



Mongolia

Quarterly newsletter: April 2024 - June 2024

Highlight



HUMANITARIAN AID CONTINUES ...

UNFPA successfully secured additional two sources of funding from the UN CERF and UNFPA Emergency Fund to **ensure the physical and psychological safety of women and girls** affected by the dzud, a harsh winter condition in Mongolia. With the new sources, UNFPA delivered dignity kits and vital informational materials to **4,344 adolescent girls**, many of whom live in dormitories, in 87 soums across 17 provinces in rural Mongolia. UNFPA will also create safe spaces for socializing and accessing mental health support, and train local health and social workers in sexual and reproductive health services. The remaining 2,000 herder women will be assisted in the third quarter of the year.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment



Participants during the capacity-building training in Ulaanbaatar on 28 May 2024. @UNFPA

UNFPA strengthens national gender expertise

European Union (EU), will equip a national panel of gender experts with the knowledge and skills to champion gender equality efforts. The training package will consist of seven modules specifically designed for the expert panel members, with integration of three crucial approaches: **Gender transformative, Human rights based and Leaving no one behind.**

To ensure these approaches are effectively embedded within the training modules, UNFPA's Ms. Upala Devi, Gender and Human Rights Advisor from the UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional office, conducted a two-day [capacity development training](#) for the experts who will develop the curriculum.



Photo collage of empowered participants during the Europe Day on 11 May 2024, in Ulaanbaatar, @UNFPA

Empowering youth to advance gender equality and eradicate gender-based violence

UNFPA actively participated in the 2024 Europe Day celebrations organized by the EU in Mongolia. This event, held on May 11th, provided a platform for UNFPA and the

awareness about **gender equality** and **combating gender-based violence**. Participants engaged in group discussions, completed informative surveys, spun prize wheels, and participated in quizzes – all designed to spark conversations and promote positive change toward gender equality.



A participant during the Male Allyship training on 10 June 2024 in Ulaanbaatar. @USAID

Fostering Male Allyship in Mongolia's Energy Sector for Gender Equality

As part of its efforts to promote **gender equality** in Mongolia's targeted sectors, UNFPA initiated open dialogues and raised awareness among supervisors and leaders within the **Mongolian energy sector** during the Male Allyship training, organized by the USAID. The session aimed not only to enhance understanding of gender-based violence prevention but also to **empower men and boys** to become allies in the fight for gender equality.

Youth and Adolescents Development



Minister of Labor and Social Protection Kh. Bulgantuya and Minister of Culture Ch. Nomin along with participants during the meeting on 3 April 2024 at the Parliament House, Ulaanbaatar. @UNFPA

National Youth Council Holds Inaugural 2024 Meeting to Advance Youth Development in Mongolia

As a member of the **National Youth Council**, which is responsible for coordinating interdisciplinary activities to support youth development and participation in Mongolia, UNFPA participated in the [inaugural 2024 meeting](#) and contributed to the development of the **Action Plan 2024 to advance youth development in Mongolia**. The meeting was attended by representatives from all Ministries, the Head of UNFPA Mongolia, and the Resident Representative of UNICEF Mongolia. It was chaired by the Deputy Heads of the National Youth Council, Minister of Labor and Social Protection Kh.Bulgantuya and Minister of Culture Ch.Nomin. During the meeting, the results of the evaluation report on the implementation of the Youth Development Promotion Law were presented.

This law, supported by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection with assistance from UNFPA, focuses on establishing and funding Youth Development Centers, promoting **youth participation in decision-making**, and **supporting youth-led**



Dissemination workshop participants on 20 June 2024 at the UN house in Ulaanbaatar. @UNFPA

UNFPA and UNICEF unveil critical findings to enhance school health services in Mongolia

With the objective of enhancing health services in general education schools, UNFPA, in collaboration with UNICEF, presented key findings and recommendations from the **assessment of School Health Services in Mongolia** as part of the "Fostering Adolescent Well-being through Integrated Health and Development Initiatives" project.

The assessment identified significant gaps and challenges in the delivery of school health services, such as inadequate staffing, lack of training for health personnel, and insufficient health education. To address these challenges, several recommendations were proposed, including the **formulation of clear policies and guidelines to standardize school health services** across the country. The dissemination meeting brought together key stakeholders, including representatives from the Ministry of



UNFPA staff is engaging with youth in Khuvsgul province during the field mission. @UNFPA

Empowering rural Mongolia by enhancing digital access, comprehensive sexuality education, and SRHR advocacy

UNFPA's [field mission](#) to Darkhan-Uul, Bulgan, and Khuvsgul provinces marked significant strides in **advancing health and education in rural Mongolia** with a focus on transformative initiatives to benefit local communities. Key achievements included installing interactive boards in schools to enhance comprehensive sexuality education, ensuring students receive vital information in an engaging manner.

UNFPA team conducted meetings with local authorities raised awareness about the Sexual and reproductive health and rights, and mental health needs of women and girls in emergencies. These meetings also facilitated the creation of **Safe Spaces for women and girls** facing physical and mental challenges, providing essential support and fostering resilience. The team also delivered **dignity kits to dormitory female students** whose families were economically affected by the dzud, addressing their

A highlight of the mission was [documenting the impact](#) of the **Digital Library** - UNITEL Hub in Khuvsgul province, a UNFPA facilitated Public Private Partnership initiative, where **local youth gained access to smart devices**, significantly enhancing their learning opportunities and technical skills. This digital inclusion initiative is paving the way for a more educated and technologically adept generation.

Through these efforts, UNFPA is not only addressing immediate needs but also laying the foundation for sustainable development and empowerment in rural Mongolia.

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights



UNFPA staff along with training participants in Khovd province. @UNFPA

Saving Lives by Enhancing Maternal and Perinatal Death Response in Mongolia

Under the objective of **improving maternal and child health** in the country, UNFPA, with support from the Government of Luxembourg, progressed well towards institutionalizing the Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response

- The Ministry of Health has begun taking leadership in **modifying the respective Standard Operating Procedures** of the maternal death reviews, and under-five mortality review committees, which operated in silo, and promoting the establishment of the combined MPDSR committees at health facilities providing maternity services.
- UNFPA organized **building capacity-building training** for a total of 50 MPDSR committee members including key specialists in maternal and perinatal health in Bayan-Ulgii and Khovd provinces. The [training](#) was co-led by UNFPA Asia-Pacific Sexual and Reproductive Health Adviser, Catherine Breen Kamkong, providing the participants the opportunity to learn from international best practices.
- The MPDSR committee's three pilot sites in capital city Ulaanbaatar and Umnugovi province shared their successful practices in introducing the MPDSR with other health facilities. The **pilot sites observed positive outcomes** with the application of the “No blame, No name, No shame” approach in reviewing the maternal and neonatal deaths, maternal “near misses” and stillbirths, and integrating the response to their institutional quality of care cycles.



Midwives during the consultation meeting on 5 May 2024 in Ulaanbaatar. @UNFPA

MIDWIVES: A VITAL CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTION

SOLUTION” in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, JICA Mongolia, and Mongolian Association of Midwives.

A total of **300 midwives** from the countryside and capital city participated in the meeting to celebrate the work of generations of midwives and pay tribute to their dedication to their highly responsible work for mothers and babies to bring happiness to families. With the support and technical guidance from UNFPA, the **National Midwife Development Action Plan -2030** was developed, and discussed among the participants. UNFPA also carried out an information campaign, producing various social media [posters](#) and [“One Day of a Midwife”](#) video.



Key stakeholders during the national workshop on 12 April 2024. @UNFPA

Is Mongolia ready to provide sexual and reproductive health care and services during emergencies?

The Ministry of Health, National Emergency Management Agency, and UNFPA have conducted the **Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP)** assessment to evaluate the country's preparedness to deliver sexual and reproductive health care during emergencies. Over 35 health experts and advocates from 15 governmental, non-governmental, and international organizations, as well as civil societies, contributed to this comprehensive assessment through MISP's six objectives and 58 questionnaires, which included a national seminar and field missions.

The assessment results will guide the integration of MISP into the **National Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan**. As part of the initiative, a [national](#)



Photo collage of a field mission to Khovd province between 14 - 17 May 2024. @UNFPA

UNFPA Mongolia conducts field mission to Khovd province

Dr. Khalid Sharifi, Head of UNFPA Mongolia, along with team members, conducted a field mission to Khovd province to oversee the implementation of program activities. The mission included meetings with local authorities to discuss future collaborations on **promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights**, **empowering youth**, and **advancing gender equality** in the province.

During the mission, the team visited the Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Center, the One-Stop Service Center, and the Youth Development Center, engaging with service providers and **gathering vital insights from the locals**. The team also visited Mankhan soum and its hospital, and Youth Development Center established in 2023 with UNFPA support.

At least five modern contraceptives are now available to all women and girls

As a result of UNFPA's continued advocacy and technical support, the Ministry of Health approved the new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Procurement, Distribution, and Reporting of Contraceptives and introduced it to the City Health Department and District Health Centers. The SOP aims at ensuring **at least five modern contraceptive methods are available** to all women and girls regardless of their marital status through primary health care facilities.

Approval of revised midwifery job descriptions signals progress in health sector

Following sustained advocacy and close technical support by UNFPA to the Ministry of Health, newly revised job descriptions for midwives have been approved. This milestone represents a **significant advancement in updating government procedures**, crucial for the successful implementation of revised protocols. These updates aim to enhance services such as normal deliveries and family planning, ensuring effective adaptation to evolving healthcare needs.

Population Development



State of World Population report - 2024

Every year, UNFPA produces the World Population Report, which shares important information on population, reproductive health and rights to researchers, policy makers, decision makers, the public and the media.

Download the report in English:

www.unfpa.org/swp2024



Ts.Munkhtsetseg participating in the 8th International Parliamentarians' Conference in Oslo, Norway on April 17, 2024.



D.Gerel during the 17th Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in New York, USA in June 12, 2024.

Advancing global priorities at the 8th International Parliamentarians' Conference

Ts.Munkhtsetseg, Member of Parliament and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Human Rights in the Parliament, [participated](#) in the 8th International Parliamentarians' Conference on the Implementation of Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. A total of 172 members of parliament **representing 112 countries** joined the conference and issued a forward-looking inclusive declaration, which urges all countries to prioritize human dignity and rights in **sustainable development**, ensuring access to health, quality education, and decent employment for all, while eliminating discrimination and ensuring reproductive health and rights.

UNFPA amplifies voices of people with disabilities at international stage

With UNFPA's support, D.Gerel, National Coordinator of the Mongolian Disability Rights Forum, participated in the 17th Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in New York, USA. Ms. Gerel is a champion for **advocating the rights of persons with disabilities**, amplifying their voices to policymakers and the public. During the conference, Ms. Gerel was [re-elected as a member](#) of the United Nations Committee on the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for the term 2025-2028.



MNB featured the UNFPA's support to empower midwives in the country.

[Watch News](#)



Several national media outlets reported on the humanitarian assistance supported by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund or UNCERF.

- [MNB news](#)
- [Montsame](#)
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