



ANNUAL REPORT UNFPA MONGOLIA 2021



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Introduction

UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. Our mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

UNFPA is formally named the United Nations Population Fund. The organization was created in 1969, the same year the United Nations General Assembly declared “parents have the exclusive right to determine freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children.”

UNFPA calls for the realization of reproductive rights for all and supports access to a wide range of sexual and reproductive health services – including voluntary family planning, maternal health care and comprehensive sexuality education.

Guided by the 1994 Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), UNFPA partners with governments, civil society and other agencies to advance its mission. The ICPD Beyond 2014 Global Report, released in February 2014, revealed how much progress has been made and the significant work that remains to be done.

The actions and recommendations identified in the report are crucial for achieving the goals of the ICPD Programme of Action and its linkage with the post-2015 development agenda.

The work of UNFPA is based on the premise that all human beings are entitled to equal rights and protections. We focus on women and young people because these are groups whose ability to exercise their right to sexual and reproductive health is often compromised.

The 2021 annual report briefly showcases the key highlights of UNFPA Mongolia CO and its partners, both in government and non-governmental organizations, with the generous financial support of various donors. We continue to work together to ensure that the vulnerable population of Mongolia receive the needed services and ensure no one is left behind.

Our work in Mongolia

UNFPA Mongolia began supporting the Government of Mongolia in the late 1970s by providing equipment and training to the Central Statistics Office to undertake the Population and Housing Census of 1979 – and again in 1989. Support for maternal and child health began in the early 1990s and included training for medical personnel and the provision of modern contraceptives.

The first comprehensive Country Programme between the Government of Mongolia and UNFPA officially started in 1992. It focused on delivering family planning services and information and promoting population data usage to support government development policies and programmes.

UNFPA's 6th Country Programme in Mongolia – covering five years – was launched in 2017, with a specific focus on youth participation, realising youth's sexual and reproductive health and rights, and addressing GBV. The current Country Programme supports Mongolia in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and is closely aligned and implemented with other UN agencies under the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2017-2021.



3 TRANSFORMATIVE RESULTS

Despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, UNFPA continues to prioritise the needs of women and girls in Mongolia as part of its overall effort to achieve the Three Transformative Results.



Ending preventable maternal deaths

Since 1990, maternal death has declined by 44 per cent worldwide. Still, some 830 women and adolescent girls die each day from preventable maternal causes. Ninety-nine per cent of all maternal deaths occur in developing countries – more than half in fragile and humanitarian settings.



Ending unmet need for family planning

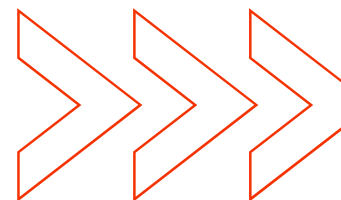
Family planning is central to women's empowerment and sustainable development. Women, adolescents and youth have the right to make their own informed choices about contraception.



Ending gender-based violence and harmful practices

Violence against women and girls remains a global pandemic. One in three women will experience physical or sexual violence in her lifetime. Harmful practices, such as child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM), remain pervasive.

Highlights of 2021



Toward Zero Preventable Maternal Deaths

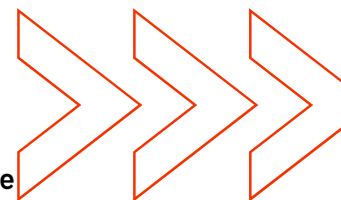
UNFPA partners with governments and others to strengthen health systems, train health workers, educate midwives and improve access to the full range of reproductive health services.



In 2021, UNFPA Mongolia:

- Reached 1,361 pregnant women through the distribution of over 160 primary health care worker packages, consisting of COVID-19 rapid tests, pulse oximeters, blood pressure measurement devices, etc., to three provinces and one Ulaanbaatar district; Umnugobi, Dornogobi, Bayan-Ulgii provinces and Songinokhairkhan district.
- Ensured provision of antenatal care to pregnant women, care and management of pregnant women, delivery and postpartum during COVID-19, and vaccination of pregnant and breastfeeding women through the development of guidelines for maternal health services in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.
- Contributed to maternal health care planning and policy development of the Ministry of Health through technical support in developing the Maternal, Child and Reproductive Health Action Plan 2022-2024.
- 142,937 PCR tests were performed through the establishment of four fully equipped PCR laboratories and the provision of eight respiratory ventilators and personal protective equipment to the personnel of health, emergency, police, border protection, and professional inspection sectors.

Toward Zero Unmet Need for Family Planning



UNFPA promotes universal access to quality, integrated sexual and reproductive health services. UNFPA also promotes comprehensive sexuality education and youth leadership, which empower young people to exercise autonomy, choice and participation concerning their sexual and reproductive health and rights.



In 2021, UNFPA Mongolia:

- A total of 131 midwives from the three Eastern provinces (Khentii, Dornod and Sukhbaatar) and newly graduated gynaecologists were trained in hands-on skills training on the provision of Long-acting Reversible Contraceptives.
- Improved access to sexual and reproductive health education through the adaption of 50 AMAZE videos, factual and age-appropriate videos on sexual and reproductive health for children up to 14 years of age.
- Over 130,920 adolescents and young people were reached with AMAZE videos on sexual and reproductive health through the Mandukhai chatbot's Facebook page and medle.mn, a government-operated online education platform.
- Improved access to health education content to school children to address pandemic-related risks of early pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, psychological distress, trauma, and gender-based violence among youth, through the development of "Digital Adventures" comprehensive online interactive lessons.
- Over 15,000 school students were reached with "Digital Adventures" online interactive lessons on health education through medle.mn, a government-operated online education platform.

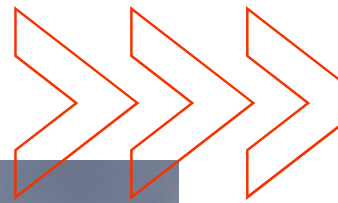
Toward Zero Unmet Need for Family Planning



In 2021, UNFPA Mongolia:

- Improved access to adolescent and youth-friendly health services through technological innovation, such as the Mandukhai online chatbot, which provides scientifically accurate information on the most in-demand topics by adolescents. These include information on preventing unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections and referrals to youth-friendly confidential services.
- Reached over 920,000 adolescents and youth through the Mandukhai chatbot's Facebook Page, and 513,000 youth received sexual and reproductive health information and referral services directly from the chatbot.
- 520 youth representatives from civil society and government organisations engaged in sharing the best practices in youth development, especially working with youth with disabilities, employment training and services, and accessing funding for youth development initiatives through the National Forum on Youth Development.

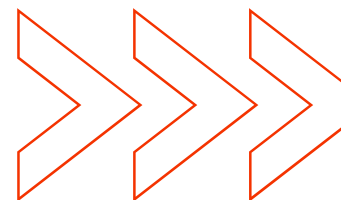
Toward Zero Unmet Need for Family Planning



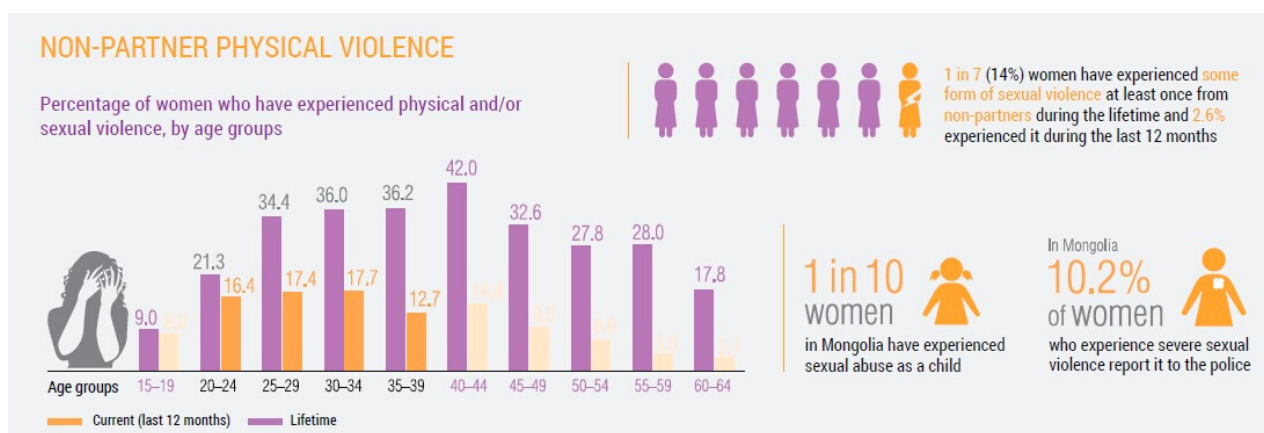
In 2021, UNFPA Mongolia:

- Ensured inclusion of life skills health education, including the comprehensive sexuality education programme, in the general education school curriculum through technical support and sharing of evidence-based data on the effectiveness of comprehensive sexuality education in increasing the age of initial intercourse and usage of contraceptives.
- Improved access to health education/comprehensive sexuality education for visually and hearing-impaired children through the development of methodological guidance on teaching health education/comprehensive sexuality education for teachers and social workers working with children with special needs.
- Established three new Youth Development Centres in Umnugobi province as part of the "Integrated Support Programme for Women and Young People's Health in Umnugobi". Youth and adolescents in provinces use the centres to access accurate and correct sexual and reproductive health information. In total, 35 Youth Development Centres currently provide life skills training to young people nationwide.

Toward Zero Gender-Based Violence and Harmful Practices



UNFPA works to prevent and respond to gender-based violence through its work with policymakers, justice systems, health systems and humanitarian partners. UNFPA also focuses on eliminating harmful practices, including female genital mutilation and child marriage, and helps engage men and boys to advance gender equality.



In 2021, UNFPA Mongolia:

- 5,964 gender-based violence survivors received services through One Stop Service Centres and shelters, of which 2,385 (40%) are women, 532 (9%) are men, 1,791 (30%) are girls, and 1,256 (21%) are boys. A total of 2,002 cases were resolved with the support of multidisciplinary teams.
- 600 Dignity Kits, around 200 Rapid COVID-19 tests, and approximately USD 38,000 worth of personal protective equipment provided to all One Stop Service Centres and shelters operating in the country to help gender-based violence survivors ensure safety maintain proper hygiene and protect their dignity during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 225 health care workers, social workers, police personnel, and local multidisciplinary team members from 21 provinces and nine districts of Ulaanbaatar trained in providing services to gender-based violence survivors during an emergency, particularly the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Over 100 COVID-19 pandemic response front-liners, including National Emergency Management Agency staff, were trained on gender-based violence detection and referral during an emergency.
- Ensured continued and safe delivery of gender-based violence services during the COVID-19 pandemic through advocacy to include One Stop Service Centres/shelters in the list of essential services to operate during COVID-19 lockdown, the inclusion of their staff in the List of Priority Personnel to be vaccinated as frontline workers, and training on safe service delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic for service providers.
- Initiated to expand gender-based violence services in five provinces and one Ulaanbaatar district, including training necessary for survivors to build new skills for income generation to reach economic independence from the perpetrators and break the cycle of violence.

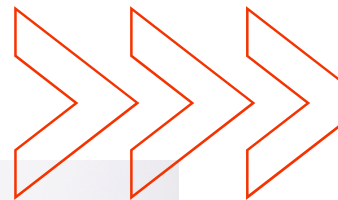
Toward Zero Gender-Based Violence and Harmful Practices



In 2021, UNFPA Mongolia:

- Expanded online gender-based violence service delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic through the developed guidelines on shifting the gender-based violence services to “from distance” provision and training on delivering online services and hotline psychological counselling to gender-based violence service providers.
- Increased public access to domestic violence reports data through support to the continued operation of the eGBV database and daily Facebook reports on the impacts of COVID-19 on gender-based violence, data on gender-based violence and domestic violence based on data collected by the police during COVID-19.
- Reached over 20.6 million people/times through three awareness-raising campaigns on gender-based violence; the International Women’s Day campaign on March 8, the Mongolian Soldiers’ Day campaign on March 18, and the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence campaign from November 25 to December 10.
- Reached over 180,000 viewers through a feature-length film on gender-based violence, abuse and violence during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence awareness campaign. The film, titled “Naryn Suuder” (The Shadow of the Sun), was produced by the Coordinating Council for Crime Prevention with support of UNFPA. It aired on ten national televisions and live-streamed through Facebook.

Toward Zero Gender-Based Violence and Harmful Practices

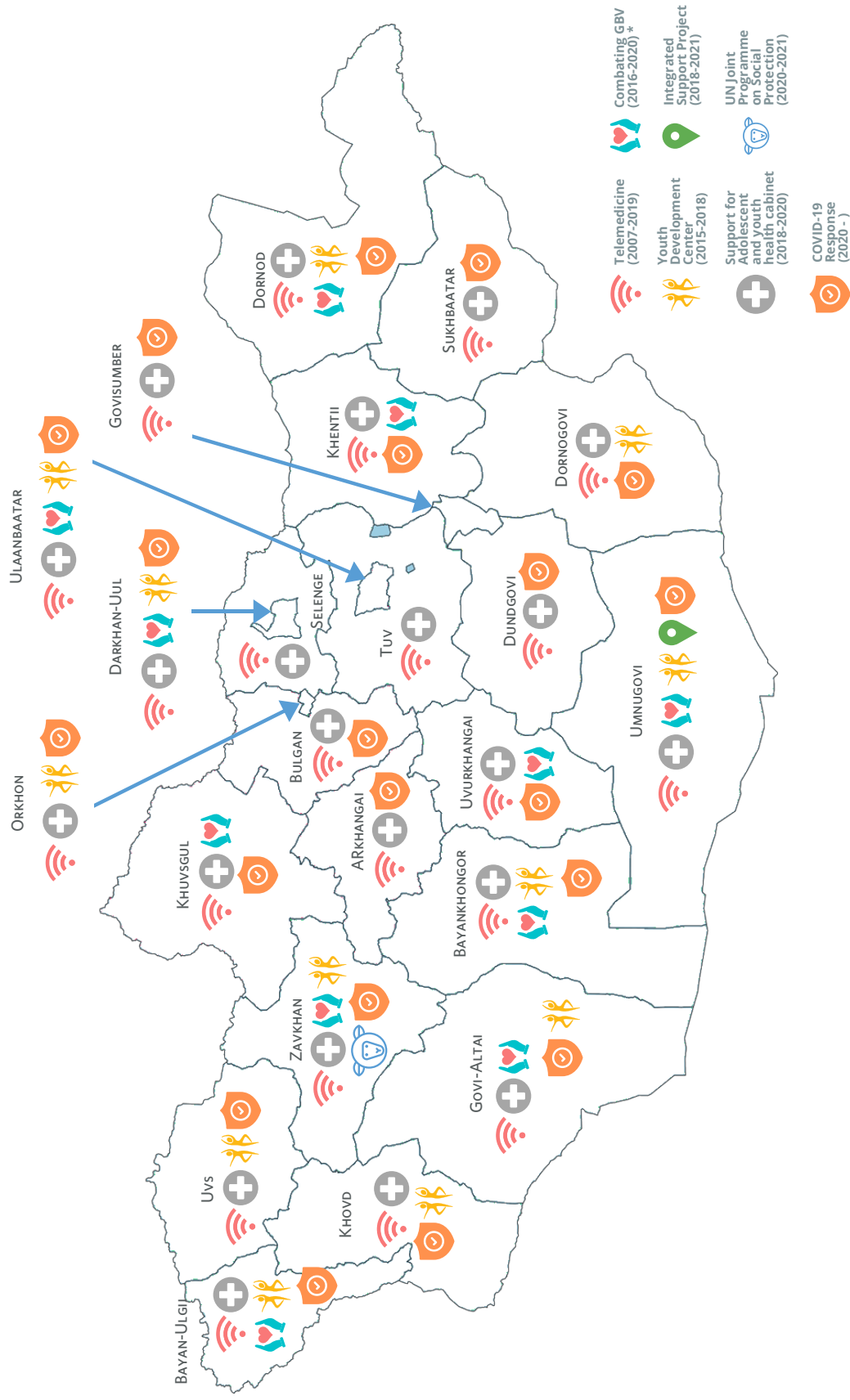


In 2021, UNFPA Mongolia:

- Organized six training workshops on preventing sexual exploitation and abuse for implementing partners. Over 150 people were reached through the workshops to promote zero tolerance toward sexual exploitation and abuse.
- Provided continued support in the operation of eGBV – an integrated database established in 2017 by the National Police Agency and UNFPA to collect real-time data on reported GBV cases, victims and perpetrators in Mongolia’s capital city and 21 provinces.
- Assisted in establishing eTuslamj, a service delivery database that digitalises case management and harmonises the collection of client and administrative data from One Stop Service Centres and shelters for gender-based violence survivors nationwide.
- Supported the organisation of the National Forum on Strengthening the Multisectoral Response to Gender-based Violence. A total of 265 participants from local sub councils of the Coordinating Council for Crime Prevention, police departments, the Family, Children and Youth Development Departments and the heads of all provincial Citizens’ Representative Khurals attended the forum. The forum served as a platform for sharing information and good practices, introducing guidelines on improving the multisectoral response at the local levels.
- Advocated successfully for allocation of 333.2 million MNT in the budget for gender-based violence/domestic violence prevention and response by multidisciplinary teams from the Ministry of Justice.

2017-2021 Country Programme Implementation Map

as of 2021



*Second phase of GBV project is now being developed and more locations will be added.

Acknowledgements

We thank our donors, implementing partners, and beneficiaries for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the Three Transformative Results.



The State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia



MINISTRY OF HEALTH



MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION AND
SCIENCE



MINISTRY OF LABOUR
AND SOCIAL
PROTECTION



NATIONAL COMMITTEE
ON GENDER EQUALITY



NATIONAL
STATISTICS OFFICE
OF MONGOLIA



World Health
Organization

unicef



UNFPA Mongolia
UN House
UN Street 12
Sukhbaatar District
Ulaanbaatar 14201
Mongolia
T. +976 11 353 504
F. +976 11 353 502
contact@unfpa.org.mn

mongolia.unfpa.org
<https://www.facebook.com/UNFPA.Mongolia/>
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