

**THE GOVERNMENT OF MONGOLIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION**

**MONGOLA
COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL-LEVEL REPORT
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING DECLARATION
AND PLATFORM OF ACTION
(2019-2024)**

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against
CHD	Center for Health Development
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DV	Domestic Violence
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFP	Gender Focal Point
GIZ	German Society for International Cooperation
GIGA	UNICEF initiative launched in 2019
GTA	General Tax Authority
FCYDA	Family Children and Youth Development Agency
FPICD	Family Policy Implementation and Coordination Department
ILO	International Labor Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KOICA	Korean International Cooperation Agency
LPGE	Law on Promotion of Gender Equality
MECSS	Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Sports
MET	Ministry of Environment and Tourism
MJHA	Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs
MFSPL	Ministry of Family, Social Protection and Labor
MLSP	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOH	Ministry of Health
MONES	Mongolian Women's Fund Mongolian
MNUE	National University of Education Mongolian
MNUMS	National University of Medical Science
NCAV	National Center Against Violence
NCGE	National Committee on Gender Equality
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHRCM	National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia
NPGE	National Program on Gender Equality
NSO	National Statistical Office
NUM	National University of Mongolia
PHI	Public Health Institute
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
TVET	Technical Vocational Education Training
TAF	The Asia Foundation
UNESCO	United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization

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INTRODUCTION

Mongolian Government is presenting Mongolia's valuable contributions to the creation of equal opportunity for women to participate in the social, economic and political lives, improving the access to resources and assets by women, reduction of poverty among the women through strengthening the democracy by ensuring the sustainable economic growth, promoting the environmental protection and social justice based on the principles of the "Leaving No One Behind" in achieving SDGs and "Women's' rights and human right and human right is women's' rights" which was declared by the Fourth World Conference held in Beijing, China in 1995.

As a member of the UN Family, the Mongolian Government prepared this report within its obligations and commitments by responding to the following 42 questions of 6 chapters within the 12 critical areas of the Beijing Platform for Action based on the progresses made in the last 5 years in the country. Mongolian Government took a several levels of systematic approach to conduct national levels comprehensive 1)review of the implementation which includes the sectoral and subnational levels review through collection of data and information about the achievements and challenges in the implementation of Beijing Platform for Action from 16 Ministries, 21 provincial and 9 district level authorities, CSOs as well as UN Agencies, Development Partners working in Mongolia and 2) compiled by the working group established at the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (According to new structure of the Government formed after the 2024 Election, the Ministry is called the Ministry of Family, Social Development and Labor) under the leadership and guidance of the Department of Population Policy of the Ministry. 3) The three national consultants are hired to review and finalize the national report and presented to the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection technical working group for 4) their review and approval. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) provided financial support to the finalization of the national report. In addition, the report is used the evidences from the reports on the implementation of recommendations for the 10th Country Report for CEDAW, the Universal Periodic Review Report, reports from the Programmes implemented with a support of the international organizations, reports from the Government Institutions on the implementation of the Law on Promoting Gender Equality, reports from the SDG 5 implementation, reports on the progresses in the implementation of the Mongolian Government's long term development framework on "Vision-250.

Total population of Mongolia is 3,504,741 in 2023, out of them 1,786,466 and 51,4 are women, 1,718,275 and 49,6 are men and 68 percent of the total population is living in Ulaanbaatar, the capital city of Mongolia. In 2023, women of above 55 are counted as 265,501 and men over 60 are 120,789. Among the elderly, 68.6 percent are women. Out of them 87,869 and 22,8 percent are working. There are 107,075 people with disability in Mongolia and out of them 45,980 are women and 61,095 are men. A total of 98,243 PWDs aged above 15 and 31.6 percent out of them or 31,092 are working¹.

¹ MLSP, 2020

SECTION ONE: Highlights:

The political situation of Mongolia was influenced by several incidences such as the Constitutional Amendment in 2023, the approval of Law on Election, Law on Political Parties as well as several high-level visits of the world leaders. The Election Law Amendment set forth the Quota for women as 30 percent of candidates in 2024 and 40 percent in 2028 and changed the election system, which led to the increase of the women seats at the parliament. The digital Government policy is implemented by the Government services in 2023 and e-Mongolia a digital platform launched which enhanced the access of the Government services to the people, including the ones leaving behind although the internet access is still limited to the people who are living in remote rural areas of Mongolia.

Mongolia is having noteworthy advancements in the area of gender equality according to the Gender Gap Index 2024 issued by the World Economic Forum as Mongolia was ranked at 85 out of the 143 countries. Mongolia was ranked at 1st place by the women's educational and health attainments, and 43th by the women's economic participation which are significant progress in advancing gender equality in the country. However, in some areas of gender equality, particularly, by the women's political participation Mongolia is much low and below the global and regional average with the ranking of 133th place out of 143 countries in the world which is the area where the country definitely needs to pay more attention.

Over 99 percent of the population of Mongolia is literate and one of the great achievements of Mongolia in its efforts of promoting gender equality and women's empowerment is women's educational attainments. Girls and boys have very high completion rate of lower secondary school where 98.1 percent of girls and 93.7 percent of boys complete lower secondary school in Mongolia as of 2022 data², however, women outnumber men in especially in higher education. This inverse education gap has resulted in Mongolia's female-dominated professional class, though the women's high educational level is not always translated into the opportunities and benefits. Men still control the top roles in government and business.

Despite having higher educational attainment than men, Mongolian women are less active in the labor market and earn less on average than men. The female labor force participation rate (LFPR) has fallen by 7.6 percentage points since 2000, whereas that LFPR for man has increased by 3.5 percentage points. The LFPR is 52,8 percent for females while for males is 67.8 percent according to the 2023 statistics³. The key constraints that underlie gender disparity in the labor market include traditional norms and social expectations for men and women regarding marriage, household and care duties, and career choices. The ADB study in 2020 also revealed that the gender inequality at

² UNESCO Institute for Statistics. 2023 <https://apiportal.uis.unesco.org/bdds>. World Bank Gender Data Portal.

<https://liveprod.worldbank.org/en/economies/mongolia#:~:text=In%20Mongolia%2C%20the%20labor%20force,older%20that%20is%20economically%20active>.

³ 1212.mn and ILO. <https://ilostat.ilo.org/data/>. World Bank Gender Data Portal.

<https://liveprod.worldbank.org/en/economies/mongolia#:~:text=In%20Mongolia%2C%20the%20labor%20force,older%20that%20is%20economically%20active>.

the household and work place is one of the key factors in women's labor force participation⁴. The highest LFPR gap is among women of typical childbearing age (20–39), reflecting the expectations that women primarily take childcare responsibilities. Although both men and women receive same salary for the same jobs, women occupy low salary jobs mostly welfare, education, wholesale and retail trade, and hospitality sectors and men occupy high paid jobs in the mining, construction, transportation, public administration and defense, agriculture makes their benefit far more different⁵. Women in Mongolia suffer from a “double burden” that constrains their labor market participation and affects their perceived ability to undertake high-skilled jobs. They spend 2.5 times as much time on unpaid domestic and care work than men according to the data compiled between 2014-2024⁶. Also, the fact that women retire 5 years earlier than men at the age of 55 although women live almost 10 years longer than men. It leads to another significant reason for low LFPR for the age group of 55–59 and limits women's economic gains and shortens the opportunity to contribute to the society as well as to their own lives. Majority of employees in the mining, construction, transportation and storage, public administration and defense, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sectors are male (56.5%–86.5%), whereas women dominate welfare, education, wholesale and retail trade, and hospitality (52.3%–84.3%). This is reinforced by the data of university graduates where men comprise 73% of graduates in information technology, while women comprise 85.5% of graduates in teaching and 83.6% in medical science. As of 2019, the national average monthly wage was 19.7% higher for men than for women, with MNT1,222,600 for male employees against MNT1,021,300 for females⁷. There is a link between female labor force participation and gender-based violence.⁸ According to the NSO, the number of entities running operations in Mongolia in 2021, 38 percent of total entities in the country have female directors. As for businesses in the small and medium enterprises sector, women make up over 60 percent. Despite this, level of women's participation in the economics has begun a downward in recent trends⁹.

Mongolian women are healthier than their counterparts and live longer. The maternal mortality ratio (MMR) declined by 75 per cent between 1990 and 2023 when it stood at 26.4 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births¹⁰. Maternal mortality was 17 in 2023, which decreased by 6 (26.1%) compared to the previous year and the maternal mortality ratio (per 100000 live births) was 26, which declined by 9 (25.7%) from the previous year. At the national level, 63.9 thousand mothers gave birth in 2023, a decrease of 1.2 thousand (1.8%) compared to the previous year. Out of the total, 80.5 percent of mothers visited antenatal care (ANC) 6 and more times, which decreased by 2.8 percentage points compared to the previous year. There were 195 (0.3%) home births registered. In 2023, 41.1 thousand cases of communicable diseases were recorded, showing a decrease of 284.3 thousand (87.4%) cases from the previous year. This decrease was mainly due to coronavirus infection cases reaching 5.0 thousand at the end of 2023, a decrease of 297.0

⁴ ADB Study, 2020

⁵ 1212.mn. NSO, Mongolia

⁶ 1212.mn. NSO, Mongolia

⁷ 1212.mn

⁸ NSO, Mongolia

⁹ Business and Women consultative meeting. on May 24, 2022 organized under the auspices of the President of Mongolia.

¹⁰ MOH statistics (1990-2023)

thousand (98.4%) cases from the previous year. Nationwide, 23 new cases of HIV/AIDS had reported in 2023, and the total number of diagnosed of HIV/AIDS reached 369¹¹.

Average life expectancy for Mongolia by 2023 data is 71.5 years while for men 67.62 and for women 76.85 and there is almost 10 years difference between them¹². According to the Joint study on “Influencing Factors on the difference in male female average life expectancy” conducted by the World Bank (WB) and the National Committee on Gender Equality (NCGE) in 2020, the factors influencing the male shorter lives are men’s morbidity is 1.5 times higher than women; accident-related injury and death is 3.8 times higher than women; suicide is 5.8 times higher; traffic accident is 2.8 times higher, murdered case is 4.1 times higher and majority of death due to factory accidents is occurred among males. Top three causes of death among males are non-communicable disease, accident, and cancer and all three causes are preventable and due to unhealthy lifestyle and lack of health seeking behavior¹³. According to the outpatient data of hospitals, men are 1.5 times less visits to the doctor. Especially, among the 25-34 years old young people's visit was the lowest. According to the respondents of the study, 44.6 percent of them use substance abuse, 36.2 percent of them do not pay attention to their health, 30.0 percent of them lack mobility, undernutrition, and 21.8 percent responded that men are vulnerable to accidents due to the harmful norms of masculinity^{14,15}. In addition, boys living in rural areas are particularly vulnerable to dropping out of school, which creates unemployment, wealth disparities, substance abuse and increased violence, particularly domestic violence.

The country currently ranked 133rd in terms of women's representation in decision-making. More than half of civil servants (60.4%) are women and women outnumbered men in their high educational levels, however only 17.1 percent of parliamentary seats held by women, falling below the global average of 26.5 percent during the 2020-2024; only 3 female Ministers out of 16; 3 vice ministers out of 32; 2 governors out of 30; 3 local parliament speakers out of 30 during the 2020-2024¹⁶. In 2023, the new electoral law was passed and according to the revised Law, the 2024 election was held using a parallel system, with 78 seats elected by multiple non-transferable vote in 13 multi-member constituencies and 48 by closed list proportional representation at the national level with an electoral threshold of 4% for individual parties, 5% for a two-party coalition and 7% for coalitions of three or more parties. Also, parties and coalitions must have candidates running in at least half of the seats in each constituency in order to qualify for proportional seats. The one of the good provisions of the revised Election Law was that party lists must follow the zipper system, while the overall gender ratio of candidates for a party must not be greater than 70:30 or less than 30:70. As a result, women hold 25 percent of the seats at the Parliament in 2024 election and it reached to the regional average level and it was first time in the history of Mongolia since the Parliamentary system is created.

¹¹ Administrative records of the Ministry of Health

¹² https://1212.mn/mn/statistic/statcate/48171303/table-view/DT_NSO_0300_039V1

¹³ Joint study on “Influencing Factors on the difference in male female average life expectancy” by World Bank and the National Committee on Gender Equality. 2020

¹⁴ Qualitative research on “Influencing factors to the difference of average life expectancy between men and women”. World Bank, 2020.

¹⁵ KAP survey on men’s attitude to protect their health and prevent from diseases. NSO/NCGE, 2020.

¹⁶ Global Gender Gap 2024. Insight Report. June 2024. World Economic Forum.

SECTION TWO: Priorities, achievements, challenges and setbacks

1. Over the past five years, what have been the most important achievements, challenges and setbacks in progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women? (3-5 pages)

Over the past five years, there were significant achievements in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in the country as a result of the increased commitment and strengthened capacity of the Mongolian Government, CSOs, and private sectors through the enhanced implementation of the SDGs, Beijing Platform for Action and other international level obligations.

The important achievements are seen in the following five areas¹⁷: 1) **Gender and GBV data availability is increased and utilized** in the policies, programming and planning. Data was collected through the surveys and different data bases and analyzed and provided a general picture of gender equality and GBV situation of the country which contributed to the increased commitments of the Government to promote gender equality and women's empowerment; 2) **Legal environment in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment** as well as protecting women from social and gender discrimination including GBV is strengthened. Within the implementation of the SDG5, BPfA, LPGE, LCDV and other relevant legal frameworks, the 10-year Cross-Sectoral Strategic Plan for Promoting Gender Equality in Mongolia for 202-2031 was approved and started its implementation as a key guiding policy document in the area of gender equality and women's empowerment; 3) **The National capacity in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment** by strengthening the capacity of the national gender machinery, sectoral and local institutions and civil servants including the gender focal points and service providers, and improving the knowledge, attitude and skills of the population including young people through systematic interventions, formal and nonformal educational system; 4) **The coordination mechanisms to ensure the multisectoral and multi-levels of collaboration** is enhanced in the area of promoting gender equality and women's empowerment including the preventing women and girls from all types of discriminations; 5) **Funding commitments from both state and local budgets** as well as from donor community is increased and resulted about 11 bln MNT was allocated in the programmes aimed to eliminate the existing obstacles in moving towards gender equality and root causes of discrimination including GBV during the 2020-2024.

¹⁷ Combating GBV in Mongolia Programme report, 2022. The Government of Mongolia and UNFPA

Table 1. Funding for Gender Equality Activities (by thousand MNT), 2019-2024¹⁸

Table 2: Government Budget Allocation for GBV Prevention and Response (in MNT)¹⁹

	2020	2021	2022	2023	TOTAL
Awareness raising	104,800,000	199,400,000	283,827,000	124,000,000	712,027,000
National Police Agency	84,400,000	84,400,000	148,827,000	59,000,000	376,627,000
Coordination council for crime prevention	20,400,000	115,000,000	135,000,000	65,000,000	335,400,000
Coordination Council for Crime Prevention	145,091,000	405,700,000	314,700,000	205,100,000	1,070,591,000
Prevention activities	145,091,000	73,500,000	60,000,000	32,000,000	310,591,000
Funding support for MDTs	-	332,200,000	254,700,000	173,100,000	760,000,000
Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (for OSSC/shelters, case management and services)	1,665,255,033	1,258,751,400	2,449,359,429	3,347,673,583	8,721,039,445
GRAND TOTAL	1,915,146,033	1,863,851,400	3,047,886,429	3,676,773,583	10,503,657,445

Although significant progresses were made in this area some challenges have encountered in moving towards the gender equality and women’s empowerment and brought some setbacks in the progress towards the goals as indicated in the following areas: **1) Harmful social and gender norms are still persistent** in the people’s mind and society which hindered the full success of achieving the gender equality in Mongolia. Although, there were some initiatives to promote Gender Education including the

¹⁸ NCGE financial report, 2024

¹⁹ “Combating GBV in Mongolia” Project final report. Phase II, 2023

Comprehensive Sexuality Education since the early age of the child, the efforts of reaching the general population with strong gender sensitive programme and messages through various educational interventions as well as young people from their early childhood is still struggling due to the limited number of trained experienced gender experts; **2) The natural disasters (flood in the summer and dzud in the winter) and COVID 19 pandemic crises** significantly impacted in the operations of not only the Government it also influenced at all levels and all entities including the donor, private sector, CSOs and etc although during the last five years, the political situation was a quite stable as the Mongolian People's Party won with dominant seats at the 2020 parliamentary election and established its government independently which sustained until the next election in 2024; **3) Despite the significant increase in funding** in this area comparing to the previous five years there was still shortage in financing the social sector including the gender area, so the Government mainly relied on and managed well the donor and development partners' financial assistance as crises such as the natural disasters and COVID 19 pandemic influenced badly on the world economy and Mongolia wasn't the exception in this field; **4) Implementation of the laws and policies** in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment also **slowed down** during the last five years due to the strong attention was given to deal with the climate change impacts and COVID 19 pandemic related crisis. There were some efforts made by the Government to mainstream the gender aspects in the response to these crisis management efforts to strengthen the resilience and adaptiveness of the population, but the capacity and experience of the government institutions still lacked with expertise to mitigate the risks of the climate change impact and deal with sudden onsets of crisis.

National ownership was a key in the area of promoting gender equality and women's empowerment as the activities in this field are closely aligned with Mongolia's own national priorities and policies, and its implementation fall under the leadership of government ministries, agencies and local authorities. In addition, a human rights-based and Leaving No-One Behind principles as well as gender transformative approaches were encouraged in all aspects of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Government programmes and planning as these approaches ensure that gender equality and discriminative norms in the society is tackled with the perspective that freedom from violence and discrimination is an essential human right that must be protected and promoted at all levels.

2. Over the past five years, what have been the top five priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls in your country through laws, policies and/or programmes?

The country has approved the Mongolia's Long Term Development Policy document: Vision 2050 which is the national aspiration to achieve better socio-economic development for better quality of live for its citizens. Also, the country has approved and implemented the Mongolia development priorities for the 2020-2024 and Government Action Plan for 2020-2024 to operationalize the implementation of the Long-Term Development Plan where it aims to strengthen a national system of human rights protection and access to care and services. Within this framework, the Government of

Mongolia has formulated **following five issues as its priorities:** 1) successful overcoming of the economic and social challenges caused by the pandemic, 2) ensuring human, economic and social development, 3) improving environmental balance and governance, 4) ensuring regional and local development and 5) preserving continuity of the previous government policy.

Within the implementation of these priorities, a number of measures were taken in the legal reform to facilitate the positive results in ensuring the gender equality in the country. For instance, the Revised Election Law which was approved in 2023, has the constitutional changes and enlargement of parliament that allowed for a larger plurality of political parties; the Social Insurance Package Law amendment was approved in 2023 which expended the state assistance to ensure the elimination of disparity among different groups of people; the Labor Law amendment was approved in 2021 which introduced several new standards in line with the international principles in the labor relations, Child Protection Law amendment was approved in 2024 which increased the protection of child from any types of violence as well as discrimination and enhanced the responsibility of everyone at all levels and several other Laws such as Amendments to the Law on Social Protection, Amendments to the Law on Labor Force Migration, and Amendments to the Law on Elderly people were approved by the Parliament and all of which have many positive provisions in favor of women and vulnerable groups of people. Also, The State Great Khural approved the Law on Prevention, Combat, and Mitigation of Social and Economic Impacts of the COVID-19 on April 29, 2020 and since then the law has been amended three times and extended until June 30, 2022. The law included provisions that are essential for the implementation of measures to prevent and combat the spread of the pandemic and to mitigate its negative social and economic impact. According to the Law, the budget authority has been transferred to the Government within the period of the law as specified in the law.

In addition, the Amendments to the Law on Rights of People with Disabilities, the Law on Social Work, the Law on Promoting the Employment and the Amendments to the Law on Social Protection are under development and expected to be approved within the newly formed Parliament. The Family Code which has included many strong provisions to protect women's and child rights in the family sphere was submitted several times to the Parliament during the last almost 15 years including the 2024, unfortunately the discussion hasn't happened yet at the Parliament. This was a very clear sign of the patriarchal ideology is still strongly persistent in the society including the among the men who seats at the Parliament who are dominant in the decision-making power of the country.

The Government prepared and approved the Action Plan for the implementation of the CEDAW recommendations for the Country 10th report during 2022-2026 and implementation is ongoing. Within the implementation of this Action Plan, the Cross-Sectoral Strategic Plan for Promoting Gender Equality in Mongolia for 2022-2031 was endorsed by the National Committee on Gender Equality in 2022 and it outlined key actions to promote gender equality and women's empowerment at the different sectors and levels.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Positive changes in the revised Labor Law enabled the working environment free from harassment and discrimination: The Labor Law has approved in 2021 and it has several positive changes in line with the international standards. It has included a new provision of prohibition of sexual harassment in the workplace, which was not reflected in any other Laws of Mongolia except the Law on Promoting Gender Equality in 2011. The obligations for the employer to create a sexual harassment free work environment and include this provision in the internal rules of the organization as well as set a reporting and complaint resolution mechanisms at the organization. Also, the employer is obliged to ensure the atmosphere where there is no discrimination based on sex, age, sexual diversity and other characteristics, which will contribute to ensure the rights of women and other diverse groups of people in the work relations. Within the implementation of this Law, the National Human Rights Commission has approved the regulations such as “Guideline on creating the sexual harassment free work place” and “Guideline on reflecting the sexual harassment free work place provision and the complaint resolution mechanisms in the internal rules of the organization”. These provisions will contribute to the reduction of work place harassment and improve the conditions for women to work. In addition, the Law also highlighted the prohibition at the work place any discriminations based on sex, age, sexual diversity, disabilities, external appearance and etc. Within this provision, the following acts were prohibited such as asking in appropriate questions, requiring HIV/AIDS or other types of health tests, to identify the pregnancy etc during the hiring process or while performing the work tasks which also provided for women and LGBTI people to feel comfortable and exercise their rights in the work place.

3. Over the past five years, what specific actions have you taken to prevent discrimination and promote the rights of marginalized groups of women and girls?

Mongolian women significantly contribute to the country development, prosperity of the society, family well-being and upbringing of their children. According to the 2023 statistics, women constitute 50.1 percent of total population of the country and there are about 85 thousand women head the household, about 35 thousand women with children below 18 years old are heading the household, 73.2 percent of the elderly people living alone are women. 47.9 percent of the total labor force is women and this is 16.7 percent lower than their male counterparts²⁰.

According to the Constitution of Mongolia provides equal rights to all citizens of Mongolia without focus of origin, sex, gender, or beliefs and status. Discrimination “on the basis of ethnic origin, language, race, age, sex, social origin, or status” is forbidden, and there is official sexual equality “in political, economic, social, cultural fields, and family²¹.” However, there are incidents of violating women’s rights and discrimination of women and marginalized groups of people in the society. The revised Labor Law, in its article 6, it is prohibited the discrimination in the labor relations, in the article 7, the prohibition of sexual

²⁰ 1212.mn

²¹ The Mongolian Constitution

harassment at workplace and accountability mechanisms were set. In 2020, the Parliament approved the Law on Human Rights Defenders and under its implementation, a lot of opportunities are opened up for people to raise their voices and claim their rights. The other legal provisions such as Law on Legal Assistance in 2022, Law on Forensic Services and Law on Child Protection had included the provisions to prevent the discrimination against people in the services and actions such as provision of free services in the case of where the survivors are a victim of sexual violence, below 18 years old, with no pay ability, children living in a risky situations, elderly people, PWDs and lost their labor capacity, single headed mother and father without any discrimination. In addition, the Law on Protection of personal information also highlighted the main principles of respect for human rights without any discrimination including women, marginalized groups of people and the rights of people with diverse sexual behaviors.

The Law on Education also provided provisions on equality in education without any discrimination as a basic principle of educational services. It has highlighted the people with different needs and included the PWDs, with language and cultural difference, and with different development status etc in this category and educational service should be provided to these groups of people without any discrimination by aiming to consider the differences in the approach and methodologies. Also, the privacy and confidentiality of the children who has different needs should be well respected and kept confidential.

In the area of adolescent reproductive rights, the government has taking significant measures to protect their health however, there are some practices needs to be eliminated such as “girls’ examination” is done without any consent from the girls, and care givers and also not keeping the privacy and confidentiality of girls. With a strong CSO movement with support of the international organizations including the World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) the practice is changed with the orders of the Minister of Health in 2019 and 2020 and when it is needed it has to be with consensus, or voluntarily, with strong confidentiality and privacy compliance by the health professionals.

Increasing attention also being paid recently on human rights and discrimination issues due to the deleterious impacts of the rapid expansion of the mining industry in Mongolia as it has impacts on the everyday lives of traditional herders where women play a crucial role. The Gender Policy in the Geology, Mining, Oil, Heavy Industry sector for 2019-2026 has approved in 2019 and aimed to mainstream gender perspective into the sectoral policies, legal environment and daily operations and increase the opportunity to equally benefit by women, men and other diverse groups of people by increasing the gender sensitiveness of people who are working in this sector at all levels. As a result, there were some noticeable changes have occurred in the operations of the sector which was perceived men’s field of work in the past.

CASE EXAMPLE: It was perceived that the mining and heavy industry sector is for men and young people. However, this practice has changed as a result of the implementation of the sectoral gender audit and the gender policy which was developed based on the findings of the gender audit in 2019. The decision was changed where there was

prohibition of women work at the heavy machine and mechanisms. First step was made with the training of the female drivers and started driving the machine with 240-ton weight. As a result, now this was a normal practice as long as women wanted themselves and complete the training with sufficient skills and capacity. By 2023, there are about 30 female drivers are working as an operator of the dump track and enjoying their rights to work in the field they were interested to contribute same as men.

Also, development policies lack to address the issues that the LGBTIQ community experience. In some cases, although there is legal framework exists, unfortunately, the implementation is not enough. The revised Criminal Code included the prevention of discrimination, which was a big step in the human rights area. Even our Constitution doesn't have such a provision. Unfortunately, not a single case (related to LGBT people) has been resolved since the approval of the revised Criminal Code in 2015²². Therefore, LGBTIQ community is a bit careful in the legal framework and supportive mechanism due to fear and challenges they face in society. Some transgender women sell sex, and transphobic people lure them and perpetrate hideous violence against them. Those victims refuse to go to the police due to fear. LGBT human rights are left behind. Much is needed to be done in this area.

4. Over the past five years, how has the confluence of different crisis affected the implementation of the BPfA in your country, and what measures have you taken to prevent their negative impacts on progress for women and girls?

Mongolia is a country which is highly prone to a natural hazard including harsh Dzud where there is extreme cold with huge snowfalls, floods, droughts, dust and sandstorms as well as increased earthquake frequency and scale etc. Also, Mongolia is one of the countries most affected to the Global Warming²³ which caused to extreme weather events and climate hazard. These natural hazards often cause vulnerability and survival challenge, particularly to a women, girls, disabled people, pregnant women, children and people living in remote and hard to reach locations.

During the reporting period, especially during the first 3 years starting from 2000, the COVID 19 pandemic impacted in all aspects of the people' lives including all cohorts of from poor to wealthy in different ways. Particularly, the restrictive measures to prevent the spread of the pandemic in the country taken by the Government led to the increases of stress levels among the population due to limited resources, opportunities and access to the necessary services as well as limited the business, educational, cultural development opportunities of the population. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the MMR rose sharply, increasing three-fold from 23 per 100,000 live births in 2019 to 92 in 2021.²⁴ During the most stringent COVID-19 pandemic restrictions in 2020, police data showed a 30 per cent spike in reported GBV cases compared to the same period pre-COVID²⁵.

²² LGBT center-Enkhmaa. The discussion with CSOs in 2022

²³ Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance, Mongolia Disaster Management Reference Handbook, May 2022.

²⁴ Health Development Center, Ministry of Health, Health indicators, 2021.

²⁵ Health Development Center, Ministry of Health, Health indicators, 2021

The Government took a number of measures to protect women, and vulnerable groups of people from the impact of COVID 19 pandemic which included increased the amount of welfare and food assistant to the single mother with 3 or more children, also increased the child money up to 100,00MNT from 20,000MNT, social insurance pay discount, tax exemption and postponed the loan payment for 6 months etc contributed a lot to the family income which resulted in the increase of household consumption in the 3-4th quarter of 2020 from the first quarter of 2020 and average assistant money per person was increased 40 percent in 2020 from the amount of 2018.

While the country was aiming to restore the economy and lives of the population, Mongolia also has experienced severe winter called “Dzud” where there are a lot of snow falls in several years since 2022 and roads were blocked and population living in remote areas were distanced from the access to social, health, supply and other necessary services. In addition, the flood hit the UB city as well as in some of the provinces in the summer of 2022 and 2023 and damaged the properties of people and increased vulnerability of the affected groups. COVID 19 pandemic, severe winter called “Dzud” and flood impacted on the Government operations at the National and local levels, private sector and herders as much of the attention, human and financial resources of the Government Institutions have to be directed to the disaster management, saving people and animals, and properties; private sector companies where some of them and their workers lost their properties and goods in the flood and experienced a huge amount of damage and loss, and herders living in the affected areas out of which many of them lost their animals which was a main source of their lives etc. All these challenges caused some levels of diversion on the attention and resources from the other aspects of the social and economic life although the disaster management and response plans were attempted to mainstream the gender and gender equality issues in them and care about women, girls and the groups often marginalized. However, the Government took all necessary measures to mitigate the risks of the crisis of COVID 19 pandemic, dzud and flood emergencies and successfully managed to save lives of women, girls and people from the marginalized groups and dealt with minimum loss.

The Government commitments articulated in the Vision 2050²⁶ which is in line with SDGs and principles of Leaving No One Behind, which was a core of the response during the above-mentioned crisis. The Law on Disaster Protection was revised in 2017 and it established the legal basis of the disaster preparedness and response framework. Following the Law approval, the Disaster Management plans at the national, subnational, sectoral and organizational levels and state and local funding has allocated for the implementation of these plans. Sectors are established disaster management coordination structure and financing commitment for the affected population when disaster hits, training system of its staff and service providers on disaster management and specific roles of the particular sector staff.

Overall, there is a lack of funds for emergency preparedness, response and recovery and it impacted to the response capacities, particularly at the subnational level, therefore, the government efforts are often supplemented by NGOs and international organizations. The

²⁶ State Great Khural of Mongolia, Resolution No. 52 of 2020, “Vision-2050”-Long-term Development Policy of Mongolia.

National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is actively seeking to engage the general population in the preparedness and response to the emergencies and one of the examples is that in June ,2023, the NEMA organized a nation-wide disaster drill. As a result, the government identified the areas which needs an improvement such as need to improve the levels of preparedness and knowledge of the general population as well as organizations on the importance of the preparedness and coordination among government agencies.

The 2017 Disaster Protection Law of Mongolia established a comprehensive policy framework for disaster preparedness, response, and recovery across the country. This legislation mandates that administrative and territorial units, state and local administrative bodies, disaster protection organizations, and legal entities must develop and maintain disaster management plans (DMPs).²⁷ Following the revision of the Disaster Protection Law, the government developed detailed instructions and standardized protocols on the structure and content of national, subnational and organizational DMPs.²⁸

5. Over the next five years, what are the priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls in your country through laws, policies and/or programmes?

Over the next five years, the following should be **prioritized**²⁹ and they are: 1) Integration of gender, and gender equality issues in policies, programmes and plans to address the harmful social and gender norms and power inequality: The issue of gender and gender equality including the issue of GBV prevention and response and provision of and access to services are mentioned in the legal and policy documents but not explicitly address the root causes which is key to address the inequality. Therefore, the gender transformative approach needs to widely introduced and strategies and interventions aimed to improve the gender equality and women's empowerment in the country should be focused on eliminating or changing the negative social and gender norms as well as the power dynamics which are the root causes of the inequality. 2) Strengthening the national and local capacity to implement the existing Laws and regulations: Many good legal reforms were done in the past five years; therefore, it is time to focus on strengthening the implementation of those Laws and regulations through continuous efforts to improve the coordination among the sectors, levels and organizations by encouraging effective partnerships. 3) Increasing the availability of gender statistics continuously: Although much progresses were made in the area of gender statistics through the effective partnership of NSO and NCGE there is need to continue strengthen the data availability over the time. For example, first nation-wide GBV survey was conducted in 2017 and it has to be repeated with 7-10 years sequences in order to see the trend as well as impacts of the interventions carried our by the Government, CSO and private sector to deal with the GBV including the reducing the gender inequality and changing the social norms which causes the inequality. The GBV nation-wide survey to be conducted in 7-10 years sequence needs to be included the Statistics Law and conduct second national level GBV survey. 4) Funding for gender equality including the emergencies: The funding

²⁷ Law of Mongolia on Disaster Protection, 2017 article 8.1.

²⁸ Instruction for Developing Disaster Protection Plans, Annexes 1,2,3 to the Deputy Prime Minister's Order No. 120 of 2018.

²⁹ The readiness assessment of the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) in 2024. MOH, UNFPA

commitment has increased significantly comparing to the 2015, however, there is a still need to increase the state and local funding instead of reliance on the international community financial support. It is important to find a way to make the funding readily available by learning the good practices in the world. 5) Leaving No One Behind: Access to all types of services including during the emergencies continuously needs to be improved for marginalized and under-served groups, particularly those living in remote rural areas and persons with disabilities. 6) Continuous capacity building and development of human resources: There is a limited number of gender experts in Mongolia, especially among the young professionals. The systematic approach will be taken to strengthen the local capacity to address the gender inequality and create an equitable society where everyone can enjoy exercising their rights and freedom.

SECTION THREE: Progress across the 12 critical areas of concern

One. INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT, SHARED PROSPERITY AND DECENT WORK

6. Over the past five years, what actions has your country taken to advance gender equality in the world of work (including informal and non-standard employment as well as entrepreneurship)?

The Mongolian Government is seeking to diversify and modernize its economy as well as through the policy reforms, Mongolia is aspiring to update a regulatory framework to respond to a rapidly changing economic and social context. One of the examples is that the Amendment to the Labor Law was approved in July 2021 by the Parliament and started to be implemented in January 1, 2022. The Law aimed to prepare a cadre with competitive capacity at the labor market, create a harmonized and balanced relationship among the employee, employer and social partnership, encourage the work-life balances as well as to ensure the national labor market be in line with the international labor market trends. The New Law made the labor regulations in line with ILO standards including the protections for the workers. Now the Government is working to implement the renewed labor regulations through improving its enforcement and be in compliance.

Although Mongolia has a quite high gender development and high levels of women's education, the labor force participation rate is decreasing throughout the last 20 years and labor division between men and women as well as the percentage of women entrepreneurs among the total there is big gap exists. The labor force participation rate among females is 52.8 percent and among males is 67.8 in 2023. Women occupy low salary jobs mostly welfare, education, wholesale and retail trade, and hospitality sectors and men occupy high paid jobs in the mining, construction, transportation and storage, public administration and defense, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sectors are male although if men and women work at the same position the salary is same. Also, women retire 5 years earlier than men and it limits the economic gaining and opportunity to contribute to the society. Statistics show that unemployment among young women is primarily attributed to childbirth and childcare, due to the limited availability of childcare services causing long gaps in their professional career. The traditional norms still

reenforces women's role in childbirth and encouraging women to have more children due to the pronatalist policy by giving a Honored mother medal of 1st level is where women have 6 children, and 2nd level is with 4 children. Also, with a title of "Sacred daughter-in law" for those who give a birth of 3 sons etc. Although the medal and this title is a sign of valuing women's labor and efforts dedicated to raise children, however, it is also sign of discrimination of those who had no or less children or who had 3 daughters, and it is a human rights violation.

The good news was that Mongolia's labor market key indicators were positive even after the COVID 19 pandemic during the 2021-2023. According to the NSO data³⁰, by the end of 2023, total of 2231.7 thousand population of working age, out of them 1285.1 thousand are in the labor force and 946.6 are out of labor force population. The unemployment rate has decreased by 1.3 points from 5,4 percent in 2023 and the number of unemployed people is decreased by 15.4 thousand people. The poverty level was 27.2 percent in 2022 and it was decreased by 1.3 comparing to the 2018. The household income increased by 22.6 percent in 2023 comparing to 2022 and average wage is increased by 48.6 percent³¹.

One of the new features in the labor market is that there is an increasing trend of increase in informal employment and since the 2010, and most of the child, family care, and domestic work is on the shoulder of women. In the last a few years, the agricultural business increase by 40 percent and informal business increase by 80 percent in UB. The government now has a data on the labor market trends including what types of job is needed or to be created in which sector and which region, what types of professionals needed to be prepared etc and it allows the government to manage and direct the human resource policies into the sectors where labor force absorption is high and with high productivity. In addition, according to the New Labor Law, and apprentice's base salary shall not be less than 70 percent of a base salary of full-time employee performing the same types of work. A probationary worker's base salary must be the same as the base salary of the same position. Employees are entitled to be paid annual leave. Employees are entitled to a basic period of regular leave of 15 working days per year. The length of the regular holiday for an employee under 18 years of age is 20 working days. An employee due to his/her own request may enjoy their regular holiday in parts during the year concerned. In addition to the basic period, employees working under normal working conditions shall be awarded additional leave days (from 3-14 working days for 1-32 and more years of work), considering the length of their record of service, and their working conditions. An employer shall pay to an employee whose agreement is terminated; severance pay in an amount equal to at least the employee's average salary for one month.

The Government of Mongolia created a "Labor and social partnership tripartite consensus for 2023-2025" with the Employer Association and Trade Union in 2023. This consensus has included the commitment to increase the employment of young people and women who's the labor force participation rate is low and also to provide an opportunity to work

³⁰ NSO data for 2021-2023

³¹ NSO, 2023

with flexible hours, working from distance or home arrangements for elderly, people with disabilities, women, and young people. Within the implementation of the tripartite consensus, there are some progresses in the employment promotion initiatives such as protection of people with low salaries below the poverty line, strengthening the value for the work, the increase of the lowest salary line, shift to the salary system based on the results and performance, reform in the social insurance policy, enhancement of the implementation of the Labor Law provisions, conduct the labor force and labor market research and etc. In addition, the joining to the ILO Labor control Convention No 81, 129 was approved by the Parliament and it opened up the opportunity for Mongolia to improve the compliance with the international labor norms and principle, to be able to fully meet the expectations of the international trade partners as well as ensure the political stability and accountability obligations through good governance in regards to increase the benefits from the foreign trade and investment initiatives.

Mongolian Government created a total of 123.5 thousand work places through expanding the production and services within its economic initiatives during the 2020-2040 and implemented the green work place programme to increase the jobs relevant to the specific needs of the population groups and support the employment of youth, elderly, disabled people, women and young people by preparing them for the employment and encouraging the business entities in hiring these groups of people with promotions. A total of 213.5 thousand people enrolled in this programme during the 2020-2023. Also, support was provided loans to those who create a job, who start micro and start-up businesses and aiming to increase their circulating capitals with no interest or with soft terms. For example, financial support of 10,0 mln MNT with a condition to be paid back was provided to 25 + years old citizen who has a plan to run small business, production and service and also financial support of 8,0 mln MNT with a condition to be paid back within 36 months for herders with no animals or with less than 200 animals from 21 provinces and remote 3 districts of UB. Total of 7322 citizens (more than a half of them are women) are enrolled in the financial support programme and received 31.4 bln MNT and there are 5823 jobs were created in 2023. Also, loans of 10-50 mln MNT with small interests were given to those who has plan to do small business or expand their private business or the citizen who returned from abroad to live in the country and also a total of 33.0 bln MNT loans were provided to 2320 small business runners more than half of them are women and there are 5210 jobs were created in 2023³².

The Mongolian Government included the promotion of youth employment in the 12 priority areas of the SDG implementation accelerators and Ministry of Labor and Social Protection started to implement the pilot programmes such as “Supporting the employer” and “Building of skills matched with the demand”. Within these initiatives, financial support of 550.0-825.0 thousand MNT per month for the duration of 5 months will be provided if entities are running business at the local levels or working in one of the government priority areas or hiring those who is struggling to find a job including young people in accordance to the “Rural Restoration” and “New Recovery Policies”. Skill building short-term trainings which includes professional and soft skills building are planned and total of 6.2 thousand people are expected to be enrolled in this initiative.

³² MLSP, 2024

In addition, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection is taking measures to eliminate the imbalance between the demand and supply and reducing the labor deficit in the labor market. For instance, the projection analysis was done in terms of demand of jobs and professions until 2035 and the employment policy framework including skill building will be prepared using the findings with a focus on improving the linkage between education and labor market, relationship between macro and micro levels of the economy and strengthening the employment impacts to the socio-economic development³³.

The Mongolian Government implemented in close collaboration with UNDP the project on “Business and Human Rights” with the financial support from EU and Japanese Government. The National Action Plan to promote the responsible business practices and human rights and gender sensitive business in close partnership with business entities, and CSOs. The Action Plan included the activities to promote gender equality in business by ensuring women’s equal participation in the business world and making sure the work places are be friendly and without any discrimination. Within this framework, about 900 business people were trained on gender responsive business and 20 companies are joined in the movement to create a gender sensitive work place and eliminate the work place discrimination and harassment. Also, the gender sensitive policy was developed and approved at the banking sector and provided financial loans of 50 mln MNT without any deposits to the female headed small, middle business entities with the EU funding support which enabled women to enter the business and encourage actively participate in the economic development of the country.

7. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to recognize, reduce and/or redistribute unpaid care and domestic work, promote work-life and family balance and strengthen the rights of paid care workers?

ADB Study in 2020 identified that women are more engaged in care economy and unpaid domestic work which limits their opportunity to participate in labor force³⁴. In the area of care economy, with the Women’s NGOs initiative, the Women’s Policy Forum is organized and the issue of care economy and unpaid domestic work was raised and discussed. Concrete proposal was conveyed to the Government and Ministry of Labor and Social Protection to increase the welfare assistance money up to the same levels of the lowest levels of the wage which is 560,000 MNT (about 160USD\$) to the women who is caring the children aged 0-3 and disabled children and family members.

According to the amendment of the Labor Law in 2021 and its article 43.3, the employer is obliged to ensure the work-life balance of its employees by managing the work and rest times and setting the regulations of flexible hours of work is in place. This is a good practice which brought the pressure on both men and women to balance their work and family responsibilities and reflected the new realities of today’s socio-economic context. It will contribute to the job quality and encourage labor force participation, particularly among women.

³³ MLSP, 2024

³⁴ ADB Study, 2020

The Law also defined labor rights and working conditions for part-time, remote, and home-based work which were not included in the old law and was not a practice in the Mongolian society. Generally, the core principle of this Law was to treat all forms of job equally such as the law stated that home-based workers should access the same labor rights as full-time working at the employer's workplace. Another good feature of the Law is that it introduced the paid leave for fathers at least 10 working days which means for two weeks when the new baby is born or the mother or father with a child under three years of age in addition to the maternity leave for 120 days were provided in the old Law. It was a gender-balanced provision and would contribute to the reduction and/or redistribution of child care and domestic work and promotion of work-life and family balance.

The Labor law also has a gender specific provisions such as female employees are entitled to up to 120 days of paid maternity leave; it is prohibited to make a pregnant woman, mother of a child under 8 years of age, or a single mother of a child under 16 years of age without her consent, to work at night, overtime or send her on assigned trips; besides the rest, food and regular break, an additional break of two hours to feed and take care of a child shall be provided to a woman with a child under six months of age or to a woman with twins under one year of age; and a break of one hour to a woman with a child between the ages of six months and one year or to a woman with a child who has reached one year of age, but needs special care according to a medical conclusion.

When the family adopted a child, an adopting mother is entitled to have an equal leave as a mother who gives birth to a child until the child reaches 60 days old. This law shall equally apply to single fathers with a newborn child. Also, a woman who has delivered a stillborn child or has interrupted a pregnancy with hospital procedure or had an abortion after 196th day of pregnancy the general regulation on granting sick leave shall be applied, and such leave shall be granted³⁵.

The financial assistance to the loss of work ability, pregnancy and after delivery of baby are provided through online system such as ww.ndaatgal.mn or e-Mongolia system, which save the money for printing of the forms as well as it saves the time for the people's travel and waiting time. In addition, the amendment to the Law on Labor Force Migration was approved in January of 2023 by the Parliament which included a provision of transforming some roles of the state to the private sector entities and professional associations as well as 50 percent discount of the work place payment for foreign workers etc. Also, the Revisions of Laws on Civil Service and Rights of People with Disabilities are approved and according to these, it has reduced twice the requirement for the People with Disabilities to work at the civil service.

8. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to reduce the gender digital divide?

³⁵ Labor Law, 2022

In 2020, the Mongolian government set out its five-year mission to build a “Digital Nation”, harnessing data and technology to facilitate innovation, streamline public services, and diversify Mongolia’s mining-reliant economy.

There are 2.50 mln active users of social media by January 2024 and it has increased by 200,000 (by 8.7 percent) from Jan 2023. About 85.8 percent of Mongolia's total internet user base (regardless of age) used at least one social media platform by January 2024. At that time, 52.0 percent of Mongolia's social media users were female, while 48.0 percent were male³⁶. Affordability and accessibility are an important dimension of the digital divide not only in Mongolia, but the majority of the developing countries. The Government of Mongolia is committed to become a Digital Nation, which the government see the most effective and relevant solution for the country as it has sparsely populated small number of populations with a huge territory. The Government launched the e-Mongolia platform in Oct 2020 and established the Innovation and Digital Policy Standing Committee at the Parliament. Also, the Parliament of Mongolia has approved the new Laws such as Law on Personal Data Protection and Law on Public Information and Open Data, the Law on Cybersecurity and Digital Signature in recent years. The e-Mongolia platform is used widely and saves times and efforts of the general population and increased access to those who are unable to travel through to get variety of state services. Particularly, during the COVID 19 pandemic and restrictive measure period, the e-Mongolia was used widely and increased access to the government services.

However, Mongolian youth, particularly those who are living in remote rural areas and ger district of UB often face the digital divide due to the connection and electricity limitation. School drop outs, unemployment, mental health issues and early sexual and family activities are more vulnerable to this divide³⁷. The Law on social media transparency, Law to protect the personal data, Law on electronic signature were approved by the Parliament which ensured the safety of people to use the internet as well as to save time, money and efforts. Also, the government implemented STEM Programme to prepare the nation in digital transformation and to protect to create an inequality in the use of internet and digital system. Also, the “Code writing girls programme” was implemented among women and girls, as a result, the number of girl students in the IT Universities and working women at different sectors who can use the digital technologies with confidence has increased. The implementation of the Code writing girls programme is expanded to the rural areas and many girls and women are enrolled in this programme which would definitely contribute to the reduction of the digital divide in rural settings.

In addition, the Digital development and communication sector approved the Gender strategy and action plan in January 2023 and the implementation is under way. The strategy is aimed to contribute to the creation of favorable conditions for boys, girls, men and women and other groups with different needs to live and work, and to improve the access to the public services, and to reduce the inequality, including the discrimination and negative social norms in the society. The digital technology would give much more opportunities for vulnerable and marginalized groups of people including the people with

³⁶ DataReportal, 2024

³⁷ UNDP, 2024. Mongolia Development Analysis: <https://mongolia.un.org/mn/resources/publications>

disabilities, elderly people, people living in remote areas, ethnic minority etc to contribute to the society as well as to get benefit from the socio-economic development. Also, the gender strategy of the digital development sector included the comprehensive interventions to develop the appropriate skills and attitude to use the internet to protect them from violence, attack and cyber-dependency and interventions to improve the digital literacy among the population by conducting the code writing, web designing courses for boys and girls and people with diverse needs. However, there are a lot needs to be done. Digital world provides a lot of opportunities to its users as well as it also creates tremendous risks to people's lives. Therefore, fundamental law reform to identify the mechanisms of information sharing among the government as well as between people with proper protection and safety³⁸.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Reducing the digital divide: The Ministry of Digital Development and Communication has created a partnership with UNDP Mongolia through signing MOU to advance the Digital Nation Strategy of the Mongolian Government and support the Ministry's work on inclusive and sustainable growth through digitalized services of the Government and building skills to use these services. This partnership contributed a lot to reduce the digital divide by improving the digital literacy of the population including the vulnerable and marginalized groups of people³⁹. Within the partnership, with the technical and financial support of UNDP Mongolia through its Accelerator Lab resulted the increase of digital access and the digital literacy of the vulnerable groups including people with disabilities, elderly, rural and low-income households⁴⁰. Also, the government piloted the project with UNDP Accelerator Lab among the disabled people and first experiment started with the Mongolian National Federation of the Blinds by chosen a few key websites and applications including the government services, shopping, banking, news and entertainment; developed a methodology to test the accessibility related issues through running the accessibility software; finding solutions together with the website developers the issues which hindered or create a challenge for the people with special needs etc. As a result, the government developed and approved the national accessibility standards and quality assurance systems to ensure the participation of the people with special needs.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Empowering women entrepreneurs through B2B platform⁴¹: Between 2021 and 2024, The Asia Foundation implemented "Supporting Women Entrepreneurs in Mongolia Using Digital Platforms for Business to Business" to broaden support for women entrepreneurs in Mongolia through technology and digital innovations. The project was implemented in partnership with [Gerege Systems LLC](#), [Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#) (MNCCI), [Beautiful Hearts Against Violence NGO](#), and [Green Balloon LLC](#). The project reached over 250 mentee women entrepreneurs through training and advice, 28 women through 150 clinical hours of psychosocial services on the platform, 25 registered women-owned businesses

³⁸ Ministry of Digital Development and Communication, Feb, 2022: <https://www.urbanet.info/digital-governance-mongolia/#:~:text=In%202020%2C%20the%20Mongolian%20government,diversify%20Mongolia's%20mining%2Dreliant%20economy>.

³⁹ UNDP, Mongolia, 2022: <https://www.undp.org/mongolia/press-releases/undp-mongolia-and-ministry-digital-development-and-communication-partner-advancement-digital-nation-strategy>

⁴⁰ UNDP Mongolia, 2021: <https://www.undp.org/mongolia/blog/bridging-digital-divide-mongolia>

⁴¹ <https://b2b.wbc.mn/>

through platform registration, and over 4.5 thousand people through social media clicks. Through B2B platform, the platform has 158 registered clients, and 21 shops, including Ashid Nuudelchin, Fine Wool, PolyPack, Solongo Soap, Aquila, Shijir Goyol, Basu, and Khainag Tolgoi Cooperative have set up their profiles as a result of the project. The platform has reached over 600 women entrepreneurs in Orkhon and Darkhan-Uul province.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Strengthening Digital E-Mongolia Services and Communities: The Government agencies including Ministry of Digital Development and Communication and Communications and Innovation, Ministry of Education, Regulatory Agency for State Digital Services are implemented a Joint Programme on Strengthening Digital E-Mongolia Services and Communities in partnership with UNDP, UNICEF, UN RCO. The programme aimed to Achieve the Government’s **"Digital Nation"** vision in line with its priorities of eliminating the digital divide and improving access to digital public services through capacity building of civil servants and provision of basic digital skills training and digital public services to the target population via the establishment of a Mobile KhurDan Unit and Digital Training Facility and strengthening access and digital inclusivity by training School-based Digital Community Information Workers (DCIW) and enhancing basic digital skills of vulnerable groups in underserved remote target areas. Within this programme it is expected that delivery of gender sensitive E-Mongolia services, tailored to serve remote underserved areas and marginalized communities is strengthened; access for E-Mongolia services through mobile KhurDan unit reaching 3,000+ citizens, of which at least 50% are women and girls are assisted; proficiency in basic digital skills and utilization of E-Mongolia services of civil servants and citizens in rural and underserved communities is enhanced; capacity will be built in basic digital skills of 2,000 citizens and 310 public servants, including 50% women, through mobile KhurDan unit and Digital Training Facility. A total of 10 Master trainers (of which at least 3 will be women) will be trained. In addition, Community Digital Literacy through School-Based DCIWs and Improved Connectivity via Real-Time Monitoring is enhanced and a total of 60 School-based Digital Community Information Workers, 30 officials, and 2,500 parents and community members, of which at least 50% will be women will be trained. The programme is expected to reach to 7,600 people.

9. In the past five years, how has the macroeconomic and fiscal policy environment affected the implementation of the BPfA in your country, and what macroeconomic policies has your country implemented in support of a more gender-equal economy?

Economic crisis caused by COVID-19 was huge in Mongolia as it was a case for every part of the world. The economy OF Mongolia falls into a deep 4.6% reduction in 2020 and 5.4% of jobs were lost during 2020. With the government decision to restrict the mobility under COVID-19, all sectors including the mining, services, and industries has challenges except the agricultural sector expanded. However, in the first half of 2023, GDP expanded by 6.4% and economy started to restore. Mongolia had consistently focused on strengthening its public sector management performance by focusing to address the

challenges the country was facing and took initiative to create a favorable legal environment of country's economic development including the approval of Law on Public-Private partnership (2023) which stimulated the ongoing work on public-private partnership regulations, and work on the revisions on the Law on Investment.

The introduction of the gender Responsive Budgeting into the Programming and Planning was promoted by the Mid-term strategy to implement the Law on Promoting Gender Equality for 2013-2016, the National Programme on Promoting Gender Equality for 2017-2021 and later the government commitment was reassured in the Cross-Sectoral Strategy to promote the Gender Equality for 2022-2031 and its implementation over the recent years. The government allocated 300.0 mln MNT (100,000 mln USD\$) for the implementation of the National Programme on Gender Equality for 2017-2021 in 2019 first time and it has increased to 1 bln MNT (350.mln USD\$) in 2020 in the Government Action Plan (2020-2024) in the implementation of the Gender National Programme. In addition, the government was allocated 20 mln MNT to the implementation of the Law to Combat Domestic Violence (LCDV) in 2016 when the LCDV was approved and it has increased to 10 bln MNT in 2023 with the commitment of the state and local budget increase in establishing the survivor protection mechanisms in the country as well as in strengthening the national capacity to implement the Law to create a safe living condition for the women and girls of the country. According to the Ministries order of the Labor and Social Protection and Finance, the "Normative to provide financial assistance to the child protection services" were approved in 2022 and it included the centers who provide services to the disabled kids. As a result, a total of 210.1 mln MNT was provided to the 10 centers 386 children in 2022; a total of 127,2 mln MNT was provided to 6 centers 127 children in first half of 2023. In addition, a total of 2.6 mln MNT was provided to the development and services in 2021 and 23.3 mln MNT for improving the conditions of the center in 2022.

Although the Government has identified its policy to restore the economy after the COVID 19 pandemic in close link with the rural development policies which included the focus on the diversifying the country economy, supporting the regional development by creating the favorable living and working conditions for young people so far not much results haven't been shown as it may require some time to bring the changes. The government policy to promote the regional development policy aimed to develop the agricultural sector as one of the priority sectors of the economy which is aimed to be a nature friendly, resilient to the climate change impacts, relevant to the modern development trend and needs, and has sustainable production capacity. Within this policy, the government announced the 2024 as a year of "Promoting the Regional Development" and it aimed to eliminate the rural and urban differences, improve the life conditions of the rural herders, increase their income, encourage the young families to live in the rural areas etc. The policy is approved to support the wheat cultivation which contributed to the increase of nutrition supply and safety of the population and promote the sustainable agricultural practice in the country. However, there is a need to do more research on the impact of the wheat cultivation on the soil quality for a long period of time and ways to mitigate if there is a risk for it as well as improve the capacity of the national professionals on

monitoring the impacts of the programmes and provide advice as needed⁴². Within the promotion of the regional development initiative, the e-job platform was linked to the e-Mongolia system where the information in regards to the promotions to live in rural towns as well as the announcements of jobs created in the rural areas. As a result, 64 out of the 72 types of services regarding the employment, social insurance and protection were digitalized in 2023 and 99 percent of all recipients of social welfare assistance were able to be connected and have an access to the services.

Despite decades of efforts, gender-based inequalities persist in economies as the economic structures and systems that generate discrimination remain unchanged. Fiscal policies and tax systems and inequitable public spending, often produce or reinforce these inequalities and widen gender gaps. In response to that, UNDP has launched the EQUANOMICS Initiative and Gender Equality Seal for Public Institutions in partnership with government. The initiatives aimed to make public finance work for gender equality by aligning their policies, procedures and services with gender equality objectives. The Gender Equality Seal for Public Institutions program is UNDP's flagship voluntary awarding program that supports public institutions to build their capacities, make public administration reforms towards gender equality and improve their results and impacts in reducing gender inequality gaps in their specific area of intervention. A pioneer in the Asia Pacific region, Mongolia is actively engaged in the EQUANOMICS Initiative through the Gender Equality Seal programme with a focus on the role of the tax system for gender equality. The Gender machinery (National Committee on Gender Equality, NCGE) was engaged throughout the Seal journey of the tax authority and is ready to support the General Tax Authority to disseminate the best practice cases to other public institutions. This includes an ambitious journey of institutional transformation currently underway at the General Tax Authority (GTA) (see details below).

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Gender-responsive Public Institutions-General Tax Authority of Mongolia is pioneering gender equality in the public finance sector.

The EQUANOMICS Initiative and Gender Equality Seal for Public Institutions is implemented primarily to Ministry of Finance, Tax administrations and other fiscal governance institutions in Mongolia. Through this work, GTA has already shown remarkable progress in aligning its institutional policies and programs with gender equality and has emerged as a leading champion for gender equality within Mongolia's public sector and beyond, potentially becoming the first tax administration in the world to be awarded a Gender Equality Seal. Mongolia has a very strong legal framework and national policies on gender equality, but it was a fact that public institutions have struggled to effectively implement them because of limited awareness, capacity and knowledge, particularly in institutions that seem not to be directly linked to gender equality. The General Tax Authority has made commendable progress in the implementation of institutional reforms to comply with the Seal standards in relatively short period of time. **The following are the key results achieved by GTA: 1) Leadership and Management commitment increased: GTA has established an official Gender sub-council under the authority of National Committee on Gender Equality with 12 members and officially integrated into the Organigram. For the first time, Gender Action Plan was approved and**

⁴² Ministry of Food and Agriculture, 2023

is under implementation with allocated budget. GTA has officially approved permanent full time, dedicated gender officer position and is under recruitment. 2) **Institutional disaggregation of data:** all internal and taxpayer databases are now being disaggregated by gender, age and other dimensions. Gender statistics and sex-disaggregated data is used in all of the GTA's M&E processes and practices. 3) **Budgeting procedures have been revised:** Finance staff have been trained on gender-responsive budgeting, currently GTA is working on tagging budget expenditures directed to address gender inequality issues in tax services. 4) **Systemic capacity building approach on gender at all levels:** Gender training needs assessment has been conducted among staff and learning plan was developed and 95% of the staff from all department and units are trained on gender mainstreaming tailored to their specific tasks. Prepared 20 training of trainers' pool at GTA. 5) **Working environment is more inclusive and a zero tolerance to sexual harassment is in place and widely communicated among staff:** All staff have been trained on the prevention of workplace sexual harassment and abuse policies and the internal staff regulation has been revised accordingly with proper retaliation policy and complaint mechanism. An extra room for breastfeeding was created and children's playroom have been upgraded. Gender-sensitive and human rights communication guidelines have been introduced to reduce gender biases in the communication. 6) **Partnership has expanded on Gender Equality:** For the first time, GTA officially signed a collaboration agreement with women's CSO (Women's Labor rights NGO) to carry out training to enhance female taxpayers' education and institutionalized a CSO council (including women's movement) to better inform tax services. In addition, GTA has concluded a joint working plan with the national gender machinery (National Committee on Gender Equality) to disseminate good practices to other public institutions and localize the Gender Seal model into Mongolian context, now leading Mongolian public institutions in efforts for gender equality at institutional level. Moreover, 20 GTA officers completed NCGE's training of trainers on gender mainstreaming. These officers are now certified trainers and can deliver workshops to colleagues across the tax sector (UB and districts). 7) ***For the first time,*** GTA together with Ministry of Finance carried out a ***Tax and Gender impact assessment*** focuses on personal income tax and care economy aspects, with the goal to integrate gender-transformative approach into Tax policy. 8) **Expansion of the program:** Building on the strong legal environment, UNDP's Gender Equality Seal approach was a good tool to capacitate and equip with necessary knowledge of GTA staff to make the necessary public administration reforms to operationalize gender into all aspects of its work and contribute to the National Gender Equality Policy of Mongolia. Collection of evidence and putting in place the necessary public administration reforms to meet the Gender Seal quality standards requires good level of understanding, ownership and commitment from leadership and staff.

Two: POVERTY REDUCTION, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

10. In the last five years, what actions has your country taken to reduce/eradicate poverty among women and girls?

Mongolian Government social and welfare policies mainly directed to reduce the poverty among the poor households including women and girls. They implemented the “child money” programme starting the early 2020 which was the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic and provided monetary assistance to 1.1 mln children through their parents. It increased the income of poor family’s minimum by 240,000MNT (approx. 70 USD\$) per month which was contributed to cover the household food, hygiene and sanitation supplies. Also, the Government amended 8 laws and out of them 7 are approved by the Parliament, they are: The amendment of the Law on Migration of the Labor Force in December, 2021 which included the provision related to coordinate the relationship on the release of labor force to foreign countries and receive foreign labor force and professionals. The amendment to the Labor Law was approved by the Parliament in 2021 after 22 years of continuous advocacy of the CSOs in partnership with the International Agencies. It has included new provisions which are in line with the international standards (see details in the section on progresses in the world of work).

The e-job platform is developed with support of World Bank, allows employer to post the available jobs and job seekers search the job and able to find the one that they feel matching with their experience, interest and skills. It was used in the promotion of employment among the population including women and girls and contributed to tackle the demand and supply-side constraints by engaging the private sector in the implementation of the government policy to promote employment. Online portal on “Job referral” and mobile phone application on “Job seekers” became a biggest platform with 1.0 mln users to connect the job seekers and employer directly or indirectly through referral. It also contributed to ensure the inclusiveness for certain groups such as women, youth, PWDs and people with diverse needs.

The Government is also aware of the situation where the jobs are mostly created in low-wage sectors; the economy become more dependent on mining which employs only a few people; labor force participation has also been declining over the past decade, especially among women, and unemployment is high, particularly among young people. The most importantly, the fact that the country is experiencing the demographic transition where almost 14 percent of the population will be over the age of 65 which alarms about sustainability of pension systems and also it requires high expenditure of healthcare system by 2030 which is not far. That’s why policies the government is taking in the recent years is mainly focusing on these issues and looking for solutions.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Program⁴³. The Asia Foundation has implemented the Women’s economic empowerment project for 2020-2024 in partnership with the Government of Mongolia with funding support of the Global Affairs Canada as the growing recognition that gender equality and economic development are inextricably connected, and that women’s participation in the economy,

⁴³ TAF, 2024

including the workforce, is essential to address a spectrum of social inequalities. The project included key activities such as 1) **Support development of “Cross-Sectoral Strategic Plan for Promoting Gender Equality in Mongolia 2022-2031” with National Committee on Gender Equality**, based on the rapid collection of evidence-based data through seven sub-district level evaluations of gender-sensitive policies as well as a number of assessments, Mongolia adopted a 10-year strategic plan to promote Gender Equality. Most significantly, the project was able to influence this strategic plan to include a specific dedicated goal to support equal opportunities and participation in the economy⁴⁴; 2) **Support development of “Gender-Sensitive Workplace Policy 2022-2031”**, as a follow up document to support the 10-year Gender Equality strategic plan, the project influenced this decision made by the Minister of Labor and Social Protection. The policy enabled a conducive legislative environment through a mechanism called the National Tripartite Committee on Labour and Social Consensus (NTCLSC), which is Mongolia's highest policymaking body on labour, employment relations, and social issues⁴⁵; 3) **Support development of guidelines to develop feminized loan products and gender mainstreaming to enable inclusive financing for women entrepreneurs** through partnership with the Mongolian Sustainable Finance Association (MSFA). The project provided all necessary capacity building programs, tools, and guidelines for local banks to improve inclusive financing for women entrepreneurs. MSFA established a gender sub-working group under the Mongolian Banker`s Association, which includes representatives of financial institutions and policy makers. As a result, the number of the banks that provide feminized loan products increased from four to seven, and the number of banks with gender policies increased from two to seven⁴⁶. 4) **Supported the draft Law on “Increasing Women Entrepreneurs’ participation in the Mongolian Economy” in partnership with European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Women’s Council at Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry**: the project supported initiative of draft law led by Parliamentary Women’s Caucus and the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry’s Women Council on the draft law and submitted a draft law under championship of the WEE female MPs to Parliament which was approved to be discussed further in the Parliament session, leveraging the advocacy efforts built by the project; 5) **Supported development of Gender dashboard on women’s entrepreneurship with gender-disaggregated data with National Statistics Office and Economic Policy and Competitiveness Research Center**: The dashboard provides sex-disaggregated business data on the following areas: 1) Entrepreneurship and gender; 2) Economic performance of business and gender; 3) Skills in business and

⁴⁴ [Жендэрийн үндэсний хороо » THE LAW ON PROMOTION OF GENDER EQUALITY, CROSS-SECTORAL STRATEGIC PLAN FOR PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY IN MONGOLIA \(2022-2031\) \(ncge.gov.mn\)](#)

⁴⁵ [Жендэрийн үндэсний хороо » Жендэрийн мэдрэмжтэй ажлын байрны бодлого \(ncge.gov.mn\)](#)

⁴⁶ [Gender Mainstreaming in the Mongolian Financial Sector and Guidelines for Developing Feminized Financial Products - The Asia Foundation](#)

gender; 4) Technology, innovation, and gender; 5) R&D and gender; and 6) Business attitudes and gender⁴⁷.

11. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to improve access to social protection for women and girls?

The country has taken measures to improve the access to social services and protection for the population including the women and girls. The one of the most comprehensive measures out of the Government initiatives is that the Mongolian Parliament approved the revised Packages of Law on Social Insurance in 2023 which included the General Law on Social Insurance, Law on the Pension, Law on Welfare Assistance, Law on Pension, Assistance and Payment for the factory accident and morbidity caused by the profession. The revision has included several important changes in the Law such as the increase of the pension in accordance to the inflation level every year, 20 percent increase of the pension of the widowed husband /wife, the state coverage of the insurance payment for the mother/father who takes care of their disabled children, increase of welfare assistance benefits to those who takes care of the relatives who are disabled or sick, lost their ability to take care of themselves and 50 percent coverage by the state for insurance payment of herders and no insurance payment of elderly people if he/she continues to work, and changes of the pension calculation duration has changed from 7 years average to 5 years average insurance pay etc. Also, the assistance to loss of labor capacity due to the factory accident and occupation will be calculated based on the nature of the occupation and increased the amount of assistance. In addition, it was allowed to create a right of inheritance of the pension starting 2030 and provided legal safety measures to protect the rights of the family members to inherit the pension in the revised Law.

The data show that the percentage of enrollment of women in the social protection measures is quite a high, for instance, 95.6 percent of the people received old age privilege assistance (those who receive over 60 years old) are women in 2021; 98.5 percent of people received the financial support for taking care of their children are women; 92.4 percent of the people enrolled in financial assistance of single father/mother who has 3 or more children are women; 98.8 percent of people received financial assistance for single fathers/mothers who has many children⁴⁸. This might also reflect the tendency or situation where women are mainly the care givers in the household and also, they are the ones who carry much of the unpaid job and domestic work load. The Government will also see this fact and make some changes in future policies, planning and practices. The amount of the pension for those who served in the army was increased by 488.8 thousand MNT in 2023. The lowest pension amount was set to 550.0 thousand MNT and the proportional pension of lowest amount of pension set to 440,0 thousand and pension for all was increased by 10 percent and average pension reached to 550 - 687 thousand MNT⁴⁹.

⁴⁷ 1212.mn

⁴⁸ MLSP data, 2021.

⁴⁹ MLSP, 2023

In the last 10 years, the women's educational level increased as well as the stereotype beliefs of "domestic work is a women's work not men's" has changed and transformed to the new norm of "domestic work is a responsibility of both men and women". Also the pension age has increased and these changes has led to the decrease of number of women who are not working because of the domestic duties (10.2%-9.6%). The study on the "Relationship between the pension and sex" was conducted to identify the gaps of the pension between men and women. The findings show that there was a difference in the duration of the insurance pay years for pension estimation and amount of average wage due to the gender dimensions of employment and its condition. As a result, the changes were made in pension calculation system and duration has changed as it was 7 consecutive years to 5 consecutive years. Also, the Government implemented the programme on "Mother with a salary" and Law on "Social protection of single mother/father" and there are some challenges in its implementation. Women's NGOs prepared some recommendations to improve its implementation and impact on women's lives to the Government and expressed their readiness to partner in the implementation.

Also, another significant achievement is the parliamentary approval of universal coverage for the Child Money Programme, which was increased during the pandemic. The Government prioritized the universal coverage following the Leaving No One Behind principles of the SDG as well as no discrimination of anyone based on their age, sex, social status and other characteristics. The Shock-Responsive Social Protection system programme is implemented jointly by MLSP, the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry, the State Emergency Commission, and the National Statistic Office with the financial support of UNICEF during the COVID 19 pandemic. It was a great example of effective inter-ministerial coordination and timely decision making during the emergency situations. Joint project of UNICEF, UNDP and the Government on Public Financing was implemented to strengthen the capacity of GoM for child-sensitive result-based budgeting. It ensured the building of sufficient technical capacity, focusing on monitoring and evaluation of the state budget, within MLSP and the Ministry of Finance and as a result it enabled the increase of the state budget for child protection from approximately MNT 7 billion to 14 billion (equivalent to US\$ 4 million) in 2024.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: "e-TUSLAMJ" (eHELP) service data base for the survivors of violence⁵⁰: The data base was established as a pilot basis at the Family, Children and Youth Development Agency (FCYDA), Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (MLSP) in 2022 with a support of UNFPA/SDC funded project on "Combating GBV in Mongolia". The data system is aimed to track the social, protection and rehabilitation services provided to the survivors of violence and as a first step the system has connected to the currently operating 17 OSSCs and 14 shelters in the country and in the future, it is planned to be connected to the 676 Multidisciplinary teams working at the primary administrative units of the Government. As a result, the cases of violence against women and children, services provided, evidence of the injuries and damages to the survivor will be recorded and archived in the system which would enable the transparency of the state services provided to the people and track and monitor the types and quality of the services provided and also it will be served as an accountability mechanism and

⁵⁰ Etuslamj, 2023: etuslamj.mn/home

supervision opportunity for the service provision. In addition, it is linked to the other state service data bases such as NPA e GBV system, 108 child hotline service, e-khalamj social service data system etc. With that, the system also provides documentation of the violence in case the case goes to the court and will serve as evidence. Also, the data base has a section for the general population where it provides necessary information about available service points in case person experienced violence or other challenges that needed services, and information how to recognize the violence and to avoid or manage the safety of themselves and loved ones. It has a “chatbot” section where people can be connected to the psychologist and lawyer for counselling and information.

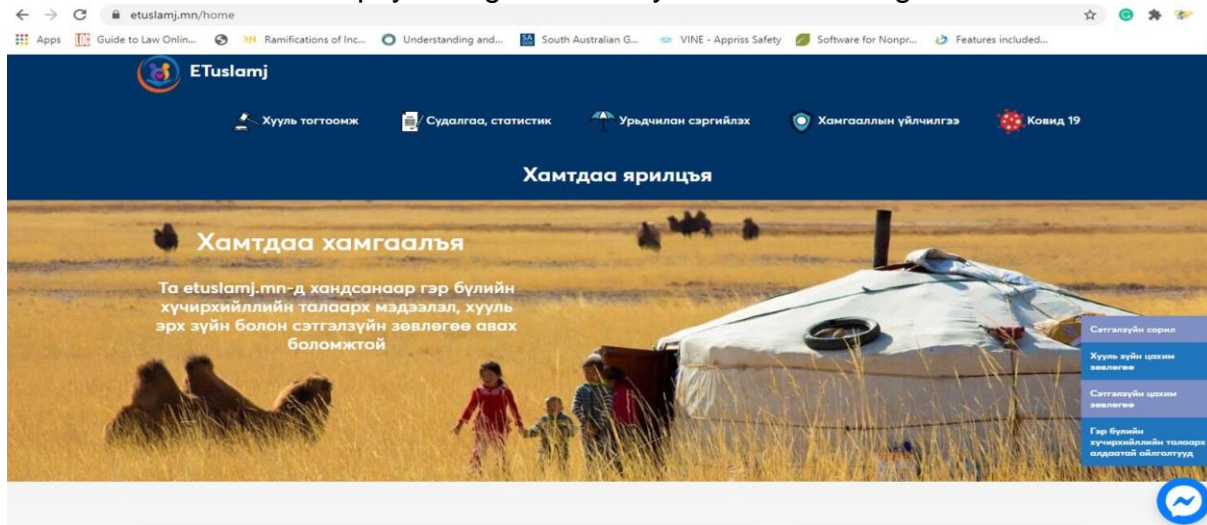
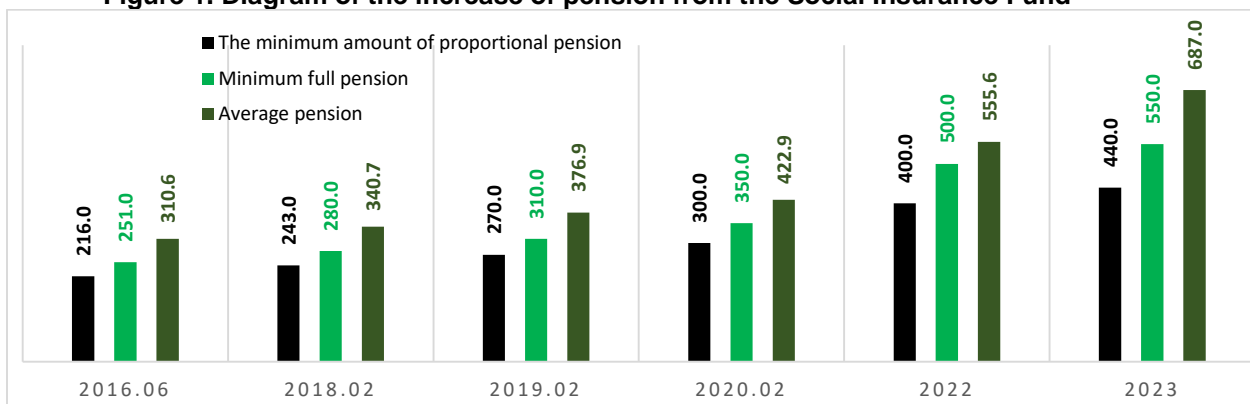


Figure 1. Diagram of the increase of pension from the Social Insurance Fund



The Mongolian Government also took a measure to increase the welfare assistance to the elderly people, people with disabilities, half and full orphan children, single headed parents and financial assistance to the children with disability aged up to 16 years old and people who needed regular care and assistance was increased BY 12.3 percent from 288.0 thousand MNT to 325.0 thousand MNT. A total of 77.9 thousand people received this welfare and financial assistance.

Figure 2. Social welfare assistance increases by years and thousand MNT

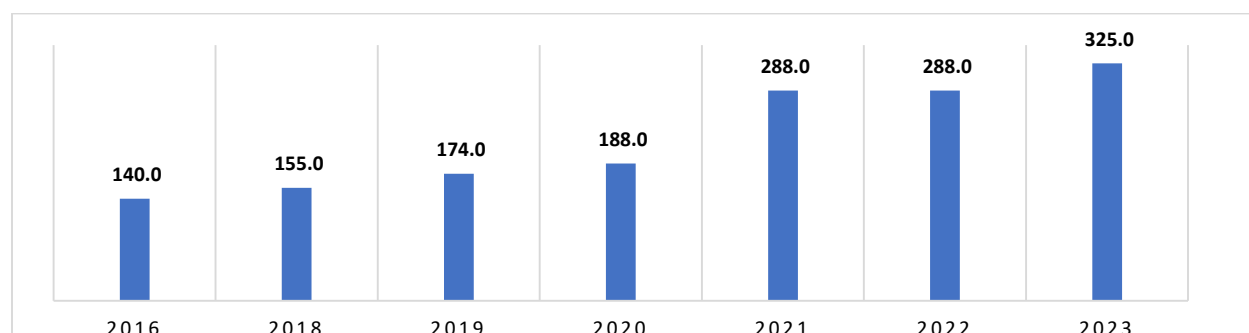


Table 3. Basic indicators of Labor and Social Protection Sector /2022-2024/ ⁵¹

Indicators	2022	2023	2024 half year
Indicators on Child statistics			
Number of children living in childcare centers	974	924	760
A half-orphan child	303	326	243
Full orphan child	204	197	198
Number of children receiving food stamps			
Number of children living in households in need of social welfare support			
Children served by child protection response services and temporary shelters	3,226	3,625	670
The number of working children 5-17 years old according to the Child labor surveillance survey	317	618	24
A child jockeys who participated in a horse race	7,596	11207	
Number of locally adopted children			
Number of unaccompanied children	120	117	147
Number of targeted calls to the 108 child helpline	64,811	64304	15674

12. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to improve health outcomes for women and girls in your country?

During the reporting period, the Mongolian Government, particularly the health sector took comprehensive measures to improve the health outcome of the general population including women and girls, for example, legal environment has strengthened significantly which addresses the areas where gender inequality persists and where access to services is limited to women and girls. It is worth to note that the Government partnership with the development partners working in Mongolia, particularly Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has contributed a lot in strengthening the health system by providing technical, financial and methodological support. The expenditure on health sector was 7 percent in the total expenditure which was stable for the last a few years. In 2022, it was 6.8 percent of the state public expenditure.

⁵¹ MLSP, 2024

The Vision 2050, the Long-Term Development Vision, 2020, highlighted the goal to advance the quality, accessible and effective health system and develop the citizen with healthy behavior and active lifestyle⁵². The implementation of this policy is heavily relied on individual, family, and employee's active participation and strong national public health care and service system. The "Health Sector Strategic Plan 2022-2025" also highlighted the importance of the strong coordination between the national public health, medical care and service as well as pharmacy sectors using each one of their comparative advantages in strengthening and protection of the health status of the population.

The commitment to the SDG and other international treaties including the Beijing Declaration and Plan for Action enabled the Government efforts to ensure the everyone's access to affordable quality health care which was declared in the Mongolian Constitution. The "Health sector Gender Equality Policy for 2021-2024"⁵³ and the Action Plan to implement the policy in 2021 are approved⁵⁴ and highlighted the importance of health education in early age, promotion of equal access to health services for all, and addressing violence against women and girls, with special attention to early detection of domestic violence and protection of nomadic women in rural areas with limited access to health and GBV services⁵⁵. In January 2024, the Law on "Public Health care and services" was approved by the Parliament and entered into the force on April, 2024. The Action Plan to implement the Law on Public Health care and services and it included the plan to develop and implement the Public Health structure and operational standard and other rules and regulations as needed. The National Programme on Maternal, Child and Reproductive Health has approved in 2017. The Programme is aimed⁵⁶ to create a legal environment by incorporating the maternal, child and reproductive health issues in the policies and programmes, supporting partnerships with governmental and non-governmental organizations, and private sector, delivering accessible and equitable quality services for all, increasing the access to and demand for reproductive rights-based family planning service, providing gender-sensitive health education to increase healthy behavior, and the participation of all in safeguarding maternal, child and reproductive health. The Action Plan on "Maternal and Child Health" for 2022-2024 in 2021 in relation to the Population Policy 2016-2050 of Mongolia in which the mother and child health, family planning, adolescent and youth health education, RH policy directions were identified.

Health Sector Action Plan (2020–2026) identified strategic goals of addressing public health concerns and essential services delivery, expanding public health services, and improving sexual and reproductive health and adolescent health care and services. National Programme on Prevention of Accidents, Injuries and Violence is implemented during the 2018–2022 which contributed to improve the access to services to women and girls, including GBV prevention and response. Mongolia had a vision to reduce the rate

⁵² The Parliament of Mongolia, 2020. Vision 205: Mongolian Long-Term Development policy.

⁵³ Health sector Gender Equality Policy for 2021-2024

⁵⁴ Health Sector Action Plan, 2020

⁵⁵ The Policy and Plan of Action to Promote Gender Equality in the Health Sector for 2021-2024. MOH. 2021

⁵⁶ The National Maternal, Child and Reproductive Health Programme, 2017

for maternal death to 20 per 100,000 births in its Vision 2050 and by the 2023, this rate is 26.4 per 100,000.

According to the Health Law, the state and locally owned hospitals will be financed based on their performance and run the service with half independent ways which enabled the hospitals to increase their financing opportunities, increase the salary of their staff as well as improve the quality of service, unfortunately the three maternal homes of UB are not included in the list of hospitals that follow the new provisions. Since the 2021, the health institutions are financed through the case-based payment methodology, the maternal homes are had to increase the types of services provided and run the services classified⁵⁷. A series of training and capacity building interventions on Gender equality and Women's empowerment, Health sector response to GBV and mainstreaming gender into the health care and service policies including the emergency care, mental health services, and sexuality education for disabled people etc were carried out with technical and financial support of UNFPA, WHO and UNICEF for the MOH staff, health care workers of all levels of the health system during the 2020-2024. A series of training manuals on various aspects of the gender equality and women's empowerment including mainstreaming gender into the health policies and programme, health care workers manual on how to provide services to GBV survivors including during the emergencies, how to provide services to sexual violence survivors, mental health care and services to victims and survivors of GBV, sexuality education for disabled people and etc.

A series of research such as "Assessment on Health sector readiness to GBV response in Mongolia" was conducted in 2023 with UNFPA technical and financial support, identified critical areas for achievements and improvements. As a follow up of the assessment, the Action Plan to implement the recommendations of the assessment (2024-2027) was developed and approved by the Minister's order. Within the implementation of this Action Plan, the revision was made on the Minister's Order on diagnostic procedure of all diseases and added to include the T26 in every diagnostic process to identify whether the health problem is caused by injury, accident or violence. In addition, the "Questionnaire to detect the violence for the pregnant women", and "Self-detection of violence questionnaire for women" are developed and expected to be approved by the Minister's order revision. Also, the assessment on "Health sector readiness to provide care and services to survivors of violence during the emergencies" was conducted and identified the areas for improvement and provided guidance to improve the services to survivors of violence during the emergencies.

New innovative technologies were introduced to the health sector including CerviCARE AI to improve the access to and quality of diagnosis. Public awareness communication interventions are planned and delivered with regular sequences through TV, radio and social media as well as events, training and meetings in different topics on COVID Prevention as well as commonly occurred diseases prevention in the particular season. With the purpose of protecting the PWDs from the any types of violence, improve the access to the public services, the 1800-0724 toll free number and "Duudlaga.mn (Call.mn)" services are introduced which are dedicated to the PWDs, including the those

⁵⁷ Health Development Center, 2023. The Health Law Implementation Impact Assessment Report.

who has a hearing issue. Through these services, PWDs will be able to call or send text and voice message, as well as through image or voice of distance service from the sign interpreters, they can access to the emergency agency, police and health services. These services are also connected to the 119-hotline service which was created during the COVID 19 pandemic. Also, the Guideline to provide services to PWDs at the One Stop Service Centers (OSSC) and shelters for the victims of violence is developed and trainings were conducted. Now it is under use by these facilities although there is a limited opportunities where especially designed rooms for the PWDs at OSSCs and shelters.

However, there is differences in health status and access to services are still persistent among women, girls, PWDs, elderly people and LGBTIQ people due to their socio-economic vulnerabilities. With the aim to reduce this vulnerability and differences, the “Comprehensive plan to protect the health and restore economy” and “New restoration policy” are implemented and focus is given more to the development of the rural areas and marginalized groups of people among the population.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Mongolia’s Health Law (2011)⁵⁸ stated that all citizens are provided with free primary health care (PHC) and maternal and newborn care (MNC) and equal access to essential SRH care and services both in development and emergencies. The health sector Action Plan for 2020-2026 prioritized SRH care and services including adolescent girls⁵⁹and improve the preparedness levels of individuals, organizations and the health system. The Ministry of Health (MoH), the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) jointly conducted a readiness assessment of the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) in 2024⁶⁰. “Despite the well-supported legal environment for disaster response in the country, the assessment revealed gaps in policy frameworks, particularly regarding sexual and reproductive health (SRH) preparedness measures and advance planning for resources based on the type of disaster and the potential scale of population impact⁶¹”. Using the results of the assessment, Action plan on “Minimum Initial Service Package Readiness for Sexual and Reproductive Health-Care Services” and it addresses critical aspects of SRH, including maternal and new born health, family planning, prevention of unsafe abortion, STI, HIV and AIDS, and gender-based violence (GBV). The plan will be integrated into the National Health Emergency Response Plan and it will contribute to the national capacity development and improve the response to promote health and rights of women, children, and families during emergencies.

Table 4. Basic health and SRH indicators of Mongolia⁶²

	INDICATOR	VALUE
1	Total population	3,504,741
2	Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) per 100,000 live births	26.4
3	Under-five mortality rate per 1,000 live births	14.9
4	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	12.3

⁵⁸ Law of Mongolia on Health, 2011 (Amended), Articles 13.7; 24.6.4; 24.6.8.

⁵⁹ Action Plan to Implement the State Health Policy in 2020-2026., Annex to the Health Minister’s Order No. A/103 of 2020 (Objective 1.8; 1.10.1.6).

⁶⁰ The readiness assessment of the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) in 2024. MOH, UNFPA

⁶¹ The readiness assessment of the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) in 2024. MOH, UNFPA

⁶² MOH statistics

5	Neonatal mortality rate (under 28 days) per 1,000 live births	7.7
6	Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	10.4
7	CPR, any method (women aged 15-49 married or in union, %) 2018	48.1
8	CPR, modern method (women married or in union aged 15–49) (%), 2018	45.2
9	Unmet need for family planning (women married or in union, %) 2018	22.6
10	The percentage of women who need for FP is satisfied with modern methods	63.9
11	Early antenatal care coverage (%)	92.2
12	Coverage of 6 or more ANC visits (%)	80.5
13	Total number of deliveries	63,915
14	The proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	99.7
15	Proportion of Cesarean section (%)	27.9
16	Abortion rate per 1,000 women aged 15-49	15.7
13	Reported new cases of STIs	10,245
14	STI morbidity per 10,000 population	29.6
15	Reported new cases of HIV infection	23
16	HIV prevalence per 10,000 population	0.1
17	Mortality due to HIV/AIDS	0
18	Physicians per 10,000 population	41.9

13. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to improve education outcomes and skills for women and girls, including in sectors where they are underrepresented?

In 2023, state expenditure in the education sector was 13.9 percent of total expenditure and it was varied between 11.4-16.7 during the last 10 years⁶³. Within the implementation of the Law on Education, the education system has adopted a few new features in their performance such as the quality and performance-based funding system where the costs are estimated by the number of students in the school; new school management system which includes the school principal's selection procedure on the merit-based system; enhanced social security measures for teachers with additional benefits depending on the duration of their public service etc.

Enrollment rate in school is 98% in Mongolia which is high, however, school drop-out tends to be more among boys than girls (5.1% of girls and 13.4% of boys are not studying in upper secondary school). Access to early childhood education (ECE) continues to be challenging, particularly in the rural areas among children of herder families, children with disabilities and children from low-income households. According to the NSO data, 20% of children aged 3-5 do not have access to ECE services⁶⁴. With the MOE partnership with public and private schools and efforts to increase the access to Early Childhood Education (ECE) the preschool enrollment nationwide was increased by 3.6 per cent from 83 per cent in 2022 to 86.6 per cent in 2023. As a results of the blueprint for a kindergarten with solar energy design a climate friendly, healthy, and safe learning environment for

⁶³ MOE, 2023

⁶⁴ NSO, 2022

children is created and the children from border and remote areas had an opportunity to have an access properly equipped kindergarten.

The Ministry of Education took measures to improve foundational learning outcomes through curriculum revision, piloting innovative learning recovery programme and enhancing system capacity on learning assessment with technical and financial support of UNICEF, Mongolia. In addition, the Ministry focused on advancing the inclusive education for the most disadvantaged children, including children with disabilities and girls and boys from remote and minority communities by including a specific chapter on Inclusive Education in the revised Law on education and developing a curriculum for alternative education services. The “Transforming Education Summit” is organized in September 2022 and “ICT Expo and Forum” were organized in June 2023, in close collaboration with UNICEF and as a follow up of these events various efforts were made in digital transformation and digitalization in education. The GIGA initiative was supported by the UNICEF was crucial in ensuring a stable internet connection in schools, as a result, a total of 859 public and private schools were connected and 20 interactive pieces of digital content, totaling 184 pieces of interactive content and 90 pieces of audio content, ensured equitable access to education, and were continuously used by children and mobile ‘Tablet Teachers’, including remote rural communities. It was one of the most relevant solutions for Mongolia as the country is sparsely populated nation in over 1.5 million square kilometers territory. The MOE partnered with the private companies such as Mobicom, a telecommunication company in enhancing digital transformation and the upgrading of classrooms in eight schools and the training of teachers in the use of technologies and internet literacy with UNICEF financial support.

The Ministry of Education has made the revision in the pre-school, primary school, secondary school curricula in 2019 to eliminate the duplicate content in the curricula, to improve the linkages and continuity from one to other levels of educational content, to pilot and introduce new teaching methodologies on the sensitive and challenging topics to make them easier to understand and to strengthen the learning objectives with the practical and life learning goals etc. The revised curricula are started to be used in 2019-2020 academic year. Herder families consist about 20 percent of the total population and their children usually go to schools in the center of the town which is far from their homes and they have to stay far from their families during the academic year. Due to many struggles for the herder families and children the educational outcomes are not well and boys drops out often to help their families in herding which led to women outnumber boys in their education and caused educational reverse gap in the education in Mongolia. The government making an effort to tackle the issues faced by the herder families’ children by constructing more dormitories, introducing the mobile teachers, improving the salaries and benefits for rural teachers, adjusting the curricula etc. However, many families moving to the UB and other cities to ensure their children to get proper education, which caused environmental, logistical and organizational issues.

The actions to raise the knowledge of young people including girls about human rights, gender, gender equality and GBV prevention were taken throughout the last five years. The concepts of gender, gender equality, GBV prevention and CSE were integrated into

the secondary school curricula and teacher trainings were conducted to equip the teachers with a proper knowledge, attitude and skills to teach the topic with confidence. Public Awareness Nation-wide Comprehensive Campaigns on promoting gender equality and positive social and gender norms among young people including girls were organized on the occasions of March 8 and 16 days activism against GBV. Both campaigns are planned thoroughly by engaging all levels (at the national, subnational, grassroots levels), sectors (health, social, legal, education, economic, agriculture, mining industry, environment, culture etc) and partners such as the Government, CSOs, private sector, mass and social media, development partners including UN, donors and INGOs and conducted for a month time with variety of activities including young people, women, men and girls and boys as well as SOGIESC and other groups often left out. Even during the COVID 19 restricted times, the multi-partner organizers aimed to reach people by focusing the places where people might go such as pharmacies, supermarkets, hospitals, family clinics, bus stops and where they live such as apartments, ger (traditional tent) districts and putting the posters with positive and action oriented messages how to deal with stress and anxiety, how to manage the relationship and atmosphere at the household levels and also distributed variety of short videos and contents with positive and action oriented messages through TV, radio, FM Radio and social media which included some examples of short exercise, dance, yoga, fitness versions which can be done together with family members etc. In addition, small scale public awareness and educational campaigns were organized using the momentums of Men's Day, Family Day, Children's Day and big national celebrations such as New Year, Lunar New Year, Mongolian Naadam (Revolution Victory Day), Annual Leave session which is during August etc where mass celebrations often lead to excessive use of alcohol which might provoke GBV including domestic violence and risks of accident and injuries.

However, as per the government data in 2022, only 4% of adolescents were involved in extracurricular activities or child-led initiatives to develop their skills for life⁶⁵. There are limited opportunities to be engaged in volunteer work as well. The number of clubs and the nature of activities have limited options and were severely restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic during last few years. The UNESCO ICT in Education Policy Review Report⁶⁶ shows that "40% of those school's connectivity is damaged, and the remaining school's connectivity quality fall far shorter than the standards set by GIGA⁶⁷ which targets a minimum of 10Mb/s for each school. The report also stresses that the access gap is widening due to inadequate supply of digital equipment and the existing equipment that was supplied in 2015 is fast becoming obsolete and outdated"⁶⁸. Another report found that 75.2% of teachers have never received pedagogical guidelines to conduct distance education and 20% of teachers have no competency to operate digital equipment⁶⁹. The COVID 19 significantly impacted on the quality of education, particularly at the secondary school levels. Ministry of education decided to shift the education to the online as the restrictive measures were taken by the Government to mitigate the spread of the pandemic. The education system introduced variety of forms from TV lessons for the

⁶⁵ NSO, 2022

⁶⁶ ICT in Education Policy Review Report, Mongolia, Aug 2021: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf00000379606>

⁶⁷ UNICEF initiative launched in 2019

⁶⁸ ICT Education Policy Review Report, 2021. UNESCO

⁶⁹ All for Education, NGO, 2021

primary school kids, for secondary school kids and University students, the teachers used different platforms such as Moodle, Google Classroom and Zoom until the fall of 2021 when in school room classes are resumed. Education Law and Law on Preschool Education and Law on Higher Education are main legal framework for the education sector. To support the Government efforts, UN Country team of UNESCO, UNICEF, and UNFPA under the UN RC leadership in close collaboration with MOES implemented a project to create an online learning platform to prevent from the challenges faced due to COVID 19 restrictions in learning with UN Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund financial support.

Starting 2021, Mongolian students started to take the PISA, the Programme for International Student Assessment which identifies the quality of education in the country in terms of preparing students in their future lives by testing the students in reading, mathematics and science skills. As for 2024, the result was not impressive as for mathematics, Mongolia received 425 points out of 600; for reading, the country received 378 out of 600; for science, it was 412 out of 600 which were less than the OECD average. Looking at the gender difference in performance, the girls were better performed than boys in mathematics by 6 score points and in reading by 25 score points in Mongolia. In reading, also girls scored better too⁷⁰. According to the OECD in 2022, 73 percent of students said they can make friends at the schools, 78 percent think they are a part of the school, but 21 percent said that they feel lonely at the school, 19 percent said that they feel outsider at the school. Also, 15 percent of students responded that they are not happy with their lives by scoring the satisfaction rate 0-4 on the scale 0-10. However, PISA 2022 data show that performance of the Mongolian education system is high with the indications of students that their sense of belonging to the school has improved, and safety feeling at the school has increased with less bullying and other risky exposure at the school where some 21 percent of girls and 21 percent of boys experience bullying several times per month which is at the same levels of OECD average where 20 percent of girls and 21 percent of boys⁷¹. According to the PISA in 2022, 86 percent of 15 years old Mongolian students are in 10th grade.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Supporting Gender Studies Master's Program at National University of Mongolia⁷²: In a significant move to promote gender equality and advance women's rights in Mongolia, The Asia Foundation, with support from the Lotus Circle funds and the National University of Mongolia (NUM), has collaborated to launch the country's inaugural Gender Studies program. The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two organizations marks a milestone for education and gender advocacy in Mongolia in October 2023. The program commenced in the 2023-2024 spring semester in support with National Committee on Gender Equality, with a diverse range of students expected to enroll and engage in courses from an academic and practical perspective. The Asia Foundation supported tuition fee scholarships for 10 students, contribute to the program's initial, and launch of research focusing on the care

⁷⁰ PISA 2022 Results (Volume I and II) -Country Notes; Mongolia. OECD Publication, 2022. https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/2023/11/pisa-2022-results-volume-i-and-ii-country-notes_2fca04b9/mongolia_a2a3f956.html

⁷¹ PISA 2022 Results (Volume I and II) -Country Notes; Mongolia. OECD Publication, 2022. https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/2023/11/pisa-2022-results-volume-i-and-ii-country-notes_2fca04b9/mongolia_a2a3f956.html

⁷² [The Asia Foundation Awards 10 Scholarships for Mongolia's First Gender Studies Master's Program - The Asia Foundation](#)

economy. In the fall semester of 2024, additional 10 scholarships will be provided for the 2nd application round of the program. In February 2024, The Asia Foundation supported the regional collaboration of NUM and Ewha Womans University in South Korea to ensure a sustainable partnership in the future to promote the program in the region.

14. What actions has your country taken to ensure that economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic closes gender gaps in poverty, employment, social protection, education, and/or health that the pandemic has exacerbated?

When the COVID-19 pandemic hits the country, the government took systematic approach to mitigate the risks and stop the spread through multisectoral, well managed response. The “Law on Preventing from, Combating and Reducing the Negative impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic on the socio-economic situation” was approved in April of 2020 by the Parliament and The Government order on “Social protection measures to enhance the country’s economy, support the citizen’s livelihood during the COVID 19 pandemic” was approved. Th implementation of both Laws and Government order contributed significantly in mitigating the risks and reducing the impacts of the pandemic on people’s lives including the women and girls. Also, the Government issues a decision to cover the cost of the utility of hitting, fuel, clean water of the citizens for certain period of time, postponed the payment of bank loans, increased twice the amount of the coupon for food for poor people and these measures are contributed to maintain the people’s livelihood at the normal conditions and reduce the impact of the pandemic on people’s lives. For instance, the Government issued the order to approved the second packages of measures to support the people’s lives in 2020, the child support money was 20, 000MNT was increased to 100,000 MNT per a child starting from April 1, 2020 and it was extremely supportive measure for the household survivals who has many children⁷³. In addition, the Government also given to everyone 300,000MNT (approx. 90USD\$), additional 50,000MNT for the vaccination coverage, 84,500 MNT for the people who is nursing the elderly people and PWDs who needs care per month, 123,000MNT for people who is taking care of PWDs who needs regular care per month as a financial assistance to those who has an additional burden on their own.

Also, after the GOVID 19, the government paid strong attention in ensuring the recovery of the social protection, health, education and employment system exacerbated by COVID 19 pandemic and its impacts. The government took concrete measures to strengthen the national and local capacities of emergency response and its coordination mechanisms and reviewing its overall capacity and coordination mechanisms by conducting the national assessment in close collaboration with UN System and development partners. The interventions included the “New recovery” policy and “10 bln plan to protect the health and recover the economy” were implemented since the 2022 which aimed to decrease the migration from the rural to cities and encourage to live in the hometown by creating a living condition to live comfortably with high productivity and with job and income as well as decentralization at all levels. Comparing to the previous year, the household income has increased by 22.6 percent and average salary nationwide has increase by 48.6 percent in 2023. Also, the government implemented the Promoting the

⁷³ MLSP, 2020

employment and green job Programme to support the employment of youth, PWDs, elderly and women and 213.5 thousand people enrolled in this programme during the 2020-2023 and 118.6 thousand jobs were created and spent 135.8 bln MNT.

In addition, the efforts to strengthen the capacities of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the Deputy Prime Minister's Office and the State Emergency Commission to respond to severe weather (including low temperatures, wind, sandstorms and flooding) and improving equipment and capacity building and informative events to further inform strategic priorities and better equip key government institutions and staff for future response. Mongolia has endured three major humanitarian situations despite the COVID 19: (1) the *dzud* during winter 2022-2023 with 77,000 people affected, (2) 179 wildfires causing severe casualties and damage (3) two successive flash floods in Ulaanbaatar city with damage to buildings and infrastructure⁷⁴. The government has noted that the technical and financial support from UN Agencies and development partners working in Mongolia was extremely valuable in managing the emergency situation and saving people's lives.

COVID 19 pandemic and the government restrictive decisions to mitigate the spread of pandemic also has led some consequences were unpredictable and derive new risks in the country economy as well as people's lives, particularly to those who are vulnerable and marginalized. There were interruptions of social services and that hit children, women, elderly and disabled people first, increasing their vulnerability while the country economy was affected by the fuel and energy shortages. The government decision to shift to distance learning has affected the safety and learning of children with increased domestic violence, increased food security concerns, and increase in accidents and injuries. Although the government dealt with the COVID 19 and other emergencies such as flood, fire and *dzud* etc it was a great learning experience which included enhancing the national and institutional preparedness system with long-term results-based decision-making culture and medium and short-term risk analyses approach; improved coordination among participating bodies in the response.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Strengthening the capacity of women to overcome COVID 19 impacts: The NCGE has collaborated with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and conducted the Impact of COVID 19 on the women's and girls' lives and revealed that the pandemic contributed to the deepening of the inequality between rural and urban lives as well as impacted the lives of women, low-income people, elderly people, PWDs, herders, and migrant families. In addition, the study found that the COVID 19 pandemic increased the unpaid care and domestic workload significantly and risks of domestic and sexual violence for women and girls. To strengthen the capacity to overcome COVID 19 impacts, the NCGE in partnership with TAF implemented the project on "Strengthening the women's economic empowerment" during the 2020-2024 provided support to the women and women's groups to overcome the COVID 19 impacts on their lives and strengthen the capacity of women's NGOs. Within this initiative, the small grant programme was organized during the 2020-2021 and provided support to those who are single headed mother, WWDs, those who is unemployed and takes care of children and

⁷⁴ NSO, and NEMA data 2022-2023.

small business running women. A total of 8.0mln MNT was provided to different initiatives such as “Women’s group to support the girls who collect trashes and classify them”, “Project to support the single headed mothers and adolescent girls to improve their personal hygiene and mental health through provision of psychological counselling and hygiene supply”; “Digital refresher and employment” project to support the small business runners; “Family with no violence” project to provide psychological and other necessary support to make women and girls live without fear from violence to those whose family has violence relationship; “Lets overcome the pandemic together without any fear” the project to support the women with wheelchair to learn digital trading and creation of business network through internet among the women with wheelchair and etc.

Three. FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE, STIGMA AND STEREOTYPES

15. Over the past five years, which forms of gender-based violence, and in which specific contexts or settings, has your country prioritized for action?

Mongolian Constitution declared the freedom of people from any types of discrimination as its core principles and confirmed this principle in other Laws and regulations. GBV is an important shortfall and is highlighted in Mongolia’s Universal Periodic Review and reports to the United Nations Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Based on the survey and administrative data, the Government prioritized the domestic violence including the intimate partner violence and sexual violence against young girls and human trafficking and took systematic human rights-based approach to address the challenges.

The country reaffirmed its commitment to continue enhancing the implementation of the international treaties and conventions including the Beijing Platform for Action. In addition, the government also prioritized to strengthen the legal environment by revising the existing laws to make it in line with the international standards as well as reenforcing the implementation of the Laws effective in the country. For instance, the revision made in May, 2017 of the Criminal Code included the provision in its article of 14.1 that prohibition of any form of discrimination based on people’s origin, ethnicity, language, race, age, sex, social status, wealth, occupation, religion, ideology, education, sexual orientation, health status and provided sanctions in case of conduct.

Also, the Ministry of Justice initiated and submitted new revision to the Criminal Code in May 2022. In this revision, in the Article 14.1, the types of discrimination crime have expanded and added the provision of aggravating circumstances in the case of digitally facilitated crime conducted in the educational settings. In addition, the newly revised Law on Legal assistance to the defendants with no ability to pay was approved by the Parliament in July 2022 and entered into the force in October, 2022 and the scope of and access to legal assistance from the state has expanded. Free legal assistance will be also provided to the victim including foreign citizen who has no paying ability in accordance to the Article 12: Crime against the sexual freedom and privacy of people; Article 14.1: Crime against discrimination; Article 16: Crime against children (children aged under 18); Article 11.7: Domestic Violence Crime; Article 13.1: Human trafficking

(child victim); Article 4.1.1 of the Child Protection Law (children living in risky condition, child witness of the crime, person whose rights of owning the assets and to receive child support money and has no paying ability); Article 5.4 of the Law on Misconduct (victim of the domestic violence); Article 6.20 of the Law on Misconduct (victim of the child right violation).

In 2017, the Law to Combat the Domestic Violence entered into the force and a total of 33 Standard Operating Procedures were approved to operationalize the Law implementation. After 2 years of time, the assessment of the SOP implementation was conducted by the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs with a support of UNFPA, Mongolia and identified the challenges and made a revision which was approved and implemented. As domestic violence has a huge impact on the family life including its members, women, elderly people, PWDs, children and those who is living together in the family, the Government took it as one of the priority forms of GBV in the country. Following the enactment of the LCDV, as a result of comprehensive educational activities and public health interventions, crimes related to domestic violence declined by 32 per cent between 2016 and 2019.⁷⁵ However, starting from the first half of the 2020, the number of reported cases of GBV, particularly domestic violence against women and girls was increased as it was same in many parts of the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictive measures to limit the spread of disease and increased stress, limitations on resources and mobility etc. The Government of Mongolia imposed social distancing and restrictions on movement in the first quarter of 2020. The number of reported cases of GBV increased by 30 percentage comparing to the previous quarter, pre-COVID⁷⁶. In addition, the recent study, conducted by MOH with the financial and technical support of UNFPA, Mongolia on “Why did mother die in Mongolia during 2016–2020” found that two maternal deaths of the 97 investigated (5.2 per cent) were confirmed to be caused by GBV⁷⁷.

Addressing GBV including the domestic violence requires a multisectoral response, with a holistic and coordinated approach that aims to harmonize programmes and actions by a variety of actions. The revised LCDV of Mongolia (2016) promoted a multisectoral response to GBV, and identified the Coordination Council on Crime Prevention chaired by the Minister for Justice and Home Affairs as a body responsible for multisectoral coordination at the national levels and funding for its operations comes from the certain percent of alcohol and tobacco sell violation penalty. It has branches at the subnational levels as the Sub-councils on Coordination of Crime Prevention chaired by the Local Speaker of the Parliament and at the primary administrative units a Multisectoral team consisted of representatives from different sectors is in charge of this tasks. The Law also identifies the specific roles and responsibilities of each sector (health, social, education, legal, police) in GBV prevention and response. Under the joint efforts of multisectoral response, there were many holistic interventions were carried out such as the gender and GBV concepts were introduced to the secondary school curricula as well as Teachers, Social Work, Medical, Law Enforcement, Journalism and Art Universities curricula, systematic capacity building interventions of staff working in different sectors with different

⁷⁵ Police data, 2019

⁷⁶ Police data, 2020.

⁷⁷ Why mother died? Study report. 2021. MOH. UNFPA

roles assigned by the Law on Combating Domestic Violence, guidelines and service protocols were developed, a total of 17 One Stop Service Centers and 14 shelters were established throughout the country as a survivor protection mechanisms, state and local budgets were allocated to finance the GBV/DV prevention and response interventions (it was 20 mln MNT was allocated in 2016 for the GBV protection and response and it was increased to 10 bln in 2023)⁷⁸.

Other national legislations such as Law on Health, Law on Witness and Victim Protection, Law on Child Protection, Law to Promote Gender Equality, Law on Protection of Personal Information, Law on Health Insurance also mandated multisectoral parties to protect GBV survivors and facilitate the access to health and other services. Within the implementation of these Laws, there were several important measures including enabling survivors' access to post-GBV care, free provision of 24/7 emergency care, free OSSC services regardless of residence or insurance status, commitments to state funding for essential post-GBV care, capacity building of service providers and front-line officers to identify and manage GBV patients, and establishment of multidisciplinary coordination mechanisms at national and sub-national levels. However, gaps remain in the harmonization of national regulations with international standards⁷⁹.

Another area of the Government priorities was to combat and prevent workplace sexual harassment. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MLSP) in partnership with the National Human Rights Commission, Mongolian Trade Union, and Mongolian Employer Association jointly developed the guideline on "Prevention of work place sexual violence and mechanisms to receive and manage the complaints" in order to prevent the workplace sexual harassment and create favorable working condition for women and girls in 2021 and the main concepts and regulations of this guidelines were reflected in the "Work place internal regulation" and implemented widely in the private sector companies.

In addition, the violence against children and sexual violence against young girls was also an issue in Mongolia. In the Article 16 of the Criminal Code provided sanction to the Crimes against Children. It was a good step to protect children's legal rights and interests in accordance to the Convention on Child Rights, Additional Protocol to this Convention on Against child trafficking, child sexual exploitation, and child pornography; Convention No 182 on Intolerable form of child labor. Mongolia also joined the Protocol on Prevention from, ending, and penalizing the human trafficking, particularly women and girls and within these obligations, Mongolia is making an effort to implement the protocol, fight the human trafficking and prevent from the act. In 2012, the Mongolian Parliament approved the Law to Combat Human Trafficking and implementation is reinforced. Also, the Law implementation impact assessment on the implementation of the Law to Combat Human Trafficking is conducted within the project on "Child Protection Partnership Compact: Child Protection from Human Trafficking" funded by the USA State Department in 2020.⁸⁰ Assessment noted that the implementation was not sufficient due to the insufficient knowledge and practice of the state agencies obliged by the Law and the SOP to

⁷⁸ Combating GBV in Mongolia Project, 2nd phase final report, 2023. The Government of Mongolia and UNFPA.

⁷⁹ Assessment on HSR to GBV, 2023

⁸⁰ Human Trafficking report. (2022-2023 OH)

operationalize the Law implementation is not approved, synergy with other relevant Laws is not ensured and these are impacted in the implementation of the Law. The SOP to provide legal assistance to the victims of the human trafficking is approved by the Justice Minister's order of A/399 on November 20, 2023.

The National Programme on Human Trafficking is approved by the Government order no 148 on May 24, 2017. The Programme was implemented during the 2017-2021 with 4 goals and 26 activities. In 2022, the Programme was evaluated and the implementation was successful and 91.9 percent.

16. In the past five years, what actions has your country prioritized to address gender-based violence?

The Mongolian Government prioritized to focus the root causes of the gender inequality in addressing GBV by raising the awareness of the general population through systemic approach by promoting multisectoral coordinated collaboration, working at different levels of the society including individual, family, society, organizational and policy levels and involving women, men, girls and boys as well as targeting the most vulnerable and marginalized women and girls such as survivors of violence, single headed families, PWDs, young girls and women and girls living in remote areas where there is limited access to the services.

The Criminal Code (amendment in 2017) in its article 14.1.1 prohibited any forms of discrimination including the discrimination and limiting the freedom of people based on ethnicity, language, race, age, social status, income and wealth, position, religion, education, sexual orientation and health status. The Law on Misconduct (amendment in 2020) in its article 6.26.1 prohibition of sexual harassment and attempt, in its article 6.26.2 highlighted the employer's accountability to prevent sexual harassment and violence at the work place and resolve the complaints related to this act. Also, the Law on Promotion of Gender Equality (2011), in its article 5.1.2 and the Labor Law (revised in 2021) in its article 5, 6 and 7 highlighted the GBV as a human right violence which caused physical, psychological, and sexual damage and declared it is an everyone's duty to prevent and respond it. The newly revised Labor Law brought the Law at the international level in line with the human rights principles as it prohibited any forms of discrimination and pressure, sexual harassment, and violations in the labor relations.

The NHRC received 59 complaints related to discrimination and sexual harassment, out of them 18 were related to the discrimination due to disabilities, 8 due to ethnicity, 8 due to positions, 5 due to social status, 5 due to educational level. It shows that there is a need to reinforce the implementation of the legal acts by educating people on their rights and responsibilities and increasing the capacity of Law enforcement agencies in implementing the laws.

The Child protection Law was revised in 2024 and it will enter into the force starting from September 1, 2024. The Law included a new definition on the forms of child protection services, case management and professional supervision and strengthened the

prevention of child from violence, service provision to the children living in risky situations. Also, improving the educational interventions using all possible channels and conduct regularly was required. In addition, the acts such as using alcohol near the children or entering the accommodations where children lives or sleep while the drunk are prohibited. In addition, the financing was mandated by the state and local budget.

The Government is taking a series of interventions to address the GBV, particularly the ones which occurred commonly such as domestic violence, sexual violence at the workplace and against young girls, human trafficking etc. First of all, the public awareness raising among the general population as well as capacity strengthening of the key government and non-government organizations staff, media professionals etc. Starting 2019-2023, the public awareness raising campaigns on the occasion of the March 8, the international women's Day, March 18, Mongolian Men's Day, 16 days activism against GBV were organized at the national level with involvement of the government, NGOs, media, UN Agencies and development partners and systematic capacity building interventions for the general population as well as duty bearers of different sectors. Also, the government implemented several comprehensive projects with the UN and other development partners technical and financial support which contributed a lot to strengthen the national capacity. Below are some details of this joint efforts as good practice example.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Combating GBV using comprehensive and multi-stakeholder approach: One of the good examples of the Government actions in addressing the GBV, particularly domestic violence was the project on “Combating GBV in Mongolia” implemented jointly with UNFPA, Mongolia with the funding of Swiss Development Cooperation and UNFPA since 2016. The project had two phases and the first phase was implemented during the 2016-2020 and the second phase was implemented during the 2020-2023. **The CGBV Project is one of the first and most comprehensive multi-stakeholder initiatives** with a total funding of **7.5 mln USD\$** for 2016-2023 to address gender-based violence (GBV) in the country by strengthening national capacity for prevention and response and **had components of** 1)strengthening the **legal environment and data** availability on GBV/DV; 2)strengthening the national **multisectoral capacity** to prevent and responds to GBV/DV; 3)improving the **public awareness** on GBV/DV and its consequences with a focus on negative social norms and power dynamics; 4)establishing the **multisectoral coordination and survivor protection mechanisms** in the country and operationalize their performance; and 5)increasing the **financial commitment** of the national and local level governments⁸¹. Also, the project had involved the **partnership with wide range of actors** of government, UN and development partners and non-governmental organizations in the implementation: The Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs, The Ministry of Health, The Ministry of Education, The National Statistics Office, The National Committee on Gender Equality, The General Police Authority, The National Mental Health Center, The Public Health Institute, Women's Caucus at the Parliament, The National Human Rights Commission and the National Center Against Violence, The Gender Equality Center, MONFEMNET, The Beautiful Hearths Against

⁸¹ “Combating GBV in Mongolia” project final evaluation report, 2023.

Sexual Violence, The Mongol Urkh, Psychological Institute, The Press Institute, The Association of Gynecologist Doctors, The Men and Health, The Mongolian Men's Association, The Center for Social Work Excellence, The Mongol Content Confederation of Mongolian Journalists, Media Institutions: Zasgiin Gazriin Medee and UN Agencies and development partners working in Mongolia.

The project succeeded in the following important ways. First, evidence on GBV/DV was generated with the National GBV Survey, the eGBV registered DV case data base and eTUSLAMJ service database, and data was used for targeted policymaking including the LCDV approval and implementation etc. **Second, advocacy and communication activities** were implemented to raise awareness among duty-bearers and rights-holders, which led to financial and human resource commitments and allocations for GBV. By 2023, a total of 10 bln MNT was allocated from state and local budget in the GBV/DV prevention and response during the time of the implementation of the project.⁸² **Third, the national capacity to prevent and respond to GBV/DV including emergencies has strengthened.** The multisectoral teams including the health, social, legal, policy, emergency, journalism and cultural sectors were trained and capacitated through systematic capacity building interventions including pre and post service trainings and general population is sensitized through comprehensive public awareness raising campaigns and grassroot level initiatives. **Finally, survivor protection mechanisms and multi-sectoral coordination mechanisms were established** and became functional with support from the Project. Most notably, a total of nine One Stop Service Centers (OSSC) for GBV survivors were set up across the country and served approx. 5,000 women in 7 provinces and 2 municipal districts within the project period. The CGBV Project also succeeded in contributing to the national response to the COVID-19 pandemic by addressing the gaps in GBV response and prevention that came as a result of this crisis.

Within this project, the **first-ever nationwide GBV prevalence survey**, conducted in 2017 by the National Statistics Office and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Mongolia using the WHO methodology. According to the study it was estimated that 57.9 per cent of ever partnered women experience one or more forms of violence in their lives; 31.2 per cent experience physical and/or sexual violence, while 1 in 7 women experience non-partner sexual violence.⁸³ Also, the Mongolian Parliament approved the **Law to Combat Domestic Violence (LCDV)** in December 2016 after more than 10 years of continuous efforts of CSOs with financial and technical support of UNFPA and other development partners⁸⁴. In addition, with the project support and in close collaboration with the National Police Authority, (NPA) the **eGBV data system** for the domestic violence calls and response was established at the NPA and it was integrated into the Police Big Data base of ECS (Emergency Call System) which made the data on registered data of domestic violence available. Also, the **e-TUSLAMJ data base** to track the service provision for the survivors of the violence served by the OSSCs, shelters and MDTs at the Family Children Youth Development Agency under the Ministry of Labor and Social

⁸² "Combating GBV in Mongolia" project second phase final report, 2023

⁸³ National Study on Gender-based Violence in Mongolia report: Breaking the Silence for Equality, 2018. NSO and UNFPA Mongolia.

⁸⁴ Constitution of Mongolia, 1992

Protection which also enabled the availability of service provision data to analyze the need for further strengthening the services for the survivors of violence as well as use the data evidence for the Court decision as evidence.

Table 5. Domestic Violence Data Registered in eGBV data system, National Police Authority (NPA)⁸⁵

Description	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
DV Crime	985	1,138	1,531	1,729	1,415
Increase/decrease % comparing to previous year	-7.9	+15	+34.5	+12.9	-18.2
DV Misconduct/Minor offence	8,962	10,306	9,526	10,094	10,319
Increase/decrease % comparing to previous year	+53.9	+14.9	-7.6	+6.0	+2.2

Table 6. Survivor data served by the OSSCs, established with a support of UNFPA⁸⁶

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
2,054	3,799	5,964	5,524	4,037	21,378

The LCDV is a comprehensive legislation that strengthens the human rights of women, especially those subjected to domestic and sexual violence, and protects their life, health and safety. The LCDV criminalized domestic violence in Mongolia first time in its history and it was a clear sign of increased commitment and awareness of the Government and general public as it was perceived private matter until very recent. The LCDV lays out certain basic principles such as “Respect for dignity of a victim, non-discrimination and non-victim blaming in any form; priority protection of child rights and legal interests; due consideration to ensuring victim’s safety and to protecting his/her life and health; maintaining confidentiality; ensuring inter-agency collaboration and integrity; zero-tolerance of violence. (Article 4)”⁸⁷. The project also called other UN Agencies and development partners to jointly organize the two big nation-wide campaigns (**March 8 and 16 days activities against GBV**) with common messages and it was succeeded during the 2020-2022 by organizing the two nation-wide public campaigns were organized with involvement of the Government Ministries, agencies, local authorities, UN Agencies and development partners working in Mongolia and CSOs and reached mass people even during the COVID 19 restricted time in 2020.

Table 7. Combating GBV in Mongolia Project Phase I budget, US\$ (July 2016–June 2020)⁸⁸

Source	Total (USD)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
SDC Contribution	4,200,564	131,024	1,099,593	876,808	1,270,673	822,466
UNFPA contribution	811,845	117,776	254,184	174,515	170,529	94,841

⁸⁵ NPA GBV data system, later integrated to ECS of the NPA, 2023

⁸⁶ Combating GBV in Mongolia Project report, 2023

⁸⁷ The Law to Combat Domestic Violence in Mongolia, 2016

⁸⁸ UNFPA. (2020). Combating gender-based violence in Mongolia project report Phase-1

Government contribution (in kind)	1,090,827	32,326	89,960	294,624	329,807	344,110
Total	6,103,236	281,126	1,443,737	1,345,947	1,771,009	1,261,417

Table 8. Combating GBV in Mongolia Project Phase II budget, US\$ (Aug 2020–July 2023)⁸⁹

Source	Total (USD)	July 2020	2021	2022	June 2023
SDC Contribution	2,700,390*	730,000	1,100,000	800,000	70,390
UNFPA contribution	1,510,946	286,619	466,216	446,660	311,451
Government contribution (in kind)	1,189,471	136,184	455,224	359,724	238,339
Total	5,400,807	1,152,803	2,021,440	1,606,384	620,180

In addition, the Government implemented another project on ‘Combating the Violence against women and children’ in close cooperation with ADB with Japanese Fund on “Building the resilient and prosperous Asia Pacific Region” during the 2019-2023. Within the project, a systematic capacity building interventions were conducted involving personals who are obliged to combat the domestic violence according the Law to Combat Domestic Violence, conducting a series of public awareness interventions and campaigns, child friendly 9 rooms were established at the Police stations and 7 behavior change training rooms at the Court Decision Execution Agencies, about 10 surveys and studies including the criminology study was conducted on the factors influence to the experience of violence of people with disabilities, about 34 online and printed training manuals and capacity building trainings were conducted in 12 provinces and 5 districts and trained more than 200 MDT members, and 394 hotline service and OSSC/shelter staff ,40 trainers and 30 peer educators. Also, National Forum on strengthening the capacity of multidisciplinary team and involved 800 members and 3000 members were trained on how to serve effectively as a member of the MDTs. A total of five new shelters for victims of violence were established in 5 provinces (475 people were served in 2023), provided monetary assistance to 50 women who were survivors of domestic violence and living in a poor condition with her kids after experiencing the serious injury. Small grant programme was implemented and provided a total of 250,000USD\$ grant to the 50 small projects in the 20 provinces and 7 districts to strengthen the capacity of the multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) to combat violence at the grassroot levels and improve the operations of One Stop Service Centers and shelter operations for victims of violence. As a result, 50 women survivors were received financial support and started their own small business and managed to make 500,000-3.000.000 MNT per month within the first 6-month period and their income has increased 20-300 percent comparing to the period prior to the project.

⁸⁹ UNFPA. (2023). Compating gender-based violence in Mongolia project report Phase-2

CASE EXAMPLE⁹⁰: The lady named H works as a chef in one of the company restaurants. Her husband is abusive and often hit her and sometimes she had an injury and cannot go to her work. One time she had a serious injury and approached to the policy with a complaint and the case was solved at the court. By the court decision, H was under the safety protection and a restraining order was issued for her husband. The company where she works kept her position for the safety measure period and granted 3 months leave with salaries. During this period, H was able to go through all legal processes and solved her family problem and became able to live without any fear and danger. The newly approved LABOR Law included the provisions to keep the position while the survivors of violence including domestic violence was included and enforced.

17. In the past five years, what strategies has your country used to prevent gender-based violence?

Strengthening the legal environment and improving the multisectoral coordination mechanism to address GBV was the main strategy in efforts to reduce GBV in Mongolia. The LCDV which criminalized the domestic violence acts brought significant changes in the mindset and perception of the general population who used to see this as a private matter where no one should intervene. With that change, the government and its agencies who obligated to combat GBV including domestic violence was able to do their work as it was a practice that when police come to the household where the domestic violence is happening, they leave them by saying you need to tackle your own private problem by yourself, as a result many women lost their lives or lost their ability to live.

Under the LCDV, it was recommended to promote the multisectoral approach as a strategy to combat GBV including the domestic violence in the country. The Minister for Justice and Home Affairs chairs the Coordinating Council of Crime Prevention (CCPC) which is responsible for coordinating the multisectoral response to GBV at the national level and consists of representatives from different sectors who are obliged to have a role in the fight with GBV/DV in accordance to the LCDV. The CCPC has the sub-councils at the Ministerial levels and sub-committees at the provincial and district levels which are responsible to coordinate the response to GBV including domestic violence and prevention of crime against children at the respective levels. The sub-councils and Sub-Committees, sectoral representatives are expected to participate in biannual meetings, review and approve the annual workplan and budget of the CCCP and link it with their sectoral plans and interventions. The coordination mechanism for multi-sectoral response to GBV at the primary level is a multidisciplinary team which located at the primary administrative levels and consisted of health, social, legal, police, education and other necessary sectoral representatives and chaired by the sum, khoroo (primary administrative units at the city and provinces) governor. Within the multisectoral collaboration, the survivor protection mechanism is established as a One Stop Service Center (OSSC) for victims of violence which has a vision of multisectoral service will be provided to the survivor at one place without any bureaucracy and limitation. By the 2024, there are a total of 17 OSSCs and 14 shelters are operating throughout the country where

⁹⁰ Human Right and Gender Online Training Programme for the Mining sector. 2020. Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry, Australian Aid, AMEP.

4942 people were served in 2023. These facilities are funded by the state and local funding and working under the Family, Children and Youth Development Agency, The Police Authority and Health Departments.

Table 9. Funding for One stop service center and Temporary shelter /as of 2023/⁹¹

Donors	Purpose	Cost
Family, Child and Youth Development Department	Services and activities	360,109,334 MNT
UNFPA 'Combating Gender-based violence in Mongolia project	Services, technical equipments, Dignity kits and capacity building, public awareness etc	306,378,500 MNT
Asian Development Bank 'Combating domestic violence against women and children' project	Workshops, advocacy, technical equipments, decorating a room	159,872,460 MNT
	Workshops, advocacy, technical equipment, room decoration, building repairs, installation of outdoor networks, and furniture supply (establishment of new temporary shelters)	1,231,794,219.55 MNT
Asian Development Bank 'Combating domestic violence against women and children' project Asian Development Bank 'Addressing and Preventing Domestic Violence in Mongolia during the COVID-19 Crisis: Technical Assistance Completion Report	Health package against for Covid-19, technical equipment	287,140,000 MNT
World Vision in Mongolia INGO	Services, technical equipment, trainings	24,384,849 MNT
Local	Activities, services and salaries	953,182,292 MNT
Total		3,222,942,844.55 MNT

There are 906 multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) are working at the primary administrative unit to prevent and responds to GBV/DV throughout the country and the service normative was increased by 2,8 during the last years.

⁹¹ CCCP data (2023)

Table 10. Funding for Multidisciplinary teams from the Government and International Organizations /as of 2023/⁹²

Donors	Purpose	Cost
Coordination Council for Crime Prevention	Accelerating the activities of multidisciplinary team	333,200,000 MNT
Family, Child and Youth Development Department	Case management	151,800,000 MNT
World Vision in Mongolia INGO	Case management, workshops	272,127,326 MNT
Save the Children Japan	Case management	86,346,355 MNT
Municipal Coordination Council for Crime Prevention	Incentives, technical equipment	132,500,000 MNT
Local	Services, activities and incentives	224,488,700 MNT
Total		1,200,462,381 MNT

Another strategy is a capacitating the staff working directly with the people at the grassroots, staff who is providing professional and protection services and staff who are making policies and decisions etc. GBV focal points, service providers and local administration as well as other policy makers at the different levels of the government received systematic trainings and involved in capacity building and experience sharing and learning events locally and in abroad etc. In addition, various types of service protocols and guidelines, training manuals are developed and provided to the relevant staff as a technical assistance. For the general population, sensitization on the nature of the GBV/DV, its consequences, root causes and ways to deal with it are provided through various ways including the public awareness campaigns grassroot level initiatives, social and traditional media, trainings etc to equip them with accurate information and change the stereotype beliefs and perceptions and equip them with skills to identify the signs of violence, deal with it and overcome the damage if anyone has experienced violence etc.

The one of the strategies used in the efforts is continuous and whole society approach in addressing GBV/DV which means no one time approach, the intervention should be continuously, with repetitive key messages. Also, the interventions should be focused at all levels including individuals, families, society, organizations by involving men and boys, LGBTI communities, PWDs, elderly people, people living in remote areas who is often left out, also decision makers, policy makers, religious leaders, celebrities, influencers, and good speakers etc (see the example of good practice above). Finally, learning from other countries where there is something good and proving to be effective is always a good strategy by saving time and resources and also already tested as effective.

⁹² CCCP data, 2023

18. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to prevent and respond to technology-facilitated gender-based violence (e.g., online sexual harassment, online stalking, non-consensual sharing of intimate images)?

Existing estimates indicate a high prevalence of TF GBV, varying across regions and demographics. A global survey found that 38% of women reported personal experiences of online violence, and 65% reported knowing survivors of TF GBV. Mongolia does not have data on this, however, it is very clear that there is a high risk of technology-facilitated violence as the population, particularly young people spend a lot of hours on internet use per day without any supervision.

The Vision 2050: Long term Development POLICY OF Mongolia has included the policy on “Digital Mongolia”. In 2022, the Government announced the Digital Communication and Information Technology as a priority sector of the socio-economic development and established the Ministry of Digital Development and Communication. Within this policy implementation, the national portal e-Mongolia which brought the government services to the hand of its citizens. However, there is high risk of technology -facilitated- violence through the wide use of digital technologies and Mongolia does not have dedicated Law to prevent from this risk. As a first step in this direction, the Communication Regulatory Commission had created a contract with the Facebook company in October 2019 to collaborate to delete the inappropriate contents, illegal information and contents in the FB and approved the Law on Cyber safety in 2021 and the Criminal Code has reflected this into its article 16.9 on prohibition to promote porno to children, and in the article of 2.1 changed the “internet network “to “cyber place”. The assessment of the needs and demand of the Law on child protection in the cyber world in 2022 showed that there is a need to regulate the relationship in the area of prevention of children from the cyber-crime, particularly sexual violence, inappropriate advertisement, illegal and wrong information and contents of inappropriate and negative meaning etc⁹³.

Also, the study in 2020 conducted by the Communication Regulatory Commission on “Background study on Children’s safety in the cyber place” showed that 3 out of 10 children saw the porno content; and 34 percent saw the naked photo of their peers⁹⁴. UN report said that drug sale is increasing in Mongolia through the cyber place and it is a big risk for the cyber-crime in Mongolia⁹⁵. The Lobby group against violence at the Parliament submitted the Law on “Prevention of children in the cyber place” in January, 2024 and it is expected to be discussed at the newly formed Parliament after the 2024 election. The Ministry of Digital Development and Communication have created a partnership with UNICEF in 2022 and with the technical support of the “Internet Watch Foundation” to delete the inappropriate contents, illegal posts and etc.

⁹³ <https://d.parliament.mn/tusul/d5810325-62fa-4e1f-b03c-2d4a4bc1bac3>.

⁹⁴ Communications Regulatory Commission, Mongolia, 2020

⁹⁵ UN, 2024. Mongolia development status assessment, 2023.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: Prevention from the technology-facilitated violence⁹⁶: In 2024, The Asia Foundation in Mongolia started a project addressing TFGVB in Mongolia in partnership with National Center Against Violence (NCAV) NGO. The project conducted a situation analysis of TF GBV in Mongolia with external researchers which will be published to the public within 2024. Within the project, NCAV has organized a consultative meeting with representatives from various entities including the Ministry of Digital Development, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission, National Information Technology Park, Cybercrime Department of the General Police Department, Sukhbaatar District Police Department, National Human Rights Commission, General Department of Child, Family and Development Protection, linguists, lawyers, and representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations, including those advocating for LGBTQIA+ rights. Also, a capacity building training was organized to enhance the ability to identify, detect, and protect victims of technology-facilitated gender-based violence, provide services based on a human rights approach, and improve cybersecurity and digital skills to Bayankhongor and Zavkhan province shelter specialists.

CASE: In 2022, the Bayanzurkh⁹⁷ district criminal court and prosecutors' office discussed the criminal act of S.E who was arrested due to the act of in accordance to the Criminal Code 16.9 and 2.1. His action was selling, keeping and distributing the video content where children was involved in the porno-promotion. He was convicted for 2 years of sentence.⁹⁸ This act was considered with high harm to the children sexual development psychology, and ethics of his/her human development as well as brought the high risk to the sexual freedom, privacy and risk for victim of the sexual violence.

19. In the past five years, what measures has your country taken to resource women's organizations working to prevent and respond to GBV?

Mongolia has a strong CSOs, particularly in the area of promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. One of the examples of this strength is the LCDV was approved after 12 years continuous advocacy and capacity building interventions of the CSO with the support of the international agencies such as UNFPA, UNICEF and ADB etc. The National Center Against Violence which is a pioneer organization in the area of GBV prevention and response, who played a crucial role in setting up the Government legal, coordination, survivor protection and capacity building mechanisms in preventing and responding GBV, particularly the domestic violence in its structure and mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment in the policies and programmes of its action. There are strong NGOs such as MONFEMNET who works mainly in women's political, economic empowerment and mainstreaming gender into the Government Actions, The Gender Equality Center who has a dedicated efforts in preventing and responding to the Human Trafficking in Mongolia and contributed to setting up the legal, coordination and capacity building, survivor protection mechanisms in the country.

⁹⁶ TAF, 2024

⁹⁷ Bayanzurkh is one of the districts of Ulaanbaatar.

⁹⁸ Mongolia Court decision data base, 2022.

The Government of Mongolia through its legal environment set up the mechanism to transfer the some of the state tasks to the civil society organization to perform through contractual basis and this system has worked well and contributed a lot in promoting gender equality and prevention of and response to GBV/DV in the country.

20. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to address the portrayal of women and girls, discrimination and/or gender bias in the media, including social media?

The Law to Promote Gender Equality and its article 16.1.4 dedicated to promote a culture where the gender equality is promoted and organize the public awareness raising events and training educational interventions to disseminate gender sensitive and gender appropriate contents and information⁹⁹. Within the implementation of this provisions, the government has issued a guideline to stop to organize the events such “Honored daughter-in-law” where the discriminative practices are encouraged and promoting the stereotype perception and attitude to the society. In addition to it, the nation-wide campaigns on the occasions of March 8, the international women’s day, March 18, the Mongolian soldier’s day, 16 days campaign against violence against women etc and small-scale campaigns and educational interventions are widely organized in close cooperation with the international and UN Agencies which contributed to change the stereotype perceptions and negative mindsets of the population and shift to more equitable attitudes especially among young people.

The NCGE has implemented the project on “Strengthening the women’s political participation at the decision-making levels” in close cooperation with UNDP with a financial support of KOIKA. The project contributed to the changes in portraying women as a passive role of childbearing and domestic chores has changed and see them as a potential force in the country social, economic and political development. As a result, the Parliament Election Law has changed and the 2024 Election has resulted 25 percent of women’s seats at the Parliament, which is a quite a good progress comparing to the last two decades. Also, the trend of portraying women in a bad shape was less during the election campaign. Also, the Ministry of Digital Development and Communication is taking measures to prevent the portrayal of women and girls through a few measures such as creating partnership with FB company” opened a green channel to delete the contents against women and girls and illegal information.

The NCGE also created a partnership contract with the Mongolian National TV and other traditional and social media channels to regularly disseminate the accurate information about the gender equality and women’s empowerment as well as represent women’s contributions in family, society and country development using the good practices and achievements of women and girls. For instance, in 2024, there were a series of programmes were prepared and broadcasted through MNTV including a series of discussions involving variety groups of people of the society. In addition, the NCGE also worked in partnership with the local subcommittees to disseminate the information including the prevention and response of GBV among the rural women, particularly

⁹⁹ LPGE; <https://legalinfo.mn/mn/detail/253>.

among those who live in remote areas of the rural areas. As a result, a total of 15,000 civil servants and 150,000 people from public, private organizations and families. Through nation-wide and small-scale campaign and educational interventions a total of 1,679,800 people in 2022 and 1,509,000 people in 2023.

21. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken specifically tailored to address violence against marginalized groups of women and girls?

Mongolia has traditionally nomadic life style and heavily engaged in pastoral livestock-breeding which is best suited economic activity to the lifestyle of Mongolians and still preserve its economic and cultural values nowadays by demonstrating a uniqueness of our nation and cultural identity. Livestock-breeding accounts for 15 percent of the economy and employs one in every four of the working population. Thus, the country future is characteristically linked with the herding communities where more than half is a woman and ensuring their lives are well developed and living and working conditions are well equipped with opportunities where they can enjoy their rights and grow and contribute to the society is one of the priorities of the Government. However, the issue of **herder women of having** a fewer opportunity for their personal development, less social security guarantee, lower income and limited access to services and etc than their peers living in cities and towns. About 82.8 percent of the herding families have an access to electricity, they always face challenges in finding and using clean water supply, sanitation and other communal services. Also, most of them use the modern mobile phones they still lack with skills and knowledge to use it for the purpose of connecting with the market and logistics suppliers and transportation and other necessary services to sell their animal products and run effective business.

The lessons learned from COVID 19 pandemic struggles as the herder women lost about 70 percent of their income during this time, it was very clear that the emergency management system needs to be strengthened in order to be responsive and relevant to the needs of the herder communities. The statistics show the need to pay more attention on herder families as only 39.9 percent of herders are women and share of young herders is even much less according to the 2023 data¹⁰⁰. In addition, the herder women often suffer from the domestic violence and also sexual violence against young girls is increasing due to the persisting social norms and discrimination in the rural society, but they do not have access to readily available services for protection and response. Although there are multidisciplinary teams are working at the primary administrative units due to capacity of that team to reach to the furthest behind groups are limited and financially this work is not supported.

The year of 2024 was announced as a year of the regional development by the Government and a series of measures including to address the urban-rural divide, improve the income of herders, ensure the social security of herders by sharing the 50 percent of the social insurance by the state supporting young herders to settle down at

¹⁰⁰ UN CSW68 (2024) New York, USA. Mongolia's side event on Improving the situation of rural women and girls: equitable access to quality public services and economic empowerment. Presented by Ms. Enkhbayar, Secretary of the NCGE, 2024

their hometowns etc¹⁰¹. The e-job platform linked to e-Mongolia system is established with an aim to promote employment of rural youth including women. Also, “herder” programme is introduced to the Vocational Training and Production Centers to improve the access to knowledge base and skill building. Also, the ownership of the animals is registered under the name of the family including their wives and daughters as it was registered only on the name of the household head, which is usually men. As a result, the opportunity for women and girls to get loans from the banks and benefits from the government etc. To improve the educational opportunity for children of herder families the government is seeking to improve the economic and climate change adaptation knowledge and capacity of rural women and girls, support the production of eco-friendly organic production; expanding the public services in rural areas by promoting the public and private sector partnerships; promoting political, social, and economic empowerment of rural women with a special emphasis on supporting the activities of cooperatives and trade unions uniting women engaged in household and small-scale farmings.

In Mongolia, **women with disabilities** are having a limited opportunities to exercise their rights to work, and labor force participation rate is decreasing year by year. To address the challenges faced by the people with disabilities, the Parliament has approved the Law on People with Disabilities Rights in 2016 and it has included several positive provisions in accordance to the UN Convention on PWDs Rights. The Law included provisions such as promoting PWDs participation in the decision-making levels and as a follow up, the National Council on PWDs rights was established at the Government chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and sub councils were also established at the provincial and district levels under the leadership of Governors. In addition, Government Ministries also established sub-councils on PWDs Rights chaired by the State Secretaries. This structure is aimed to ensure the PWDs participation in the decision-making process of Ministries, whose decisions will impact lives of PWDs and Provinces and Districts where PWDs are living.

The Government also issued the Regulations on “Percentage of employment capacity and duration” which was approved by the Joint order of Ministries of Health and Labor and Social Protection. According to this regulation, the disability should be identified in accordance to the diagnosis included in the regulation. However, there is some improvements are needed to reflect full loss of labor capacity due to one disability etc. According to the Law on PWDs Rights, it was guaranteed that PWDs, particularly who has no hearing ability to be able to attend in all aspects of social lives through the interpreter’s assistance. Although it was a very good provisions to ensure the equal participation of PWDs in the social life there is limited number of interpreters in the country and hard to have access to this service. With the initiatives of the National Association of the people with hearing disabilities, the working group to develop the Law on Sign Language by the Education Minister’s order in June 2023. The Law is under its development.

¹⁰¹<https://montsame.mn/en/read/338445#:~:text=The%20Government%20of%20Mongolia%20has,Year%20to%20Support%20Regional%20Development.>

However, the implementation of the approved Laws was not sufficient due to the lack of accountability mechanisms to ensure the implementation as well as accountability mechanisms for the violation of this Law; limited knowledge and negative attitude of policy makers as well as implementers; and no allocated funds in the implementation of the Law etc. Within the implementation of the Law on PWDs Rights, the National Programme on “Rights, Participation and Development of PWDs” for 2018-2022 was approved by the Government. Again, the implementation was not sufficient due to the lack of multisectoral collaboration, no sufficient funding allocated etc. In addition, the Criminal Code and Law on Misconduct and several other Laws did not include the issue of nondiscrimination of PWDs by their disabilities.

The Government is approved the State Policy on employment in 2016 and “The Programme to promote women’s employment” in 2022. The number of **economically inactive women** is increasing due to the housewife, child care, disabled, elderly care etc. It was 175 thousand and in 2016 and increased 201,010 in 2018¹⁰². By 2020 Population and Housing Census, a total of 115,115 people living with disabilities out of them 45.9 percent are women. A total of 98.2 thousand people with disabilities are above 15, which are at the labor age and 33.5 percent of them engage in labor market. However, only 23.9 percent are permanent worker with salaries and 13 percent are temporary worker and 47.3 percent are running own business without any worker. The Labor Law, and State policy on promoting the employment included provisions related to support the employment of PWDs in accordance to the Article 26 of the Convention on Rights of PWDs. These include, no discrimination in labor relations; provision of conditions to work and support the employment; skill building, support the startup business through different policies and programmes; adjustment of work place for the specific needs of PWDs etc. However, the State policy on promoting the employment has not included the issue of PWDs in it and provisions are not specific to PWDs needs. Also, the issue of hiring PWDs in the civil service and allow them to generate work experience and grow in their profession or promoted in higher or decision-making positions etc are not included in any of the policy and programme document of the state.

According to the Labor Law, Article 144, organizations and business entities with more than 25 staff should hire people with disabilities at least in 4 positions of its structure, if not, the entities should pay the equal amounts with lowest rates of wage for these 4 positions in the Fund to support the employment of disabled people. By the President’s initiative within the efforts to enhance the implementation of this provision of the Labor Law, the money located in the Fund increased from 545.7 mln MNT in 2017 to 4.8 bln MNT in 2020. This looks sufficient amount to support the employment of people with disabilities. However, the fund is spent in one time support way to organize training or provide some assistance to NGOs or individuals and efficiency is not sufficient, so it does not contribute to the promotion of employment among this groups¹⁰³. Also, the business entities are not interested in hiring PWDs, discriminative attitude from the management of staff as they see them incapable to work in dynamic work environment and the work

¹⁰² NSO, 2021 (b)

¹⁰³ Study on Labor Policy, Mongolia, Open Society Forum. Mongolian Women’s Employment Promotion Association and Mongolian Wheel Chair Citizen’s National Association. 2023.

place, equipment, and furniture are not relevant and friendly to PWDs. In addition, women, particularly female PWDs are experience the work place sexual harassment¹⁰⁴.

The National Programme on Reproductive Health implemented during the 2017-2021 has included the issue of women WDs are reflected in the programme and it brought the issue of RH of the WWDs at the attention of health professionals and service providers. Also, the MOH developed the training manual on “Facilitators Manual for the Comprehensive Sexuality Education for WWDs” in 2022 and TOT was organized for the health professionals of 21 provinces and 9 districts.

In 2023, **the Border Guard Women’s** Forum was organized in May 2023 under the auspices of the President as they are the ones who serve in hardship conditions and living in remote areas and have limited opportunity to enjoy their rights to grow professionally and personally. During this Forum many issues related to their life conditions and specific needs such as need to strengthen their social issues and working conditions, improving the border guards’ children’s educational opportunities etc were discussed and a total of 451 women were attended. As a follow up of this Forum, the following measures were taken to improve the living and working conditions of border guards and their families such as three new kindergartens and apartments for 20 households as well as water sanitation system and toilets with heating system for 41 border units and 2 rehabilitation centers were built, and 1 border unit was connected to the central electric system, 3 border units are installed solar electric station and 32 border units are installed gas heating system etc. Also, the water purifying technology was installed in a number of remote border units where the drinking water hardness is high in close collaboration with the Scientific Technology Innovation Center and auto-purifying complex technology was installed in the well of the another remote boarder unit with the financial support of the UNICEF, Mongolia

Indigenous women, religious minority women, people with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities or expressions, or sex characteristics, and older women’s rights are regulated same as the ordinary people and no specific provisions in regards of their rights and specific needs. Thus, they also experience certain levels challenges and discrimination because of their age, ethnicity and sexual diversity, however, the cases are not often reported and discussed and solved.

Four.PARTICIPATION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND GENDER-RESPONSIVE INSTITUTIONS

22. In the past five years, what actions and measures has your country to promote women’s participation in public life and decision-making?

Increasing women’s participation in the policy development and decision-making positions was one of the key priorities to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. The Government implemented a series of interventions in this area and one of them is the project implemented with the financial and technical support of UNDP and KOIKA during the 2020-2024. Within these joint efforts, the amendment to the

¹⁰⁴ NHRC, 2017 (b)

Parliament Election Law was prepared and the proposals with the 30 percent of quota among the candidates in 2024 and 40 percent in 2028, as well as women and men are putting into an order 1/1 in the political party list were approved and followed in the election in 2024 as the election was organized in a parallel form. In the 2024 parliament election, total of 1341 candidates from 19 parties and 2 coalitions. Out of them 32 women held seats at the Parliament and 25.4 percent of the MPs are women now. The government is formed followed the results of the Parliament Election and 3 female Ministries out of 23 are appointed. They will head the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Culture, sport and tourism and Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. Although this 25.6 percent of the Parliament seats is below the target by the LPGE 60:40 it is a significant increase in the number of female MPs in the last 15 years.

The Government also implemented the “For the Professional, Citizen oriented Civil Service in Mongolia” project implemented jointly by Civil Service Coalition and UNDP during the 2018-2023 with financial support of the Government of Canada. Under the project, sex disaggregated data of civil servants is integrated into the Mongolian Government Management data base, Gender issues were integrated into the documents on “Capacity based Human Resource Management” and “Training Manual for the Human Resource Managers” with the aim to strengthen the gender equality in the Civil service. Total of 209 female civil servants are capacitated within the Women’s Leadership Programme and out of them 16 females promoted and the female promotion percentage has increased to 17.2 percent in 2023 from 8.3 in 2018. The First ever Forum of Female Civil Servants was organized and 1100 civil servants are trained on Prevention of Work Place Sexual Harassment and 362 civil servants are trained as a trainer on the issues of human rights, gender and prevention from sexual harassment.

National Human Rights Commission conducted online survey on the work place sexual harassment in 2019 among 2100 civil servants of 72 organizations. One in four of the respondents answered they have experienced certain levels of sexual harassment at their work place and most of them were women. It shows that there is a high need of creating a safe work space for female staff where their rights and privacy is respected and form the atmosphere at the work place where intolerance of sexual harassment is encouraged.

The Ministry of Justice approved and implemented the “Gender policy of the Law Enforcement system for 2018-2021” by the Justice Minister’s order in 2018 and Gender Sub Council of the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs was established and the Gender Action Plan was developed and implemented successfully. The action plan included interventions to strengthen the staff capacity and empower them through promoting female staff in decision making positions, supporting the enrollment of them in local and international level capacity building events etc. Within this initiative, 132 women in 2020, 174 women in 2021, 194 women in 2022, 239 in 2023 in 17 programmes of the 4 years bachelor study and 2 years study programme. In addition to this, the topics of “Gender study”, “Family Law”, “Human Rights”, “Criminology”, “Criminal Law” included in the bachelor programme and the topics of “Leadership and professional ethics” are included in the master’s programme of the Law Enforcement University.

23. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to increase women's access to expression and participation in decision-making in the media, including through information and communication technologies (ICT)?

In Mongolia, there are more than 550 media is operating, out of them public TV with the state involvement is 1, commercial TVs are 130. Daily newspapers are 6-7 and social media sites are more than 100. About 80 percent of journalists are women working in the media institutions. The NCGE has developed the guideline for the editorial team of the media institutions on "Gender sensitive journalism" and conducted a series of trainings among the journalists with financial support of UNFPA. Female Director of the Mongolian National TV was appointed in March, 2024 and the Media Council was established in 2015 with a purpose of promoting the freedom of journalists and convey the voices of them to the levels of the decision making as needed. The Council is also headed by the female chair as a CEO.

In addition, the NCGE also implemented the project in close cooperation with UNDP, and organized the campaign on "Gender sensitive reporting" and it contributed to the change of negative portrayal of women and girls through the media. The Gender Strategy of the Digital Development and Communication for 2023-2026 has approved in 2023. About 64.7 percent of the Mongolia's population is using internet and it has increased by 34.1 percent comparing to the 2010. Out of them 58.7 percent are regular users and 66.6 percent of women are using the internet. This figure show that there is a huge opportunity to disseminate the positive ideas and new positive norms through this channel and allow women, girls and marginalized population to have an access to information, public and other services as well as express their views openly and contribute to the development of healthy society.

24. Please describe your country's current national women's machinery (government entity exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women) and describe the measures that your country taken over the past five years to establish and/or strengthen it.

The National Committee on Gender Equality (NCGE) has established in 2005 under the Prime Minister at the national levels and consisted of more than 30 members from the Governmental and Non-governmental organizations. The NCGE has branch committees at local level, and branch council at state central administrative body. The Gender Focal Points are appointed at the organizational level with an additional task on their initial responsibility and receive an additional salary equal to 30 percent of their wage. The NCGE has a secretariat and it is headed by the NCGE secretary. The NCGE has sub committees and sub councils in 16 Ministries, 21 provinces and 9 districts and all sectors and local subcommittees are developing and implementing the sectoral or local gender sub programme or policies. Through the sectoral and local gender policies gender mainstreaming and sensitiveness are introduced to the sectoral policy making, planning, budgeting, human resource policies, and production and services.

In 2022 and 2023, according to the Government order, the cabinet minister is assigned as a Deputy Chair of the NCGE as the Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister used to be a deputy chair of NCGE in the past. Also, NCGE membership has expanded by the new members from the Government and Non-Governmental organizations such as the Cabinet secretariat, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Digital Communication, Ministry of Economic Development, Anti-Corruption Authority, Academy of Management, Mongolian National Public Radio Television, Mongolian Chamber of Commerce, Mongolian Employer Association, Press Institute, National Center Against Violence.

During the last 4 years, the NCGE secretariat has a structure of two divisions and 14 staff and has responsibilities to coordinate multisectoral response to the implementation of the Law to Promote Gender Equality and ensure the mainstreaming the gender perspective into the all levels of government operations, policies and programmes by strengthening the human resource capacity and national gender expertise. NCGE organizes systematic capacity building interventions for the government staff, NGO professionals, private sector staff and the general population on the gender issues and promoting gender equality. Within these efforts, NCGE developed three levels of Gender training module, which included primary levels, mid-levels and advanced levels training programmes to train the gender experts, gender focal points and NGO professionals. A total of 370 people were trained within the primary level programme, 40 trainers were prepared within the mid-level training programme. Now the advanced level training module is under preparation with a focus on introducing the Gender Transformative Approach and its application in 6 fields of gender interventions such as data analysis, policy formulation, etc. Within this programme, it is expected and planned 30 gender experts are trained.¹⁰⁵

The NCGE implemented several projects and programme during the last five years to strengthen the national capacity in the area of gender equality and women's empowerment in close collaboration with other sectoral Ministries and agencies, NGOs with the technical and financial support of international development partners. For the implementation of the "National Program on Gender Equality for 2017-2021"¹⁰⁶ one billion MNT was allocated from the state budget, and also several programme and project were jointly implemented by the Government and development partners including the Combating GBV in Mongolia programme (mid 2016-mid 2023) with UNFPA, funded by SDC with 7.5 mln USD\$, Two technical assistance projects of ADB "Gender Sensitive Planning and Operations for Sectoral and Local Development" (2017-2019) and "Gender equality with civil society participation" (2020-2021) with a total budget of 1.2 mln USD\$. In addition, the NCGE took an active part in the implementation of the EU funded project on "Strengthening the National Gender Expertise in Mongolia" in close collaboration with UNFPA during the 2023-2025 and within the project, the NCGE has developed the Advanced level of training manual on Gender Transformative Approach for gender experts and is it expected to be piloted in October 2024 and finalized.

About 54.2 percent of the 2021 budget of NCGE and 70 percent of the 2022 budget comes from the international organizations assistance which show that the most part of

¹⁰⁵ NCGE, 2024

¹⁰⁶ The National Programme on Gender Equality, 2017. NCGE

the gender related work is funded by the international organizations. Therefore, the state and local funding for the gender related interventions has to be increased as the donor and international assistance is shrinking year by years. Also, the amount allocated in promoting gender equality from the local budgets are varying from 2-250mln MNT at the provincial levels and 11.7-539 mln MNT at the district levels in 2021 and it increased to 4.7-352 mln MNT at the provincial levels and 6.7-921 mln MNT at the district levels.

25. In the past five years, what other mechanisms and tools has your country used to mainstream gender equality across sectors? (e.g. gender focal points in the Executive, Legislature or Judiciary; inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms; gender audits, consultations with women’s organizations)

The NCGE and its secretariat closely works with the Gender Sub Councils (at the Ministries and Agencies) and Gender Sub Committees (at the local governments) and provides policy and practical supervision and guidance and regular assistance in mainstreaming gender into their daily work and policies and programmes, in applying gender sensitive approach in making important decisions and the capacity development interventions. The Gender Focal Points at the Ministries, Government Agencies and Provincial Administrations are the ones to coordinate the gender related interventions at their agencies and constituencies. For the implementation of the LPGE, the government allocated a total of 1,252.7 mln MNT from the state fund, 1,144,5 mln MNT from the local fund and 1,185,2mln MNT from the international agencies during the 2019-2020

The Government Programme for the 2020-2024 and Action Plan to implement the Programme included provision on “The Government will create a national system on human rights and gender education to all and will promote gender equality policy” and tasked NCGE to report to the Parliament every 2 years on the implementation of this provision. Therefore, NCGE prepare a report on the implementation of the interventions of the Government to promote gender equality in the country and its impact on the socio-economic development every two years and present to the Parliament. Parliament issue recommendations based on the hearing and discussion which would provide key directions for the next two years of NCGE activities.

The Government of Mongolia implemented the following national levels programmes since the approval of LPGE: Mid-term strategy to implement the LPGE for 2013-2016 and the National Programme on Promoting Gender Equality for 2002-2015 and 2017-2021. Since the 2013, NCGE also provided technical and financial support in close collaboration with UNFPA and ADB to develop the sectoral and local gender sub-programmes and now a total of 14 sectors has developed, approved and implemented the sector specific gender policy and 21 provinces have developed, approved and implemented local gender programme. In addition, the NCGE prepared various guidelines and technical instructions and introduced them in the Government, Non-Governmental and some private sector practices. They are: Gender checklist for the development and approval of the Laws, policies and programmes; methodology for providing equal pay for work of equal value was adopted and introduced; guideline on prevention of sexual harassment in the workplace and complaint resolving guidelines are prepared and introduced to the

government, nongovernment and private sector internal organizational rules and regulations; methodology for the participatory gender assessment is also prepared and introduced to the gender experts and used in the gender audits of several sectors and local provinces.

In addition, All the Ministries of the Government have approved and implemented gender policies based on the specific needs of each sector since 2014 and staff have trained on how to do reporting, monitoring, evaluation, and budgeting of the implementation of the gender policies. The Labor and Social Protection, Education, Food, Agriculture and Light Industry sectors' gender policies implementation assessment was conducted in 2023 and by the mid of 2023, the implementation was 41%. Also, good practice of the private sector entities in implementing the newly approved Labor Law provisions in their operations were identified and documented in 2022. Based on the assessment findings and good practices of private sector in the implementation of the Law, the "Gender sensitive work places (2022-2031)" which was prepared in line with the newly adopted Labor Law and approved by the Labor, Social and Partnership Tripartite National Committee order of December 12, 2022 No 37. The policy will be implemented in two phases up to 2031 and the Labor, Social and Partnership Tripartite National Committee will oversee the implementation and NCGE will provide the technical assistance to the parties and monitor the implementation.

In addition, the NCGE organizes Quarterly Development Partners meetings and present the results of the Joint efforts working with the Development Partners in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, discuss the issues which require an urgent attention of joint work. Each quarter, the meeting is organized jointly with one of the development partner agencies and focus on the topic on which the partners agency provides support or works together with the Mongolian Government. Furthermore, the NCGE also mobilizes CSOs working in the area of gender in wide range of discussions which require a joint efforts or wider consultation and use their experts in the development of key policy documents or consultations where needed.

26. If there is a national human rights institution in your country, what measures has it taken to address violations of women's rights and promote gender equality?

According to the LPGE, Article 24¹⁰⁷, The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is in charge to receive, investigate and conclude any complaints related to the human rights violation and within this responsibility, the NHRC reflects gender issues into their "Status of Human Rights and Freedom of people in Mongolia" annual report since 2019. The report is presented annually to the Mongolian Parliament and the Parliament issues resolution as needed and the NHRC follows up its implementation and present back to the Parliament. The NHRC was not a member of the NCGE and by the February 2023 Government order approved the new composition of the NCGE where the NHRC is included as a member.

¹⁰⁷ LPGE, 2011

The Mongolian Parliament approved the Law on Legal Status of Human Rights Defenders in April, 2021 and it entered into force on July 1, 2021. Mongolia is pioneered in Asia as a country has a legal protection for human rights defenders by introducing a new concept of “human rights defenders” in the country. The Law aimed to establish legal grounds for respect, protection, promotion, and fulfillment of the rights of human rights defenders through identifying actions, rights and prohibitions apply to human rights defenders as well as common obligations of state organizations and officials, non-governmental organizations, and business entities, and protection mechanism for human rights defenders. Following the Law approval, amendments are made to the Law on Human Rights Commission to add a new member responsible for the matters of human rights defenders to the composition of the Human Rights Commission establish a committee to protect the human rights defenders. The is consisted by members from the existing government and non-governmental organizations. This way the new mechanism to protect human rights defenders is created in Mongolia.

The NHRC is also working to receive and conclude complaints of GBV victims and survivors including victims of work place sexual harassment.

Five. PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES.

27. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to build and sustain peace, promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and implement the women, peace and security agenda?

Mongolia is taking active participation in the United Nations peacekeeping since 2002 and continued to expand its contributions to UN peace operations in hot spots around the world. Mongolia deployed 22,300 military and police officers including female officers to UN Peacekeeping. Mongolian Government encouraged to serve female military and police officers in the UN peacekeeping. Mongolia is ranked 25th by its number of peacekeepers and 18th by its female peacekeepers out of 126 countries. Also, Mongolia joined in the Geneva 92th Convention on “Protection of repressed people in the international armed conflicts” in August, 1949. However, there was no any armed conflicts and crises since then and during the last five years in Mongolia

In September 2021, Mongolian President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa pledged to the United Nations General Assembly to increase the percentage of Mongolian woman peacekeepers by 15 per cent, in alignment with UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security (2000)¹⁰⁸.

The deployment of Mongolian female personnel to peacekeeping missions is recent and has grown significantly after many years of battle to allow Mongolian female personnel to serve in the mission. The peacekeeping-designated special battalion (known as the Elite Battalion), which was established in 1997, employed the first female graduates from the Defense University and the Non Commissioned Officer (NCO) Academy, and in 2008, the Mongolian Armed Forces took a significant step to implement the UN Security Council

¹⁰⁸ Mongolian Women Peacekeepers. Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Mongolian Institute for Innovative Policies. 2022

Resolution 1325 and deployed its foremost female peacekeepers within the military contingent to the UN Mission in Liberia.³ From 2011, participation of female personnel increased dramatically as Mongolia deployed its peacekeeping battalion to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan. As of March 2022, 513 women had served in South Sudan; 7 per cent of the current battalion personnel in the country is female. In addition to the UN peacekeeping deployments, Mongolian women have been deployed within the Mongolian company to the NATO-led Resolute Support operation in Afghanistan.⁶ This was only due to a request from the German government for Mongolian female soldiers to learn from German counterparts while dealing with Afghan women and children (who cannot openly engage with men who do not belong to their household easily). Mongolia's individualized deployments, such as military observers and staff officers, have increased significantly in the field and at the UN headquarters in New York, including for women.⁷ Mongolian female observers, staff officers and contingent members have now served in field missions in Western Sahara, Chad, Sierra Leone, Sudan, South Sudan and Afghanistan. Total women deployed as of 2021 is 828. More are currently serving in Africa. ¹⁰⁹

28. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to increase the leadership, representation and participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding, humanitarian action and crisis response, at decision-making levels in situations of armed and other conflicts, and in fragile or crisis settings?

Mongolia is as a country which actively participating in the UN peacekeeping mission, the country has developed the Action Plan to implement the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on "Women, peace and safety" and taking necessary measures to support the implementation of this resolution. Within these efforts, promoting gender equality in the Defense sector was encouraged during the last 5 years. The "Defense sector Gender policy" and "Action plan to implement the Defense Sector Gender Policy" were approved by the order of the defense minister in 2020, however, due to the financial constraints the implementation was slow. In 2023, the newly prepared "Rules and regulation" was approved, which included the legal provision to allocate funding in the implementation of the sectoral gender policy. Also, The Law on "Revisions to the Legal Status of army personnel" included a provision to prohibit work place sexual harassment, discrimination among the army personnel. During the last 5 years, 15 female officers were received an army high education, and increased the percentage of female officers to be studied in universities in abroad and locally and it reached to 10 percent of the total army personnel. However, the women officer's participation at the decision-making positions is still lacking and further improvement is needed.

Ms. Bolor Ganbold, who was one of the first female recruits into the Mongolian Armed Force and in 2022 she became the first female Brigadier General through her outstanding leadership and performance in the peacekeeping operations. She has served in UN Mission in the Central African Republic, Chad, South Sudan, and UN Peacekeeping service in the New York City. It was a great news for many female soldiers, however

¹⁰⁹ Department for Peace Operations of the General Staff of the Mongolian Armed Forces, March 2022.

women in the military and other uniformed services in Mongolia, gender equality has been neglected. A strategy and policy guidance for supporting women personnel in the Mongolian armed forces and in the UN peacekeeping operations is still lacking. In addition, the workshop, on the Participation of Women in Peacekeeping Operations (18 November 2021), was organized by the support of the Office of the President and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation of Germany to provide an opportunity for the female peacekeepers to share their experiences and discuss overall and mission-specific challenges for the deployment of women with policy-level experts in the military as well as other uniformed services, including the border troops, internal troops, emergency troops, marshal services and the police. The outcome of the meeting was shared with the President Office for their further actions in seizing more of these opportunities, the country will strengthen the delivery of equal rights (gender) and fulfil the country's responsibility to take the international gender equality initiatives seriously.

29. In the last five years, what actions has your country taken to enhance judicial and non-judicial accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and violations of the human rights of women and girls in situations of armed and other conflicts or humanitarian action and crisis response?

Mongolia is actively participating in the implementation of the UN resolution No 1325 of the UN Safety Commission on "Women, peace and safety" as a member of the UN Family and sending our troops to the peacekeeping mission in hot places. The Safety Commission under the Mongolian President and the Strategic Research Institute jointly developed the Action Plan to implement the UN resolution No 1325 and implementation is under way. The implementation needs to be enhanced in order to ensure more active involvement in the peacekeeping mission with gender sensitive approaches.

30. In the last five years, what actions has your country taken to eliminate discrimination against and violations of the rights of the girl child, including adolescent girls?

The all types of discrimination against the people including the LGTBTI was one of the key areas of human rights globally and the situation is not different in Mongolia. In order to address this phenomenon, the revised Criminal Code has provided a few significant provisions. According to this, the discrimination is criminalized including the forms of discrimination against LGBTI people and accountability measures were reflected in the Law which was a significant step in the promotion of human rights principles in Mongolia. Also, the other Laws which were under revision in relation to the changes in the Criminal Code reflected this provision and also opened the rights to complain and resolve the complaints procedures¹¹⁰.

Mongolia is a country of young people where there are about 70 percent of total population is young people and they are the future of Mongolia. Therefore, the issue of adolescent girls and youth is a one of the priorities of Mongolian government declared by the Mongolian Constitution and Mongolia's Long Term Development Policy: Vision 2050.

¹¹⁰ The Criminal Code. 2023

The Mongolian Parliament adopted the Law on Young people in 2016¹¹¹. Also, the Law on Child protection, which was approved in 2023¹¹² regulates the child protection issues are created and state policy on child protection has identified and commitment of the government and nongovernmental organizations has enhanced in last a few years. However, the crime against children including girls is not reducing. Some research shows that the percentage of the rape against young children in the total crime has increased and the nature and scope of this type of crime is worsening. For instance, 4 kids in 2019, 8 kids in 2020, 7 kids in 2021-2022 were lost their lives due to the crime against them. Also, 552 girls are suffered and 59 were injured due to rape in 2022 and this is increased by 20.5 percent and injury case was increased by 15.7 percent comparing to the previous year. During the last 4 years since 2020, the rape case rate has increased and a total of 1975 people affected. Especially, the number of victims, particularly children with very young age increased frequently in last 3 years. A total of 169 children in 2019, 248 in 2020, 278 in 2021, 362 in 2022. In terms of age, 11 victims are aged 3-6, 11 victims aged 7-10, 48 victims aged 11-14. About 76.5 percent of perpetrators are usually family members, relatives, or acquaintances¹¹³. This is only the reported and finalized cases by the court. However, in many cases, the victim does not tell anyone due to the fear and treats from the perpetrators, so many cases are not reported and this also allow the perpetrator to repeat the actions, and victim suffer for a long time and lead to physical, psychological and mental damages. In many cases the rape is revealed due to the girl became a pregnant, otherwise it might be not revealed and continued to ruin girls lives. Therefore, the Government prepared a revision and the approved the Law on making the revisions and additions to the Criminal Code in December, 2023.¹¹⁴ According to these revisions, punishment on criminals is aggravated and increased to 25 years of sentence for the rape crime which was 20 years before the revision as this crime leave irrecoverable damage to the children's psychology and their lives. In addition, the revision also included the provision of no parole (no earlier release) and no pardon (no act of grace) for the convict.

UNICEF has supported revision of the Law on Child protection that is approved by Parliament in 2024¹¹⁵. The amendments were attributed to the recommendations of the Evaluation of the Implementation of this Law and a consistency review with the UN Child Rights Convention that were conducted with the support of UNICEF. The law guarantees the rights of children to protection and prevention of children from risks and harms. The scope of the law has been broadened to include its application to all children residing in Mongolia, irrespective of their citizenship status. As data is essential in generating evidence to inform policy and influence public investment for child protection services, the Government conducted the Global School based student Health Survey and a study on Child rights in schools (qualitative analysis) with UNICEF support. The findings have been launched. Furthermore, the newly adopted Law on Forensic Service (in December 2022)¹¹⁶ identified the regulations to conduct the body examination for the children under age of 16 by requiring the presence of legal guardian or staff from the state or local

¹¹¹ Mongolian Law on Young people, 2016

¹¹² Mongolian Law on Child Protection, 2023

¹¹³ MOJHA report, 2024

¹¹⁴ MOJHA report, 2024

¹¹⁵ Child Protection Law, 2024

¹¹⁶ Law on Forensic Service, 2022

children’s organization. Also, according to this Law, the payment for the examination and lab test for the children under age of 16 is remitted. In addition, by the joint order of the Minister for Justice, Health and Finance, the payment for the lab test and examination to identify the levels of body and psychological damage for the child victim aged of 0-17 is remitted¹¹⁷.

Table 11. The number of crime cases /Court decision/ during the 2021-2023¹¹⁸

No	Years	Total number of crimes	Rape against very young age children	
			Number of crime	percent
1	2021	322	30	9.3
2	2022	188	25	13.3
3	2023 first half	73	11	15.1
Total				11.3

Majority of young people in Mongolia are rather healthy, however, premature death, disease, injuries, mental disorder and nutrition issues are causing different health, survival and behavioral challenges for young people. The top five causes of death among adolescents in 2019 were self-harm, road accident, tuberculosis, drowning and violence. The suicide rate per 100,000 was 19 in 2019, 27 births per 1,000 girls aged 15-19 years old in 2020self reported tobacco use among 13-15 years old is 13 percent among boys and 3 percent among girls in 2019. The number of overweight children and adolescents has increased significantly¹¹⁹.

To address these challenges, the Government has approved the new Multisectoral Action Plan to improve the Early Childhood Development for 2023-2026 and it identified the interventions required to be implemented by different sectors responsible¹²⁰. Currently, there are a total of 29 Adolescent and Youth Friendly Health Service centers are operating in 21 provinces and 8 districts of UB which are institutionalized within the government structure using the standard issued by the government¹²¹. Strengthening the capacity of the staff working at the centers, improving the access by those young people living in remote areas is still needed, therefore the MOH is aiming to integrate these services to the existing Primary Health Care (PHC) services to address the above-mentioned challenges¹²². The adolescent friendly health service concept can be implemented in line with the PHC vision and would contribute to the youth development with empowered youth with a healthy bodies and mind.

One of the reasons why young girls and boys were affected by the risks of discrimination and violence is due to their lack of knowledge and confidence in themselves. To address this gap, the National Center for Mother and Child Health launched in close collaboration with UNFPA and Unitel Group, Telecommunication Company of Mongolia a new Chatbot

¹¹⁷ MOJHA report, 2024

¹¹⁸ MOJHA data, 2023

¹¹⁹ Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis of Existing Primary Health Care Services for Integration of Early Childhood Development and Adolescent-Youth-Friendly Health Services in Mongolia Report. 2024. MOH, UNFPA and UNICEF

¹²⁰ Multisectoral Action Plan to improve Early Childhood Development, 2023-2026. MOH

¹²¹ UNFPA Mongolia CP4 Evaluation Report, 2022

¹²² Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis of Existing Primary Health Care Services for Integration of Early Childhood Development and Adolescent-Youth-Friendly Health Services in Mongolia Report. 2024. MOH, UNFPA and UNICEF

“Mandukhai”¹²³ for adolescents which is powered by artificial intelligence and it has created a mobile-friendly e-consultant who is available for 24/7. It allowed adolescents to have access to accurate and scientifically proven information when they face challenges such as unintended pregnancy, safe sex and STIs and relationship, stress issues. The Comprehensive Sexuality Education introduced to the secondary school curricula since 2022 and empowering young people, especially girls in their early development and adolescent crisis period by giving them knowledge and skills to manage their lives including mental and sexual part of their lives. It also enabled to reach the marginalized groups of children, adolescents and young people with accurate and most needed information and skills in their lives. Secondary school teachers who run this class witnessed tremendous changes in student’s knowledge, attitude and skills through this subject and became more open, engaged in the discussions related to sensitive issues in their crisis time.

Six. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION

31. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to integrate gender perspectives and concerns into environmental policies, including climate change adaptation and mitigation, biodiversity conservation and land degradation?

Mongolia’s air temperature increased by 2.25C and it included the country among the countries significantly affected by the climate change. With the increase of the air temperature, the amount of rain and snow fall has decreased and increase the risk of decertification and dryness, which caused the pasture and water sources for the animals. Also, the climate change caused the shortage of the biological diversity and damage the ecosystem balance. Mongolia has joined the Paris Agreement on reducing the climate change effects and included the issues of women in the document. The Climate change and sustainable development research center was established in 2019 at the Ministry of Environment and Tourisms with aim to provide timely data to the Government to inform the policy and programming needs as well as learn from other countries experiences in dealing with the climate change effect.

The Government implementing the project on “Strengthening the adaptation capacity of the rural citizens in climate change impacts and risk management system” in close collaboration with the Green Foundation with a financial support of UNDP for 2021-2028. The project is aimed to increase the adaptation capacity of rural citizens in the climate change impacts and within this initiative, the interventions to strengthen the system of animal row material preparation and create a marketing network as well as business skill building trainings are organized. It was estimated that a total of 130,0 thousand people will be benefitted directly and 800.0 thousand people will be benefitted indirectly from the project. The government implemented the project on “Strengthening the quality of lives of those families living in ger district” with a UNDP financial support in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, and Ministry of Energy and about 100 single headed women are provided by the sun insulated electricity. It contributed to reduce the

¹²³ <https://www.facebook.com/mandukhaimentor>

air pollution by not using the coal fuel, and with less payment for the electricity and allocate more time for themselves and kids by having more time to participate in the social events to influence the primary level government decisions positively. In addition, the government also started the implementation of the project on “Increasing the local capacity and resources to overcome the climate change impacts and increase the adaptation capacity” in partnership with Ministry of Environment and Tourism and Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry with 10 mln Canadian dollar financial support of Canadian Government during 2024-2029. The project will aim to increase the carbon absorption, improve the soil and water quality, and improving the production of agriculture products by introducing the new technologies. Within the implementation of the project, the participation of the targeted marginalized women’s groups and improve their economic capacity based on their needs. The interventions will be mainly focused on women of marginalized groups and strengthen their leadership in their own lives as well as in the socio-economic lives.

Given the significant needs, the Government also partnered with UNICEF, the WASH and Climate Change programmes. The conditions of indoor WASH facilities in schools and health facilities strengthened and it contributed to the promotion of hygiene practices and menstrual hygiene management among women and girls. This has resulted in MoES’s approval of a guideline for school dormitories with a mandatory Girl’s Room as a new standard. The mobile-based container approach that was implemented, provided flexibility to upgrade existing building structures. A pilot project was initiated to install a container-based wastewater treatment system in two districts of Ulaanbaatar, which contributes to prevent communicable diseases during flooding. The Government with UNICEF support addressed air pollution to provide a safer environment for children through a Cooking, Heating, Insulation, Product package (CHIP). A stronger commitment was made by the Provincial Governor’s Offices and District Governor’s Offices to approve and implement a Clean Air Action Plan at the sub-national level. The Government co-financed with UNICEF provided approximately MNT 1.4 billion (equivalent to US\$ 351,000) to five provinces and two districts as subsidies for families using CHIP. Financial solutions were further developed with the Mongolian Sustainable Finance Association, commercial banks, and non-banking financial institutes to ensure lower interest rates for green loans. At the national level, seven ISO standards are approved as the much-needed national standards to test indoor air quality in November. This allows GoM to better monitor indoor air quality, ensuring a quality living environment for children.

32. In the past five years, what actions has your country taken to integrate gender perspectives into policies and programmes for disaster risk reduction and building environmental and climate resilience?

Mongolia is a country which is highly prone to a natural hazard including harsh Dzud where there is extreme cold with huge snowfalls, floods, droughts, dust and sandstorms as well as increased earthquake frequency and scale etc. Also, Mongolia is one of the countries most affected to the Global Warming¹²⁴ which caused to extreme weather

¹²⁴ Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance, Mongolia Disaster Management Reference Handbook, May 2022.

events and climate hazard. These natural hazards often cause vulnerability and survival challenge, particularly to a women, girls, disabled people, pregnant women, children and people living in remote and hard to reach locations.

During the reporting period, especially during the first 3 years starting from 2000, the COVID 19 pandemic impacted in all aspects of the people' lives including all cohorts of from poor to wealthy in different ways. Particularly, the restrictive measures to prevent the spread of the pandemic in the country taken by the Government led to the increases of stress levels among the population due to limited resources, opportunities and access to the necessary services as well as limited the business, educational, cultural development opportunities of the population. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the MMR rose sharply, increasing three-fold from 23 per 100,000 live births in 2019 to 92 in 2021.¹²⁵ During the most stringent COVID-19 pandemic restrictions in 2020, police data showed a 30 per cent spike in reported GBV cases compared to the same period pre-COVID¹²⁶. While the country was aiming to restore the economy and lives of the population, Mongolia also has experienced severe winter called "Dzud" where there are a lot of snow falls in several years since 2022 and roads were blocked and population living in remote areas were distanced from the access to social, health, supply and other necessary services. In addition, the flood hit the UB city as well as in some of the provinces in the summer of 2022 and 2023 and damaged the properties of people and increased vulnerability of the affected groups.

COVID 19 pandemic, severe winter called "Dzud" and flood impacted on the Government operations at the National and local levels, and private sector and herders as much of the attention, human and financial resources of the Government Institutions have to be directed to the disaster management, saving people and animals, and properties; private sector companies where some of them and their workers lost their properties and goods in the flood and experienced a huge amount of damage and loss, and herders living in the affected areas out of which many of them lost their animals which was a main source of their lives etc. All these challenges caused some levels of diversion on the attention and resources from the other aspects of the social and economic life although the disaster management and response plans were attempted to mainstream the gender and gender equality issues in them and care about women, girls and the groups often marginalized. However, the Government took all necessary measures to mitigate the risks of the crisis of COVID 19 pandemic, dzud and flood emergencies and successfully managed to save lives of women, girls and people from the marginalized groups and delt with minimum loss. The Government established the "Conservation Trust Fund for Environmental Protection" in 2022 and this is the mechanisms to generate the needed funding for the conservation efforts by working independently but within the legal framework.

The Government commitments articulated in the Vision 2050¹²⁷ which is in line with SDGs and principles of Leaving No One Behind, which was a core of the response during the

¹²⁵ Health Development Center, Ministry of Health, Health indicators, 2021 .

¹²⁶ Health Development Center, Ministry of Health, Health indicators, 2021

¹²⁷ State Great Khural of Mongolia, Resolution No. 52 of 2020, "Vision-2050"-Long-term Development Policy of Mongolia.

above-mentioned crisis. The Law on Disaster Protection was revised in 2017 and it established the legal basis of the disaster preparedness and response framework. Following the Law approval, the Disaster Management plans at the national, subnational, sectoral and organizational levels and state and local funding has allocated for the implementation of these plans. Sectors are established disaster management coordination structure and financing commitment for the affected population when disaster hits, training system of its staff and service providers on disaster management and specific roles of the particular sector staff.

Although the summer of 2023, around 60 per cent of the country, particularly the central and eastern regions, experienced favorable summer conditions and stable amount of hay and fodder growth the remaining northern and eastern parts experienced dry conditions and drought. As a result, the winter became harsh and extreme weather pose significant Dzud risks to vulnerable communities and the Government of Mongolia took immediate measures to mitigate the risks. The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) of UN partnered with the Government provided support in the Government early action and response. Under the response to severe winter cold “Dzud”, the government mobilized the assistance from the UN Agencies and development partners in dealing the hardship of the natural disaster and save people and animals of those who are living in the rural areas. UN Joint Assistance under the leadership of UN Resident Coordinator has played a critical support in these efforts. The assistance included provision of learning material supplies and early education kits for the children with limited access to schools and online learning, psychological first aid training for children of herders where the household lost much of their animals during the dzud suffers severe psychological problems as the animals are the main source of their lives. Also, provision of unconditional cash transfer of 660,000 MNT (equivalent to \$192) per affected household; cash, food, feed, first aid animal care kits; in-kind aid including a provision of food package and dignity kits which consisted of basic sanitation, hygiene, medicine items for affected population and livestock vaccine; and supporting access to emergency and essential healthcare at provincial and soum health centers; ensuring sexual and reproductive health services, procuring and distributing essential drinking water supplies etc¹²⁸.

SECTION FOUR: NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES

33. Please describe your country’s national strategy or action plan for gender equality, including its name, the period it covers, its priority, funding and alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the targets under SDG 5.

“The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” guided the countries to set forth a goal of achieving the 50:50 gender equality in 2030, Mongolia is committing to achieve gender equality through the promotion of the principles of Leaving No One Behind and eliminating the gender discrimination. Within this efforts, the Mongolia’s Long Term Development Strategy: Vision 2050 is aimed to mainstream gender into the policies, programme and

¹²⁸ OCHA.UNCT Mongolia, March 2024: <https://reliefweb.int/report/mongolia/mongolia-dzud-response-plan-dec-2023-june-2024-issued-25-march-2024>

plans by addressing the gaps in gender equality and discriminative social norms. Under this vision, the National Committee on Gender Equality chaired by the Prime Minister has developed and approved the Cross-Sectoral Strategic Plan for Promoting Gender Equality in Mongolia for 2022-2031 in October 2022¹²⁹. It was developed based on the results of the Assessment on the Impacts of the LPGE implementation (the Law implementation is not sufficient) and the Assessment of the National Programme on Gender Equality (2017-2021) (the implementation is 80.4 percent) and in consultation with wide range of stakeholders including the gender experts and other sectoral professionals, the Cross-sectoral strategy to promote the gender equality was prepared and approved. The Government has allocated the funding of 1.0 bln MNT for the implementation of the Strategy in 2024.

Table 12: The financing of the National Gender Equality programmes and strategies by the Government

Programmes and Strategies	Budget approved in mln MNT	Budget received in mln MNT
The National Programme on Gender Equality and Action Plan to implement the Programme (2017-2021)	1,000.0	
2017	200,000.0	-
2018	300,000.0	96.5
2019	300,000.0	300.0
2020	200,000.0	200.0
2021	200,000.0	

The strategic plan highlighted the need of further strengthening of the knowledge base of policy planning processes through gender research and analysis; improving efficiency and effectiveness of development financing by introducing gender responsive budgeting; applying special measures to achieve gender balance in the areas of workforce and professional education; mainstreaming gender in all sectors including the culture and digital development as well as among the private sector entities. Moreover, the plan foresees policy solutions for the meaningful and effective implementation of the LPGE by promoting the women’s political participation and increasing the women leaders at the government high-level decision-making positions. Furthermore, the plan also aims to strengthen the emergency management system including the climate change risk mitigation and pandemic prevention and response to reduce the burdens on people’s lives including women and girls who are carrying much of the loads in the household and social life by taking responsibilities in care economy and domestic labor. The plan also encourages the partnership with the private sector in building the gender equitable society and empowered women and girls through capacitating and sensitizing them and mobilizing their contributions in promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment as many women are working in this sector and contributing to the companies’ economic growth.

¹²⁹ The Cross Sectoral Strategic Plan for Promoting Gender Equality in Mongolia, 2022. <chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://wpsfocalpointsnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/A9-2022-2031-eng-.pdf>

Under NCGE’s leadership and Government policy to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment a total of 16 sectoral gender policies were prepared and approved and implemented to achieved the SDG5 as well as to enhance the implementation of LPGE and see the below table¹³⁰.

Table 13. Sectoral Gender policies and programme

No						
						Policy implementation monitoring and evaluation (Mongolian Women’s Labour
						Policy implementation monitoring and evaluation (Mongolian Women’s Fund,

¹³⁰ NCGE report, 2023

34. Please describe your country’s system for tracking the proportion of the national budget that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting), including the approximate proportion of the national budget that is invested in this area.

The Mongolia’s budget system is a tool to implement the gender policies and SDG implementation. The National Committee on SDG discussed and approved the National Integrated Financing Strategy in August 2022 and with this Mongolia became one of the countries which implemented the National financing strategy in their actions. The NCGE as a national gender machinery in the country receives the information on funding commitments and its expenditures in the area of promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment from its sub-councils and sub-committees through NSO internet programme and in the future, it is planned this information will be combined with the Gender responsive budgeting initiative of the Ministry of Finance to avoid the duplications any more.

35. What formal mechanisms are in place for different stakeholders to participate in the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

The Government authority in the area of gender equality is provided in the LPGE article 16 and Prime Minister’s authority is reflected in the article 17. According to the Law on the Government, the Prime Minister is chairing the NCGE and its secretariat is implementing the day-to-day activities under the Prime Minister’s leadership. The NCGE consisted of representatives of all Ministries, relevant Agencies and CSO. Under the Government Cabinet, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection is in charge of the population issues including the equality of women and girls. Within this responsibility, the MOLSP was led the national levels of implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for SDG in close collaboration. Also, the CSOs working in the areas of gender and GBV actively engage in the implementation of the BPfA through the technical and financial support from the UN and other development Agencies working in Mongolia as well as residing in different parts of the world through the submission of project proposals and competitive selection processes. CSOs in Mongolia is experienced and capable in supporting the Government in the implementation of SDGs as well as other international treaties and obligations including the BPfA. For instance, the “SDG and CSO” Network with support from the UNDP and Ministry of Economic Development has developed the “Methodology to assess the ASDG implementation by scores” and conducted the assessment. The findings of the assessment showed that SDGs were linked with the Mongolia’s long, middle and short

terms visions, however the measures including the indicators needs to be improved and coordination among the sectors and agencies has to be strengthened. In addition, the NCGE's status and capacity has to be strengthened significantly as a main body to coordinate and oversee the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment initiatives at the national and subnational levels.

36. Please describe how stakeholders have contributed to the preparation of the present national report.

The Preparatory stage of the report, the working group consisted of representatives from the 16 Ministries, NCGE, UNDP, UNFPA and other UN and development partners was established under the leadership of the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and submitted their reports along with relevant data and information of the respective areas of their mandate. NGOs working in Mongolia also submitted the information on their contributions in the implementation of the BPfA during the past five year. The three national consultants were hired by MLSP and UNDP and they reviewed the information in accordance to the report preparation guidelines and prepared the report in accordance to the questions provided in the guideline. The report was reviewed by the MLSP management and finalized. UNDP, Mongolia provided financial support in the preparation of the report.

37. Please describe your country's action plan and timeline for implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (if a state party), or of the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review or other United Nations human rights mechanisms that address gender inequality/discrimination against women.

The Labor and Social Protection Minister's order dated on May 8, 2024, the Action Plan to implement the CEDAW Committee recommendations on the Country's 10th report for 2024-2026 was approved and the implementation is started since then. According to the LPGE article 16.1.5, the Government is responsible to report the implementation of the LPGE every two years to the Parliament. Since the approval of the LPGE, the LPGE and CEDAW implementation was discussed first time at the Parliament Standing Committee on Social Policy in 2021 and the Parliament issued recommendations to the government and Prime Minister. It included the following: 1) Strengthen the capacity of NCGE and its secretariat, sub committees and sub-council structure and finding as the NCGE is a key structure of the LPGE implementation. 2) Improve the monitoring and oversee the implementation of the LPGE article 10.1; 10.3; 10.4 and 11.3.2 and in case of violation or no conformity, the relevant accountability mechanisms should be set up; 3) Strengthen the multisectoral involvement in promoting the Gender Equality state policies and laws in close collaboration with the media; 4) Within the implementation of the 10 bln plan to restore the economy and protect the health, the promotion of women's employment and creation of dedicated programme and measures should be implemented.

SECTION FIVE: DATA AND STATISTICS

38. What are the most important areas in which your country has made most progress over the past five years when it comes to gender statistics at the national level?

In measuring the implementation for the Long, middle and short-term development policies, SDGs and other international level obligations, the gender disaggregated data produced by the National Statistics Office of Mongolia are used. In addition, the international levels of measurements such as gender equality index, gender inequality gap index are used in measuring the impacts of the implementation of policies and laws. Since the Beijing Conference, Mongolia aimed to improve gender statistics by making efforts to collect, disaggregate and analyze the national level data from the gender perspective to monitor and evaluate the achievements of the SDGs, particularly SDG5 and other international level commitments. In these efforts, the Asian Development Bank (ADB)¹³¹, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)¹³², and other development partners provided significant technical and financial assistance and the NSO took concrete steps to enhance Mongolia's capacity in the area of gender statistics. With ADB support, the use of multiple data resources in the data collection, assessment and monitoring on the progresses in different areas of women's and girls' lives. The National Statistics Office (NSO) has launched the Mongolian SDG dashboard since January 2019 to enable to track the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), CEDAW and Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BDPfA)¹³³. In addition, the NSO conducted first ever national GBV survey on "Breaking the Silence for Equality" using the WHO methodology with the technical and financial support of UNFPA with generous funding from Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) in 2017¹³⁴. The survey results were widely disseminated throughout the following two years to different levels of the Government, CSOs and private sectors which also contributed to bring the issue of GBV at the public discourse by allowing the general public and decision makers to understand the GBV situation in Mongolia and its consequences in the personal, family and social lives of the country. Different contents including the info-graphs, Mixed media products, Stories, "Pencil talk" TV programme where the presenter introduces the results of the survey the artist illustrated simultaneously the meaning of the data through pencil drawing etc. Following the National GBV survey, the in-depth analysis was done on the issues of controlling behavior and GBV among disabled people and report is published in 2021¹³⁵. Also, NSO conducted 2020 Population and Housing Census (PHC) where UNFPA played a crucial role in building the capacity of NSO in this area and all data was disaggregated and also data on disability has introduced to the analysis of the survey data. After the PHC, the Gender Monograph was prepared and results were disseminated in 2022¹³⁶ which provided clear insights of the gender situation and gaps in the equality between men and women.

¹³¹ TA 9542-MON "Enhance Mongolia's capacity to use multiple data resources in monitoring the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals" project, from 1 June 2018 to 31 December 2020, ADB, NSO.

¹³² "Combating GBV in Mongolia" programme implemented by the Government of Mongolia and UNFPA funded by SDC during 2016-2023.

¹³³ MONGOLIAN SDG DASHBOARD (sdg.gov.mn), Integrated statistics database website, 1212.mn.

¹³⁴ The National GBV Survey, 2017. NSO, UNFPA

¹³⁵ In-depth study on controlling behavior and GBV among PWDs. NSO. 2021

¹³⁶ Gender Monograph, 2022

The NSO also capacitated to conduct the large-scale gender-specific surveys including the experimental survey on “Identifying Property Ownership and Entrepreneurship by Gender Status”, “Time-use survey” and “Basic Social Indiciary Survey” and provided important data for the policies and programme formulation to ensure these documents are gender responsive to the specific needs of women and girls. The latest report on the “Mongolia Gender Situational Analysis: Advances, Challenges and Lessons Learnt” in 2018 was prepared with the ADB financial support and results were distributed to the central and local government authorities, development partners and NGOs in 2019. The report compiled statistics for the last 14 years of Mongolia and analyzed. It is used in the development policy, planning and programming as well as monitoring and evaluation of the Laws, policies and programme as a baseline over the next 5-10 years. Also, the NSO created a Business and Gender 2023 data portal at the NSO data base. The impact assessment for the LPGE implementation is conducted using the methodology approved by the Government order No 59 of 2016 and according to this methodology, the assessment used 240 indicators in its evaluation.

In addition, the National Committee on Gender Equality (NCGE) and NSO signed a MoU in 2018 to improve the gender statistics and ensure transparency, and utilization of the gender data in policies and programme as well as to strengthen the disaggregation by gender and other classifications. Within this partnership, the Gender Statistics Indicator Framework and Calculation Methodology was developed and approved by the order of NSO Chairman in 2019. The framework covers total of 241 indicators in 14 chapters, of which 12 indicators measure the implementation of the SDGs. The “gender” section of the NSO database “www.1212.mn” is linked to the NCGE webpage which increased the access to gender statistics both in English and Mongolian by the gender experts, focal points, as well as general public whoever needed gender data in their work. In addition, sex-aggregated gender statistics at sectoral and local levels compiled, and methodology for using gender statistics in policy planning and operations as specified in the Law of Mongolia on Promotion of Gender Equality (2011) and the National Program on Gender Equality (2017) is developed.

The Civil Service Council (CSC) started to annually report on the implementation of quotas set forth in the Law of Mongolia on Promotion of Gender Equality. Over the last three years, quota implementation is over 30 percent nationally. In line with 10.1.1-10.1.4 of Article 10 of the Law of Mongolia on Promotion of Gender Equality, the survey template of the gender balance of employees of the central state administration and local government was merged with the form of civil servants’ composition, movements and statistics and approved by the NSO.

39. Over the next five years, what are your country’s priorities for strengthening national gender statistics?

The Mongolian Government has plans to further improve the gender statistics by amending the Law on Statistics to integrate a few important national level surveys such as the National GBV survey and others to be conducted in 7-10 years sequences to improve the availability of comparable data at the international levels and be able to see

changes over the time in people knowledge, attitude and practice in terms of harmful social and gender norms and power dynamics in the society and changes social mentality in terms of gender equality. The first survey was conducted with technical and financial support of UNFPA and Swiss Development Cooperation and the capacity has built to conduct large scale and complicated sensitive survey such as GBV survey using the internationally proven WHO methodology. The country has high-quality data in this field now and should continue having data with 7-10 years sequences which would provide very good evidences in many areas of gender and gender equality as the gender equality is a key to the socio-economic and political development of the country.

Furthermore, the data disaggregation in the sectoral data and in court agencies are limited, so the country needs to pay more attention in this field to strengthen data availability, disaggregation, and accuracy of these sectors. Also, the establishment of inter-agency coordination mechanisms on gender statistics, continuous capacity building efforts of the government and non-governmental staff in using the gender sensitive data and analysis in the formulation of national and sectoral, local and organizational level policies, programmes and plans to address the existing challenges in the field of gender equality and women's empowerment. Conducting the National GBV survey, the time use, asset ownership, poverty and disability related surveys will be in the Government plan to conduct it regularly. In addition, the dashboards on gender statistics and 1212.mn data website will be continuously strengthened and provide quality data to the users. As the Government has it is term for 4 years, there is a high chance of staff change in all sectors, therefore, continuous capacity building will be one of the priorities of the Government and training, re-training of the government, non-government and private sector staff in the gender statistics. Moreover, the Government also need to start tracking the public allocations, private and development partners' investments towards policies and programmes that promote gender equality and the underlying causes of the gender equality.

In addition, Assessment on the impact of the LPGE implementation has to be conducted every 5 years of time according to the LPGE, however, the assessment was done only one time in 2021, 10 years after the LPGE is approved. Therefore, it should be regularized and conducted every 5 years to identify the strengths and gaps as well as areas for further strengthening. Also, the Country Gender Assessment suppose to be conducted in every 10 years and see the trends in the social mentality in terms of the inequitable perception and how the power difference and negative social norms which often create a gender inequality in the society is changing over the time is important for further strengthening the policy and actions. It was conducted in 2005, 2018 and now the next assessment should be done in 2028. The Government needs to plan for this assessment as it will guide the future directions in many aspects of the country's socio- economic development.

40. What gender-specific indicators has your country prioritized for monitoring progress on the SDGs?

The measurement indicators of the Mongolia's Long Term Development Vision 2050 and Mongolia's five years development direction for 2021-2025 was in line with the SDG indicators and a total of 244 indicators are under measurement of the effects of these goals. For the SDG monitoring, the following areas are prioritized: Legal environment and regulations; Institutions and human resource capacity; Transparency and feedback mechanisms; CSO participation; Citizen's participation; Accessibility and partnership; Fuel and water consumption etc.

41. Which data disaggregation's are routinely provided by major surveys in your country?

According to the Statistics Law, the NSO conducts several major surveys such as Population and Housing Census, Social Indicator Sampling Survey where the National RH survey and Multi-Indicator Child Survey are combined, surveys such as "Identifying Property Ownership and Entrepreneurship by Gender Status", "Time-use survey" and "Basic Social Indicators Survey" are conducted routinely and data disaggregation by Geographic location, Income, Employment, Sex/gender, Age, Education, Marital Status, Race/Ethnicity, Migration status, Disability, Sexual orientation, Religion, Access to health and other services, experience of violence and domestic violence, access to shelter and multidisciplinary team service, water and sanitation conditions, and access to electricity, fuel and clean water other characteristics as needed. In addition, the data disaggregation is provided to the SDG indicators, CEDAW reports, and BPfA implementation as well as Mongolia's long, middle and short-term plan indicators and other reports, monitoring and evaluation efforts.

SECTION SIX: CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

Mongolia is a country signed the SDG and the first National Voluntary Report on the SDG implementation was presented in 2019 and the second report is presented in 2023 to the UN High level Political Forum. The comprehensive review of BPfA at the national level revealed the following lessons and the gains from this review will be applied to the further improvement of the implementation of the BPfA.

The Government does not have a specific policy and mechanism to integrate the planning, implementation and monitoring the progresses of the SDG and BPfA. Therefore, for the next 5 years, measures needs to be taking to integrate and link the SDG, CEDAW, BPfA and other international and national levels obligations and aim to strengthen the implementation of BPfA through ensuring the linkage between SDG and BPfA implementation by improving the multisectoral coordination mechanisms, and integrating the monitoring of BPfA into the SDG Monitoring framework, enhancing the women's CSO movement and its mobilization in the implementation of BPfA and continuously strengthen public awareness and national capacity to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. The data base also needs to be integrated and track the progresses in the implementation of these obligations through the integrated monitoring frameworks. Also, the monitoring and evaluation system of the international obligations needs to be created at the Government level.

In addition, the SDG principles of Leaving No One Behind is reflected in all levels of policies as well as specifically targeted and programmes and step by steps measures are taken by the Government regularly. However, the situation of the poor, and marginalized groups of women and girls, LGBTI community, especially transgender women, women living in remote areas, women works at the agricultural sector, disabled women and girls, migrant women and girls living at the edge of the city are still not at the levels to fully enjoy their rights and struggling to access to services due to the lack of knowledge how to access, or living far from the service and hard to reach etc. Therefore, more concrete and targeted interventions in broader scales is required to enhance the effort and improve its impacts.

The climate change is impact is increasing year by years in Mongolia by increasing the risks of Dzug, extreme cold with a lot of snows; flood, forest fire, earthquake became more frequent in Mongolia, and women and girls, as well as people of disadvantaged groups are impacted more due to their knowledge and skills to prevent themselves from the risks and also limited opportunities to receive assistance to create a favorable opportunity to reduce the impact of the climate change. Therefore, the climate change mitigation efforts including public awareness on the prevention from the climate change impacts, improving the readiness and adaptability, resilience of the general population especially among women, girls and other disadvantaged groups and provision of financial and knowledge base support in creating more jobs and the greener society etc.

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