



## General data of the country

### a. Data

| Country                          | DPRK                               |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Population                       | 24.052.231                         |
| Maternal mortality               | 83                                 |
| HDI                              | DPRK is not part of HDI since 1995 |
| Gender-related Development Index | N/A                                |
| Child mortality (2016)           | 22 for 100 births                  |
| Population within UNHCR mandate  | 16                                 |
| INFORM index                     | 5.1                                |
| Fragile State index              | 93.9                               |
| GINI Index                       | N/A                                |

### b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| → Mine Ban Treaty / Status:  | Not signed          |
| → Convention on Cluster Munitions / Status:                          | Not signed          |
| → UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities / Status: | Ratified 09/12/2016 |

### c. Geopolitical analysis

#### 1. Demographic<sup>1</sup> and Administrative structure

Democratic Peoples of Republic of Korea (DPRK) is located in the Korean peninsula in the East of Asia. It shares land border with Republic of Korea in the south and People Republic of China and Russia in the North. Pyongyang is the capital of DPRK. The Korean peninsula has an area of 223.370 sq. Km and out of this the DPRK cover an area of 123.138 sq.km in the north. 80% of the country is mountainous which makes the country very vulnerable to natural hazards, mainly flash flood.

As of 2014, the population of DPRK was estimated at 24.9 million (51.1% females and 48.9% males). This includes 7.6 million children of whom 1.7 million were under the age of five<sup>2</sup>.

#### 2. Socio-Cultural profile

The DPRK social structure follows a strong socialist ideology and is guided by Juche ideas<sup>3</sup> authored by President Kim IL Sung. All of the country land and resources are owned and controlled by the state.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.korea-dpr.com/location.html>

<sup>2</sup> UNICEF Country Programme Document – DPRK August 16, 2016

<sup>3</sup> The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is guided in its activities by the Juche idea authored by President Kim Il Sung. The Juche idea means, in a nutshell, that the masters of the revolution and construction are the masses of the people and that they are also the motive force of the revolution and construction.

State takes care for all its people needs; including provision of free housing, free medical care, free education as well as food through very centralized and widely spread Public Distribution System (PDS). In complement to this, people also receive small remuneration from their respective working unit to cover their other daily needs.

The society is based and strongly driven by a motto of self-resilience; hence all citizens are prone to strong country devotion. Lastly, DPRK society has almost homogeneous ethnic group, with small Chinese community and a few Japanese ethnic groups. In term of religious practice, every citizen of DPRK has been given full right and freedom of religious practice from their constitution. However, autonomous religious activities are now almost nonexistent; government sponsored religious group exist and provide illusion of religious freedom.

### 3. Socio-economic profile

DPRK has a centrally controlled economy; where the economy is fully managed by the government and the economy system is administered at provincial, county level through people's committee, bureaus and departments. The State owns industries, agricultural and natural resources (mines, ores and sea) which are the main sources of revenue. Private enterprise is illegal and almost nonexistent; as foreign investment is only allowed through joint-ventures with local institutions. Joint-ventures are becoming more common and include several areas of enterprise, including construction, communication, food and leisure. Also, after having a very flourishing economy for almost 40 years; following the Korean War<sup>4</sup>; the last 3 decades were more complicated, DPRK facing severe economic crisis and a significant down fall in almost every parameter of economic development. The crisis began with the collapse of the Soviet bloc in 1990 and had become worst after the famine of 1994; in which millions of people died due to food shortage.

Since the current leader came to power in 2011, his main priority has been to rebuild the country's economy. As a result, in recent years many initiatives have been taken and good level of progress has been made in developing heavy and light industries. In recent years the country has had to face mild to moderate natural hazards every year, causing a severe impact on agricultural production<sup>5</sup>, damage of infrastructure and loss of human lives. Infrastructure in Pyongyang have also been improved in recent years; where many high rise building and shopping mall/centers, hospitals, power plant, sports complex etc. have been newly constructed. However all these developmental are largely confined in Pyongyang; and some of the special cities in other part of the country.

In summary; despite of all these initiatives and development – which largely remain at center level – the situation and living condition of majority of people remain unchanged in the country side.

### 4. Politics

The DPRK is an independent socialist state representing the interests of all the Korean people. The Republic is a Juche-oriented socialist state which embodies the idea and leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the founder of the Republic and the father of socialist Korea. DPRK has a single party system, represented by The Supreme Power Assembly. The current Supreme Leader, Kim Jung Un came into power in 2011, following the death of his father, Kim Jong IL.

### 5. Conflict

Currently, there is no internal conflict in DPRK. The society remains very stable and united.

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<sup>4</sup> That ended in 1953



<sup>5</sup> According to FAO, DPRK, 7.42 % less production has reported in 2017 than 2016. It will have certainly negative impacts on food & nutrition security.

**Presence of HI in the country**

HI<sup>6</sup> has been operational in the DPRK since 2001 in coordination and collaboration with the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled (KFPD). Currently, HI is implementing projects in DPRK based on a 5 year operational strategy (2014-2018), which has been jointly defined through a participatory process with the local partner. The overall is to strengthen the capacities of KFPD to promote equal opportunities, protection of rights and the participation of people with disabilities and the perception that they are contributing citizens of DPRK.


**Projects**

| Project Title  | Sector of intervention                                    | (Main) ongoing donors | Funding period       |
|--|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Achieving inclusion into communities for people with disabilities through improved access to services        | Rights and Inclusion<br>Functional Rehabilitation Service | EU(DEVCO)- NSA        | 1/01/2017-30/6/2019  |
| Disability Rights & Inclusion - a Vehicle for Empowerment in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea       | Rights and Inclusion                                      | DRL                   | 1/10/2014-30/6/2018  |
| Inclusion of people with vulnerabilities into sudden and slow onset disaster risk reduction practice in DPRK | Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction                         | Sida and SDC          | 1/05/2017-30/04/2019 |
| Improving living condition of the children with visual impairment in Humhung Blind School, DPRK              | Inclusive Education                                       | Lions Club , Germany  | 1/04/2018-31/12/2019 |
| Supporting the physical Rehabilitation Center in Humhung city, South Hamgyong Province, DPR Korea            | Functional Rehabilitation Service                         | Koreaid               | 1/12/2017-30/11/2018 |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>Swedish International Development Agencies (Sida)</p>  | <p>EU</p>  |
|--|--|

<sup>6</sup> due to political reasons known in DPR Korea as European Union Programme Support Unit 7

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|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Swiss Development Cooperation</b></p>  <p>Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft<br/>Confédération suisse<br/>Confederazione Svizzera<br/>Confederaziun svizra</p> <p><b>Swiss Cooperation Office DPR of Korea</b></p> | <p><b>Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Lions Club, Germany</b></p>    | <p><b>KoreAid (no logo available)</b></p>  |




**HI team in DPRK**

Democratic People's Republic of Korea



There is 2 long term resident expatriate, 2 -3 short term expatriate, 4 national project officers (Partner staff), 3 national support staff and another team( 1 expat, 3 national) shared with HI china Programme.

Projects ongoing : Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on operational partnerships

| Sector of intervention   | Objective   | Type of intervention   | Beneficiaries  | Operational Partners                       | Location   |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
|  <p>Rehabilitation</p>                | <p>To contribute to strengthen the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled (KFPD) and their umbrella Organizations (in South Hamgyong, Kangwon, North and South Pyongan provinces) has the capacity to better promote an inclusive development approaches.</p> | <p>Access to service<br/>Capacity Building of health facilities</p>  | <p>4095 people with disabilities<br/>60 health and rehabilitation professionals</p>  | <p>KFPD and Health Facilities</p>          | <p>Humhung city of South Hamgyong and Tongrim county, Sinuiju city of North Pyongan province</p> |
|  <p>Support to CSO</p>                | <p>Reinforce KFPD's role as an advocate for people with disabilities through increased participation and consultation with people with disabilities</p>   | <p>Enhancing Institutional and operational capacity<br/>Awareness raising<br/>Advocacy<br/>Access to service</p>                                     | <p>20,000 community members<br/>116 staff and members of Disability Association and PBOs<br/>14 KFPD staffs</p>                                    | <p>KFPD</p>                                | <p>Humhung city of South Hamgyong and Tongrim county, Sinuiju city of North Pyongan province</p> |
|  <p>Inclusive DRR and education</p> | <p>Contribute to reducing the vulnerability and increase protection of at risk groups including people with disabilities in disaster prone areas through strengthening their preparedness and response capacity via increased capacities of KFPD</p>                        | <p>Community Resilience<br/>Community disaster response<br/>School resilience and disaster preparedness<br/>Experience sharing and lesson learnt</p> | <p>20,000 community including people with disabilities<br/>450 children with disabilities<br/>68 staff and members of KFPD, SCEDM, PBOs and DA</p> | <p>KFPD and SCEDM Education commission</p> | <p>South Hamgyong, North Pyongan and North Hwanghae</p>  |

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|  |  |                                      |  |  |  |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
|  |  | Empowerment and social participation |  |  |  |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|