



ANNUAL REPORT

2023

UNFPA MONGOLIA COUNTRY OFFICE



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MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF OFFICE

Dear partners, colleagues and supporters,

As you read our 2023 Annual report, we will be welcoming the Year of the Dragon with open hearts and wish for the Year to be kind and gentle to newborn and their families, to be strong and powerful in fighting violence against women and girl, and to be joyful and adventurous in supporting youth development.

We Thank you for your collaboration throughout the year 2023, as we jointly commenced the implementation of the 7th Country Programme 2023-2027 with aim to provide much needed development in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, gender equality, and youth.

In this endeavor, UNFPA collaborates not only with the Government of Mongolia, but also with its citizens, with civil society organizations, with private entities, and with UN sister agencies, along with international community and donors. Together, we equipped 22 hospitals in remote areas of Mongolia with modern teleconferencing technology, fostering e-learning and teleconsultation opportunities. Already, 234 health service providers, have benefited and received comprehensive training in various aspects of sexual and reproductive health, feeling empowered with new knowledge and skills.

In the fight against gender-based violence (GBV), we are making substantial headway and involving more and more fighters on our side. Nearly 4,000 men and boys took advantage of the opportunity to gain greater awareness and understanding of GBV. We take pride in our facilitation of public-private partnerships which led to establishing ten new Digital hubs at Youth Development Centers in ten provinces. These hubs serve as vital resources, empowering young people with digital skills and knowledge.

In 2024, the world will be celebrating 30th Anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and Mongolia was one of 179 countries to reaffirm “Women have the right to make their own decisions about whether, when or how often to become pregnant” at the Conference in 1994. Since then, the Government of Mongolia has demonstrated a significant commitment to enabling the rights and choices of all women and girls. Yet, there are many work to be done, many results to achieve, including ending preventable maternal death, ending unmet needs for family planning and ending violence against women and girls in any forms. We cannot achieve these three transformative results without your support and partnership. Thank YOU for your collaboration and continued joint work!

Dr. Khalid Sharifi

Head of Office UNFPA Mongolia

Snapshot of results in 2023



Country's adaptation of the Global Initiative on Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance Review commenced in Mongolia.



22 remote hospitals were provided with teleconferencing equipment for e-learning and teleconsultation.



Nationwide, 234 health service providers were trained in various areas of sexual and reproductive health.



A social indicator sample study incorporated sexual and reproductive health and disability disaggregated questions.



Nearly 4,000 men and boys were equipped with in-depth understanding and awareness of gender-based violence (GBV).



Capacity-building trainings were attended by over 2,500 service providers to enhance multi-sectoral response to GBV.



Support was provided in conducting in-depth analysis of risk and protective factors for GBV in the 2017 GBV prevalence study in Mongolia.



A Men's Psycho-Social Counseling Center was established and served over 200 individuals with psychological counseling sessions.



60 new AMAZE videos on comprehensive sexuality education were produced and broadcast on www.medle.mn to reach youth and adolescents with accurate information.



Nationwide, 31 Master trainers coached 231 teachers, empowering them to strengthen their delivery of comprehensive sexuality education.



Facilitation of public-private partnerships led to the establishment of ten new digital hubs at youth development centers in ten provinces.



SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Making motherhood safer is a human rights imperative, and it is at the core of UNFPA's mandate. UNFPA works with the Government, health experts and civil society to strengthen health systems, train and educate health workers and midwives, and improve access to a full range of quality reproductive health services while ensuring rights and choices for all.



SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023:

- Country's adaptation of the Global Initiative on Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance Review (MPDSR) commenced in Mongolia to improve national and sub-national responses and capacities on maternal and child health. Within this initiative, three pilot committees were established, and the members were trained on MPDSR guidelines at district, provincial and national levels.
- Seven independent reviews were conducted on maternal and perinatal mortality cases in 2023 using Root Cause Analysis, and, as a result, SMART responses were developed for further prevention of death and the introduction of a blame-free culture for quality improvement.
- A health sector readiness assessment to GBV response was conducted, creating evidence for national action plans on health sector response to GBV.
- Data needed for the calculation of family planning investment was successfully included in the National Social Indicators Sample Survey questionnaire.
- Through advocacy initiatives with the National School of Nursing and Midwifery and JICA, best practices on midwifery were introduced, which resulted in the approval of core competencies of midwives by the Ministry of Health.



SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023:

- Seven life saving surgeries for children between the ages of 4 months and 14 years were performed at the National Center for Maternal and Child Health (NCMCH) as part of the joint project with the Government of Luxembourg.
- 22 remote hospitals in Ulaanbaatar and in ten provinces received a full package of teleconferencing equipment for e-learning and teleconsultation.
- NCMCH was equipped with an e-logistics management information system for contraceptives to support the MoH in making evidence-based decisions. In addition, MoH approved the updated Standard Operating Procedures for contraceptive logistics management.
- The HPV vaccine has successfully been incorporated in the amended National Immunization Law as a routine vaccine due to joint advocacy of UN agencies and other health communities in the country.
- Through well-tailored trainings, a total of 234 service providers improved their knowledge and capacity on MPDSR implementation, emergency obstetric care for midwifery, family planning software utilization, and in the clinical management of rape and intimate partner violence.



GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL NORMS



Gender equality is a precondition for advancing development and reducing poverty. For decades UNFPA has advocated for women and girls, promoting legal and policy reforms and gender-responsive data collection, as well as supporting initiatives that improve the health of women and girls and expand their choices in life.

GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL NORMS

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023:

- Nearly 4,000 men and boys with diverse backgrounds were equipped with knowledge on GBV prevention and response.
- Targeted capacity-building training involved over 2,500 service providers from national and local levels and NGOs to enhance multi-sectoral response to GBV in the country.
- A Men's Psycho-Social Counseling and Information Center was established in the Chingeltei district of Ulaanbaatar. The center offers services such as individual psychological counseling and couples counseling sessions. Since its launch in May 2023, the center has served over 200 individuals and 22 couples, utilizing a developed methodology for psychosocial counseling.
- Support was provided in the development of a government report on the implementation of the Law to Promote Gender Equality. Parliament discussed the results, and mandatory action plans to accelerate the implementation of the law were shared with all Ministries.
- The “Equal Respect” media campaign was implemented from March 1 to April 1 with the goal of raising awareness of gender equality, eliminating harmful social norms and promoting positive masculinity. Campaign contents reached 1.4 million people via traditional and non-traditional media channels.



GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL NORMS

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023:

- With UNFPA support, the evaluation of the Law to Combat Domestic Violence implementation was conducted. Findings and recommendations were collaboratively refined with stakeholders and presented at the annual National Forum on Strengthening Multi-sectoral Response to GBV.
- Support was provided in conducting an in-depth analysis of risk and protective factors for GBV in the 2017 GBV prevalence study in Mongolia. The findings were presented to key stakeholders for validation and development of policy actions. A high-level meeting was organized for decision makers where their endorsement of the policy actions were sought, including the development of the National Action Plan to prevent GBV.
- The quality of services at One Stop Service Centers/Shelters strengthened, as documented in the client satisfaction survey. The percentage of clients receiving desired services increased from 52.7% in 2019 to 95% in 2023.
- A total of 4,037 people received services at One Stop Service Centers/Shelters in 2023, including 729 adults and 3,037 children.





16-DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

UNFPA organized and commemorated the annual 16-Days of Activism Against GBV jointly with the Government of Mongolia, UN agencies, development partners and civil society organizations under the global theme of “Invest to prevent violence against women and girls” with the name “RESPECT the brightest light.”

This year, the campaign called for actions to invest in the [RESPECT women framework](#), which is an evidence-based strategy to strengthen and scale up efforts to prevent violence against women. The main target audience of this year’s campaign was young people, especially the university students and future change agents of the country.

Mobilization of stakeholders at all levels:

In coordination with the National Committee on Gender Equality, the Campaign has successfully mobilized Parliament, all provinces, districts, line ministries, agencies, CSOs, and media to join the movement and advocate for better investment in responding to and preventing GBV. As a result, nearly 300 organizations nationwide demonstrated their commitment to end GBV by joining.

The Campaign visual contents and messages reached out to 8.3 million people through in-person events, discussions, social and traditional media.



ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Today's adolescents and youth are 1.8 billion strong and form a quarter of the world's population. They are shaping social and economic development, challenging social norms and values, and building the foundation of the world's future. UNFPA partners with young people, helping them participate in decisions affecting them, and strengthening their ability to advance human rights and development issues such as health, education and employment.





ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023:

- The Violence-Free School Policy was approved with UNFPA's technical support, enhancing inclusive education and capacity development, while ensuring effective policy implementation.
- 60 new AMAZE videos on comprehensive sexuality education were produced and placed on www.medle.mn, significantly enhancing digital access to youth and adolescents with a tailored teacher's guide for the Mongolian context.
- Nationwide, 231 teachers sharpened their skills in delivering quality comprehensive sexuality education by training alongside 31 Master trainers. Digital modules reached over 600 educators, providing the opportunity to enhance the quality of curriculum and delivery.
- Tailored guidelines and detailed methodological guidance were developed to support the integration of inclusive teaching methods into training programs, ensuring comprehensive sexuality education adaptability for all secondary school students, particularly those with special needs.
- Life skills e-modules for teachers were developed at lifelong learning centers, enriching educational resources.
- Under the overall goal of merging health and educational strategies, joint assessment was conducted with UNICEF to develop the School Health Program, aligning with government objectives.

ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023:

- Facilitation of public-private partnerships led to establishing ten new Digital hubs at the Youth Development Centers in ten provinces.
- The National Youth Development Forum was organized and attended by 680 in-person participants and 4,500 online, fostering policy dialogue and emphasizing partnerships across various sectors to advance the "Vision-2050" long-term development policy.
- A radio program was implemented to provide comprehensive sexuality education to youth in remote areas, especially in Bayan-Ulgii province.
- To increase the access of adolescents and youth to comprehensive sexuality education, life skills education halls in three Souns in Uvurkhangai province were established.



SOUTH - SOUTH COOPERATION



A Mauritanian Government delegation visited Mongolia to learn from its successful experiences in utilizing telemedicine to address maternal and newborn complications. It is the first step in strengthening continuous collaboration in ongoing efforts to reduce maternal and newborn mortalities and morbidities in both Mauritania and Mongolia as part of the South-South Collaboration.



UNFPA successfully led a cross-border youth development initiative between China and Mongolia, underscoring the importance of South-South Collaboration. This strategic program involved active participation in the "Climate Change and Youth" International Forum, engaging youth networks in critical discussions about climate change impacts and solutions. This endeavor not only aimed to empower youth through skill and knowledge enhancement, but also facilitated meaningful dialogues between Chinese and Mongolian youth.



A Lao PDR delegation visited Mongolia to learn from its successful GBV prevention and response strategies, especially victim protection mechanisms. Supported by UNFPA, Mongolia has established a strong model for ensuring safety and justice for survivors.



● HUMANITARIAN ACTION

1760 dignity kits were distributed to women and girls who were affected by harsh winter and floods in Mongolia.

Participation in the CADRI partnership resulted in assessment of Mongolia's capacity for disaster preparedness and risk reduction in 5 sectors, focusing on integrating gender equality and leave-no-one-behind principles.

In cooperation with the National Emergency Management Agency, the MISP readiness assessment was implemented to ensure the continuity of essential sexual and reproductive health during emergencies.

WE THANK OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS FOR THEIR CONTINUES SUPPORT TO MAKE A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.





Delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

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