

# UNFPA MONGOLIA



## COVID-19 Situation report #12

### SITUATION OVERVIEW



April has been one of the most difficult months for Mongolia with the number of COVID-19 positive cases increasing four-fold from the end of March. Ulaanbaatar city continues to be the epicentre of infections in the country; the number of positive cases has risen from 7,000 to 31,362.

On 10 April, the country entered its fifth lockdown, which was in place until 6am on 25 April 2021. It was hoped that this would effect a decline in community transmission with the vaccination of the population being intensified. This, however, did not transpire and the Government extended the lockdown until 6am on 8 May 2021.


### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

As of 30 April 2021, the number of COVID-19 cases totalled 35,979. The cumulative number of confirmed cases in Ulaanbaatar city has reached 31,362; with the following 4,617 cases reported in 20 out of 21 provinces.


<b>301</b>	Arkhangai
<b>85</b>	Bayankhongor
<b>6</b>	Bayan-Ulgii
<b>91</b>	Bulgan
<b>621</b>	Darkhan-Uul
<b>36</b>	Dornod
<b>61</b>	Dornogobi
<b>54</b>	Dundgobi
<b>54</b>	Gobi-Altai
<b>45</b>	Gobisumber
<b>58</b>	Khentii
<b>236</b>	Khovd
<b>68</b>	Khuvsgul
<b>390</b>	Orkhon
<b>401</b>	Selenge
<b>168</b>	Sukhbaatar
<b>790</b>	Tuv
<b>32</b>	Uvs
<b>257</b>	Uvurkhangai
<b>238</b>	Zavkhan


 **139** Persons in isolation  
 **486** Positive cases among repatriated persons

 **19,642** Total number of recovered cases to date:

 **4,746** Total number of patients receiving treatment

**2,591** with mild symptoms  
**1,579** with moderate symptoms  
**464** in severe condition  
**112** in critical condition  
**110** deaths have been reported due to COVID-19.

 **2,697,262**  
 The number of PCR tests carried out to date

**67,415**  
 The number of contacts in isolation to date



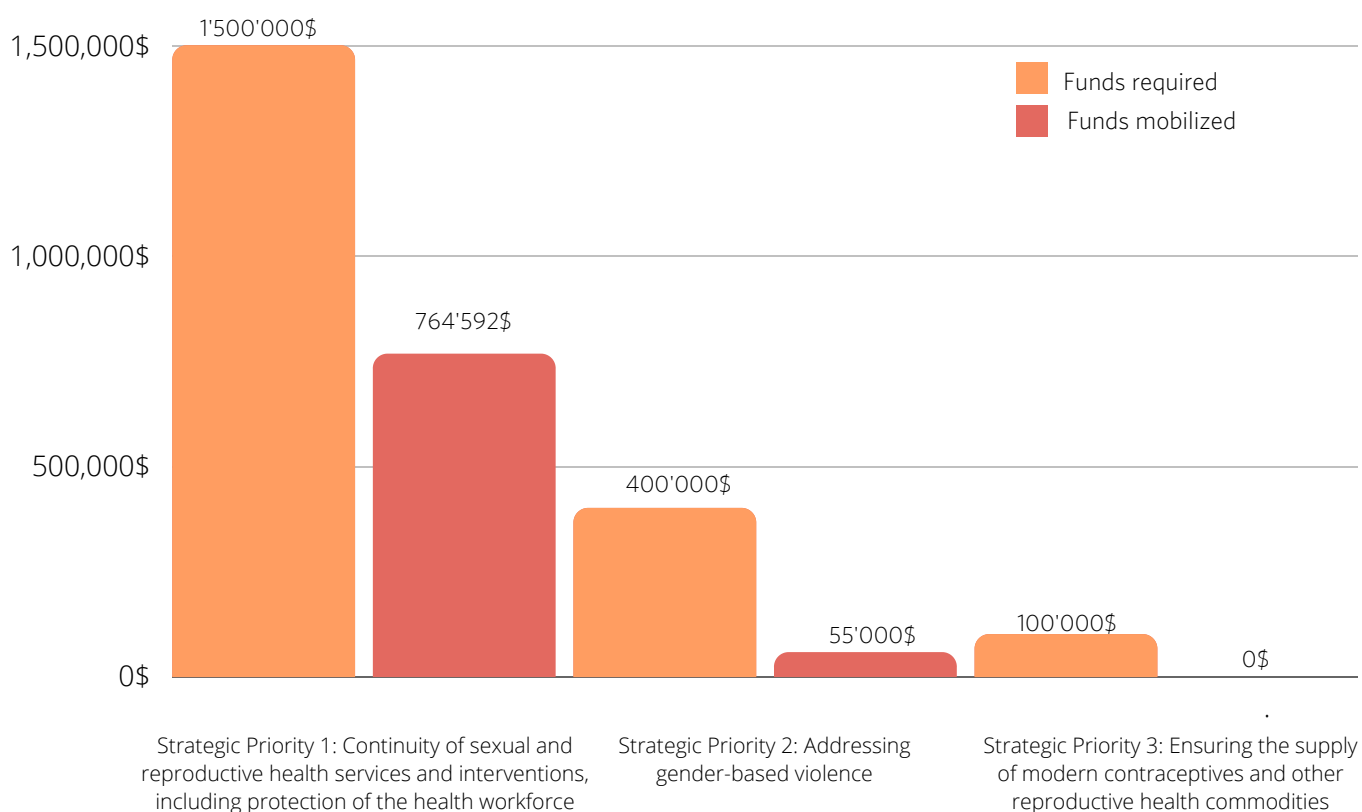
## FUNDING OVERVIEW

Funds that need to be mobilized for 2021: \$2,000,000

Funding gap: \$1,180,407.7

The Country Office estimates that a total of \$2,000,000 is required in 2021 for COVID-19 response and relief efforts. To date, the CO has successfully mobilized a total of \$819,592.3 from non-core resources for the COVID-19 response from the Swiss Development Cooperation's supported project addressing gender-based violence (GBV), rollover funds from the Luxembourg Government and the Rio Tinto Mongolia LLC, and the reprogramming of the "Integrated Support Programme for Women and Young People's Health in Umnugobi" funded by Oyu Tolgoi Mongolia LLC.

### UNFPA Mongolia Country Office funding needs and resource mobilization by priority areas



## GOVERNMENT, UN AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS' RESPONSE

The State Emergency Committee (SEC) proposed to enforce the All-out-readiness regime starting from 3 April until 18 April. The Cabinet, however, didn't support this recommendation and instead introduced the suspension of certain businesses and services, such as restaurants, lounges, saunas, swimming pools, wellness centres, cinemas, performance and entertainment theatres, resorts, training centres, and other businesses where people gather. Big markets remained open on weekdays and 30 percent of government and private organization employees were allowed to work from the office.

The SEC decided to shorten the mandatory 10-day quarantine for repatriates from other countries to seven days and to remove the need for further home isolation for those with negative COVID-19 test results.

On 8 April, the Cabinet decided to raise the emergency level from Orange to Red and imposed strict lockdown measures from 10 April to 25 April 2021 as the number of COVID-19 infections continued to rise among citizens.

The Government distributed a one-time allowance of MNT 300,000 for every citizen as part of lockdown relief initiatives.



On 21 April, the MOH received 10,000 test kits which detect antibodies against COVID-19 from a saliva sample. The tests were developed by the Center for Clinical Molecular Diagnosis of Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences. One box of test kits can be used for 96 people and shows results in 90 minutes. The test kits have been distributed to laboratories at the National Center for Communicable Diseases, the National Center for Zoonotic Disease, the National Center for Public Health, the General Hospital of Sukhbaatar district, and the Central State Hospitals 1 and 2.

On 23 April, the Cabinet decided to extend the All-out-preparedness level and strict lockdown measures until 6am on 8 May 2021. The decision was based on recommendations from the MOH and the SEC, taking into consideration the continued rise of COVID-19 community transmission rates in Ulaanbaatar and provinces.

The Government organized three charter flights and repatriated 390 people from Tokyo, Seoul, New Delhi, and Kazakhstan.

## COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME

The total number of citizens who have received both doses of the vaccination to date is 1,138,731. Enquiries about the vaccine can be made on the E-Mongolia electronic platform, where information on the vaccine – name, manufacturing country, date – and the location of vaccination centres for citizens, entities and organizations can also be found.

The Government decided to intensify the vaccination programme during the lockdown period from 10 to 25 April.

On April 9, the Minister for Health reported a two-week delay with the vaccination rollout. The decision to pause the rollout was made in view of the number of people gathering at vaccination sites, breaches of physical distancing rules and an increased number of new cases among citizens who had only received the first dose of the vaccination.

On 21 April, Mongolia received 50,400 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine via COVAX, and on 22 April 300,000 doses of the Verocell COVID-19 vaccine arrived in Ulaanbaatar city from China.

The national vaccination programme resumed on 23 April in Ulaanbaatar city and in some strategic provinces.



On 24 April, the country received a further 300,000 doses of Verocell vaccine from Sinopharm. The Government of Mongolia also agreed to purchase 1 million doses of Sputnik-V vaccines from Russia, in addition to the 300,000 doses that the Russian government had provided to Mongolia as humanitarian assistance.

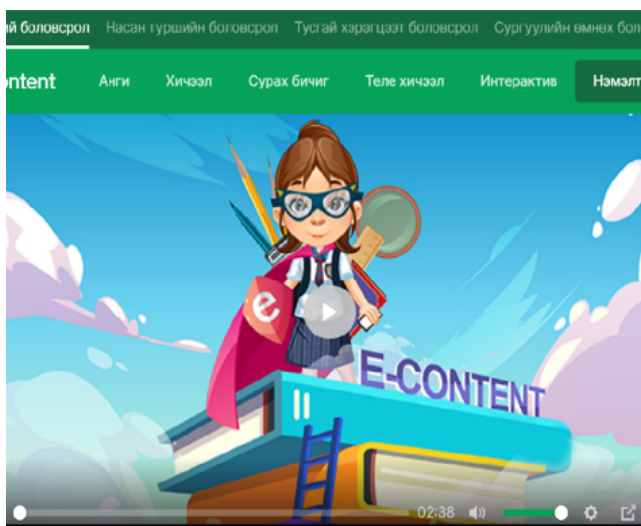
On 29 April, Mongolia received 33,400 doses of the Verocell COVID-19 vaccine from China.

## PROGRAMME RESPONSE BY UNFPA MONGOLIA

### Continuity of sexual and reproductive health services and interventions, including protection of the health workforce

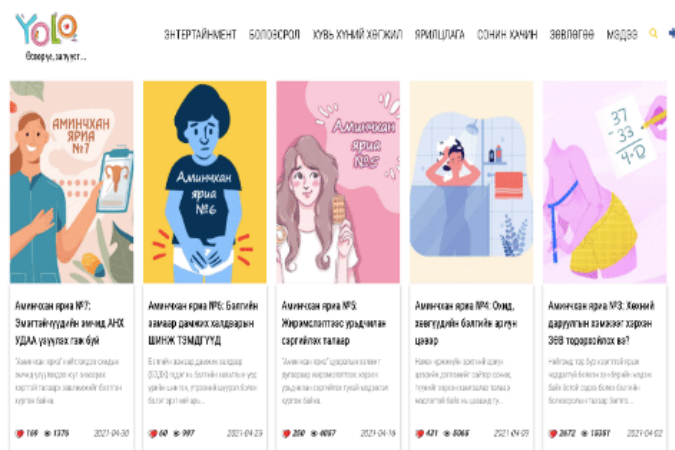
The SRHR team has conducted meetings to disseminate the recently-approved guidelines on: (1) the provision of antenatal and postpartum care during the pandemic, which includes virtual check-ups by cell phone, tablets, or computers; and (2) the Adapted Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) guidelines. The meetings were held online for provincial health department facilities and subsequently for Ulaanbaatar City health facilities.

### Supporting youth development and youth engagement



UNFPA, together with UNESCO and the Advocates for Youth NGO, has developed 28 factual and age-appropriate videos for children up to 14 years of age.

AMAZE videos are available on the Ministry of Education's e-learning platform ([www.econtent.edu.mn](http://www.econtent.edu.mn)). Written guidance explains the purpose and contents of the videos and provides practical advice for health education teachers on how to make the best use of the videos including the sequencing of watching and learning. Guiding questions for discussions in Mongolian have also been developed and disseminated, with follow-up online training.



The youth programme continues to publish articles on sexual and reproductive health on the teen web portal YOLO.mn, the most popular news platform for adolescents and youth in Mongolia. Articles reached over 11,495 young people in April.



On 14 April, the CO handed over personal protection equipment (PPE) worth MNT 50,076,000 to Umnugobi province Department of Health, which was procured with the financial support of Oyu Tolgoi Mongolia LLC.

On 28 April, PPE worth MNT 32,285,000 was handed over to the Emergency Commission and inter-soum hospital of Khanbogd soum, Umnugobi province. The PPE was purchased with the financial support of Oyu Tolgoi Mongolia LLC.



## Addressing gender-based violence

On 6 April, the CO handed over PPE worth MNT 95.3 million to the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs. The PPE was procured as part of the second phase of the “Combating Gender-Based Violence in Mongolia” project supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and implemented by the CO and the Government of Mongolia. PPE was distributed to 17 One-Stop-Service-Centres (OSSCs) and 15 temporary shelters nationwide, and included surgical masks, protective coveralls, N95 masks, goggles, face coverings, gloves and hand sanitizer.

Guidelines for OSSCs, shelters and MDTs on how to respond to GBV in the COVID-19 context have been revised and updated based on the recently-published UNFPA HQ guidelines. Additionally, a separate guideline on the provision of remote services to clients has been developed. Both guidelines have been translated and reviewed and are ready to use. An introductory online meeting with guideline users will be organized – see next sitrep.



## Coordination

- Participating in inter-agency coordination mechanisms.
- Leading inter-agency GBV coordination mechanisms.
- UNFPA co-chairs the UN PSEA network with the RC.
- Participating in MEDEVAC focal points group

## EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY

**“Жендэрт суурилсан хүчирхийлэлтэй тэмцэх нь” төслийн хүрээнд 95.3 сая төгрөгийн үнэ бүхий хамгаалах хэрэгсэл гардууллаа,** accessible at [https://ikon.mn/n/26j3?fbclid=IwAR2\\_4lYa7hLpy4gm6xQQ2aScomv2EJTzGum9tD6tYBGSzmf5g2apkOrw28](https://ikon.mn/n/26j3?fbclid=IwAR2_4lYa7hLpy4gm6xQQ2aScomv2EJTzGum9tD6tYBGSzmf5g2apkOrw28)

**UNFPA Mongolia CO hands over PPE to the DOH, Umnugobi province, accessible at:** <https://www.facebook.com/108266741107760/posts/204730651461368/>

**UNFPA Mongolia CO hands over PPE to Khanbogd soum, accessible at:** [https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=1001228663744580&id=100015723664883](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1001228663744580&id=100015723664883)

**Health information and counselling services become available to adolescents with help of technology,** accessible at: [https://montsame.mn/mn/read/259018?fbclid=IwAR3JN8vT\\_V6h9AlWxcjQ5uu2hY1QYyRQWp3G6\\_4w6A63B0sW4KVjn6f9Bhk](https://montsame.mn/mn/read/259018?fbclid=IwAR3JN8vT_V6h9AlWxcjQ5uu2hY1QYyRQWp3G6_4w6A63B0sW4KVjn6f9Bhk)

**With the help of technology sexual and reproductive health information and counselling services become available to adolescents,** accessible at: <https://mongolia.unfpa.org/en/news/help-technology-sexual-and-reproductive-health-information-and-counseling-services-become>

**Бэлгийн болон нөхөн үржихүйн эрүүл мэндийн зөвлөгөөг технологиор дамжуулан өгөх боломжтой боллоо,** accessible at <https://ikon.mn/n/26cx>

**Бэлгийн болон нөхөн үржихүйн эрүүл мэндийн зөвлөгөөг технологиор дамжуулан өгөх боломжтой боллоо,** accessible at <https://gogo.mn/r/8xjkj>

**Unitel Group signs an agreement with UNFPA Mongolia Country Office,** accessible at: <https://www.facebook.com/unitelofficial/posts/3998353263520479>

**Бэлгийн болон нөхөн үржихүйн эрүүл мэндийн зөвлөгөөг технологиор дамжуулан өгөх боломжтой боллоо,** accessible at <https://www.unitel.mn/unitel/news/566>

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Ms Kaori Ishikawa, Head of Office,  
Email: [kishikawa@unfpa.org](mailto:kishikawa@unfpa.org).

Dr. Oyuna Lkhagvasuren, COVID-19 Coordinator,  
Email: [olkhagvasuren@unfpa.org](mailto:olkhagvasuren@unfpa.org).

### FOR UPDATES ON COVID-19 IN MONGOLIA, PLEASE VISIT:

The MOH daily reporting -  
<https://covid19.mohs.mn/p/cat/post/57/?page=2>.

The State Emergency Committee's decisions -  
<https://nema.gov.mn/c/resolution>.