



## Quarterly Newsletter October-December 2024

Mongolia

### Highlights

#### Empowering for change: 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence in Mongolia



Every year, the world observes the [16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence](#) (GBV) between 25 November (the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) to 10 December (Human Rights Day), highlighting violence

collective action to combat violence, empower survivors and create safe environments for women and girls, both online and offline.

Building on the Beijing+30 review, this year's campaign addressed both online and offline GBV, with particular attention to the rising concern of technology-facilitated GBV. Aligning global priorities with Mongolia's context, it reaffirmed the nation's commitment to gender equality and human rights, and to engage across sectors to combat GBV through more accountability, stronger legal frameworks, well-resourced strategies, improved data collection for evidence-based decisions and greater support for women's rights initiatives.

[Learn more...](#)

## Launch event: The 16 Days of Activism against GBV campaign



UNFPA Head, Dr Khalid Sharifi; Head of the Coordination Council for Crime Prevention in Mongolia, Ms L. Nyamgerel; and Head of the Prevention Division of Domestic Violence and Children Crime of the National Police Agency of Mongolia, Mr D. Budzaan, speak at the campaign launch, 22 November 2024. @ UNFPA, NCGE

The 16 Days of Activism against GBV campaign was launched on 22 November 2024 by the Secretariat of the National Committee on Gender Equality, on behalf of the government, in collaboration with UNFPA. The event opened with a message from His Excellency, the President, delivered by the President's Advisor, underscoring the government's unwavering commitment to gender equality and to ending GBV. The Minister of Justice and Home Affairs, Mr O. Altangerel, highlighted the legal and institutional measures that are needed to end GBV, while parliamentarian Ms A. Ariunzaya, emphasized the legislative priorities aligned with the initiative. Mr Tapan Mishra, the UN Resident Coordinator, presented a joint statement on behalf of the United Nations system, [reaffirming international support and solidarity](#). The

The event brought together representatives from government, ambassadors, members of diplomatic missions, development partners, international NGOs, the National Human Rights Commission, civil society organizations and media outlets, to reaffirm their unified commitment to the campaign's goals.



At the launch of the 16 Days of Activism campaign on 22 November 2024, panelists debate action against GBV in Mongolia. From left to right: the UN Resident Coordinator, Mr Tapan Mishra; Minister of Justice and Home Affairs, Mr O. Altangerel; Member of Parliament, Ms A. Ariunzaya; Youth and Sports Advisor to the President, Mr D. Dawaadorj; and Ambassador of the European Union, Ms Ina Marciulionyte. @ UNFPA

The Youth and Sports Advisor to the President, Mr D. Dawaadorj, delivers the President's message on GBV at the launch of the 16 Days of Activism campaign on 22 November 2024. @ UNFPA

## Crunching the numbers on GBV: In-depth data analysis for improved programmes

UNFPA, in collaboration with the National Statistics Office, organized a high-level meeting on 29 November 2024 to disseminate the results of the [In-Depth Analysis of GBV data](#) to government sectors, diplomatic missions, development partners, including the United Nations, and civil society organizations. The National Statistics Office presented a roadmap for conducting the second round of GBV prevalence surveys in 2026, calling on the government, development partners and donors to mobilize financial support.



UNFPA Head, Dr Khalid Sharifi, delivers the opening remarks at the meeting to disseminate the results of the In-Depth Analysis of GBV Data on 29 November 2024.  
@ UNFPA

Director of the Census and Data Analysis Department at the National Statistical Office, Mr Sh. Ariunbold, is interviewed by NTV journalists at the meeting to disseminate the results of the In-Depth Analysis of GBV Data on 29 November 2024. @ UNFPA

## Convening high-level policy dialogue on technology-facilitated GBV



UNFPA, in collaboration with The Asia Foundation organized [a high-level policy dialogue to address Technology-Facilitated GBV](#) on 2 December 2024. A video message from Australia's Ambassador for Gender Equality, Ms Stephanie Copus Campbell, highlighted the importance of addressing technology-facilitated GBV. A theatrical performance by members of the United Nations Youth Advisory Panel highlighted the societal impacts of this emerging forms of GBV.



From left to right: Member of Parliament, Ms A. Ariunzaya; British Ambassador to Mongolia, Ms Fiona Blyth; UNYAP member Mr T. Andir attend the high-level dialogue on technology-facilitated GBV on 2 December 2024. @UNFPA

Researcher Ms L. Ariunzul; Ambassador of Canada to Mongolia, Ms Sandra Choufani; and Commissioner of the National Human Rights Commission, Ms Kh. Munkhzul attend the high-level dialogue on technology-facilitated GBV on 2 December 2024. @ UNFPA

Researcher Ms L. Ariunzul presented the key findings of an assessment of technology-facilitated GBV assessment in Mongolia with support from The Asia Foundation. This set the stage for high-level discussions, with contributions from Member of Parliament, Ms A. Ariunzaya; the British Ambassador to Mongolia, Ms Fiona Blyth; the Ambassador of Canada to Mongolia, Ms Sandra Choufani; and Commissioner of the National Human Rights Commission, Ms Kh. Munkhzul. Attendees underscored the importance of legislative reform, capacity building, evidence-based policies, the role of media and multi-sectoral cooperation. Mr T. Andir, a member of the UN Youth Advisory Panel, emphasized the importance of youth engagement, particularly the role of boys as allies, in combating technology-facilitated GBV. The dialogue concluded with the [Mongolia Call to Action](#), a collaborative effort by UNFPA, The Asia Foundation and development partners.

## curricula



From left to right: WHO Representative, Dr Socorro Escalante; President of MNUMS, Mr B. Damdindorj; Director of Health Policy and Planning at the Ministry of Health, Ms P. Oyuntsetseg; Director of the Higher Education Department at the Ministry of Education, Mr J. Ariunbold; and Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi, attend a panel discussion at a dialogue on enhancing training for effective GBV response on 3 December 2024. @ MNUMS

Medical students attend the dialogue on enhancing training for effective GBV response on 3 December 2024. @ UNFPA

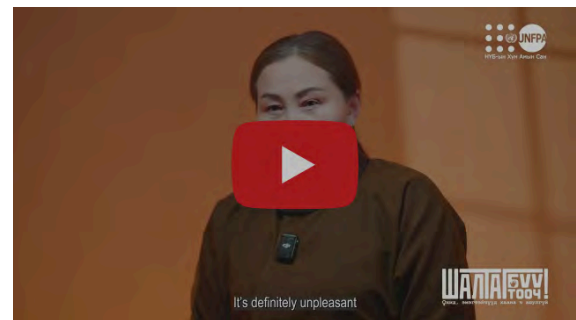
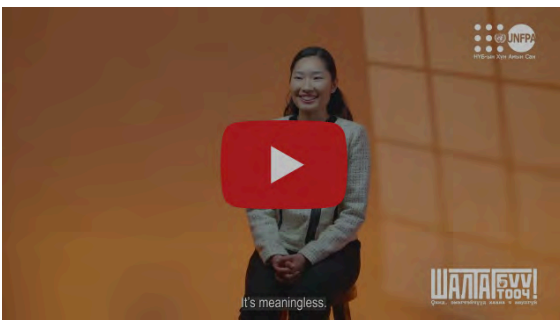
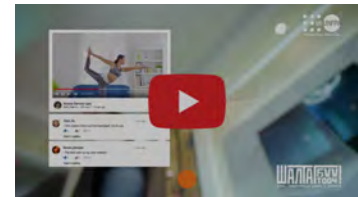
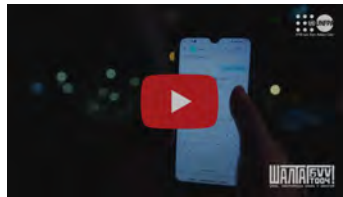
UNFPA, in collaboration with the Mongolian National University of Medical Science, organized a [high-level dialogue](#) attended by key representatives from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and WHO on 3 December 2024. The discussions focused on the importance of integrating GBV education into the pre-service curricula of medical and non-medical universities, including nursing and midwifery education, post graduate specialization programmes for medical professionals, and other faculties whose graduates are likely to manage GBV cases or raise awareness, such as law, education, journalism, ICT, business administration and sociology. MNUMS representatives shared their experience of integrating GBV topics into curricula, aligned with WHO guidelines, with support from UNFPA in 2024.

The Ministry of Health expressed its readiness to include GBV topics in continuous medical education, and UNFPA express its readiness to collaborate with the ministries of health and education to integrate GBV education into pre-service and in-service training curricula. Over 350 professionals from diverse fields [attended the event](#) in person and more than 4,600 [participated virtually](#) from around the country.

## Fostering Social Awareness

### Public service announcements for GBV awareness

UNFPA Mongolia successfully concluded a campaign to raise awareness and drive action on GBV through a series of five powerful public service announcements, each highlighting a critical GBV challenge in Mongolia. With over 50,500 views across UNFPA Mongolia's social media accounts, websites and TenGer TV, the announcements reached a broad national audience, reflecting significant engagement and interest in the conversation about GBV. This campaign was a major milestone in UNFPA Mongolia's efforts to educate the public, spark dialogue and advocate for a future free from GBV.



### Media engagement

The 16 Days of Activism campaign gained nation-wide coverage, with news and information shared by 40 websites, nine TV channels and four newspapers.



NTV Live News coverage of the 16 Days of Activism campaign, highlighting key messages and events on 29 November 2024. @UNFPA



UN Resident Coordinator, Mr Tapan Mishra, is interviewed on TenGer TV about the 16 Days of Activism campaign on 25 November 2024. @UNFPA

## Partnerships in Progress: Advancing UNFPA Commitments

### Effective disaster response: UNFPA and Mongolia's Deputy Prime Minister discuss collaboration



Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia, Mr S. Amarsaikhan, UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional Director, Mr Pio Smith and officials meet to discuss disaster response on 16 October 2024. @MPA

[A high-level discussion](#) on establishing a humanitarian sub-cluster focused on social protection during disasters, GBV and the protection of girls and women advanced efforts to ensure their particular needs are reflected in disaster preparedness and response. Mongolia' Deputy Prime Minister, Mr S. Amarsaikhan, and UNFPA's Asia-Pacific Regional Director, Mr Pio Smith held an official meeting on 16 October 2024,



on urgent measures to be taken during disasters, and to strengthen social security systems in times of crisis. This collaboration marks an important step towards enhancing disaster preparedness and response in the region, with a focus on vulnerable populations and effective social protection mechanisms.

## UNFPA and State Great Khural strengthen collaboration for key initiatives

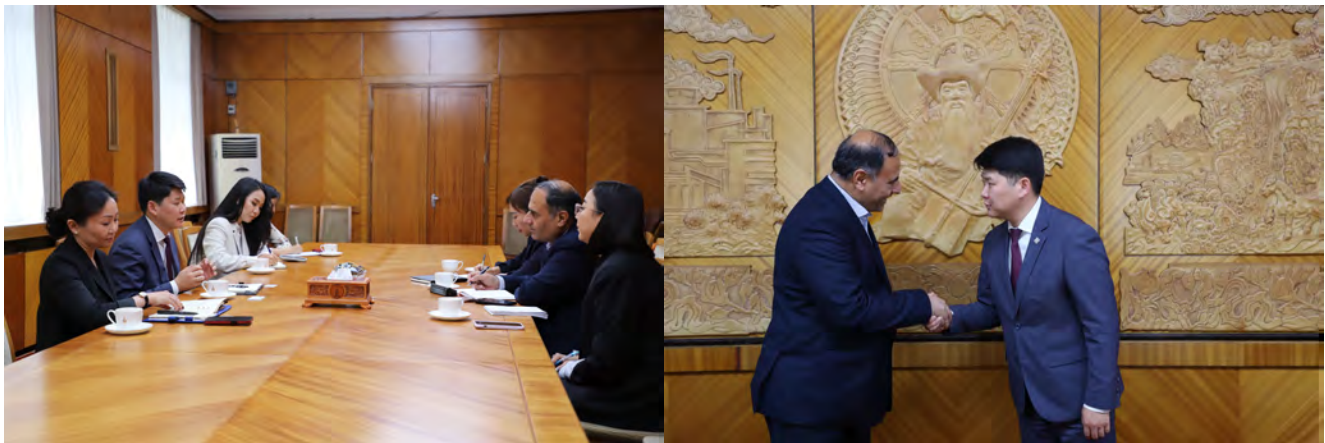


Secretary General of the State Great Khural, Mr B. Baasandorj, and UNFPA Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi, meet on 1 November 2024. @ UNFPA

A landmark meeting between Secretary General of the State Great Khural, Mr B. Baasandorj and Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi, on 1 November 2024 explored potential collaborations on key projects aligned with the [Strategic Plan of the State Great Khural of Mongolia](#) (2024–2028). The discussion focused on how to support the Strategic Plan and reaffirmed UNFPA’s commitment to working closely with the newly formed parliamentary working groups to address critical issues impacting the Mongolian population, particularly women and girls. Dr Sharifi emphasized UNFPA’s mission to advance gender equality, improve reproductive health and address challenges through evidence-based solutions. He highlighted the

violence, protect vulnerable individuals and establish a comprehensive and inclusive legal framework that would ensure the safety and well-being of all citizens. The [meeting](#) was a crucial step in deepening UNFPA's engagement with Mongolia's government, laying the groundwork for transformative policies and programmes that advance gender equality and empower marginalized communities.

## Advancing youth development: UNFPA in conversation with MP Mr M. Gankhuleg



Member of Parliament Mr M. Gankhuleg and Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi meet to discuss youth development on 28 October 2024. @ UNFPA

[Mongolia's Youth Development Law](#) was approved in 2017 and is now being updated as a crucial step towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and ensuring that young people are equipped with the resources and opportunities needed to succeed. The Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi, met Member of Parliament Mr M. Gankhuleg, who leads the amendment committee and represents youth issues, to explore evidence-based changes aimed at further empowering young people across the country. [During the meeting](#), Dr Sharifi emphasized UNFPA's ongoing technical support, including the Youth Situation Analysis, which has provided a strong foundation for the updates to the law. Dr Sharifi and Mr Gankhuleg discussed how opportunities could be expanded for Mongolia's youth in health, education, employment and active participation.

## Partnering for youth: UNFPA and the Ministry of Culture, Sports, Tourism and Youth advance opportunities for young people



Minister of Culture, Sports, Tourism, and Youth, Ms Ch. Nomin, and Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi, meet to discuss youth development on 20 November 2024. @UNFPA

The Head of UNFPA, Dr Khalid Sharifi and the Minister of Culture, Sports, Tourism and Youth, Ms Ch. Nomin, [discussed strategic initiatives](#) to advance youth development in Mongolia, marking a shared commitment to enhancing opportunities and well-being for young people through collaborative and evidence-based approaches.

Glimpses from the meeting:

- The attendees discussed how to enhance the **youth development system** in Mongolia by addressing the needs of young people through policy support and evidence-driven strategies.
- UNFPA presented findings from a comprehensive **Situational Analysis of Youth**, which explores critical issues such as education, employment, health, and overall well-being. Plans were made to co-organize a stakeholder dissemination meeting to drive data-informed action based on the analysis.
- UNFPA and the ministry agreed to develop a comprehensive **Youth Development Strategy** to guide Mongolia's long-term efforts to empower youth and ensure access to the tools and opportunities they need to succeed.

Dr Sharifi reaffirmed UNFPA's commitment to empowering Mongolia's youth, promoting gender equality, and advancing the SDGs in alignment with [Mongolia's](#)

## Data for inclusive development: UNFPA in conversation with MP Mr J. Bayasgalan on the International Day of People with Disabilities



Member of Parliament, Mr J. Bayasgalan, and Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi, meet to discuss inclusive development on 3 December 2024. @ UNFPA

On the occasion of the International Day of People with Disabilities, Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi, and Member of Parliament, Mr J. Bayasgalan, [met to discuss](#) potential areas for collaboration in advancing the rights and inclusion of people with disabilities in Mongolia. The attendees agreed on the importance of data-driven decision-making for effective policies, and specifically addressed the [Social Indicator Sample Survey](#), a joint initiative of UNFPA, UNICEF and the National Statistics Office. Dr Sharifi and Mr Bayasgalan recognized the critical role of such surveys in driving informed policy decisions and agreed on the importance of continuing their collaboration to ensure inclusive development for all. Mr Bayasgalan expressed his strong support for the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV campaign, and emphasized the importance of collective action to end GBV and support survivors.

## Annual Review Meeting



UN Resident Coordinator, Mr Tapan Mishra, UNFPA staff and representatives of implementing partners meet to assess progress against UNFPA's country programme for Mongolia on 5 December 2024. @ UNFPA

UNFPA's annual review and planning meeting brought together staff and key implementing partners to assess progress under its Mongolia Seventh Country Programme. At this annual gathering, partners had the opportunity to showcase achievements, exchange insights and address implementation challenges encountered throughout the year. Through constructive dialogue, participants identified practical solutions to ensure continued success and maximize impact. [The meeting](#) also featured presentations of work plans for 2025, highlighting opportunities for future collaboration and reinforcing collective efforts to create a future for Mongolia where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

### Integrating GBV training into Mongolia's medical curriculum



Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Analyst, Dr B. Tsedmaa, attend the launch of the GBV training session on 17 October 2024. @ UNFPA

GBV consultant, Ms Megin Reijnders, and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Analyst, Dr B. Shinetugs, attend the launch of the GBV training session on 17 October 2024. @ UNFPA

Medical professionals attend the launch of the GBV training session on 17 October 2024. @ UNFPA

In October 2024, UNFPA Mongolia integrated six academic hours of GBV content into the pre-service medical curriculum at the Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences (MNUMS). This milestone, achieved through collaboration with GBV consultant for the UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional Office, Ms Megin Reijnders, involved extensive engagement with MNUMS leadership and faculty, a comprehensive gap analysis and faculty training aligned with the latest WHO curriculum. This training ensures that future health-care professionals are equipped with the knowledge to identify, treat and support GBV survivors, and marks significant progress toward a more inclusive health-care system which prioritizes the needs and rights of women and girls subjected to GBV. UNFPA and MNUMS will build on this collaboration in 2025, with refresher training for faculty and further strengthen GBV-responsive health services in Mongolia.

[Learn more...](#)

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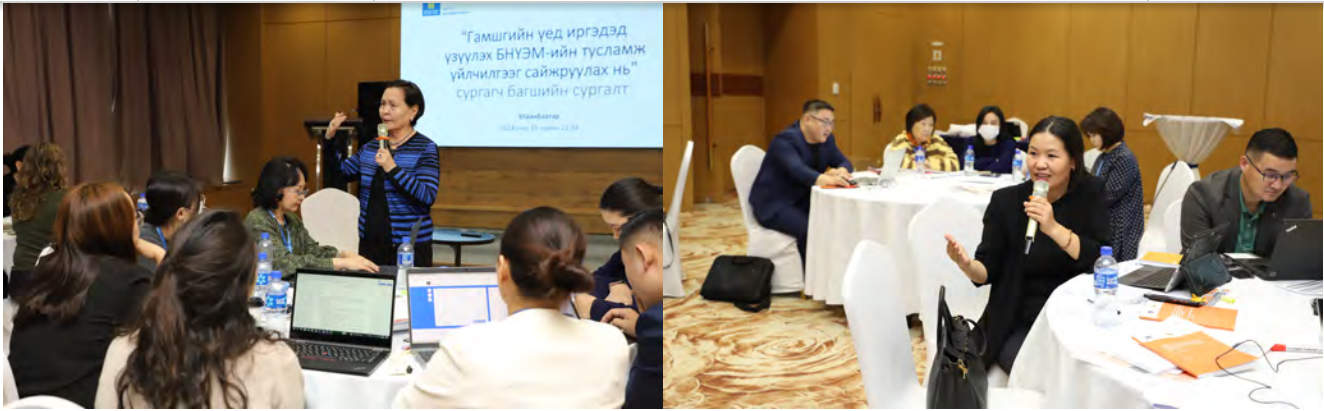
## Humanitarian Response

### **Building capacity for crisis response: Mongolia's Minimum Initial Service Package**



UNFPA Assistant Representative, Dr L. Oyunaa; Regional Humanitarian Advisor, Ms Tomoko Kurokawa; Sexual and Reproductive Health in Emergencies Consultant, Ms Heather Lorenzen with participants in the MISP training of trainers on 22 October 2024. @ UNFPA

To ensure access to essential sexual and reproductive health services during emergencies, the Ministry of Health and UNFPA provided a national [Training of Trainers on the Minimum Initial Service Package \(MISP\)](#) for Sexual and Reproductive Health in Emergencies between 22 and 24 October 2024, in Ulaanbaatar. Thirty trainers from the Ministry of Health, National Emergency Management Agency, the Red Cross, health-care providers from referral and maternity hospitals, district centres and civil society organizations participated in the training. The goal was to strengthen Mongolia's capacity to deliver lifesaving sexual and reproductive services during crises by addressing gaps identified in a recent MISP Readiness Assessment. Participants gained essential knowledge and skills from expert facilitators, including Regional Humanitarian Advisor, Ms Tomoko Kurokawa and Sexual and Reproductive Health in Emergencies Consultant at the UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional Office, Ms Heather Lorenzen. The trained trainers will organize cascade trainings to disseminate their learnings in 2025.



Trainers build skills on MISP, facilitated by UNFPA experts, on 23 October 2024. @ UNFPA

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## Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

### **Empowering communities: Engaging for awareness on gender equality**

UNFPA collaborated with the National Committee on Gender Equality and the Department of Child and Family Development and Protection to spearhead an awareness-raising campaign about the 16 Days of Activism against GBV. This involved an online orientation session for provincial and district-level gender sub-committees, department branches, One-Stop Service Centres (OSSCs) and shelters, with 106 participants who were encouraged to organize local activities and play an active role in the campaign. Eleven provinces and three districts responded, conducting awareness-raising activities, information sessions, trainings and facilitated discussions, with community outreach, public events and film screenings to engage a broad audience. Participants included representatives from schools, kindergartens and colleges, as well as government divisions responsible for education, health, emergency management and law enforcement. Thanks to this collaborative effort, information dissemination and dialogue on critical issues related to GBV demonstrated a strong commitment to community engagement and social change at provincial and district levels.

[Learn more...](#)





Local government specialists, experts and staff of OSSC and shelters participate in an online orientation on the 16 Days of Activism campaign on 19 November 2024. @ UNFPA

## Building inclusive futures: Training professionals to protect LGBTQ+ individuals and people with disabilities



Participants during the training. 17 October 2024. @ CCCP

With UNFPA support, the Coordination Council for Crime Prevention organized a two-phase [training of trainers](#) to enhance the knowledge and understanding of law enforcement agencies, OSSCs and temporary shelter employees regarding the rights and protections of persons with disabilities and LGBTQ+ individuals. One hundred professionals from the National Police Agency, the Immigration Agency and OSSCs were equipped with the skills to effectively address the unique needs and challenges faced by persons with disabilities and LGBTQ+ individuals. By building the capacities of these key stakeholders, UNFPA upholds its commitment to promoting inclusivity, equality and the human rights of all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity or disability status.

## How do you understand gender equality? Online resources for public awareness

equality test for the general public and a training module for managers, to build public understanding under the EU-funded “Strengthening National Gender Equality Expertise in Mongolia” project. About 366 members of the public participated in the test, including 116 from Ulaanbaatar and 250 from the provinces, while the managers’ module built skills and knowledge, reaching 158 individuals: 88 from Ulaanbaatar and 70 from the provinces. These online resources provide valuable tools for raising awareness about gender equality issues and enhancing the knowledge and skills of the general public and organizational decision makers.



Participants attend the launch of gender equality online resources on 13 November 2024. @ UNFPA

## Advancing gender equality through training

UNFPA, in collaboration with the National Committee on Gender Equality and funded by the EU Delegation to Mongolia, organized [training sessions](#) to enhance the knowledge and expertise of local gender experts. These sessions strengthened the capacity of professionals working on gender equality issues in Mongolia.



Trainees attend a session on gender equality on 28 November 2024. @ NCGE

## In the field: Meet Chuluundolgor, a champion of the rights of women with disabilities



Chuluundolgor, the Head of the Mongolian National Association of Wheelchair Users, is a tireless advocate for the rights of women with disabilities. For over a decade, she has navigated the complex intersection of gender and disability, a connection often overlooked in policy and societal discourse.

*“Society tends to view disability as a singular issue,” Chuluundolgor explains. “But within that, there are distinct needs, especially for women. These groups need specialized policies that reflect their unique realities.”*

[Read Chuluundolgor’s story](#)

## Tracking domestic violence: Better data analysis by law enforcement



Pictures taken during the training. 12 November 2024. @UNFPA

With UNFPA support, officers from the National Police Agency underwent [specialized training on domestic violence data analysis](#), reporting and dissemination. Since April 2018, UNFPA has supported the establishment of the eGBV database at the National Police Agency empowering staff to track and record domestic violence cases nationwide. With the training held on 12 November, law enforcement officials are playing a crucial role in improving data collection and response mechanisms for domestic violence across the country.

## facilitated GBV

On 2 December 2024, young people [took to the stage](#) to present a powerful theatrical performance highlighting the dangers of technology-facilitated GBV. To raise awareness of this critical and growing issue, UN Youth Advisory Panel (UNYAP) members presented a drama titled *Breaking the Silence* at UN House and showcased it again at the Government House on Human Rights Day, 8 December 2024. This performance is the result of a collaborative initiative sparked by Mr T. Andir, a member of UNYAP, following his visit to UNFPA Asia-Pacific in Bangkok, which explored the potential of using theatre to address pressing social issues.



UNYAP members perform “Breaking the Silence” at Government House on 8 December 2024. @Parliamentmn

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## Youth and Adolescent Development

### Advancing youth development in Mongolia: UNFPA and the Ministry of Culture, Sports, Tourism, and Youth Meet Again

Following initial discussions on youth development, Dr Khalid Sharifi, Head of UNFPA Mongolia, [met once again](#) with Ms Ch. Nomin, Minister of Culture, Sports, Tourism, and Youth, on November 28 to exchange further insights on key issues affecting youth in Mongolia. During the meeting, Dr Sharifi presented UNFPA’s continued approach to supporting youth development, emphasizing the importance of addressing critical challenges such as access to quality education, healthcare

are empowered to contribute to the country's growth and development. Both Dr Sharifi and Ms Nomin reiterated their shared commitment to pursuing strategic collaboration to address these challenges and further advance youth development in Mongolia. The discussions focused on exploring practical solutions and leveraging evidence-based strategies to create an inclusive environment that supports the well-being and aspirations of the country's youth. These ongoing discussions demonstrate a deepening partnership between UNFPA and the Ministry, with a clear commitment to driving impactful policies and initiatives that prioritize youth empowerment.



Minister of Culture, Sports, Tourism and Youth, Ms Ch. Nomin and Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi. 28 November 2024. @UNFPA

## **Supporting youth mental health: National consultative meeting on meeting the mental health needs of young Mongolians**



Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi, delivering opening speech at the Government Palace. 17 December 2024. @UNFPA

As part of the Healthy Mongolian national campaign launched by the President of Mongolia, UNFPA co-hosted a national consultative meeting on [Issues in Social Psychology in Mongolia](#).

*“Mongolia’s youth, comprising 34.9 per cent of the population, are pivotal to the country’s progress,”* said Head of UNFPA Mongolia, Dr Khalid Sharifi, in his opening remarks. *“Addressing their mental health is not only a moral duty but also a strategic investment in the nation’s future.”*

UNFPA Assistant Representative, Dr L. Oyunaa, presented the *Situation Analysis of Youth in Mongolia* prepared with UNFPA support, which provides valuable insights into the challenges and needs of the country’s young people and will ensure policies and programmes to address their concerns are rooted in evidence.

## **Nurturing international youth leadership: Decision-makers and youth engage in South-South cooperation in Shanghai**

Between 12 and 16 December 2024, a delegation of young people and decision-makers visited Shanghai on a South-South cooperation knowledge exchange visit led by UNFPA Mongolia, in partnership with UNFPA China. The mission included representatives from the Ministry of Culture, Sports, Tourism and Youth, Y-Peer, UNYAP, and aimed to enhance youth development and foster collaboration between

Conference on Population and Development and the drive to achieve the SDGs by highlighting the role of youth in tackling global challenges through innovation and partnerships.



UNYAP members participate in South-South knowledge exchange in Shanghai in December 2024. @ UNFPA

The mission featured workshops, panel discussions and sessions in which Mongolian participants shared best practices, youth programmes and advocacy strategies. Discussions focused on Mongolia's Youth Development Strategy 2025–2028, and UNYAP members stressed the importance of youth engagement at the policy level. The delegation also visited the Hangzhou Youth Network and Shanghai Family Planning Association where they participated in discussions on family planning and adolescent sexual and reproductive health. Insights from the mission will inform future initiatives centred on youth-led development.

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## Sexual and Reproductive Health

**Protecting against HPV: UNFPA joins the nationwide vaccination rollout**





Medical staff are trained on supporting the HPV rollout in Mongolia, at the Ministry of Health on 12 November 2024. @UNFPA

Through a joint initiative with UNICEF, UNFPA is supporting the successful rollout of the national HPV immunization programme in Mongolia, which protects adolescent girls and boys against the potentially deadly complications of HPV. In November 2024, UNFPA equipped 460 health-care providers through [in-person and virtual training sessions](#) with the skills and knowledge to confidently address frequently asked questions, promote vaccine acceptance and ensure equitable access to the vaccination. The programme will continue in 2025 with regional training-of-trainer workshops that will also cover cervical cancer screening and interpersonal counselling skills to enhance the quality of care.

## **UNFPA Implements Collaboration on Joint Paediatric Cardiac Surgery to Advance Local Expertise and Access to Care**



Local surgeons are trained to conduct a successful paediatric cardiac procedure in November 2024. @ NCMCH

With support from UNFPA and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the National Institute for Cardiac Surgery and Interventional Cardiology conducted [on-the-job training](#) on lifesaving paediatric cardiac surgery for staff at the National Centre for Maternal and Child Health between 28 October and 1 November 2024. During the joint mission, 26 children were examined, and cardiac surgeries were performed on 10 young patients, enabling local medical experts to perform life-saving surgeries independently and reduce the financial burden on families by eliminating the need to seek treatment abroad for these complex procedures.

The postoperative conditions of the children are stable, marking a successful outcome for both the patients and the local medical team.

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## Understanding youth health: Unveiling research on health behaviors of young Mongolians

On 23 October 2024, UNFPA and UNICEF Mongolia [unveiled the results of a comprehensive research study](#) on the health behaviors of young Mongolians aged 15–24 years. The study provides the first-ever detailed understanding of key health issues among adolescent girls and boys and young women and men, including their knowledge and behaviors around sexual and reproductive health, substance use, lifestyle choices, mental health, bullying and GBV. The study identified trends, and shed new light on the social, cultural, economic and environmental factors influencing youth decisions. These findings will guide the development of targeted policies, interventions, and communication strategies to improve the well-being of Mongolian youth.

Transforming insights into action: the research found the need to:

- Expand access to youth-friendly health, mental health, and counselling services
- Provide comprehensive education, integrating sexuality education and anti-bullying measures
- Engage communities, with youth-led campaigns to tackle stigma and promote positive behavior

UNFPA and UNICEF are now collaborating with stakeholders to implement evidence-based solutions, ensuring that youth voices are central to all efforts. This research is part of broader initiatives aimed at addressing the diverse challenges faced by Mongolia's youth.



# Media Engagement

## Promoting responsible reporting on GBV

UNFPA, in collaboration with the Coordination Council for Crime Prevention in Mongolia and Globe International, organized a [training session for journalists on sensitive reporting of GBV issues](#). This initiative equipped media professionals with the skills and knowledge to report on GBV cases ethically and responsibly, minimizing harm to survivors and promoting public awareness.



Journalists attend a training session on responsible reporting on GBV on 30 November 2024. @ CCCP

The participants included 30 journalists from various media outlets and organizations, and 11 media and communications personnel from law enforcement agencies, fostering collaboration and a shared understanding of the subject matter.

## Building media momentum on the 16 Days of Activism



Journalists attending the breakfast meeting. 21 November 2024. @ UNFPA

UNFPA organized a [breakfast meeting](#) with 30 journalists to provide crucial information on the 16 Days of Activism against GBV, with speakers including the Coordinator of the National Centre Against Violence, Ms Z. Undrakh, who presented valuable insights into GBV in Mongolia and highlighted critical challenges in combating this issue. Through the meeting, UNFPA engaged the media in efforts to raise awareness and foster meaningful discussions around GBV prevention and response.

## UNFPA in the media



[Interview](#) about the impact gender equality education has on the

November 2024. @ UNFPA

Statistics Office, the [National Study on Gender-Based Violence in Mongolia](#) on 29 November 2024. @ UNFPA



UNFPA Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Analyst, Ms B. Tsedmaa is [interviewed](#) about incorporating GBV education into the pre-service curricula of medical universities on 3 December 2024. @ UNFPA



[TV8 News reports](#) on specialized training on domestic violence data analysis provided to officers from the National Police Agency on 12 November 2024. @ UNFPA

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