



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

International Assistance

ICH-04-Report – Form

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND

FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT

Beneficiary State(s) Party(ies): Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Project title:	Strengthening the Capacities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for Community-Based Inventorying of Intangible Cultural Heritage and for Elaborating Nomination Files under the Mechanism of the 2003 Convention
Time frame:	Starting date: 3 July 2018 Completion date: 28 May 2019
Budget:	<p>Total: US\$ 100,365.00</p> <p><i>Including:</i></p> <p>Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund: US\$ 98,000.00</p> <p>State Party contribution: US\$ 2,365.00</p> <p>Other contributions: US\$</p>
Implementing agency (contracting partner or UNESCO Field Office):	National Authority for Protection of Cultural Heritage (NAPCH)
Contact person:	<p>Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Mr</p> <p>Family name: PAK</p> <p>Given name: Song Nam</p> <p>Institution/position: Vice-Director, Department of Foreign Relations and Cooperation, NAPCH</p> <p>Address: Taedongmun-dong, Central District, Pyongyang, DPR Korea</p> <p>Telephone number: 0085-02-18111(381-4416)</p> <p>E-mail address: napch@star-co.net.kp</p>
Partner agency (in the case of a service from UNESCO project):	
Implementing partners:	<p>- Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency</p> <p>- Radio-Television Broadcasting Committee of DPRK</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Bureau of Public Catering Service - Sci-tech Complex - National Heritage IT Exchange Company - Pyongyang University of Foreign Studies ...
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Background

Provide a brief description of the situation existing at the time of the request and the need that the assistance aimed to address. For safeguarding of a particular element, provide a description of the element, its viability and why safeguarding measures were required. For preparation of inventories, strengthening of capacities, awareness-raising, visibility or other safeguarding not focussed on a particular element, identify gaps that were to be addressed. For emergency assistance requests, describe the nature and severity of the emergency at the time of the request.

Not fewer than 750 or more than 1000 words

After its ratification of the 2003 Convention in 2008, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea took a number of measures to enable the governmental bodies, enterprises, organizations and local authorities as well as communities and individuals concerned in the practice and transmission of intangible cultural heritage to actively participate in the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage, in order to promote its safeguarding activities on the basis of all-people and nation-wide effort. The concerned local authorities, in liaison with the National Authority for Protection of Cultural Heritage which is steering the overall safeguarding efforts in the country, took practical steps to explore, identify and promote the intangible cultural heritage elements in their localities, as well as to support local training courses, protection and dissemination activities, thus fostering public awareness of the importance of intangible cultural heritage and their active participation in its safeguarding effort.

To date, amidst great social interests, many elements have been registered as National Intangible Cultural Heritage and Local Intangible Cultural Heritage, and the Arirang folk song, the Tradition of Kimchi-making and the Traditional Korean wrestling (Ssirum/Ssireum) have been inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

In parallel with the growing interest, many communities and individuals engaged with practicing their respective intangible cultural heritage strongly expressed their willingness of having their elements nominated to the Convention's Lists and the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices, contributing to the cultural heritage of humanity. However, these wishes were challenged in practice by lack of expertise and adequate understanding of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and its specific requirements and rules.

Since its ratification, on the basis of the spirit and provisions of the Convention, the DPR Korea has undertaken activities for safeguarding its intangible cultural heritage and for preparing nominations to the Convention's Lists. However, when preparing nomination files for respective lists and register, specific requirements of each section in the nomination forms posed problems because of the lack of correct understanding.

This training workshop on community-based inventorying of intangible cultural heritage and elaborating nomination files which involved international facilitators and stakeholders, proved very effective in that it encouraged and fostered adequate understanding of the Convention as well as the objectives of the Convention's Lists.

The Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage set up in 2012 at the National Authority for Protection of Cultural Heritage (NAPCH) is in charge of safeguarding the overall intangible cultural heritage of the country. Following this, the Section of Research on Intangible Cultural Heritage was set up in 2014 at the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency which was under NAPCH, and local institutions at provincial and municipal levels numbering 12 in total were set up in 2015, to promote the safeguarding of ICH including its research and documentation, involving concerned stakeholders as widest extent as possible. The NAPCH, stressing the importance of the role of the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency as a central research base for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage, took measures to provide with necessary staffs and equipment by pooling available resources.

Thanks to the effort, social interest for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage steadily grew with several governmental measures taken and the active commitment and engagement of national and local institutions, as well as of communities and individuals concerned. But there still existed lack of knowledge on how to proceed with the community-based inventorying

approach and how to fully involve the practitioners and bearers in the documentation of their practices and cultural expressions. Also the means of documentation of ICH, such as cameras, were getting old, leading to shortage of material resources. Given such challenges, community-based inventorying as well as the collection and documentation of intangible cultural heritage, the needed communication and dialogue that involve mass media, educational institutions, communities and people concerned posed issues to be solved, especially, for the institution like the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency which had to exchange information with the 12 provincial and municipal heritage preservation institutions as a ICH research centre, and thus likely to affect nomination activities to national inventories and to the Convention's Lists as well.

The completion of the international assistance project financed by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund allowed a systematic methodology to be put in place for the community-based inventorying by the experts in the field of intangible cultural heritage and the community members concerned, filling a gap of know-how as well as of available and adequate equipment for documentation, and also contributing to the preparation of future nomination files that will have to include updated information on the inventory and the methodology used for it.

Objectives and results attained

Overall, to what extent did the project attain its objectives? Describe the main results attained, focussing in particular on the perspective of the direct beneficiaries and communities. For each expected result identified in the request, explain whether it was fully or partially attained. Also describe any unexpected results, direct or indirect, whether positive or negative.

Not fewer than 100 or more than 500 words

The overall objective of the project was fully gained to strengthen the capacities of the national stakeholders to prepare nominations files and to improve the community-based inventorying techniques through a pilot inventory as well as new equipment for applying the increased knowledge in the best conditions.

In particular, the conduct of the proposed workshop not only contributed to the capacity building of the staffs and experts concerned in elaboration of nomination files, but also stimulated broad sectors of society to participate in the process with adequate understanding and consensus on the implication of intangible cultural heritage and its related activities according to the 2003 Convention.

The project also contributed to updating the capacity of the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency in documenting, archiving and exchanging information of ICH based on proper resource, which would surely contribute to the effective implementation of the 2003 Convention. With the enhancement of material and technical basis of resource vivid and qualitative data of the related elements was collected during the field inventorying exercise.

Description of project implementation

Provide a description of the activities undertaken and the outputs they generated (e.g. trainings, consultation process, technical assistance, awareness raising, publications, toolkits, etc.). Also describe any problems encountered in project delivery and corrective actions taken. Describe the role of the implementing agency and of the partner agency (in the case of a service from UNESCO project) and the role of other implementing partners in carrying out activities and generating outputs.

Not fewer than 1000 or more than 1500 words

Activity 1: Training workshop on community-based inventorying of intangible cultural heritage and elaboration of nomination files.

The workshop was held in Pyongyang, DPR Korea under the auspices of the National Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for UNESCO, the National Authority for Protection of Cultural Heritage and UNESCO represented by its Field Office in Beijing.

The National Commission ensured coordination and supervision on the implementation of the

activities in the national context, the National Authority for Protection of Cultural Heritage (NAPCH) carried out its implementation by identifying workshop participants including staffs, experts, researchers and community members concerned, inviting two international facilitators in cooperation with UNESCO Beijing Office, and providing necessary logistics.

The concerned staffs and researchers at NAPCH, and the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency (KNHPPA), based on specific demands of communities and individuals concerned, prepared a comprehensive list of specific queries regarding the workshop on nomination.

The logistical preparations like the venue, accommodations and simultaneous interpretation was undertaken in cooperation with the Sci-tech Complex, the General Bureau of Public Catering Service and other institutions. And the workshop materials (including PPT files) was translated and printed in advance in consultation with UNESCO Beijing Office and the international facilitators.

Based on such preparations, a five-day training workshop on the elaboration of nomination files for inscription on the Convention's Lists, of proposals for the Registry of Good Safeguarding Practices and of requests for international Assistance (NOM), and a two-day refresher session on community-based inventorying of the ICH (CBI) including visits for the field practicum were held, in close coordination with UNESCO Beijing Office and the two international facilitators from 26 September to 3 October 2018. The field practicum was organized for group work on basic inventorying questionnaire at the Mansudae Art Studio and the Mangyongdae School Children's Palace.

The workshop encouraged proactive interaction between workshop facilitators and participants through the collaboration of NAPCH and UNESCO Beijing Office, achieving the best results when preparing nominations that would meet the fundamental requirements of the 2003 Convention, its Operational Directives and the jurisprudence of the last meetings of both the Committee and the Evaluation Body of the 2003 Convention.

The Korea Central News Agency, the Pyongyang Times and the Naenara participated in the visibility of the workshop releasing news articles and photos through newspaper and online.

The implementing partners for the workshop are as follows;

- The Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency prepared a comprehensive list of specific queries regarding the nomination, translated all the training materials and PowerPoint presentations into Korean, printed prior to the workshop and documented the workshop by taking notes and pictures throughout the workshop,
- The Sci-tech Complex provided the venue and the necessary technical equipment for the simultaneous interpretation,
- The Pyongyang University of Foreign Studies provided two excellent English simultaneous interpreters,
- The General Bureau of Public Catering Service provided necessary logistics for the national participants, including accommodation and meals,

Activity 2: Pilot community-based inventorying exercise in selected communities.

After the training workshop, a competent survey team of 6 people that had participated in the Community-Based Inventorying Workshop in 2016 and the refresher session was organized. The team reviewed a questionnaire and updated an inventory form in line with the refresher session and UNESCO guidelines, while conducting desk research on the selected ICH elements. They revised and updated the Guidelines for the safeguarding of ICH on the basis of the previous workshops to be distributed to the local institutions related with the ICH throughout the country.

On the other hand, one video camera, two photo cameras and one film scanner which were necessary equipment for the documentation purposes were purchased in close consultation with

the KNHPA and the Radio-Television Broadcasting Committee of the DPRK.

The NAPCH, in close contact with the local authorities with the selected ICH elements, preceded the ensuring the free, prior and informed consent on the planned inventorying exercise from the communities concerned, and organized the logistical preparations for the survey team such as local transportation, accommodation and meals.

Pilot community-based inventorying exercise was conducted on three ICH elements in the North and South Hwanghae Provinces from 12 March to 11 April 2019. The Sohng Musical Instruments Factory which is the best manufacturing base of Janggo, a traditional percussion instrument, Pongsan stoneware famous from its traditional making methods and Unryul Mask Dance, one of the representatives of its kind in the country were selected upon approval from the UNESCO Beijing Office.

At each community, the team members met with the bearer and practitioners of the element and other stakeholders concerned, and held a workshop on inventorying of ICH in combination with interviews based on the Guidelines for the safeguarding of ICH and the questionnaire prepared beforehand, collecting information and audio-visual materials among the community members.

After completion of the field exercise, they organized a team meeting to review and analyse the collected data and finalized the description of the surveyed elements. They also completed draft inventories of the elements which would be submitted and examined for inclusion in the national or local inventories in the ICH Evaluation Committee to be held in September each year.

The implementing partners for the field exercise are as follows;

- The Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency encourage its competent ICH researchers to be involved in the survey team and play a pivotal role in the field exercise as well as updating the Guidelines. And also it recommended the specific plan and equipment needed for a sustainable inventory-making in the years to come.
- The National Heritage IT Exchange Company, on the request of the NAPCH, purchased the necessary equipment for documentation through its agencies outside and provided them in time before the field work.
- The Radio-Television Broadcasting Committee of DPRK organized one-day training course on the use of the new equipment for the survey team. It was facilitated by its staffs experienced in documentation equipment.

The NAPCH, as an implementing agency of the project, appointed a national focal point for coordination and management of the proposed activities, worked with the institutions, organizations and communities concerned with the project, dealt with all practical arrangements for the project, ensuring cooperation with the National Commission for UNESCO and UNESCO Beijing Office. It also participated in the monitoring and reporting on the activities of the project.

The National Commission of DPRK for UNESCO, as a chief coordinator, ensured cooperation and contact with UNESCO Beijing Office for the implementation of the project, and also participated in the monitoring its implementation.

Community involvement

Provide a description of the mechanisms used for fully involving the community(ies) concerned. Describe not only the participation of the communities as beneficiaries of the project, but also their active participation in the planning and implementation of all activities.

Not fewer than 300 or more than 500 words

In April 2018, the National Authority for Protection of Cultural Heritage organized a meeting for successful implementation of the project involving the senior staffs in the field of ICH from 12 regions to discuss the selection of the community members to take part in the training workshop and the selection of ICH elements and communities for the pilot inventorying exercise.

The selected community members suggested their specific demands to solve the problems encountered in the nomination and inventorying of the elements concerned, so that the NAPCH could reflect them in the planning of the workshop agenda and schedules. They also actively participated in the workshop sessions, especially in the group work on basic inventorying questionnaire during the field trip for practicum.

And the communities actively supported the pilot inventorying exercise done by the survey team in terms of making videos, collecting information, providing good logistical arrangements, etc.

For example, the Sohung Musical Instruments Factory which is famous for the production of *Janggo*, a traditional percussion instrument, facilitated the experienced bearers and young generations to work together with the survey team, providing venue for workshop and financial support for the exercise.

The Unjong Farm of Pongsan County, though very busy with the production of potteries, allowed sufficient time and convenience for the inventorying exercise involving the famous bearers and practitioners of the element.

The authorities of Unryul County, in order to protect and promote their mask dance in their region, offered every facility for their successful inventorying. Especially, they provided sufficient time for its practices, interviews and recording, and renewed the dresses of the dancers, masks and some musical instruments needed. During the exercise, the community compensated the mask dancers and instrument players for the loss of working hours by the practices of the element and encouraged the young practitioners in the practices.

Sustainability and exit/transition strategy

Describe how the benefits of the project will continue after the project has been completed. Where appropriate, describe the steps undertaken to ensure the following:

- *Sustainability of activities, outputs and results, including with reference to how capacity has been built under the project. Also describe any planned follow-up measures to ensure sustainability.*
- *Additional funding secured as a result of this project, if any. Indicate by whom, how much and for what purpose the contributions are granted.*

Describe how the ownership (of activities, outputs, results) by stakeholders and the community(ies) in particular has been promoted.

Describe, if relevant, how tools, processes, outputs, etc. have been adopted, adapted, replicated and/or extended for future use (e.g. in other regions, communities, elements, or fields of intangible cultural heritage.).

Not fewer than 100 or more than 500 words

The implementation of the project made a great contribution to the capacity building of the staffs, experts and community members concerned with the intangible cultural heritage throughout the country.

On 24 October 2018 following the workshop, in order to promote the sustainable safeguarding of ICH, a national workshop was organized in Pyongyang to discuss new mechanisms and approaches for its safeguarding in the country including for inventorying and documentation of the elements, and to integrate them into the Guidelines for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in conformity with the 2003 Convention and its Operational Directives.

The NAPCH is planning to complete the Guidelines and distribute them to the local institutions concerned with ICH, with which similar trainings would be reproduced at local level. And also it is expecting to extend the achievements of the inventorying activities to other elements including those already included in the National or Local Inventories, if necessary, on the basis of the development of financial and technical resources.

Lessons learnt

Describe what are the key lessons learnt regarding the following:

- *Attainment of expected results*
- *Ownership of key stakeholders and community involvement*
- *Delivery of project outputs*
- *Project management and implementation*
- *Sustainability of the project after the assistance*

Not fewer than 300 or more than 750 words

The training workshop proved very helpful in that it encouraged and fostered adequate understanding of the Convention as well as the objectives of the Convention's Lists. Especially case studies of sample nominations and good practices from the Asia-Pacific Region were much noted by the participants. They facilitated the participants to understand the specific requirements of each section in the forms. Through the workshop, it was learned that studies on the successful nominations and good practices from other countries, as well as guidance by excellent facilitators are absolutely needed and essential for accurate understanding.

The pilot inventorying exercise in the selected communities were successfully done, acquiring the community-based inventorying approach and generating the outputs like the inventories of the elements. This was owing to the great interest and support by the local authorities, organizations and communities concerned. Provision of every convenience for the exercise and of new dresses and tools for practitioners etc. attested to the growing social interest in the ICH and aftereffect of the training workshop. Through that, it was also realized that close relations with the local stakeholders and intimate working among the community members was a main key for attaining good results in inventorying and documentation of the elements.

The inventorying exercise bore a testimony to the significance and necessity of the modern equipment for documentation. The qualitatively documented materials of ICH were acquired among the communities thanks to the new cameras purchased for this purpose. The purchased equipment will have an enormous impact on the future activities of documentation of inventorying of intangible heritage at both national and local levels. For the future activities of documentation but also for future nominations, the human, financial and technical resources of the Korea National Heritage Preservation Agency should be further strengthened with top priority, which is playing a pivotal role in the identification, research, documentation and promotion of the intangible cultural heritage in the country. The important role of the KNHPA was focussed and valued during all the activities of the project.

Annexes

List the annexes and documentation included in the report:

- *publications, evaluation reports and other outputs, when applicable*
- *progress reports prepared during the contract period*
- *list of major equipment provided under the project and status after termination of contract period*
- *other (please specify)*

- Certified financial Statement
- List of workshop participants
- Photos and videos for the inventorying exercise
- List of equipment purchased under the project
- Inventories of the three surveyed elements

Name and signature of the person having completed the report

Name: PAK Mu Song

Title: Vice-Director, Department of ICH, National Authority for Protection of Cultural Heritage

Date: 25 May 2019

Signature: 