



UNITED NATIONS  
MONGOLIA



2017-2019

# UN MONGOLIA

## Country Results Report



UNDAF 2017-2021

**2017-2019**  
**UN MONGOLIA**  
**COUNTRY RESULTS REPORT**

(UNDAF 2017-2021)

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## FOREWORD



**TAPAN MISHRA**

**UN Resident  
Coordinator in Mongolia**

It is my pleasure to present the results of the UN Country Team in Mongolia from 2017 to 2019 against the outcomes agreed between the Government of Mongolia and the United Nations in Mongolia as stipulated in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2017-2021, which was co-signed by 15 UN agencies. The United Nations (the UN) has been working in Mongolia since 1963 to support the Government of Mongolia (GoM) in reaching its national priorities and achieving sustainable, equitable, and inclusive development in the country.

The year of 2019 was very special for the United Nations Development System (UNDS), as an empowered, impartial and reinvigorated Resident Coordinator System has been initiated, following the UN GA Resolution 72/279 (31 May 2018) on the repositioning of the United Nations Development System (UNDS). The repositioned UNDS works to fulfill the purpose of the 2030 Global Agenda; integrating economic, social and environmental dimensions of development, thus requiring a collaborative and effective response by the UNDS.

In the last three years, political, social, and economic life in Mongolia has had its own challenges. However, Mongolia made significant steps to ensure political stability and to improve the system of checks and balances between state powers by making amendments to the Constitution (1992) in November 2019 after a culmination of several years of debates across three parliaments. These amendments will bring due modification to the number of laws.

Additionally, the Government of Mongolia took stringent measures in May 2019 banning the burning of raw coal in the capital, Ulaanbaatar - where almost half of the population reside, as part of efforts to clean up the city's air, which has resulted in a reduction of air pollution in the capital, as well as in the surrounding environment. I commend this as a fight against climate change.

However, we have a lot to do in the next ten years to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Therefore, the UN launched a decade of action in late 2019 calling everyone, people from all walks of life, to be part of the action to end extreme poverty, tackle inequalities, empower women and girls and fight climate change.

The Government of Mongolia remains committed to advancing the SDGs and recently adopted its Vision 2050 aligned with SDGs. The UN is marking its 75th anniversary at a time of great disruption for the world, compounded by an unprecedented global health crisis with severe economic and social impacts. We have initiated a global dialogue, "UN 75" for shaping a better future for all.

I strongly believe that the UN in Mongolia is considered a trusted partner to the Government of Mongolia achieving the SDGs by 2030 and the ambition and promise of leaving no one behind. We at the UN Country Team are happy to serve the people of Mongolia to enable inclusive and sustainable development with the leadership of the Mongolian Government.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the last three years, United Nations agencies have worked both at the strategic and ground level to support Mongolia to implement the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 and achieve its 17 goals. To create the enabling legal environment, the UN supported the Government of Mongolia to revise and adopt different laws, sectoral strategies, master plans and standards. The main focus of the United Nations in Mongolia was: to protect the environment, by ensuring sustainable resource management, green development and addressing issues of air pollution and energy efficiency; and to ensure the wellbeing of people by tackling a number of issues related to health, education, social protection, protection of rights, promotion of gender equality, water and sanitation, food and nutrition and disaster risks whilst supporting local governance and employment generation with the focus of youth.

During the reporting period, the UN agencies collectively mobilized USD 113.65 million, out of which USD 66.49 million was utilized for 109 activities carried out in cooperation with 56 implementing partners (IPs) across 19 provinces and the capital city. Out of which, 83 activities have nationwide impact. These activities supported advancement of 16 SDGs, 87% or USD 57.9 million being directed towards implementation of ten SDGs: SDG 3 – Health (22%), SDG 5 – Gender Equality (10%), SDG 2-Zero Hunger (10%), SDG 15 – Life on land (9%), and SDG 16 – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (8%), SDG 17 – Partnership for the Goals (8%), SDG 13 – Climate Action (6%), SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production (5%), SDG 4 – Education (5%), SDG 8 – Decent Work (5%).

The Government of Mongolia (GoM) has demonstrated its commitment to working with the UN and has gradually increased its share in co-funded activities. The GoM contributed approximately USD 3.1 million toward the programme activities over the three years. Among many other remarkable achievements, the GoM's commitment and co-financing resulted in the establishment of the International Think Tank for Land Locked Developing Countries (LLDC ITT) in 2018.

### **Enabling legal environment for strategic planning and policy making**

In addition to its support for the development and approval of 5 sectorial strategies, 3 master plans and 3 standards, the UN supported the Government of Mongolia to develop, revise and adopt the constitution, the Law on Seed and Variety, Labor Law, Law to Combat Domestic Violence (LCDV) and the Youth Development Law.

The UN is helping to set SDGs baselines and targets through multi-stakeholder platforms and dialogues along with tracking of Mongolia's progress in meeting its development and SDGs targets. In this regard, the UN supported the National Statistical Office to make different analytical data available for evidence-based policymaking, decision making and different use. The UN is working with the GoM to improve SDGs financing through capacity building, specifically in the Health and the Environment Sectors in addition to focusing on the financing to children. As a result of a collective effort, the GoM allocated supplementary MNT 300 million for the implementation of the National Maternal, Child and Reproductive Health Programme in addition to the budget for contraceptives and micronutrients in 2020.

## Protecting the environment

UN Agencies teamed up with the GoM to sustain land resources in consort with improving the effectiveness of environmental monitoring and rehabilitation through different interventions. These include rotational grazing, water source protection, cropland rehabilitation and agroforestry, and sustainable forest management. As a result of collective efforts, 5.7-million-hectare land is protected under state and local authorities.

UN agencies also piloted a climate-smart approach to strengthen the livestock production system by introducing deep wells designed using solar photovoltaic cells, improved animal husbandry techniques and pasture management for more productive herds, focusing on the quality instead of quantity of herds.

The multilayered challenges of urban air pollution were also tackled by the UN support via evidence generation for policies on air pollution and providing technical assistance for testing innovative solutions for clean air. Through demo projects of UN on energy efficiency, a total of approximately 5,220 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent reduction occurred in 2019 alone. The UN intervention on energy efficiency led to the improvement of the national technical capacity and updates of the building code and norms. The UN supported the application of Electron Beam Capacities for processing of flue gas from industry to help address air pollution in the capital.

Furthermore, with the support of the UN, several local authorities formulated local development plans incorporating the green development principle and SDGs to support local livelihoods and sustainability.

## Wellbeing of children, women and girls, youth and disadvantaged groups

In terms of health, UN interventions predominantly focused on the country's disease prevention, early detection and enhancement of treatment capacity, as well as service delivery models using m-health and telemedicine along with the provision of integrated Maternal Neonatal and Child Health (MNCH) care and the quality of nuclear medicine practice in Mongolia to improve diagnostics accuracy and quality.

For water and sanitation, the UN supported the GoM to enable the legal environment of water and sanitation, thus improving the capacity to implement the Water Safety plan in concert with strengthening the financing and auditing mechanism. Furthermore, a newly introduced methodology for setting water tariffs resulted in the reduction of water tariffs for ger area residents, thus improving their access to drinking water at a more affordable price. Smart Water Kiosks piloted in two aimags showed increased drinking water service coverage, reduced operation and maintenance cost. Accordingly, the aimag government allocated funding for 20 more Smart Water Kiosks in the aimag centre. As a result, 16,000 people benefited from 21 operational water kiosks in the Altai city for 24/7.

The UN is supporting the country to improve food safety and security to produce environmentally friendly products fulfilling food safety practices in addition to boosting productivity, improving farmers' income and expanding employment and livelihood opportunities. With the assistance of the UN, Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences rolled out the first-ever bachelor's degree programme for nutritionist and dietitian from 2019. More than 35,300 children aged under five years benefited from the integrated package of nutrition services. Moreover, the UN is supporting Mongolia for testing both domestic and imported products against veterinary drug residues and planning to further expand their capacities to meet EU export requirements. As a result, the overall laboratory accreditation scope increased; analysing a total of 2561 samples for antibiotic residue, pesticide and melamine contamination in export and import raw materials and products of animal origin.

In the arena of education, the UN is working for early childhood, higher education, lifelong and technical vocational education to shore up the government, thus localizing SDG 4 through knowledge generation, evidence-based policymaking and capacity development both at the institutional and human capital level. With extensive advocacy by the UN, the health education subject became the formal education curriculum for grades 4 to 12, starting from the 2018-2019 academic year. Consequently, a total of 377,932 students in grades 4 to 12 nationwide benefited from the curriculum. Furthermore, the UN backed up inclusive education which created an enabling environment for the education of children with disabilities (CWD) in regular schools. The UN also addressed challenges related to a healthy and safe learning environment in early childhood education centres, improving indoor air quality and WASH facilities in the target areas.

In the social protection field, the UN in Mongolia continued its work to build capacity and awareness of the national and sub-national authorities responsible for social protection policies along with the implementation of social protection systems. The UN helped families cope with the harsh winter situation to prevent long-lasting negative impacts of climate-related shocks through top-up of child money under its shock-responsiveness programme. The early-action child money assistance was delivered to 2,729 children age 0-5 years old, in four soums of Zavkhan aimag. Concurrently, with the support of UN, the Law to Combat Domestic Violence adopted in 2017 resulted in the establishment of 30 sub-national Coordination Councils on Crime Prevention (CCCP) units, 609 multi-disciplinary teams and One-Stop Service Centres and shelters for survivors of domestic violence. Also, the UN has been working towards strengthening Mongolia's effectiveness in combating human trafficking, any discrimination, incitement to hatred, and the violence based on sexual orientation and gender, besides strengthening national child protection mechanisms preventing the sexual exploitation and abuse of children.

### **Creating employment opportunities for better livelihood**

UN Agencies worked to create employment in suburban and rural areas of Mongolia by supporting the value chains of livestock, meat, dairy and vegetable and textile including cashmere industries. As a result, more than 11,000 people's income increased and around 180,000 consumers' access to quality meat was improved following the 30% increase in meat processing capacity. 160 farmers benefited from decent employment and 500 vegetable growers' income increased by 30% in the last three years. The UN also supported the government, employers, and workers' organization to establish a tripartite mechanism on the application of ILO conventions and recommendations.

## **Resilient communities**

UN Agencies are working towards both disaster risk reductions and humanitarian interventions which include responding to severe Dzud, mitigating risks associated with flooding in urban settlement. To further reduce inequalities, the UN supported the GoM in management of migration through facilitation of voluntary returns and reintegration of migrants. With the support of the UN, UB City municipality is setting up planned infrastructures for water, sanitation and sewage systems in Bayankhoshuu and Selbe sub-centres.

## **Local governance**

Through its interventions towards a professional, citizen-centred civil service in Mongolia, the UN has taken several steps to strengthen the accountability of the civil services and to ensure the protection of poor and marginalized groups. The UN has also supported civil servants' capacity development to operate in a professional, citizen-centred manner with respect for human rights at the national and local levels in providing quality services to the public. Additionally, the UN worked on strengthening the capacity of all local government through tailored and dedicated interventions. For instance, more than 2000 elected women representatives were empowered to participate in political decision-making more effectively. At the same time, the UN also advocated strongly for quotas on women representation in Parliament, which contributed to the retention of the 20% gender quota for candidates nominated by political parties and coalitions in the revised Election Law despite early talks to remove this stipulation.

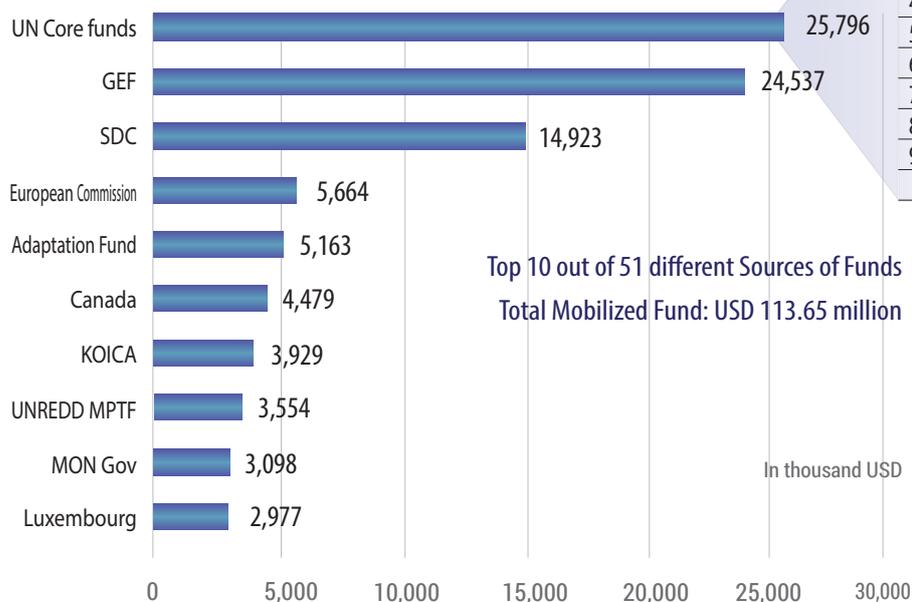
## **Youth development**

With the support of the UN, 30 Youth Development Centres (YDCs) were established at the national and local levels to provide youth with various empowerment opportunities, such as life skills development and sex education. Labour rights, adolescent mental health, life skills, education of young people at the sub-national level were also supported by the UN.

The UN Country Team continued its work on advancing common business operations for the UN to ensure greater economy of scale and reduce operational costs.

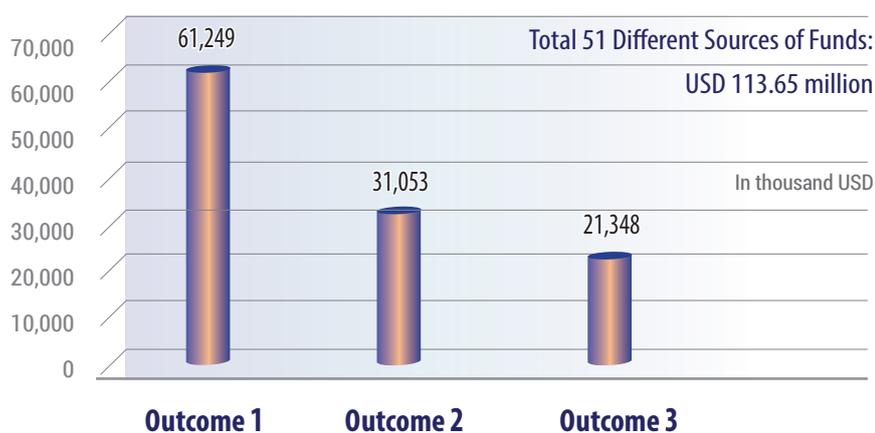
## RESOURCES MOBILIZED:

### TOTAL RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY SOURCE OF FUND 2017-2019



UN Agencies	In USD
1 WHO	7.258.408
2 UNFPA	4.374.891
3 UNICEF	4.260.617
4 UNDP	2.926.357
5 FAO	2.797.517
6 IOM	1.875.000
7 ILO	1.843.500
8 UNESCO	435.000
9 UNAIDS	24.232
<b>Total</b>	<b>25.795.522</b>

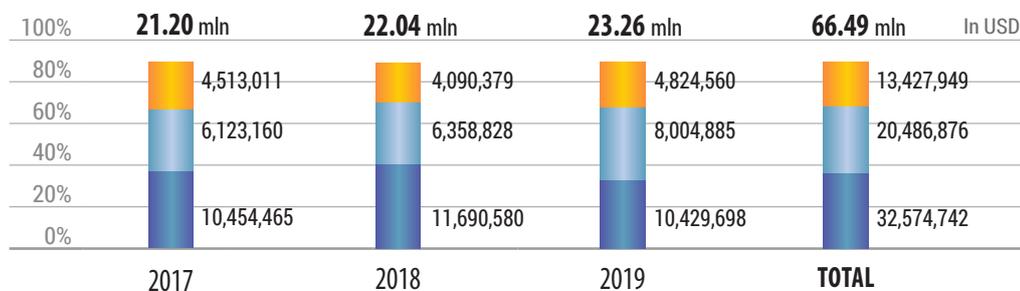
### RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY OUTCOMES 2017-2019



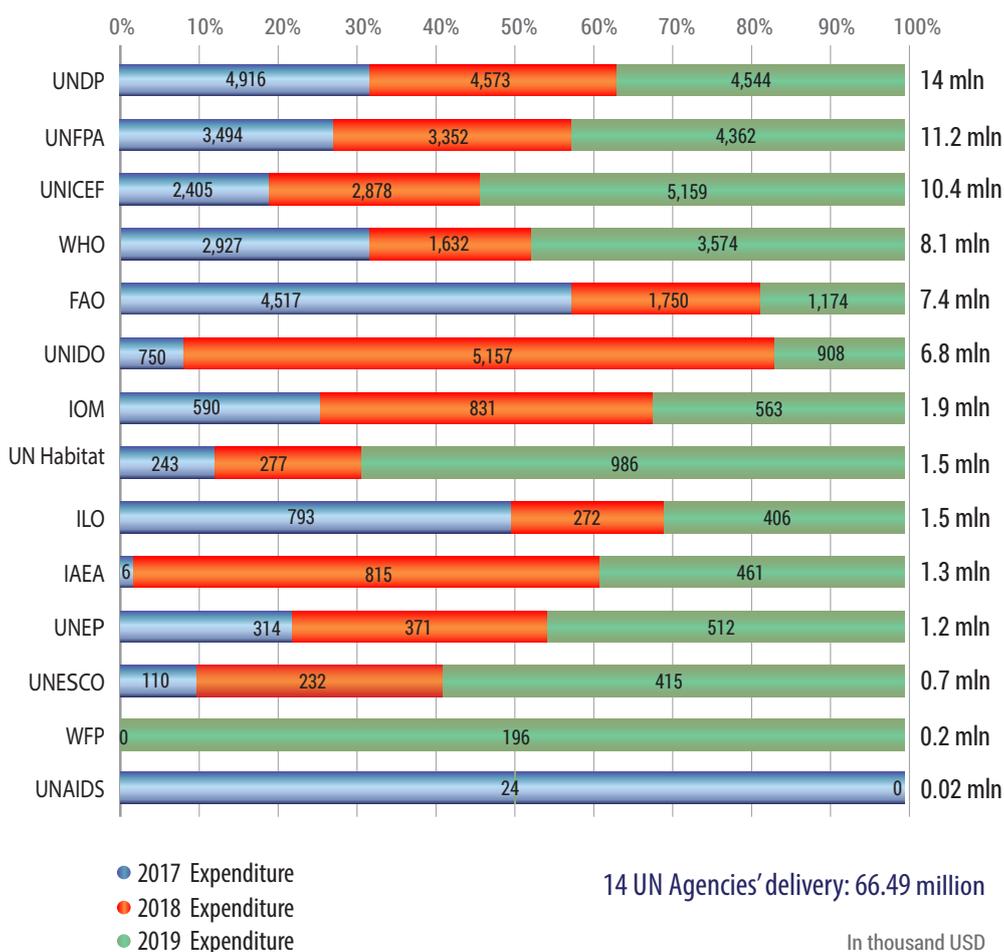
## EXPENDITURES INCURRED:

### OUTCOME EXPENDITURES BY YEAR

- Outcome 3: Voice & Accountability
- Outcome 2: Social Protection & Services
- Outcome 1: Inclusive Growth & Sust. Mngnt of N.Resources

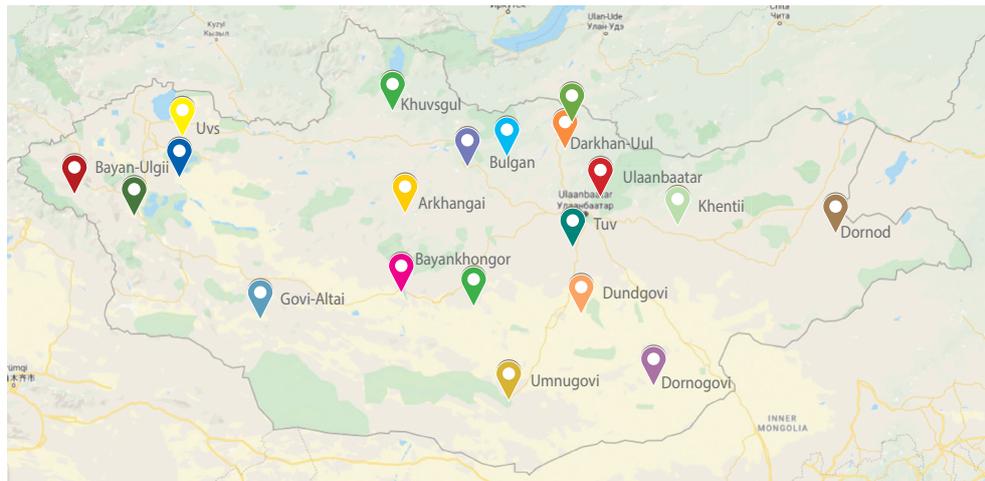


### EXPENDITURES BY UN AGENCIES 2017-2019 IN USD



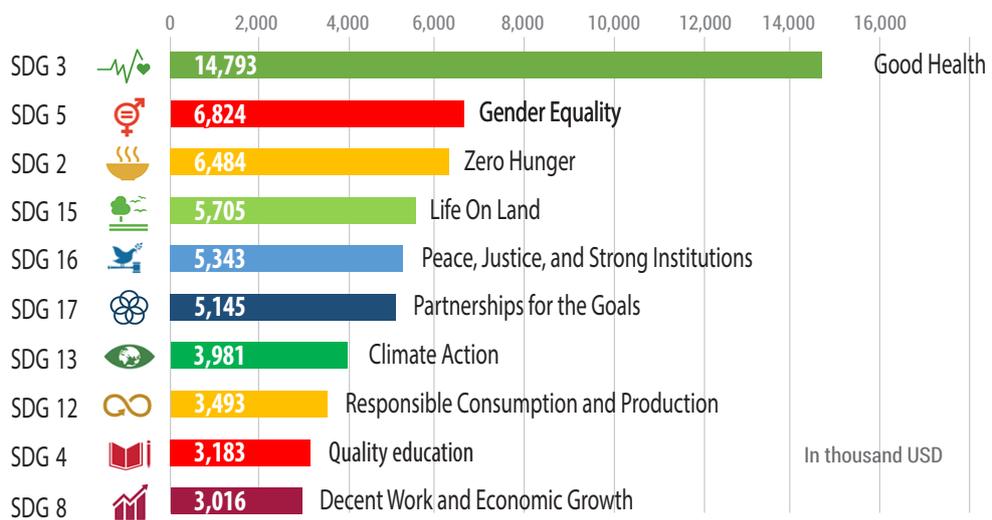
## AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION



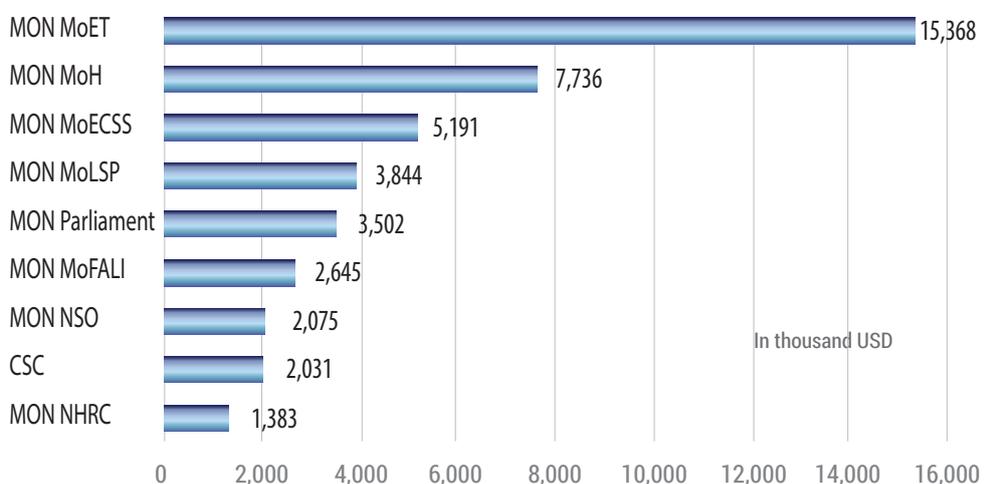
## EXPENDITURE BY TOP 10 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 2017-2019

EXPENDITURE



## TOP 9 IPs BY 2017-2019 DELIVERY

EXPENDITURE



# OUTCOME ONE:



## PROMOTING INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

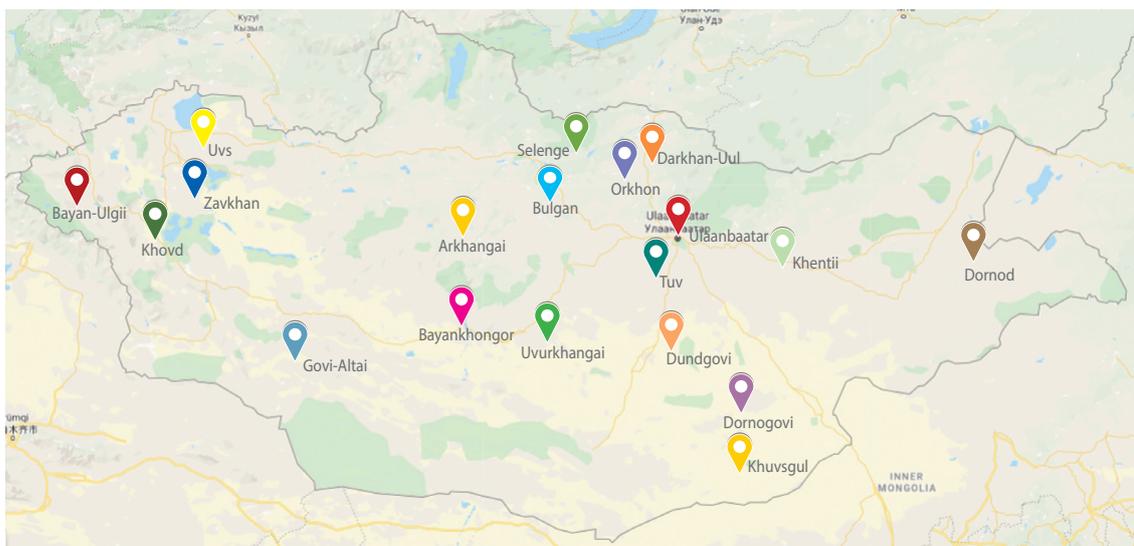


### OUTCOME STATEMENT:

**BY 2021, POOR AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE ARE MORE RESILIENT TO SHOCKS, AND BENEFIT FROM INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND A HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM.**

The UN continued to provide technical support for developing critical policy frameworks and institutional architecture and building capacities to ensure inclusive and sustainable development in Mongolia. 12 UN agencies collectively mobilized USD 61.25 million, out of which USD 32.57 million were utilized for 55 programme activities nationwide carried out in cooperation with 30 implementing partners. The target interventions reached 18 provinces and the capital city Ulaanbaatar. The overall disbursements were directed towards implementing 14 SDGs related to no poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, gender equality, water and sanitation, clean energy, decent work, industry and infrastructure, inequality, sustainable cities, responsible consumption, climate action, life on land and partnerships.

## Targeting 18 aimags and Ulaanbaatar City



## Development strategies and budgets integrate the Sustainable Development Goals

Aiming for the creation of sound policy frameworks at the national level, the UN continued its support to the government through several interconnected measures based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies. In order to ensure the national budget was directed to the development priorities in line with the SDGs, UN support was provided to the Ministry of Finance to roll out a pilot budgeting initiative for two consecutive years, starting with the Ministry of Health in 2018 and later expanding to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism in 2019. Informed by the financing gaps analysis linked to the SDGs targets, the exercise helped to increase the state budget in primary health services by 6.9 billion MNT (~2.6 million USD) and secured funding for conserving ecosystems around 5.1 billion MNT (~1.9 million USD) in specially protected areas; preventing land degradation/ desertification and improving water resources in 2020.

The pilot initiative provided critical insights for the government; ensuring the budget was informed by the SDGs. As a result of the initiative, 11 new results indicators linked to budgeting, which are aligned with the SDGs, were also adopted by the government in 2019 to measure progress. The UN jointly supported national statistics capacity strengthening by deriving estimates for 31 SDGs indicators following the new SDG definitions that can be disaggregated by gender, socioeconomic status, geography and many other background characteristics, contributing to the strengthening of the SDGs monitoring including target setting. Strengthening both local and national SDGs capacity serves as a modelling and learning platform to progress SDGs in a resilient and sustainable manner. Furthermore, support was provided for the review of the Development Policy and Planning Law in order to improve alignment of national short/medium-term plans and budgets with the long-term development policy and mainstreaming of SDGs. Based on the findings of the review, amendments to the Development Policy and Planning Law were drafted and submitted to the Cabinet.

## **Sustainable land management**

The UN supported land degradation mitigation and offset mechanisms through integrated sustainable land management practices in Western Mongolia; working with the local governments, private sector and local communities. A total of 5.7 million ha (approximately to the size of the entire UK) was taken under state and local protection, reserving it from extractive industries development and managing it sustainably for conservation values. In addition, the local development planning for 22.8 million ha five western provinces was informed by eco-regional assessments, leading to the biodiversity and landscape conservation values and ecosystem services reflected in the local development plans. As assessed by the independent evaluation team, the level of understanding of local communities about the land offset and sustainable management increased by about 50%, as a result of the UN intervention where sustainable land management practices were applied, namely rangeland improvements (through rotational grazing 78600 ha), and including water source protection, cropland rehabilitation and agroforestry.

## **Sustainable use of natural resources**

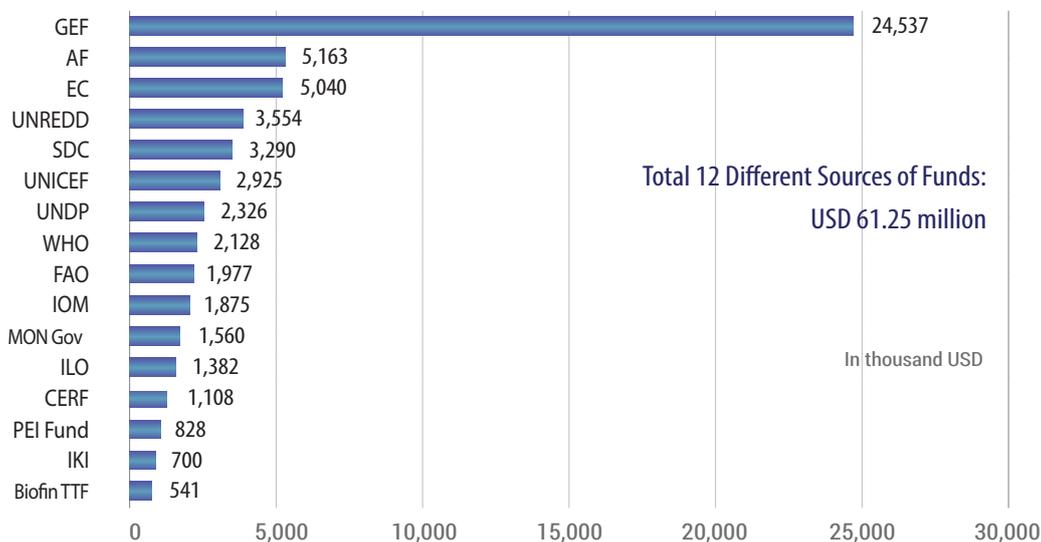
The UN supported Mongolia with the preparation of reports sent to the UNFCCC, Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement (ETF), in the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector components, including inventories of emissions sources and sinks, and information necessary to track progress identified in Mongolia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

Over the course of 2019, the National Adaptation Plan Mongolia project promoted inclusive growth and sustainable management of natural resources in Mongolia by initiating a review of sectoral policies by developing policy briefs for integrating adaptation priorities in Mongolia's development strategies, which informed the adaptation section of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) document of Mongolia, approved in November 2019. The UN supported the coordination and finalization of Mongolia's NDC document to be submitted to UNFCCC in which the country raised its ambitions to reduce its GHG emissions from an initial 14% to 22.7% by 2030; significantly addressing issues on air pollution and environmental sustainability.

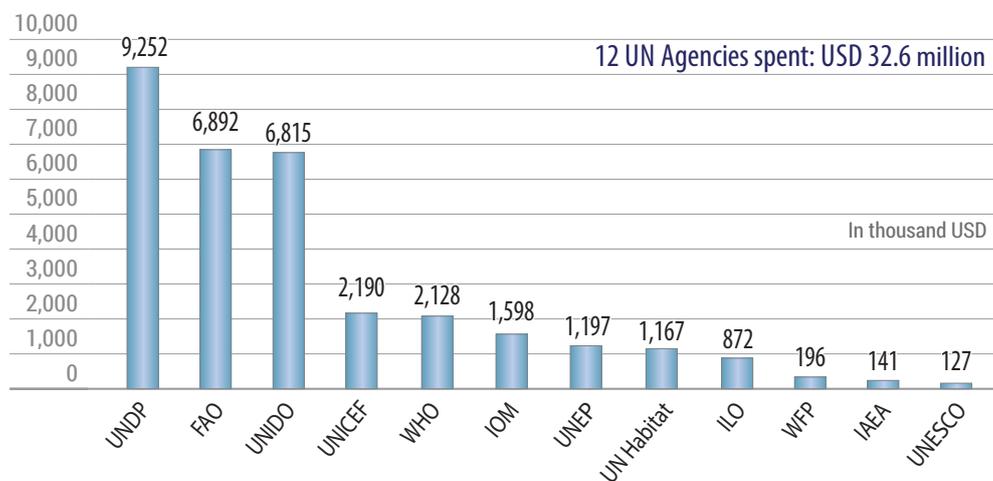
With the strategy and the GHG inventory and MRV systems put in place, Mongolia is one step closer to results-based payment. Enhanced energy efficiency was promoted, with application of innovative technologies through support to several demo projects. This resulted in a total of approximately 5,220 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent reduction in 2019 with energy cost savings of approximately USD32,000. With this intervention, the national technical capacity to implement the Law on Energy efficiency was strengthened through preparation and certification of 25 independent energy auditors and managers and updating of the building code and norm (BNbD 23-02-09), which enabled clearer compliance checks on thermal performance of buildings.

## OUTCOME 1:

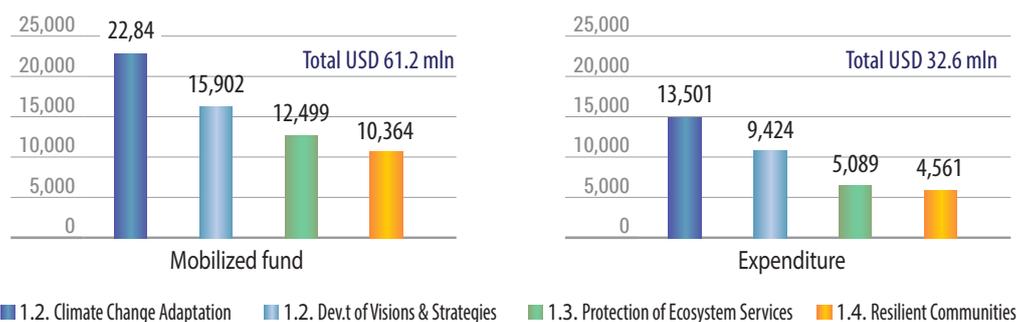
### RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY TOP 16 SOURCE OF FUNDS



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



### MOBILIZED VS EXPENDITURES BY OUTPUTS 2017-2019



## OUTPUT 1.1:



**VISIONS, STRATEGIES AND PLANS THAT INTEGRATE THE SDGs ARE DEVELOPED AND FOCUS ON POVERTY REDUCTION, INCLUSIVE GROWTH, ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND RESILIENCE AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVEL.**

### SDGs platform and data systems

Environmental pollution, climate change, and land degradation are increasing the vulnerability of communities across Mongolia. Through a transparent and inclusive process, the UN provided support to the GoM to roll-out a multi-stakeholder platform for SDGs implementation. Support was also provided to the National Development Agency to set national SDG baselines and targets with the engagement of line ministries, specialized agencies, research institutions, statistics office as well as the private sector and the civil society. It contributed to enriching multi-stakeholder dialogue, building consensus among stakeholders and establishing a foundation for reaching a common understanding on a wide range of development issues.

The exercise was informed by the earlier nationwide review process of SDGs implementation, which applied the lens of “leaving no one behind”, identifying vulnerable groups who are at risk of being left behind. With UN technical support, the targeted capacity-building interventions have resulted in increased knowledge of local authorities in child friendly budgeting and increased allocation of financial resources for children. 2019 witnessed a growing commitment and enhanced capacity of local governments in ensuring meaningful participation of children in local decision making, which resulted in an increase of 7 to 16% (from 2018) of Local Development Fund expenditure on child related projects. In addition, businesses are striving to become human-rights oriented and more child-friendly through its business operation complying with international human rights standards, such as Global Compact and UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights. Support was extended to the National Statistics Office (NSO), Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and other government agencies to improve the tracking of Mongolia’s progress in meeting its development and SDG targets. In 2019, a methodology of estimating multidimensional poverty was developed, and technical skills built to conduct the analysis. The Statistical Council of NSO approved the methodology guiding the poverty index to be estimated through the Household Socio Economic Survey -2020, establishing the ground and allowing the data source to capture the conditions of various population groups including the vulnerable and most difficult to reach, and presenting different analysis such as the child poverty report. Another major database disaggregated at various background levels and different socioeconomic characteristics was made available in 2019 with the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey led by the National Statistics Office supported by the UN agencies.



## Development strategies in line with international standards

The UN supported Mongolia to improve national capacity to track the country's progress in implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda, which included the launch of an interactive SDG dashboard. Moreover, the NSO launched a report "Accelerating the 2030 SDGs through Decent Work: SDG Monitoring and Country Profile for Mongolia" with deep analysis of decent work indicators for Mongolia. With the UN support, the NSO now has the capacity to conduct a Labour Force Survey in line with international standards with a precise estimation of informal workers in both formal and informal economies. The UN also supported the GoM, as well as employers' and workers' organizations, to ensure smooth transition from informal to formality through the promotion of the rights of workers in the informal economy, introducing dispute settlement mechanisms, promoting social protection of informal workers and much more. The world of work is changing with more and more non-standard forms of work; UN Mongolia started a series of discussions on the future of work to address the challenges associated with this.

To support evidence-based policy development, government and non-government actors worked together to identify effective policies and strategies. For example, in the promotion of fundamental freedoms under the framework of UNESCO's 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions the UN helped the multi-stakeholder national team to draft Mongolia's Quadrennial Periodic Report on implementation of the Convention and priorities for future policy action. Supporting the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Sports (MECSS) to review the implementation of the Science and Technology Master Plan (2007-2020), the UN helped to further elaborate a new and inclusive plan beyond 2020, involving various ministries, academies, the National Development Agency, the Science and Technology Foundation and the private sector.

## Decent work and value-chains

UN support was provided to employment creation in sub-urban and rural areas of Mongolia. Support was also provided to strengthen specific value chains with a focus on technology transfers, training, innovations and proof of concept actions in the leather, textile, meat and dairy livestock value chains. Through the sharing of know-how and a series of capacity building interventions, over 2000 beneficiaries and 14 institutions noted increased experience and improved skills. Interventions included the setting up of 18 technical series vis-à-vis 17 industry guidelines and toolkits, as well as the strengthening of the institutional capacity of partners such as research and development institutes, ministries, enterprises and other relevant stakeholders.

In addition, access to technology transfer and professional training was made available to the SMEs through the establishment of Pilot Demonstration Units and an Incubator Centre for Textile Finishing. Mongolian livestock, meat, dairy and vegetable value chains were supported through private-public partnership cooperation. For instance, in the meat sector, UN supported equipment and technologies resulted in an increase of 30% in meat processing capacity. Over 11,000 workers saw their income increase and an estimated 180,000 consumers had access to improved meat quality.



Over the last three years, the incomes of 160 farmers and 500 vegetable growers has risen by 30% through the provision of decent employment opportunities. Furthermore, to position Mongolia as a leading producer of sustainable cashmere and to enhance the sustainability of the sector, the Sustainable Cashmere Platform was introduced with strong buy-in from line ministries and the President's Office. It gained endorsement and commitment from more than 20 private sector companies including international brands. A total of 20 international brands and retailers, including Kering Group (which manages Gucci, Saint Laurent and Alexander McQueen), Textile Exchange (covering 400 different brands), and H&M, have expressed their commitment to partake in collective actions to grow the supply of sustainable cashmere in Mongolia.

## **Waste and toxins management**

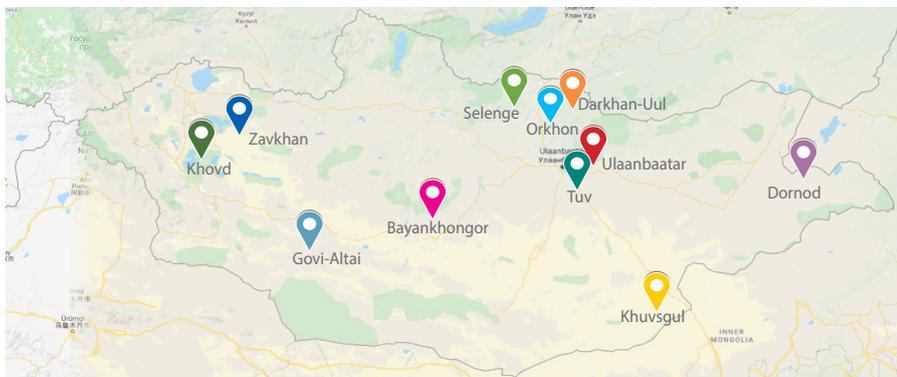
UN support was extended to contribute to the approval or enactment of law, regulations and policies, in order to strengthen national capacity to fulfill obligations under the Minamata Convention on Mercury; to eliminate mercury from the supply chain produced from the artisanal & small-scale mining sector. The main sources of mercury releases were analysed and identified and based on the information, a mercury database was developed.

Following the approval of the National Program for "Reducing Mercury Pollution Caused by Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining" in August 2019, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry worked on a draft implementation plan and established an intersectoral working group to support and oversee the coordination and implementation.

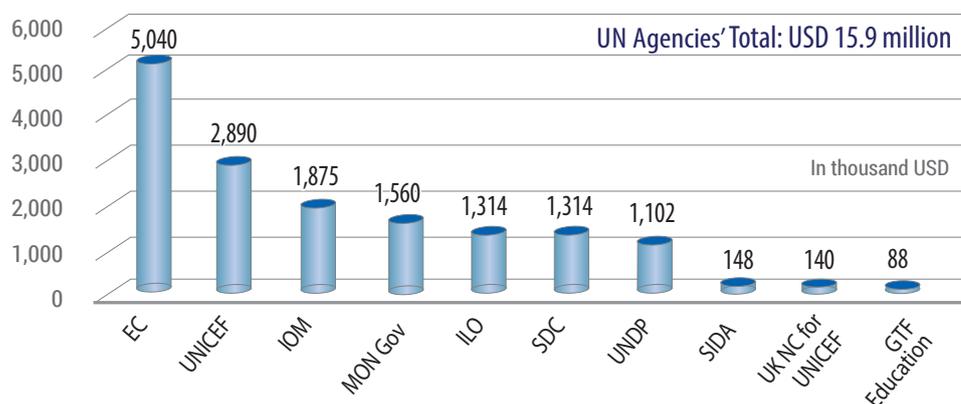
Furthermore, contributing to Mongolia's commitments under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, UN provided support to enable environmentally sound management and disposal of targeted PCB (Polychlorinated Biphenyls - human-made organic chemicals consisting of carbon, hydrogen and chlorine atoms) containing oil and equipment through its intervention on Demonstration of BAT/BEP in Open Burning Activities. This contribution included: conducting an assessment; a gap analysis on existing national and international policy, legal and regulatory frameworks; models; practices on waste and landfill management; and preparation of a draft Amendment of Law on Waste in Mongolia.

## OUTPUT 1.1 :

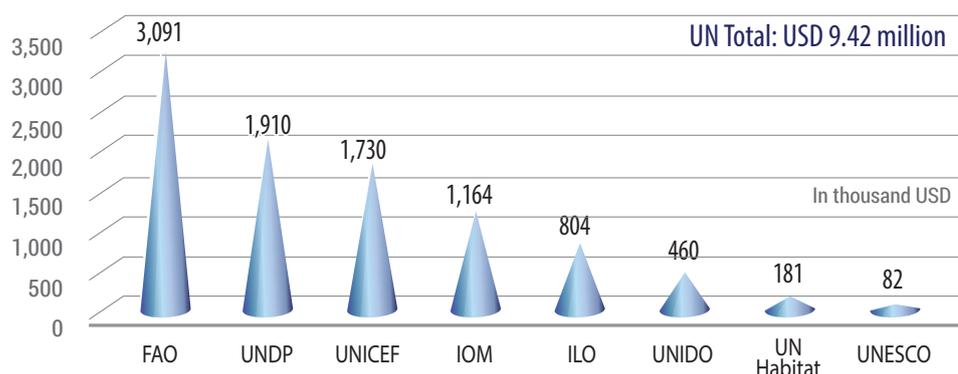
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION



### TOTAL RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY TOP 10 SOURCE OF FUNDS



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

ADB, MON NSO, MON MoH, MON MoFALI, MON MoLSP, MON MASM, MON GASI, MON Subnational government, Multiple governments, MON AFCYD, Save the Children, World Vision, MON MoECSS, MUB, MON MoF, MON NUM, MON NEMA, MON MONEF, MON CMTU, MON MSFA, MON DW4YN, MON Orkhon Gov.t Office, MON Orkhon FCYDA, MON UB City SIDIA

## OUTPUT 1.2:



**FOSTERING PEOPLE-BASED CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION APPROACHES ARE TAILORED TO THE MONGOLIAN CONTEXT, INCLUDING NATIONAL GREEN ECONOMY STRATEGIES THAT CREATE JOBS AND SKILLS, PROMOTE CLEAN TECHNOLOGIES, PREVENT ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS AND REDUCE POVERTY.**

### Generating evidence for policies on air pollution

UN agencies in Mongolia worked towards supporting the GoM in addressing the multilayered challenges of urban air pollution, complementing each other's efforts. The UN system supported evidence generation for policies on air pollution and provided technical assistance for testing innovative solutions for cleaner air. A comprehensive analysis was undertaken of public sector expenditure and the institutional framework for air pollution reduction in Mongolia for the period of 2010-2017.

Current evidence on the health impacts on prenatal and early life due to exposure to air pollution was closely examined through reviews by the UN agencies. Compelling scientific evidence on the severe consequences of exposure to high levels of air pollution on prenatal and early life in Ulaanbaatar, as well as the direct and indirect costs of air pollution on the private sector, were presented to stimulate discussion on strategies and actions. Public awareness of the health risks associated with air pollution greatly increased. Government parties revised their strategies to reduce exposure, based on the analysis and recommendations generated in the current and future plans and options for dealing with air-pollution. In order to mark World Environment Day 2019, the Youth for Clear Air event was jointly organized by UNDP, UNICEF and WHO. This event aimed at raising awareness among young people of the issue of air pollution.

Together with the Bayankhongor Government, over 600 high school children and community volunteers were trained on volunteerism and air pollution exposure and impacts. As a result of this training, school and community groups were organized to provide air pollution related information to their peers and in the community. Young volunteers also wrote blogs and created video blogs on air pollution levels for social media. These public engagement efforts reached 5,850 people with great multiplier effects, as many of these people then turned around to join volunteer groups.



## Sustainable resources management

The UN supported sustainable land management practices in three pilot landscapes in Mongolia's Western Region, working with three mining companies and in close cooperation with local governments, local communities and other implementing partners. Sustainable land management practices such as rotational grazing, water source protection, cropland rehabilitation and agroforestry, were applied in a 78600-ha area in Western Mongolia. As a result of capacity-building interventions, the level of understanding among local communities about the land offset and sustainable management doubled in comparison to before-the-intervention level. This led to an approval of a substantial land area (amounting to 5.7 million hectares) to be taken under state and local protection.

With the successful implementation of the UNREDD programme, the GoM formally adopted its REDD+ national action plan under the State Policy on Forest, which aims to provide an enabling environment and increase the capacity of local forest user groups (FUGs) and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to engage in sustainable forest management. With this, Mongolia is close to operationalizing all four design elements as per the provisions of the Warsaw Framework under the UNFCCC and accessing the result-based REDD+ payment, where primary beneficiaries are local communities and FUGs. A climate-smart approach is being piloted to strengthen the livestock production system by introducing deep wells designed using Solar Photovoltaic cells, improved animal husbandry techniques and pasture management for more productive herds with a smaller number of livestock.

## Energy efficiency

With UN support, the Government of Bayankhongor aimag approved the Smog-Free Bayankhongor Action plan 2019-2022 to reduce impact of air pollution on maternal and child health. As a part of this Action Plan, the local government, the Mongolian University of Science and Technology, and the UN designed an initial set of energy efficient Cooking, Heating, and Insulation Products and Services (CHIPS) for ger households. More than 230 households used CHIPS in 2019 with the support of multiple donors and the aimag, resulting in reduced air pollution in the city, as well as improved indoor air pollution at household level. To monitor CHIPS effectiveness and the Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) in pilot households, the UN collaborated with the University of Pennsylvania and Washington University of St. Louis, installing thermal monitoring sensors and indoor air quality sensors in some pilot gers. The Innovation Centre was established in the ger district of Bayankhongor and now serves the local community by providing advice on energy and heating technologies, energy efficiency and consumption, the CHIPS package and good practices.

Demonstration projects on energy efficiency were supported, which resulted in a total of approximately 5,220 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> eq. reduction in 2019. These projects included among others retrofitting 24 precast panel buildings.



For example, the solar rooftop system installed on the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) building meets up to 60% of the electricity needs of ERC annually. The potential short return of investment period provides an encouraging example for other public buildings. The UN intervention on energy efficiency led to improvement of the national technical capacity and updating of the building code and norms.

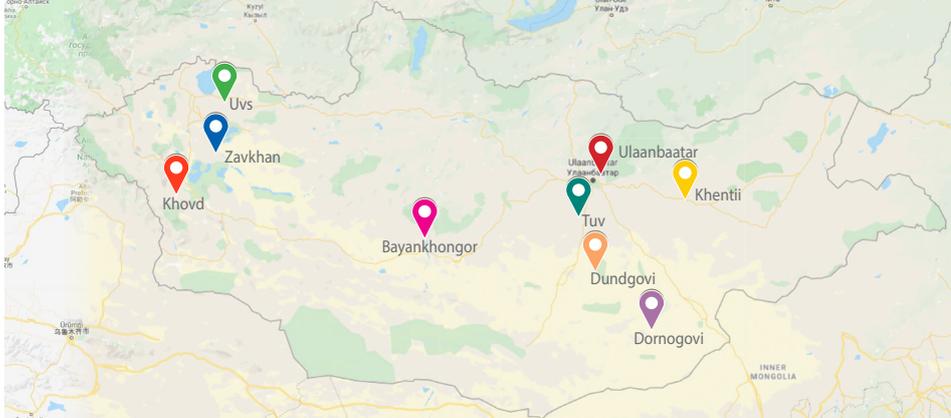
Human Resources for Nuclear Science and Technology in Mongolia has been improved through the continuous support of Technical Cooperation Programme. Within the premise of the technical assistance programme, the UN supported the application of Electron Beam Capacities for processing of flue gas from industry to help address air pollution in the capital. A national human resource development strategy for the safe and secure application of nuclear science and technology was successfully developed. 2019 saw an improvement of the quality of academic training in nuclear science and engineering, and the enhancement of professional knowledge and experience of teaching staff at the National University of Mongolia as a result of continued interventions through expert missions, scientific visits, and fellowship and training programmes.

### **Support for the Green Development Agenda**

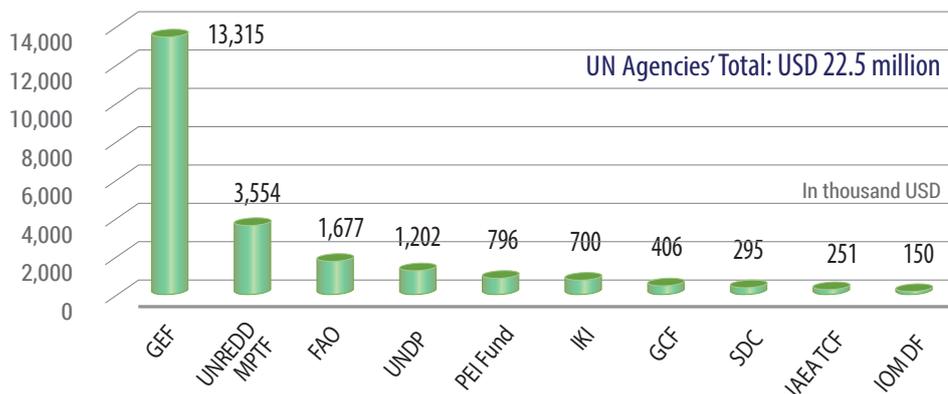
Several local authorities formulated local green development documents. For instance, Orkhon aimag approved “The Long-term Sustainable Green Development Goals – 2025” in 2019, which integrated comprehensive measures to support local livelihoods and sustainability. The long-term policy document identified four main development priorities, namely social, economic, environment and governance areas with total of 16 goals, 49 targets, 86 indicators and 246 actions in line with green and sustainable development priorities. Guided by the Orkhon experience, Sukhbaatar and Uvs provinces initiated local dialogue on a sustainable long-term vision and subsequently approved their local development plans incorporating the green development principle and SDGs.

## OUTPUT 1.2 :

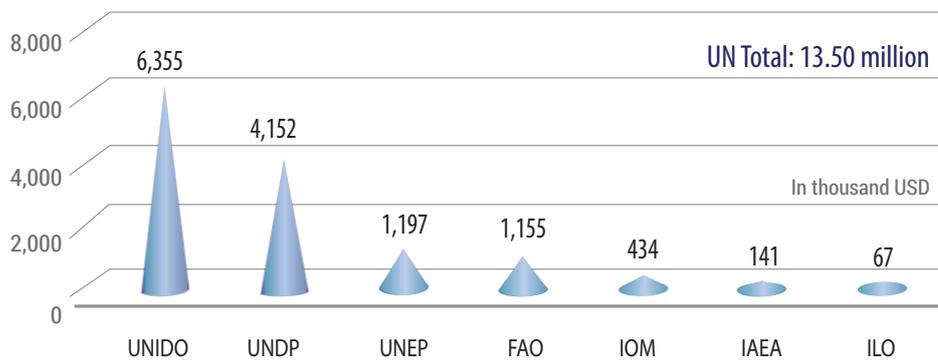
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



### TOTAL RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY TOP 10 SOURCE OF FUNDS



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

MON NEMA, MON MoET, MON Subnational government, MON MoCUD, IETC, Asia Foundation, MON MoMHI, MON NRC NUM, MON MoFALI, MON CMTU, MON MONEF, MON MoLSP

## OUTPUT 1.3:

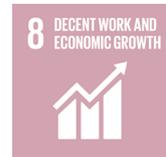


### PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES THAT SUPPORT THE LIVELIHOODS OF THE RURAL POOR AND VULNERABLE IS STRENGTHENED

#### Ecosystem and natural resources management

With UN support, the concept of access and benefit sharing from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge was incorporated in the current draft law and submitted for Parliament approval in 2020. The proposed legal provisions enable a fair share of the benefits from the utilization of genetic resources in the agriculture, pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors to be returned to providers of those resources in monetary and non-monetary forms. As per an independent evaluation, the UN's support through land degradation offset interventions made important contributions to applying a holistic approach to natural resource management and to global benefits in reducing land degradation.

In 2020, Parliament will review the required amendments to the Law on Protected areas, Land Law, and the Law on Environmental impact assessment reflecting the offset mechanism, which was supported by the UN. The survey indicated that public awareness of the role of the offsetting mechanism in addressing the impact of mining increased by: 10% in provincial centre; by 30% in pastoral communities at pilot landscapes; and 50% of target herders applying innovative sustainable land management technologies.



Several changes were introduced in the revised Regulation on Environmental Management Plan, adopted by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism in 2019 as part of UN support to environmental governance in the mining sector, and included the requirement for mining companies to have an environmental officer and complaints handling mechanism. As a tool to build trust among stakeholders and improve the effectiveness of environmental monitoring and rehabilitation, the concept of a participatory environmental monitoring workshop was introduced to Mongolia.

Through UN work on sustainability and resilience of green landscapes of Mongolia, 50 pasture user groups in target areas were provided with capacity building opportunities on sustainable and green development measures, such as an enhanced seasonal movement and benefits of decreasing the number of livestock with additional benefits of avoiding encroachment into biodiversity habitat. Consultation with target beneficiary communities reached almost 9,000 herders. Meetings were held on forest taxation and inventory related to support of umbrella biodiversity species in the target landscapes, which provided a baseline for the creation of local green development plans.

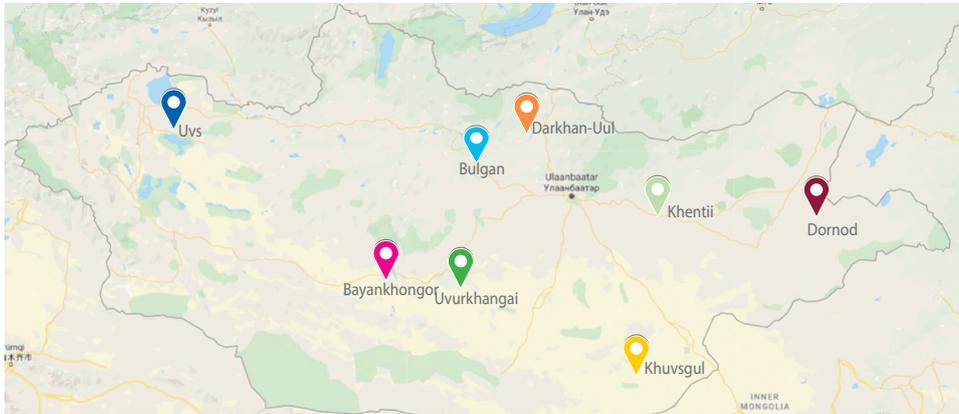
## **Sustainable forest management**

To manage Mongolia's forest landscapes in a productive and sustainable way, the government, non-government organizations and forest users' communities were supported to secure the flow of multiple ecosystem services and benefits, including biological diversity, reduced degradation, and carbon storage, whilst enhancing resilience to climate change. Support included forest regeneration, growth, composition, health, and quality of forests to support people's needs through forest clearing, thinning, forest fire control integrating biodiversity conservation and carbon storage.

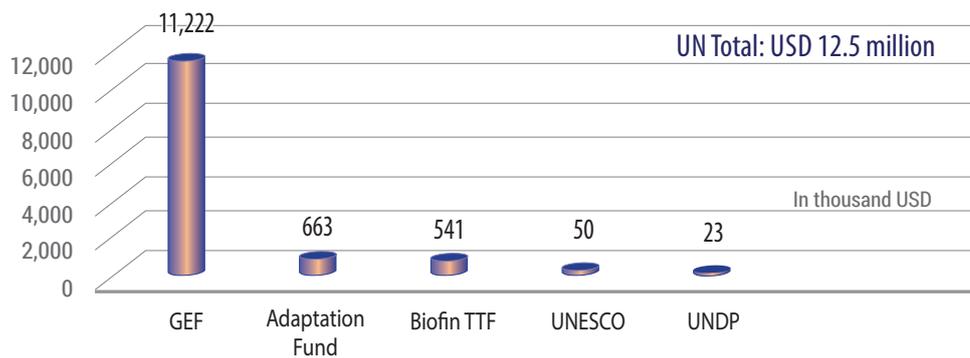
Sustainable forest management (SFM) at the national level through policy influence, as well as best practice at aimag and soum levels through capacity building, piloting and demonstration of SFM practices, were promoted. About 2 million ha in 5 aimags contributed to the improved participatory forest management with biodiversity conservation. Studies of carbon measurement in forests show that there has been an improvement of the quality of carbon stored in soil and bio-mass by 1.35 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in the 101 forest user groups which were supported.

**OUTPUT 1.3 :**

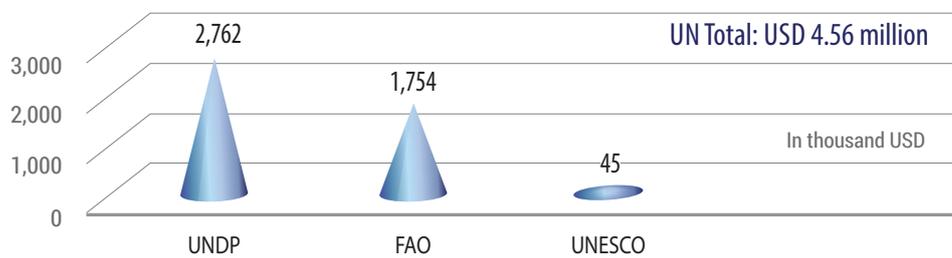
**AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:**



**TOTAL RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY SOURCE OF FUNDS**



**EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019**



**IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS:** MoET, FUG, MoECSS, MoFALI

# OUTPUT 1.4:



## RESILIENT COMMUNITIES ABLE TO MITIGATE DISASTER RISKS ARE BUILT.



### Disaster risk reduction and mitigation



To address the warning signs of a dzud and its potential devastating impact on herder households, national institutions and development partners successfully completed interventions to safeguard livelihoods by protecting livestock assets. Early actions were taken to safeguard more than 1000 vulnerable herder families in 25 soums in five aimags and in the capital city, through livestock destocking for cash measures, in order to mitigate the impact of the harsh winter season and ensure food and nutrition security. Effectiveness of the intervention was analysed through a return on investment study, and the benefits to cost ratio was calculated as 7.1, which proved that early intervention gives the best value for money. Technical assistance was provided for dzud vulnerability surveillance and preparedness. NEMA and the National Agency for Meteorology and Environmental Monitoring (NAMEM) were supported to upgrade existing systems and capabilities in order to monitor for drought and dzud, and establish early warning and automated disaster impact forecasting procedures.



Development began on a simulation model for forecasting future impacts of climate change and flooding in Ulaanbaatar city and its ger-areas, and on land use plans for Ulaanbaatar northern ger-areas and 10 target sub-districts with specific focus on flood risk reduction and building resilience. The target sub-districts' flood resilience action plans were developed and, through training and skill building interventions, are being implemented by the sub-district communities. Hydrology studies were done in the target areas and identified the flood control facilities required to be constructed for flood risk reduction.



UN technical assistance was also extended to support the national health security plan and disaster risk management plan, with focus on pandemic preparedness which includes extensive work on establishing the national coordination mechanisms and developing the all-hazards response plan and risk assessments. Furthermore, health emergency operation centres were established that coordinate preparedness and response across the health sector, and with other sectors, stakeholders and partners. Pandemic preparedness planning in Mongolia has been integrated into national and local general disaster management planning, processes and structures, involving multiple sectors, civil society, NGOs, private sector and health cluster partners. National pandemic risk assessment, assessing socio-economic factors and resource mapping, PISA, after action reviews, simulation exercises have contributed to make the plan a living document.

## **Resilient communities and preparedness**

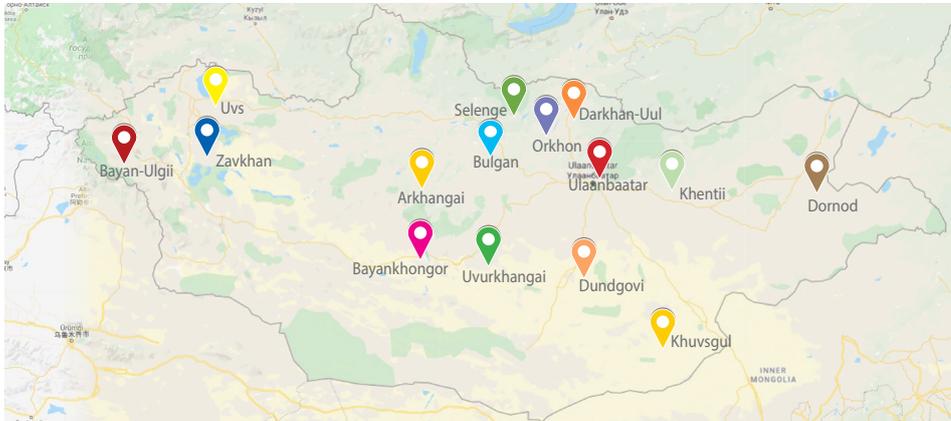
To further reduce inequalities, the UN continued to support GoM in management of migration through facilitation of voluntary returns and reintegration of migrants who need to return home but lack the means to do so through addressing internal (rural to urban) migration. Total reintegration grants provided necessary tools for self-employment initiatives, including cloth making, transportation, canteen, livestock and carpentry businesses.

Through the cumulative effects of previous interventions, understanding and managing internal migration has been greatly improved and migration specific questions are now included in the census by NSO, which is an important advancement. Some 1200 government officials learned best practices of real-time demographic data collection and processing for emergency preparedness and response through a series of capacity building training and simulation exercises. Based on this training, 5 rounds of assessments were conducted on assessing real-time mobile population number, origin and destination of movement and main factors contributing to internal migration.

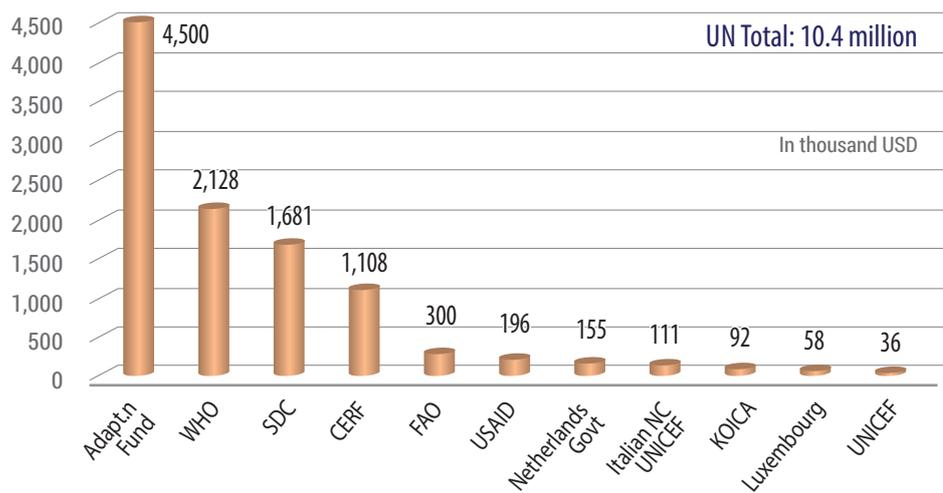
The state authority for veterinary services were supported in their implementation the law on animal health and to combat continued trans-boundary animal diseases, such as foot and mouth disease, and peste des petits ruminants through technical assistance provided to develop the strategic plan. Veterinarians in 295 soums, out of 331, have been trained and awareness on animal contagious disease of the herders' as well as public awareness was improved through various activities. A preliminary risk assessment of the livestock sector in Mongolia was conducted to strengthen the capacity of agriculture for disaster and climate vulnerability and risk assessment, and use of risk information to implement DRR and climate change adaptation actions to contribute to the Sendai framework for DRR and SDGs monitoring and reporting.

## OUTPUT 1.4 :

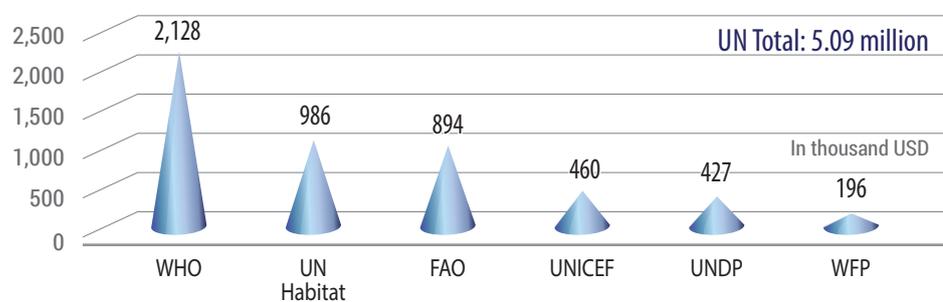
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



### TOTAL RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY SOURCE OF FUNDS



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



**IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS:** MoET, FUG, MoECSS, MoFALI, ADRA, World Vision, Red Cross Society, NEMA, People in Need, Save the Children, Mercy Corps

# OUTCOME TWO:



## ENHANCING SOCIAL PROTECTION AND UTILIZATION OF QUALITY AND EQUITABLE SOCIAL SERVICES.



### OUTCOME STATEMENT:

**BY 2021, THE POOR AND VULNERABLE POPULATION BENEFIT FROM BETTER SOCIAL PROTECTION AND ARE ABLE TO INCREASINGLY UTILIZE QUALITY AND EQUITABLE BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES, WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE.**

Framed by the SDGs and the Sustainable Development Vision of Mongolia 2030, the UN continued to work on strengthening provisions of quality and equitable social services including, health, nutrition, education, WASH and social protection. Ten UN agencies collectively mobilized USD 31.05 million, out of which USD 20.49 million were utilized for 25 programme activities carried out in cooperation with 23 implementing partners (IPs) across 13 provinces and the capital city, Ulaanbaatar. The largest portion of funds were directed towards implementation of five SDGs: SDG 3 – Health (62 percent), SDG 4 – Quality Education (14.5 percent), SDG 2 - Zero Hunger (13 percent), SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation (9 percent).

## Key National Indicators

In 2018, children-under-five and maternal mortality remained at 16.9 per 1,000 live births and 27 per 100,000 live births respectively<sup>1</sup>. Renewed indicators derived from the Social Indicators Sample Survey 2018 (MICS 6) reveal uneven improvement in access to water and sanitation. Thus, the proportion of population with access to basic drinking water services reached 82.5 percent<sup>2</sup> compared to the baseline of 64 and proportion of population with access to basic sanitation services increased from 59 to 69 percent<sup>3</sup> compared to baseline data of 2016. However, when the survey examines the quality dimension of water services the proportion of households with access to safely managed water services drops to 22 percent<sup>4</sup>.

Education indicators remain at over 90 percent, with the net attendance ratio for boys and girls being respectively 95 and 97 percent in primary and 92 and 94 percent in lower secondary education<sup>5</sup>. However, although nearly all children attend primary education, only 62 per cent of children aged 7–14 can read and understand simple texts and just 52 per cent demonstrate basic numeracy skills.

Nutritional status of children under five stagnate with prevalence of underweight 1.8 percent, stunting 9 percent, wasting 0.9 percent and overweight 10.5 percent<sup>6</sup>.

## Health

WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and IAEA, in close collaboration with the Government and other stakeholders including communities, supported implementation of the State Policy on Health and subsequent regulations with a strong focus on health system strengthening and universal health care coverage. Due to these efforts, the health budget included funding for procurement of Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) micronutrients and contraceptives. Major progress has been achieved in improving quality of evidence and data. As a result of the protracted analysis and recommendations of UN, the successful collaboration among the MoH, NSO and Civil Registration Office resulted in making birth registrations at a birth place at the time of birth. This improved precision and inclusiveness of birth registration and ensured that no newborn missed out on early social protection opportunities. A multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary approach introduced to the health systems operations facilitates addressed multiple deprivations more effectively in reaching the most vulnerable. The capacity of the health system to respond to emerging health needs was strengthened.

The UN collectively worked towards raising awareness on the issue of air pollution, providing compelling evidence on air pollution to inform policy measures and strengthen advocacy for political commitments to help reduce air pollution which impacts children and pregnant mother's health (SGD 3 Health, SDG 7 Energy). Due to the advocacy on this issue carried out by the UN, the issues related to air pollution were imbedded in health system winter preparedness plans.

<sup>1</sup> MOH, <https://www.chd.mohs.mn/2019/sariin%20medee/2018eng.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> NSO, UNFPA and UNICEF, [https://mics-surveys-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/MICS6/East%20Asia%20and%20the%20Pacific/Mongolia/2018/Survey%20findings/SSIS2018-MICS6%20SFR\\_English.pdf](https://mics-surveys-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/MICS6/East%20Asia%20and%20the%20Pacific/Mongolia/2018/Survey%20findings/SSIS2018-MICS6%20SFR_English.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> ibid

<sup>4</sup> ibid

<sup>5</sup> ibid

<sup>6</sup> ibid

The UN continued its support in improving the quality of health service delivery by strengthening mobile services and telemedicine, reaching the unreached, as well as introduction of new advanced treatment and diagnostic technologies including nuclear technologies and alignment of the guidelines and protocols with the new international standards and effective procurement mechanisms.

## **Promoting quality education**

The Major focus of the education component was on capacity development and in SDG4 localization aligned with the education sector master plan, policies and programmes at all levels of the education system from early childhood to higher education. The Government of Mongolia, with the support from the UN and development partners, undertook a comprehensive education sector policy review with key policy recommendations incorporated in the education sector master plan. The education sector review covered access, equity, inclusion, quality and lifelong learning aspects of the Mongolian education system.

The UN supported the review of the education management information system from 2017-2018 for better monitoring and assessment of the education system. The findings and key recommendations of the education policy reviews will contribute towards the preparation of the Mongolia Education Sector Master Plan 2020-2030 led by the GoM, with the technical support from ADB, JICA, UNESCO, UNICEF and World Bank.

In addition, National Standards of Information Technology Competencies of the Secondary School Teachers was drafted and the review of TVET and Skills Policy in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection was completed. The key focus of the reform of the education system was implemented in close collaboration with other sectors, communities, students and parents to advance both the quality and equality. The UN also supported and enhanced the capacity for recognition of qualifications in tertiary institutions in Mongolia.

## **Water, sanitation and hygiene**

The UN emphasized strengthening the national strategy for achieving the SDG targets on WASH (Goal-6). Focus was given to the establishment of the governance mechanisms and elements related to environmental safety, climate resilience and sustainability that would reach the most vulnerable. UN agencies worked in different settings within communities, including households, schools, kindergartens, and health facilities, supporting them to take WASH-related decisions in a coordinated and coherent way. Water safety plans were developed with community engagement support for the implementation of the Government Action Plan and the National Environmental Health Action Plan. The UN jointly supported the GOM in aligning the current WASH policies and programmes to the SDGs, and initial steps included the introduction of the concept of safely managed water and sanitation services in government planning and monitoring frameworks.

## **Improving food quality**

The UN supported the GoM in advancing the food production, fortification and quality control mechanisms to enhance population food security and improve nutritional status. This resulted in: the approval of the Food Fortification Standards; regulations in monitoring and inspection of baby food; adoption of protocols on the management of acute malnutrition; as well as drafting laws and regulations in the vegetable sector. Significant improvements are registered in enhancing the national system for agricultural sector productivity and consequently food safety and security. National capacity was strengthened in: diagnosis and prevention of transboundary animal diseases; food safety analytical capabilities for contaminants; food control management systems; and by facilitating innovation and digitalization of the agricultural sector. Support was provided on improving national policies and strategies that are relevant to: food quality, including laws on plant seed and variety; assessment of the State of Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) for Food and Agriculture; Transboundary Animal Disease control strategy for Mongolia; and the national fruit and berry sector strategy.

## **Social protection**

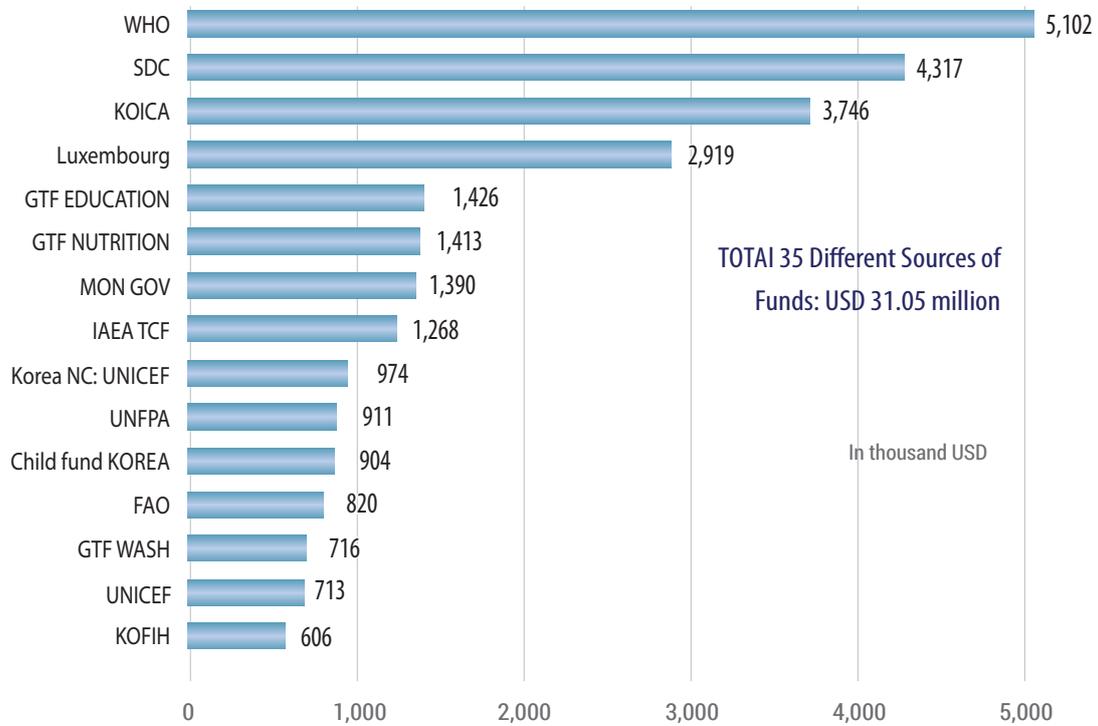
The UN in Mongolia continued to emphasize social protection with dignity, free from exclusion, stigmatization, enhancing income security and the human rights. A range of interventions targeting different age and social groups were tested and piloted, with technical support provided by UNICEF, ILO and IOM. Improving capacity and increasing the awareness of national and sub-national authorities responsible for social protection policies, inclusive and equity-focused social protection systems, resulted in the implementation of poverty targeted social protection measures on the ground and increased the voice of local authorities in the national decision making process, including the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MoLSP).

## OUTCOME 2 :

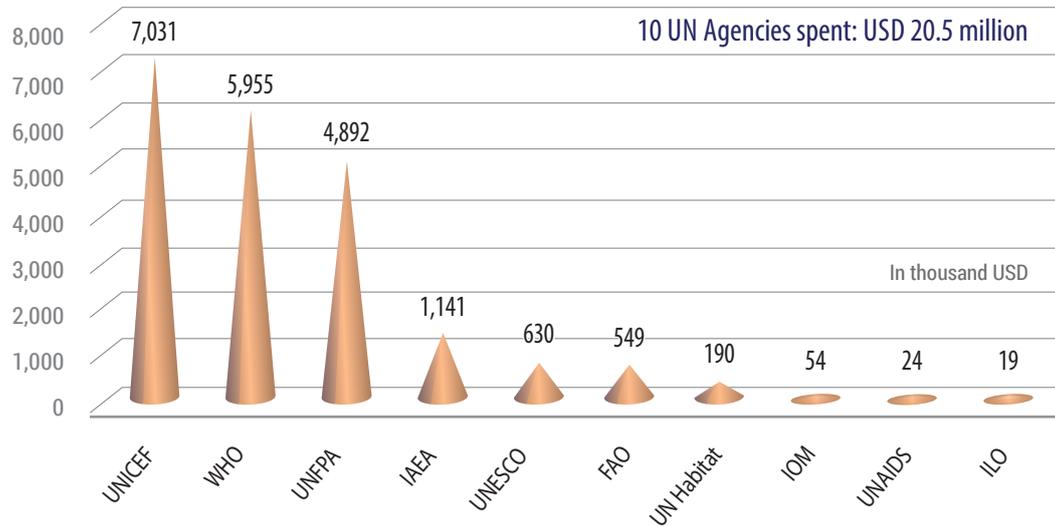
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



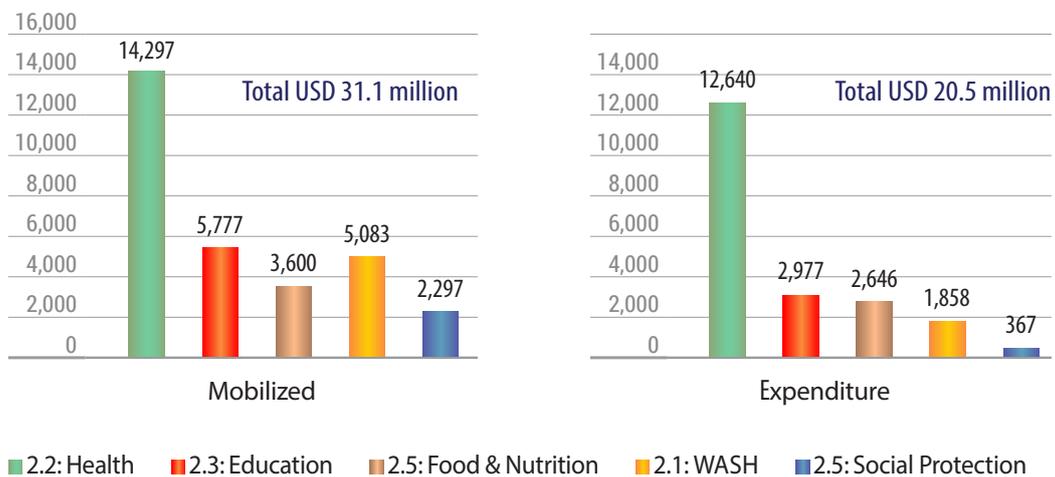
### RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY TOP 15 SOURCE OF FUND



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



### MOBILIZED VS EXPENDITURE BY OUTPUTS 2017-2019



## OUTPUT 2.1:



**WATER AND SANITATION HYGIENE (WASH) SERVICES ARE IMPROVED IN SELECTED PERI-URBAN AREAS AND SOUMS, THROUGH EQUITABLE ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY, WATER AND SANITATION FACILITIES; SUPPORTED BY A MORE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT, EVIDENCE BASE AND SOCIAL AWARENESS.**

### Providing policy support for WASH

At the policy level, to improve overall coordination of the WASH sector and implementation of national policies, the UN provided support to the line ministries (MoH, MoCUD, MoECSS, and MoET) to strengthen WASH networking and further strengthen the national strategy for achieving the SDG targets on WASH (Goal-6). A country-specific multi-sectoral exercise on sanitation and drinking water was conducted in Mongolia according to the framework of UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking Water (GLAAS, 2018). This exercise significantly contributed to the analyses of the existing WASH situation with a specific focus on governance, financing, and improving the functions of a multi-sectoral working group for WASH. Activities by WHO to support the strengthening of water and sanitation safety planning capacity were carried out in collaboration with MoH and Ulaanbaatar city's Water Supply and Sewerage Authority. This resulted in approval by the Ulaanbaatar Citizens Representative Khural of Ulaanbaatar City Programme on Water and Sanitation Safety along with the investment budget.

The drinking water quality standard was updated from a water safety perspective and approved in June 2018. In accordance with the government's action plan, external auditing for implementation of Water Safety Plan (WSP) was carried out for centre-level water suppliers in two provinces. External evaluation for implementation of WSPs in small communities was also conducted in 33 soums by water safety experts in collaboration with MoH. The findings of the evaluation are supporting evidence-based decision making to improve drinking water safety at community level. Particularly, WHO supported key activities for ensuring the sustainability of WSP implementation in the urban water supply system and scaling-up WSP for small communities. As a result of the WHO supported program, the legal environment was enabled; capacity for Water Safety plan implementation and its auditing was strengthened; and fundamental capacity for introducing water and sanitation plan safety was established.

To enhance these results, advocacy interventions and capacity building on climate-resilient WASH policies, facility designs, and water safety planning were promoted and supported by UNICEF in three provinces (Bayankhongor, Gobi-Altai, and Zavkhan) according to the Government Action Plan and National Environmental Health Action Plan. UNICEF's work in close collaboration with the National Water Service Regulatory Commission on introducing a new methodology for setting water tariffs resulted in



the reduction of water tariffs for ger area residents, thus improving their access to drinking water at a more affordable price. More specifically, UNICEF provided support for the replication of Smart Water Kiosks in two of the four geographic areas, Gobi-Altai and Bayankhongor provinces. This resulted in increased drinking water service coverage and reduced operation and maintenance cost. In Gobi-Altai province, UNICEF provided funding for a server equipment package (including technical and financial monitoring software and 3,000 copies of smart cards for customers) and a Smart Water Kiosk system for one water kiosk for the demonstration purpose. After the demonstration, the aimag government allocated funding for 20 more Smart Water Kiosks in the aimag centre. Thanks to this initiative, all 21 of the water kiosks in the aimag centre (Altai city) are operational for 24 hours, 7 days per week, thus benefiting 100% of households (over 16,000 people). The national authorities are supporting and promoting the application of the smart water kiosks nationwide.

### **WASH in kindergartens, schools, and dormitories**

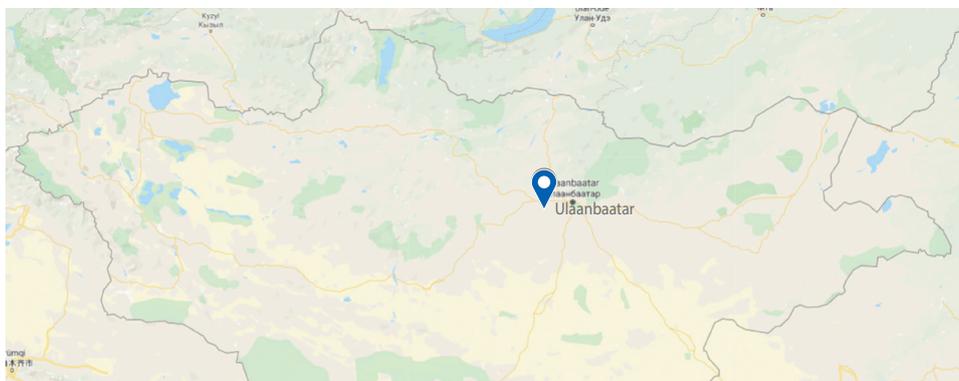
Through the UNICEF support, education authorities had their capacities enhanced to implement the national norms and requirements for WASH in kindergartens, schools, and dormitories, through the strengthening of WASH in schools partnership network, which involves key government agencies, national and international NGOs, and private sector partners. With direct technical support from the UNICEF programs on WASH, Education, and Adolescents, a new national standard on school environment safety was developed and approved in August 2019 by the Mongolian standardization authority. In addition, advocacy interventions and capacity building training on operation and maintenance of WASH facilities in schools, dormitories, and kindergartens regularly organized. It is worth noting the work in progress on designing, and demonstration of climate-resilient and innovative WASH facilities for remote schools, dormitories, and kindergartens in three provinces (Bayankhongor, Gobi-Altai, and Zavkhan). The climate-resilient WASH facilities include shower houses, outdoor latrines, groundwater wells etc. Design and construction sites (location) of those facilities considered potential resilience to climate-related impacts including flooding, strong wind and extreme cold temperature.

### **Community mobilization and consultation**

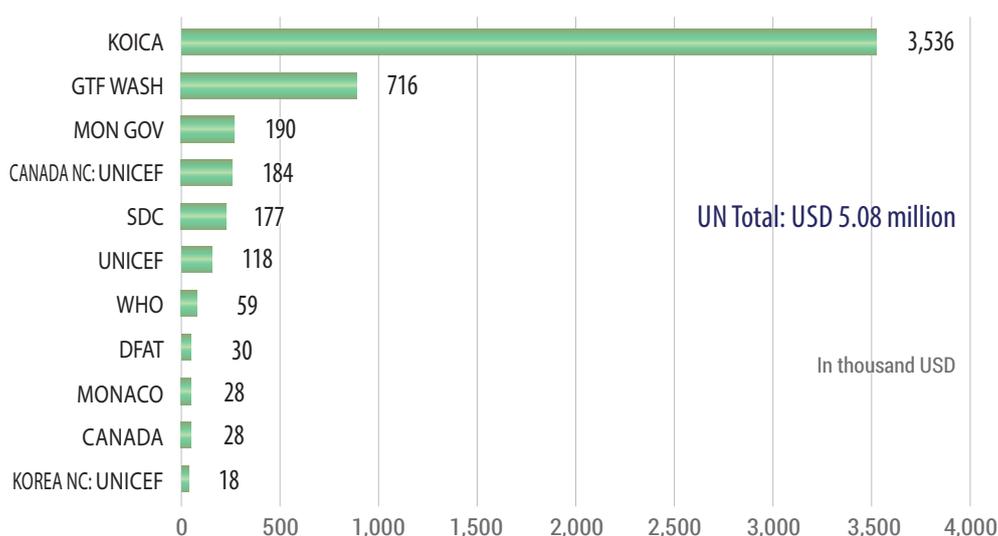
Through the UN-Habitat support, the capacity of the Municipality of Ulaanbaatar City for community engagement and Small and Medium Enterprise development has been strengthened to develop a network of livable, competitive, and inclusive subcentres in Ulaanbaatar city's ger areas. In consultation with the beneficiary communities, which included women, elderly, differently abled persons, and affected individuals and families, the final detailed designs and plans for implementation of the planned infrastructures by the Municipality of Ulaanbaatar city were prepared and confirmed. These included: 11.06 km long water-supply networks; 18.55 km long sewerage collector systems, within the subcentres networks; 8.6 km long sewerage collector systems outside of the subcentres; and 1000-meter-long water reservoir in each of Bayankhoshuu and Selbe subcentres. The special needs of women and other vulnerable groups were catered for in these designs and in the implementation arrangements.

**OUTPUT 2.1 :**

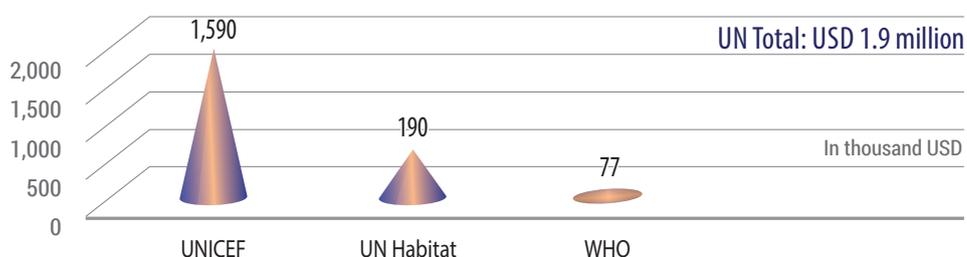
**AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:**



**MOBILIZED RESOURCES BY SOURCE OF FUND**



**EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019**



**IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS**

MoECSS, MoH, General Agency for Specialized Inspection, Subnational government, Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences, ADB

**OUTPUT 2.2:****World Health Organization****IAEA****unicef**  
for every child**THE HEALTH SYSTEM IS STRENGTHENED TO INCREASE THE HEALTH OF THE POOR AND VULNERABLE IN URBAN/PERI-URBAN/RURAL AREAS; ENSURE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE; AND PROMOTE EVIDENCE-BASED POLICIES AND DECISION-MAKING, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.**

As a result of coordinated advocacy and technical support by the UN agencies, national policies and programs now have enabling provisions of equitable access to and utilization of health care by the poor and the most vulnerable groups. These include the state policy on health, its action plan, and the relevant national programs on maternal, child, reproductive health (MCRH), prevention and control of communicable diseases (CD), combatting non-communicable diseases (NCD), environment health (EH) and on immunization.

In support of policy implementation, further institutional assistance was provided at national and subnational levels, offering capacity development opportunities in the areas of planning, budgeting, and monitoring for equitable health outcomes. With increased capacity and commitments at local levels, UN agencies assisted the Government of Mongolia to convene international forums, where “UB declaration on ending TB”, “UB call for action for Clean Air” among others were endorsed by its participating country delegates.

The targeted interventions, supported by the UN, have greatly expanded the country’s disease prevention, early detection and treatment capacity, as well as service delivery models, using m-health, telemedicine, integrated MNCH care provisions. IAEA support to the quality of nuclear medicine practice in Mongolia significantly upgraded radio-immunoassay technology application; introducing newer procedures, and strengthening human resources resulted in improvement in the accuracy and quality of diagnostics.

Joint UN and ADB advocacy played a key role in allocation of earmarked funding for public health expenditures, such as contraceptives and micronutrients in the 2019 state budget. In 2019, 1.8 billion MNT was spent on contraceptives which was 12 times higher than in 2018. Most importantly, the funding was sustained, and the government allocated another 300 million MNT for the implementation of the National Maternal, Child and Reproductive Health Programme in addition to the budget for contraceptives and micronutrients in 2020.

The nationwide expansion of the telemedicine network for maternal and newborn health was completed with the addition of remote districts and three maternity hospitals of Ulaanbaatar City. Under the telemedicine project, local trainers were trained and standard operating procedures for tele-consultations and utilization of simulation laboratories and drilling stations were developed and approved by the Health Minister's orders of year 2019: A/386 and A/385, respectively<sup>7</sup>. Provincial health care providers can now interact with national experts using direct face-to-face interactive telecommunication. Training manikins on Emergency Obstetrics and Essential Newborn Care worth 0.8 million USD were provided to medical and academic institutions nationwide to support continuous medical education of doctors, midwives and nurses.

The Government of Mongolia's request for support to conduct Supplementary Immunization Activity (SIA) against Measles, resulted in the rapid deployment of financial and technical assistance (US\$500 thousand) by UNICEF and WHO that reached 450 thousand previously un-immunized children. Mongolia had no confirmed cases of mortality and morbidity of measles, despite the regional situation.

Despite all above efforts, MICS 2018 findings (disseminated in 2019) suggest overall stagnation in key health indicators. Coverage of essential health care package was 63 percent in 2018. Reductions of Maternal and child mortality rates are not consistent, yet life expectancy continued to increase at a national level, burden from vaccine preventable diseases reduced substantially due to introduction of life saving new vaccines, syphilis detection was increased by 38 percent and a 1/3 of population with health insurance are aware of their own status of hepatitis infection and were able to get treatment.



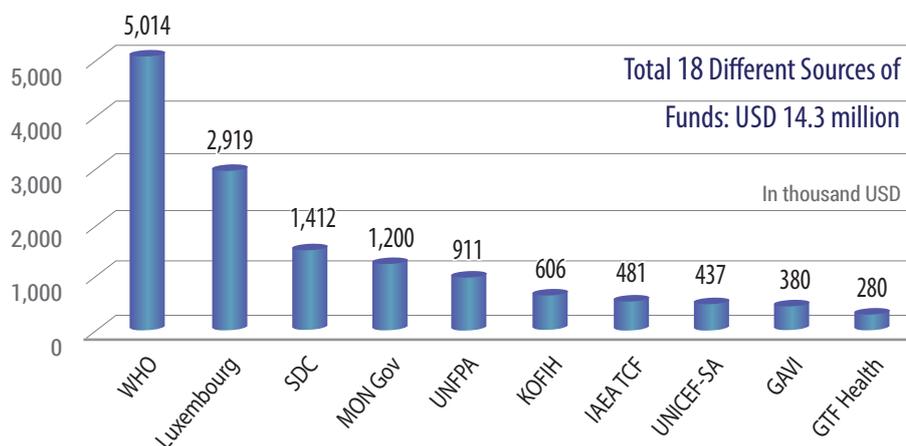
<sup>7</sup> <https://www.mohs.mn/uploads/files/8847efe5f4d9cd7dd2650edc21f5c7d0d53d126a.pdf>  
<https://www.mohs.mn/uploads/files/74011a8711d550c99476100d34ef40b90e03fb4d.pdf>

## OUTPUT 2.2:

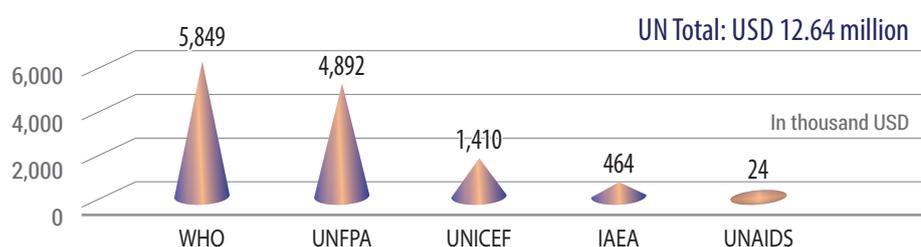
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



### MOBILIZED RESOURCES BY TOP 10 SOURCE OF FUND



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Parliament, MoF, MoLSP, MoH, Subnational government, NEMA, General Agency for Specialized Inspection, National Human Rights Commission, National Centre for Public Health, National Centre for Maternal and Child Health, National Cancer Centre, Nuclear Medicine Department of First State Central Hospital, New Public Health in Mongolia, Mongolian Pediatrics Association, Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences.

## OUTPUT 2.3:



**HIGHER QUALITY BASIC EDUCATION IS SUPPORTED, WITH GREATER ACCESS TO EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND LIFELONG EDUCATION IN SELECTED PERI-URBAN AREAS AND SOUMS.**



### **Education policy and planning and SDG 4 localization**

Since the start of the current UNDAF Programme cycle, the main focus was on supporting the GoM in terms of knowledge generation, evidence-based policy making and capacity development in the area of education planning and policy analysis, as well as SDG 4 localization, to ensure SDG4 targets and indicators were aligned with the education priorities and plan. Several thematic studies and reviews were conducted with the technical and financial support from the UN : Education Sector Policy Review, ESIS review, Impact of Climate Change on Education, Inclusive Education Programme Evaluation, Parents satisfaction survey and Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) as well as the Educational Analysis for Global Learning and Equity (EAGLE). The key findings and recommendations informed the development process of the Education Sector Master Plan (ESMP) 2021-2030, and contributed to setting priorities in terms of inclusion and equity in the plan. ESMP is being led by MECSS with the active participation of development partners , whose support is coordinated by ADB : UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank (WB), and JICA. ESMP is a strategic document that will guide education sector in the next decade and will play a critical role in setting direction and ensuring provision of inclusive, equitable and quality educational service to all.



In collaboration with the MLSP and MECSS, the TVET and skills sector review along with the first national forum on TVET held with the participation of the public and private sector institutions provided solid recommendations for TVET reform, to align with the needs of the labour market as well as on financing and upgrading of the quality of TVET in Mongolia. ICT Competency Standards for Teachers was completed in 2019 and the government had adopted it as a policy tool to ensure that teachers possess the core competencies in ICT.

### **Higher Education**

Technical assistance was provided to the Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA) and MECSS in higher education. The capacity of the institutions responsible for the higher education was enhanced in-terms of policy realignment, accreditation, quality assurance and recognition of qualifications in higher education, ICT mainstreaming, Open and Distance Learning, education for sustainable development and capacity development. Mongolia ratified the Regional



Convention on Recognition of qualification in higher education and is planning to establish the National Information Centre at the MNCEA to process information related to qualifications obtained in other countries and in Mongolia.

### **Equitable, inclusive and safe learning environment**

As a result of continued advocacy and influence work, the policy environment around inclusive education improved with an approval of regulations to support the education of children with disabilities (CWD) in regular schools, as well as parents and community participation in school activities. Training and meetings led to an enhanced understanding and a positive change in attitudes towards inclusive education. As a result, one of the target areas allocated in the budget was for hiring a full-time teacher to run two child development centres (CDCs) at the provincial centre, which was a great achievement and demonstrated commitment from the local government. In addition, UNICEF supported CDCs are considered as a successful model by MECSS in terms of providing self-sustainable, child friendly environment, particularly CWDs, with enhanced capacity at the institutional level. MECSS is currently in discussion with WB to replicate this model in other provinces of the country. Also, school safety standard and dormitory standard were approved and will be put into action from 2020.

### **Early childhood development**

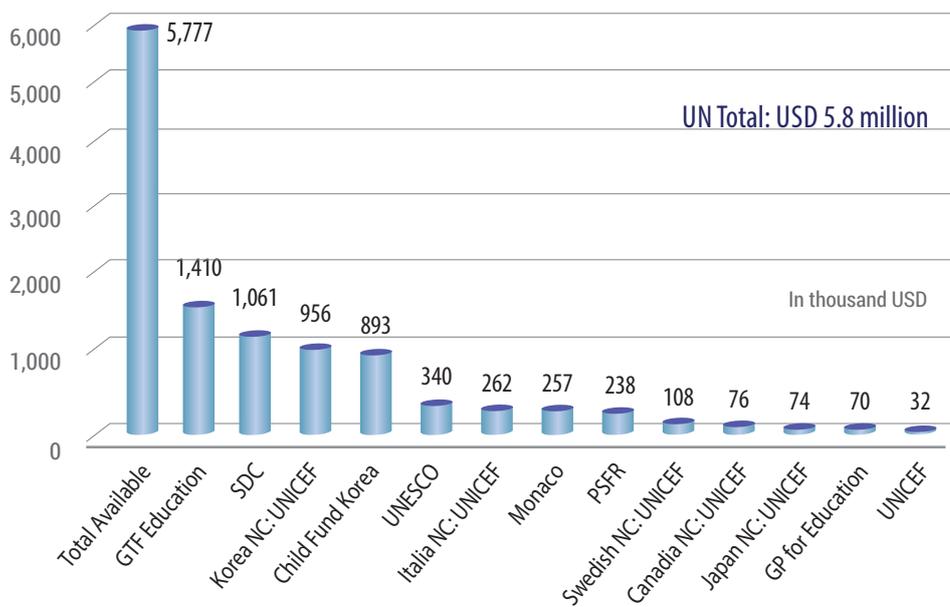
Multisectoral collaboration and capacity at the local level was strengthened in the area of integrated early childhood development (ECD) through workshops and advocacy meetings, which led to the establishment of a multidisciplinary task team and development of an integrated ECD strategy. Challenges related to ensuring healthy and safe learning environments was addressed with improved physical environment of early childhood education centres, through better indoor air quality and WASH facilities in the target areas. At the ministry level, as well as parent level, awareness and capacity were strengthened around emerging issues such as children of 24-hour kindergarten service, which requires cross-sector collaboration including children protection, nutrition and education.

## OUTPUT 2.3:

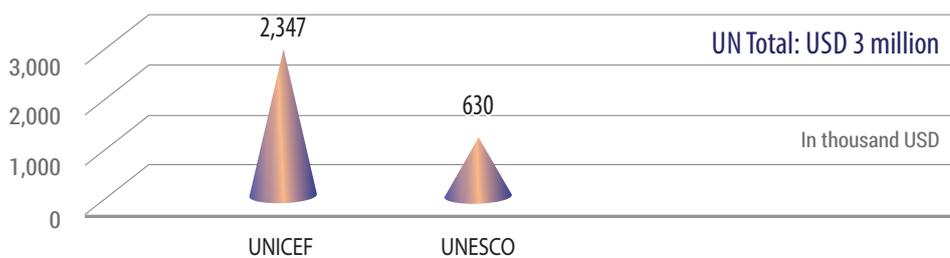
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



### MOBILIZED RESOURCES BY SOURCE OF FUND



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019

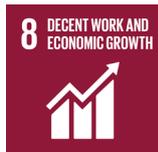


IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS: MoECSS, ADB

## OUTPUT 2.4:



### AN EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM IS FACILITATED FOR ALL AND SUBSTANTIAL COVERAGE OF THE POOR AND THE VULNERABLE



#### Strengthen social protection

The UN in Mongolia continued its work to improve capacity and increase awareness of national and sub-national authorities responsible for social protection policies, implementation of workers' safety and child sensitive, inclusive and equity-focused social protection systems. These efforts resulted in rich discussions and dialogue on implementing poverty targeted social protection measures on the ground and bringing voices of the local authorities to the national decision makers including the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MoLSP). Under advocacy efforts, lessons learnt and human stories about implementation of Child Money Programme regarding the social protection with dignity, exclusion, stigmatization, income security and the human rights were shared with the policy makers. Introduction of the Occupational Safety and Health standards and operating procedures promoted by the UN resulted in strengthened capacity of the participating parties including government, employers and workers.

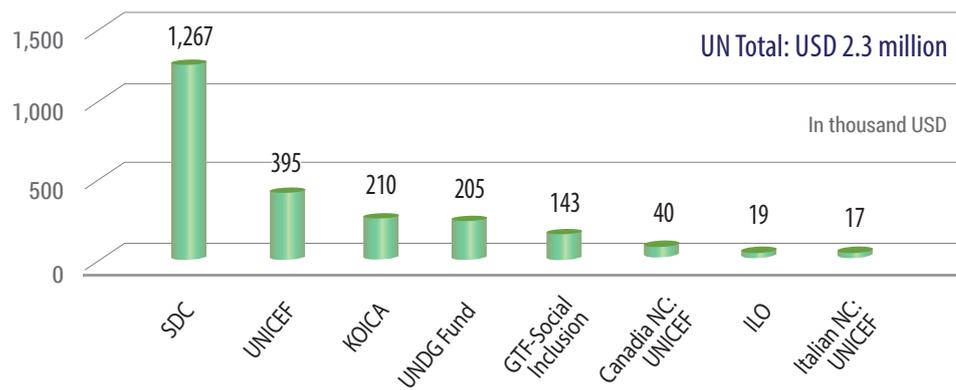
Strengthening the shock-responsiveness of the current social protection system was the major focus of the UN interventions. Supported by UNICEF and jointly implemented with the MLSP and the Governor's Office of Zavkhan aimag, the shock-responsive social protection pilot programme helped families cope with winter emergency preparedness. Cash assistance was used to purchase winter clothing for children and school related supplies, as well as to cover household food expenses. The early-action child money assistance was delivered to 2,729 children age 0-5 years old, in four soums (Ikh-Uul, Tosontsengel, Bayantes and Tes soums) of Zavkhan aimag using the current Child Money Programme; aimed at preventing long-lasting negative impacts of climate related shocks. The pilot demonstrated that the existing system can work effectively and efficiently during shocks by reaching herder children in a timely manner and at a minimal administrative cost. Rapid assessment of the pilot's impact will be conducted following the next phase of the pilot, which is aimed at responding early to the needs of herder children whose families are hard hit by dzud. UNICEF's efforts to improve coordination among development partners and INGOs, working in the area of shock responsive social protection, have resulted in a workshop with the Government, where WFP and World Bank have presented their work, while other partners, such as ADB, FAO, ILO, UNDP, World Vision, Save the Children, and Red Cross among others. The pilot will be continued and expanded under the upcoming UN Joint Programme on Extending Social Protection to Herders with enhanced Shock Responsiveness, in 2020-2021.

## OUTPUT 2.4:

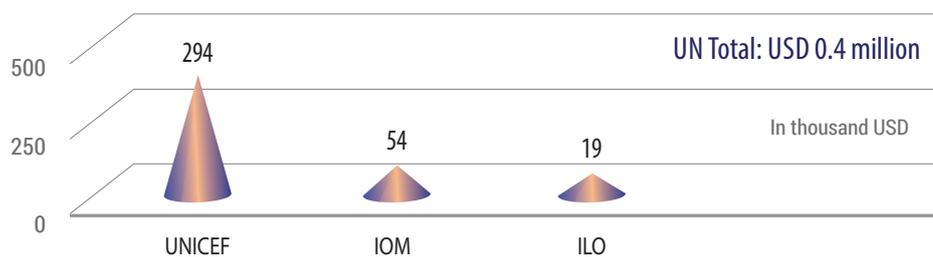
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



### RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY SOURCE OF FUND



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

MoLSP, Confederation of Mongolian Trade Unions, Mongolian Employer's Federation

**OUTPUT 2.5:**
**FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IS STRENGTHENED (SUPPORT HEALTHY FOOD/ DIET ENVIRONMENT, REDUCE DOUBLE BURDEN OF MALNUTRITION, STRENGTHEN FOOD AND NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM AND SERVICES).**


The UN continued its support of the production of safe and secure food and enhancement of the nutritional status of children, who are one of the most vulnerable segments of the population. UNICEF supported the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) assessment and monitoring is integrated into Hospital Accreditation programme. Fortified wheat flour standard and premix standard were approved. MNUMS rolled out the first ever bachelor degree programme for nutritionist and dietitian from 2019. Students' textbook on health education was disseminated nationwide for educating school children of 4-12th grades. Model school canteens with capacity to serve with hot meal were installed in kindergartens and schools. More than 35,300 children aged under five years benefited from the integrated package of nutrition services.

With technical support of UN, assessment of the legal framework of food and its safety informed revisions in the Law on Seed and Variety to make it compliant with the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants and submitted to Parliament for approval. The law would enhance plant variety protection (Plant Breeders' Right) and the development of new, improved plant varieties that will contribute to the food security index of the country. The Simplified Guideline on Good Agriculture Practice (GAP) for vegetables and fruits was approved in May 2019 by Ministers for Food, Agriculture and Light Industry and for Health. The guideline promotes environmentally friendly production and food safety practices. GAP certification will enable consumers to make the right choices and provide opportunities for farmers to run cost-efficient businesses. In order to increase local fruit production, which is vital due to the population's low consumption, a national fruit and berry sector strategy was developed.

The National E-agriculture Strategy developed, with collaborative support of FAO and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) regional offices, will lead to the integration of information and communication technologies in the country's agricultural sector in order to boost productivity, improve farmers' incomes and expand employment opportunities.

Assessment of the State of Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) for food and agriculture made it possible to determine the status of breeds and strains by species, locations and market values of AnGR, as well as promoted further decision making related to

strategic planning. Findings were presented to the National Consultation of Livestock Breeding and Production specialists. Transboundary Animal Disease control strategy for Mongolia (2020-2023) was developed, which will encourage increase in livestock productivity and improve Mongolian herders' livelihoods in line with the government policy to provide the population with safe, healthy food, and the promotion of export of animal products (meat and cashmere).

With the technical and technological support of the IAEA, National food safety analytical capabilities of the State Central Veterinary Laboratory (SCVL) for testing of veterinary drug residues and related contaminants were enhanced. Mongolia now tests both domestic, as well as imported products, against veterinary drug residues and plans to further expand their capacities to meet EU export requirements. This had significant positive impact on food safety in the country and will continue to contribute to the annual growth of food exports from Mongolia into third party countries. Laboratory accreditation scope increased, enabling the analyse of a total of 2561 samples for antibiotic residue, pesticide and melamine contamination in export and import raw materials and products of animal origin.

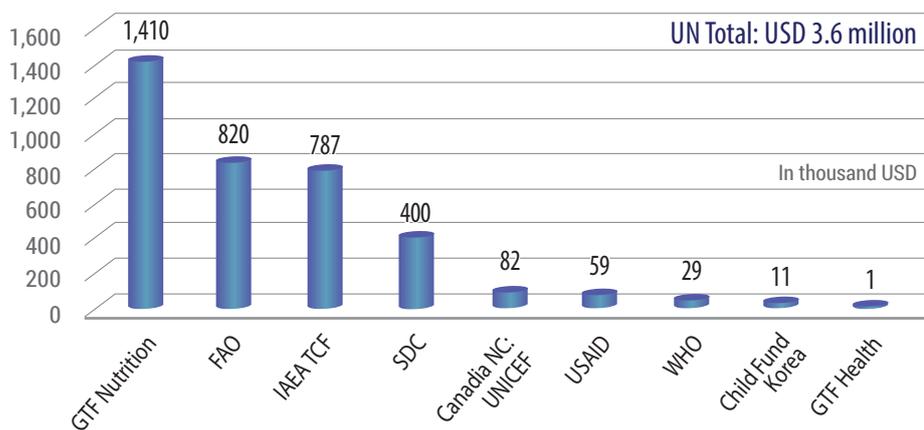
The Institute of Veterinary Medicine strengthened capacity to undertake rapid diagnosis of transboundary animal diseases (TADs), to address the outbreak of the peste des petits ruminants (PPR) and African swine fever (ASF), due to the acquisition of the latest equipment and techniques. Furthermore, with the strong support of the GoM, vaccine formulation, filling and capping lines were installed at Biocombinat vaccine factory to be used in the production of a vaccine against foot and mouth (FMD) disease. National and local human resources received extensive training in disease diagnostics and control.

## OUTPUT 2.5:

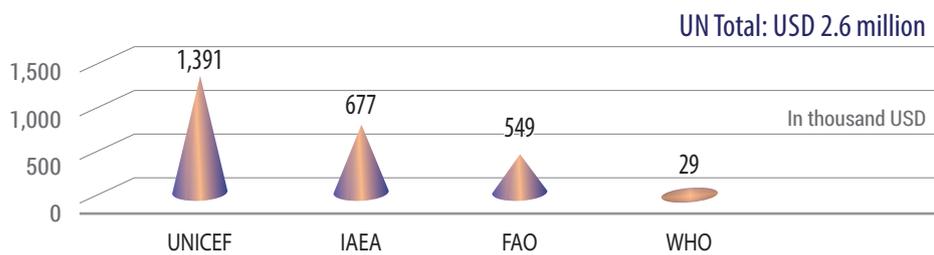
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



### RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY SOURCE OF FUND



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

MoFALI, MoECSS, MoH, National Centre for Maternal and Child Health, National Centre for Public Health, Institute for Plant and Agricultural Science, Institute of Veterinary Medicine, Mongolian University of Life Sciences



# OUTCOME THREE:



## FOSTERING VOICE AND STRENGTHENING ACCOUNTABILITY



### OUTCOME STATEMENT:

**MORE RESPONSIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE TO PEOPLE, WHILE ENSURING EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF YOUNG PERSONS AND REALIZATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ALL, ESPECIALLY THE POOR AND MARGINALIZED.**

The work under this Outcome aims at improving capacity of governing institutions to ensure that “no one is left behind” and everyone benefits from the country’s development, especially young people, poor and marginalized. 7 UN agencies collectively mobilized USD 20.9 million, out of which USD 13.38 million were utilized for 17 programme activities carried out in cooperation with 23 implementing partners (IPs) across 9 provinces and the capital city, Ulaanbaatar. The majority of the total disbursements was directed towards implementation of four SDGs: SDG 16 – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, SDG 5 – Gender Equality, SDG 3 – Health and SDG 17 – Partnership.

### Constitutional review

Over the years, the UN supported the constitutional review adapting to the evolving dialogue and direction of the political discourse. A strategy was devised to support the process of the constitutional amendment through which it identified a great opportunity to improve the local

governance legislations focusing on a) an evidence-base is created for an informed decision-making; b) local governments participate in the thinking process through their own analysis and sharing practical knowledge; and c) the technical expertise was tapped to draw a dedicated professional and expert review. Consequently, the amendment to the Constitution was adopted by the Parliament in November 2019.

## **Protection mechanisms**

The GoM and the UN made great strides during the last two years in improving normative protection mechanisms in the country. With the support from the UN, the Law on Youth Development was drafted and passed. In addition, the revised Law to Combat Domestic Violence, the revised Civil Services Law, Disability Law, and the revised Law on Administrative and Territorial Units and their Governance became effective. The Labour Law and the Law on Family were revised and submitted to the Parliament for approval. Furthermore, Action Plans to implement the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women were developed. The UN provided technical support to the MoLSP, Mongolian Employer's Federation, and Confederation of Mongolian Trade Union in revising the 1999 labour law.

## **Youth centres**

The UN's support was also extended into the operationalization of national action plans and laws. For instance, technical and financial support were provided for implementation of Mongolia's 2012 Anti-trafficking Law. The UN's partnership with the GoM resulted in the doubling of the number of Government-funded Youth Development Centres from 16 centres in 2016 to 33 centres in 2019. These centres currently provide various empowerment opportunities, such as life-skills and sex education to the youth.

## **Generating evidence**

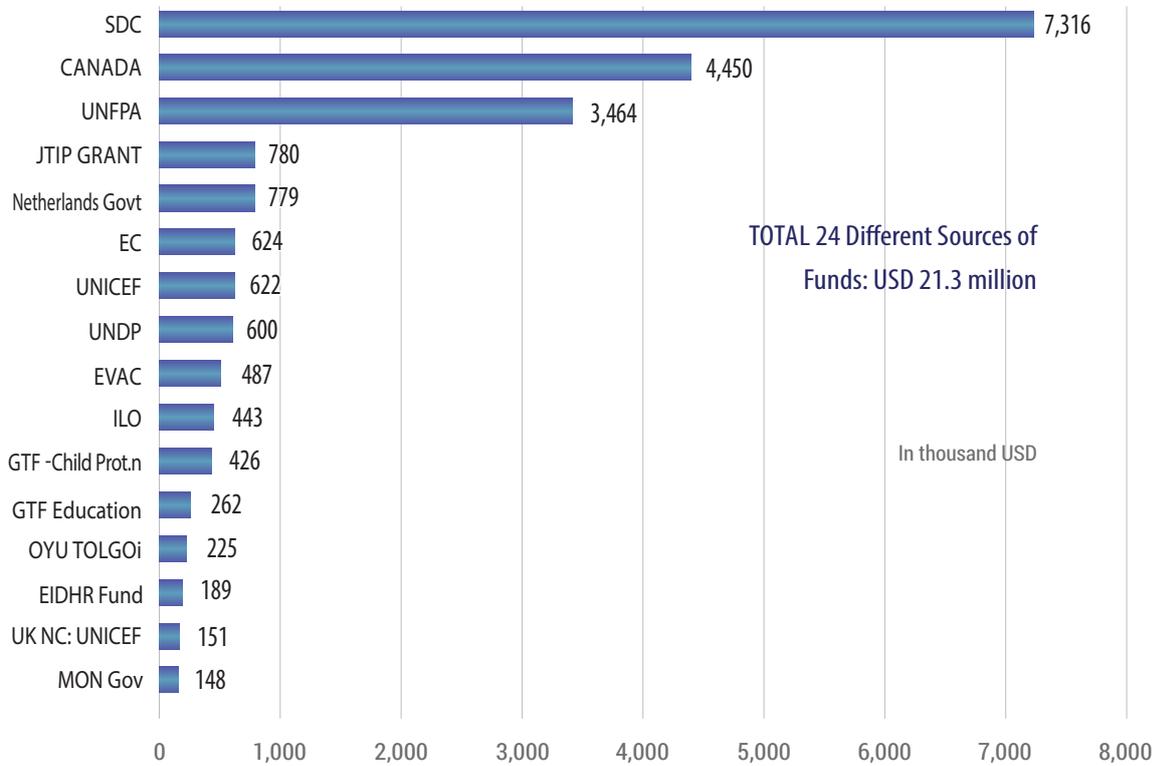
The UN played a crucial role in providing technical guidance and financial support in assuring the quality of the processes and outputs of major national surveys, such as the first National Survey on Gender-Based Violence in 2018, and continues to support the government in creating and improving systems for administrative statistics on gender-based/domestic violence. In partnership with the Governor's offices of Zavkhan and Gobi-Altai aimags, the UN conducted studies among adolescent and youth to better understand their issues around mental health. In 2018, the UN, in partnership with NSO, published the results of the first-ever National Gender Based Violence (GBV) Study, which revealed a real situation of GBV prevalence in the country. In 2017, the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia, in partnership with UN and EU, launched a report study that was conducted on implementation of labour rights in small and medium sized enterprises in Mongolia, with focus on trade and services and wool and cashmere manufacturing sectors.<sup>8</sup> The results of the study and recommendations following were included in the NHRCM's the 16th Status report on human rights and freedoms in Mongolia, and submitted to the Parliament.

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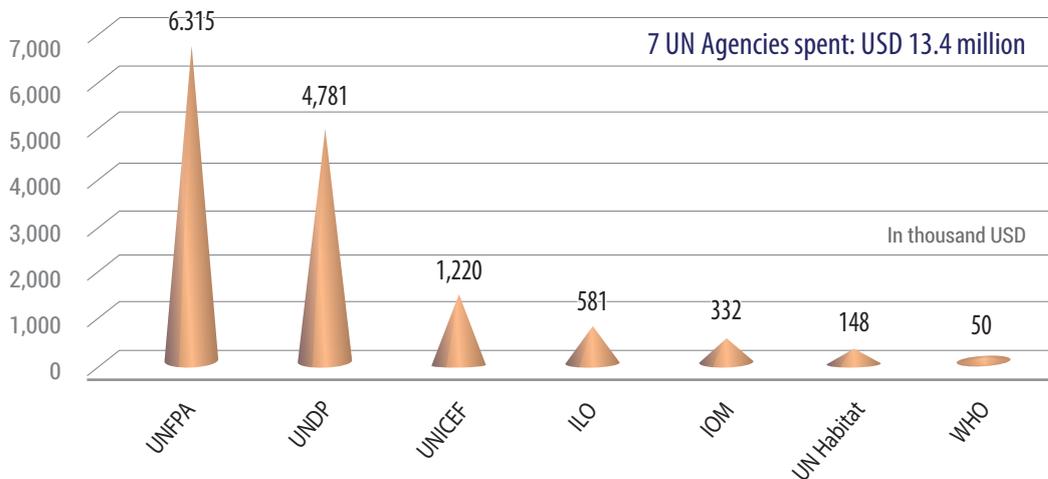
<sup>8</sup> <https://bit.ly/2LcSAqR>

## OUTCOME 3:

### AVAILABLE RESOURCES BY TOP 16 SOURCES OF FUND



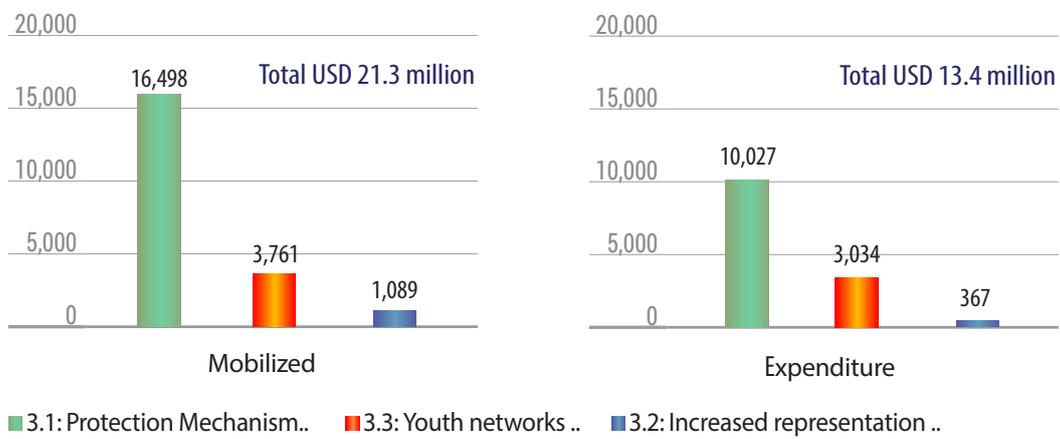
### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



MOBILIZED VS EXPENDITURE BY OUTPUTS 2017-2019



## OUTPUT 3.1:



### NORMATIVE PROTECTION MECHANISMS ARE IMPROVED BY REVISING LAWS IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS WHILE ESTABLISHING OR ENHANCING MONITORING SYSTEMS – TO ENSURE HUMAN RIGHTS, ESPECIALLY OF THE POOR AND MARGINALIZED WITH ATTENTION TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

This output aims at improving normative protection mechanisms that foster voices of the poor and marginalized and strengthen government accountability in Mongolia. During the reporting period, the UN continued its advocacy to strengthen protective environment for women and girls, children, laborers and victims of human trafficking by improving coordination mechanisms across sectors, increasing the budget allocation to address these issues, strengthening the mechanisms for response and prevention of human rights violation, and building the capacity of duty-bearers to develop and implement plans to ensure that the rights of women, children, laborers, and other vulnerable groups are protected and promoted.



#### Promoting gender equality

The UN worked closely with the GoM to ratify and implement laws that protect the rights of women, men and children. The CEDAW recommendations were incorporated into the Work Performance Agreements of local authorities to ensure accountability and cross-sectoral collaboration among state and non-state actors. Implemented since 2017, the Law to Combat Domestic Violence (LCDV), criminalizes domestic violence and puts into place survivor protection and perpetrator accountability mechanisms. As a result, survivor protection mechanisms were set up and institutionalized all over the country and included the establishment of the national and 30 sub-national Coordination Council on Crime Prevention (CCCP) units, 609 multi-disciplinary teams, and One Stop Service Centres and shelters for survivors of domestic violence.

#### Protecting labour rights

The UN has been collaborating with the GoM and social partners to revise and advocate for the approval of draft Labour Law, which will extend the coverage of workers to be better aligned with international standards. The UN provided technical note on Labour Migration Law which is currently under revision. The UN also supported the government, employers' and workers' organization to improve capacity of a tripartite mechanism on the application of ILO conventions and recommendations. The UN continues to provide technical support and capacity building activities to ensure that the rights of workers are being upheld, particularly with focus on informal workers in both formal and informal economies.

## **Combating human trafficking**

The UN worked toward strengthening Mongolia's effectiveness in combating human trafficking by supporting the GoM and civil society in implementing the 2012 Anti-Trafficking Law. In 2018, the UN conducted a study on the implementation of this legislation and provided support for the development of guidelines for its implementation. In 2019, the UN facilitated high-level discussions to improve transnational counter-trafficking cooperation, enhanced protective measures for victims of trafficking through improved victim identification and referral mechanisms, and strengthened cooperation between state and civil society through the reactivation of the NGOs Network on Trafficking. In relation to combating human trafficking, the UN promoted the 2014 Protocol of Forced Labour Convention in relation to trafficking in persons and specific measures to prevent trafficking for the purpose of forced labour and to adequately protect and support survivors and supported the country to conduct a legal review.

## **Protecting children**

With the aim of strengthening national child protection mechanisms, the UN worked to improve multi-sectoral coordination especially among policy-makers and programme-writers, strengthen case management capacity of frontline social service workforce, and support the government in preventing the sexual exploitation and abuse of children (CSEA) online. The UN supported the GoM through the conduct of a CSEA situational analysis, which included recommendations that were turned into action plans by the GoM, as well as by initiating a multi-stakeholder initiative with national and international partners from the development and private sectors to reduce the availability of child sexual abuse materials online. The UN also issued a public statement of child jockeys.

## **Educating adolescents of their rights**

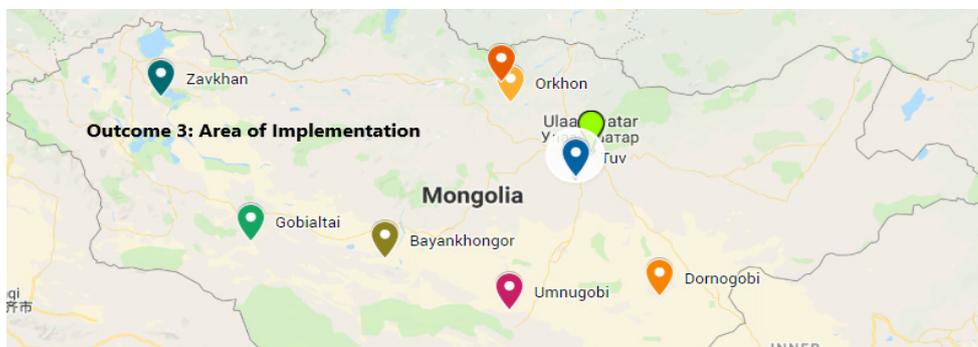
With extensive advocacy by the UN in 2017, the Ministers for Health and Education, Culture, Science and Sports officially returned the health education subject for integration into the formal education school curriculum. The health education subject covers comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), which was reintroduced into general education schools as a standalone subject for grades 4 to 12 starting from the 2018-2019 academic year. Additionally, through the UN's adaptation of the International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education (ITGSE) into the Mongolian context and language as well as the training of trainers, a total of 377,932 students in grades 4 to 12 nationwide underwent the 6-part CSE curriculum in 2019.

## **Strengthening civil service**

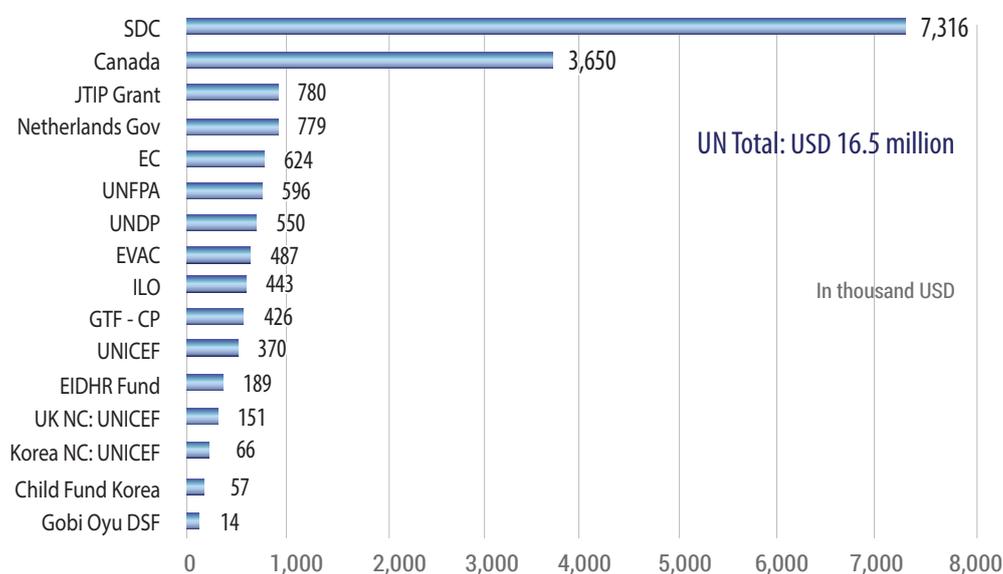
Through its interventions towards a professional, citizen-centred civil service in Mongolia, the UN undertook a number of steps to strengthen the accountability of the civil services and to ensure protection of poor and marginalized groups. The revised Civil Service Law introduced a new mechanism for citizens to monitor the quality, access and impacts of public services. In addition, the UN supported the reform and redevelopment of mandatory training mechanisms for all civil servants, with the goal of strengthening skills and capacities of civil servants to operate in a professional, citizen-centred manner with respect for human rights at the national and local levels on a variety of issues in line with the sustainable development goals. The UN worked with various government agencies to improve the implementation of laws by building the capacity of duty-bearers, as well as to create standard operating procedures, guidelines, and other relevant documents to aid in providing quality services to the public.

## OUTPUT 3.1:

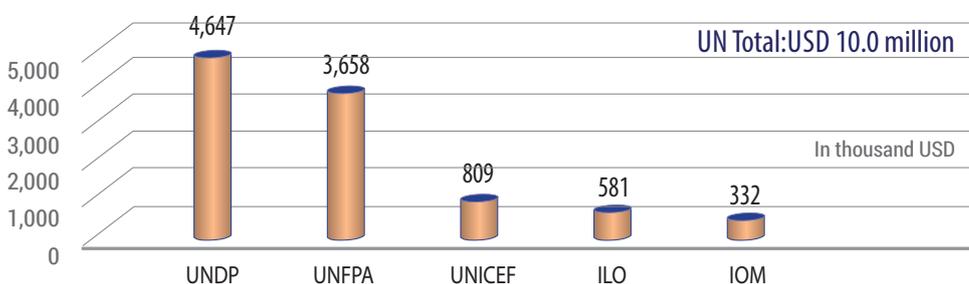
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



### MOBILIZED RESOURCES BY SOURCE OF FUND



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Parliament, MoJHA, MoLSP, MoH, Civil Service Council of Mongolia, NSO, NPA, NHRC, National Commission on Gender Equality, Authority for Family, Children & Youth Development, Confederation of Mongolian Trade Unions, Mongolian Employer's Federation, Gender Equality Centre, End Child Prostitution and Trafficking NGO, Asia Foundation, Mongolian Bankers' Association, ADB

## OUTPUT 3.2:



### REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IS INCREASED – UP TO 34 YEARS – IN DECISION-MAKING, SUCH AS PARLIAMENT, MINISTRIES, STATE SECRETARIATS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL REPRESENTATIONS



#### Women representation

Through its initiative towards a professional, citizen-centred civil service in Mongolia, the UN contributed to the improvement of representation of women in senior roles in the civil service. The UN provided support to the drafting and approval processes for several key operational regulations of the revised Civil Service Law. Thus, the UN helped establish mechanisms that provide equitable and favorable treatment for all people, including women and marginalized groups, to participate in the civil service entry examination, be promoted, run for a leadership positions at the Civil Service Council, and apply for Public Oversight Council. These regulations aimed to improve gender parity in public administration. In addition, the UN took steps to ensure the safety of female civil servants in their workplace by supporting the issuance of a joint decree by the Cabinet Secretariat and the Civil Service Council which requires all civil servants to complete mandatory training on workplace harassment and workplace sexual harassment. The UN advocated strongly for quotas on women representation in Parliament, which contributed to the retention of the 20% gender quota for candidates nominated by political parties and coalitions in the revised Election Law despite early talks to remove this stipulation.

#### Supporting the LGBT+ community

The UN supported the implementation of Article 14 of the Criminal Code that criminalizes any discrimination, incitement to hatred, and violence based on sexual orientation and gender. During the reporting period, the UN launched the second year of the Free & Equal Mongolia (F&E) campaign at the national level. Pride events were supported by UN agencies and awareness was improved through social media campaigns, as well as training and support to the Coalition for Equality group- a group of CSOs, cultural centres and representatives from embassies working in the field of LGBT rights, advocacy and service provision.

## Building strong local councils

The UN worked on strengthening the capacity of all local councils through tailored and dedicated interventions. For instance, more than 2000 elected women representatives were empowered through a Women Leadership Training (WLT) to enable them to participate in political decision-making more effectively. Through the training opportunities, they improved their problem-solving skills and confidence to lead diverse initiatives, tackle local problems via collective lobbying across party lines and effective engagement with citizens. Examples of such initiatives include monitoring of public utilities, information sharing meetings to raise citizens' awareness about decisions of public authorities, and advocacy toward adoption of a waste management plan by the local council. An independent review pointed to evidence of women acquiring greater confidence and influence in the decision-making role of the local councils. It also revealed that the WLT was critical in better networking and creating alliances between women across different levels and, even more importantly, across party divides.

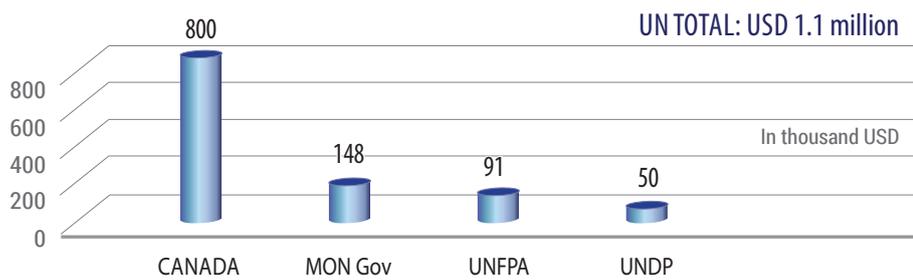
The UN provided technical support to the Municipality of Ulaanbaatar City to build an inclusive and accountable city with the specific focus on sub-centres' development in ger areas. As a result, community-based organizations (CBOs) of eight khorroos with 56.3% women representation and 1 sub-centre CBO with 66.1% women representation were established to ensure participation of local communities in local government decision making, planning and implementation of local programs. This initiative aims at addressing the special needs of community groups including women, children, disabled and sub-centre's local businesses.

## OUTPUT 3.2:

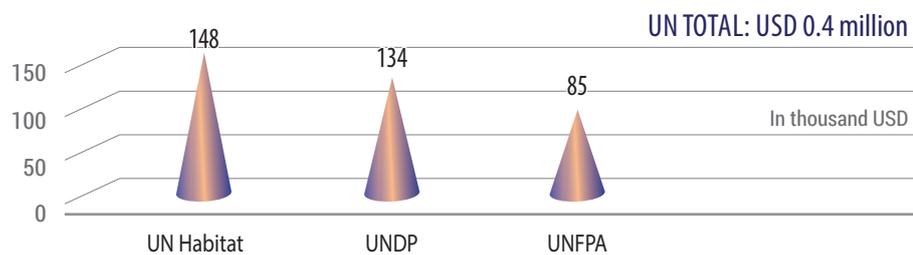
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



### MOBILIZED RESOURCES BY SOURCE OF FUND



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Parliament, Civil Service Council of Mongolia, National Commission on Gender Equality, ADB

**OUTPUT 3.3:**

## YOUTH NETWORKS AND ORGANIZATIONS ARE STRENGTHENED AND EFFECTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN EXPRESSING THEIR VOICES AS EQUAL PARTNERS

### Promoting youth development



For the first time in Mongolia's history, a law which specifically benefits young people was approved. The approval of the Youth Development Law was made possible through the efforts of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, youth-led NGOs, and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Policy, Education, Culture, Science and Sports with technical and financial support from the UN. Under the Youth Development Law, Youth Development Centres (YDCs) were established at the national and local levels in all 21 provinces and 9 districts of the capital city to provide the youth with various empowerment opportunities, such as life skills development and sex education. During the reporting period, YDCs provided supportive services to 19,023 youth aged 15-34, particularly marginalized youth such as unemployed youth, out-of-school, disabled youth and stay-at-home young mothers.

### Supporting platforms for youth participation

Through close collaboration with the government, the UN supported and facilitated participatory platforms for young people to congregate, discuss, propose, organize, and advocate for youth priorities to policy and decision-makers, including through the National Forum on Youth Development, which is the main platform for youth and youth CSOs to discuss pressing issues. The number of participatory platforms advocating for evidence-based youth policies, programmes, and the increased investments in young people rose from 1 in 2016 to 3 at present.

Following the findings of the NHRCM report on implementation of labour rights in SMEs, where it highlighted women and youth labour rights are violated broadly, the Decent Work for Youth Network was established to advocate labour rights among young people. Employers have developed a practical checklist on labour rights issues including child labour, forced labour, freedom of association and non-discrimination, which are key conditions for international trade and investment.



The Decent Work for Youth Network was established with support of the UN to promote fundamental principles and rights at work among young people.

### **Improving adolescent mental health**

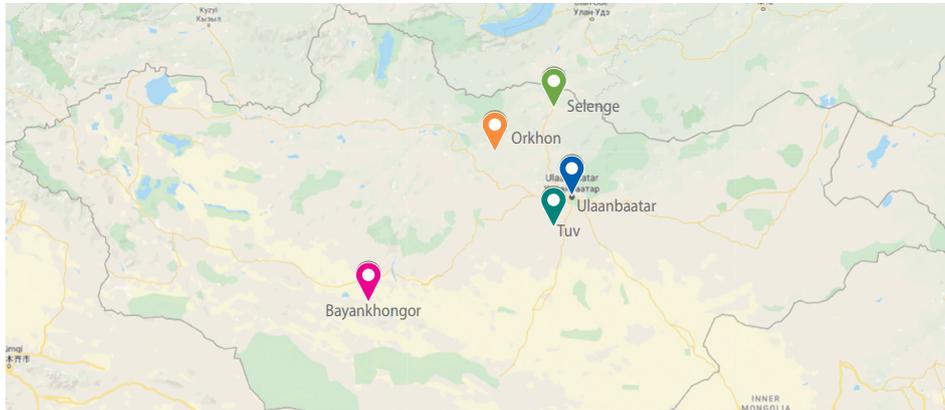
The UN continued its support for the GoM in implementing various innovative approaches to promote adolescent mental health and life skills education at the sub-national level, particularly in the provinces of Zavkhan, Govi-Altai, and Umnogovi. The UN supported the capacity building of duty-bearers, and gathered data on the prevalence of mental health issues among adolescents to better improve interventions. Health education that began in the 2018-2019 academic year was also supported by the UN through training and the development of guidelines and content to aid teachers in being more effective. Innovative approaches, such as a mobile game called “Lifhack”, was also developed by a youth team to contribute to digital sexual education, while a menstruation tracker application called “Okky” was developed and is now being piloted in the country.

### **Promoting volunteerism**

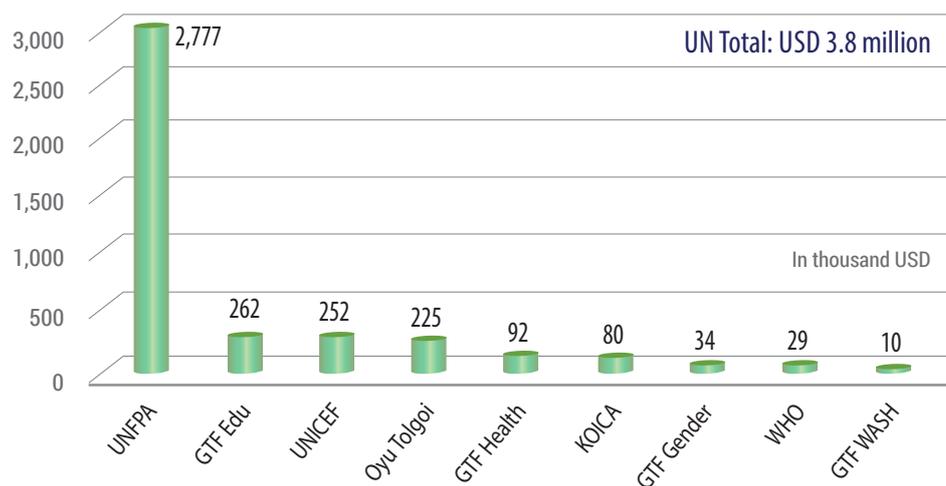
The UN started a volunteer engagement initiative in Mongolia with the support of the Global Volunteer Office. New modules for volunteers and government staff who are responsible for volunteer engagement activities were developed. The modules were implemented at the national training on volunteer engagement, which involved all professionals from all YDCs. Recruitment and training of young volunteers to support Clean Air projects in Bayankhongor province and Bayanzurkh district started in November, involving 590 volunteers.

## OUTPUT 3.3:

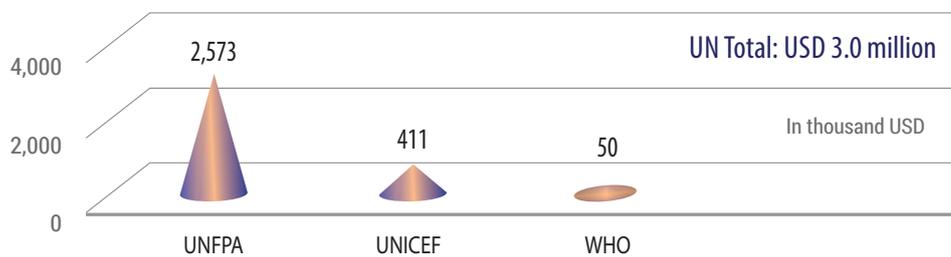
### AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION:



### RESOURCES MOBILIZED BY SOURCE OF FUND



### EXPENDITURES OF UN AGENCIES 2017-2019



### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Parliament, MoLSP, MoECSS, MoH, Subnational government, National Centre for Public Health, Authority for Family, Children & Youth Development, Centre for Citizenship Education, Mongolian Female National Network

## COMMON COMMUNICATION

The UN, through its Communications Group, continued its advocacy and awareness-raising on the SDGs and with a focus on key issues including air pollution, climate change and the environment, gender equality and combatting gender-based and domestic violence, child rights, protection and education, responsible consumption, civil service reform, youth entrepreneurship and many others.

The UN Agencies collectively organized a SDGs campaign to broaden the understanding of SDGs, consequently changing the actions of the general public including school children, students, elderly people and marginalized groups of the society.

Under the SDGs campaign, number of media products and coverage of the SDGs campaign events was produced. The campaign culminated into a first ever day-long UN Open Day event in Mongolia, featuring a new #ActNow #SDGsTaLx format that accommodated 10-minutes inspirational stories delivered by well recognized social and eco-activists, artists, writers, educators, civil servants, actors and green start up entrepreneurs who shared their passion for sustainable development. Top notch celebrities, singers and music bands joining the cause and 500 visitors-full UN Open Day guaranteed at least thirty thousand reach via social media alongside media coverage. The UN Open Day was attended by very young children, senior people, students, professionals, people with disabilities etc. The SDGs mobilization campaign wrapped up in December with the UN75 Dialogue launch event at which all the UN Open Day participants were acknowledged and the event was widely reported in the media.

World/UN Days such as the Human Rights Day, World Food Day, World Diabetes Day, World Health Day, International Women's Day, International Day against Worst Forms of Child Labour, World Press Freedom Day, UN Day, AIDS Day, the Walk the Talk, Sixteen Days of Activism against Gender-based violence etc. were observed or organized by UN Agencies and unified key messages were shared with the wider public.

Moreover, approximately 500 students from 5 universities and about 1000 students of 23 schools were reached by UN staff including UN Resident Coordinator and Heads of Agencies through SDGs awareness-raising lectures and interactions. Furthermore, UN Staff modelled through their action to contribute to the reduction of air pollution by planting 200 trees in the National Park in Ulaanbaatar.

## COMMON OPERATIONS

The UN Operations Management Team (OMT) is the inter-agency mechanism responsible for enhancing the operational efficiency of UN Intervention in Mongolia. The OMT carried joint activities ensure a greater economy of scale and reducing operation cost. In 2019, based on the OMT workplan and collaborative approach with the support of UN Country Team (UNCT) in development of common Long-Term Agreement (LTAs), improvement of the UN House to be more Energy Efficient and reducing carbon footprint and likewise continuation of the greening and waste management activities.

With the continuation of the carpooling project in 2017 jointly by UNDP, UNICEF & UNFPA contributed to reduce operation costs in sharing resources without having to source third party vendors, which leads to improvement of fleet management, carbon footprints, cost savings, and safety and security of staff.

The UNCT strongly supports the optimization of business operations and the repositioning of the UN system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda, including the Secretary General's reform targets under the Business Innovation Group (BIG) programme, to raise the levels of effectiveness and efficiency in business operations. The Business Operations Strategy (BOS) for 2019-2023 is aligned with the current UNDAF and all its current optimization initiatives to ensure a more focused, strategic, coherent, and cost-effective business operations while ensuring accountability and transparency.

The BOS in Mongolia revolves around the following principles and statements:

- Business Operations as a strategic partner for effective delivery of UN development programmes. The BOS provides the Mongolia Country Team with an outline for strategic and cost-effective support to the implementation of UNDAF by linking business operations with programmatic needs and requirements and capitalizing on the collective resources, operational capacities, experiences and efficiencies of all UN organizations. The BOS also enhances transparency and accountability for the delivery of results through improved monitoring of expenditures, tracking contributions to outcomes, and reporting on progress.
- Optimization and harmonization. Operational interventions and solutions will focus on maximizing business value by eliminating, where possible, parallel structures and processes and using agency strengths and experiences, existing resources, systems and networks already in place to reduce the costs of deploying programmes in Mongolia.
- Sharing responsibilities and accountability through division of labor among UN agencies to ensure ownership and utilization of other agencies' existing systems and procedures and comparative advantages, including global service centres and regional hubs, while enhancing competencies and capacity of the OMT in achieving its BOS goals and supporting the SDG process.
- Prioritizing the operational outputs and activities based on impact and complexity and focusing on high impact/fewer complex interventions using analytical tools and the BOS guidelines. It centres on major expenditures, high value, high number of transactions and easily doable and scalable business solutions.
- Finding new opportunities beyond operational procedures and discovering new ways of working together effectively to achieve both individual agency and shared organizational goals, hopefully addressing the continuing horizontal and vertical accountability issue in UN. Further, to use the BOS to identify opportunities, re-organize, integrate and align capacities and resources with results.

ANNEX A: MON BUDGETERY FRAMEWORK													
Agency	UNDAF COMMITMENT	Total Required			Total Available			To be Mobilized		EXPENDITURE			
		Total	Core	Non-Core	Total	Core	Non-Core	Mobilized	2017	2018	2019	Total	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	79,670,034	118,187,910	25,795,522	92,392,388	113,649,994	25,795,522	87,854,472	4,537,916	21,090,635	22,139,787	23,259,146	66,489,567	
Outcome 1 Total	34,199,242	64,409,255	12,708,299	51,700,955	61,249,097	12,708,299	48,540,798	3,160,157	10,454,465	11,690,580	10,429,698	32,574,742	
FAO	3,700,000	9,074,096	1,977,242	7,096,854	9,074,096	1,977,242	7,096,854	-	4,352,692	1,601,234	938,487	6,892,413	
IAEA	1,400,000	300,435	-	300,435	250,991	-	250,991	49,445	0	66,452	74,326	140,778	
ILO	750,000	1,501,600	1,381,600	120,000	1,451,600	1,381,600	70,000	50,000	434,962	181,428	255,335	871,725	
IOM	-	3,252,455	1,875,000	1,377,455	3,252,455	1,875,000	1,377,455	-	400,224	691,090	506,871	1,598,184	
UN Habitat	100,000	4,681,467	-	4,681,467	4,681,467	-	4,681,467	-	95,167	86,300	985,662	1,167,129	
UNDP	20,000,000	19,332,829	2,326,357	17,006,472	19,196,058	2,326,357	16,869,701	136,771	3,886,805	2,879,921	2,485,021	9,251,747	
UNEP	1,500,000	4,033,799	-	4,033,799	1,544,461	-	1,544,461	2,489,338	313,863	371,200	511,637	1,196,700	
UNESCO	322,000	278,000	95,000	183,000	203,000	95,000	108,000	75,000	0	52,000	75,000	127,000	
UNICEF	100,000	6,048,541	2,925,159	3,123,382	5,816,444	2,925,159	2,891,286	232,097	220,752	604,177	1,365,224	2,190,153	
UNIDO	2,277,242	13,454,875	-	13,454,875	13,454,875	-	13,454,875	-	750,000	5,156,778	908,485	6,815,263	
WFP	-	323,215	-	323,215	195,708	-	195,708	127,507	0	0	195,708	195,708	
WHO	4,050,000	2,127,942	2,127,942	-	2,127,942	2,127,942	-	-	0	0	2,127,942	2,127,942	
Outcome 2 Total	37,855,792	32,152,782	7,929,813	24,222,969	31,052,692	7,929,813	23,122,880	1,100,089	6,123,160	6,358,828	8,004,889	20,486,876	
FAO	-	1,220,223	820,275	399,948	1,220,223	820,275	399,948	-	164,572	148,675	235,466	548,713	
IAEA	1,700,000	1,374,767	-	1,374,767	1,267,744	-	1,267,744	107,023	6,376	748,421	386,354	1,141,151	
ILO	750,000	19,000	19,000	-	19,000	19,000	-	-	17,815.00	1,196.00	0.00	19,011	
IOM	-	1,090,104	0	1,090,104	1,090,104	0	1,090,104	-	0.00	0.00	54,454.30	54,454	
UN Habitat	100,000	190,440	-	190,440	190,440	-	190,440	-	100,000	90,440	0	190,440	
UNAIDS	-	24,232	24,232	-	24,232	24,232	-	-	24,232	0	0	24,232	
UNESCO	300,000	420,000	340,000	80,000	340,000	340,000	-	80,000	110,000	180,000	340,000	630,000	
UNFPA	9,300,000	5,030,296	911,303	4,118,993	5,030,296	911,303	4,118,993	-	931,283	1,705,872	2,255,182	4,892,337	
UNICEF	18,513,227	16,798,521	713,367	16,085,155	15,903,455	713,367	15,190,088	895,066	1,850,282	1,855,625	3,325,432	7,031,339	
WHO	7,192,565	5,985,199	5,101,636	883,563	5,967,199	5,101,636	865,563	18,000	2,918,600	1,628,599	1,408,000	5,955,199	
Outcome 3 Total	7,615,000	21,625,873	5,157,410	16,468,464	21,348,204	5,157,410	16,190,794	277,670	4,513,011	4,090,379	4,824,560	13,427,949	
ILO	1,000,000	1,066,641	442,900	623,741	1,066,641	442,900	623,741	-	340,678.00	89,322.00	151,041.00	581,041	
IOM	-	1,762,573	0	1,762,573	1,762,573	0	1,762,573	-	189,579.20	139,965.20	2,100.00	331,644	
UN Habitat	-	148,320	0	148,320	148,320	0	148,320	-	48,320.00	100,000.00	0.00	148,320	
UNDP	750,000	8,650,000	600,000	8,050,000	8,650,000	600,000	8,050,000	-	1,029,522.53	1,693,085.00	2,058,514.52	4,781,122	
UNESCO	365,000	-	0.00	-	0	0.00	-	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	
UNFPA	5,000,000	7,179,504	3,463,588	3,715,916	7,179,504	3,463,588	3,715,916	-	2,562,949.92	1,645,921.84	2,106,614.00	6,315,486	
UNICEF	450,000	2,766,745	622,091	2,144,653	2,512,335	622,091	1,890,244	254,410	333,701.00	418,605.00	468,030.00	1,220,336	
WHO	50,000	52,090	28,830	23,260	28,830	28,830	-	23,260	8,260.00	3,480.00	38,260.00	50,000	

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