

January 2024 - March 2024



Highlight



HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

UNFPA has delivered humanitarian assistance to 1698 women and girls, who were affected by the harsh winter condition

Mongolia has faced nationwide dzud, **a harsh winter condition** characterized by extreme cold, which created creating hardship for the herders. As of March 28, the dzud has resulted in the devastating loss of an estimated 5.9 million livestock, with grave impact on livelihoods and socioeconomic condition of **herder families**. Stranded by the dzud, they have been isolated and struggled to access essential services and supplies.

Women and girls have faced increased risk of gender-based violence (GBV) due to elevated stress, shortages of essential goods and supplies, and restrictions on movement.

As an [emergency response](#), UNFPA Mongolia has procured the dignity kits, with the kind support the Government of Australia and from its regular resources, delivered them to a total of **1,698 women and girls** affected by worsened dzud situation. The crucial assistance was distributed in close partnership with the National Emergency Management Agency and Mongolian Red Cross Society.



"Equal Respect" campaign poster, @UNFPA

Promoting Equal Respect: Nationwide campaign challenges gender stereotypes

The National Committee on Gender Equality and UNFPA jointly organized the [nationwide campaign](#), themed "**EQUAL RESPECT**," with the message "Ensure equal respect and participation," which ran from March 1 to April 1, 2024. Organized to coincide with International Women's Day (March 8) and Mongolian Army Day (March 18), the campaign aimed to promote **equal rights and opportunities** for both men and women, challenging entrenched gender stereotypes.

This year's campaign adopted a **digital-first strategy**, harnessing online platforms to engage a broader audience and raise awareness on critical social issues. These included men's psychology, gender stereotypes, women's leadership, peer bullying, digital harassment, and discrimination against women. According to media monitoring results, the campaign content reached 1,294,000 views.



Representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations after the project launch on 1 March 2024, in Ulaanbaatar, @UNFPA

The European Union and UNFPA launched a new project to cultivate gender equality

[“The Strengthening National Gender Equality Expertise in Mongolia project”](#) was successfully launched with the objective to **fostering nationwide network of gender equality experts across all sectors and provinces in the country**. The project is funded by the European Union and will be implemented by UNFPA Mongolia and the National Committee on Gender Equality to ensure the state ownership and **sustainability of the initiative**. The project will be implemented until the end of 2025 and marks the first collaboration between the European Union and UNFPA Mongolia.



Government delegates, including Minister of Labor and Social Protection Ms. Bulgantuya Khurelbaatar, joining the 68th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York, USA, 2024, @NCGE

The Government of Mongolia participated at the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women

UNFPA supported a representative from the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection as well as youth to join the 68th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York, USA, held from March 11th to 22nd. The session focused on "**Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls** by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective."

Notably, the Government of Mongolia hosted its side event on "[Improving the situation of rural girls and women: Equitable access to quality public services and economic empowerment](#)". During the event, Government delegates presented the unique needs and challenges that women in rural Mongolia face, and highlighted the importance of improving **multi-sectoral cooperation** and **gender sensitive planning and budgeting** to empower women politically, socially and economically.

Youth and Adolescents Development



*Minister of Health Mr. Chinzorig Sodnom along with participants at the meeting to present the research results on
26 January 2024 at the Ministry of Health, @UNFPA*

Improving primary healthcare in Mongolia

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health and UNICEF, UNFPA conducted a thorough **readiness assessment of primary healthcare services** to facilitate the integration of early childhood development and adolescent and youth-friendly health services into the existing infrastructure. The Ministry of Health has demonstrated its commitment to implementing an enhancement plan based on the assessment findings.

Additionally, UNFPA, has initiated the development of the **School Health Services program**, which aligns with international standards to improve healthcare services for students. In partnership with UNICEF, this initiative supports the Mongolian government's objectives, as outlined in the new education law, which includes establishing **a comprehensive health monitoring system** within schools to ensure that every student has access to quality medical care.



"Yah Ve?" Facebook page cover

Engagement

Within the framework of elevating awareness and fostering insightful discussion on sexuality education among youth, UNFPA supported the development of "[YAH_VE](#)" Facebook page. With over **36,000 followers**, it serves as a central hub for adolescent and youth interaction in the country. Our cross-platform social media campaign, featuring 60 engaging videos, reached over **1 million viewers**, sparking discussions among youths aged 10-17 and amplifying impact of accurate and correct information on sexuality.

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights



A mother with her newborn and a medical doctor at a maternity hospital in UB, 2023, @UNFPA

country, UNFPA supported the establishment of the **first national review committee** of the Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPDSR) and successfully completed its pilot phase at health facilities with positive outcomes.

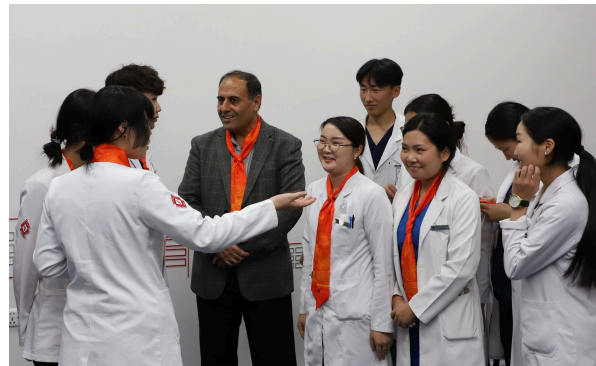
Based on the outcome of the pilot phase, the Ministry of Health is adopting its existing Standard Operating Procedure to better track pregnant women and prevent future maternal and perinatal deaths. As a continuation of the national effort, a total of ten subnational committees will be launched with **"No Blame, No Name, No Shame"** approach. The MPDSR Committees foster an environment conducive to open review and discussion, ensuring sustainability for this initiative.



@Canva

UNFPA Support Leads to Approval of Contraceptive Regulation

With a technical assistance from UNFPA, the Health Minister's order has approved the regulation on **procurement, distribution, and reporting of contraceptives' availability**. This regulation serves as a comprehensive guide for health facilities, ensuring universal access to rights-based quality family planning services, implementing needs-based forecasting, and maintaining sustained availability of contraceptives.



Dr.Khalid Sharifi engages with medical students, @UNFPA

The Ministry of Health Approves Four-Year Action Plan for Health Sector Response to Gender-Based Violence

Following a thorough assessment conducted by UNFPA, the Ministry of Health has approved a four-year Action Plan (2024-2027) for the health sector response to GBV. This plan focuses on enhancing guidelines for **GBV registration and reporting**, adopting a client-centered rights-based approach in service delivery, and building the capacity of healthcare providers in GBV survivor management through **multisector collaboration**. The plan provides the cost estimates for the

international partners for the sustainability of the impact.



Mission team during the meeting with Dundgovi officials in Dundgovi province on 26 March 2024, @UNFPA

Strengthening Emergency Response: Assessing MISP Readiness in Mongolia

UNFPA initiated the **Minimum Initial Service Package** (MISP) Readiness Assessment in Mongolia to offer a comprehensive analysis of the country's capacity to address Maternal, Newborn, Sexual and Reproductive Health, and Gender-based Violence needs **during emergencies**. The aim is to generate insights for enhancing readiness to implement MISP within the national health emergency response plan.

A collaborative effort involving Ministry of Health, National Emergency Management Agency and UNFPA took place from March 26 to 29, 2024. The team conducted site visits to two provinces, Dundgobi and Tuv, encompassing two soums. The mission **evaluated both the current state of natural disaster preparedness and the local readiness** for MISP implementation.



A participant delivers a speech during the workshop in Bangkok Thailand, @UNFPA

UNFPA supported government participation in a Bangkok workshop on operationalizing the **Ending Preventable Maternal Mortality** and **Every Newborn Action Plan** from March 18-22, 2024. Delegates from Mongolia's Ministry of Health and the National Center for Maternal and Child Health shared insights on maternal, newborn care, and midwifery while gaining best practices and knowledge from the regional experts.



@UNFPA

Our 2023 Annual Report is out now, showcasing the incredible progress and impact of UNFPA Mongolia Country Office and our dedicated partners work. With the support of generous donors, we've worked to ensure no one is left behind, providing vital services to women, girls, and vulnerable populations across Mongolia. [Link to the report](#)

UNFPA in Media



Due to the worsening situation dzud in countryside, UNFPA delivers dignity kits to women and girls, including pregnant and lactating women, affected by dzud through the Mongolian Red Cross Society. [Watch News](#)



MNB featured the UNFPA's humanitarian assistance to women and girls in difficult situation. [Watch News](#)



“The Strengthening National Gender Equality Expertise in Mongolia project” was featured by national media outlets as follows:

- www.montsame.mn
- www.gogo.mn
- www.delhii.mn
- reelnews.mn



National and local media outlets reported on the “Equal Respect” national campaign and promoted the campaign message:

- www.montsame.mn
- shuud.mn
- huduu.mn
- www.delhii.mn
- sonin.mn

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