

# Mongolia



# **Government focal points**

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Pathfinding since January 2018



# Recent developments: National Action Plans, Laws, and Budget

# 2006

The government of Mongolia organized the first annual International Spankout Day on April 30. It includes activities for raising public awareness in targeted communities as well as nationally broadcasted information and television programming.

2015

The Revised Criminal Code was passed, including a chapter regulating crimes against children. 2016

Rights of Children of 1996 was revised. and the Child **Protection Law was** passed. The laws prohibit violence against children and explicitly confirm children's right to be protected from corporal punishment in all settings. Additionally, they strengthen child protection systems at the national and subnational level.

2017

The National
Programme of Action
on Child Protection
and Development
(2017-2021) was
approved by
Resolution No. 270 of
the Government.

2018

US\$2.4 million was allocated to the implementation of activities in the national programme on child protection. 2019

The budget of activities in the national programme on child protection increased to US\$3.04 million for activities in 2019.



Multi-stakeholder Collaboration and Consultation with Children

- The National Council for Children, led by the Prime Minister, acts as an oversight body for ensuring and protecting the rights of children since 1996. After passing the Law on the Rights of Children, the first meeting was held in May 2018 with 27 participants from different ministries (represented mainly by the state secretaries) and national agencies (represented by the heads of agencies) to discuss actions related to violence against children and children's rights. They are expected to regularly report on progress. An inter-agency child protection and development working group was also set up to coordinate, led by the Deputy Minister for Labour and Social Protection. The role of this multi-sectoral permanent working group is to ensure effective implementation of the national action plan and the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.
- Manuals for capacity-building of Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDT), the lowest administrative unit at the
  urban and rural levels, were updated according to the revised Law on Combatting Domestic Violence and
  will be used at the national level. The manuals consist of chapters for each member of the MDT on
  addressing and responding to violence, including the governor, local parliament representative, social
  worker, school social worker, police officer, family doctor, welfare officer, community/street leader and
  NGO representative.

# **Investments from the End Violence Fund**

• **UNICEF Mongolia** is supporting integrated government services for child victims, improving helpline reporting and referrals, executing a national gender-sensitive education programme and engaging the telecommunications industry to develop solutions.

- In 2017, the Young Voices survey was conducted with high-school students, providing strong evidence for the existence of
  violence against children in schools and at home. Civil society organizations related to children's rights used this
  information to advocate to the Mayor and Council of Ulaanbaatar (representing half of Mongolia's population) for more
  information and better services for children at risk.
- A Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was conducted in 2018, including questions on child discipline. The results will be released in the second quarter of 2019. Several earlier versions of the MICS have also been conducted, with the most recent, MICS5, collecting data from 2013-2014.
- The National Centre for Public Health is currently conducting the Global School-Based Student Health Survey.
- Research has found that while the number of children in residential care has dropped, more and more children are at
  greater risk of being exposed to abuse and exploitation online, and that a large percentage of children in Mongolia are
  affected by income poverty.





- The National Programme of Action on Child Development and Protection (2017-2021) sets the following objectives in order to ensure and protect children's rights: create child-friendly, safe environments; create an environment conducive to development of each child, so that the skills and talents of children can be identified and fostered; promote the practice of listening to and respecting the opinions of children in society and increase child participation in the planning, implementation and evaluation stages of various policies; protect children from all forms of neglect, abuse, violence, and exploitation as well as situations where they might be placed at-risk; and reduce poverty among children by promoting equal-opportunity social welfare measures. In 2019, the government of Mongolia plans to conduct two evaluations that will analyze the implementation of the Law on Child Protection and the Law on Child Rights. These evaluations will also examine the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the interventions planned within the National Programme of Action. Findings and recommendations will be available by the end of 2019 to help inform policies and practices and to further strengthen the protective environment for children.
- A group of Mongolian NGOs, including the National Network for Child Protection and the National Network to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor, challenged the government's decision to lift the ban on child jockeys racing in high risk winter conditions. Over the year, the group's legal actions, lobbying and media campaigns brought about widespread public support for the ban which resulted in the government reinstating it and pledging to put children's safety before commercial exploitation.



# Opportunities for 2019 where End Violence will engage

# Build political will/ global movement

- 1. Assist with, track progress, and follow documentation as Mongolia presents its progress in monitoring the SDG goal 16.2 at the High-Level Political Forum in July 2019.
- 2. Assist the government with planning and conducting evaluations that will be undertaken in 2019 on the implementation of the Law on Child Protection and the implementation of the Law on Child Rights.

#### Resource mobilization

 Encourage the continued growth of the budget dedicated to ending violence against children throughout the course of the programme of action.

#### Equip practitioners

- Support the launch of a baseline study of online child sexual exploitation and abuse, expected in March 2019.
- 5. Train frontline healthcare providers in the identification of and response to children who have suffered physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect.
- **6.** Ensure linkages between online and offline violence prevention programs.
- 7. Organize a policy dialogue with Ministry of Education on Handbook to prevent schoolbased violence (UNICEF/UNESCO/WHO).