants.

The government also administered the Leaders’ Course on Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation, targeting regional business leaders interested in inter-Korean economic cooperation as well as relevant public officials. A total of four courses were offered with 147 participants. These courses were offered to enhance the capacity of businessmen interested in inter-Korean economic cooperation.

Additionally, the government operated programs such as the Networking Course for Young Leaders to Share Experiences in Inter-Korean Integration to foster future leaders in preparation for the era of inter-Korean economic cooperation and the Program for Instructors to Share Experiences in Inter-Korean Integration at the Gaeseong Industrial Complex in preparation for the resumption of operations at the complex. These programs provided opportunities for individuals to share various thoughts on inter-Korean economic cooperation and peace and the future of the Korean peninsula.

# 04

## Principled Efforts for Inter-Korean Dialogue Based on Mutual Respect

**Section 1.** Resolving Problems through Dialogue

**Section 2.** Preparing for the Resumption of  
Inter-Korean Talks and  
Related Capacity Building

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## Principled Efforts for Inter-Korean Dialogue Based on Mutual Respect

The government has continuously expressed its willingness to engage in inter-Korean dialogue in order to improve inter-Korean relations, which since 2019 have been at a standstill. It has made consistent efforts to create the conditions to bring North Korea back to the negotiation table based on its principles of “solving problems through dialogue and cooperation.”

The government has created an atmosphere for resumed inter-Korean engagement by proposing dialogue to North Korea and encouraging its return to negotiations. By doing so, the government intends to improve inter-Korean relations and consistently send a clear message regarding North Korean denuclearization and inter-Korean dialogue. Regular communication and contact continued in 2022 through the inter-Korean communication channel that was restored in October 2021.

Furthermore, the government has strengthened its capabilities to prepare for talks in each sector and has also improved its governance system in anticipation of the resumption of inter-Korean dialogue. Simulated inter-Korean meetings were conducted in each field, and the system for inter-Korean video conferences was also enhanced and improved in a practical manner throughout the ongoing COVID-19 situation. In addition, the government held a Forum for Research on Negotiations and regularly sought expert advice to enhance its expertise in inter-Korean negotiations. Various commemorative events were also organized to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the July 4 South-North Joint Communiqué.

The government aimed to expand the public consensus on unification by disclosing

materials related to inter-Korean summits for the first time and organizing briefings on inter-Korean dialogue for overseas Koreans. The government also strengthened its communication with the public by stably operating the tour program at Panmunjeom while adhering to quarantine measures.

### 1 Resolve Inter-Korean Issues through Dialogue

Despite the prolonged state of tensions in inter-Korean relations, the government has consistently maintained an open attitude toward North Korea and persistently urged the North to return to the negotiating table. President Moon Jae-in called for renewed dialogue and cooperation between Two Koreas in his 2022 New Year's Address (January 1) and reiterated the need for continued efforts to resume dialogue in his commemorative speech for the 103<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the March 1<sup>st</sup> Independence Movement (March 1). President Yoon Suk Yeol, in his inauguration speech on May 10, 2022, expressed his commitment to dialogue for a peaceful resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue and emphasized the principle of solving problems through dialogue.

Subsequently, following North Korea's announcement of the outbreak of COVID-19 on May 12, the government proposed working-level contacts for cooperation in health-care and quarantining measures on May 16, expressing its willingness to provide medical supplies, including vaccines and test kits, to the North along with South Korea's expertise in epidemic control. In the presidential address for the 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Liberation Day (August 15), the government reaffirmed its openness to all forms of in-



Briefing on the Proposal for Inter-Korean Working-Level Contacts to Cooperate on COVID-19 Quarantine Measures (May 16)



Proposal for Inter-Korean Talks for Resolving the Separated Families Issue (September 8)

ter-Korean dialogue and conveyed its readiness to discuss any topic with North Korea.

On September 8, the government proposed inter-Korean talks for a prompt and fundamental resolution to the issue of separated families, including confirming whether separated family members were living or deceased and holding regular reunions, in consideration of the urgency of the issue due to the advanced ages of separated family members. However, by refusing to even accept the letter with the South's proposal, North Korea did not respond positively to the South Korean government's efforts to resume inter-Korean dialogue.

## 2] Inter-Korean Communication Channel

Since the inter-Korean communication channel of the South-North Joint Liaison Office was restored on October 4, 2021, regular communication and contact through direct phone lines between Two Koreas have been maintained. In 2022, the Joint Liaison Office conducted 466 regular consultations (starting at 09:00 and ending at 17:00) and seven separate consultations, thus fulfilling its role as the official communication channel between the two Koreas. However, North Korea refused to accept any notifications from the South, including communication on humanitarian matters such as aid for the response to COVID-19 and inter-Korean talks for separated families as well as the removal of South Korean facilities in the Mount Geumgang tourism district and the inspection of operations at the Gaeseong Industrial Complex. Furthermore, despite South Korea's attempt to deliver a resolution condemning and calling for the cessation of North Korea's provocative use of ballistic missiles upon a request from the National Assembly and a letter from the Speaker of the National Assembly, there was no response from North Korea.



Call to signal that the day work of the Inter-Korean Joint Liaison Office begins (December 21)

The government also made multifaceted efforts for the progressive resumption of the Joint Liaison Office's operations, even in the context of strained inter-Korean relations. It conducted commissioned research to explore a future-oriented mid-term and long-term model of the office's communication and consultation mecha-

nism, such as the establishment of a liaison office among the South, North, and the United States. Efforts were also made to enhance communication and cooperation among local governments, private organizations, and the relevant agencies to promote the functioning of the Joint Liaison Office and build a public consensus around it. The central government continuously engaged in consultations with local governments such as the Governors Association of the Republic of Korea, Gangwon Province, Incheon City, and Paju City, as well as private organizations including the Korea Sharing Movement and Medical Aid for Children. On the occasion of the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the South-North Joint Liaison Office (September 14, 2018), a seminar to explore scenarios for the progressive reopening of the inter-Korean communication channel was held (September 16) with the participation of experts from various fields.

## Preparing for the Resumption of Inter-Korean Talks and Related Capacity Building

### 1 Capacity-Building for Inter-Korean Talks

Despite the prolonged suspension of inter-Korean dialogue, the government made multifaceted efforts to maintain and enhance its negotiation capabilities so that it could hold inter-Korean talks regardless of the time and place if North Korea responded positively. The government held several mock inter-Korean talks in various fields, including politics, the economy, and culture, to prepare and update its agenda while reviewing operational procedures.

Furthermore, the government expanded a standing advisory committee composed of seasoned leaders from previous inter-Korean talks and reorganized it into the Strategic Advisory Panel for Inter-Korean Talks. The aim of this body was to gather diverse opinions to enhance the government's expertise in strategic planning for inter-Korean talks and the negotiation capabilities of the delegation. The government also held the Forum on Research for Negotiations 11 times to improve the negotiation skills of the members of the Office of Inter-Korean Dialogue as well as their expertise in specific fields to prepare for the resumption of talks.



Mock Inter-Korean Red Cross Talk (June 23)



Mock Inter-Korean High-Level Talk (September 28)

## 2 Systematic Improvement for the Resumption of Inter-Korean Dialogue

The government has continuously improved its online and in-person meeting systems to ensure that inter-Korean talks can take place through any means and under any set of circumstances if North Korea responds positively to requests for dialogue.

First, the government utilized the inter-Korean video conference system established in 2021 and conducted a simulated inter-Korean video conference in January 2022. Additionally, the government further improved the system to facilitate various forms of dialogue, including developing a system for document transmission that can be adopted when the two Koreas agree to hold discussions.

Moreover, in preparation for the resumption of offline meetings in spite of the COVID-19 situation, the government set guidelines for safe in-person talks and conducted two mock exercises at the Freedom House (June) and Peace House (November) in Panmunjeom to verify the feasibility of the plan.



Mock Inter-Korean Video Conference (January 20)  
\*Verification of the Protocol of the Inter-Korean Video Conference



Mock Inter-Korean Sectoral Talk on Agriculture  
(November 24)  
\*Conducted as a Safe Offline Talk

## 3 Strengthen Communication with the Public Regarding Inter-Korean Dialogue

The government has made continuous efforts to promote the principles of solving inter-Korean issues through dialogue while informing the public of the progress made in previous inter-Korean dialogues.

On July 4, in commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the July 4 South-North

Joint Communiqué, the government organized a ceremony and academic conference centered on the theme “Walking the Path of Unification.” On September 17, a mock inter-Korean dialogue competition for university students was held to enhance the younger generation’s understanding of inter-Korean relations. A total of 28 teams participated in the competition, with six teams advancing to the final round. The participants of the competition engaged in intense discussions on topics related to political, military, economic, humanitarian, and social issues.



Ceremony and Academic Conference to Commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the July 4 South-North Joint Communiqué (July 4)



Mock Inter-Korean Dialogue Competition for University Students (September 17)

To guarantee citizens’ right to know and enhance the transparency of its North Korea policy, the government piloted the release of materials from inter-Korean dialogues for the first time on May 4, 2022. Then starting from December 30, the government fully disclosed materials from the inter-Korean Red Cross talks conducted in the 1970s (a total of 4,680 pages) so that the public could directly verify the government’s efforts based on these materials. The archive materials from these inter-Korean dialogues are housed in three locations: the Office of Inter-Korean Dialogue, the National Institute for Unifi-



Briefing on Inter-Korean Dialogue for Korean Residents in Frankfurt (November 8)



cation Education, and the Information Center on North Korea. Researchers, professors, and graduate students have accessed materials that have become publicly available.

Additionally, in November 2022, a briefing session on inter-Korean dialogue was held for Korean residents of Frankfurt, Germany. This forum aimed to inform overseas Koreans of the government's unification and North Korean policies, including the 「Audacious Initiative」.

#### **4 Panmunjeom Tour**

The government made efforts to allow the public to visit and experience Panmunjeom, even amid the COVID-19 situation. Due to social distancing guidelines and the elevated health protection level of U.S. Forces Korea, the Panmunjeom tour program for the public was suspended from January 19 until July 11. During this period, the government prepared for normal operations by training tour support personnel and renovating the on-site facilities. A special Panmunjeom tour program for members of the National Assembly, government agencies, and major institutions was operated safely in compliance with quarantining regulations. As the COVID-19 protocols were eased, the tour program for the general public resumed on July 12, and the number of times per day that the special tour program was operated increased from once to twice.

As of the end of December 2022, the Panmunjeom tour programs operate four days a week on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday and three times a day (one general tour and two special tours), accommodating 40 visitors for each session. Various measures to enhance the convenience of visitors were carried out, such as running a regular shuttle bus services for visitors using public transportation (between Munsan Station and Imjingak Tourist Information Center), improving the Panmunjeom Tourist Support Center's website, and installing information signs around Imjingak Tourist Information Center.

Despite the challenging circumstances, in 2022, a total of 3,649 visitors participated in Panmunjeom tours through the Panmunjeom Tourist Support Center in over 137 tour sessions, marking an increase of 22 sessions (approximately 18% more sessions) and 1,664 visitors (approximately 83% more visitors) compared to 2021. According to surveys, visitors had a higher level of satisfaction in 2022 than the previous year, with 96% (compared to 95.6% in 2021) responding that their understanding of peace and unifica-

tion had improved and 98.5% (compared to 96.9% in 2021) responding that they were satisfied with the Panmunjeom tour.

Considering the high level of public interest in the Panmunjeom tours, the government will continue its efforts to expand the tours and allow more citizens to visit Panmunjeom.



Special Panmunjeom Tour for Members of a Relevant Organization (Railroad) (August 20, Freedom House)



Special Panmunjeom Tour for Members of a Relevant Organization (Research on Unification) (October 28, Imjingak Tourist Information Center)



Panmunjeom Tour for General Public (November 4, Freedom House)



Panmunjeom Tour for General Public (December 9, in front of T2)

# Strengthening Support for North Korean Defectors' Settlement

**Section 1.** Trends of North Korean Defectors' Entry to the South

**Section 2.** Establishment of the Initial Support System for North Korean Defectors

**Section 3.** Improvement of North Korean Defectors' Work and Life

**Section 4.** Minimization of Blind Spots in Services for North Korean Defectors



## Strengthening Support for North Korean Defectors' Settlement

The government has pursued a vision of building an embracing society where North Korean defectors become neighbors. It has done so by supporting their settlement into South Korean society through a settlement support program for their social integration. To implement this vision, the government developed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Master Plan for Settlement Support for North Korean Defectors (2021-2023) and selected 24 policy initiatives in six areas. In 2022, the government developed and implemented action plans for the implementation of the Master Plan to improve the effectiveness of the settlement support system.

To strengthen support for the initial settlement of North Korean defectors, the government increased the basic allowance for settlement (to be implemented in 2023) and also enhanced the protection and support system for youth without relatives by enacting the Standard Procedures on Protection and Support of Youth without Relatives and revising the North Korean Refugees Protection and Settlement Support Act. Efforts were continuously made to increase the scope of the beneficiaries covered and improve the effectiveness of efforts to promote North Korean defectors' employment and support their asset accumulation. Additionally, the Successful Employment Support Package was launched to provide comprehensive support throughout the job seeking process in a way that is tailored to the personal interests and characteristics of North Korean defectors with the overall aim of strengthening their self-reliance.

Furthermore, the government established the Safety Support Team for North Korean Defectors (February 2022) to identify the challenges that North Korean defectors face

from various causes, including issues pertaining to their livelihood, physical, and mental health, at an early stage to protect and support the defectors more effectively. The Safety Support Team for North Korean Defectors was established as a system that promptly detects and responds to crises and emergencies North Korean defectors face. The government has also improved its survey method for identifying vulnerable households and households in crisis to provide more targeted support by systematically screening high-risk groups, checking their well-being, and coordinating any necessary assistance.

Due to the decreasing number of North Korean defectors entering South Korea, the number of residents entering the Settlement Support Center for North Korean Refugees (Hanawon) continued to remain low in 2022. In response, the government made efforts to increase the operating efficiency of Hanawon and improve the quality of education through customized programs. Additionally, efforts were made to enhance the settlement support of defectors, including expanding education and services for Hanawon graduates.

## Process of Settlement Support for North Korean Defectors

### Request for Protection and Transfer to South Korea

- Reporting and communicating to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the relevant ministries upon request for protection
- Accommodations in a foreign embassy or a temporary protection facility in the host country
- Negotiations with the host country and support for defectors' entry into South Korea after verification of their identity

### Entry into South Korea

### Investigation and temporary protection

- After entry, the National Intelligence Service conducts an investigation to determine the defectors' need for protection and implement temporary protection measures such as urgent medical treatment
- After the investigation is completed, the defector is transferred to the Hanawon facility for education and an orientation to South Korean society

### Decision on protection

- Decision on protection after a deliberation by North Korean Defector Protection and Settlement Support Council

### Preparation for settlement at Hanawon

- Education for adaptation-to-society (12 weeks, 400 hours)
  - Enhancing psychological safety, promoting understanding of South Korean society, career counseling, basic vocational training
- Initial settlement support: Register for establishment of family relations, arranging housing, providing settlement funds/subsidies

### Transfer to place of residence

### Protection in a place of residence (5 years)

- Inclusion in the social safety net (provision of livelihood/medical aid)
- Support for employment: Employment support funds, free vocational training, recognition of qualifications, etc.
- Educational support: Special admission and tuition support
- Protection officers: Operation of protection officer system in charge of the defectors' residency/employment/personal protection

### Participation of the private sector

- Comprehensive services provided through Korea Hana Foundation
- Designation and operation of local centers for the adaptation-to-society of North Korean defectors (25 centers nationwide)
- Settlement support system in connection with volunteers
- 86 professional counselors for North Korean defectors
  - Providing on-site services including comprehensive counseling and resolution of difficulties

## Trends of North Korean Defectors' Entry to the South

In 2022, the number of North Korean defectors who entered South Korea was 67. This was a slight increase compared to the 63 who defected in 2021, yet it was a continuation of the significant decrease after 2020, which is attributable to factors such as the increased border control between North Korea and China due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of the end of December 2022, the cumulative number of North Korean defectors who had entered South Korea reached 33,882, with female defectors (24,372) accounting for 72% of all defectors. In terms of age, the 30 to 39 age group accounted for the highest share of defectors at 28.7% (9,719 defectors). Those in their 20s and 30s together represented 57.1% (19,320 defectors) of the total. In terms of occupation, those who were unemployed or were a dependent in North Korea accounted for 44.8% (15,170 defectors), while workers accounted for 39.6% (13,399 defectors), together making up 84.4% (28,569 individuals) of the total. As for educational background, the majority had completed middle or high school education, accounting for 69.4% (23,471 defectors) of the total, followed by vocational education at 10.5% (3,537 defectors), and university or higher education at 6.9% (2,343 defectors).

The regions of origin of the defectors are predominantly North Hamgyeong Province, accounting for 58.7% (19,852 defectors), Yanggang Province at 17.8% (6,013 defectors),

### Status of North Korean Defectors' Entry over the Past 10 Years (2013-2022)

(Unit: # of defectors)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Male	369	305	251	302	188	168	202	72	40	35
Female	1,145	1,092	1,024	1,116	939	969	845	157	23	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,514</b>	<b>1,397</b>	<b>1,275</b>	<b>1,418</b>	<b>1,127</b>	<b>1,137</b>	<b>1,047</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>67</b>
Share of Female Defectors	76%	78%	80%	79%	83%	85%	81%	69%	37%	48%

and South Hamgyeong Province at 8.5% (2,883 defectors). Large number of defectors come from Hamgyeong and Yanggang province (refer to #6 of the appendix II).

### 1 Social Adaptation Training Program

#### (1) Overview of the Social Adaptation Training Program

North Korean defectors who enter South Korea receive a basic education to help them adapt so that they can live as members of South Korean society. Due to the decreased numbers of North Korean defectors arriving in South Korea, the number of North Korean defectors who completed the education program at Hanawon also decreased to 50 in 2022.

#### Status of Completion in 2022

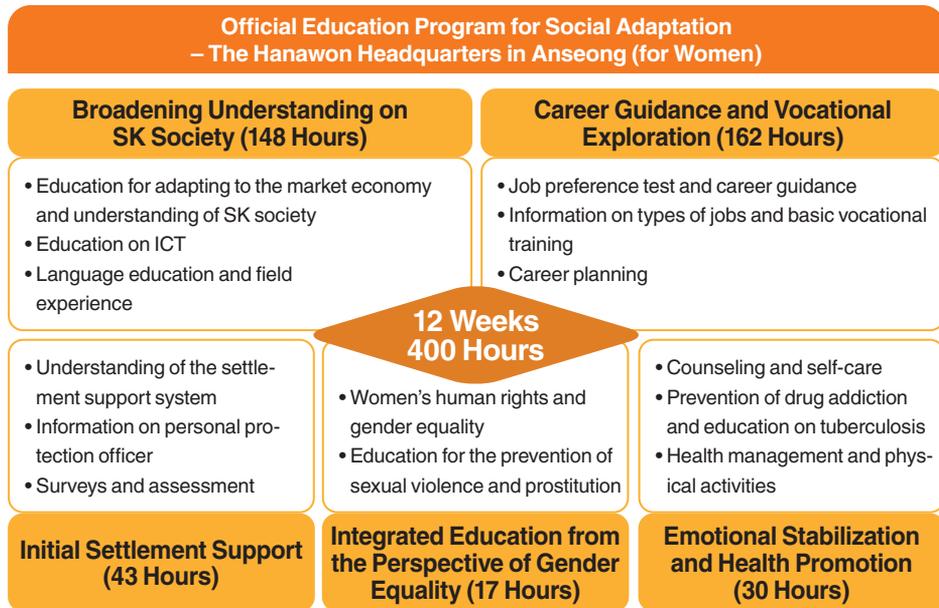
(Unit: # of defectors)

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Total	1	1	8	5	3	1	8	2	1	3	4	13	50
Male	1	1	5	4	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	10	26
Female	0	0	3	1	1	1	6	2	1	2	4	3	24

The government gathered opinions on its Policy for North Korean Defectors from experts, including the policy advisory committee of Hanawon, as well as from the trainees and graduates of Hanawon. Informed by these perspectives, it then drafted the 2022 Master Plan for Social Adaptation Training at Hanawon. The basic direction of defector education policy in 2022 included education to broaden one's understanding of South Korean society; career and vocational education; and education for communication, networking, and building one's mindset as a citizen.

According to the revised Master Plan, the Social Adaptation Training now includes 400 hours of classes in five areas and takes place for 12 weeks. The five areas of training

are: 1) Education to broaden one’s understanding of South Korean society; 2) Integrated education from the perspective of gender equality, 3) Education for emotional stability and health promotion; 4) Career guidance and education for vocational exploration; and 5) Guidance on the initial settlement support, as stipulated in Article 15, Paragraph 2 of the North Korean Refugees Protection and Settlement Support Act.



※ Supplementary program for voluntary participation (372 hours): Language, driving, computer, handicrafts, and parenting education

## (2) Education to Broaden Understanding of South Korean Society

To help ensure the stable settlement of North Korean defectors and reduce the cultural gap between defector and non-defector citizens of South Korea, the government has strengthened its educational program for broadening understanding of South Korean society. Accordingly, a new subject area called Understanding Basic Information on Day to Day life and Public Services was created and related educational content centered around a case-based approach was created. The existing education on ICT, which had primarily focused on employment support, was revamped to complement the education program for broadening one’s understanding of South Korean society, redefine its focus and update its lecturing methodology.

Furthermore, as many North Korean defectors consider their North Korean accent an obstacle to their adaptation to society, a high demand for language education has been apparent. Accordingly, new language classes were developed with the themes of “The Basics of Adapting to the Language of the South: Vocabulary and Expressions”; “Communicating with South Koreans: Standard Speaking Exercises”; and “Overcoming the Obstacles of Adapting to Society: Pronunciation and Accent Training.” Basic and advanced courses were provided for each theme. Furthermore, one-on-one language coaching sessions were carried out using the Language Counseling Center and Language Learning Center, especially for defectors who wished to refine their North Korean speaking style and improve their pronunciation and accent. Additionally, the 2022 Visiting Korean Language Class was planned for graduates of Hanawon. As part of this course, the module “Understanding Grammar” was delivered to instructors specialized in unification (August 10-11) as well as North Korean defectors with jobs or in school (October 30 to November 4). Furthermore, a course for North Korean defector adults called “Removing North Korean Accent in Two Weeks” was created (3 classes, May to July).

### **(3) Career Guidance and Advanced Vocational Training Programs**

The government operates a vocational education center within Hanawon to enhance the vocational skills and job seeking capabilities of North Korean defectors, thereby assisting them in their settlement and job search. Since the opening of the vocational education center on June 24, 2020, vocational training has been provided for both trainees and graduates of Hanawon. The training program supports the acquisition of qualifications and skills required by employers and workplaces. Tailored education is provided to trainees, in consideration of their personal aptitude and preferences. Programs such as “Basic Vocational Education,” “Career Counseling,” “Job Descriptions,” “Basic Vocational Training” (a certification class and a job experience class), and “Career/Life Planning provide systematic and practical assistance to North Korean defectors to enhance their career decision-making and adaptation to the workplace.

Additionally, eight advanced vocational training programs in the areas of Korean cooking, skincare and beauty, nail art, elderly care, and ITQ (Korean language) were operated for graduates of Hanawon. A total of 56 graduates took part in these programs,

## Advanced Vocational Training Programs in 2022

(Unit: # of defectors)

Program	Period of Operation	Number of Participants	Number of Participants Who Have Completed the Programs	Number of Participants Who Have Acquired Related Qualifications
Skincare and Beauty (Practice)	February 8~March 12, 2022 (5 weeks)	7	7	7
Elderly Care	March 23~May 13, 2022 (9 weeks)	6	5	5
ITQ (Korean Language)	May 9~June 10, 2022 (5 weeks)	5	4	4
Korean Cooking	May 23~July 22, 2022 (9 weeks)	9	6	6
Skincare and Beauty (Practice)	August 10~September 6, 2022 (5 weeks)	6	6	6
Elderly Care	September 13~November 4, 2022 (8 weeks)	7	7	7
Skincare and Beauty (Business Skills)	November 7~24, 2022 (3 weeks)	7	7	-
ITQ (Korean Language)	November 7~December 9, 2022 (5 weeks)	9	7	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>56</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>40</b>



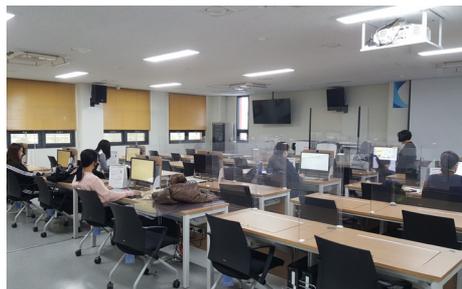
Skincare and Beauty Program (February 8 – March 12)



Korean Food Cooking Program (May 23 – July 22)



Elderly Care Program  
(September 13-November 4)



ITQ (Korean Language) Program  
(November 7-December 9)

with 42 of them taking exams and 40 (95.2%) obtaining qualifications in their respective fields, thereby enhancing their vocational competence.

An orientation and workshop for vocational training program instructors were carried out to improve the quality of vocational training services, and an expert advisory meeting for the advanced vocational training programs was held to explore more efficient operation methods, including measures to increase the engagement of trainees, establish new courses, and introduce jobs to trainees who have become qualified in particular areas. A survey was conducted from November 1 to 30, 2022, targeting 54 graduates who had completed advanced training programs at Hanawon from June 2020 to May 2022 after the opening of the vocational education center. The survey focused on the graduates' job status, the correlation between Hanawon's training programs on the one hand and their employment and settlement status on the other. The results of the survey will be considered when the vocational education operation plan is drafted.

A research was commissioned to analyze the factors contributing to the long-term service needs of North Korean defectors. The research aimed to identify what enables North Korean defectors to serve at a workplace for three or more years and systematically establish the future direction of vocational training and employment support systems.

#### **(4) Operation of Hanadul School**

Hanadul School, which is inside Hanawon, provides classes for preschoolers, elementary school students, and young adults, thereby targeting North Korean children and youth younger than 24 years old. Teachers dispatched from the Ministry of Education provide education that is customized for different ages and academic levels. The elementary school classes include commissioned education at nearby schools and supplementary classes at Hanawon. The classes for young adults are tailored to each student's age and academic level and also include guidance on career paths and higher education. In addition, graduates of Hanawon attend in-person special supplementary classes at Hanawon during their vacations and virtual classes during their semesters to continuously upgrade their basic academic skills. In 2022, 24 students attended the special supplementary classes.

Teachers who have completed their instructional assignments at Hanawon and returned to their place of service are appointed as Hana Teachers. In this role, they serve as

mentors to assist North Korean students' adjustment to school life, providing advice on daily life, academic matters, and career development. They also participate in a consultation body for the education of North Korean defector students that consists of members of the relevant agencies, such as the Ministry of Education, and explores various ways to support North Korean defector students as they adjust to school life in South Korea.

Furthermore, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, self-directed-learning education content was developed to improve the learning environment for preschoolers and elementary school students. A supplementary math textbook was published for elementary school students in Grade 3 and above who have not yet developed an understanding of the concept of numbers. A guidebook on daily life for preschoolers was also published to enhance North Korean preschoolers' adjustment to kindergarten life. Additionally, to improve people's awareness of North Korean defectors, a publication entitled *From the Unified Future: The Children of Hanadul School* was released. This book contains essays written by North Korean students and teachers. To enhance the capacity of teachers and others involved in education for North Korean defector students, the forum for education at Hanadul School was held three times (April 19, July 21, and October 13).

Efforts were also made to actively eliminate difficulties that North Korean defector women face. To support the employment of women, who account for more than 70% of North Korean defectors, a proposal for the inclusion of North Korean infants in the priority admission criteria for daycare centers was submitted to and accepted by the Ministry of Health and Welfare. Additionally, to support the language development and communication skills of preschoolers, packages of picture books, play materials, and instructor manuals were produced and distributed to the 25 Hana Centers nationwide.

## **2] Improve Health Condition and Emotional Stability**

### **(1) Operation of Hana Clinic**

Hanawon operates the Hana Clinic to provide healthcare services for North Korean defectors. As a primary medical organization, Hana Clinic employs 23 medical professionals, including doctors and nurses, who are responsible for the initial health management of North Korean defectors upon their arrival. The headquarters in Anseong operates six departments of family medicine; dentistry; traditional Korean medicine;

obstetrics and gynecology; pediatrics and adolescent medicine; and psychiatry. The branch in Hwacheon operates the four departments of internal medicine, dentistry, traditional Korean medicine, and psychiatry.

In 2022, Hana Clinic operated various medical support programs to promote the health of North Korean defectors, including health check-ups, vaccinations, and personal health promotion campaigns. InBody tests (body composition analysis) were conducted to assess incoming defectors' weight, obesity level, muscle mass, blood pressure, blood glucose, total cholesterol, and other basic health indicators. Based on the results, a personalized diet management service and exercise prescriptions were provided.

In addition, case management for healthcare support was implemented for the graduates of Hanawon. Individuals targeted for health management received regular monthly monitoring services from Hana Clinic for one year after the completion of the program. Hana Clinic also conducted a survey on the recurrence of tuberculosis among patients who received tuberculosis treatment between 2016 and 2020, along with a survey on health management. Moreover, the medical support system at the Hana Centers and partnering hospitals were strengthened to help North Korean defectors recover from any adverse health conditions during their early stage of their settlement.

A visiting health screening service was proactively conducted in 10 facilities with limited access to healthcare services, including alternative schools for North Korean defectors. A total of 283 individuals used this service. The screening team was made up of Hana Clinic medical professionals who personalized health services, including basic medical tests, oral examinations, and health education, in consideration of the health conditions of individuals. The aim of this screening procedure was to remove the blind spots in healthcare services for North Korean defectors.

In 2022, a private-public medical partnership program was operated to provide



Agreement for the Promotion of Inter-Korean Healthcare Cooperation among Hanawon, Goyang City, and the National Cancer Center (March 28)



3<sup>rd</sup> Visiting Health Screening Service (July 16)



Six Types of Leaflets to Provide Healthcare Information (November 30)

medical support for and broaden people’s understanding of North Korean defectors. Hanawon, Goyang City, and the National Cancer Center entered into an agreement for the promotion of inter-Korean healthcare cooperation (March 28), and students from the College of Nursing at Ewha Womans University visited Hana Clinic for practical training (July 4-7). In addition, 35 organizations that signed medical cooperation agreements with Hana Clinic were inspected to ensure their compliance with government policies (June 1-20).

Additional steps taken have included building a database of health information on North Korean defectors and publishing six types of leaflets to provide North Korean defectors with health-related information. The leaflets, which cover hypertension, diabetes, liver diseases, gastrointestinal diseases, obesity management, and the safe use of medicine, are used to further the health education for North Korean defectors.

## (2) Operation of the Mental Health Center

The mental health center provides medical consultations, individual and group counseling services, and psychological and emotional health care programs. The center’s services begin with a mental health examination (MHI-NKR) and personal counseling upon North Korean defectors’ admission to Hanawon, aiming to help them stay mentally healthy during the early stages of their stay. The psychological treatment sessions are delivered regularly, enabling defectors to address their psychological issues and focus on their learning experience at Hanawon. Additionally, an emotional health promotion program is administered to help trainees practice self-care in their daily lives.

The graduates who need continued mental healthcare support after completing the program at Hanawon can visit local medical organizations or counseling centers for treatment and counseling. To this end, professional counseling at the 25 local Hana Centers and support through a partnership with the Korea Hana Foundation are available.

In addition to administering the psychological and emotional health promotion programs for Hanawon trainees, the mental health center



Newsletter of the Communication Program for North Korean Women

focused on three main initiatives in 2022 and developed a communication program for North Korean women by implementing a commissioned expert research project. The program aimed to improve the social communication skills of North Korean defectors and help them better adapt to their local communities.

To promote suicide prevention education for North Korean defectors, the Life Protectors (those who will help prevent suicide) program was initiated. The Korea Foundation for Suicide Prevention under the Ministry of Health and Welfare partnered with the Korea Hana Foundation to operate a number of training programs for instructors, including “Watch, Listen, and Report for North Korean Defectors 2.0” (June 1) and a supplementary program (December 16). Since 2020, program was introduced to train “Life Protectors” who provide emotional support for defectors and prevent suicides, a total of 55 employees from the Korea Hana Foundation and Hana Centers have completed the training programs.

The Mental Meditation Program was administered to help North Korean Defectors recover their mental health. This one-day program for graduates was held at Hanawon’s headquarters in collaboration with the Korean Academy of Meditation in Medicine. A total of six sessions were offered, and 40 North Korean defectors attended them in 2022.

### 3 Hanawon Hwacheon Branch (2<sup>nd</sup> Hanawon)

#### (1) Operation of Classes for Men and Wellness Programs

The Hanawon’s Hwacheon Branch provides basic education for North Korean defectors’ adaptation to South Korean society. The Hwacheon Branch held its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary



10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremony of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hanawon (December 5)

sary event on December 5, 2022 to commemorate the opening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hanawon in December 2012.

The Hwacheon Branch adopted the same curriculum and operating hours as the headquarters in Anseong and has additionally tailored its programs for men, such as administering a violence prevention program and running a driving and heavy equipment training program.

In 2020, the Hwacheon Branch Hanawon published the textbook "Laws on everyday lives of the South and North for North Korean Defectors." It was published again in 2021 as a comic book entitled "Laws on everyday lives of the South and North for North Korean Defectors," which made it easier to understand.

Since the simulated car driving system was incorporated into Hanawon's driver's license acquisition education program in 2020, the percentage of trainees who annually pass the first stage of the driver's license test has significantly increased to over 97%. The heavy equipment training program at the Hwacheon Branch for driving excavators and forklifts has recorded high levels of engagement and satisfaction from the trainees.

Furthermore, after developing a wellness program customized for North Korean defectors, the Hwacheon Branch Hanawon piloted the program and launched it in earnest in 2022. The wellness program is a new service aimed at promoting the psychological and emotional health of defectors as well as restoring their family relationships. It targets vulnerable defectors such as single-parent households and those aged 65 and older. The program is customized to the personal schedules of the targeted trainees. A total of nine sessions were carried out in 2022, with 175 trainees participating.



Wellness Program for Families (December 8)



Wellness Program for the Elderly (November 13)

## (2) Vocational Education for Personnel Supporting the Settlement of North Korean Defectors

The Hanawon's Hwacheon Branch operates five vocational training programs to enhance the professional skills of those who support the settlement of North Korean defectors while building a collaborative system among the relevant agencies. These programs are designed for local government officials, members of the North Korean Defectors Protection and Settlement Support Council, protection officers, instructors of North Korean students, and officials of overseas embassies who are tasked with North Korean defector issues. The Hwacheon Branch increased its number of sessions to 10 in 2022 to enhance the convenience of participants and improve the overall effectiveness of the training program. A total of 189 participants attended its programs throughout the year. The programs were carried out in person once social distancing rules were eased in September.

Vocational Education Programs at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hanawon in 2022

Program	Period of Operation		Remarks
Protection Officers for North Korean Defectors	Session 1	March 15~17	2-day online education and 1-day field trip
	Session 2	June 22~24	
	Session 3	December 13~16	Group education
Instructors for North Korean Students	Session 1	January 18~20	2-day online education and 1-day field trip
	Session 2	August 24~26	
	Session 3	August 29~31	
Officials of Overseas Embassies in Charge of North Korean Defectors	Session 1	September 5	Group education
Members of the North Korean Defectors Protection and Settlement Support Council	Session 1	May 25~27	2-day online education and 1-day field trip
Local Government Officials	Session 1	April 26~28	2-day online education and 1-day field trip
	Session 2	July 27~29	

## 4 Improve People's Understanding and Awareness of North Korean Defectors

### (1) Programs for Visitors and Invited Educational Programs

Hanawon has operated programs to enhance understanding of North Korean defectors and their Hanawon experiences for members of relevant organizations at home and abroad as well as the general public. Due to concerns about the spread of COVID-19, the programs for visitors have been limited since 2020. After the social distancing rules were eased in April 2022, Hanawon actively operated programs for visitors once again in compliance with quarantine guidelines.

In 2022, a total of 470 individuals from 27 organizations visited the Hanawon's headquarters and its branch in Hwacheon, including members of six foreign organizations such as the UN Special Rapporteur on North Korea Elizabeth Salmón and staff members of the U.S. Congress as well as citizens from 21 Korean organizations including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the National Human Rights Commission



Visit of UN Special Rapporteur on North Korea Elizabeth Salmón (August 30)



Visit of North Seoul Hana Center (October 20)



Visit of the Institute for Health and Unification Studies of Seoul National University (November 1)



Education to Improve Awareness on North Korean Defectors (Ewha Womans University, August 10)

of Korea, the Committee for the Five Northern Korean Provinces, local Hana Centers, and the Institute for Health and Unification Studies of Seoul National University.

Meanwhile, Hanawon's Hwacheon Branch operated a two-day invited education program twice in 2022 to improve university students' awareness of North Korean defectors. The first session (July 7-8) was for 22 students from Ajou University in collaboration with the Gyeongin Unification Education Center, and the second session (August 10-11) was for 21 students from Ewha Womans University. The program consisted of a one-night stay experience with facility tours and activities to understand the role and functions of Hanawon. Participants also enhanced their awareness of North Korean defectors through dialogues with them and related lectures.

## (2) Competition to Improve Awareness on North Korean Defectors

The successful settlement of North Korean defectors in South Korean society is critical for both humanitarian reasons and to prepare for unification. Therefore, the



Grand Prize: I Came from the North



Gold Prize: After Korea



Silver Prize: Ddak Dongmu



Bronze: Running a Business by Chance

government has made efforts to enhance its legal and institutional support for North Korean defectors. At the same time, it is important for the public to have an unbiased understanding and positive perceptions of North Korean defectors to help facilitate their successful integration into South Korean society. Accordingly, the government held the 1<sup>st</sup> Hanaro Short Film Competition in 2022, which aimed to improve people’s awareness of North Korean defectors.

The competition took place from September 23 to November 13, 2022, and a total of 44 films were submitted. Following preliminary and final evaluations, four films were selected and awarded the Grand Prize, Gold Prize, Silver Prize, and Bronze Prize. The award-winning films were showcased in an online screening event held on UniTV, the YouTube channel of the Ministry of Unification.

## 5 Homecoming Event for Hanawon Graduates

Hanawon serves as a home for North Korean defectors as they learn the knowledge and skills they need for their smooth settlement after entering South Korea and taking their first steps in South Korean society. In order to encourage graduates’ efforts in their successful settlement and reflect on the role and significance of Hanawon, a homecoming day event at Hanawon has been held annually. After the suspension of the event for three years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Hanawon held the two-day homecoming event on December 10 and 11, 2022.

More notably, this year’s event expanded from a graduates-only event to allowing graduates’ family members to accompany them. The event program was also upgraded from a celebration to a comprehensive event with various activities, such as North Ko-



Hanaro Performance (December 10)



Myeongnang Sports Event (December 11)

rean defectors' artistic performances, a tasting of North Korean foods, vocational experiences, and wellness activities. Additionally, participants were able to stay overnight at Hanawon during the event.

Over 500 people participated in the 2022 event, including graduates, their family members, and members of relevant organizations. In fact, applications to attend reached their full capacity after only three days of pre-registration. During the event, North Korean defectors demonstrated their commitment to and deep affection for Hanawon.

## **6 Initial Settlement Support for North Korean Defectors**

### **(1) Support for Family Registration and Housing**

The government provides support for the family registration and resident registration of North Korean defectors so that they can exercise their rights and fulfill their obligations as citizens of South Korea. Given the unique nature of North Korean defectors' households, the applicable law was revised on October 21, 2021 to allow them to issue a certificate of family relations including brothers or sisters. After completing their program at Hanawon, North Korean defectors can select a place of residence and secure a public rental house. The government cooperates with public institutions such as the Korea Land and Housing Corporation and Seoul Housing and Communities Corporation to support the allocation of houses to North Korean defectors.

### **(2) Settlement Funds**

The government provides various settlement funds including basic settlement allowances to support North Korean defectors at the initial stage of their settlement. The settlement funds aim to provide financial assistance for a certain period to help North Korean defectors settle into South Korean society after completing the Hanawon program. Settlement funds consist of basic settlement allowances, housing subsidies, additional allowances granted according to criteria, employment incentives to promote their stable employment, and employment subsidies for employers who hire North Korean defectors. The basic settlement allowance is granted to each household, with different

amounts corresponding to the number of members of each household. The first installment of the basic settlement allowance is granted at the point of completing the program at Hanawon, and the remaining amount is paid quarterly in three installments, starting from three months after defectors move into their place of residence. The base amount provided is 8 million KRW for a single-person household, and this amount increases with more members of the household. The housing subsidy is provided as a rental deposit for rental houses that North Korean defectors move into after completing the Hanawon program. It is granted on a household basis, with 16 million KRW provided for a single-person household and the amount increasing according to the number of members of the household. Additionally, a rural residence incentive is provided to encourage North Korean defectors to settle in rural areas.

Meanwhile, in response to rapid inflation, the government strengthened its support for the initial settlement of North Korean defectors in 2022 by proposing an increase in their basic settlement allowances. Starting from 2023, the allowance amounts have increased by 1 million KRW per household.

Additional allowances are provided to North Korean defectors who are in special circumstances, such as the elderly, persons with disabilities, those receiving long-term medical treatment, single-parent households with children, and households with children born and raised in a third country. Additional allowances for the elderly and single-parent households with children are provided by Hanawon, while other additional allowances are provided by the Korea Hana Foundation.

Furthermore, to support the economic self-reliance and self-sufficiency of North Korean defectors, the government provides settlement incentives such as employment incentives, vocational training incentives, and qualification acquisition incentives.

#### Criteria for Employment Subsidization

Items	Duration of employment	Amount (Unit: KRW 10,000)	
		Seoul metropolitan area	Other regions
Employment Subsidies	6 months	200	250
	1 year	500	600
	2 years	600	700
	3 years	700	800

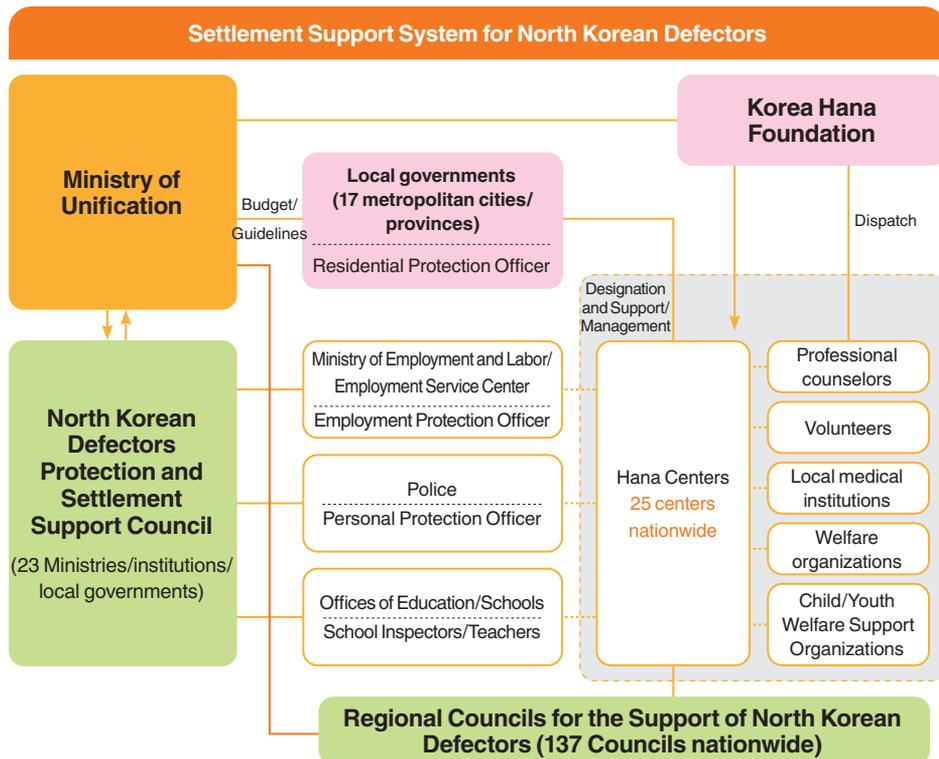
Employment incentives are provided to those who work for more than six months at the same workplace within the five years of the protection of place of residence period. Payment is provided for a period of three years, which is the duration of the employment protection period.

Since the North Korean Refugees Protection and Settlement Support Act was revised on November 29, 2014 and the Future Happiness Bank Account System was subsequently adopted, employment incentives as well as vocational training incentives and qualification acquisition incentives have been applicable only to North Korean defectors who entered and received protection from the government before November 29, 2014.

## Improvement of North Korean Defectors' Work and Life

### 1 Settlement Support System for North Korean Defectors

The settlement support policy for North Korean defectors is being implemented through cooperation among the central government, local governments, and the private sector. At the national level, the North Korean Defectors Protection and Settlement Support Council develops and supervises a comprehensive settlement support system. At the local level, Hana Centers are run in collaboration with local governments to provide education, psychological counseling, and job placement services to North Korean defectors.



The government also appoints protection officers in charge of residential, personal, and employment protection in collaboration with local authorities and the relevant agencies. Regional councils, consisting of government officials, protection officers, and representatives from private organizations, have been formed to provide settlement support services that are customized to the local conditions. In the private sector, local medical institutions and religious organizations collaborate with the Korea Hana Foundation and Hana Centers to promote the self-reliance and social integration of North Korean defectors.

## **2] Support for Self-Reliance**

The government recognizes that employment is a key factor for the successful settlement of North Korean defectors and therefore is making an effort to enhance the vocational skills of North Korean defectors through education and quality job opportunities in collaboration with relevant institutions. The government also provides administrative and financial support to North Korean defectors who wish to start businesses or engage in farming while conducting promotional activities and expanding marketing support for products produced by North Korean defectors. Various support policies are implemented to promote the employment of North Korean defectors, including support for employers hiring North Korean defectors, and to encourage asset accumulation with the Future Happiness Bank Account System. All such initiatives aim to increase job opportunities for North Korean defectors and help them support themselves financially.

### **(1) Support for the Development of Vocational Skills**

The government supports the personalized development of vocational skills for North Korean defectors by operating basic and advanced vocational training programs. To strengthen defectors' basic vocational skills, the government administers the Employment Voucher System, which allows individuals to choose and participate in virtual or in-person vocational training courses with support up to 2 million KRW per person. In 2022, the government also ran seven advanced vocational training courses linked to employment, taking into account the preferences and employment rates of North Korean defectors. The courses included accounting, trade, and electrical technician courses.

To expand opportunities for North Korean defectors to pursue professional careers in ways that utilize their previous experience in North Korea, the government provides education expenses of up to 5 million KRW per person to acquire technical and professional qualifications. The government has also partnered with domestic universities to provide practical training and national examination preparation, such as medical and dental examinations. As a result, four North Korean defectors successfully passed the final examination for medical professionals in 2022, including two medical doctors, one Korean traditional medicine doctor, and one dentist.

### Support for the Development of Vocational Skills in 2022

Item	Employment Voucher Card	Vocational Training Linked to Employment	Fostering of Professionals
Support for the development of vocational skills	449 beneficiaries (532 programs)	84 beneficiaries (7 programs)	50 beneficiaries

In addition, a short-term internship program helped expand the employment prospects of North Korean defectors and broaden their job search and workplace experiences. Training expenses for up to three months were granted to both the participating employers and North Korean defectors. A total of 163 individuals completed the internship program at 148 businesses, and 162 of the individuals were hired through the program.

The government also supports the development of vocational skills and job seeking for youth with its Youth Employment Academy for North Korean defector college students.



Short-Term Training (for Fostering Caddies)  
(November 21)



Practice in Preparation for the National Medical Examination in Partnership with a medical college  
(August 2)

## (2) Employment Support

The government provides comprehensive employment support services, including personalized job counseling, job placement, accompanying interviews, and post-employment management, all with the aim of increasing the employment rate of North Korean defectors and encourage their long-term participation in the labor force.

Based on the expertise of employment counselors stationed at the 25 Hana Centers nationwide, an employment support system for North Korean defectors has been established in consideration of their place of residence. The support system includes the registration of jobseekers and job opportunities, job placement, accompanied interviews, support for enhancing job seeking skills, job matching and management, and post-employment support.

### Employment Support by Korea Hana Foundation and Hana Centers in 2022

(Unit: Case)

Item	Jobseeker Registration	Job Registration	Job Placement	Accompanied Interviews	Employment	Online Counseling	Offline Counseling
Case	1,710	2,057	1,539	421	1,441	18,168	6,841

Source: Employment Management System, Korea Hana Foundation

Furthermore, the government administers a support system for employers who hire North Korean defectors in order to promote their employment. In 2022, financial support for business development was provided to 11 companies who employed North Korean defectors. Furthermore, the Notice on Designation and Support Procedures for Exemplary Employers Hiring North Korean Defectors was enacted (April 5), and four exemplary companies were selected, which helped increase the effectiveness of the system to incentivize the employment of North Korean defectors.

## (3) Support for Business Establishment and Farming

The government, in collaboration with the relevant agencies, has implemented various customized support programs for North Korean defectors who aspire to start businesses or operate existing businesses, ranging from lifestyle-oriented to technology-based

entrepreneurship. Support has been provided at different stages, including business consultation and education, entrepreneurship training, one-on-one business consulting tailored to specific business sectors, and the provision of management improvement funds. These efforts aim to enhance the business capabilities and competitiveness of North Korean defectors.

Through collaboration with the private organization Asan Nanum Foundation, the government has administered the Asan Sanghoe initiative to nurture young North Korean defector entrepreneurs. The program includes the focus areas of global entrepreneurship education, startup acceleration, and connecting with investment opportunities. Phased financial support of up to 15 million KRW has been provided to prospective entrepreneurs or early-stage entrepreneurs under the age of 39 with promising business ideas. Additionally, events such as a cooking competition for North Korean defectors and a special exhibition of North Korean defectors' products at the National Assembly have been held to support the expansion of defectors' business opportunities and development of their entrepreneurial capabilities.



Basic Entrepreneurship Education for Promising Entrepreneurs (September 14)



Cooking Competition for North Korean Defectors (November 5)

To support the successful job placement of North Korean defectors in farm work, the government has provided support at different stages of settlement in rural areas by collaborating with the Rural Development Administration and local governments. This support includes farming education, on-site training, financial assistance for farming operations, and the development of market opportunities. In 2022, basic farming educational services were provided in three regions (Gangwon Province, Gyeongsang Province, and Jeolla Province) in collaboration with local governments, targeting North Korean defectors interested in or in the preparation stage of becoming a farmer.

To ensure that North Korean defectors who aspire to engage in farming can settle down in rural areas, a Successful Farming Settlement Package (Yeongseongpae) is provided. This package includes basic education and camp training. Graduates are then connected with leading farms in their preferred crop sector to engage in farming practices for up to five months.

Additionally, in cooperation with the Rural Development Administration, the government provides crop consulting services from agricultural experts to assist North Korean defectors in their farming and stable settlement into rural communities.



Farming Machine Operation Practice of the Successful Farming Settlement Package (March 25)



Farming Education in Partnership with a Local Government (November 18)

#### (4) Support for Asset Accumulation

To facilitate the asset accumulation of North Korean defectors, the government operates the Future Happiness Bank Account System. If North Korean defectors save a portion of their income each month for purposes such as purchasing a home or starting a business, the government provides a matching amount of support at a 1:1 ratio to help them build their assets. If North Korean defectors engage in economic activities, such as being employed or running a business, and save up to 30% of their income per month for at least three months within the period of six months after moving into their place of residence, the government will provide a matching amount of up to 500,000 KRW every month, which is granted to North Korean defectors until maturity. The number of subscribers who use the Future Happiness Bank Account until maturity has steadily increased from 17 individuals in 2018 to 1,066 individuals, as of the end of 2022.

In February 2022, to expand the number of beneficiaries of the program and support

their asset accumulation, the government revised the Enforcement Decree of the North Korean Refugees Protection and Settlement Support Act and the Guidelines on the Operation of the Future Happiness Bank Account System. These revisions increased the number of eligible applicants and eased various restrictions. Not only workers but also business owners and those with business incomes are now eligible to subscribe to the Future Happiness Bank Account System. Moreover, the possible reasons for extending the subscription deadline now cover disability status and education as well as the previously accepted reasons of childbirth and military service. This extension has helped minimize cases of termination before expiry. Furthermore, the criteria for temporary suspension were eased, allowing more North Korean defectors to build a foundation for their self-reliance and self-sufficiency through asset accumulation.

### Subscribers to the Future Happiness Bank Account System

(Unit: # of defectors)

Item	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Subscribers	10	182	380	458	510	559	406	351	2,856
Subscribers Paid upon Expiry	-	-	-	17	49	169	398	433	1,066

### 3 Support for the Education of North Korean Defector Young Adults

The government is developing and implementing various educational support systems to help North Korean defector young adults successfully adapt to school life, improve their learning abilities, and grow as talents who can successfully settle into South Korean society and help bring about a unified Korean future. Finally, the government made an effort to lay the institutional foundation and provide systematic support in 2022 by revising the applicable laws, adopting related guidelines, and developing support plans in order to strengthen the protection of and support for North Korean defector youth without relatives.

## **(1) Unification Education Teachers and Learning Support**

To provide educational support customized for North Korean defector young adults, the government collaborated with the Ministry of Education to appoint 22 Unification Education Teachers nationwide at 25 regular (elementary and middle) schools where a significant number of North Korean students are enrolled (as of March 2022). The Unification Education Teachers work in collaboration with students' families, schools, and local communities to provide one-on-one counseling and basic learning support to help North Korean defector young adults successfully adjust to school life.

In addition to the support provided at regular schools, online video English education, home tutoring, and mentoring support are provided to enhance the basic academic skills of North Korean defector children. The scholarship program for North Korean defector young adults is also administered to foster future talent for a unified future.

## **(2) Educational Support**

The government provides support for one school that provides specialized education and vocational training for North Korean students, three official alternative schools, and seven organizations with unofficial alternative educational facilities for North Korean defector young adults who wish to receive customized education.

Since 2021, in order to increase educational opportunities for children of North Korean defectors and provide support for North Korean defector families, children of North Korean defectors born in South Korea have been permitted to enroll in Hangeyore Middle and High School, a specialized school for North Korean defector young adults.

To provide educational opportunities for more North Korean defector young adults in various circumstances, the government operates eight after-school learning centers.

## **(3) Support for Education at Universities and Fostering Talents for a Unified Future**

North Korean defector young adults who aspire to enter university can apply for special admission under the Enforcement Decree of the Higher Education Act. Since 2001,

they have also received financial support for tuition through the Korea Hana Foundation (full exemption from tuition for national and public universities, 50% subsidized tuition for private universities). For children of North Korean defectors born in third countries, the Korea Hana Foundation has provided scholarships using private donations since 2011. Starting with the university entrance exam in 2024, they will be able to enter universities through special admission within an allocated quota.

The government is making various efforts to support North Korean defector young adults and their parents who face difficulties in career planning due to a lack of information and understanding of the university admission system and majors. For the academic



Guidebooks on Special Admission for North Korean Applicants in 2023  
(General Universities, Colleges, and Handbook)

year of 2023, a guidebook and handbook on special admissions to general universities and colleges for North Korean applicants were published and provided to career counseling teachers at schools where North Korean defector students are enrolled, offices of education, and Hana Centers.

In addition, private organizations and six universities designated as “Didimdol” or Stepping-Stone Universities have administered educational programs in languages, computers, and major-related courses, as well as extracurricular programs, to help university students from North Korea successfully adjust to school life. These programs aim to enhance North Korean defector students’ academic performance and facilitate their adaptation to university life. Efforts to strengthen the global competency of North Korean students also continued with the launch of an online English language program through a foreign language education center.

#### (4) Support for Youth without Relatives

The category “youth without relatives” refers to those under the age of 24 who had no relatives protecting them at the time they entered Korea and the government made decision to protect them while they were in Hanawon. government collaborates with relevant agencies and private organizations to provide protection and a stable environment for the growth of youth without relatives. In partnership with the Korea Hana Foundation, the government has organized and operated a task force team to support youth without relatives, conducted a survey on the living conditions of youth without relatives (July - Oct), and developed a plan to protect and support North Korean defector youth without relatives (November) based on the survey results. Furthermore, group homes (12 locations in total) have been operated to provide unaccompanied minors with a home-like living environment and emotional stability, enabling them to adapt well to their schools and social life. Various support programs, including academic support, psychological counseling, educational support, and rental housing arrangements, have also been administered.

To enhance the protection of North Korean defector youth without relatives, the North Korean Refugees Protection and Settlement Support Act was amended (June 22) to allow the Minister of Unification to designate guardians for unaccompanied minors. Under the revised Act, the Rules on the Protection and Settlement Support of Youth without Relatives were adopted, and as a result, the Minister of Unification was tasked to set up a deliberation committee for the protection and support of youth without relatives. The deliberation committee may appoint heads of schools, heads of welfare centers, and/or parents of foster families as their guardians while also changing and canceling the appointments if necessary. Other rules under the Act were also amended to provide more systematic protection and support for defector youth, including specifying which private organizations are required to cooperate.

#### **4** Strengthen Exchanges and Communication among Citizens from the South and North

The government aims to spread positive impressions of North Korean defectors in South Korean society and create various opportunities for residents from Two Koreas

to communicate and interact with each other, thereby promoting the social inclusion of North Korean defectors. The Inter-Korean Cultural Integration Center carries out various programs event, such as the cultural communication program “Talking about Life in the South and North” and the “Week of Promoting Content for Inter-Korean Cultural Integration,” in order to facilitate exchanges and communication among residents of the South and North. The government is also continuing its efforts to discover and promote the best cases of North Korean defectors’ successful settlement into South Korean society. It is furthermore building a social consensus by promoting “Social Integration Week” and the North Korean Defectors’ Settlement Experience Presentation Contest, which are planned and run by the Korea Hana Foundation.

### **(1) Building Consensus on Inter-Korean Cultural Integration**

The Inter-Korean Cultural Integration Center (hereinafter referred to as the “Cultural Integration Center”), which opened in May 2020, carries out various programs to promote communication, build consensus, and spread an integrated culture by facilitating direct encounters and cultural exchanges between North Korean defectors and the general public.

As the COVID-19 situation eased, initiatives such as “Talking about Life in the South and North,” a forum in which North Korean defectors and the general public meet and share their life stories to develop a sense of mutual understanding, and an advanced program called “2-Day Talks about Life in the South and North.” Various classes including Nanta (percussion performance), accordion, and calligraphy were also offered.

Furthermore, the Cultural Integration Center organized the “Week of Promoting Content for Inter-Korean Cultural Integration” three times (1<sup>st</sup> round: May 9-14, 2<sup>nd</sup> round: August 29-September 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> round: November 21-26) to provide opportunities for North Korean defectors and the general public to experience and interact with the cultures of both Two Koreas. During the 1<sup>st</sup> round, diverse programs such as a book exhibition, stamp challenge, and sand art experience were offered at the Cultural Integration Center’s exhibition hall and library. Performances featuring artists from both Two Koreas were also held. The 2<sup>nd</sup> round included activities such as a joint gathering of Two Koreasn residents to celebrate the Chuseok festival, the Imjingak Resettlement Festival with North Korean defectors, and an empathy camp for separated families. The 3<sup>rd</sup>

round featured a talk concert with a communication expert about supporting North Korean defectors, a live drawing session by a renowned North Korean defector artist, and a unified cultural performance where attendees could experience various cultural aspects of North Korea such as North Korean cuisine. These activities, which included performances, attractions, and food, were staged in the main hall of the Cultural Integration Center, soliciting participation and empathy from both North Korean defectors and local residents.



1<sup>st</sup> Week of Promoting Content for Inter-Korean Cultural Integration (May 9~14)



2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Promoting Content for Inter-Korean Cultural Integration (August 29 ~September 3)



3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Promoting Content for Inter-Korean Cultural Integration (November 21~26)

The Inter-Korean Cultural Integration Center operates a special exhibition hall and integrated cultural experience hall to provide citizens visiting the center with easier access to information about North Korea and North Korean defectors as well as opportunities to have related experiences. The special exhibition hall presents exhibitions on themes such as “The Pain of National Division,” “Ways of Healing Pain,” “North Korean Defectors,” and “A Unified Future.” The integrated cultural experience hall offers various cultural experiences from both Two Koreas, including virtual reality (VR) experiences of visiting hometowns for separated families, making North Korean food, playing archery in front of the square located right outside Kim Il-sung University, and



VR Experience of a Road Trip in a Unified Future



VR Experience of the Unification Cooking Contest

throwing arrows at targets in front of Gyeongbok Palace in Seoul. These experiences provide an engaging opportunity to explore the diverse cultures of Two Koreas.

## (2) Production and Distribution of Contents to Improve Awareness on North Korean Defectors

The Korea Hana Foundation has made efforts to spread positive impressions of North Korean defectors by identifying successful cases of settlement into South Korean society and producing contents that enhances people’s understanding of North Korean defectors. Such contents has been promoted through various channels, including online and offline platforms.

The Hana Foundation collaborated with the media and North Korean defector creators for the planning and production of content, including “Naratnok Season 3” on the MBC YouTube channel Mdduru Madduru. The foundation has also continued its online communication through four social networking services (SNS) platforms: namely, blogs, Facebook, YouTube, and KakaoTalk Plus Friend. In addition, the Hana Foundation has developed educational content and programs for social integration that settlement support professionals and the general public can easily access and utilize. It has also published and distributed various promotional materials, including the bimonthly newsletter Dongpo Sarang (Love for Compatriots).

Additionally, the Hana Foundation has organized events such as the North Korean Defectors’ Settlement Experience Presentation Contest (November 15) and a talk concert with North Korean defectors. These events aim to share successful settlement cases,



North Korean Defectors’ Settlement Experience Presentation Contest (November 15)



“Naratnok” on MBC’s YouTube channel (Mdduru Madduru) (June 24)

encourage North Korean defectors, and broaden citizens' understanding of North Korean defectors.

Meanwhile, the Cultural Integration Center produces and distributes various cultural content under the theme of inter-Korean integration. The center has created 12 related episodes, including “Crossing the Wall: Stories of Successful North Korean Defectors,” which shares the successful knowhow of North Korean defectors; “Communicating through Social Sciences,” which explores the theme of unification centered around everyday individuals; and “South-North Journalists’ Talk,” a program featuring journalists from both South and North Korea engaging in dialogue. The center has developed 13 additional episodes of content such as “South-North Cooking Talk,” where North Korean defectors and local residents camp together and communicate while sharing South and North Korean cuisine; “Friends from the South, Friends from the North,” which explores local areas online; and “Children’s Play Cultures of the South and North: Playing with Siblings,” for which local residents and North Korean defectors jointly created content. This content is all shared through platforms like YouTube.

In particular, the Cultural Integration Center has collaborated with popular creators



Giant Peng TV



Chungju City Hongboman



Week of Performances (June 7~11)



North Korean Defectors' Singing Contest (November 12)

and channels such as *Giant Peng TV* (670,000 views) and Chungju City Hongboman (770,000 views) to produce videos, aiming to increase awareness of and interest in the center and foster inter-Korean cultural integration. The Cultural Integration Center has also organized events like a week of stage performances by South and North Korean artists (June 7-11) and a North Korean defectors' singing contest (November 12). These were valuable opportunities to experience the culture of defectors as friendly neighbors.

### **(3) Expansion of Exchanges between North Korean Defectors and Local Residents**

To promote exchanges between North Korean defectors and local residents, the Hana Foundation organized the “Unification We Dream” event during the 2022 Week of Inter-Korean Social Integration (October 28-29) to help enable North Korean defectors and local residents of South Korea to better understand and communicate with each other.

Furthermore, since 2015, the Korea Hana Foundation has operated a volunteer organization called the Chakan(kind) Volunteer Group, which is composed of North Korean defectors who engage in volunteering efforts to assist marginalized groups in local communities. This initiative has spread awareness that North Korean defectors are not just beneficiaries but contributors to South Korean society. In 2022, the 6<sup>th</sup> Chakan Volunteer Group, consisting of 11 organizations, carried out volunteer activities at Daejeon National Cemetery in commemoration of the Month of Patriotism and Veterans (June 11).



Event for 2022 Week of Inter-Korean Social Integration  
(October 28-29)



Volunteer Activity of the Chakan Volunteer Group at  
Daejeon National Cemetery (June 11)

The Inter-Korean Cultural Integration Center facilitated joint volunteer efforts of residents from both Two Koreas. The center organized the Heartwarming Sharing Volunteer Event, which involved producing kits with daily necessities and supplies for needy neighbors and was carried out seven times. The Cultural Integration Center also held the volunteer event to share foods, which involved making kimchi for vulnerable groups and was also conducted seven times. Additionally, the center established and operated a volunteer group which promoted culture of sharing by carrying out eight volunteering initiatives, such as planting trees for unification. In particular, the Cultural Integration Center hosted a volunteer festival in 2022, where volunteer organizations from all over the country came together (September 24). This event aimed to establish a network for volunteer workers from both Two Koreas and provided a platform for sharing information and resources, thereby fostering collaboration among various organizations.



Food Sharing Event (April 30)



An activity by the Volunteer Group of the Inter-Korean Cultural Integration Center (June 4)



Heartwarming Sharing Volunteer Event (August 13)



Volunteer Festival (September 24)

## Minimization of Blind Spots in Services for North Korean Defectors

### 1] Build the Cooperation System to Provide Safety Support for Households in Crisis

#### (1) Building the Cooperation System to Provide Safety Support through the establishment of the Safety Support Team for North Korean Defectors

Despite the government's efforts to support vulnerable groups among North Korean defectors and remove the blind spots in social welfare, there are still difficulties many North Korean defectors face as they settle into South Korean society, including repeated cases of isolation and even solitary deaths. It has been identified that various forms of crisis-related information regarding the livelihoods and mental health of North Korean defectors are fragmented and managed separately by related settlement support agencies, including the Ministry of Unification, making it difficult to promptly detect and respond to crises.

In order to fundamentally address these issues, the government established the Safety Support Team for North Korean Defectors (February 2022) as a collaborative body among relevant settlement support agencies. This team aims to establish a system for rapid crisis detection and response; strengthen the capacity for integrated support from organizations such as the Korea Hana Foundation, Hana Centers, and local governments; and actively support the stable settlement of North Korean defectors into South Korean society.

In particular, efforts are being made to develop a user-centered safety support management system, allowing vulnerable households in urgent crisis situations to easily access the Safety Support Team through a 24/7 direct phone line (010-4548-5701).

## **(2) Development of a Standing Management System for High-Risk Groups through Sharing Crisis Information with the Ministry of Health and Welfare**

To identify and support vulnerable groups of North Korean defectors, the Ministry of Unification conducted a comprehensive survey of vulnerable groups twice a year from 2019 to 2021, based on crisis information shared by the Ministry of Health and Welfare. However, it was pointed out that this comprehensive survey overlapped with the surveys on blind spots in welfare services conducted by the Ministry of Health and Welfare and local governments and also had limitations in the early detection and prevention of crises faced by North Korean defectors.

In response, in 2022, the Safety Support Team changed its survey methods to avoid duplication with local government surveys and facilitate a sharing of survey results on blind spots in welfare services between central government agencies and local governments. In addition, since November 2022, the Safety Support Team has strengthened its collaboration with relevant agencies to prevent solitary deaths. By utilizing crisis information provided to the Ministry of Unification by the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the team has identified a high-risk group (1,200 individuals) with multiple overlapping crisis indicators over the past two years. The Safety Support Team has developed and operated a system to directly and continuously manage their wellness and provide necessary support.

## **(3) Development of a Rapid Crisis Response System across the Ministry of Unification, the Korea Hana Foundation, and the Hana Centers**

Since the establishment of the Safety Support Team for North Korean Defectors, a rapid response system has been developed to promptly respond to North Korean defectors' crises identified during counseling sessions at Hana Centers. The Safety Support Team will also hold regular meetings with the Korea Hana Foundation to share important safety-related information.

To facilitate the rapid sharing and systematic management of crisis information that is detected, the current record management system for integrated cases be expanded and developed into a user-centered integrated support system for North Korean defectors

jointly operated by the Hana Centers and the Korea Hana Foundation by the end of 2023. Currently, the plans for this initiative have been drafted, with the necessary budget and human resources allocated.

#### **(4) Strengthening Local Governments' Safety Net Responsibilities to Activate the Regional Councils for North Korean Defectors**

The Regional Councils for Supporting North Korean Defectors (hereinafter referred to as the “Regional Councils”) are composed of various stakeholders including local residents, personal, and employment protection officers; members from local Social adaptation centers; members of various private support organizations such as religious and welfare organizations and businesses; and North Korean defectors recognized by the head of the local government as necessary for the operation of the Regional Councils. The Regional Councils are established and operated to explore an effective and multi-tiered support system for North Korean defectors, such as establishing cooperative networks in local communities to enable the stable settlement and self-reliance of North Korean defectors and developing support resources within the community.

As of the end of December 2022, Regional Councils have been established in 137 local governments nationwide, and local governments have enacted and implemented ordinances regarding support mechanisms for the settlement of North Korean defectors and the operation of the Regional Councils.

In order to enhance the effectiveness of the support system for North Korean defectors, the government is encouraging the Regional Councils to support the stable settlement of North Korean defectors by including “the performance of local community settlement support activities for North Korean defectors” in the local government evaluations conducted by the Ministry of Public Administration and Security.

Furthermore, measures have been taken to address the challenges faced by the Regional Councils due to decreased interest from local governments.

In 2022, the Safety Support Team for North Korean Defectors made continuous efforts to activate the Regional Councils by developing guidelines on their operation and holding workshops for residential protection officers to enhance their professional capabilities and increase their interest in the local communities.

## 2 Expand Services for Improving Vulnerable North Korean Defectors' Quality of Life

Since its establishment, the Safety Support Team for North Korean Defectors has actively collaborated with the relevant agencies to continuously identify and support households in crisis, such as preventing solitary deaths, providing funeral support for North Korean defectors without relatives, preventing suicides and crime victimization, supporting households affected by disasters, providing legal support for domestic violence cases. .

Efforts have also been made to provide practical assistance to North Korean defectors facing difficulties by closely cooperating with local government agencies, the Korea Hana Foundation, and the Hana Centers.

Specifically, to ensure stability in North Korean defectors' lives, a number of support mechanisms such as emergency livelihood expenses, medical expenses, funeral expenses, and condolence allowances have been provided. In particular, the Ministry of Unification and the Korea Hana Foundation have directly supported the funerals of North Korean defectors without relatives to ensure proper funeral arrangements and avoid neglect of them.

Furthermore, to improve the psychological wellness of North Korean defectors, professional counselors with a deep understanding of North Korean defectors' employment, daily life, and financial status have provided telephone and face-to-face counseling services. The case management system customized for North Korean defectors was strengthened by providing solutions at the central government level for high-risk individuals and expanding coordination with local governments for case management.

The Safety Support Team has made an effort to expand its services so it can improve the quality of life of vulnerable North Korean defectors in the calendar year of 2023. It has done so by increasing its budget for emergency livelihood expenses and revising its operational guidelines to boost both the number of target beneficiaries and the maximum amount of support provided (from 3 million KRW to 5 million KRW).

Additionally, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, the Safety Support Team operates a system of commissioned lawyers and support attorneys for North Korean defectors who are not familiar with the South Korean legal system. Through this system, user-centered legal services for North Korean Defectors were provided, including legal education and legal counseling.

### 3 Strengthen Infrastructure for Hana Centers and the Capacity-Building of Support Personnel



Opening of Hana Center  
(April 1, Gyeongnam Hana Center)



Public-Private Joint Case Meeting  
(July 20, Daegu Hana Center)



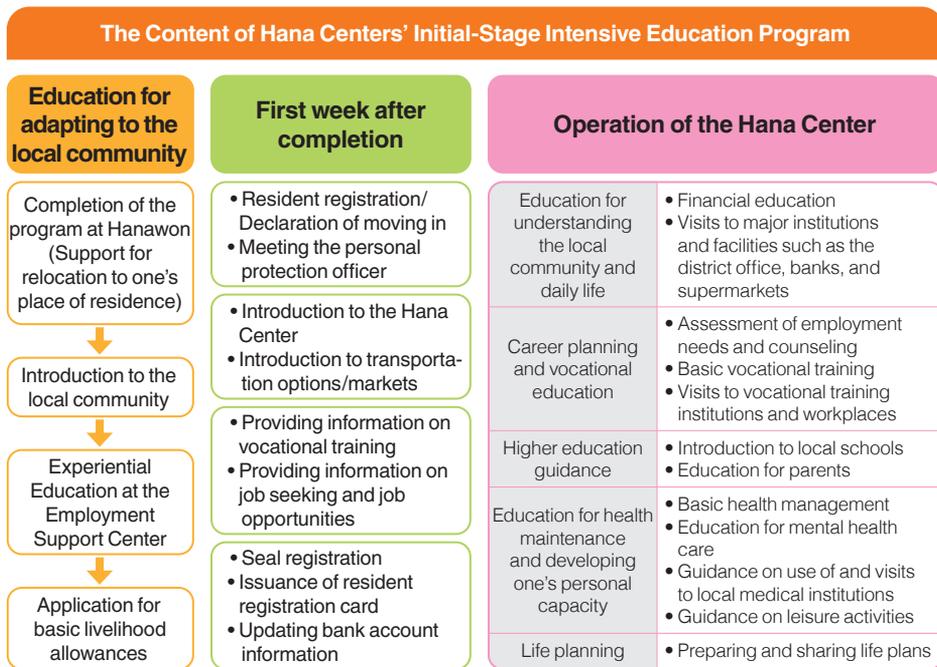
Forest Healing Program  
(August 25, Seoul Northern Hana Center)



Unification Sports Meeting  
(October 22, Incheon Hana Center)

Hana Centers provide support for North Korean defectors who have completed the program at Hanawon and moved to their place of residence, particularly those who require initial-stage intensive education and assistance in adapting to their local communities. The initial-stage intensive education program is carried out for eight or nine days, totaling 50 hours, and consists of career and employment education, understanding of daily life and the local community, and psychological and emotional health promotion activities. The initial stage of the Hana Centers' intensive education focuses on field experiences, aiming to offer training that is differentiated from the education provided at Hanawon. Through their support programs for adapting to the local community, Hana Centers deliver various forms of support to North Korean defectors in areas such as basic education, advancing into higher education, career development, job seeking, livelihood, healthcare, psychological and emotional wellness, and social inclusion. They

also provide customized services based on individual defectors' situations and needs. Finally, Hana Centers conduct surveys and provide support for vulnerable groups, aiming to proactively identify and provide necessary services to North Korean defectors facing crises.



Hana Centers are organizations that directly provide services to North Korean defectors within their communities of residence. The importance of Hana Centers are continuously emphasized as they are the first point of contact and with North Korean defectors who have completed the Hanawon program and moved into the local community.

As of the end of 2022, there are 25 Hana Centers operating in 16 cities and provinces nationwide (4 in Seoul, 6 in Gyeonggi, 2 in Gangwon, and 1 in each metropolitan city). Due to their wide jurisdictional range, Hana Centers have operated local offices in areas that are not accessible to where many North Korean defectors reside.

Given that Hana Centers handle personal information, including sensitive information about North Korean defectors, the importance of information security management and the prevention of accidents due to cyber-attacks has increased. In recognition of these

risks, relevant organizations conducted a joint security inspection of Hana Centers, and secure phones were distributed to Hana Center employees to enhance the personal information management system for North Korean defectors and ensure more stable support for them.

Professional counselors from the Korea Hana Foundation are assigned to Hana Centers and work in collaboration with Hana Centers' social workers. These professional counselors have qualifications in psychology or job counseling and provide support in resolving various difficulties that North Korean defectors face during the settlement process. As of the end of December 2022, there are 80 professional counselors (46 in psychology and 34 in job counseling) working at Hana Centers. They provide counseling and various support activities across multiple aspects of the settlement process, including employment, healthcare, and psychological support.

#### Placement of Professional Counselors by Region in 2022

(Unit: counselor)

Nationwide	Seoul	Busan	Daegu	Incheon	Gwangju	Daejeon	Ulsan	Gyeonggi
2	15	3	2	4	2	3	2	24
Gangwon	Chungbuk	Chungnam	Jeonbuk	Jeonnam	Gyeongbuk	Gyeongnam	Jeju	Total
3	3	3	3	2	3	4	2	<b>80</b>

As part of the efforts to strengthen the capacity of Hana Centers, the Safety Support Team for North Korean Defectors has increased benefits for Hana Center employees by raising the budget for improved working conditions and renewing the salary system to match the level of the Guidelines on Workers of Social Welfare Facilities. Furthermore, the Safety Support Team has provided field-centered supplementary training aligned with the duties of Hana Center employees to enhance services for North Korean defectors.



# Unification Education for ROK Citizens

**Section 1.** Expanding Foundation and Operation of Unification Education

**Section 2.** Unification Education for the Next Generation

**Section 3.** Improving the Quality of Social Unification Education

**Section 4.** Strengthening the Operation of the Unification Experience Program at the Center for Unified Korean Future



## Unification Education for ROK Citizens

The government made an effort to enhance ROK citizens' will for national unification with its education programs and related projects in both face-to-face and online formats. In the process of doing so, it has adapted to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. First, the government implemented various unification education initiatives, including an on-site curriculum and e-learning courses at the National Institute for Unification Education in order to keep the public focused on peaceful unification and promote positive attitudes about liberal democracy.

Additionally, video materials and diverse books focusing on unification were developed in collaboration with various YouTube and broadcasting media channels to provide tailored programs to different groups. Furthermore, inclusive contents were produced and distributed to remove the blind spots in unification education. The 10<sup>th</sup> Unification Education Week (May 23-29) was carried out in person and online to expand the engagement of citizens and young scholars from overseas.

To raise awareness of unification among young adults and activate school-based unification education, the government continuously provided institutional support and carried out various programs. These programs included the “3<sup>rd</sup> P-UZY Academy for the 2030 generation,” which sought to stimulate interest, communication, and participation.

To improve the quality of unification education in local communities, diverse forms of unification education were provided for local residents at local unification education centers and Unification Halls. In addition, the 23<sup>rd</sup> cohort of unification education commissioners were appointed to facilitate unification education in domestic and overseas

communities.

In the first half of 2022, the government focused on restoring the Center for Unified Korean Future, which had been redesignated as the 6<sup>th</sup> COVID-19 Central Residential Treatment Center from December 2020 to April 2022, so that it could operate the on-site experience and training facility as it was before the outbreak of COVID-19. The center previously piloted a program for unification experiences, and in the second half of 2022, the government also carried out various measures, such as improving the landscape of the area, expanding the unification experience facilities, and enhancing the center's programs, all with the aim of normalizing the center's operation and carrying out programs for youth, college students, and members of relevant institutions.

## Expanding Foundation and Operation of Unification Education

### 1 Unification Education Programs

The government is operating various unification education programs to positively direct the will and attitude of citizens towards peaceful unification based on liberal democracy. In 2022, a total of five types of short-term in-person educational courses were offered: professional courses, courses for public officials, courses for schools, courses for adults, global courses, and special courses. The online unification education programs included courses for the public, courses for teachers, courses for citizens, and courses for learners in their 20s and 30s. A total of 406,534 participants completed the courses.

#### Operation of Unification Education Programs in 2022

(Unit: 1 person)

Type of course	Professional courses	Courses for public officials	Courses for schools	Courses for adults	Global courses	Special courses	E-learning courses	Total
Number of participants	295	2,263	769	965	219	266	406,534	411,311

The professional courses included the high-level unification policy maker course, a Unification policy maker course for leaders, a course for a unified future, a course for next-generation unification experts, and a course for professional instructors. A total of 295 learners received training from these courses.

The high-level unification policy maker course, which targeted leaders of various sectors, aimed to raise people's awareness of national unification in society. To cultivate expertise of national and government workforce, the unification policy maker course for leaders was delivered to high-ranking officials from central government agencies, local governments, and public enterprises, and the course for a unified future targeted Grade 4 and Grade 5 civil servants as well as members of public enterprises of equiva-

lent ranks. The course for next-generation unification experts, which aimed to cultivate key experts to prepare for unification, was delivered to selected students, graduates of universities, and graduate students in their 20s and 30s.



High-Level Unification Policy  
Maker Course  
(March 8~May 26)



Unification Policymaking Course  
for Leaders  
(February 7~December 16)



Course for Next-Generation  
Unification Experts  
(February 15~November 10)

Since 2013, global unification education program has been initiated to build capacity for unification at home and abroad, as well as to secure international supports for government's unification policies. Esteemed experts were invited from the overseas to lead the courses, offering opportunities to consider the unification issue from a global perspective. In 2022, four experts from the United States, Japan, Sweden, and the Netherlands were invited to a total of 34 special lectures and discussions for 1,351 Korean experts, students, and citizens.



Visiting Scholars Giving a Special Lecture at Gyeongin  
Unification Education Center (May 9)



Visiting Scholars Giving a Special Lecture at Chungbuk  
Unification Education Center (August 31)

At the Emerging Leader Fellowship – Unification Academy, the government highlighted the reality on the Korean peninsula and the government's commitment to unification. The Emerging Leader Fellowship 2022 event was held online at Gather Town in the metaverse due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with 64 participants including scholars,

members of the press, public officials, and NGO members from 36 countries. In addition, the government administered six sessions of short-term global unification education programs for 186 foreign students at home and abroad as well as overseas Koreans.



Emerging Leader Fellowship – Unification Academy in Metaverse (May 17~19)

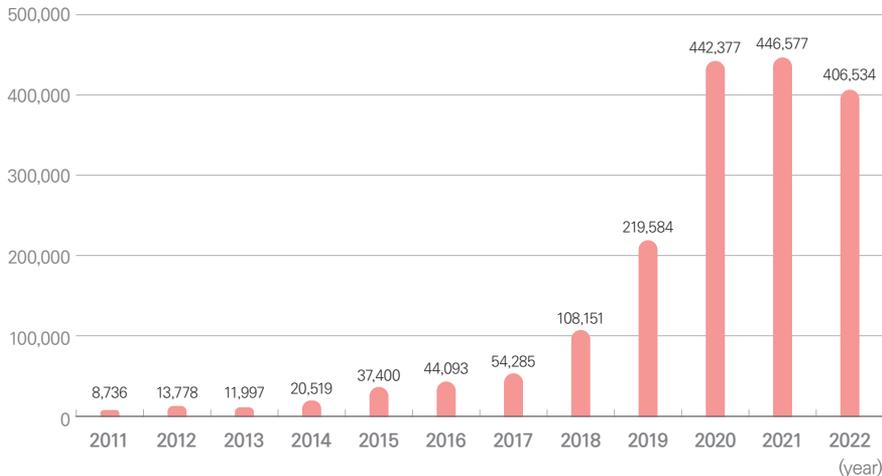


Students of Freie Universität Berlin on a Field Trip to Imjingak (August 23)

E-learning courses for unification education have recorded more than 400,000 participants per year for the past three years, with 442,377 participants in 2020, 446,577 in 2021, and 406,534 in 2022. To facilitate unification education through e-learning, the government focused on stabilizing its operations to support the increase in the number of participants through content development, quality control, monitoring, and manage-

### Yearly Participants of E-Learning Courses for Unification Education

(Unit: participants)



ment of participants who have completed the courses. The government also continued to improve the course materials for citizens, especially those in their 20s and 30s, in order to reinforce unification education beyond civil servants and members of public enterprises.

Meanwhile, in order to gain the attention of and build consensus among teenagers and those in their 20s who have relatively low interest in unification, the government created participatory and experiential learning content in the metaverse called “The Unified Korean Peninsula, Another World” and has piloted it since December. Users who engage with the content can experience various missions, events, and mini games set in five North Korean cities of a virtual unified Korean peninsula. The metaverse content therefore allows users to freely navigate and explore the history and culture of the Korean peninsula so that they naturally realize why the two Koreas should be unified.

#### Screenshots of Metaverse “The Unified Korean Peninsula, Another World”



Landing Page (Seoul Station)



Mission Page



Collected Items



Mini Map of a City (Pyongyang)



View of a Building  
(Manwoldae, Gaesong)



Mineral Transportation Game

To elevate interest in unification education through e-learning and more active communication with learners, the government expanded events to promote further participation, such as the Peaceful Unification Contents Creation Event and the Unification E-Learning Review Event, and administered user-centered education courses. In addition, the government recruited citizens from various sectors who were interested in unification education as “Smart Learning Supporters” and invited them to participate in the production and promotion of e-learning content. From July to November, these

Smart Learning Supporters contributed to the government's participatory policymaking by monitoring the content developed by the National Institute for Unification Education, generating ideas of their own for content development, and promoting unification-related e-learning courses.

The government provided unification education e-learning materials to 157 institutions, including central government agencies, local governments, offices of education, universities, and public organizations that requested content from the National Institute for Unification Education. By doing so, the government aimed to expand the scope of its unification education initiatives and facilitate the delivery of its programs to various institutions.

The government promoted unification education through new media, e-learning, and the National Institute for Unification Education to expand citizens' access to unification education and spark interest in unification online. The National Institute for Unification Education activated five new media channels via YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and KakaoTalk by producing and releasing 20 unification education video clips exclusive to the new media, interactive introductions to their content, and a game recommending tourist destinations in the two Koreas based on users' answers to survey questions. As of the end of 2022, the number of subscribers and followers of the Institute's five new media channels increased by 29% to 50,397, and the total number of total views of the videos on YouTube reached 441,750.

## **2] Development and Distribution of Materials for Unification Education**

The government continues to develop and distribute diverse publications and videos in various formats, covering a range of topics for the public to stimulate citizens' interest in national unification and the reality of North Korea.

The government has published basic materials for unification education since 1972 to help enhance citizens' understanding of unification issues and the reality of North Korea. In 2022, to encourage unification education at schools and other organizations, the government published basic materials entitled Understanding the Issues of National Unification as well as Understanding North Korea and distributed them to elementary, middle, and high schools, universities, public libraries; and organizations providing unification education nationwide.

To enhance the awareness of national unification among citizens in their 20s and 30s, the government published various books, including *Stories about Unification for the MZ(millennial and generation z) Generation* (December), which consists of special lectures on national unification delivered by experts on North Korea and unification as well as a series of social science books with themes of national unification (December). Most notably, the *Unification Handbook* series was launched in 2019, and a total of 20 volumes have been published with five new volumes added every year.

Furthermore, the government published *The Dictionary of National Unification for Youth* (December) to help young adults better understand North Korean society, inter-Korean relations, and unification issues. The government also published and distributed *The Spring of Unification* (May), a unification education textbook incorporating AR technology, to 217 middle schools nationwide. *The Spring of Unification* provides practical assistance for schools that regularly teach unification during ethics course. In addition, a standard syllabus for unification education was developed (May) to be used at schools during the Unification Education Week.

The government also published the fifth volume of the *Unification Picture Book* series *Nam Tteok, Buk Tteok, Suk-Tteok, Suk-Tteok* for preschoolers and first and second grade elementary school students as well as the unification playbook *Let's Go to Explore Four Seasons of the Unified Korean Peninsula!* for third and fourth grade elementary school students (December). The *Unification Picture Book Nam Tteok, Buk Tteok, Suk-Tteok, Suk-Tteok* and the book *Yes! It's Okay to Be Different!*, published in 2021, were made into audio books to remove the blind spots in unification education through social inclusion. The latter of the two books was also produced as an animation, which is a more familiar medium for children.

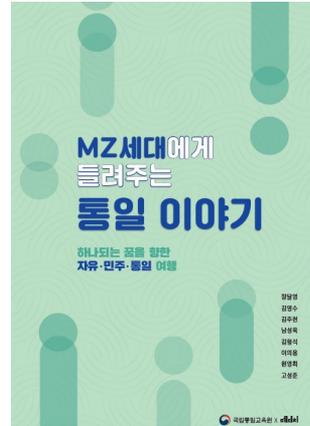
The government has steadily produced and aired high-quality videos in various formats by collaborating with TV stations to ensure that everyone can easily access unification education. The tvN program *Naked World History*, which aired on May 3, highlighted issues and lessons from Germany's unification process, giving viewers an opportunity to imagine the reality of a unified Korean Peninsula. KBS1's *Korean Table*, which aired on October 13, highlighted a story of North Korean defectors settling in a rural village in Korea and portrayed how they established themselves as true members of their community. The episode recorded a viewership rating of 6.1% (viewed by 990,000 households). In addition to working with the conventional media, the government also collaborated with popular YouTube channels. A clip on North Korean food

released on the YOOXICMAN channel in June hit a cumulative view count of 400,000, and unification-themed contents from the perspective of foreign residents in Korea was featured on the YouTube program Dan and Joel in July and August, receiving attention and positive responses from both Korean and foreign viewers.

Furthermore, the government made an effort to enhance people’s awareness, effectively and naturally, of North Korean defectors and unification by releasing a branded web drama entitled *Disarming Romance*. This drama, which depicts the story of North Korean young adults adapting to school life in South Korea, targets the MZ Generation, and three episodes released in November recorded a cumulative view count of 1.95 million in two months.

In addition, the government created video clips (3-10 minutes in runtime) and an accompanying “Guidelines for Teachers” (PDF) to be used in the regular curriculum at elementary, middle, and high schools. These audiovisual materials are available at the National Institute for Unification Education’s website and YouTube channel, and the guidelines and website provide support so that teachers can easily use them for unification education at schools.

Major Content for Unification Education Developed in 2022

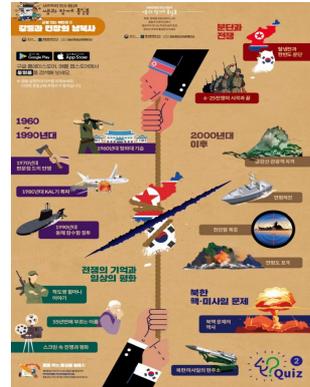


Basic Materials

Content for Special Lectures on Unification



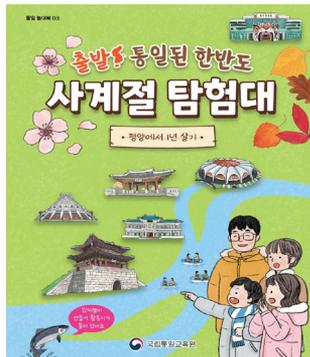
Humanities series (5 Volumes)



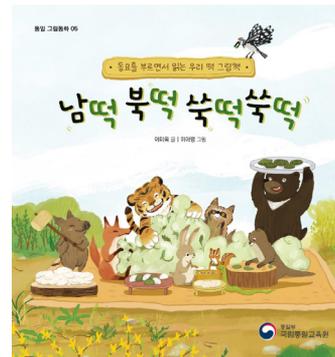
AR Material The Spring of Unification



The Dictionary of National Unification for Youth



Unification Playbook Let's Go to Explore Four Seasons of the Unified Korean Peninsula!



Unification Picture Book Nam Tteok, Buk Tteok, Suk-Tteok, Suk-Tteok

## Video Content



tvN Naked World History episode on the unification of Germany



KBS1 Korean Table episode on North Korean defectors settling in a rural village



YouTube clip on North Korean food on YOOXICMAN



Two YouTube clips on unification of Korea from the perspective of foreign residents on Dan and Joel



Web Drama Disarming Romance

## Publications Developed in 2022

Items	Titles	Description	Target
Basic Materials	Understanding the Issues of National Unification	Perspectives on unification, the development of inter-Korean relations, international politics and the circumstances surrounding the Korean peninsula, the plan for unification, and the vision and challenges of unifying the Korean peninsula	University students and adults
	Understanding North Korea	Perspectives for understanding North Korea's political system and governance ideology; foreign policy and foreign relations; military strategy and strength; economic situation; education and culture; and society and peoples' livelihoods	
Publications for Unification Education at Schools	Unification Picture Book Nam Tteok, Buk Tteok, Suk-Tteok, Suk-Tteok	Fairy tale book (including 7 songs) that depicts animals from the South and the North gathering in the "Big In-Between Forest" between Two Koreas, happily singing together while making rice cakes with rhythmic sounds and enjoying the sharing and eating of the rice cakes	Preschoolers and elementary school students
	Audio Book Nam Tteok, Buk Tteok, Suk-Tteok, Suk-Tteok	Audiobook of Nam Tteok, Buk Tteok, Suk-Tteok, Suk-Tteok	Citizens with vision impairment

Items	Titles	Description	Target
Publications for Unification Education at Schools	Unification Playbook Let's Go to Explore the Four Seasons of the Unified Korean Peninsula! - A Year in Pyongyang	Playbook that provides children with interesting and creative activities and games so that they can naturally learn about unification, North Korea, and peace.	Elementary school students (Grades 3 and 4)
	AR Materials for Unification Education The Spring of Unification	Learning materials including photos and videos produced to enable learners to actively study unification through an AR app, activity sheets, and posters on four themes (△ Efforts at Inter-Korean Reconciliation and Cooperation, △ History of Inter-Korean Conflict and Tensions, △ Life and Scenery of the North along the Railway, △ Overcoming Division and the Future of a Unified Korea).	Middle school students
	The Dictionary of National Unification for Youth	Compilation of reference materials in the form of a dictionary that summarizes interesting content about North Korea and unification for teenagers (revised edition of The Dictionary of National Unification for the Youth published in 2018).	Middle and high school students
	2022 Guidelines on the Use of Video Clips for Teachers	Teachers' guidebook for the use of 18 video clips in school lessons related to the curriculum .	Teachers
References for Unification Education	The Story of Unification for the MZ Generation (special lectures on unification)	Special lectures that broaden the understanding of peace and unification through the perspectives of scholars, diplomats, and current and former officials from various fields.	University students and adults
	The Fate of the Korean Peninsula: Two Singularities	Explains the liberal democratic system that is essential to activate unification education through the utilization of advanced technologies and stresses the need for unification to benefit mankind.	
	War and Peace on the Islands	Content that converges an exploration of social science, and history to introduce interesting stories from various islands in the South and the North from the perspective of peace and unification.	
	The Story of Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Regarding the Climate Crisis and Infectious Diseases	Highlights global climate change and infectious diseases on the Korean peninsula, introduces North Korea's views on climate change, and presents cases of responses to infectious diseases and climate change by the two Koreas and the international community.	
	What Were Snacks of North Korea before the National Division?	Helps to understand the divergence in diet and food culture between Two Koreas due to the long division, assesses the potential for the restoration of Inter-Korean homogeneity, and analyzes the sociocultural significance of North Korean cuisine during the Japanese colonial period before the South and the North were divided.	
	The Deaf of North Korea	Introduces the differences between Two Koreasn sign languages and presents the state of exchanges between Two Koreasn deaf individuals by examining the current status of North Korean deaf individuals and instances of foreign deaf individuals visiting North Korea.	

## Video Contents Developed in 2022

Items	Titles	Description	Target
Video Clips	20 clips including “What Do North Koreans Have for Snacks?”	These five-minute informational videos are related to the elementary school curriculum on school life in North Korea, national division, separated families, Arirang, the unification of Germany, the DMZ, and the North Korean language. They also include videos on climate change and unification for university students and adults.	Elementary, middle, and high school students and adults
Animation	Video companion for the Unification Picture Book Yes! It's Okay to Be Different!	In this animation, children from the two Koreas accept their differences and create new rules.	Preschoolers and elementary school students
Public Videos	“Unification and North Korean Policies of the Yoon Suk Yeol Government”	This video shows the North Korea policy directions of the Yoon Suk Yeol administration, ways to feasibly implement the ‘Audacious Initiative’, ways to secure international co-operation, and prospects for nuclear disarmament.	Public officials, members of public enterprises, and adults
	“Human Rights of North Korea”	This video highlights the reality of human rights in North Korea while also presenting the challenges and policy directions for the improvement of human rights in North Korea.	
Collaborations with YouTube Channels	YOOXICMAN, “Foods of North Korea”	This clip introduces rabbit meat, which is produced and consumed in North Korea. Rabbit meat dishes are introduced, prepared, and reviewed.	University students and adults
	Dan and Joel, “Peace for Foreign Residents in Korea”	This clip shows how Jeju, which was designated as the Island of World Peace, has overcome its painful history and become a symbol of peace. Dan and Joel share their ideas about peace in Korea.	10-30 year olds, overseas Koreans, and foreigners
	Dan and Joel, “Unification for Foreign Residents in Korea”	Dan and Joel visit Gyodong Island, where those who lost their hometowns during the Korean War resettled, and listen to their stories. Dan and Joel also share their ideas about unification as well as impressions of other foreigners.	10-30 year olds, overseas Koreans, and foreigners
Web Drama	Disarming Romance (3 episodes)	Episodes of North Korean students adapting to school life in South Korea which naturally deliver a message about the need for social inclusion and unity, thus directing the attention of youth on division and unification.	10-30 year olds
TV Programs	tvN, Naked World History, episode on the unification of Germany	An episode about Germany's unification process, which shows the need for unification and draws attention to the division of the Korean peninsula (aired on both TV and a YouTube channel).	All citizens
	KBS1, Korean Table, episode on North Korean defectors settling in a rural village	An episode delivering hope for unification by depicting North Korean defectors becoming true neighbors in a rural South Korean village.	

### 3 Build Consensus on Unification through the 10<sup>th</sup> Unification Education Week

The government designated the fourth week of May as the “Unification Education Week” in 2013 to gather diverse opinions on unification education and build a consensus on peaceful unification among the younger generations. As the COVID-19 situation improved in 2022, the government increased the in-person events of the week while pursuing both online and offline approaches for the week’s operation (May 23-29).

As a preliminary event, the “Cultural Talk at the Unification Garden” was held on May 21, providing an opportunity for those in their 20s and 30s as well as the general public to enhance their awareness of unification. The opening ceremony was themed “Unified in Spring.” It was the first large-scale gathering after the new government took office and was also live-streamed on YouTube. Most notably, the Emerging Leaders Fellowship was conducted in a digital metaverse format, with the participation of 64 scholars from 36 countries, marking the forum’s highest participation ever. In addition, events such as the “2030 P-UZY Academy” and the “50-Second Peaceful Unification Shorts Festival” were held to enhance the awareness of unification among teenagers and those in their 20s and 30s.

The government provided learning materials and video clips on a dedicated online platform (for eight weeks from May 6 - June 30) and hosted various events. Over 68,000



Preliminary Event at  
“Unification Garden”



Emerging Leaders Fellowship –  
Gather Town in Metaverse



Minister’s Commemorative Remarks



Event for Elementary Schools (Jenga)

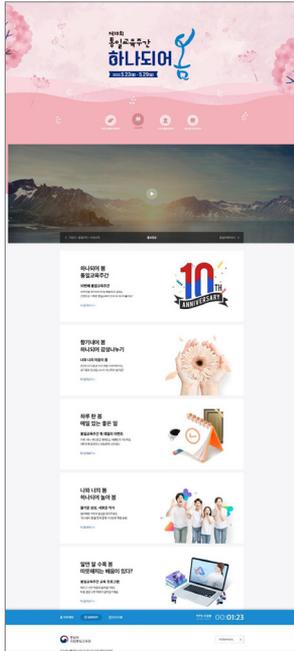


Event for Middle Schools (Kite)



Event for High Schools (Big Rip)

users visited the platform, and over 53,000 users participated in the events. To promote the events, a pop quiz and announcements appeared in new media channels, and the Germany-themed episode of Naked World History was jointly produced and released with tvN.



Official Homepage of the Unification Education Week



Teaser Video



Q&As on Unification



Exclusive Events for SNS



The government visited 120 schools for the “Visiting Schools for Unification Education” program and provided 113 elementary, middle, and high schools nationwide with online education during the Week. The “Youth Press Corps of the Ministry of Unification” attended the opening ceremony of the Unification Education Week and took part in various activities including singing the national anthem, reciting the pledge of allegiance, participating in the Mission of the Week, and going on a field trip to the National Institute of Unification Education.

Universities leading unification education and schools conducting research on unification education actively administered various programs during the Unification Education Week. Nine universities designated as leaders of unification education initiatives organized programs to engage and offer experiences to university students, including model

cabinet meetings of a unified Korea, unification exhibitions, a peaceful unification start-up contest, and seminars on unification. Schools conducting research on unification education provided unification education in collaboration with related local organizations and unification education related to the regular curriculum. The schools operated their own Unification Education Week and administered various online and in-person programs.

Regional Unification Education Centers provided online and in-person unification education, and Unification Halls including Odusan Unification Observatory operated online and in-person programs as well as special events, including a free admission event and special exhibitions. The Council for Unification Education hosted the 7<sup>th</sup> Peaceful Unification Festival in the metaverse and produced songs and videos for it, attracting the participation of over 10,000 local residents online.

#### **4] Establish the Direction and Cooperation System for Unification Education**

The government established its Master Plan on Unification Education and revised its Guidelines for Unification Education in 2022 to reflect changes in the circumstances of unification and provide consistent and efficient unification education. The National Institute for Unification Education expanded its existing seven policy initiatives to eight initiatives to be prepared by utilizing emerging advanced technologies through consultations with related organizations, including central government agencies, local governments, and offices of education. A new policy initiative added was “reinforcement of digital unification education capacity.”

In addition, the National Institute for Unification Education requested cooperation from relevant organizations in December to develop its 2023 Master Plan in accordance with the diversified conditions of unification education by the central government, local governments, and public organizations, and in consideration of the status of a proposed bill to establish a five-year cycle for master planning.

The government had previously published Guidelines for Unification Education on an annual basis from 2000 to 2016, and it also published Education on Peace and Unification: Policy Directions and Perspectives in 2018. Considering the changes in the circumstances of unification education, the government revised the Guidelines for Unification

### 2019 Master Plan (7 Policy Initiatives)

1. Activation of a platform for education at schools
2. Systematic expansion of community education
3. Improvement of cultivating experts
4. Expansion of engagement and a consensus on unification among the public
5. Development of new media content
6. Development of spaces for special experiences
7. Building of global partnerships



### 2022 Master Plan (8 Policy Initiatives)

1. Development of special unification education at schools
2. Expansion of the social governance for unification education
3. Systematic cultivation of experts in unification education
4. Improvement of the public awareness of unification education
5. Development of the infrastructure for unification education
6. Reinforcement of digital unification education skills
7. Improvement of the operation of spaces for unification experiences
8. Building of a global unification education network

Education, which provide the basic principles of unification education, in February 2023 after an interval of four years. To this end, five clauses under the Unification Education Support Act and ten clauses that concisely articulate the principles of the 2018 Guidelines were added, and the content necessary for unification education was improved. To maintain political neutrality and objectivity in the government's unification education policy and build a broad social consensus regarding it, opinions about the policy direction of the revisions were actively sought out.

The government has made an effort to implement its unification educational initiatives by partnering with various actors in the field of education. For unification education at schools, the government signed a Memorandum of Understanding(MoU) in 2014 with the Ministry of Education and has closely cooperated with the ministry ever since, including co-administering the annual Unification Education Week in May and conducting a survey on unification education at schools in October and November. The Ministry of Unification provided its opinions on unification education when the Ministry of Education revised its 2022 curriculum, and the opinions were reflected in collaboration with the relevant government agencies.

As the Unification Education Support Act and its Enforcement Decree were revised and enforced on July 21, its institutional foundation depended on the collaboration of various organizations in various initiatives including developing the materials necessary for conducting unification education as well as related information.

## 5 The Unification Education Research Center

The government established the Unification Education Research Center (hereinafter referred to as the “Education Center”) in December 2020 and has operated it ever since at the National Institute for Unification Education to provide the policy direction of unification education and related long-term policies by activating research on unification education.

The Education Center operated various programs, such as commissioned research on unification, domestic and international collaborative research, joint academic events and seminars with domestic and foreign research organizations, and the publication of journals. To provide the direction of unification education policymaking, the center also conducted related commissioned research and collaborative research. Most notably, the Educational Center carried out the study “The Globalization of Education on Peace and Unification” to develop detailed unification education programs for foreign residents of Korea and foreign students and to reinterpret the unique situation of the Korean Peninsula in a universal discourse for the international community. The Education Center also conducted research on “The Development of the Archive for Unification Education” to ensure that various actors, such as the government, schools, and civil society organizations, could collect and have access to materials on unification education. In addition,



International Symposium for the 10<sup>th</sup> Unification Education Week (May 23)



Poster of the Academic Symposium for the Second Half, “2030 Unification Education for the Changing Ecosystem of Social Media” (October 31)

the center selected experts from various fields, including East Asian Studies and the culture and arts of North Korea, to engage in joint researches.

To facilitate academic exchanges and the sharing of research outcomes, the Education Center hosted biannual academic events in collaboration with domestic and foreign research centers and related organizations. In regards to the 10<sup>th</sup> Unification Education Week, the gap in awareness and conflicts among generations were analyzed in a forum with the theme “2050, Integration beyond Difference,” and research on how to build a consensus on unification-related matters among different generations was discussed in May. In October, the Education Center hosted the symposium “2030 Unification Education for the Changing Ecosystem of Social Media” to understand the changes and issues of the social media ecosystem, which is rapidly becoming central to the lives of those in their 20s and 30s, and develop the direction of unification education policy based on that understanding.

Meanwhile, the Education Center published the inaugural issue of the journal Unification and Discourse in May as well as a subsequent issue in the second half of 2023 in December to promote the sharing of opinions on unification and Inter-Korean relations. The journal featured a broad spectrum of discussions and research on topics ranging from unification diplomacy, inter-Korean relations, international politics, and unification education.

### 1 Participatory and Experiential Unification Education for Young Adults

The “Visiting Schools for Unification Education” program was operated again in 2022. In total, 1,126 educational sessions were provided to 164,050 elementary, middle, and high school students nationwide. Since 2006, the “Visiting Schools for Unification Education” program has allowed instructors specialized in unification education to visit schools and provide participatory and experiential unification education that is customized for target student groups.

Furthermore, the government is actively administering the “Unification Experience Program at Schools” to provide experiential unification education that meets the specific needs and autonomy of each school. In 2022, a total of 241 sessions were held, and financial support was provided to elementary, middle, and high schools nationwide. Furthermore, the scope of unification education was expanded to include alternative schools, schools in island areas, and overseas Korean schools. Additionally, a unification experience program for university students was launched for the first time, providing education in eight sessions to a total of 106 students.



Unification Experience Program at Schools  
(May 12, Jeonju Jayeon Elementary School)



Visiting Schools for Unification Education  
(May 13, Gwangju Sansu Elementary School)

To raise awareness of unification among children who will lead the future and to help them grow into future talents in the era of unification, the “11<sup>th</sup> Youth Press Corps of the Ministry of Unification” program took place, targeting fifth and sixth graders in elementary school as well as first graders in middle school, with a total number of 210 participants. The Youth Press Corps engaged in various activities to improve people’s awareness of unification, including writing monthly articles, taking field trips to meaningful sites related to peace and unification, and participating in unification-themed summer camps, choirs, and broadcasting activities. The Youth Press Corps program started with an online inauguration ceremony on May 7.

Additionally, the “9<sup>th</sup> Youth Cultural Contest on Peace and Unification” was held to provide young people with an opportunity to showcase their dreams and talents by engaging with the theme of peace and unification. In 2022, the contest consisted of two categories: the “Children’s Contest on Unification Songs” (September 21) and the “50-Second Short Film Festival” (May 19). A total of 95 songs were submitted to the “Original Song Contest,” and nine songs were awarded prizes. The “50-Second Short Film Festival” received 191 submissions, and 18 films were awarded prizes.



Summer Camp of the Youth Press Corps of the Ministry of Unification (July 27)



“Original Song Contest” on Unification (September 21)

## 2 Promote the Best Cases of Unification Education at Schools and Enhancement of Teachers’ Expertise

In 2022, the government designated 30 elementary, middle, and high schools nationwide as “schools conducting (or specialized in) research on unification education” to foster regional hubs for unification education at schools and build a foundation for uni-

fication education within local communities. To ensure that each school could operate diverse unification education programs, steps were taken to support the operation of schools conducting research, including the provision of financial support, consulting support for newly designated schools, and unification education learning content and materials. In particular, workshops for teachers at schools conducting research were held in the first and second halves of 2022 to facilitate communication among them.

Furthermore, the “10<sup>th</sup> Conference for Research on Unification Education at Schools” was held on November 11 in collaboration with the Ministry of Education to identify and promote the best cases of unification education at schools. A total of 61 submissions were received from elementary, middle, and high school teachers nationwide, and 12 works were selected as prize-winning entries. The 2022 Conference featured a variety of works, including lectures combined with math classes and playful experience-centered activities.

Additionally, four workshops for the development of unification education at schools were held with school inspectors of municipal and provincial offices of education and teachers in charge of unification education. These workshops provided guidance on the role of the National Institute for Unification Education and programs to support unification education at schools. They also offered opportunities to enhance the competencies of teachers responsible for unification education and explored the policy direction of developing unification education at schools.



Unification Education Research(center) School  
(July 9, Gangwon Yukminkwan High School)

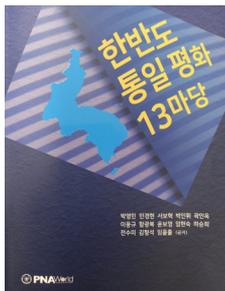


Review of Presentations at the Contest for Research on  
School Unification Education (November 11)

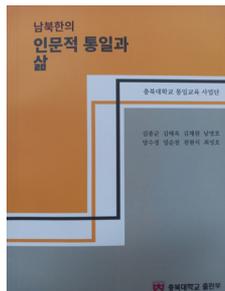
### 3 Support Unification Education at Universities

The government is implementing various initiatives to enhance university students' interest in unification and promote unification education at universities. These initiatives include designating particular universities as “Leading Universities in Unification Education,” providing special lectures and courses on unification for university students, and organizing competitions for papers and promotional videos on unification.

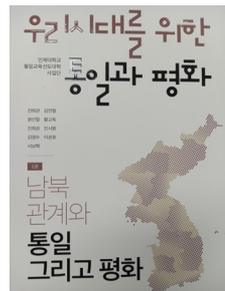
The “Leading Universities in Unification Education” program aims to develop and promote best cases of unification education at universities. The program began in 2016 with six universities (Seoul National University, Sookmyung Women’s University, Ajou University, Chungnam National University, Gyeongnam University, Gwangju National University of Education), and nine new universities were designated in 2022, including three universities in the Seoul metropolitan region (Kyunggi University, Daejin University, Kookmin University), five universities in non-capital regions (Kangwon National



Establishment of Compulsory General Courses and Development of Teaching Materials, Daejin University



Establishment of General Courses and Development of Teaching Materials, Chungbuk National University



Operation of Unification Studies Major Course and Support for Establishment of Courses at Other Universities, Inje University

2022년도 '평화학과' 부전공 개설 확정	
과목명	학과
한국문학과 평화	국어교육과
전략자학과 국제협동	지방 자치행정학과
전쟁과 평화의 역사	사학과
디지털지리정보와 국제관계	지리교육과
분단과 통일	역사교육과
국제기구와 글로벌거버넌스	정치외교학과
평화 사상과 이론	평화학과
폭력과 화해	평화학과

Establishment of Peace Studies Minor Course, Kangwon National University



Experience Program, Kangwon National University



Contest for Startups, Jeonbuk National University



Vocal Contest, Chungbuk National University



Original Musical, Kookmin University



Students' Debate Tournament, Kookmin University

University, Inje University, Handong Global University, Chungbuk National University, Jeonbuk National University), and one university of education (Seoul National University of Education).

The designated universities have strengthened the foundation of unification education by establishing majors, adopting compulsory general courses, administering general and major courses, and developing teaching materials. In addition to establishing curriculum, they have made efforts to promote unification among university students and improve their awareness of unification-related matters by conducting various participatory and experiential unification education activities, such as competitions and debates.

To expand opportunities for university students to attend unification education, the government is supporting universities to organize special lectures and courses.

To enhance interest in unification and facilitate research endeavors, a program for paper and promotional video submissions was continued in 2022. For the 41<sup>st</sup> Paper and Promotional Video Competition on Unification for University Students, 19 papers and 11 promotional videos were submitted, and six papers and three promotional videos were selected as award-winning entries (announced on December 1). The winning papers were published as booklets and distributed to universities and public libraries nationwide. They were also made available as reference material on the National Institute for Unification Education's website.



Joint Academic Conference on Unification Education among Universities (September 1-2)



Joint Academic Conference among Universities Leading Unification Education (December 22)

## Improving the Quality of Social Unification Education

### 1 Social Unification Education by Regional Unification Education Centers

The government designates institutions, organizations, or establishments that are primarily concerned with unification education or is deemed capable of providing unification education as a Regional Unification Education Center, in accordance with Article 6-3 of the Unification Education Support Act. Regional Unification Education Centers located throughout the country plan and administer various unification education programs that reflect the characteristics of the local community.

#### Regional Unification Education Centers in 2022

(Period of Designation: March 2022–February 2024)

Region	Name of Center	Designated Organization
Seoul	Seoul Unification Education Center	Chongshin University
Gyeongin (Gyeonggi, Incheon)	Gyeongin Unification Education Center	Ajou University
Gyeongnam (Busan, Ulsan, Gyeongnam)	Gyeongnam Unification Education Center	Kyungnam University
Gyeongbuk (Daegu, Gyeongbuk)	Gyeongbuk Unification Education Center	Daegu University
Jeonnam (Gwangju, Jeonnam)	Jeonnam Unification Education Center	Dongshin University
Jeonbuk	Jeonbuk Unification Education Center	Jeonbuk Corporation Action for One Korea
Chungnam (Daejeon, Sejong, Chungnam)	Chungnam Unification Education Center	Dankook University
Chungbuk	Chungbuk Unification Education Center	Seowon University
Gangwon	Gangwon Unification Education Center	Halla University
Jeju	Jeju Unification Education Center	Jeju National University

In 2022, the scope of the Regional Unification Education Center program was expanded from seven regions to ten regions (Seoul, Gyeongin, Gyeongnam, Gyeongbuk, Jeonnam, Jeonbuk, Chungnam, Chungbuk, Gangwon, and Jeju).

The Regional Unification Education Centers designated in each of the ten regions provide various forms of peace and unification education for local residents through basic, specialized, and joint projects. The “basic projects” include unification lectures, visiting lectures on unification, unification education through experiences, and workshops for commissioners of unification education. Through the operation of touring lectures on unification, instructors specialized in unification education had more opportunities to teach, and a foundation for unification education customized to the needs of learners was established. Furthermore, through the “specialized projects,” models of unification education customized for the characteristics of each region were developed and implemented. The “joint projects” actively promoted inter-regional collaboration through competitions, events, festivals, and other collaborative activities.

The Regional Unification Education Centers also provided online unification educa-



Peace and Unification Fair for University Students  
(May 25, Jeonbuk Unification Education Center)



Experience of National Division in the Border Area  
(October 28, Gyeongnam Unification Education Center)



Unification Culture Festival at Gwanghwamun Square  
(October 29, Seoul Unification Education Center)



Touring Lectures on Unification at Halla University  
(November 22, Jeju Unification Education Center)

tion to cope with the COVID-19 situation. All the Regional Centers launched YouTube channels to provide educational videos and diversified their educational methods via new media content, such as the metaverse, with which the MZ Generation is familiar, to allow them to experience a virtual DMZ. Throughout 2022, a total of 113,000 local residents participated in the Regional Centers' unification education activities.



Virtual Experience in the Metaverse of the DMZ Five Islands in the West Sea (Gyeongin Unification Education Center)



Unification Education in the Metaverse of Geoje POW Camp (Gyeongnam Unification Education Center)

In addition, the government provided administrative and financial support so that the Regional Unification Education Centers could provide unification education by collaborating with local governments, offices of education, schools, and private organizations. Steps were taken to promote the systematic operation of the Regional Unification Education Centers by publishing and distributing manuals for their operation that outlined the direction and criteria of unification education projects.

## **2] Build the Capacities of Commissioners of Unification Education and Promote Unification Education in the Private Sector**

Since 1987, the government established unification education commissioner program to strengthen people's will and capability to establish foundation for peaceful unification. The 23<sup>rd</sup> cohort of unification education commissioners consists of 604 members in Korea and 119 members overseas, with 251 women (35%), 272 members in their 20s, 30s, and 40s (38%), and 433 new members (60%). The commissioners serve in the unpaid honorary position for a term of two years (May 1, 2022, to April 30, 2024).



With the election of regional boards of unification education commissioners, an inauguration ceremony for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Board of Unification Education Commissioners was held on July 27. The Minister of Unification attended the ceremony and personally awarded the letters of appointment, urging the board of commissioners to actively engage in unification education in local communities.

### Appointment of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Commissioners of Unification Education by Region

(Unit: person)

Items	Seoul	Busan	Daegu	Incheon	Gwangju	Daejeon	Ulsan	Gyeonggi	Gangwon
Number of Commissioners Appointed	123	36	39	29	21	35	26	66	32
	<b>Chungbuk</b>	<b>Chungnam</b>	<b>Jeonbuk</b>	<b>Jeonnam</b>	<b>Gyeongbuk</b>	<b>Gyeongnam</b>	<b>Jeju</b>	<b>Overseas</b>	<b>Total</b>
	26	23	29	28	22	34	35	119	<b>723</b>

\*Overseas commissioners: 34 in L.A., 28 in New York, 18 in Washington D.C., 16 in Beijing, 17 in Japan, and 6 in Germany

Three annual conferences held for the newly appointed 23<sup>rd</sup> board of commissioners focused on topics such as unification and inter-Korean policies, recent developments in North Korea, the political circumstances surrounding the Korean peninsula, vision for



Inauguration Ceremony for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Board of Commissioners of Unification Education (July 27)



Awarding Ceremony of Letters of Appointment for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Commissioners of Unification Education (July 27)

peace and unification, and the role of the commissioners in unification education.

Three special lectures were delivered online for reappointed commissioners at home and abroad. The speakers of these lectures included Ryu Woo-ik, former Minister of Unification (October 28); Ahn Ho-young, former President of the University of North Korean Studies (November 24); and Kim Hyung-seok, former Vice Minister of Unification (December 8).

In addition, steps were taken to enhance the capacity of the commissioners of unification education by directly visiting them and provide lectures on unification policies, the political situation surrounding the Korean peninsula, developments in North Korea, and the future of the Korean peninsula were delivered in Daegu (November 30), Busan (December 1), and Gwangju (December 2). Opinions about the activities of the unification education commissioners were also gathered.

In addition, 25 overseas commissioners were invited to South Korea for a five-day program (September 26-30), which included on-site experiences and education in the country's border areas. This program aimed to strengthen the overseas commissioners' sense of belonging as well as enhance their capabilities. Additionally, a briefing on the government's unification and inter-Korean policies was held for commissioners of unification education in L.A. (December 9).

Finally, XR(extended reality) based educational materials and workbooks were provided to enhance the expertise of domestic and overseas commissioners and support their unification education activities.

Meanwhile, the government continued its support of the activities of the Consultative Council of Unification Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Consultative Council") to activate social unification education in civil society. The council, established in 2000, consists of a body of private organizations focused on unification education, with 73 civ-



Visiting Capacity-Building for Unification Education  
(November 30, Daegu)



Special Lectures (October 28, Online)

il organizations participating as members. In 2022, the government provided 264 million KRW in support for the unification education activities of the council's 31 member organizations. The Consultative Council organized the "4<sup>th</sup> Unification Article Contest for University Students" and operated capacity-building programs for practitioners of member organizations as well as various projects for women, youth, and citizens. In commemoration of the Unification Education Week, the Consultative Council facilitated collaborative projects among member organizations, including the "7<sup>th</sup> Peaceful Unification Festival" (May 23-29).

### 3 Unification Halls

Unification Halls are spaces for education and exhibitions designed to provide local residents and youth with an objective understanding of unification policies, inter-Korean relations, and the reality of North Korea while also promoting a proper awareness of

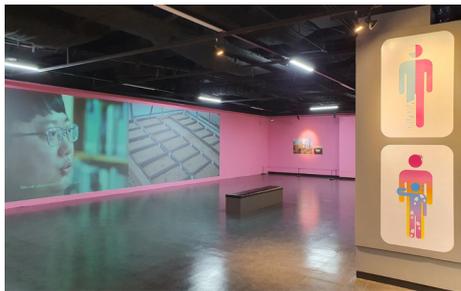
Unification Halls of Korea

Name of Hall	Location	Operator
Odusan Unification Observatory	Paju-si, Gyeonggi-do	Ministry of Unification
Seoul Unification Hall	Guro-gu, Seoul	Seo Seoul Life Science High School
Busan Unification Hall	Busanjin-gu, Busan	Busan Branch, Korea Freedom Federation
Incheon Unification Hall	Michuhol-gu, Incheon	Incheon Branch, Korea Freedom Federation
Gwangju Unification Hall	Seo-gu, Gwangju	Gwangju Metropolitan City [commissioned to WooRiMinJok (www.gjksm.org)]
Daejeon Unification Hall	Yuseong-gu, Daejeon	Daejeon Tourism Organization
Goyang Unification Hall	Goyang-si, Gyeonggi-do	Goyang City
Goseong Unification Hall	Goseong-gun, Gangwon-do	Unification Observatory
Yanggu Unification Hall	Yanggu-gun, Gangwon-do	Yanggu County
Cheongju Unification Hall	Cheongju-si, Chungcheongbuk-do	Cheongju City
Chungnam Unification Hall	Gongju-si, Chungcheongnam-do	Chungnam Branch, Korea Freedom Federation
Gyeongnam Unification Hall	Changwon-si, Gyeongsangnam-do	Gyeongnam Branch, Korea Freedom Federation
Jeju Unification Hall	Jeju-si, Jeju-do	Jeju Branch, Korea Freedom Federation

North Korea and unification. Currently, there are 13 Unification Halls operating nationwide including Odusan Unification Observatory, which was opened by the Ministry of Unification and is operated on outsourcing, while the other regional Unification Halls are run by private organizations and local governments.

Odusan Unification Observatory gradually expanded its on-site exhibitions as the COVID-19 situation improved. It made an effort to conduct hygiene and safety inspections and played a role as a major venue for exhibitions and cultural events on unification in the Seoul metropolitan area. In 2022, it held three special exhibitions and supported various events and broadcasts to promote awareness of unification. In particular, it continued to improve the environment for exhibitions by installing augmented reality (AR) telescopes, allowing visitors to observe the surrounding areas in any weather conditions, to maximize visitor satisfaction.

Additionally, to celebrate the end of the year, Odusan Unification Observatory actively engaged in community development activities, including hosting comforting events for persons with disabilities and the elderly, who faced difficulties participating in external activities due to COVID-19.

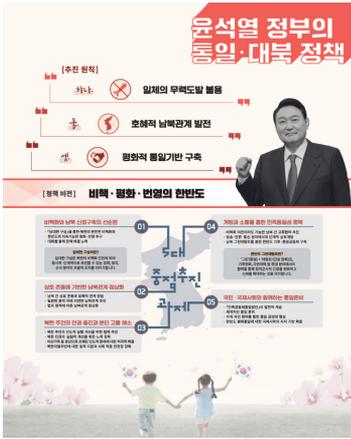


Special Exhibition, "People inside the DMZ"  
(March 25 - May 31)



Event for the Elderly in Tanhyeon-myeon, Paju  
(November 30)

The government is distributing various educational materials and exhibitions on unification as well as experiential equipment related to unification policy, inter-Korean relations, and the reality of North Korea to the 13 Unification Halls nationwide. Due to the increased interest in digital exhibitions, VR contents and photo kiosks were provided to the Unification Halls, and new exhibition panels with unification and North Korea policy themes were produced and displayed. Additionally, Jeju Unification Hall was renovated to create a space where local residents and youth can easily understand and



Panel Presenting the Government's Unification and North Korea Policy



Renovated Jeju Unification Hall

communicate about unification issues.

Various experiential programs such as VR experiences, traditional games experiences, and pinwheels and beads artworks for making unification wishes were administered at the local Unification Halls, attracting the participation of over 41,000 local residents, including students, youth, and adults. In 2022, the number of visitors to the Unification Halls reached approximately 1.26 million, an increase of about 560,000 compared to the 700,000 visitors in 2021.

#### 4 Unification Education in the Public Sector

With the revised Unification Education Support Act enforced on September 14, 2018, unification education became mandatory for civil servants and employees of central government agencies, local governments, and public institutions. According to the law, the mandated institutions shall provide unification education to their civil servants and employees at least once a year (for one hour or more). Starting in 2019, unification education became fully implemented in the public sector after the conclusion of an initial pilot period.

The government supports this mandated unification education by providing visiting unification education to employees in the public sector, offering online education courses, providing a list of recommended instructors, supplying books and videos for

education, and supporting the establishment and operation of an online platform for unification education in the public sector.

Although it has only been four years since unification education was fully implemented in the public sector, it has rapidly been established due to the active participation of the targeted institutions. In 2019, the first year of implementation, 64.7% of the targeted institutions submitted their performance records, and approximately 670,000 individuals completed the required education. In 2020, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, 90.1% of the targeted institutions submitted their performance records, and about 880,000 individuals completed the required education. In 2021, the third year, 90.4% of the targeted institutions submitted their performance records, and approximately 970,000 individuals completed the required education, thus recording almost one million total participants.

In 2022, “building a consensus on unification and reinforcing the capacity for unification” was selected as an indicator for the joint evaluation of local governments conducted by the Joint Evaluation Committee for Local Governments in accordance with the Framework Act on Government Performance Evaluation. Overall, 17 metropolitan and local governments implemented policies and hosted events to build a consensus on unification while operating programs to support and collaborate with related organizations, all with the aim of enhancing awareness of unification on the local level. The indicator “building a consensus on unification and reinforcing the capacity for unification” was selected again as a performance indicator in 2023, laying a foundation for continuous contributions to an elevated awareness in local communities of unification-related matters.



Visiting Unification Education in the Public Sector (46 sessions, May - November)

## 5 Unification Education for the 2030 Generation

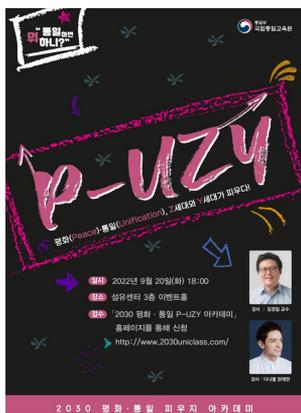
Since 2019, the government has been promoting the activation of unification education for the 2030 generation to enhance their interest in peace and unification. In 2022, programs such as the “3<sup>rd</sup> 2030 P-UZY Academy” (1st Session on May 25, 2<sup>nd</sup> Session on September 20) and the “P-UZY Writing Class Featuring Writer Kim Jung-hyuk (August 23 - October 12)” were offered, meeting the needs of the 2030 generation who prefer voluntary participation and horizontal dialogue by stimulating their interest, communication, and participation.

The “2030 P-UZY Academy” is an event that has been held since 2020 to enhance the understanding of unification among those in their 20s and 30s. This year marked the third iteration of the academy. P-UZY represents the joint efforts of Generation Z and Generation Y to foster peace and unification, with the 2030 generation at the forefront of unification initiatives. In consideration of the recovery from the pandemic, the event was hosted in a hybrid online and offline format with one session held in the first half of the year and one in the second half. It featured lectures on unification issues delivered by prominent speakers, such as Germany’s unification and the psychology of unification, followed by Q&A sessions and group discussions, with the aim of prompting participants to make their own statements on “the meaning of unification in my life.”

In the second half of the year, the “P-UZY Writing Class Featuring Writer Kim Jung-hyuk” was held to provide a platform for the 2030 generation to grow more familiar



Poster of the 1st Session of P-UZY Academy (May 25)



Poster of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of P-UZY Academy (September 20)



Poster of the P-UZY Writing Class (August 23 - October 12)

with unification in a friendly and natural manner. This event was designed to meet the needs of the 2030 generation for “cultural activities” and “self-development,” while also responding to the increased demand for in-person activities due to the prolonged pandemic. The participants of the writing class attended four online lectures and two offline lectures, wrote two articles on the themes of “communication” and “unification,” and shared reflections about their writing. Additionally, a compilation of all the participants’ articles was produced and distributed to make the P-UZY class an unforgettable memory.

## Strengthening the Operation of the Unification Experience Program of the Center for Unified Korean Future

### 1 Overview of the Center for Unified Korean Future

The government established the Center for Unified Korean Future in Yeoncheon, Gyeonggi Province to support the operation of experiential education programs for youth, specialized programs for various groups such as North Korean defectors and overseas Koreans, inter-Korean youth exchanges, and reunions of separated families. Since its opening in November 2014 until December 2022, the center has operated training programs for a total of 947 schools and organizations, with 199,566 individuals participating in them. Through these programs, steps have been taken to promote a sense of unification and enhance people's awareness of it.

In April 2022, operations of the 6<sup>th</sup> COVID-19 Central Residential Treatment Center, which had been established at the Center for Unified Korean Future on December 20, 2020, were suspended in accordance with Article 37 of the Infectious Disease Control and Prevention Act. As a result, the focus in the first half of the year was on restoring the facility's operations, while also continuing the online and visiting training programs, which had been carried out in 2021, in order to maintain the momentum of the Center for Unified Korean Future's training programs. In the second half of the year, the facilities were restored and a resumption of the in-person training programs was piloted to normalize the on-site training programs so that they could run as they did before the COVID-19 pandemic.

## 2 Unification Experience Programs and the Improvement of the Environment for Them

### (1) Operation of training programs for various groups, including youth

The Center for Unified Korean Future, as the only government-operated unification experience institution in the country, provides training programs for people from all walks of life and offers various tailored programs.

In the first half of 2022, the Center for Unified Korean Future collaborated with the Youth Service Centers in Seoul and the Seoul metropolitan area to operate visiting training programs and synchronous online training programs at elementary, middle, and high schools nationwide. In doing so, it fulfilled its role as a specialized institution offering unification experiences. In particular, the visiting training programs provided opportunities to promote and share the meaning of unification with young people nationwide who were unable to visit the center.



Visiting Training  
(April 28, Incheon Seogu Youth Training Center)



Online Training  
(June 8, Namsung Girls' Middle School in Iri, Jeonbuk)

Various vocational training sessions were conducted to enhance the competence of instructors and the overall operation of the training programs. In addition, the “Mysterious Time Tree” playbook, consisting of quizzes and mini board games, was developed and produced from March to June in order to elevate the engagement and interest of elementary school students participating in training programs. Efforts were also made to activate and improve the quality of program operations by creating video guides on the use of teaching materials, experiential kits, and training guidebooks for better delivery training.

The Center for Unified Korean Future also engaged in research and development efforts to improve its training system in order to flexibly adapt to the trends of online and



"Mysterious Time Tree" Playbook (Material for a Training Program for Elementary School Students)

offline training environments and technological advancements. To this end, the center worked to identify the optimal methods for its training operations by integrating its on-site and online training programs.

In the second half of the year, the Center for Unified Korean Future piloted three sessions of on-site training for the Ministry of Unification's Unicorn Press Corps and Youth Press Corps from July to August to be prepared for a full-scale resumption and normalized operations of its programs.



Unicorn Press Corps (July 5-6)



Youth Press Corps (July 27, August 3)

As part of its efforts to expand training programs, the Center for Unified Korean Future collaborated with relevant organizations such as the Korea Hana Foundation to provide specialized unification experiential education programs. On-site training programs were also provided for elementary, middle, and high school students from the Chungnam, Jeonnam, Gyeonggi, and Incheon regions. Furthermore, specialized training programs were implemented, including training for participants of the 2022 DMZ International Youth Peace Pilgrimage organized by the Committee for the Reconciliation of the Korean People and training for overseas unification education commission-

ers. These efforts aimed to improve people’s awareness of unification and foster leaders for a unified future. Additionally, the specialized training programs aimed to provide opportunities for communication and cooperation for the restoration of ethnic solidarity among diverse groups of citizens, and thus further contribute to the achievement of the center’s objectives.



Specialized Training  
(November 17-18, Korea Hana Foundation)



General Training (September 20-21,  
Korean Food Meister High School, Chungnam)



Training for Participants of the 2022 DMZ International  
Youth Peace Pilgrimage (August 19-22)



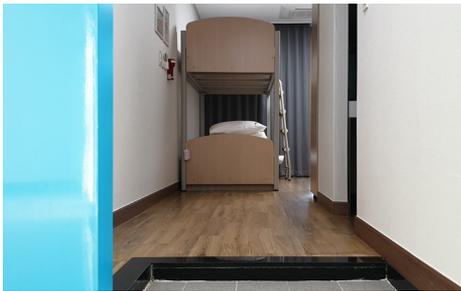
Training for Overseas Commissioners of Unification  
Education (September 27-28)

## (2) Restoration of the Facilities and Improvements to the Surrounding Environment Following the Suspension of the Residential Treatment Center

From December 2020 to April 2022, the Center for Unified Korean Future was designated and operated as the 6<sup>th</sup> Central Residential Treatment Center for the isolation and treatment of COVID-19 patients residing in the Seoul metropolitan area. During this period, all of the training facilities (112 rooms of the dormitory) with a capacity of over 500 people were converted into treatment wards, and the Future Experience Hall was

used as an office for staff dispatched from various agencies, including the Ministry of Health and Welfare. In addition, six family villas were used as residential facilities. The center regularly provided maintenance and safety inspection services, heating and cooling, cleaning, and safety checks for the operation of the Residential Treatment Center, helping to ensure that the COVID-19 patients and dispatched staff could focus on the treatment efforts and work in a safer environment.

The process of restoring the facilities used as hospital wards and offices during the operation of the Residential Treatment Center was completed by the end of August. The dormitory, family villas, and Future Experience Hall, which were used as treatment facilities, were fully inspected, repaired, and improved. For the sake of visitors' convenience, the center's facilities were also enhanced, including a replacement of pavement blocks and landscaping improvements. Rigorous safety inspections were conducted on the pilasters of the dormitory and the rear walls of the Future Experience Hall, and emergency restoration work was conducted on facilities damaged during heavy summer rains to ensure thorough safety management. The Center for Unified Korean Future also installed a solar power generation system with a capacity of 900 kW, thus utilizing the parking lot and the building's roof to ensure a stable power supply within the center.



Improving Dormitory



Future Experience Hall



Solar Panel(parking lot)



Solar Panel(roof)

# Preparing for Unification with ROK Citizens and the International Community

**Section 1.** Building a Foundation for Unification based on Liberal Democracy

**Section 2.** Increasing Support from the International Community

**Section 3.** Improving the Public Information Service on North Korea

**Section 4.** Enacting Laws and Establishing Institutions Focus on Unification

**Section 5.** Managing and Operating the Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund

**UNIFICATION WHITE PAPER**



## Preparing for Unification with ROK Citizens and the International Community

The government has made an effort to firmly demonstrate the value of unification and actively prepare for it with the participation of both ROK citizens and the international community. These steps are being taken in accordance with Article 4 of the Constitution, which states that the government shall formulate and implement a peaceful unification policy based on a free and democratic order.

First, the government has embarked on the succession and advancement of the “National Community Unification Formula,” which is the official unification proposal of the Republic of Korea. As almost 30 years have passed since the announcement of the “National Community Unification Formula” in 1994, it is necessary to develop an evolved roadmap for unification that reflects the changes in international politics and the dynamics between Two Koreas.

Furthermore, the government has named its process of gathering opinions and building a consensus for unification and inter-Korean policies “Satongpaldal (towards every direction).” Accordingly, the government has strived to listen directly to voices from various regions at home and abroad. Through “Satongpaldal,” a system for communication and participation in discussions on unification and inter-Korean policies has been established at both the national and regional levels, and efforts have been made to expand opportunities for two-way communication with the public.

Domestically, the government has sought to build a consensus on unification among the people by organizing Social Dialogues in which various sectors of society participate and communicate; promoting the establishment and operation of Unification<sup>+</sup> Cen-

ters in the Honam, Gangwon, Chungcheong, and Gyeonggi regions; hosting unification-themed cultural events in local communities including Seoul and Busan; and producing diverse digital media content such as infographics to engage with people in their daily lives.

Internationally, the support and cooperation of the United States for the government's unification and inter-Korean policies as well as the government's plan for a normalization of Inter-Korean relations were reaffirmed in the ROK-U.S. Summit. The government also shared with Germany its circumstances regarding unification and integration and expanded its diplomatic efforts for unification through consultations with experts on issues pertaining to the Korean peninsula and overseas Korean communities.

In addition, the foundation for implementing the government's unification and inter-Korean policies was strengthened by improving the public information service on North Korea, conducting research, revising applicable legislation in collaboration with the relevant ministries and private experts, and administering the Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund to provide stable support for inter-Korean exchanges and cooperation in response to changes such as developments in inter-Korean relations.

### 1 Social Dialogues

A social dialogue refers to a process in which participants engage in dialogue to broaden their mutual understanding and come up with solutions to social issues and problems. The government has been conducting the Social Dialogues since 2018 to bring about a national consensus on unification and inter-Korean policies and resolve internal conflicts in the process.

In 2022, the government maintained its existing system for promoting social dialogues among various conservative and progressive groups while also expanding and diversifying the targets of social dialogues to include civic activists, youth, and the 2030 generation. The Platform Program for Professionals was also launched to monitor the processes of social dialogues, define their meaning, and plans for their development. As a result, in-depth social dialogues involving a total of 2,253 participants were carried out in 31 sessions from August 20 to November 21.

In 2022, the Social Dialogues were carried out in various regions throughout the country, including at the seven regional centers, to bring about a national consensus on matters related to unification and the future of the Korean peninsula.

A total of seven Citizens' Dialogue sessions were held with 726 participants representing diverse backgrounds in terms of gender, age, and ideology. These sessions took place in the seven cities of Seoul, Suwon, Daegu, Busan, Chuncheon, Gwangju, and Daejeon.

A total of seven Civic Activists' Dialogue sessions were held with 441 participants from conservative, progressive, moderate, and religious organizations. These sessions took place in the seven cities and regions of Seoul, Gyeongnam Province, Busan, Daegu, Incheon, Chuncheon, and Gyeonggi Province.

A total of 13 Youth's Dialogue sessions were held with 886 middle and high school students in cooperation with local educational authorities and schools. These sessions



Civic Activists' Dialogue in Daegu (November 6)



Civic Activists' Dialogue in Gyeonggi Province (November 21)



Bijeon High School (October 5, Pyeongtaek)



Bongmyeong Middle School (November 7-11, Gimhae)

made use of existing extracurricular clubs and activities, creative experience courses, and dedicated youth programs.

The 2030 Generation's Dialogue was also launched to increase interest and enhance communication among those in their 20s and 30s about unification and North Korea policies. Also, a total of 130 individuals from the 2030 generation participated in the 2022 Youth Forum: Dialogue with the Vice Minister of Unification on August 29 and the 2022 Youth Dialogue on October 29.

2022 Youth Forum  
(August 29, Odusan Unification Observatory)2022 Youth Dialogue  
(October 29, Seoul)

The Platform Program for Professionals, started for the first time in 2022, was composed of and operated by 70 local experts, including scholars, researchers, and activists specializing in unification and North Korea policies. These experts monitored the social dialogues in their respective regions, came up with ways to advance them, and participated in their own social dialogue of experts on August 17 and 18. Additionally, the 2022 Symposium on the Social Dialogue for Peace and Unification of the Korean Peninsula was held on November 3.

## 2 Develop and Inherit the National Community Unification Formula

In the nearly 30 years since the government first announced the “National Community Unification Formula” in 1994, there have been significant changes in the circumstances surrounding the Korean peninsula. The division between Two Koreas has deepened, and the nuclear threat from North Korea has gotten worse. Domestically, the weakening of national consciousness has led to a growing indifference toward unification among the younger generation. Internationally, the strategic competition between the United States and China has intensified, contributing to an instability of the international order. In response to these changes, the government has fully embarked on efforts to update and develop its National Community Unification Formula in a direction that resonates with a broader range of citizens.

To specify the directives of the plan with experts, a joint academic conference was held, entitled “Reflections on and Alternatives to the National Community Unification Formula.” This conference was organized by the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University. At the conference, in-depth discussions reflecting



Academic Conference “Reflection and Alternatives for the National Community Unification Plan” (October 21, Seoul)



Discussion on the National Community Unification Plan  
(December 15, Daegu)



Discussion on the National Community Unification Plan  
(December 16, Gwangju)

various perspectives took place, examining the changing environment for unification and the key issues at hand.

Furthermore, the government continuously gathered citizens' opinions regarding the succession and development of the National Community Unification Formula with regular public opinion polls. In a survey on unification and North Korea policies conducted by the government in the latter half of the year, 60.9% of respondents answered that they understood the need to improve and develop the plan.

The government also engaged in public discourse to listen to voices from various sectors and actively build a national consensus on the National Community Unification Formula. To gather public opinions on the plan's principles, processes, and future, the Discussion on the National Community Unification Formula was held. This discussion involved 100 participants representing the public, who shared their opinions about the necessity for and direction of the constructive succession of the plan. As a result of the discussion, the participants gained an understanding of the necessity and relevance of unification as they became directly involved in the process of developing the National Community Unification Formula.

The government also organized the "Satongpaldal Idea Contest" as a platform for people to freely express their views about a unified future. A total of 68 teams submitted their ideas related to inter-Korean and international cooperation, expanding the consensus on unification, and realizing unification policy. Among the 68 teams who entered the contest, five won prizes.

Through this process of public discourse, the government has broadened ROK citizens' understanding of the National Community Unification Formula and gathered diverse opinions about the future direction for developing the plan. Additionally, by



Satongpaldal Idea Contest (December 18, Seoul)

engaging in specific discussions about a unified future on the Korean peninsula, the government aimed to elevate people’s awareness of unification and strengthen the nation’s commitment to unification. With a plan to announce a new version of the National Community Unification Formula on its

30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024, the government will continue to gather citizens’ opinions in 2023 as well.

### 3 Unification<sup>+</sup>Center

To respond to the diverse needs of local communities and comprehensively provide high-quality unification-related administrative services, the government is establishing Unification<sup>+</sup>Centers in each region in collaboration with local governments. In September 2018, the Incheon Unification<sup>+</sup>Center was opened to the public to pilot the initiative, and in 2021, the government decided to establish Unification<sup>+</sup>Centers in the Honam and Gangwon regions.

In 2022, the government focused on establishing Unification<sup>+</sup>Centers as “regional bases for grassroots unification discussions” so that more local residents could participate in unification-related discussions. As part of this initiative, the Incheon Unification<sup>+</sup>Center expanded its local unification-related networks and strengthened its cooperation with various local actors by participating in the Incheon Peace City Development Committee and the steering committee of the Incheon Metropolitan Office of Education’s Incheon Nanjeong Peace Education Center. In addition, the Unification<sup>+</sup>Center pursued collaborative approaches to matters related to unification and North Korea policies by holding the “Discussions on the Development Plan of the Unification<sup>+</sup>Centers” (September 16, 23, and 30) and “Cultural Experiences at the Unification Sites” (10 times) with civil society organizations and related institutions.

The Incheon Unification<sup>+</sup>Centers held local dialogue and interactive programs such as the Unification Culture Experience Camp for Youth in collaboration with Incheon City

and Ganghwa County (July 14), the Youth Unification Site Cultural Experience with the Incheon City Office of Education (15 times), and the “Special Lectures on Unification” for local residents to discuss unification (September 14, October 19, November 23).

The Incheon Unification<sup>+</sup>Center also held various community-based unification cultural events in collaboration with local governments and civil society organizations. The center held the “Unification Evening” program (October 8), which was attended by the mayor of Incheon and representatives of civic organizations. The Incheon Unification<sup>+</sup>Center also held the “Unified Korea Job Exhibition” (September 17 and October 1), which provided youth in Incheon with an opportunity to experience promising jobs on a unified Korean peninsula. The center also held the Prayer for Peaceful Unification at Incheon City Hall Station (November 1-11).



Unification Culture Experience Camp of Youth  
(July 8, Ganghwa County)



Unified Korea Job Exhibition (September 17,  
Incheon Culture and Art Center)

The Incheon Unification<sup>+</sup>Center also facilitated communication and integration programs for Two Koreas by collaborating with the Incheon Hana Center and local civil society organizations. On six separate occasions, the center held the “Shared Lives between the Two Koreas” program to help Two Koreas understand each other better by sharing honest stories about their lives. In addition, the government administered the “Unification Playground” (May 28), a program in which residents from the two Koreas have diverse North Korean cultural experiences together. In collaboration with Incheon City, the center held the “Unified One-Mind Athletic Competition” (October 22) as well as “Sharing the Kimchi of Love” (November 12), a program in which participants of Two Koreas backgrounds made kimchi together and delivered it to the underprivileged.

The staffs in charge of the Honam, Gangwon, Chungcheong, and Gyeonggi Unifica-

tion<sup>+</sup>Centers also worked with local governments to confirm the building sites of each of the centers and promote their continued design and construction to create a unification landmark for the region.

The Honam Unification<sup>+</sup>Center, which started its design and construction in 2021, is currently under construction in Yonghae, Mokpo and is expected to open in September 2023. The Gangwon Unification<sup>+</sup>Center has been under construction in Samcheon, Chuncheon since 2022, and is scheduled to open in 2024. The Gyeonggi Unification<sup>+</sup>Center is being built on the site of Camp La Guardia in Uijeongbu City. With the preliminary administrative procedures for its design and construction finalized in 2022,

Class.	Location	Opening
Inchon Unification <sup>+</sup> Center	Yeosu-gu, Incheon	2018
Honam Unification <sup>+</sup> Center	Yonghae, Mokpo	2023
Gangwon Unification <sup>+</sup> Center	Samcheon, Chuncheon	2024
Gyeonggi Unification <sup>+</sup> Center	Uijeongbu, Uijeongbu	2024
Chungcheon Unification <sup>+</sup> Center	Hongbuk-eup, Hongseong-gun	2025



Bird eye view Honam Unificaion<sup>+</sup>Center



Bird eye view Gangwon Unification<sup>+</sup>Center



Minister of Unification's visit to Chungcheon Unification<sup>+</sup>Center site(December 14)



its design and its construction will begin in 2023 with an anticipated opening in 2024. The Chungcheong Unification<sup>+</sup> Center is being built in Naepo New Town, Hongbuk-eup, Hongseong-gun. Preliminary administrative procedures for its design and construction were conducted in 2022, and its design and construction are scheduled to begin in 2023 with an anticipated opening in 2025.

## 4 Spread Understanding About the Unification

### (1) Unification Culture Events

The Unification Culture Event is a project designed to narrow the psychological distance between the Korean people, approach the unification issue through a cultural perspective, and broaden the consensus on unification in everyday life. It supports various artistic activities related to unification and holds events such as performances, exhibitions, and other cultural experiences.

In the first half of 2022, the government focused on the production of unification-themed cultural contents. In order to strengthen communication with the younger generation and bring them closer to the issue of unification through the medium of film, the Youth Peace Film Festival (January 24-April 22) was held. Six films, including Close But Far Away, were produced, and times was arranged for the audiences and production teams of the films to meet.

In the second half of the year, as part of the “SATONGPALDAL” initiative to expand



Card News introducing award-winning works  
(April 25)



Dialogue with audience of Youth Peace Film Festival  
(April 22, Seoul, National Institute for Unification Education)

the discussion of unification-related matters nationwide, the government actively promoted face-to-face unification cultural events so that it could meet and communicate with the public more directly. As part of this effort, it held unification-themed cultural events in Busan (October 15, BEXCO) and Seoul (October 29-30, West Seoul Lake Park).

The government held the “Unification Cultural Event Brand Name Contest” (June 27 - August 7) so that the public could directly participate in the planning stage of the brand naming process. After three rounds of screening, including a public referendum, of a total of 494 submissions, “Tonghanabom” was selected as the official brand name of Unification Cultural Events. The name was used for advertisements to elevate people’s understanding of the event.

On October 15, the Unification Cultural Event “Tonghanabom in Busan” was the first unification cultural event sponsored by the Ministry of Unification to be held in an area outside of the capital region. It was held in cooperation with the Busan Metropolitan Government to promote the successful spread of unification culture at the regional level. In addition to various performances and exhibitions, the event held unique pro-



「Tonghanabom in Busan」(October 15, BEXCO)



「Tonghanabom in Seoul」(October 29-30, West Seoul Art and Education Center)

grams for people to participate in such as the “Unification Dance Contest” and a unification mural painting for youth, which were among the festival’s 6 stage performances, 8 exhibitions, 9 experience programs, and 8 publicity pavilions. The event was aimed to create an opportunity for Busan citizens to naturally imagine and experience unification.

The unification cultural events “Tonghanabom in Seoul,” held from October 29-30, was organized in collaboration with the West Seoul Arts Education Center and aimed to enhance the diversity of the program by involving local artists and local performance teams. By organizing the venue space and arranging cultural experience programs made up of 10 stage performances, 6 exhibitions, and 16 experience programs with particular consideration for family groups, the government hoped to create an opportunity for local residents to see, hear, and enjoy unification culture more closely and easily.

## (2) Communicating with the people

The government has continued to strengthen its communication with the public by producing various diverse media content and utilizing the Unification Ministry’s website ([www.unikorea.go.kr](http://www.unikorea.go.kr)) as well as popular communication networks (YouTube, Facebook, blogs, Twitter, and Instagram) to show the progress of unification and inter-Korean relations to the public. In particular, since the inauguration of the Yoon administration, three DMZ-related world maps have been created on the Metaverse Zepe-to platform to strengthen communication with youth in their 20s and 30s, thus providing a place for the next generation to naturally think about unification.

The government digitized its policies and press releases to strengthen its online communication with the public. It also produced several infographic series, such as Grandma and Grandpa’s Story Told by Sowon, Hello My Neighbor, and Falling in Love with



World Map of Baekma Hill  
(DMZ History)



World Map of Dutayun  
(DMZ Present)



World Map of Jejin Station  
(DMZ Future)

Peace to increase the public’s interest and understanding of unification and peace on the Korean peninsula.



Card News 'Grandma and Grandpa's Story Told by Sowon'



Card News 'Hello My Neighbor'



Card News 'Falling in Love with Peace'

In addition, the government has produced a series of video contents such as 'Ride with 248,' a web entertainment series, and 'Unification Talk with Minister Kwon Youngse,' in order to spread understanding on unification.



'Ride with 248' series



'Unification Talk with Minister Kwon Youngse' series

Given the difficulty of getting people to see unification as relevant to their daily lives, the Ministry of Unification sought to increase people’s interest in unification by informing them in various short-form videos about major issues and events that involve public participation.



Short-Form Videos

### (3) Unification Cultural Contents Contest

Since 2015, the government has been promoting contests for unification cultural contents, including music and films, and in 2022, it held the 8<sup>th</sup> Hope for Unification Pop Music Contest with the theme Sing towards Unification (September 26-November 6).

70 musician teams of various genres, including ballads, hip-hop, rock, and fusion Korean music, applied for the 2022 Sing towards Unification contest, 20 teams were selected in the first round of video screening, and the second round of a live performance evaluation was held at North Ahyun Art Hall to select 12 teams to compete in the final round (October 28).

The grand prize was awarded to SWAY for their song Grandpa’s Wish. The runners-up were Keepro & SUZNN for their song One March and Cheondong Musician for their song Voice Message. Honorable mention awards went to NUUL for Let’s Go to the Sea, Dancing Flower for Handshake, Oh Jung-hoon for Going Away, and Ensemble Hyun for Eumgil. All the winners received the Minister of Unification Award, and the grand prize team SWAY participated in the 10<sup>th</sup> Hope for Unification Concert (November 12), which was organized locally by the Korean Association of Leipzig, Germany, and included celebratory performances.

The music video of the winning team, the videos of the final round or the final round

videos, and the special program were posted on the Unification Broadcasting (UniTV) YouTube channel and received 100,000 views within a week. In addition, an album of the winning songs was released and registered on major music sites to facilitate the public's easy access to it (December 30).

### 「2022 Sing Towards Unification」 Contest



2<sup>nd</sup> round(October 28, North Ahyun Art Center)



Final Round(November 28, VSG Arena)



Winning Team's Performance in Germany(November 12, Leipzig)



## (4) UniTV

Since 2011, the government has run UniTV to enhance interest in unification among the ROK citizenry, including the 2030 generation, and broaden their understanding of inter-Korean relations and unification policies. UniTV produces a variety of high-quality videos on the theme of unification and then posts them on the Ministry of Unification's web site and social networking sites while also broadcasting them on Naver TV and Kakao TV.

UniTV's regular program Unification NOW, which consists of Unification Briefing,

Unification Scene, and Unification has arrived, produced a total of 46 episodes (with 138 news and entertainment segments) in 2022.

Unification Briefing focused on inter-Korean relations and unification news; Unification Scene introduced unification-related events and activities administered by the government and the private sector; and Unification Has Arrived was a reboot of the existing Unification Is Here program, an entertainment talk show in which the host, a former broadcaster, discusses timely topics related to unification and North Korea with experts and key figures, thus making unification issues more accessible to viewers.



'Unification Briefing'

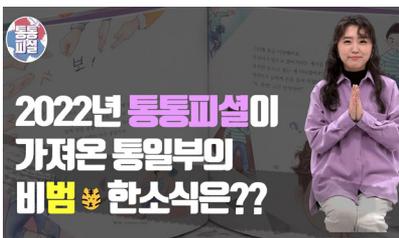


'Unification Scene'



'Unification has arrived'

In addition, the government produced and broadcasted four episodes of a program unlike the regular programs called Tongtong Special. With graphic effects, meme insertions, and so on, this show delivers information in a catchy format that is more suitable for YouTube. Finally, six episodes of North Teller, a program about North Korean defectors' settlement in South Korea, and six episodes of Hello! It's the Minister, a program about the government's efforts at achieving peace and unification.



'Tongtong Special'



'North Teller'



'Hello! it's the Minister'

In 2022, UniTV aimed to create new media content that provided practical assistance to users. The program produced 10 episodes of North-South Stories I Want to Tell You, which tells the hidden stories of inter-Korean relations; 13 episodes of Joint School Area JSA, in which students from the two Koreas learn about each other's cultures in a future unified school; and 16 episodes of Peace Music Restaurant, where residents of the border areas hear about the pain caused by the division of the two Koreas and undergo healing with the help of music and food.



'North-South Stories I Want to Tell You'



'Joint School Area JSA'



'Peace Music Restaurant'

To overcome the limitations of internet broadcasting, UniTV also broadcasts its video content through other public channels. Unification NOW was broadcasted weekly on KTV (once a week), Arirang International Broadcasting TV (four times a week), and Welfare TV (three times a week). Additionally, in 2022, to further expand its efforts to inform the public about its policies, UniTV signed a business agreement with MGTV to broadcast its unification-related content.

Finally, the government is providing video content produced by UniTV to school-teachers and employees in the public sector so that it can be used for unification-related educational materials.

### 1 Dialogues with Major Countries Involved in Korean Peninsula Issues

Every year, the government engages in dialogue with government officials from key countries and regions involved in issues pertaining to the Korean peninsula issue, including the United States, China, Japan, and Europe. At the same time, the government has utilized various communication channels to encourage the international community to support the government's unification policies.

At the May 21 U.S.-ROK summit, the two countries agreed on a vision for a global comprehensive strategic alliance, the United States affirmed its support for the South Korean government's initiative to normalize inter-Korean relations. The two leaders emphasized their openness to dialogue with North Korea and expressed their willingness to actively support North Korea's efforts to combat COVID-19.

The government expressed its views about the situation on the Korean peninsula as well as its unification and North Korea policies with the U.S. government and congressional officials. The Minister of Unification met with Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman (June 8) and Special Representative for North Korea Policy Sung Kim (April 19 and September 22). The Deputy Secretary and Special Representative agreed on the importance of bilateral cooperation in the face of the escalating North Korean threat and decided to strengthen their commitment to communicate about the 「Audacious Initiative」. On August 5, the Minister of Unification met with the new U.S. Ambassador to South Korea, Philip Goldberg, and expressed the government's willingness to work closely with the U.S. on the initiative. Ambassador Goldberg noted that the two countries were working together to deter North Korea's provocations and sought dialogue with Pyongyang. On July 8, the Minister of Unification met with the members of the Congressional Study Group on Korea, and on August 12, and the Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cyberse-

curity Policy, Edward Markey, to explain the government's initiatives and principles for humanitarian cooperation to advance inter-Korean relations and make progress on the issue of North Korean denuclearization. The U.S. Congressional officials expressed their interest in issues pertaining to the Korean peninsula and the situation in North Korea, emphasizing the importance of the ROK-U.S. alliance.

On August 8, the Minister of Unification met with Japanese Ambassador to South Korea Koichi Aiboshi and reached an agreement on the need for close cooperation between South Korea and Japan to resolve inter-Korean issues.

In addition, the Minister of Unification visited Germany following an invitation from the German government (October 2-5) and attended the 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the German unification (October 3). During his visit, the Minister of Unification met with Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Minister-President of Thuringia Bodo Ramelow, and other key figures in Germany to discuss the issue of Korean unification and cooperation between the ROK and Germany. On October 4, the Minister of Unification had a meeting with German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier and explained the government's 「Audacious Initiative」 to him. The German President expressed his support for the Korean government's humanitarian assistance to North Korea and efforts to improve human rights in North Korea while expressing his desire to play a role in the unification of the Korean peninsula.

On October 14, the Minister of Unification met with Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly during her visit to South Korea. The Minister sought Canada's interest in and support for the 「Audacious Initiative」, and the Canadian Foreign Minister emphasized the importance of peace and stability on the Korean peninsula as part of Canada's Indo-Pacific strategy.

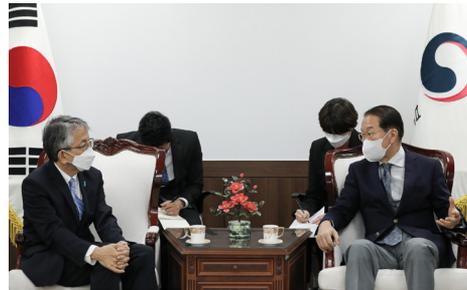
The government also held high-level dialogues with China and European countries to discuss how neighboring countries could cooperate to build peace on the Korean Peninsula. On August 22, the Minister of Unification emphasized the constructive role of the Chinese government in helping North Korea respond positively to the 「Audacious Initiative」. On August 22, the Minister attended a reception to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between South Korea and China and met with Chinese Ambassador to South Korea Xing Haiming. On the occasion of this anniversary, the two countries agreed to strengthen their communication and cooperation. On August 24, the Minister of Unification met again with Ambassador Xing Haiming, and the two counterparts agreed to strengthen their cooperation while recognizing the need to man-

age the situation on the Korean peninsula in order to prevent it from deteriorating. The Minister also met with EU Ambassador to South Korea Maria Castillo Fernandez (Sept. 13) and a delegation of European Parliament members working on the Korean peninsula issues, including MEP Lukas Mandl (September 21), to discuss matters pertaining to the Korean Peninsula.

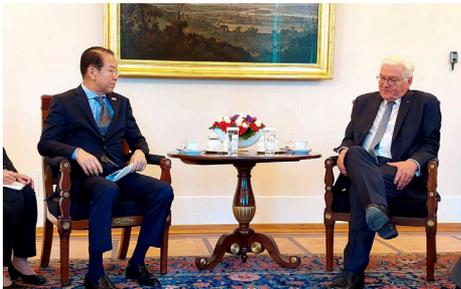
On October 27, the Vice Minister of Unification explained the government's unification and denuclearization policy to Enrique Mora, Deputy Secretary General of the European External Actions Service, during the Deputy Secretary General's first visit to the Ministry of Unification. Deputy Secretary General Mora expressed his support for the denuclearization and unification of the Korean peninsula. On November 16, the Minister met with Colin Crooks, British Ambassador to Korea and David Ellis, British Ambassador to North Korea, to discuss the international circumstances surrounding the Korean peninsula.



Wendy Sherman, The U.S. Deputy Secretary of State  
(June 8)



Koichi Aiboshi, Japanese Ambassador to South Korea  
(August 8)



Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Federal President of Germany  
(October 4)



Melanie Joly, Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs  
(October 14)

## 2 Bilateral-Multilateral Meetings and Policy Briefings

### (1) ROK-Germany Unification Advisory Committee

To learn lessons about Korean unification and integration from the German unification experience, the government has held a meeting of the Korea-Germany Advisory Committee every year, alternating between Korea and Germany, based on a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed with the German Ministry of the Interior in 2010. In 2022, the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting was held in South Korea from September 14 to 15. The



11<sup>th</sup> Korea-Germany Unification Advisory Committee(September 14~15)

#### Participants of Korea-Germany Unification Advisory Committee

Korea	Germany
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kim, Kiwoong / Vice Minister of Unification (Chair)</li> <li>• Park, Myoung Kyu / Professor, Seoul National University</li> <li>• Kim, Jae-sin / Former Ambassador to Germany</li> <li>• Kim, Hak-Sung / Professor, Chungnam National University</li> <li>• Jeong, Hyung-Gon / Senior Fellow, KIEP</li> <li>• Lee, Kwan-Se / Director, IFES</li> <li>• Jung, Tae-hern / Professor, Korea University</li> <li>• Lee, Eun Jeoung / Professor, Freie Universität Berlin</li> <li>• Kim, Seongbo / Professor, Yonsei University</li> <li>• Lee, Chanhee / Lawyer</li> <li>• Lee, Jung Chul / Professor, Seoul National University</li> <li>• Kim, Wonsub / Professor, Korea University</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carsten Schneider / State Minister in the Chancellery of Germany and Federal Government Commissioner for Reconstruction of Eastern Germany</li> <li>• Johan Hallen / Former Vice Minister of Federal Ministry of Interior</li> <li>• Michael Holman / Director of the German Federal Archives</li> <li>• Horst Müller / Professor, University of Munich</li> <li>• Klaus-Dieter Schnappauf / Former Federal Ministry of Interior</li> <li>• Richard Schroeder / Former Secretary General of the Social Democratic Party</li> <li>• Horst Teltschik / Former Advisor for Foreign Affairs and Security Affairs in the Federal Chancellery</li> <li>• Lothar de Maizière / Lawyer, Former Premier of East Germany</li> <li>• Johannes Ludewig / First Special Envoy for New Federal States</li> <li>• Karl-Heinz Paqué / Former Minister of Finance of Saxony-Anhalt</li> <li>• Reiner Eppelmann / Former East German Minister of Disarmament and Defense</li> </ul>

Korean side was chaired by the Vice Minister of Unification and included advisors, experts, and members of relevant organizations. The German side was represented by Carsten Schneider, State Minister in the Chancellery of Germany and Federal Government Commissioner for the Reconstruction of Eastern Germany, three advisors, and seven experts, including Member of the Bundestag Michael Grosse-Bröme. During the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Advisory Committee, there were in-depth discussions on the human rights situation in East and West Germany as well as German experiences of sports and cultural exchanges and their implications for the Korean peninsula.

## **(2) 2022 Korea Global Forum for Peace**

The government has been organizing platforms for domestic and international stakeholders to engage in international discussions about the unification of the Korean peninsula. One such platform the Korea Global Forum for Peace (KGFP) was launched in 2010 and has since been held every year as an open public forum that invites experts from more than 20 countries around the world to lead the international discourse on matters related to the long-term peace and prosperity of the Korean peninsula.

The 2022 Korea Global Forum for Peace was held from August 30 to September 1 under the theme of “Vision for Unification of the Korean Peninsula and Inter-Korean relations in a Transitional Era.” As 2022 marked the inauguration of the Yoon Suk Yeol administration and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the July 4<sup>th</sup> Inter-Korean Joint Declaration, the forum was held to establish a new vision for inter-Korean relations and unification, and to explore Korea’s national strategy as a global, pivotal country. Twenty-seven domestic and international partner organizations and nearly 200 speakers participated in thirty sessions of discussions on topics including: the vision for unification, the normalization of inter-Korean relations and shared prosperity between the Koreas, denuclearization and the prospects for change in North Korea, and securing policy continuity.

Following opening remarks from the Minister of Unification, UN Secretary-General António Guterres delivered a congratulatory speech. Former Minister of Unification Kang In-deok, former Foreign Affairs and Security Advisor to West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Horst Telchik, and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Mitchell Bachelet delivered keynote speeches, and futurist Juan Enriquez delivered a special lecture. Former ministers and a number of politicians, scholars, and journalists were also



2022 Korea Global Forum for Peace(August 30 – September 1)

## 2022 Korea Global Forum for Peace

Class.	Key Contents
<b>[Day 1, August 30(Tue)]</b>	
Opening Remark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Remark : Minister of Unification, Kwon Youngse</li> <li>• Congratulatory Remark : UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres(Video Message)</li> </ul>
Keynote Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kang In Deok, Former Minister of Unification</li> <li>• Horst Teltschik, Former Deputy Head of the Federal Chancellery</li> </ul>
Sessions	△(Eminent persons dialogue) The situation surrounding the Korean Peninsula and normalization of inter-Korean ties △Evaluating and meaning of the 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 7.4 Inter-Korean Joint Statement △Prospect for North Korea's denuclearization △「Audacious Initiative」 △International situation including Russia-Ukraine War and the Korean Peninsula Issues
<b>[Day 2, August 31(Wed)]</b>	
Special Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Author and Futurist, Juan Enriquez</li> </ul>
Keynote Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet(Video Message)</li> </ul>
Key Contents	△The choice of the Korean Peninsula in the New international security order △The internal and external policies of the Kim Jong Un Regime and its future strategy △Vision and Challenges of inter-Korean Green Detente △Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan △Establishing infrastructures for two Koreas
<b>[Day 3, September 1(Thur)]</b>	
Key Contents	△Internationalization of Unification Education and Unification Public Diplomacy △Inter-Korean Agricultural Cooperation △Promoting North Korean Human Rights △North Korea's response during COVID-19, North Korea's participation in international environmental organizations

invited to participate in the “Eminent Persons Dialogue” to provide a comprehensive diagnosis of the current situation on the Korean peninsula and explore the future direction of unification and North Korea policies.

In addition, NGOs, research institutes, and others discussed the search for solutions and international cooperation to denuclearize North Korea, the recent assessment and outlook of circumstances in North Korea, and the geopolitics of Northeast Asia in light of the Russian-Ukrainian war as well as their implications for the Korean peninsula. The government evaluated the vision and tasks of the Inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan and facilitated detailed discussions on inter-Korean cooperation, including the Inter-Korean Green Détente, joint responses to natural disasters, and the establishment of transportation infrastructure on the Korean peninsula. In addition, various seminars were held to discuss cooperative measures to bring North Korea into the international community, such as improving human rights in North Korea and North Korea’s participation in international organizations.

### (3) Policy briefing for diplomatic corps in South Korea and related countries

The government held policy briefings for the diplomatic corps in South Korea and foreign government officials working on North Korean issues. The Minister of Unification held three policy briefings (January 25, April 5, and December 16) to explain the government’s unification and inter-Korean policies. In particular, on December 16, the government named its policy briefings “Unification On (UniOn) Talks,” thus expressing the government’s strong desire to maintain its focus on cooperative unification and inter-Korean policies and spread it throughout the international community.



Policy briefing for head of diplomatic missions in Seoul(December 16)

### 3 Public Diplomacy for Unification

The government is conducting various cooperation and support programs for experts on Korean peninsula issues and overseas Korean civil society organizations to expand its public diplomacy efforts for unification.

The government has been working to create an international environment that is favorable to peace and unification on the Korean peninsula by expanding the number of overseas researchers who can understand the issue of Korean unification from a Korean perspective. In 2020, the government launched the scholarship and academic exchange program “Academic Exchange Program for North Korean and Unification Studies” to cultivate foreign experts who study the unification of the Korean peninsula and North Korean issues. The program consists of a two-year master’s and three-year doctoral program in North Korean and Unification Studies as well as a six-to-twelve month academic research fellowship program. In 2022, the third year of the program, the number of supported universities was increased from one to two to diversify the program. As of 2022, the program supports 3 master’s and doctoral degree programs (9 since 2020) and 7 fellowships (25 since 2020).

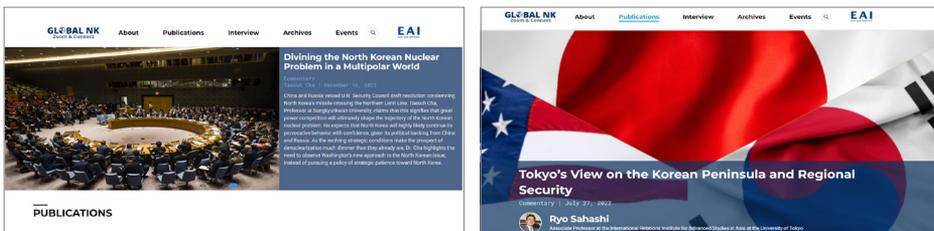
In addition, since 2022, the program was expanded to support academic research as well as visits to South Korea. Through a review process, research projects related to Korean peninsula unification and inter-Korean relations were selected from research institutions and researchers from the United States, Japan, China, and Europe. Support for six academic research endeavors and one seminar were provided. In addition, to promote and encourage research on North Korea, unification, and inter-Korean relations, the Decree for Overseas Academic Exchange on North Korean and Unification Studies



Joint Workshop for participants of North Korea and Unification Studies Academic Exchange Program (November 21 - 23)

was enacted in December 2022, thereby providing a stable institutional foundation for carrying out the project.

In August 2021, the government launched the web journal Global NK ([www.globalnk.org](http://www.globalnk.org)), which specializes in North Korea and inter-Korean relations, as part of its online unification public diplomacy efforts. The project aims to effectively inform the international community of the research results of domestic researchers of North Korea and inter-Korean relations and thereby contributes to the international community's comprehensive understanding and discourse of matters pertaining to the Korean peninsula. As of December 2022, the web journal has published more than 70 analyses, studies, and interviews by Korean experts. Notably, in September, Global NK posted a video interview with the Minister of Unification to introduce the government's 'Audacious Initiative,' with subtitles, which served as a major platform to explain the government's unification and North Korea policies to the international community.



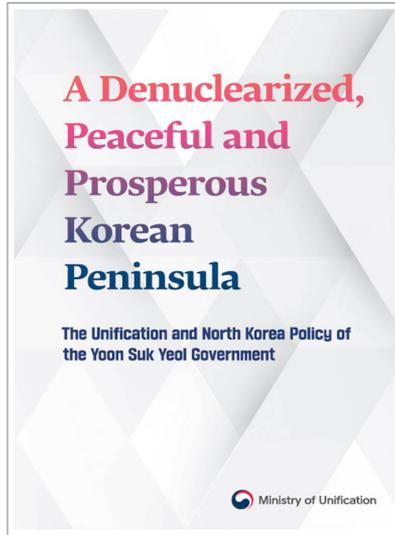
Web Journal for North Korea and inter-Korean relations([www.globalnk.org](http://www.globalnk.org))

Considering the widely ranging demands from overseas individuals and organizations, the government creates and distributes contents online in foreign languages. To support the international community's understanding of Korean peninsula issues including inter-Korean relations, the government published an English version of its Unification White Paper in 2022 and distributed it overseas. The government also published a booklet on its unification and North Korea policies in English, Japanese, Chinese and German.

Meanwhile, the government has been working with overseas Koreans to spread understanding of unification-related matters abroad. In particular, given the rising reputation of Korean culture internationally, the government has been organizing unification cultural events in major countries to enhance the effectiveness of its public diplomacy efforts. In 2022, the government received applications from overseas Korean organiza-



English version of the Unification White Paper



Policy Booklet for Unification and North Korea Policy of the Government

Country	Date	Name of the Event
Germany	8.18.	Peace Culture Festival III Singing and dancing for peace beyond the division
Germany	10.3.	4 <sup>th</sup> Berlin Peace Concert for the Korean Peninsula
Germany	10.4.	Opening Event of Das Dritte Land in Erfurt
US	11.5.	K-PEACE FESTIVAL IN WASHINGTON DC Washington Peace and Unification Festival
Canada	11.5.	"So One" Peace and Unification Concert
Japan	11.22.	Dance Performance <HIKARI - Light>
UK	12.4.	Onsemiro Han-nuri Concert



Unification Cultural Event in Germany(October 4)



Unification Cultural Event in Japan(November 22)

tions to support unification-themed cultural events in the United States, Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Japan. In cooperation with Korean-American network organizations in major countries, steps were taken to enhance the role of civil society organization and use the performing arts such as music and dance to influence international public opinion in support of Korean unification.

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## **Improving the Public Information Service on North Korea**

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### **1 North Korea Information Website**

Since 2011, the government has been following a step-by-step plan to build a comprehensive database on North Korea. To this end, the North Korea Information website (nkinfo.unikorea.go.kr) was established in 2013 to improve the public's access to North Korean information, and since its launch on January 27, 2014, the government has been continuously enhancing its data and database system.

The main content of the website includes daily, weekly, and monthly trends; the status of political, military, economic, social, cultural, and educational sectors; and reference materials on people, dictionaries, statistics, publications, videos, and so on, all with the aim of contributing to an objective understanding of North Korea. As an additional service, the website provides information on North Korean TV program schedules, the structure of the political hierarchy in North Korea, and a calendar of major events in North Korea. It also provides a North Korea map service that allows users to search about 300,000 locations and facilities based on North Korea's topographic information.

In 2022, the government improved the North Korea Information website by utilizing AI and big data to make it easier and more convenient for citizens to access information on North Korea. On October 27, 2022, a partner company was selected to analyze the existing North Korea Information website and design a new model. The new service will be available in the fourth quarter of 2023. By doing all of this, the government plans to make information and content related to North Korea more accessible to the public.

### **2 North Korea Information Center**

The government opened the North Korea Information Center (hereinafter referred to as the "Information Center") on May 22, 1989 to collect and accumulate information

and materials related to North Korea and unification and provide access to the public. The Information Center is currently in operation on the fifth floor of the National Library of Korea's main building.

The Information Center has continued to expand the disclosure of information on North Korea in order to improve people's understanding of North Korea and enhance their empathy for the government's unification policies. In 2022, in collaboration with three public libraries in the Incheon area, the Information Center piloted the "Reading Unification" event from October 1 to December 31, which included programs such as the operation a unification bookstore, meetings with authors, exhibitions of original paintings, and a display of photos of inter-Korean talks.



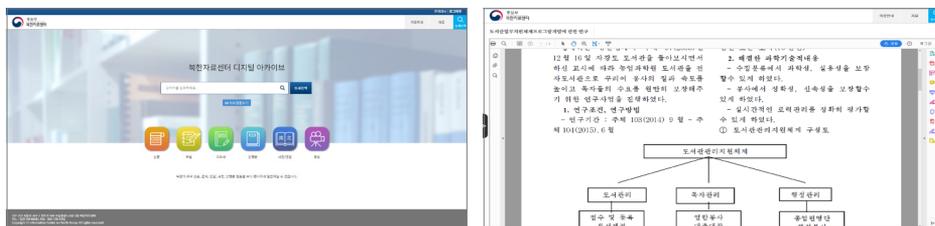
Subong Library

Yulmok Library

Yeongjong Library

Since 2010, the Information Center has established a digital content service and operated a digital archive system. In addition, the center continues to support a service for the public to conveniently search for content from the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) and has posted digital content of North Korean videos to the archive system in real time.

On July 6, 2022, the center abolished its reservation system to make it possible for anyone to visit the center conveniently. The center also tried to meet the needs of the



Main Page of the Digital Archive

Digital Archive Content

public by purchasing and providing digital contents since North Korean contents were unavailable due to COVID-19.

The Information Center holds a total of 113,394 materials, including 81,500 books, 13,900 periodicals, 1,350 media content other than books, and 6,900 books published by the Ministry of Unification. Of these materials the library provides access to 36,992 items including 24,773 books published in North Korea that are held at the center.

### North Korean Contents in the Center

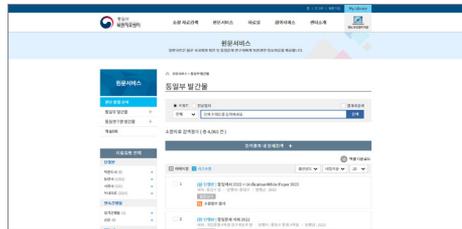
(Unit : item, As of December 2022)

Class.	Books	Periodicals	Etc	Total
Items	24,773	4,871	7,348	<b>36,992</b>

The Information Center’s web site (unibook.unikorea.go.kr) provides a searchable list of its contents and articles, as well as an introduction to North Korean films and list of North Korean textbooks and animations. The center also provides full-text services for more than 7,000 materials published by the Ministry of Unification and 3,000 materials published by the Korea Institute for National Unification.



Access to KINU's data



Access to MOU's data

Visitors to the Information Center also have free access to more than 9,000 academic databases on unification and North Korea, as well as full-text databases from the National Library of Korea and the National Assembly Library. The center has a collection of more than 4,700 North Korean films, and since 1990, it has continued to support institutions and organizations that request screenings of North Korean films. In 2022, the Information Center carried out policy research on “How to Analyze and Utilize North Korean Film Materials” for 200 North Korean artistic films, providing more informa-

tion on North Korean films and laying the groundwork for an expansion of support for North Korean film screenings.

In addition, in order to fundamentally solve problems such as the lack of shelf and reading space for visitors due to the expansion of the collection, the need to expand services such as the digital archive space, and autonomy in management, the North Korea Information Center building will be newly constructed and renamed the “Unification Information and Data Center” at the end of 2025.

The Unification Information and Data Center will be built at a site near KINTEX 2<sup>nd</sup> Exhibition Center in Goyang, Gyeonggi Province, with a site area of approximately 6,600m<sup>2</sup> and total building area of approximately 9,900m<sup>2</sup>. With a total project cost of 44.5 billion KRW, the government completed a land purchase contract in September 2022 and started outsourcing its design work. After completing the design work in the second half of 2023, construction will begin, with the goal of opening by the end of 2025.

After its opening, the Unification Information and Data Center will focus on its core functions and roles as a specialized library related to unification and North Korea, and it will promote the digitization of North Korean materials and the upgrading of its digital archive system to respond to recent changes in the digital environment and the needs of users. The center will also function as a unification museum to display and store various unification materials, and provide a space for the public to engage in various unification-related activities.



Bird-eye view of the Unification Information and Data Center



Three-dimensional picture of the Unification Information and Data Center

## Enacting Laws and Establishing Institutions Focus on Unification

In 2022, the Unification Law Promotion Committee, a consultative body to promote the research and maintenance of Unification Laws, was held four times (March 27, June 30, September 21, and December 13) with the relevant ministries and private experts to gather opinions on Unification Laws.

On December 15, the government held a joint academic conference with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Government Legislation to share research results and discuss issues concerning future research related to Unification Laws among the relevant ministries. By doing so, the government was able to avoid work duplication while also utilizing each ministry’s research results to conduct more in-depth research on Unification Laws. In addition, on December 16, the government held a joint academic conference with the Center for Constitutional and Unification Law at Seoul National University on the topic of “Issues and Challenges for Expanding the Unification Law Infrastructure (Legal Issues of Peaceful Unification)” to promote research on the unification legal system in academia and cultivate young researchers.

The government also continued conducting policy research on specialized topics pertaining to Unification Laws, such as “How to Improve the Legal System for Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation from the Perspective of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).”



MOU-MOJ-MOLEG Joint Academic Conference  
(December 15, Press Center)

### 1 Revenue of the Fund

In 2022, the revenue from the Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund was 391.3 billion KRW. The fund acquired 100 billion KRW from the general account to pay the interest rate of deposits from the public capital management fund related to the Light Water Reactor project. For the principal repayment of deposits from the public capital management fund, the government secured 105.5 billion KRW. 0.1 billion KRW was secured from the balance of monetary institutions and 176.2 billion KRW was secured from the balance of non-monetary institutions including stock firms. The self-generated revenue of 9.5 billion KRW includes purchase returns from the remaining budgets of projects.

#### Revenue of Fund Between 2017~2022

(Unit: KRW 100 Million)

Class.	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,967</b>	<b>6,411</b>	<b>4,008</b>	<b>7,941</b>	<b>4,929</b>	<b>3,913</b>
Government Contribution	1,830	637	1,000	1,500	1,000	1,000
Deposits from the Public Capital Management Fund	7,650	2,784	2,030	5,486	2,370	1,055
Recovered surplus Funds	2,304	2,789	846	624	1,419	1,763
Self-generated revenue	183	201	132	331	140	95

## 2 Expenditure of the Fund

In 2022, the government secured 1.5771 trillion KRW (including 1.269 trillion KRW for projects) based on the expenditure plan for inter-Korean Cooperation Fund which was approved by the National Assembly. For the expenditures, the government held five Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Promotion Committee meetings (323<sup>rd</sup>~327<sup>th</sup>) and ten Deliberation Committee of the Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund meetings (183<sup>th</sup> to 192<sup>nd</sup>) to make decisions regarding the provision of 92.6 billion KRW in support and using KRW 77.9 billion (including 5.7 billion KRW carried over from 2021 at a 6.1% budget execution rate). To allocate this budget to projects, 3.353 billion KRW was spent on Inter-Korean Socio-Cultural Exchange. Within this category, 2.396 billion KRW was spent on the joint publication of the Gyeoremal-Keunsajeon (Grand Dictionary of the Korean People's Language), 500 million KRW was allocated to the digital restoration of Manwoldae in Gaeseong and the operation of the digital archive, and 458 million KRW was allocated to the traveling exhibition "Twelve Years of Excavation at Manwoldae."

As for support for exchanges between Separated Families, although reunions were not held due to the standstill in inter-Korean relations, the government spent 883 million KRW to prepare for future exchanges, such as producing video messages, carrying out DNA tests, and other projects. Also, the government spent 82 million KRW to facilitate separated family exchanges in the private sector and support their travel expenses.

When it came to humanitarian assistance to North Korea, the government spent 200 million KRW for the research of healthcare and medical cooperation with North Korea, 100 million KRW to establish an online communication channel for healthcare and medical cooperation with North Korea, 2.32 billion KRW to support NGOs working on humanitarian cooperation, and 750 million KRW to establish an integrated management system for support to North Korea.

To establish a foundation for Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation, 3.788 billion KRW was allocated to the South-North Korea Exchanges and Cooperation Support Association to outsource the work on facilitating exchanges and cooperation to the private sector and local governments. Additionally, 173 million KRW was spent on building an integrated system for DMZ management, 880 million KRW was provided to outsource the research on establishing the DMZ International Peace Zone and Green Peace Zone, and 282 million KRW was allocated to the DMZ Global Forum. Moreover, 1.704 billion KRW was spent on the overall management of the Panmunjeom tour, 139 million KRW

for supporting the operation of the Inter-Korean Joint Liaison Office, 6.47 billion KRW for managing enterprises related to economic cooperation and exchange including the Mt. Geumgang tourism project.

As for the support of companies involved in the Gaeseong Industrial Complex (GIC), 5.806 billion KRW was allocated to the Gaeseong Industrial District Foundation to support the normalized operation of companies involved in GIC for the sustainable management of the given circumstances and to prepare for a resumption of its operations. An additional 11.544 billion KRW was used to support the management of companies involved in GIC and to subsidize the damage incurred from their investment.

For the Center for Unified Korean Future, 2.88 billion KRW was spent on the Peace and Unification Experience Program, facilities, and related expenses.

In addition, 105.5 billion KRW was used to repay deposits from the Public Capital Management Fund and 43.1 billion KRW was used to repay the interest rate on deposits, which adds up to 148.6 billion KRW. Finally, 22.85 billion KRW was spent on the operation of the fund.

### Expenditure of Fund Between 2017~2022

(Unit: KRW 100 Million)

Class.		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Project Expenses	Center for Unified Korean Future	42	41	70	32	31	29
	Inter-Korean Socio-Cultural Exchange	37	100	37	43	35	34
	Resolving Humanitarian Issues	20	78	358	151	40	44
	Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation	405	1,760	197	128	122	325
	Support GIC	180	138	88	88	84	347
	Total	684	2,117	750	442	312	779
Repayment of Principal and Interest of Public Capital Management Fund		8,470	3,420	2,610	6,056	2,831	1,486
Managing Surplus Cost		2,789	846	624	1,419	1,763	1,625
Operation of Fund		24	28	24	24	23	23
<b>Total</b>		<b>11,967</b>	<b>6,411</b>	<b>4,008</b>	<b>7,941</b>	<b>4,929</b>	<b>3,913</b>

### 3 How the fund was used in 2022

(Unit: KRW Million)

Purpose	Cost	Class.
Operation of the Center for Unified Korean Future in 2022	2,888	Center for Unified Korean Future (70 cases, 2,888)
Joint publication of Gyeoremal-keunsajeon (Grand Dictionary of the Korean People's Language) in 2022	2,396	
A traveling exhibition of Manwoldae artifacts discovered in the past 12 years in 2022	458	Inter-Korean Socio-Cultural Exchange (17 cases, 3,354)
Digital restoration of Manwoldae in Gaeseong in 2022	400	
Operation of the digital archive for artifacts jointly discovered at Manwoldae in Gaeseong in 2022	100	
Promoting exchange between separated families in 2022	82	
Support Video Reunion of Separated Families	57	Resolving Humanitarian Issues (39 cases, 4,393)
Producing video messages of separated family members	276	
DNA testing of separated families	607	
Medicines and soybean oil for inter-Korean healthcare and medical cooperation and others	335	
Nutrition support for children in rural area of North Korea	848	
Soybean oil for children in North Korea	801	
Bread, Soybean, Milk as free meal for North Korean children	336	
Establish and operate integrated management system for assistance to North Korea	705	
Resources for modernizing tree nurturing facility in North Korea	46	
Mid-Long term strategic planning for healthcare cooperation of the Korean Peninsula	80	
Outsourcing research on establishment a roadmap for cooperation in non-communicable, chronic diseases for North Korea	40	
Research on evaluation and capacity building for tuberculosis of North Korea	40	
Online communication platform to facilitate for communication between two Koreas and international society	100	
North Korea's response to pandemic and disease management	40	

Purpose	Cost	Class.
Outsource projects to South-North Korea Exchanges and Cooperation Support Association in 2022	3,788	Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation (477 cases, 32,520)
Operation of Joint Liaison Office in 2022	139	
Support operation of companies related to inter-Korean economic cooperation, trade and Geumgang Mountain Tourism	6,470	
Comprehensive management and operation of tours to Panmunjeom	11,467	
Creating a space for peace, unification, and culture in the DMZ	114	
DMZ Global Forum	1,278	
(Credit) 4 <sup>th</sup> Special Economic Exchange and Cooperation Loan for companies involved in economic cooperation, exchange and Geumgang Mountain Tourism	9,264	
Supporting operation of Gaeseong Industrial District Foundation	5,806	Support GIC (186 cases, 34,761)
Supporting operation of companies involved in GIC	3,090	
Subsidy for loss due to investment in GIC	8,454	
(Credit) Operation of the Gaeseong Industrial District Foundation in 2022	2,206	
(Credit) 3 <sup>rd</sup> Special Economic Exchange and Cooperation Loan for companies related to GIC	15,205	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>77,916</b>	<b>Total 789 cases</b>

※ Total expenditure was rounded up, thus may not reflect the exact amount



# APPENDIX

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- I. Key Events Between Two Koreas
  - II. Statistics on Inter-Korean Relations
  - III. Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund
  - IV. National Tasks of the Ministry of Unification

UNIFICATION WHITE PAPER



# I

## Key Events Between Two Koreas

### January

- **January 1, President Moon Jae-in's New Years Address**  
- "If an opportunity arises, the government- until the end of my term – will seek the normalization of inter-Korean relations and a path to an irreversible peace. I hope that the next administration will also continue to strive for dialogue."
- **January 5, North Korea, fired a short range ballistic missile(near Mupyong-ri, Jagang Province)**
- **January 5, Ground breaking ceremony for Gangneung-Jejin East Coast Railway**
- **January 11, North Korea, fired a short range ballistic missile(near Huichon, Jagang Province)**
- **January 14, Spokesperson of North Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, announced a statement to criticize the US's unilateral sanction(KCNA)**
- **January 14, North Korea, fired 2 short range ballistic missiles(near Uiju, North Pyongan Province)**
- **January 17, North Korea, fired 2 short range ballistic missiles(near Sunan, Pyongyang)**
- **January 17, North Korea-China cargo train resumed operation**
- **January 19, North Korea, 6<sup>th</sup> Political Bureau meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> Central Committee (January 20, Rodong, KCNA)**  
- "reconsider in an overall scale the trust-building measures that we took", "restarting all temporarily suspended activities"
- **January 27, North Korea, fired 2 short range ballistic missiles(near Hamhung, South Hamkyong Province)**
- **January 30, North Korea, fired a mid-range ballistic missile(near Mupyong-ri, Jagang Province)**  
- President Moon during emergency NSC meeting(Jan 30), "It could be seen as a challenge to the international community's diplomatic efforts for denuclearization, peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula", "Such action is additional step closer to denouncing the moratorium"

## February

- February 4~20, Beijing Winter Olympic Games
- February 4, North Korea's Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un, sent congratulatory message for the opening of the Beijing Olympic Games to China's President Xi Jinping(Rodong, KCNA)
- February 7, Ministry of Unification newly established 'North Korean Defector Safety Support Team'
- February 22, North Korea's Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un, sent verbal message to China's President Xi Jinping regarding Beijing Olympic Games(Rodong, KCNA)
- February 27, North Korea, fired a new ICBM(near Sunan, Pyongyang)

## March

- March 1, President Moon Jae-in, March 1<sup>st</sup> Independence movement day speech  
- "Efforts for dialogue to sustain peace must continue", "we can certainly bring denuclearization and permanent peace to the Korean Peninsula through dialogue and diplomacy."
- March 5, North Korea, fired a new ICBM(near Sunan, Pyongyang)
- March 8, A North Korean ship(with 7 people) crossed NLL near east side of Baengnyeong island in the west sea and was seized by South Korea
- March 9, The ship and the people(7) were returned to North along NLL
- March 10, North Korea's Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un, visited National Space Development Agency(Rodong, KCNA)
- March 11, North Korea's Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un, visited West Sea satellite launch site(Rodong, KCNA)
- March 21, North Korea's Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un, sent letter of condolences to President Xi Jinping following the aircraft accident(- March 22 KCNA, March 23 Rodong)
- March 24, North Korea, fired an ICBM(near Sunan, Pyongyang)  
- ROK government statement(March 24), "The government strongly condemns North Korea's action as it is a clear violation of the UNSC resolution and the promise that North Korea themselves made about suspension of testing ICBMs with international community"

## April

- **April 1, 49<sup>th</sup> regular session of the UN Human Rights Council, passed North Korean Human Rights Resolution(Geneva, local time)**
- **April 2, North Korea's Vice Department Director of the Party Central Committee Kim Yo Jong, made a statement criticizing ROK Minister of National Defense's statement on preemptive strike(April 4, Rodong, KCNA)**
- **April 2, Secretary Pak Jong-chon of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of North Korea, made a statement criticizing ROK Minister of National Defense's statement on preemptive strike(April 3, Rodong, KCNA)**
- **April 4, North Korea's Vice Department Director of the Party Central Committee Kim Yo Jong's statement(April 5, Rodong, KCNA)**
  - "We oppose war", "If there's an occasion when the South decides to have military confrontation against us, it is unfortunate but our nuclear combat force will do its mission"
- **April 6, Ministry of Unification, made a statement on North Korea's dismantlement of Haegeumgang Hotel**
  - "Last week, through inter-Korean joint liaison office, the ROK government stated that dismantling or restoring facilities at Mt. Geumgang requires inter-Korean agreement, and thus requested that the North should fully explain such actions", "The ROK government's stance is that the Mt. Geumgang issue should be solved through consultation, and delivered a verbal message to start such consultation to the North"
- **April 8, Ministry of Unification, made a statement on North Korea's dismantlement of Haegeumgang Hotel**
  - "The ROK government expresses deep regret over North Korea's unilateral dismantlement of the Haegeumgang Hotel", "This not only violates the investment guarantee agreement between the South and the North, but also undermines credibility between business operators who have been engaged"
- **April 12, North Korea, reported damage to Mt. Geumgang area following mountain fire in Gangwon(April 9)(Rodong, KCNA)**
- **April 16, North Korea, fired two short range ballistic missiles(near Hamheung, South Hamkyong Province)**
- **April 18~28, ROK-US CCPT : Combined Command Post Training**
- **April 20~21, Leaders of two Koreas exchanged letters**
  - SK, "President Moon expressed regret that the dialogue between two Koreas were unable to reach the point that both Koreas hoped to accomplish. He also emphasized that the era of confrontation should be conquered through dialogue and expressed his hope that the dialogue between the North and the US would restart soon."(April 22 Blue House Spokesperson)
  - NK, "Leaders of both Koreas have both agreed that if both Koreas hold on to hopes and invest endless efforts, inter-Korean relations will be improved and developed following Korean people's will and expectation. And the leaders also expressed their warm greetings to the Korean people."(April 22 KCNA)

- **April 21, Fire at Gaeseong Industrial Complex**
- **April 25, North Korea, military parade following 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Korean People's Army(April 26, Rodong, KCNA)**
- **April 29, Cargo train between North Korea-China stopped operation**

## May

- **May 4, North Korea, fired a new ICBM(near Sunan, Pyongyang)**
- **May 4, Ministry of Unification, started pilot project to allow access to records of inter-Korean dialogues**
- **May 7, North Korea, fired a Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile(near Sinpo, South Hamkyong Province)**
- **May 10, President Yoon Suk Yeol's Inaugural Address**
  - "While North Korea's nuclear weapon programs are a threat not only to the Korean Peninsula but to Asia and the globe, the door to dialogue will remain open so that we can peacefully resolve this threat"
  - "If North Korea genuinely embarks on a process to complete denuclearization, we are prepared to work with the international community to present an audacious plan that will vastly strengthen North Korea's economy and improve the quality of life for its people."
- **May 12, North Korea, 8<sup>th</sup> Political Bureau Meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> Party Central Committee on the Omicron outbreak in the country(Rodong, KCNA)**
- **May 12, North Korea, fired 3 short range ballistic missiles(near Sunan, Pyongyang)**
- **May 12~August 10, North Korea, initiated Maximum Emergency Epidemic Prevention System**
- **May 16, President Yoon Suk Yeol, Administrative Policy Speech at the National Assembly**
  - "We should not seek to establish peace just in formality, but create a sustainable peace with the virtuous cycle between North Korea's denuclearization process and confidence between two Koreas," "If the North Korean authorities respond, we will not shy away from sending assistance including COVID-19 vaccines, medicines, equipment, personnel and other forms of supports."
- **May 16, 42<sup>nd</sup> Minister of Unification Kwon Youngse took office**
- **May 16, Ministry of Unification, suggested working level contact with North Korea for quarantine control for COVID-19**
  - "The ROK government suggested to the North to hold working level meeting as the government is willing to provide medical supplies including vaccines, medicines, masks, diagnostic equipment and pursue technical cooperation based on the quarantine experience of the South."

- **May 20~22, The President of the United States Joe Biden visited Korea, made a joint statement between presidents of ROK and US on May 21**

- "President Yoon and President Biden reiterate their common goal of the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and agreed to further strengthen the airtight coordination to this end.", "President Biden expresses his support for inter-Korean cooperation."
- "The two Presidents also reaffirm their commitment to facilitate the provision of humanitarian aid to the most vulnerable North Koreans", "The ROK and the U.S. are willing to work with the international community to provide assistance to the DPRK to combat the virus."

- **May 25, North Korea, fired a new ICBM, 2 short range ballistic missiles(near Sunan Pyongyang)**

- Statement by the government(May 25), "North Korea's repeated provocations will only result in stronger and faster deterrence by the ROK-US, and this will only isolate North Korea's international isolation."

## June

- **June 5, North Korea, fired 8 ballistic missiles(near Sunan, Pyongyang-Gaechon, South Pyongan-Dongchang-ri, North Pyongan-Hamheung, South Hamkyong)**

- **June 6, President Yoon Suk Yeol, Address on the Memorial Day**

- "ROK government will have a firm and strict response to any provocation from North Korea.", "There will be no light that can penetrate our defense to protect Korean people's lives and properties."

- **June 8~10, North Korea, Enlarged meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> Central Committee(Rodong-KCNA)**

- **June 21~23, North Korea, 3<sup>rd</sup> Enlarged Meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> Central Military Committee of the Worker's Party(Rodong-KCNA)**

- **June 21, Minister of Unification, expressed his willingness to talk to Ri Son Gwon, Director of United Front Department**

- "I'm willing to have a dialogue with Director Ri Son Gwon at anytime, anywhere and in any format."(Press briefing)

- **June 28, Ministry of Unification, issued a statement to prevent damage from flood**

- "We urge North Korean side to notify us before they release the dam on the North Korean side based on inter-Korean agreements."

- **June 29~30, President Yoon Suk Yeol, participated NATO summit, ROK-US-JPN summit on June 29(Madrid, local time)**

- "Three leaders have agreed on close coordination to strengthen the US's pledge to strengthen external deterrence and improve level of security cooperation between three countries to counter North Korea's nuclear and missile threats."

- **June 30, Ministry of Unification, expressed its regret following North Korea's opening of flood gate of Hwanggang river dam**

## July

- **July 1, National Emergency Epidemic Headquarters of North Korea announced that Geumgang county of Gangwon province was the origin of COVID-19 outbreak(Rodong·KCNA)**
- **July 8, 50<sup>th</sup> UN Human Rights Council Meeting, appointed Elizabeth Sylvia Salmon as the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in North Korea(Geneva, Local Time)**
- **July 11, Ministry of Unification, announced the government's position on damage to South Korean properties at Mt. Geumgang area and Gaeseong Industrial Complex**  
- "It is a clear violation of inter-Korean agreements and an infringement of property right of South Korea which is regretful.", "North Korea is wholly responsible for any damages or losses due to such behaviors."
- **July 12, Panmunjeom tour for public resumed**
- **July 19, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, appointed Ambassador for International Cooperation on Human Rights in North Korea, Lee Shin-wha**
- **July 27, North Korea's Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un, address on the ceremony commemorating 69<sup>th</sup> year since the armistice agreement(- July 28, Rodong·KCNA)**

## August

- **August 4, North Korea, announced that there's 0 COVID-19 patient in North Korea (Rodong·KCNA)**
- **August 10, North Korea, general meeting for the national emergency epidemic control, declaring an end of COVID-19 and transition to 'normalized quarantine system with intensified attention'(August 11 Rodong·KCNA)**
- **August 15, President Yoon Suk Yeol, during the address for the 77<sup>th</sup> National Liberation Day, suggested the 「Audacious Initiative」**  
- "The 「Audacious Initiative」 that I envision will significantly improve North Korea's economy and its people's livelihoods in stages if the North ceases the developments of its nuclear program and embarks on a genuine and substantive process for denuclearization."  
- "We will implement a large scale food program, provide assistance for power generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure; and carry out projects to modernize ports and airports for international trade. We will also help North Korea's agricultural productivity, offer assistance to modernize hospitals and medical infrastructure, and implement international investment and financial support initiatives."

- **August 17, President Yoon Suk Yeol, Press Conference following his first 100 days in office**
  - “(through the 「Audacious Initiative」) I have suggested comprehensive initiative that includes diplomatic assistance to normalize the US-NK relations; discussion to reduce conventional weapon system; support to build infrastructures for food, agriculture technology, medical services; support to promote international investment and others.”
- **August 18, North Korea’s Vice Department Director of the Party Central Committee Kim Yo Jong’s statement to criticize the 「Audacious Initiative」(August 19, Rodong·KCNA)**
- **August 22~September 1, ROK-US military exercise(UFS : Ulchi Freedom Shield)**
- **August 25, Ministry of Unification, 1<sup>st</sup> Policy Consultation Meeting for North Korean Human Rights Policy**

## September

- **September 1, ROK-US·Japan Trilateral National Security Advisors’ Meeting (Honolulu, Local Time)**
  - “If North Korea conducts 7<sup>th</sup> nuclear test, the response will be clearly different from the past”, “The United States, Japan and the Republic of Korea agreed to closely cooperate in the process of implementing the 「Audacious Initiative」.”
- **September 4~5, North Korea, General Meeting on the National Disaster Prevention Program(September 6, Rodong·KCNA)**
- **September 5, Ministry of Unification, urged North Korea to give an advance notice on reservoir release on the water that is jointly used by both Korea**
- **September 7~8, North Korea, Supreme People’s Assembly 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the 14<sup>th</sup> Supreme People’s Assembly, passed the new law on 「DPRK’s Nuclear Force Policy」(September 8~9, Rodong·KCNA)**
- **September 8, Minister of Unification, urged inter-Korean dialogue to resolve issues concerning separated families**
  - “The government officially proposes to North Korea to hold dialogue between authorities of two Korea to discuss the issues of separated families.”
- **September 13, Ministry of Unification, recommended two board members for North Korean Human Rights Foundation**
- **September 23, Ministry of Unification, made a statement on leaflets sent to North Korea**
- **September 25, North Korea, fired a short range ballistic missile(near Taecheon, North Pyongan Province)**

- **September 26, Cargo train between North Korea-China resumed operation for the first time in 150 days**
- **September 26~29, ROK-US Combined Maritime Exercise**
- **September 28, North Korea, fired 2 short range ballistic missiles (near Sunan, Pyongyang)**
- **September 29, Vice President Harris of the United States visited Korea, met President Yoon Suk Yeol and visited Panmunjeom**
- **September 29, North Korea, fired 2 short range ballistic missiles(near Sunchoen, South Pyongan Province)**

## October

- **October 1, North Korea, fired two ballistic missiles(near Sunan, Pyongyang)**
- **October 1, President Yoon Suk Yeol, address on the Armed Force Day**  
- "North Korea's nuclear weapon development and advancement is a clear challenge to the international community's efforts for the Non Proliferation Treaty", "North Korean regime should make its decision for denuclearization for the genuine peace and mutual prosperity of the Korean Peninsula"
- **October 2~5, Minister of Unification, joined the German Unification Day Ceremony and had a meeting with the Federal President of Germany**
- **October 4, North Korea, fired mid-range ballistic missile(near Mupyeong-ri, Jagang Province)**
- **October 6, North Korea, fired 2 short range ballistic missiles (near Samseok, Pyongyang)**
- **October 6, ROK-US-Japan Combined-Joint Military Exercise**
- **October 6, North Korean fighter jets(8) and bombers(4), crossed south of ROK military's special surveillance line with a formation flight as a protest**
- **October 8, North Korea conducted large scale aviation attack training with around 150 North Korean fighter jets (October 10, Rodong-KCNA)**
- **October 9, North Korea, fired 2 short range ballistic missiles(near Munchoen, Gangwon Province)**
- **October 10, North Korea's Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un, supervised tactical nuclear unit's military training and fire strike training of long range artillery units and aircraft of air force(Rodong-KCNA)**

- **October 14, North Korea's Spokesperson of General Staff Department of KPA made a statement(KCNA)**
- **October 14, North Korea, fired 1 short range ballistic missile(near Sunan, Pyongyang), fired MLRS-coastal artillery within buffer zone of the West Sea**  
\* Violation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement
- **October 14, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, announced additional unilateral sanction on North Korea(15 individuals, 16 organizations)**
- **October 14, Ministry of National Defense, sent letter to North Korea by chief of South Korean delegation for inter-Korean General Level Military Dialogue to urge North Korea to respect inter-Korean agreements and refrain from repeating such action**
- **October 15, North Korea's Spokesperson of General Staff Department of KPA made a statement on 'South Korea's Artillery Fire'(KCNA)**
- **October 17~28, ROK-US Hoguk Exercise**
- **October 18, Ministry of Unification, made a statement on North Korea's dismantlement of ROK facilities at Mt. Geumgang Complex**  
- "The behavior of North Korea demolishing the properties of South Korea is a clear infringement of the South and North Korea agreement despite the government's repeated warning. The government expresses its deep concern on North Korea's such action and it is a clear violation of inter-Korean agreement"
- **October 18, North Korea, fired MRLS to the East and West Sea buffer zones**  
\* Violation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement
- **October 19, North Korea's Spokesperson of General Staff Department of KPA made a statement on '22 Hoguk Exercise'(KCNA)**
- **October 19, North Korea, fired coastal artilleries to the West Sea Buffer Zones**  
\* Violation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement
- **October 21, Minister of Unification, had meeting with families of North Korean detainees**  
- "The government will do everything it can to release those who are forcibly detained."
- **October 24, a North Korean commercial ship crossed NLL, approached north west of Baengnyeong island**  
\* ROK military, fired warning shots to the ship and the ship returned
- **October 24, North Korea, fired 10 rounds of MRLS to the West Sea Buffer Zone**  
\* Violation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement
- **October 24, North Korea's Spokesperson of General Staff Department of KPA made a statement(KCNA)**

- **October 25, President Yoon Suk Yeol, Speech on 2023 Budget**

- "Not only North Korea openly declared the use of nuclear weapon for preemptive measures, it is also estimated that the North has completed preparation for the 7<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Test", "If North Korea makes decision for denuclearization and comes to the dialogue for denuclearization, we will provide all necessary political and economic assistance to the North through the 「Audacious Initiative」."

- **October 28, North Korea, fired 2 short range ballistic missiles(near Tongcheon, Gwangwon)**

- **October 28, 1<sup>st</sup> Committee of the UN General Assembly, agrees on resolution (A/C.1/77/L.52) for comprehensive test ban(New York, Local Time)**

- **October 31~November 5, ROK-US Combined Air Force Training(Vigilant Storm)**

- **October 31, Spokesperson of North Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, made a statement to criticize ROK-US Combined Air Force Training(KCNA)**

- **October 31, 1<sup>st</sup> Committee of the UN General Assembly, agrees on resolution (A/C.1/77/L.61) to urge North Korea to abandon its nuclear and WMDs(New York, Local Time)**

## November

- **November 1, Secretary Pak Jong-chon of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of North Korea made a statement on ROK-US joint Air Force Training (November 2, KCNA)**

- **November 1, North Korea-Russia cargo train resumed operation**

- **November 2, North Korea, fired 4 short range ballistic missiles to the West Sea(near Pihyun, Cheongjoo, North Pyongan Province), Fired 3 short range ballistic missiles to the East Sea(near Wonsan, Gangwon Province)**

- One of the ballistic missile dropped buffer zone south of NLL / air raid siren issued at Ulleungdo island

- \* Violation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement

- President Yoon, during the NSC Standing Committee(Nov 2), "For the first time, a missile was fired south of NLL since the separation of two Koreas. It is a clear infringement of the territorial integrity of the ROK", "The ROK will take a strict action in a swift manner to ensure that there's consequence to such action", "the ROK will be prepared for potential high-intensity provocation from the North"

- **November 2, North Korea, claimed that it fired 2 strategic cruise missiles to the open sea 80km away from Ulsan(November 7, Rodong-KCNA)**

- ROK JCS, "It is not true", "What North Korea announces is not always true"(November 7)

- **November 2, North Korea, fired around 100 artillery rounds into the buffer zone near Gosung, Gangwon Province**

- \* Violation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement

- **November 3, North Korea, fired an ICBM(near Sunan, Pyongyang)**
- **November 3, North Korea, fired 2 short range ballistic missiles (near Gaecheon, South Pyongan Province)**
- **November 3, Secretary Pak Jong-chon of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of North Korea made a statement to criticize extended period of ROK-US Joint Air Force Training(KCNA)**
- **November 3, North Korea, fired 3 short range ballistic missiles (near Goksan, North Hwanghae Province)**
- **November 3, North Korea, fired artillery shots along maritime buffer zone of the East Sea(near Geumgang county, Gwangwon Province)**  
\* Violation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement
- **November 3, 54<sup>th</sup> ROK-US SCM, made a Joint Statement(Washington D.C. , Local Time)**  
- "United States strategic assets to the Korean Peninsula in a timely and coordinated manner", "new steps to reinforce deterrence", "will not tolerate any nuclear attack including non-strategic nuclear."
- **November 4, National Defense Committee of the National Assembly(ROK), adopted resolution to condemn and request North Korea to stop its provocation with ballistic missiles.**
- **November 4, Extension of Vigilant Storm, a ROK-US Joint Air Force Training**
- **November 4, Around 180 military aircraft of North Korea, conducted aviation training in diverse areas around tactical action line as well as the East and the West Sea**
- **November 4, Spokesperson of North Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, announced a statement to criticize extension of ROK-US Air Force Training(KCNA)**
- **November 5, North Korea, fired 4 short range ballistic missiles (near Dongrim, North Pyongan Province)**
- **November 7~10.22, ROK Taegeuk Training**
- **November 7, North Korea General staff Department, conducted military response to ROK-US combin military training between November 2~5 (Rodong, KCNA)**
- **November 9, North Korea, fired 1 short range ballistic missile (near Sukcheon, South Pyongan Province)**
- **November 10, National Assembly plenary session, passed resolution 'Criticizing the Launch of Ballistic Missiles by North Korea and Urging to Stop such Launch'**

- **November 11, Ministry of Unification, sent a notice to transfer a corpse estimated to be a North Korean resident**

- "The Ministry of Unification tried to deliver the notice in the name of the Chairman of the ROK Red Cross to North Korea through Inter-Korean Liaison Office, notifying North Korea that we will transfer a corpse and articles left to North Korea in Panmunjeom on Thursday, November 17. But North Korea didn't express its opinion on whether to receive the notice or not until now."

\* Through the government briefing(Nov 18), the government extended the time to 24<sup>th</sup> November, but there was no response, and the body went through the process as the lonely death

- **November 11~15, ROK-Japan, ROK-US, ROK-US-Japan Summits, November 13, adopted 'Phnom Penh Statement on the ROK, US and Japan Partnership in Indo-Pacific Region'(Phnom Penh, Local Time)**

- "They reaffirm that a DPRK nuclear test would be met with a strong and resolute response from the international community", "Express support for the goal of the ROK's 'Audacious Initiative,'"

- **November 15, ROK-China Summit(Bali, Local Time)**

- "President Xi mentioned that North Korea's opinion on the 'Audacious Initiative, of the ROK would be crucial and that China would support and cooperate with the ROK to implement the 'Audacious Initiative, when North Korea responds to it."

- **November 16, The UN General Assembly Third Committee Adopted Resoluion on the Human Rights Situation in the DPRK(New York, Local Time)**

\* ROK government joined as the co-sponsor

- **November 17, ROK-US Missile Defense Training**

- **November 17, North Korean Foreign Minister Choi Son-hui, criticized joint declaration of Phnom Penh by ROK-US-Japan(Nov 13)(KCNA)**

- **November 17, North Korea, fired 1 short range ballistic missile(near Wonsan, Gangwon Province)**

- **November 18, North Korea fired 1 new ICBM(near Sunan, Pyongyang)**

- ROK government statement(Nov 18), "The ICBM launch by North Kora is definitely an infringement upon the UN Security Council mandate and a sever provocation elevating tension in the region as well as on the Korean Peninsula.", "As the ROK has an overwhelming response capability and will against any types of provocation by North Korea, North Korea should not make wrong judgment."

- **November 19, ROK-US Combined Air Force Training**

- **November 20, North Korean Foreign Minister Choi Son-hui, criticized the statement by UNSG(Nov 21, KCNA)**

- **November 22, North Korea's Vice Department Director of the Party Central Committee Kim Yo Jong's statement to UNSC meeting(KCNA)**

- **November 24, North Korea's Vice Department Director of the Party Central Committee Kim Yo Jong's statement on ROK government's consideration for unilateral sanctions(KCNA)**

## December

- **December 1, US Treasury Department, announced designation of three high level officers of NK's Worker's Party(Washington D.C., Local Time)**
- **December 2, ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs, announced additional unilateral sanctions against North Korea(8 individuals and 7 organizations)**
- **December 2, Japanese Government, announced additional unilateral sanctions (1 individual and 3 organizations)**
- **December 5, North Korea's Spokesperson of General Staff Department of KPA, made a statement on live fire shots at the sea(KCNA)**
- **December 5, North Korea, fired around 45 rounds of MRLS(estimate) to the East Sea from area near Geumgang County of Gangwon Province, fired around 45 rounds of MRLS(estimate) to the West Sea from area near Jangsangot of South Hwanghae Province**  
\* Violation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement
- **December 6, North Korea, fired around 90 rounds of MRLS(estimate) to the East Sea from area near Gosong County of Gangwon Province**
- **December 6, North Korea, fired around 10 rounds of MRLS(estimate) to the East Sea from area near Geumgang County of Gangwon Province**
- **December 6, North Korea's Spokesperson of General Staff Department of KPA, made a statement on the 'Comprehensive Military Agreement'(KCNA)**
- **December 7, 77<sup>th</sup> UNGA, adopted resolution to condemn North Korea's nuclear (New York, Local Time)**
- **December 8, ROK Government, adopted joint warning on hiring North Korean IT workers by South Korean companies**
- **December 9, Ministry of Unification, hosted 2<sup>nd</sup> North Korean Human Rights Policy Council**
- **December 9, US Treasury Department, announced designation of unilateral sanction related to human rights violations(2 individuals and 8 organizations) (Washington D.C., Local Time)**
- **December 15, UNGA, passed North Korean Human Rights Resolution continuously for 18 years(New York, Local Time)**

- **December 15, North Korea's Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un, supervised 'high thrust solid fuel engine'(December 16, Rodong-KCNA)**
- **December 18, North Korea, fired 2 semi-mid range ballistic missiles (Dongchang-ri, North Pyongan Province)**
- **December 20, North Korea's Vice Department Director of the Party Central Committee Kim Yo Jong's statement on test of Reconnaissance Satellite(KCNA)**
- **December 20, US Treasury Department, announced sanctions exemption for humanitarian assistance to North Korea(Washington D.C., Local Time)**
- **December 21~22, ROK-US Joint Air Force Training**
- **December 23, North Korea, fired 2 short range ballistic missiles (near Sunan, Pyongyang)**
- **December 26, North Korea, 5 UAVs infiltrate ROK's Gyeonggi, Ganghwa and North Seoul**  
 \* Violation of armistice treaty, inter-Korean basic agreement and the Comprehensive Military Agreement  
 - President Yoon Suk Yeol during the Emergency Security Meeting(December 28), "Definite retaliation against any kinds of provocation from North Korea", "Should not hesitate or fear just because North Korea has nuclear weapon"
- **December 26~31, North Korea, 6<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> Central Committee of the Workers Party of North Korea(Rodong-KCNA)**
- **December 29, President Yoon Suk Yeol, visited Agency for Defense Development, made a statement about North Korea's drone infiltration**  
 - "It is unacceptable that the North Korean UAVs infiltrate our airspace", "For us to have peace, we need overwhelming preparation for war."
- **December 29, ROK JCS, joint air defense training in response to North Korea's drone provocation**
- **December 29, United Nations Command, special investigation on North Korean drones infiltrate South Korean airspace**
- **December 31, North Korea, fires 3 short range ballistic missiles(near Junghwa county, North Hwanghae Province)**
- **December 31, North Korea's Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un, participates delivery of 600mm super large size MRLS(January 1 2023, Rodong-KCNA)**

# II

## Statistics on Inter-Korean Relations

### 1 People's Visit and Exchanges of Items Between Two Koreas

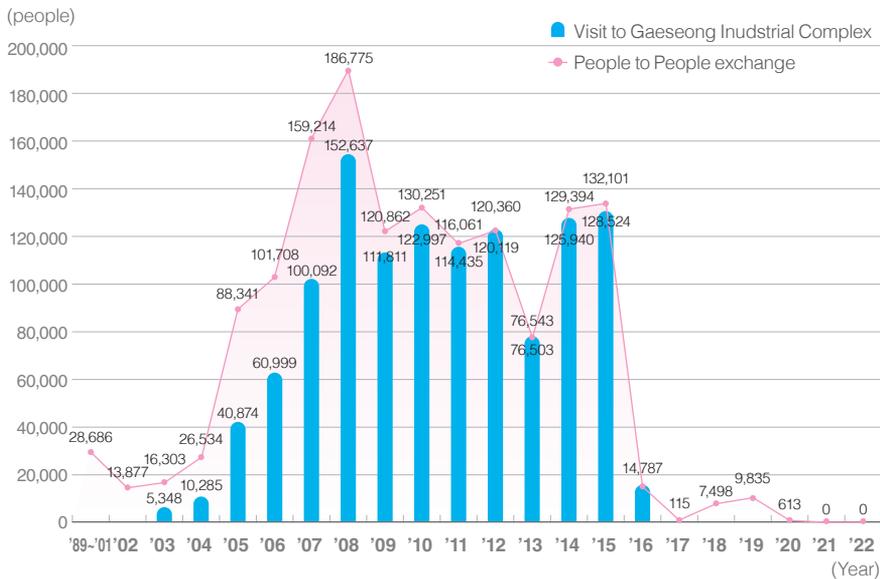
#### ① People's Visits

(Unit : Person)

Year Class.	'89-'01	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
South → North	27,152	12,825	15,280	26,213	87,028	100,838	158,170	186,443	120,616	130,119	116,047
North → South	1,534	1,052	1,023	321	1,313	870	1,044	332	246	132	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,686</b>	<b>13,877</b>	<b>16,303</b>	<b>26,534</b>	<b>88,341</b>	<b>101,708</b>	<b>159,214</b>	<b>186,775</b>	<b>120,862</b>	<b>130,251</b>	<b>116,061</b>

Year Class.	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
South → North	120,360	76,503	129,028	132,097	14,787	52	6,689	9,835	613	-	-	1,470,695
North → South	-	40	366	4	-	63	809	-	-	-	-	9,163
<b>Total</b>	<b>120,360</b>	<b>76,543</b>	<b>129,394</b>	<b>132,101</b>	<b>14,787</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>7,498</b>	<b>9,835</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,479,858</b>

※ Excludes tourist visits to Mt. Geumgang and other areas



## ② Mt. Geumgang / Gaeseong / Pyongyang Tours

(Unit: Person)

Class.		Year	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04
Mt. Geumgang Tour	Sea Route		10,554	148,074	213,009	57,879	84,727	38,306	449
	Land Route		-	-	-	-	-	36,028	267,971
	<b>Total</b>		<b>10,554</b>	<b>148,074</b>	<b>213,009</b>	<b>57,879</b>	<b>84,727</b>	<b>74,334</b>	<b>268,420</b>
Gaeseong Tour			-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pyongyang Tour			-	-	-	-	-	1,019	-

Class.		Year	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09~'22	Total
Mt. Geumgang Tour	Sea Route		-	-	-	-	-	<b>552,998</b>
	Land Route		298,247	234,446	345,006	199,966	-	<b>1,381,664</b>
	<b>Total</b>		<b>298,247</b>	<b>234,446</b>	<b>345,006</b>	<b>199,966</b>	-	<b>1,934,662</b>
Gaeseong Tour			1,484	-	7,427	103,122	-	<b>112,033</b>
Pyongyang Tour			1,280	-	-	-	-	<b>2,299</b>

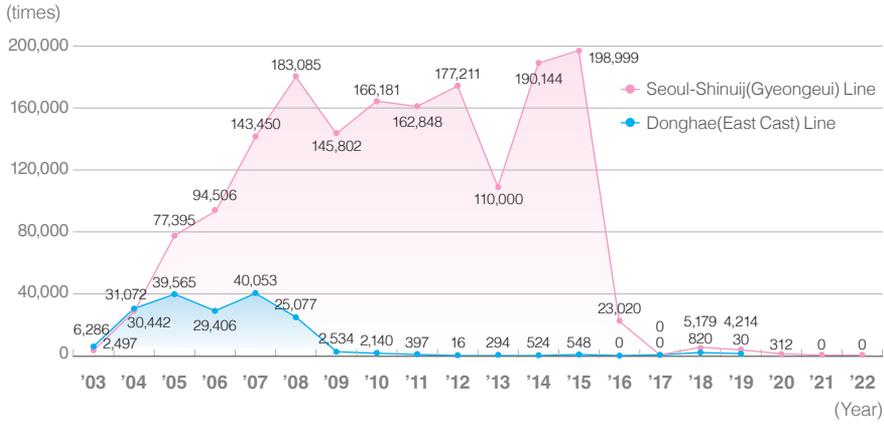
## ③ Entry and Exit of Vehicles

(Unit: Cases)

Class.		Year	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12
Vehicles (Number of entry/exit)	Seoul-Sinuiju (Gyeongju) Line		2,497	30,442	77,395	94,506	143,450	183,085	145,802	166,181	162,848	177,211
	Donghae (East Cast) Line		6,286	31,072	39,565	29,406	40,053	25,077	2,534	2,140	397	16
	<b>Total</b>		<b>8,783</b>	<b>61,514</b>	<b>116,960</b>	<b>123,912</b>	<b>183,503</b>	<b>208,162</b>	<b>148,336</b>	<b>168,321</b>	<b>163,245</b>	<b>177,227</b>

Class.		Year	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20	'21	'22	Total
Vehicles (Number of entry/exit)	Seoul-Sinuiju (Gyeongju) Line		110,000	190,144	198,999	23,020	-	5,179	4,214	312	-	-	1,715,285
	Donghae (East Cast) Line		294	524	548	-	-	820	30	-	-	-	178,762
	<b>Total</b>		<b>110,294</b>	<b>190,668</b>	<b>199,547</b>	<b>23,020</b>	-	<b>5,999</b>	<b>4,244</b>	<b>312</b>	-	-	<b>1,894,047</b>



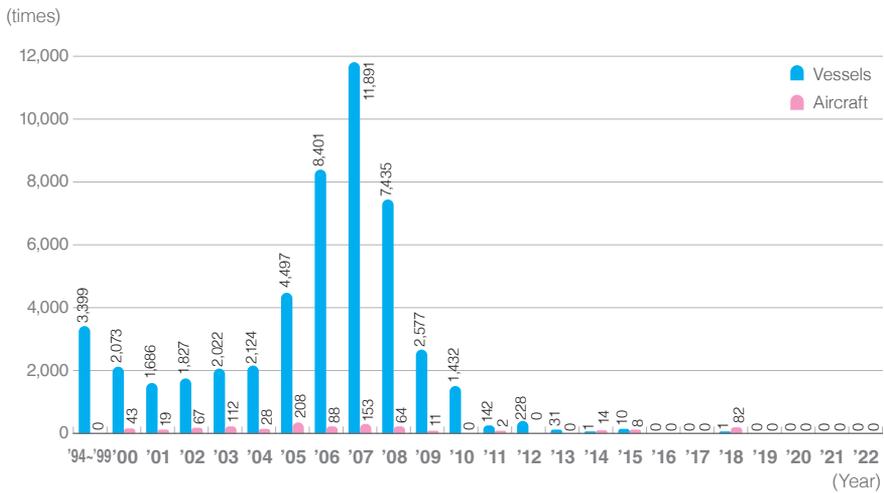
#### ④ Entry and Exit of Vessels and Aircrafts

(Unit : times(one way))

Year Class.	'94~'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09
Vessels	3,399	2,073	1,686	1,827	2,022	2,124	4,497	8,401	11,891	7,435	2,577
Aircrafts	-	43	19	67	112	28	208	88	153	64	11

Year Class.	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20	'21	'22	Total
Vessels	1,432	142	228	31	1	10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	49,777
Aircrafts	-	2	-	-	14	8	-	-	82	-	-	-	-	899



⑤ People-vehicles traveling via the land routes on the Seoul-Sinuiju(Gyeongui) Line and the Donghae(East Coast) Line each year

(Unit: people/vehicles)

Classification		Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Land route on the Seoul-Sinuiju (Gyeongui) Line	Number of people		3,643	24,164	66,772	84,100	144,971	263,258	115,026
	Number of vehicles		1,249	15,314	38,868	47,352	71,857	91,309	72,929
Land route on the Donghae (East Coast) Line	Number of people		39,395	296,924	335,713	266,541	384,911	223,972	3,682
	Number of vehicles		3,143	15,585	19,852	14,724	20,035	12,456	1,323
<b>Total number of traveling people</b>			<b>43,038</b>	<b>321,088</b>	<b>402,485</b>	<b>350,641</b>	<b>529,882</b>	<b>487,230</b>	<b>118,708</b>
<b>Total number of traveling vehicles</b>			<b>4,392</b>	<b>30,899</b>	<b>58,720</b>	<b>62,076</b>	<b>91,892</b>	<b>103,765</b>	<b>74,252</b>

Classification		Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Land route on the Seoul-Sinuiju (Gyeongui) Line	Number of people		126,107	115,249	121,038	76,826	126,745	129,804	14,786
	Number of vehicles		83,308	81,414	88,586	55,007	95,079	99,518	11,437
Land route on the Donghae (East Coast) Line	Number of people		3,051	436	53	451	1,387	1,791	-
	Number of vehicles		1,027	198	8	147	262	274	-
<b>Total number of traveling people</b>			<b>129,158</b>	<b>115,685</b>	<b>121,091</b>	<b>77,277</b>	<b>128,132</b>	<b>131,595</b>	<b>14,786</b>
<b>Total number of traveling vehicles</b>			<b>84,335</b>	<b>81,612</b>	<b>88,594</b>	<b>55,154</b>	<b>95,341</b>	<b>99,792</b>	<b>11,437</b>

Classification		Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Land route on the Seoul-Sinuiju (Gyeongui) Line	Number of people		-	6,966	4,581	297	-	-	<b>1,424,333</b>
	Number of vehicles		-	2,591	2,107	148	-	-	<b>858,073</b>
Land route on the Donghae (East Coast) Line	Number of people		-	2,184	281	-	-	-	<b>1,560,772</b>
	Number of vehicles		-	410	15	-	-	-	<b>89,459</b>
<b>Total number of traveling people</b>			-	<b>9,150</b>	<b>4,862</b>	<b>297</b>	-	-	<b>2,985,105</b>
<b>Total number of traveling vehicles</b>			-	<b>3,001</b>	<b>2,122</b>	<b>148</b>	-	-	<b>947,532</b>

## 2 Status of Inter-Korean Exchanges and Cooperation

### ① Volume of inter-Korean trade

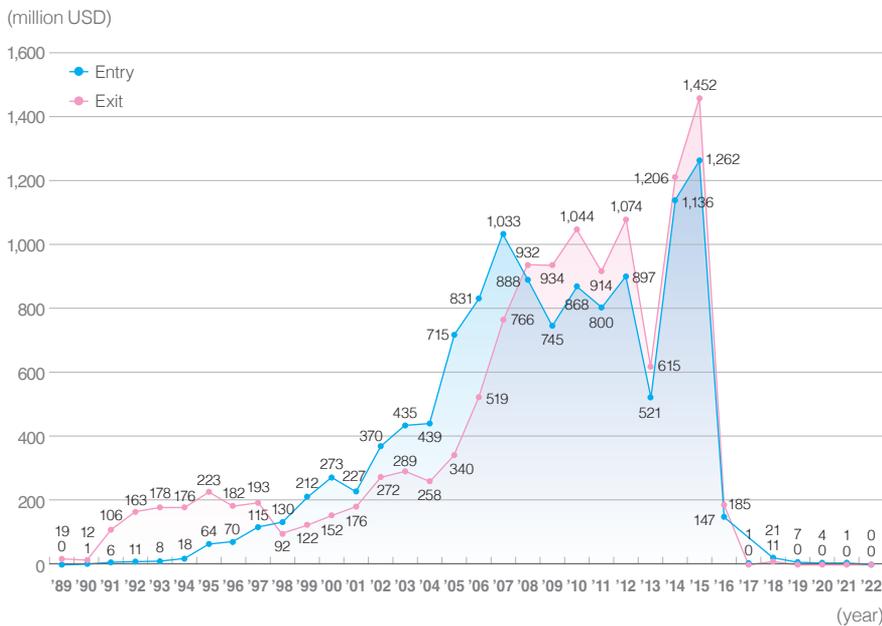
(Unit : million USD)

Year Class.	'89	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00
Entry	19	12	106	163	178	176	223	182	193	92	122	152
Exit	0	1	6	11	8	18	64	70	115	130	212	273
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>425</b>

Year Class.	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12
Entry	176	272	289	258	340	519	766	932	934	1,044	914	1,074
Exit	227	370	435	439	715	831	1,033	888	745	868	800	897
<b>Total</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>1,799</b>	<b>1,820</b>	<b>1,679</b>	<b>1,912</b>	<b>1,714</b>	<b>1,971</b>

Year Class.	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20	'21	'22	Total
Entry	615	1,206	1,452	185	0	11	0	0	-	-	12,605
Exit	521	1,136	1,262	147	1	21	7	4	1	0	12,256
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,136</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>2,714</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24,861</b>

※ Since the numbers were rounded off, the 'subtotal' of entries/exits for each year may be different from the 'total'. A trade amount below one million USD is marked by '0'.



## ② Cases of inter-Korean trade

(Unit : cases)

Year Class.	'89	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00
Entry	66	79	300	510	601	708	976	1,475	1,806	1,963	3,089	3,952
Exit	1	4	23	62	97	267	1,668	1,908	2,185	2,847	3,421	3,442
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>2,644</b>	<b>3,383</b>	<b>3,991</b>	<b>4,810</b>	<b>6,510</b>	<b>7,394</b>

Year Class.	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12
Entry	4,720	5,023	6,356	5,940	9,337	16,412	25,027	31,243	37,307	39,800	33,762	36,504
Exit	3,034	3,773	4,853	6,953	11,828	17,039	26,731	36,202	41,293	44,402	40,156	45,311
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,754</b>	<b>8,796</b>	<b>11,209</b>	<b>12,893</b>	<b>21,165</b>	<b>33,451</b>	<b>51,758</b>	<b>67,445</b>	<b>78,600</b>	<b>84,202</b>	<b>73,918</b>	<b>81,815</b>

Year Class.	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20	'21	'22	Total
Entry	20,566	38,460	45,640	5,352	1	212	49	2	-	-	<b>377,238</b>
Exit	25,562	47,698	55,267	6,072	3	487	385	43	4	2	<b>433,023</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,128</b>	<b>86,158</b>	<b>100,907</b>	<b>11,424</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>810,261</b>

## ③ Types of items for inter-Korean trades

(Unit : types)

Year Class.	'89	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00
Entry	24	23	43	69	69	80	109	130	143	136	172	204
Exit	1	3	16	25	37	87	167	167	284	379	405	527
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>578</b>

Year Class.	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12
Entry	201	204	186	202	381	421	450	482	486	448	363	377
Exit	492	493	530	575	712	697	803	813	771	740	676	705
<b>Total</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>731</b>

Year Class.	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20	'21	'22	Total
Entry	359	349	362	226	1	238	82	2	-	-	<b>910</b>
Exit	644	697	718	447	60	410	292	137	4	1	<b>1,192</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,207</b>

※ Due to some overlaps between items for entries and exits, the 「total」 does not match the sum of the figures.

#### ④ Types of inter-Korean trade and its amount

(Unit: million USD)

Class.	Entry				Exit			
	General trade-Consignment processing	Economic cooperation (Gaeseong Industrial Complex-Mt. Geumgang Tourism-Other cooperation in light industry)	Non-commercial trade (Governmental-Private support/Social and cultural cooperation/Light-water reactor (LWR) project)	Total	General trade-Consignment processing	Economic cooperation (Gaeseong Industrial Complex-Mt. Geumgang Tourism-Other cooperation in light industry)	Non-commercial trade (Governmental-Private support/Social and cultural cooperation/Light-water reactor (LWR) project)	Total
2006	441	77	1	519	116	294	421	831
2007	646	120	-	766	146	520	367	1,033
2008	624	308	-	932	184	596	108	888
2009	499	435	-	934	167	541	37	745
2010	334	710	-	1,044	101	744	23	868
2011	4	909	1	914	-	789	11	800
2012	1	1,073	-	1,074	-	888	9	897
2013	1	615	-	615	-	518	3	521
2014	-	1,206	-	1,206	-	1,132	4	1,136
2015	-	1,452	-	1,452	-	1,252	10	1,262
2016	-	185	-	185	-	145	2	147
2017	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
2018	-	-	11	11	-	-	21	21
2019	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,550</b>	<b>7,090</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9,653</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>7,420</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>9,162</b>

※ Since the numbers were rounded off, the 'subtotal' for yearly entries/exits types may differ from a 'total' of entries/exits. A trade amount below one million USD is marked by '0'. If there is no trade amount, "-" is shown.

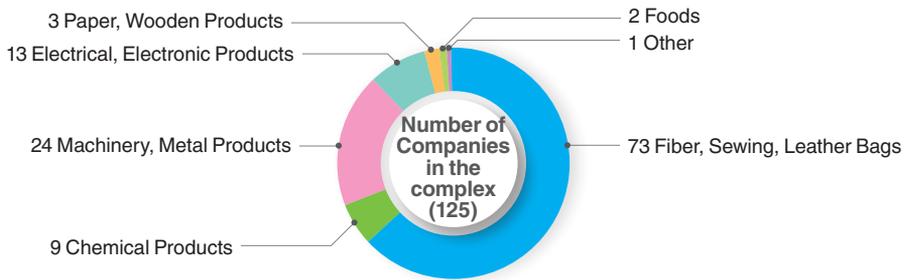
### 3 Status of Gaeoseong Industrial Complex(GIC)

※ The statistics for the Gaeoseong Industrial Complex were prepared as of the end of 2015, due to the comprehensive suspension of the Gaeoseong Industrial Complex on Feb. 10, 2016.

#### ① Number of companies that worked at Gaeoseong Industrial Complex

(Unit : Companies)

Year Class.	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Companies	18	30	65	93	117	121	123	123	123	125	125

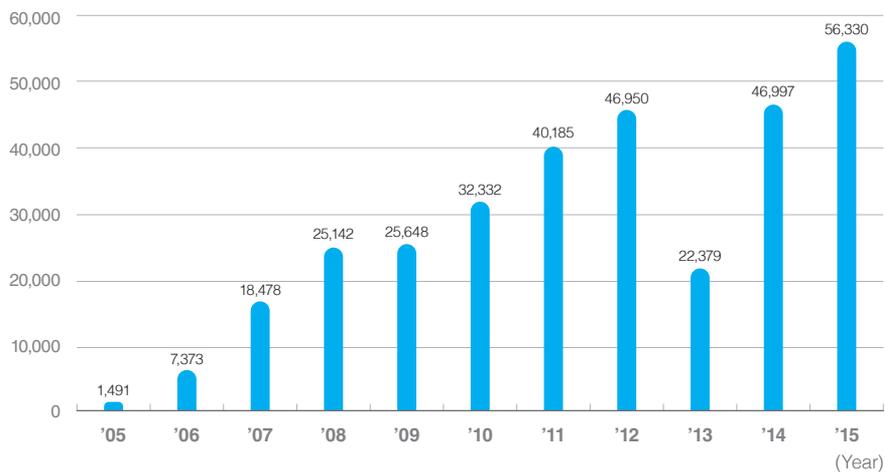


#### ② Volume of production from Gaeoseong Industrial Complex

(Unit: 10K USD)

Year Class.	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Amount	1,491	7,373	18,478	25,142	25,648	32,332	40,185	46,950	22,379	46,997	56,330	<b>323,305</b>

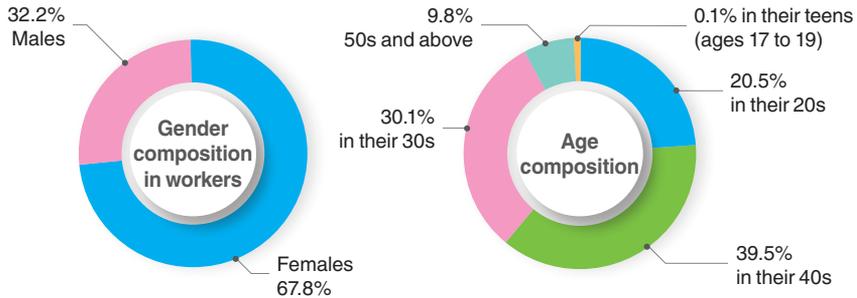
(Unit: 10K USD)



### ③ Workers at the Gaeseong Industrial Complex

(Unit: Worekrs)

Year Class.	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
NK Workers	6,013	11,160	22,538	38,931	42,561	46,284	49,866	53,448	52,329	53,947	54,988



Distribution of academic backgrounds(%)			Average age(age)		
University graduate	Junior college	Middle school graduate	All	Males	Females
8.1	7.1	84.8	39.0	42.3	36.4

by age(%)					gender(%)	
ages in teens	ages in 20s	ages in 30s	ages in 40s	ages in 50s	Males	Females
0.1	20.5	30.1	39.5	9.8	32.2	67.8

## 4 Humanitarian Tasks

### ① Humanitarian assistance to North Korea

(Unit: 100 million KRW)

Class.	Support from Government						Private Sector (grant) C	Total (A+B+C)
	Grant Aid				Food Loan B	Total A+B		
	Authority (a)	Fund by private organizations (b)	Support from IGOs and others(c)	Total A(a+b+c)				
1995	1,854	-	-	1,854	-	1,854	2	1,856
1996	-	-	24	24	-	24	12	37
1997	-	-	240	240	-	240	182	422
1998	-	-	154	154	-	154	275	429
1999	339	-	-	339	-	339	223	562
2000	944	34	-	978	1,057	2,035	386	2,421
2001	684	63	229	976	-	976	782	1,757
2002	832	65	243	1,140	1,510	2,650	578	3,228
2003	811	81	205	1,097	1,510	2,607	766	3,373
2004	949	102	262	1,313	1,359	2,672	1,558	4,231
2005	1,221	120	19	1,360	1,787	3,147	780	3,926
2006	2,000	133	139	2,272	-	2,272	709	2,982
2007	1,428	220	335	1,983	1,505	3,488	909	4,397
2008	-	241	197	438	-	438	726	1,164
2009	-	77	217	294	-	294	377	671
2010	183	21	-	204	-	204	201	405
2011	-	-	65	65	-	65	131	196
2012	-	-	23	23	-	23	118	141
2013	-	-	133	133	-	133	51	183
2014	-	-	141	141	-	141	54	195
2015	-	23	117	140	-	140	114	254
2016	-	1	1	2	-	2	28	30
2017	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	11
2018	12	-	-	12	-	12	65	77
2019	-	-	106	106	-	106	170	277
2020	-	7	118	125	-	125	23	149
2021	-	5	-	5	-	5	26	31
2022	-	6	-	6	-	6	20	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,258</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>2,969</b>	<b>15,424</b>	<b>8,728</b>	<b>24,152</b>	<b>9,277</b>	<b>33,431</b>

※ As the figures in the detailed category were rounded off, there may be differences in the totals.

## ② Separated Families Reunion

(Unit: Cases/People)

Class. Year	Independent Reunions				Government organized Reunions				
	Confirmation of life or death	Exchange of letters	etc	Reunion	Confirmation of life or death	Exchange of letters	Reunion in South	Reunion in North	Video Reunion
1985	-	-	-	-	65 (157)	-	30 (81)	35 (76)	-
1990	35	44	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
1991	127	193	-	11	-	-	-	-	-
1992	132	462	-	19	-	-	-	-	-
1993	221	948	-	12	-	-	-	-	-
1994	135	584	-	11	-	-	-	-	-
1995	104	571	-	17	-	-	-	-	-
1996	96	473	-	18	-	-	-	-	-
1997	164	772	-	61	-	-	-	-	-
1998	377	469	-	109 (2)	-	-	-	-	-
1999	481	637	-	200 (18)	-	-	-	-	-
2000	447	984	-	152 (392)	792 (5,276)	39 (39)	201 (1,720)	202 (674)	-
2001	208	579	-	170 (493)	744 (4,937)	623 (623)	100 (899)	100 (343)	-
2002	198	935	-	208 (616)	261 (1,635)	9 (9)	-	398 (1,724)	-
2003	388	961	-	283 (677)	963 (7,091)	8 (8)	-	598 (2,691)	-
2004	209	776	-	188 (470)	681 (5,007)	-	-	400 (1,926)	-
2005	276	843	-	95 (261)	962 (6,957)	-	-	397 (1,811)	199 (1,323)
2006	69	449	-	54 (105)	1,069 (8,314)	-	-	594 (2,683)	80 (553)

(Unit: Cases/People)

Class. Year	Independent Reunions				Government organized Reunions				
	Confirmation of life or death	Exchange of letters	etc	Reunion	Confirmation of life or death	Exchange of letters	Reunion in South	Reunion in North	Video Reunion
2007	74	413	-	55 (167)	1,196 (9,121)	-	-	388 (1,741)	278 (1,872)
2008	50	228	-	36 (97)	-	-	-	-	-
2009	35	61	-	23 (51)	302 (2,399)	-	-	195 (888)	-
2010	16	15	-	7 (18)	302 (2,176)	-	-	191 (886)	-
2011	3	21	-	4 (14)	-	-	-	-	-
2012	6	16	-	3 (6)	-	-	-	-	-
2013	9	22	-	3 (5)	316 (2,342)	-	-	-	-
2014	6	11	-	5 (10)	-	-	-	170 (813)	-
2015	4	26	-	1 (4)	317 (2,155)	-	-	186 (972)	-
2016	6	43	-	3 (8)	-	-	-	-	-
2017	10	46	1	1 (2)	-	-	-	-	-
2018	7	36	1	1 (1)	292 (1,996)	-	-	170 (833)	-
2019	2	16	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	-	-
2020	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2021	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2022	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,895</b>	<b>11,644</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1,757 (3,418)</b>	<b>8,262 (59,563)</b>	<b>679 (679)</b>	<b>331 (2,700)</b>	<b>4,024 (18,061)</b>	<b>557 (3,748)</b>

※ etc : Visited Family Grave in North Korea

## 5 Inter-Korean Dialogues

### ① Inter-Korean dialogues by sectors

(Unit: Meetings)

Class.	Year	'71 ~'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05
Politics		156	4	10	-	-	-	2	5	18	2	4	5	2	10
Military		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	9	6	5	3
Economy		5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	14	17	13	11
Humanitarian		111	-	-	3	-	4	1	-	2	1	3	7	2	4
Social-Cultural		34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>306</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>34</b>

Class.	Year	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14	'15	'16 ~'17	'18	'19 ~'22	Total
Politics		5	13	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	-	19	-	261
Military		4	11	2		1	1	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	53
Economy		8	22	3	4	3	-	-	22	3	1	-	4	-	136
Humanitarian		3	3	-	2	4	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	-	155
Social-Cultural		3	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	7	-	62
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>667</b>

※ Politics(Ministerial or Vice-Ministerial-level dialogues, etc.) / Military affairs(General-level-Working-level Military Talks, etc.) / Economy(the Economic Cooperation Promotion Committee, etc)/Humanitarian assistance-society(Inter-Korean Red Cross Talks-Sports talks, etc.)

\* Four Party Meetings which were held 12 times(7 in 97, 2 in 98, 3 in 99) are listed in different section

### ② Inter-Korean Agreements Adopted

(Unit : Agreements)

Class.	'71 ~'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05
Agreements	40	-	2	1	-	2	1	1	18	4	23	31	20	23

Class.	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11 ~'12	'13	'14	'15	'16 ~'17	'18	'19 ~'22	Total
Agreements	10	39	5	1	1	-	8	2	3	-	23	-	258

※ The cases were renewed following new categorization standard adopted in 2019

## 6 Settlement support for North Korean Defectors

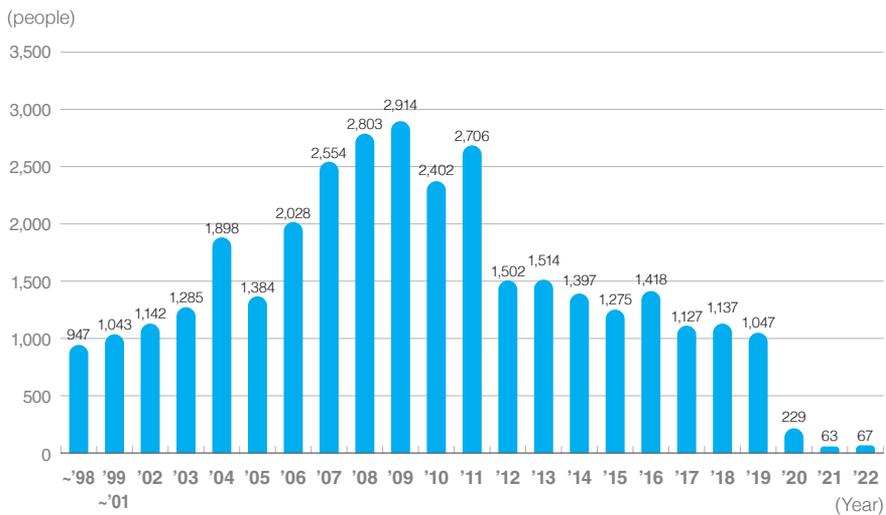
### ① North Korean Defectors Entering South Korea

(Unit : people)

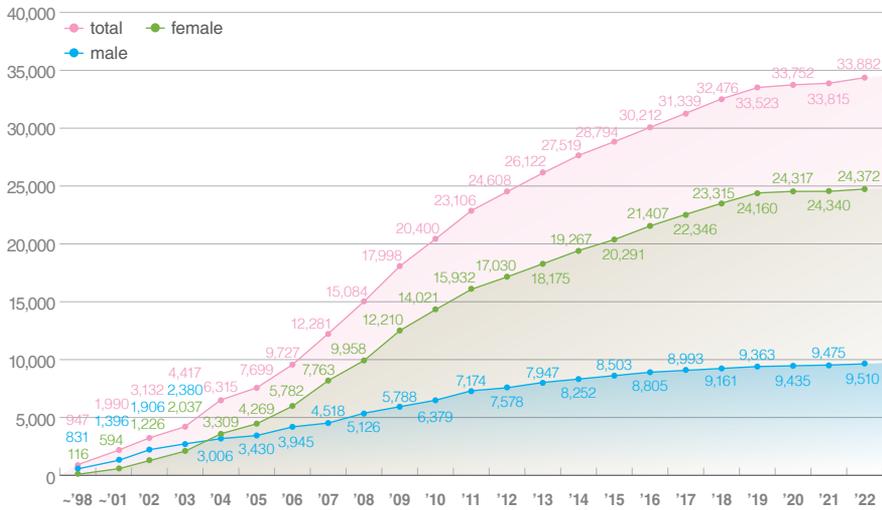
Year Class.	~1998	1999 ~2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Males	831	565	510	474	626	424	515	573	608	662	591	795
Females	116	478	632	811	1,272	960	1,513	1,981	2,195	2,252	1,811	1,911
<b>Total</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>1,043</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>1,898</b>	<b>1,384</b>	<b>2,028</b>	<b>2,554</b>	<b>2,803</b>	<b>2,914</b>	<b>2,402</b>	<b>2,706</b>
Female %	12%	46%	55%	63%	67%	69%	75%	78%	78%	77%	75%	71%

Year Class.	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Males	404	369	305	251	302	188	168	202	72	40	35	9,510
Females	1,098	1,145	1,092	1,024	1,116	939	969	845	157	23	32	24,372
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,502</b>	<b>1,514</b>	<b>1,397</b>	<b>1,275</b>	<b>1,418</b>	<b>1,127</b>	<b>1,137</b>	<b>1,047</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>33,882</b>
Female %	73%	76%	78%	80%	79%	83%	85%	81%	69%	37%	48%	72%

※ The number of North Korean defectors who entered South Korea is calculated based on the number of defectors who entered the protection center.



## Number of Defectors



## Age upon arrival

(As of December 2022)

Class.	0~9	10~19	20~29	30~39	40~49	50~59	Over 60	Total
Male	651	1,705	2,628	2,160	1,400	588	353	9,485
Female	646	2,106	6,973	7,559	4,611	1,461	995	24,351
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,297</b>	<b>3,811</b>	<b>9,601</b>	<b>9,719</b>	<b>6,011</b>	<b>2,049</b>	<b>1,348</b>	<b>33,836</b>
Ratio	3.8%	11.3%	28.4%	28.7%	17.8%	6.0%	4.0%	100%

※ Excluded defectors in protection center

## Job before entering South Korea

(As of December 2022)

Class.	Manager	Military	Laborer	No Job	Volunteer Work	Art, Sports	Professional	Children, Students	Total
Male	411	722	4,176	3,215	93	84	238	546	9,485
Female	139	161	9,223	11,955	1,460	221	526	666	24,351
<b>Total</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>13,399</b>	<b>15,170</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>1,212</b>	<b>33,836</b>
Ratio	1.6%	2.6%	39.6%	44.8%	4.6%	0.9%	2.3%	3.6%	100%

※ Excluded defectors in protection center

Level of education							(As of December 2022)		
Class.	Pre-school	Kindergarten	Elementary School	Middle School	Junior College	University and above	None	Others (unidentified)	Total
Male	418	135	806	5,743	857	1,126	360	40	9,485
Female	404	215	1,499	17,728	2,680	1,217	515	93	24,351
<b>Total</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>2,305</b>	<b>23,471</b>	<b>3,537</b>	<b>2,343</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>33,836</b>
Ratio	2.4%	1.0%	6.8%	69.4%	10.5%	6.9%	2.6%	0.4%	100%

※ Excluded defectors in protection center, includes those who have dropped out

Residence in North Korea					(As of December 2022)		
Class.	Gangwon	Nampo	Yanggang	Jagang	South Pyongan	North Pyongan	Pyongyang
Male	224	75	1,558	78	460	379	482
Female	377	89	4,455	165	655	507	345
<b>Total</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>6,013</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>1,115</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>827</b>
Ratio	1.8%	0.5%	17.8%	0.7%	3.3%	2.6%	2.4%

Class.	South Hamhung	North Hamhung	South Hwanghae	North Hwanghae	Gaeseong	etc (Unidentified)	Total
Male	777	4,853	270	185	46	98	9,485
Female	2,106	14,999	203	285	33	132	24,351
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,883</b>	<b>19,852</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>33,836</b>
Ratio	8.5%	58.7%	1.4%	1.4%	0.2%	0.7%	100%

※ Excluded defectors in protection center

## ② Social Adaptation Training for North Korean Defectors

Number of Participants											(Unit: People)
Class.	Number of Participants										
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	1,002	843	1,018	785	904	807	726	788	260	38	15
Male	361	254	262	168	198	150	116	165	97	31	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,363</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>1,280</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>37</b>

Children and Teenagers who have completed training																	(Unit: People)	
Year	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20	'21	'22	Total
Kindergarden	19	53	54	63	70	69	42	38	28	28	25	36	20	23	7	-	1	<b>576</b>
Elementary	97	104	107	142	118	179	124	97	87	49	46	43	49	57	19	1	-	<b>1,319</b>
Youth	169	232	276	220	192	198	114	106	90	68	86	116	108	105	52	3	5	<b>2,140</b>

Advanced training and vocational training						(Unit: People)
Class.	Advanced Training			Vocational Training		
	Number of programs	Completed	Acquired License	Number of programs	Completed	
2014	5	103	85	11	440	
2015	6	117	72	10	521	
2016	8	247	206	8	315	
2017	7	291	251	7	290	
2018	7	335	292	8	305	
2019	7	385	314	8	247	
2020	3	18	18	4	28	
2021	6	42	40	4	128	
2022	8	49	40	10	189	

※ Hanawon Hwacheon Offices's advanced training program is no longer provided and the responsibility is delegated to Hana Foundation as of May 8, 2020

## ③ Housing Support

(Unit: House holds)

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
House Holds	1,815	1,320	1,027	1,232	969	1,096	1,044	868	1,062	438	97	59	<b>11,027</b>

#### ④ Settlement Support Subsidy

Criteria for Settlement Support Subsidy			(Unit: 10K KRW)		
Class.	Criteria		Amount		
Basic Subsidy	Initial Subsidy, Subsidy in Installment * Installment will be provided quarterly three times	1 person(Initial 600, Installment 300)	900		
		2 people(Initial 800, Installment 700)	1,500		
		3 people(Initial 1,000, Installment 1,000)	2,000		
		4 people(Initial 1,200, Installment 1,300)	2,500		
		5 people(Initial 1,400, Installment 1,600)	3,000		
		6 people(Initial 1,600, Installment 1,900)	3,500		
		Above 7(Initial 1,800, Installment 2,200)	4,000		
Housing Subsidy	1 person		1,600		
	2~4 people		2,000		
	above 5 people		2,300		
Subsidy to live in provinces	1 person	B. province	160		
		C. province	320		
	2~4 people	B. province	200		
		C. province	400		
	above 5 people	B. province	230		
		C. province	460		
Settlement subsidy (For those who have settled down after April 30, 2013)	Vocational training subsidy		below 500 hours	-	
			500 hours		120
			500 hours to 740 hours		20 per 120 hours(160 max)
	Additional subsidy		1 year selected courses	200	
	Subsidy for license		once	200	
	Employment subsidy		6 months	(capital) 200 (province) 250	
			first year	(capital) 500 (province) 600	
			second year	(capital) 600 (province) 700	
third year			(capital) 700 (province) 800		
Total settlement subsidy(maximum) capital area 18 million won, areas other than capital area 21 million won					

Class.		Criteria		Amount
Additional subsidy	Subsidy for old people	Subsidy for people above 60 years old		800
	Subsidy for disability	Level of disability	Severe disability	1,540
			Mild disability	360
	Long-term medical care	Subsidy for those who have been hospitalized for over three months due to severe illness, subsidy provided for up to nine months		80 per month (up to nine months)
	Child care subsidy for single parent	Single parent with children under 13 upon the decision to provide protection and support		400 (per household)
Child care subsidy for children born in third countries	Children under 16 years old born in third countries(up to 2 people)		450 (1 per person)	
Employment Subsidy	For companies that hired North Korea defectors	1/2 of payment, up to 500,000 won per month for three years and up to 4 years		6 million won per year(Max 24 million won)

\* Since November 29 2014, due to the introduction of the Future Happiness Account project, vocational training and scholarship for license are abolished

\*\* Additional subsidy is provided to qualified individuals after a year of settlement for four years. The subsidy is provided quarterly

Basic Subsidy								(Unit: people/million KRW)				
Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
People	2,417	1,524	1,307	1,601	1,171	1,311	1,221	1,015	1,125	446	74	219
Amount	13,815	12,167	9,173	9,429	7,609	8,277	8,612	6,574	8,267	4,723	921	316

Housing Subsidy								(Unit: people/million KRW)				
Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
People	2,417	1,524	1,307	1,601	1,171	1,311	1,221	1,015	1,125	446	96	673
Amount	26,997	25,516	21,454	23,288	19,530	19,983	18,201	16,880	18,824	9,934	4,809	2,846

Subsidy to live in provinces								(Unit: people/million KRW)				
Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
People	369	744	752	555	420	443	353	414	352	201	212	122
Amount	805	2,323	1,806	1,172	857	952	721	828	678	511	541	325

Subsidy							(Unit: people/million KRW)				
Class.	Vocational Training		License		Selected Jobs		Employment		Total		
	people	amount	people	amount	people	amount	people	amount	people	amount	
2011	726	1,181	819	1,638	352	704	2,406	11,813	4,303	15,336	
2012	1,118	1,916	1,472	2,944	496	992	3,455	17,204	6,541	23,056	
2013	774	1,221	952	1,904	266	532	3,304	16,608	5,296	20,265	
2014	706	1,082	879	1,757	181	362	3,631	18,238	5,397	21,439	
2015	516	753	733	1,466	135	270	2,844	14,272	4,228	16,761	
2016	252	360	455	910	64	128	2,483	12,078	3,254	13,477	
2017	98	137	202	404	12	24	2,092	10,024	2,404	10,589	
2018	61	82	131	262	14	28	1,720	8,021	1,926	8,393	
2019	33	46	46	92	11	22	1,620	7,542	1,710	7,702	
2020	3	4	5	10	-	-	1,482	7,048	1,490	7,062	
2021	2	3	2	4	1	2	1,424	7,497	1,429	7,506	
2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,120	6,051	1,120	6,051	

Additional Subsidies							(Unit: million KRW)					
Class.	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Subsidy	Disability	315	243	212	140	110	80	46	135	130	88	91
	Elderly	671	795	658	602	457	327	279	205	206	194	161
	Single Parent	568	717	631	570	475	385	318	218	147	85	36
	Long term treatment	57	40	43	29	10	10	5	19	10	20	72
	Children born in third countries	-	-	-	-	-	-	79	223	394	496	450
<b>total</b>	<b>1,611</b>	<b>1,795</b>	<b>1,544</b>	<b>1,341</b>	<b>1,052</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>887</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>810</b>	

Employment Subsidy							(Unit: Companies/People/million KRW)				
Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Companies	2,915	2,824	2,659	2,670	2,084	1,552	964	552	245	77	37
People	3,976	4,206	3,966	3,501	2,679	1,872	1,089	612	269	81	37
Amount	15,335	15,742	14,615	13,304	10,268	7,393	4,299	2,346	978	277	52

Education Support Subsidy							(Unit: Universities/People/million KRW)				
Classification	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Universities	183	200	253	218	239	232	231	235	227	230	213
Students	1,570	1,704	1,894	2,006	1,934	1,844	1,885	1,889	1,938	1,944	1,857
Subsidy	3,294	3,747	4,212	4,555	4,216	4,120	4,154	4,329	4,410	4,855	5,050

## 7 Unification education of National Institute for Unification Education

(Unit: People)

Class.	~2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
People	550,870	71,944	68,946	119,736	133,284	185,194	97,830	145,363

Class.	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
People	161,677	169,096	557,096	718,233	838,778	1,009,203	861,887	<b>4,997,377</b>

\* Since 2018, social unification training is included

\* With the enactment of Unification Education Support Act(September 14 2018), unification educations by public sectors were widely held, training is calculated separately statistics(2019-665,483, 2020-887,608, 2021-972,852)

## 8 Center for Unified Korean Future's training program

(Unit: People)

Class.	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
People	3,401	38,226	39,565	38,242	39,999	23,289	5,814	1,986	9,044	<b>199,566</b>

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Appendix

# III

## Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund

### 1 Preparation of the Fund

(Unit: million KRW)

Year	Government contribution	Other contributions	Deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	Operation profit(ETC)	Total
1991	25,000	-	-	237	<b>25,237</b>
1992	40,000	-	-	5,118	<b>45,118</b>
1993	40,000	3	-	4,778	<b>44,781</b>
1994	40,000	1	-	9,387	<b>49,388</b>
1995	240,000	119	-	14,589	<b>254,708</b>
1996	100,000	132	-	18,409	<b>118,541</b>
1997	50,000	288	-	27,874	<b>78,162</b>
1998	-	-	-	40,280	<b>40,280</b>
1999	-	3	149,831	23,013	<b>172,847</b>
2000	100,000	542	254,852	30,393	<b>385,787</b>
2001	500,000	1,079	310,000	29,406	<b>840,485</b>
2002	490,000	77	505,000	42,036	<b>1,037,113</b>
2003	300,000	1	823,000	46,515	<b>1,169,516</b>
2004	171,400	1	310,000	38,371	<b>519,772</b>
2005	500,000	33	460,000	31,178	<b>991,211</b>
2006	650,000	15	940,000	36,619	<b>1,626,634</b>
2007	500,000	75	584,591	38,859	<b>1,123,525</b>

Year	Government contribution	Other contributions	Deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	Operation profit(ETC)	Total
2008	650,000	52	147,500	49,274	<b>846,826</b>
2009	-	56	81,000	74,354	<b>155,410</b>
2010	-	-	875,000	51,238	<b>926,238</b>
2011	-	2	104,400	38,276	<b>142,678</b>
2012	112,800	2	400,000	51,236	<b>564,038</b>
2013	105,500	3	530,000	162,300	<b>797,803</b>
2014	93,400	-	228,600	47,304	<b>369,304</b>
2015	93,203	238	90,500	19,863	<b>203,804</b>
2016	92,500	1	207,000	27,399	<b>326,900</b>
2017	183,000	1	765,000	9,631	<b>957,632</b>
2018	63,711	11	278,400	12,153	<b>354,275</b>
2019	100,000	-	203,000	6,574	<b>309,574</b>
2020	150,000	11	548,600	22,524	<b>721,135</b>
2021	100,000	100	237,000	4,589	<b>341,689</b>
2022	100,000	12	105,500	3,313	<b>208,825</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,590,513</b>	<b>2,857</b>	<b>9,138,774</b>	<b>1,017,211</b>	<b>15,749,359</b>

## 2 Usage of inter-Korean Cooperation Fund

(Unit: 0.1 billion KRW)

Class.	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01
Support visits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Culture, Academics, and Sports Cooperation	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.3	-	21	1
Separated families	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	4	28	13
Humanitarian assistance(grant)	-	-	-	-	1,824	55	191	199	339	977	976
Humanitarian assistance(loan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	867	190
Inter-Korean economic cooperation(grant)	13	-	-	-	-	49	-	-	-	146	898
Inter-Korean economic cooperation(loan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	675	-	5	461
Loans for the light-water reactor(LWR)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,259	3,003
Payments of interest and principal on the deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	190	391
Payments of the principal on the deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Payments of the interest on the deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	190	391
Operation Cost	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1,826</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>5,499</b>	<b>5,941</b>

Class.	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12
Support visits	237	11	11	38	53	17	27	-	-	-	-
Culture, Academics, and Sports Cooperation	-	7	32	75	74	69	38	30	21	26	23
Separated families	20	30	32	133	99	269	182	22	20	1	4
Humanitarian assistance(grant)	1,226	1,501	1,225	1,866	2,125	2,272	597	294	192	102	24
Humanitarian assistance(loan)	967	1,561	1,020	1,793	39	1,405	-	-	-	-	-
Inter-Korean economic cooperation(grant)	368	763	760	2,045	1,521	1,725	1,101	415	177	167	421
Inter-Korean economic cooperation(loan)	667	547	814	568	710	1,400	366	240	453	130	221
Loans for the light-water reactor(LWR)	3,009	3,287	870	227	89	-	-	-	-	-	-
Payments of interest and principal on the deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	2,124	3,250	3,895	3,658	8,713	6,337	1,512	1,159	9,306	1,086	5,161
Payments of the principal on the deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	1,498	2,549	3,100	2,820	7,730	5,330	500	100	8,200	-	4,000
Payments of the interest on the deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	626	701	795	838	983	1,007	1,012	1,059	1,106	1,086	1,161
Operation Cost	6	8	12	16	18	19	21	39	29	27	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,624</b>	<b>10,965</b>	<b>8,671</b>	<b>10,419</b>	<b>13,441</b>	<b>13,513</b>	<b>3,844</b>	<b>2,199</b>	<b>10,198</b>	<b>1,539</b>	<b>5,882</b>

<b>Class.</b>	<b>'13</b>	<b>'14</b>	<b>'15</b>	<b>'16</b>	<b>'17</b>	<b>'18</b>	<b>'19</b>	<b>'20</b>	<b>'21</b>	<b>'22</b>	<b>Total</b>
Support visits	-	5	-	-	1	25	0	-	-	-	<b>431</b>
Culture, Academics, and Sports Cooperation	21	28	61	23	36	75	37	43	35	34	<b>817</b>
Separated families	21	31	52	16	7	51	44	12	23	10	<b>1,130</b>
Humanitarian assistance(grant)	132	148	122	7	13	27	314	139	17	34	<b>16,938</b>
Humanitarian assistance(loan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>7,842</b>
Inter-Korean economic cooperation(grant)	2,037	441	283	4,489	600	1,914	329	223	215	435	<b>21,535</b>
Inter-Korean economic cooperation(loan)	746	223	36	760	27	26	26	26	23	267	<b>9,417</b>
Loans for the light-water reactor(LWR)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>13,744</b>
Payments of interest and principal on the deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	6,388	3,882	1,836	2,982	8,470	3,420	2,610	6,056	2,831	1,486	<b>86,743</b>
Payments of the principal on the deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	5,300	2,916	905	2,070	7,650	2,784	2,030	5,486	2,370	1,055	<b>68,393</b>
Payments of the interest on the deposit for the Public Capital Management Fund	1,088	966	931	912	820	636	580	570	461	431	<b>18,350</b>
Operation Cost	30	30	30	26	24	28	24	24	23	23	<b>514</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,375</b>	<b>4,788</b>	<b>2,420</b>	<b>8,303</b>	<b>9,179</b>	<b>5,565</b>	<b>3,384</b>	<b>6,522</b>	<b>3,166</b>	<b>2,288</b>	<b>159,111</b>

\* Total amount of fund and annual fund may defer due to rounding of the total amount

# IV

## National Tasks of the Ministry of Unification

Main Tasks	Tasks for implementation	Key Content
<b>94.</b> <b>Normalize inter-Korean Relations, Prepare unification with the Korean People</b>	1. Economic assistance to North Korea and implement inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan following process on denuclearization	① Develop inter-Korean Joint Economic Development Plan interlinked to the process of denuclearization ② Phased economic cooperation following steps taken for denuclearization
	2. Normalization of inter-Korean relations based on dialogue and mutual respect	① Implement the 「Audacious Initiative」 for Denuclearized, Peaceful and Prosperous Korean Peninsula ② Set condition for inter-Korean dialogue, and engage in dialogue when the opportunity comes
	3. Change segregation and confrontation to openness and exchange between two Koreas	① Resume diverse inter-Korean socio-cultural exchanges between two Koreas ② Establish foundation for socio-cultural exchanges between two Koreas
	4. Establish inter-Korean Green Detente	① Strengthen cooperation for environment, forestry, water resources and agricultural sectors ② Seek to transform DMZ into a Green Peace Zone
	5. Promoting consensus in and out of Korea to establish foundation for unification with liberal democracy	① Develop and improve National Community Unification Formula ② Establish and operate unification centers throughout the country and expand social dialogues ③ Establish foundation for unification including promoting international cooperation for unification ④ Improve information service for North Korea information for the public

Main Tasks	Tasks for implementation	Key Content
	6. Building unified future with the youth	① Diversify digitalized unification education including the usage of metaverse
<b>95. Seek to resolve humanitarian issues between two Koreas</b>	1. Unconditional Humanitarian Assistance to North Korea	① Provide humanitarian assistance based on North Korea's situation ② Establish system for humanitarian cooperation between government and non-government agencies through platforms such as 'Korean Peninsula Healthcare Cooperation Platform'
	2. Resolve Korean war POWs-Abudctees-Separated Families Issues	① Establish system to confirm life and death / reunion of all separated families ② Confirm life and death of POWs and abductees, help their return and projects for memorial
	3. Establish North Korean Human Rights Foundation as planned and strengthen international cooperation to improve human rights situation in North Korea	① Establish North Korean Human Rights Foundation ② Strengthen cooperation at home and abroad to promote human rights situation in North Korea
	4. Strengthen settlement support for North Korean Defectors	① Improve initial support and job searching support ② Establish integrated crisis management system and mental health support system



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