

Joint SDG Fund
Joint Programme Final Narrative Report
PORTOFLIO ON INTEGRATED POLICY AND LNOB

Cover page

Date of Report: 25 / August / 2022

Programme title, Number and Country

Country: Mongolia
Joint Programme (JP) title: Extending Social Protection to Herders with Enhanced Shock Responsiveness
MPTF Office Project Reference Number¹: 00118552, PSP 2019 Mongolia

Programme Duration

Start date² (day/month/year): **1 Feb 2020**
Original End date³ (day/month/year): **30 Jan 2022**
Actual End date⁴ (day/month/year): **30 June 2022**
Have agencies operationally closed the Programme in its system?: Yes
Expected financial closure date⁵: **30 Sep 2022**

Participating Organizations / Partners

RC (name and email): **Tapan Mishra, tapan.mishra@un.org**
Government Focal Point (ministry/agency, focal point name and email): **Ariunzaya Ayush, Minister, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the Government of Mongolia, ariunzaya@mlsp.gov.mn**
RCO Focal Point (focal point name and email): **Doljinsuren Jambal, UNRCO Team Leader, doljinsuren.jambal@un.org**
Lead PUNO Focal Point (focal point name and email): **Bolormaa Purevsuren, ILO National Coordinator, bpurevsuren@ilo.org**
Other PUNO Focal Points (focal point names and emails): **Shinetugs Bayanbileg, bayanbileg@unfpa.org, UNFPA; Khurelmaa Dashdorj, kdashdorj@unicef.org, UNICEF; Jigjidpurev Sukhbaatar, jigjidpurev.sukhbaatar@fao.org, FAO.**

¹ The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as "Project ID" on the project's factsheet page on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).

² The start date is the date inserted in the original ProDoc submitted and approved by the Joint SDG Fund.

³ As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

⁴ If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see [MPTF Office Closure Guidelines](#).

⁵ Financial Closure requires the return of unspent balances and submission of the [Certified Final Financial Statement and Report](#).

Programme Budget (US\$)

Total Budget (as per Programme Document, without co-funding):

Agency/Other Contributions/Co-funding (if applicable):

Joint SDG Fund Contribution⁶ and co-funding breakdown, by recipient organization:

Agency/others	Joint SDG Fund contribution	Co-funding	Total
PUNO1 ILO	900,307	150,000	1,050,307
PUNO2 UNICEF	479,360	110,000	589,360
PUNO3 UNFPA	395,333	100,000	495,333
PUNO4 FAO	215,000	15,000	230,000
Total	1,990,000	375,000	2,365,000

⁶ Joint SDG Fund Contribution is the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations – see [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).

Table of Contents

Executive summary	5
Result 1	5
Result 2	5
Result 3	6
I. Overall progress and priority, cross-cutting issues.....	7
I.1 Context and the overall approach	7
Ensuring an adaptive and strategic JP	7
Link with UNDAF/ UNSD Cooperation Framework.....	7
COVID-19 impact	7
I.2 Update on priority cross-cutting issues.....	8
UN Development System reform - UN coherence at the country level.....	8
Going beyond “business as usual” to produce catalytic results at scale	8
SDG acceleration.....	9
Policy integration and systems change	9
Contribution to improvement of the situation of vulnerable groups.....	9
Mainstreaming Gender equality and women empowerment	10
Human rights.....	11
Partnerships	11
Mobilizing additional funding and/or financing	11
Strategic meetings	12
Innovation, learning and sharing	12
II. Final Results	13
Overall progress.....	13
Contribution to Fund’s global results	13
JP Outputs and Outcomes.....	14
Output 1.1 Innovative solutions responding to situations and social insurance needs of herders applied to administration of social insurance schemes, both men and women	14
Output 1.2 Improved income generating and entrepreneurship promotion activities/programmes accessible to herding men and women	15
Output 2.1 Shock responsive social protection measures focusing on children in herder families piloted and documented	15
Output 2.2 The resilience of livestock-based livelihoods to climate-related risks and shocks enhanced at national, local and herder community level	16
Output 3.1 Multi-stakeholder national level dialogue on social protection conference will be hosted by UNRC	17
Monitoring and data collection.....	18
III. JP finalization and evaluation	18
Final JP evaluation and lessons learned	18
After the JP: follow-up and possibilities for sustainability of the impact and further scaling.....	21
Annex 1: Consolidated Final Results	22
1. JP contribution to global Fund’s programmatic results.....	22
2. Results as per JP Programmatic Results Framework	23
Annex 2: Strategic documents.....	25

2.1. Contribution to social protection strategies, policies and legal frameworks	25
2.2. Focus on vulnerable populations	27
Annex 3: Results questionnaire.....	27
Annex 4: Final report on JP evaluation.....	28

Executive summary

The UN in Mongolia, in close cooperation with the government and national counterparts, has implemented the Joint Programme on Extending Social Protection to Herders with Enhanced Shock Responsiveness (UNJP) for a period of twenty-eight months attaining significant achievements. The innovative approaches resulted in increase of herders' social and health insurance contribution and coverage, developed income generating startup business models for young herders and established national herder training programmes to increase awareness raising on benefits of social insurance and improving their livelihood skills.

The UNJP contributed to mainstreaming shock-responsiveness into the national social protection system, generating lessons and evidence of shock-responsive social protection measures for herders' children through piloting child money top-ups to families residing in geographical areas that are prone to natural disaster such as *dzud*⁷ and collecting data and information on use of child money after the Government has increased in five-folds of in relation to COVID19 pandemics. The UNJP supported the Government to monitor its own responses to COVID-19, in particular the shock-responsive social protection measures for children.

The UNJP highlighted the socio-economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, has supported the government, workers and employers and other parties to have better policy discussion and advocacy work on social protection. The studies initiated by the UNJP, such as, Herders' Behaviour towards Social and Health Insurance, Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy, and Herder Households' Resilience Analysis assisted social dialogues for social protection policy change in Mongolia.

Result 1: More nomadic herding men, women and children (about 350,000 individuals), will be covered by health and social insurance as result of developing innovative solutions responding to life contingencies and social insurance needs of herders applied to the administration of social insurance schemes. Improved income generating and entrepreneurship promotion activities/programmes are available and accessible to herding men and women. By 2022, it aims extend coverage of social insurance from 10% to 20% percent and health insurance from 40% to 50%.

The PUNOs tested new innovative approaches to extend social protection among herder men and women introducing peer-to-peer awareness raising learning modality, where herders, members of cooperatives, pastureland user groups (PUGs), lifelong education center trainers and trade union representatives worked together to advocate for the benefits of social and health insurance programmes among their peer herders⁸. This led to the incorporation of Herders' Programme in the national training curriculum of [the National Center for Lifelong Education of Mongolia](#) (NCLE). The UNJP has identified and piloted twelve incentive mechanisms to increase social and health insurance coverage, with involvement of cooperatives and PUGs.⁹ Significant progress was achieved in promoting freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining among assistant herders through the efforts of the local unions of [Confederation of Mongolian Trade Union](#) (CMTU), which was elevated to a nation-wide campaign¹⁰. At the same time, the UNJP worked with the [Mongolian Employers Federation](#) (MONEF) to carry out capacity building programmes for employer-herders, and to provide support to the strengthening of herders' association¹¹. Altogether, the two-years' activities have contributed directly and indirectly to increase in social and health insurance coverage of herders by 10% in the 5 target soums in Zavkhan province.

The UNJP launched activities aimed at improving the livelihood of herders through strengthening herder communities, cooperatives, introducing new knowledge on social entrepreneurship, business skills, technology, and equipment. Within this framework, the UNJP has supported 14 startup businesses to improve livelihood of herders: the business incubation support includes financing and marketing training to sustain the entrepreneurs. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MLSP) considered that this method can ensure sustainability of small enterprises in the country. The UNJP has also supported the development of training modules on life skills for herders. Herders participated in life training on communication skills, avoiding substance abuse and managing stress, increasing awareness of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights (SRHR), and prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) through NCLE. Estimated rate of completion as of 30 June 2022: 100%

Result 2: Institutional capacity to identify vulnerability signals was improved and shock-responsiveness (that operates at the intersection between poverty and double impact of climate change and overgrazing) was strengthened and mainstreamed

⁷ *Dzud-a Mongolian term for a harsh winter and related shock causes large damage to livelihood of herding population and livestock*

⁸ [Mongolia's Herder Programme | Joint SDG Fund](#)

⁹ [Cooperatives Use Incentive Mechanisms to Extend Social Protection to Herders](#) and A report submitted by National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Cooperatives, December 2020

¹⁰ [UN Joint Programme: Training on Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining and Benefits of Social Insurance was held in Dornogobi aimaq \(ilo.org\)](#)

¹¹ <https://www.greenmongolia.mn/>

into the national social protection system as a result of streamlining shock responsive social protection measures into national social protection system. Resilience of livestock-based livelihoods to climate-related risks and shocks was enhanced at the national and local levels and within the herder community.

The UNJP has promoted and piloted a Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP) programme for rural children who were at risk of dzud, a climate related weather shock, by vertically expanding the Child Money Programme (CMP). It demonstrated the benefits of mainstreaming SRSP into the national social protection system. The pilot generated lessons on if, when and how to scale in scaling up the support programmes, in this case focusing on children and households to avoid negative coping strategies, such as reduced food consumption, reduced expenditure for health and education during shocks¹².

The UNJP accelerated partnerships and collaboration with the development partners and other stakeholders in support to the Government in mainstreaming the shock-responsiveness into its existing social protection system. The study of Government's SRSP response to COVID-19 has been completed jointly with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) resulting in solid evidence, validating the anticipated impact of the vertically expanded cash transfer on poverty and inequality reduction, and informing the Government's decision. Based on the findings of this research, the UN Resident Coordinator and his office led advocacy for continuation of child money top-up as one of the Government's flagship programme to protect children in the times of shock. A number of advocacy materials and products were developed and broadcasted through social media platforms to advocate and raise awareness of the value of the universal child benefit, its return on the local economy and human and social development of the country.

As part of the initiatives to increase the resilience of livestock-based livelihoods, the UNJP has contributed to capacity building of the Government, at all levels. It has generated evidence on the resilience capacity of Mongolian herder households, enhanced capacities for disaster risk reduction and management (DRR/M), including cross-sectoral coordination, risk governance, contingency planning, preparedness and response to safeguard livestock-based livelihoods, as well as the adoption of climate-smart livestock practices. In addition, a feasibility assessment carried out by stakeholders to identify entry points for channeling anticipatory action to safeguard the livelihoods of vulnerable herder households from the covariate shock - *dzud* preceded by drought that affects the livelihoods of one-third of the population. The assessment, pilot results and recommendations were presented to MLSP for adopting into national social protection system. Estimated rate of completion as of 30 June 2022: 100%

Result 3: Social protection financing strategy for sustainable and adequate benefits for herding men, women, boys and girls, those in other age groups, guided by evidence, stakeholders' dialogue and consensus, formulated through technical studies and social dialogues.

The UNJP developed two studies on social protection and policy change: "Study on Herders' Behavior towards Social and Health Insurance"¹³ and "Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy (SPDR & FS)"¹⁴. The findings and recommendations of the studies assisted social dialogue by providing evidence and platform for engagement by constituents. This provided support the Government to improve effectiveness (coverage and adequacy), efficiency and sustainability of the social protection system, including options to extend coverage to the most vulnerable (including herders and those affected by climate change) and provided support to the government in developing a social protection financing strategy.

The UNJP and research team organized social dialogue on the findings and recommendation from Herders' study and SPDR & FS and proposed to the Government a comprehensive policy note to contribute to the ongoing discussion on the revision of *Social Insurance Package Law* indicating importance of a shift from voluntary to compulsory insurance and inclusion of specific tailored features for herders, such as the subsidization of the contributions and the differentiation of contributory categories.

Estimated rate of completion as of 30 June 2022: 100%

¹² [UNICEF Mongolia is working on strengthening the shock responsive social protection upon a successful pilot project in Zavkhan province | Joint SDG Fund](#)

¹³ [A Study on Herders' Behavior towards Social and Health Insurance, UN Joint Programme: Does herders' behaviour affect their active enrollment in social and health insurance programme? ; UN Joint Programme: Малчдын нийгмийн даатгал, эрүүл мэндийн даатгалын талаарх зан үйлийн судалгаа](#)

¹⁴ [UN Joint Programme in Mongolia: Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy Study for Mongolia](#)

I. Overall progress and priority, cross-cutting issues

I.1 Context and the overall approach

Ensuring an adaptive and strategic JP

- Vision-2050 of Mongolia as long-term policy, approved in May 2020, stipulates 'to increase coverage of social insurance' up to 90 percent by 2025 and 99 percent by 2030. This indicates that the UNJP is strategic and catalytic in the context of Mongolia. Moreover, the Child Money Programme (CMP) vertical expansion pilot has been expanded nationwide by the Government, as a response to the COVID19 pandemic.
- In line with its Action Plan for 2020-2024, the Government has decided to start implementing the programme called "Children with Savings" starting from 2022, by changing the design of the Child Money Programme (CMP) significantly. With this change, the CMP will be funded from the "Future Heritage Fund" managed by the Ministry of Finance (MOF) and some of the benefits will be provided as "virtual savings" rather than as a monthly cash transfer. SRSP scale-ups are generally intended as temporary measures to help in the times of shock and a crisis; scale-downs are a normal part of this process.
- The UNJP is part of UN Mongolia Socio-Economic Response Plan (SERP), Pillar 2. Protecting people. One of the gaps highlighted in the SERP report is that the Government has poor monitoring and evaluation capacity to assess and evaluate its social protection response to the pandemic; lack of accurate targeting and mechanism on delivering social welfare benefits to the most vulnerable during shocks and crises; and the existing Management Information System (MIS) does not allow accurate identification of eligible households/individuals for rapid payment, leaving no one behind. The UNJP continued to promote policy and legal changes to institutionalize SRSP measures for children, including Management Information System improvement, as well as technical support in capacity strengthening for M&E Framework for regular and SRSP social welfare programmes.
- The Parliament is under discussion of the revision of Social Insurance Package Law, where the UNJP supported the organization of public discussions and dialogues among social partners.

Link with UNDAF/ UNSD Cooperation Framework

- The UNJP contributes to UNDAF Mongolia Outcome 2 "By 2021 the poor and marginalized population benefit from better social protection including increased utilization of quality and equitable basic social services", with particular focus on Output 2.4. An efficient and effective social protection system and floor for all and substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable. The UNJP results are reported against UNDAF Indicator 2.4.1 Percentage of economically active population contributing to the social insurance system.
- UNDAF 2017-2021 for Mongolia report emphasized the UNJP's pilot programme as it contributed to increasing child cash transfer to support their nutrition and build shock resilience. The UN supported establishment of child protection cluster during disaster and emergency situations headed by the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to coordinate child protection measures across the country during the pandemic¹⁵.
- The UNJP supported herder cooperatives as they are effective reaching out institution to herders to inform and educate them sustainably nationwide on benefits of social protection and providing young herder households livelihood skills to increase their income generation and being prepared for shocks. The advanced skills and capacity for livestock production has led herders to mobilize the additional income and resource for establishing and maintaining the shock responsive Community Contingency fund¹⁶.

COVID-19 impact

- The COVID-19 pandemic has shown importance of social protection system. The UNJP was designed to increase social protection coverage of herders and strengthen shock responsiveness, thus, as a whole, considered as a response to pandemics. Thus, the UNJP demonstrated the importance of policy interventions on shock-responsive social protection through its pilot CMP during both climate and non-climate related shocks.
- The UNJP has piloted the CMP top-up in February, March and April 2020; in April 2020 the Government has made a decision to increase child money benefit up to MNT 100,000, five times more than the original amount, in response to the global pandemic using the SRSP pilot model. This has significantly accelerated the pace of SRSP rollout in Mongolia in response to the economic shock resulting from COVID-19.
- The UNJP's technical support in generation of solid evidence and high-level policy advocacy has resulted in continued vertical expansion of Government's flagship social protection programme for children throughout 2021, helping the families in overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic challenges related to income and livelihood loss. The impact of

¹⁵ Government of Mongolia and United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2017-2022), p. 24, <https://mongolia.un.org/en/12511-united-nations-development-assistance-framework-2017-2021>

¹⁶ <https://montsame.mn/en/read/216525>

UNICEF supported vertical expansion of the CMP has been validated through various studies and studies of development partners. According to analysis conducted by development partners, including ESCAP, ADB and World Bank¹⁷, this measure is having the most positive impact on poverty and inequality reduction. For instance, the ESCAP micro-simulation of the CMP shows that a universal monthly benefit of MNT 100,000 per child and month has a significant impact on poverty rates. For households with children aged 0-17, the poverty rate is more than halved, leaving around 14 per cent of households in poverty, reducing from 33 per cent, in the case of no benefit at all.

- During the pandemic in 2021, the UNJP increased the awareness raising activities on benefits of social insurance among herders in target provinces and achieved up to 40% coverage increase. Based on the findings from the pilot intervention, the result and best practice is upscaled at nation-wide institutionalizing a sustainable and accessible awareness raising system to herders collaborating with six government and social partners of NCLE, local social insurance units, trade union, employer association, pasture user groups and cooperatives. Furthermore, local representatives of six partner organizations were trained as local trainers to deliver the knowledge on benefits of social insurance to herders as a team ensuring sustainability of the achievement. Thanks to the UNJP intervention and the Government's social insurance support measurements, herders' social insurance coverage is increased by 5% in 2020-21¹⁸.

I.2 Update on priority cross-cutting issues

UN Development System reform - UN coherence at the country level

- Since roll-out of the UN reform in Mongolia, the United Nations has been implementing the joint programmes funded by the Joint SDG Fund. Being the first joint programme launched in February 2020, it was implemented by four UN agencies, including ILO as a lead and UNICEF, FAO, UNFPA, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection as a key national implementing partner.
- Despite some challenges faced in needs for changing our mindsets such as the way of working and understanding of each other, the joint program played a pivotal role for changing our intension and improving approaches for working together and reinforcing our efforts and communications for strategic and transformative changes in the areas of social protection. It helped implementing agencies to comprehend a value of further improvements in coherence, integration of efforts by UN agencies and importance of bringing together different technical expertise across the UN system.
- With the new financing vehicle, the Joint SDG Fund, the Office of the Resident Coordinator played a more stronger coordination role, as well as participated substantively in the programme implementation to ensure that the UN would collectively contribute towards achievement of the national sustainable development goals and targets. The UNRC and the Minister for Labour and Social Protection co-chaired the Joint Programme Steering Committee to review the progress and discuss the programmes plans. The Steering Committee members also included other key stakeholders such as employers' and workers' organizations.
- The Joint SDG Fund was particularly crucial for the UN work during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was the first major test for the RC system and UNCT. Through the implementation of the project, the UN could demonstrate its considerable value and potential in facilitating a rapid, coherent, and effective response to the immediate health, humanitarian, and socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Collaboration through joint programmes enhanced efficiency through exchange of information and reduction in operational costs, for example through joint field trips. Most importantly, the UN joint programmes enabled higher levels of government engagement through the Joint Programme Steering Committee and improved coordination among other stakeholders through the Joint Programme technical working groups.

Going beyond "business as usual" to produce catalytic results at scale

- The UN pilot child money top-up initiative within the shock-responsive social protection joint programme led to significant nation-wide increase by the Government of Mongolia of universal child allowances. As studies of different organizations show, Child Money Programme was essential in protecting the most vulnerable households and ensuring food security during the COVID-19 crisis¹⁹.

¹⁷ Study of Child Money Programme and Food Stamp Programme top-ups implemented in response to COVID-19, <https://www.unicef.org/mongolia/mn/child-focused-shock-response?fbclid=IwAR3Yk8BSRpNm9TIUyip29z-TDdX3WsLfoXO7IfU55NUnEmFtIq2livipoE>

¹⁸ *Herders Received a Handbook with Comprehensive Information about Social Protection (ilo.org)*

¹⁹ Study of Child Money Programme and Food Stamp Programme top-ups implemented in response to COVID-19, <https://www.unicef.org/mongolia/mn/child-focused-shock-response?fbclid=IwAR3Yk8BSRpNm9TIUyip29z-TDdX3WsLfoXO7IfU55NUnEmFtIq2livipoE>

- Extending local community advocates by peer herders, members of cooperatives, PUGs, lifelong education center staff and trade union representatives for promoting the benefits of social and health insurance programmes, was hands-on, timely and comprehensive solution during the COVID-19 shocks that prevented herders drop social insurance contributions²⁰.

SDG acceleration

The UNJP results primarily contribute to achievement of SDG 1.3, 1.5 and 13.1 which will have further impacts on other SDG Targets such as 1.5, 4.4, 5.c, 8.3, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3 and 17.17.

- Contribution to SDG target 1.3: the UNJP has prepared for policy interventions in its end year, as a result, the nationally appropriate social protection system will have more coverage including herder men and women. The coverage in pilot soums increased by 10% and national average increased by 5%²¹. The UNJP also supported to strengthen SRSP system through the pilot child money programme using current implementation system of universal CMP. Based on the evidences and lessons generated through the pilot programme, the UNJP advocated for continuation of universal CMP with top up in the time of pandemic. As a result, the Government has made budget allocation of MNT 576 billion required to maintain the current top-up of the child benefit in the first half of 2021 to help households with children to avoid negative consequences caused by the pandemic.
- Contribution to SDG target 1.5: the UNJP's SRSP pilot programme for children and the related technical support to the Government have demonstrated the feasibility of the system to respond to shocks. It also generated some lessons and evidence for taking next steps in strengthening the shock-responsiveness of the social protection system, which is essential in building resilience of the poor in reducing their vulnerabilities to shocks. Moreover, the pilot entrepreneurship projects supported young herders to start their own business to subsidize their already vulnerable livelihood caused by extreme climate conditions. The target aims at building resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reducing their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters
- Contribution to SDG target 8.3: The pilot entrepreneurship projects, as acknowledged by the herders, increased economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrade and innovation with a focus on value-added products²². These initiatives supported herders in 5 soums in Zavkhan by providing them with seed equipment, marketing items, and training to help them start their own businesses to better support their livelihoods. They also aimed at building the resilience of herders and reducing the vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social, health and environmental shocks.
- Contribution to SDGs target 1.5, 13.1 and 13.3: Local capacity to implement disaster risk reduction was strengthened. 24 soums of Zavkhan province adopted local DRR strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies. Overall, 730 counterparts attended in training and consultations on cross-sectoral coordination, risk governance, contingency planning, climate change adaptation, shock responsiveness and ecosystem management and restoration plan.

Policy integration and systems change

- The Joint SDG Fund programme helped the UNCT setting the bar and provided a blueprint for how we could leverage the diversity and immense capacities of the UN development system and better engage with the national partners and a wider set of development partners to accelerate SDG implementation during the Decade of Action. The United Nations and the Government of Mongolia finalized its first Cooperation Framework for the period of 2023-2027 and co-signed it on 20 May 2022.
- At the operational level, the UNJP facilitated the partnership of government and non-government organizations for achieving a shared objective. For example, the MLSP and the General Agency for Social Insurance (GASInsurance) have started coordinating their work with the National Association of Mongolia Agricultural Cooperatives (NAMAC) to promote social insurance.

Contribution to improvement of the situation of vulnerable groups

²⁰ General Agency for Social Insurance of Mongolia, semi-annual data on voluntary social insurance coverage, 2021, <https://www.ndaatgal.mn/v1/lst>

²¹ General Agency for Social Insurance of Mongolia, semi-annual data on voluntary social insurance coverage, 2021, <https://www.ndaatgal.mn/v1/lst>

²² Presented at the Herders' Forum, Uliastai, Zavkhan, April 2022.

- Supported by the UNJP's policy advocacy based on the solid evidence generated under the UNJP, the Government of Mongolia continued the vertical expansion of the CMP throughout the reporting years in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has reached over 1.2 million children every month spending 3.5 per cent of GDP in 2021. Both the evidence through surveys and simulation analysis, as well as the field visits and human faced stories demonstrate how children families, especially the vulnerable households with many children benefit from the shock-responsive top-up of the CMP in meeting their basic food needs and overcoming the impact of the livelihood loss caused by the pandemic.
 - Total number 1,218,445 children received the CMP top-up in November 2021, percentage of women and girls: 49%
- Social and health insurance coverage of herders, who are defined in the Common Country Analysis (CCA) as one of the vulnerable, and left-behind group, has increased by 10% in target 5 soums, Zavkhan and by 2% in western 5 provinces (total 5,600 herders newly contributed) in 2020-2021²³. At national level, 1,860 herders, lifelong training centre teachers, social insurance and trade union volunteers were trained as local trainers for herders' training programme and became local advocates to promote social insurance benefits. They reached out 12,000 herders in 84 soums of western five provinces distributing 16,000 brochures to 6,400 households.
 - Out of 1,860 local trainers of six government and social partners, 74% are women.
 - A total of 5,600 herders in Western five provinces began contributing to social insurance schemes.
 - Women herders: 47%²⁴.
- The UNJP interventions focused on young herder households who were at risk of climate driven shocks, namely dzud. Fourteen startup initiatives at soums were selected for the investment, which included a proposal of a herder family with children with disability, and a proposal developed by older herders.
 - Total number 1,150, consisting of herders who received life skills education and benefitted from startups.
 - Percentage of women and girls: 54%
- The UNJP provided direct support to improve livelihoods of 15 vulnerable herder households (9 young and 6 female-headed). Each of the households received 4 pedigree sires (2 heads of yearling ram and 2 heads of yearling buck) of locally adapted breeds of sheep and goats to improve the productivity of their herds of small ruminants in 2020 and provided trainings on production of green fodder in 2021 giving each household 100 kg seeds. As a result, in fall of 2021, each household harvested an average of 1 ton of forage (hay), which was an important means to mitigate risk of losing livelihood due to climate induced disaster. At the end of the project, in April 2022, during the cashmere combing season, 15 direct beneficiaries found that 60 breeding sires survived with 1,170 2021 offspring and 1,200 newborns in spring 2022. The yield of cashmere of yearling goats was 30-50 grams more compared to local peers, live weight hogs were heavier than local peers with an expected sales to market in the coming fall. The beneficiaries were grateful to the UNJP for allowing them to replace their small herd with good offspring, which contributed to a significant increase in family income.
- Estimated number of individuals that were reached through JP efforts:
 - Total number 1,218,000 children and 20,525 local citizen
 - Percentage of women and girls: 48% women and 50% girls.

Mainstreaming Gender equality and women empowerment

- The project interventions targeted to extend social and health insurance coverage of both men and women. The UNJP has supported introduction of a herder programme for the National Lifelong Education Centre, as part of its official curriculum. The training programme has 9 modules, where one of the modules is specifically on the prevention of Gender-based Violence (GBV) and it has a great potential to further spreading the understanding of the causes and the ways of prevention of GBV. The life skills training of GBV contributed to the understanding of gender equality and challenges the patriarchal gender norms that were widespread among herders.
- The lack of market-oriented genetic improvement incentives has led to a decrease of livestock productivity and a deterioration in the quality of products and raw materials. The UNJP supported the female-headed herder households with pedigree young rams and bucks to improve their herd quality and productivity.
- Local NCLE trainers became one of team members of six partners in 330 soums and 78 percent of them are women at nation-wide. The team is established by six government and social partners of trade union, social insurance office, lifelong education centres, pasture user groups and cooperatives in province and soums. The Herder programme has 22 modules on three areas of extension: herders' social protection, improving livelihood skills and herders' capacity building on employment relations.

²³ General Agency for Social Insurance of Mongolia, semi-annual data on voluntary social insurance coverage, 2021, [https://www.ndaatgal.mn/v1/1st;_Social_Insurance_Officers_Discuss_Their_Effort_to_Extend_Social_Protection_to_Herders_\(ilo.org\)](https://www.ndaatgal.mn/v1/1st;_Social_Insurance_Officers_Discuss_Their_Effort_to_Extend_Social_Protection_to_Herders_(ilo.org))

²⁴ Ibid.

- Estimated % of overall disbursed funds spent on Gender equality and Women empowerment by the end of 2021:6%

Human rights

- The human rights issues have been mainstreamed throughout the UNJP SP-Herders implementation as the Social protection itself is one of the fundamental human rights. This is the core concept of this UNJP, which focused on having the left-behind groups, such as herding men and women, and children, to pace up with the development and are protected from and become resilient to climate and non-climate shocks through an income guarantee provided by the social protection system and improved income generation.
- The UNJP collaborated with Confederation of Mongolian Trade Union (CMTU) and promoted freedom of association, the rights to collective bargaining and new Labour Law provisions among herders and assistant herders in Zavkhan and Dornogobi as pilot and scaled up at nation-wide through local unions and regional consultations. Over 400 herders (48% of them women herders) received information and training on freedom of association, rights to collective bargaining and benefits of social insurance. Herders and assistant herders appreciated the learning on new labour provisions, freedom of association and rights to collective bargaining as they are fundamental human rights²⁵.
- Human rights and climate change are inextricably linked. The effects of global warming - natural disasters, shocks, the spread of infectious diseases, COVID-19, climate change, drought and dzud - are affecting many rights to basic necessities of life including rights to food, an adequate standard of living, natural resources, mobility, health, employment and livelihoods. The adoption of RIMA tool brought herder household's resilience capacity factor to national shock and disaster assessment and management system.

Partnerships

- The UNJP's overall programme and activity design was geared towards demonstrating how partnership could work and how we could make changes together through innovative solutions collaborating with not only UN sister agencies, but also with the government, social partners, CSOs, private sector, as well as traditional and non-traditional partners.
- Each PUNO brought its unique expertise to build a partnership to multiply the impact of, otherwise, an individual intervention. The UNJP was searching for a right mix of experience and expertise in improving social protection of left-behind population. ILO, UNFPA and FAO had made a blended technical solution on conducting livelihood training for herders. ILO focused on extension of herders' social protection and enhancing cooperatives' capacity building. UNFPA conducted entrepreneurship skills for young herders while FAO took actions on providing livestock production solutions to herder communities.
- The COVID-19 pandemic was a major test for the implementation of UNJP, and a rapid response with integrated technical expertise across the PUNOs was required. The UNJP pilot child money top-up initiative within the shock-responsive social protection joint programme led to significant nation-wide increase by the Government of Mongolia of universal child allowances. As studies indicate, Child Money Programme was essential in protecting the most vulnerable households and ensuring food security during the COVID-19 crisis.
- The UNJP has also established a new partnership among non-traditional partners, such as national lifelong education centers, cooperatives, and pastureland user groups. The six government and social partners established nationwide partnership to conduct Herder programme of 22 modules²⁶ and each soum has gotten a team 5-6 local trainers. Also, it enabled cooperation among further partners. For instance, MLSP collaborated with the National Center for Lifelong Education to develop social protection content for the Herder programme. The Mongolian Employers' Federation established innovative partnership with the Federation of Pasture User groups to reach out employer herders through the network of herders' organizations in soums²⁷. The startups were supported by a national non-governmental organization (NGO) - Development Solutions, which has procured the needed equipment and provided training on marketing and financial management.
- In promoting the strengthened shock- responsive social protection system in the country under the UNJP, UNICEF Mongolia prioritized the partnership with key players in the area, including ADB and World Bank, by bringing them at a joint workshop which discussed building the SRSP system. In addition, UNICEF partnered with ADB in evidence generation and with other UN agencies, FAO, UNFPA and ILO under the JP, which enabled broader analysis, exchange of knowledge and expertise, and the most importantly a better reach to decision makers.

Mobilizing additional funding and/or financing

²⁵ [Trade Union Delegates Prepared as Advocates for Social Protection](#)

²⁶ [Mongolia's Herder Programme | Joint SDG Fund](#)

²⁷ [Validation Workshop of the Herder Programme Held in Khentii province](#)

- Evidences and lessons from the pilot of the shock responsive cash transfers through the child money programme that was conducted in 2020 served as a basis for the Government to provide additional cash to families with children in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, around MNT 850 billion (\approx USD 300 million) was leveraged for children in 2020, reaching more than two-third of all the households.
- UN Mongolia SERP has identified priority areas and gaps in response to pandemic, where social protection is also highlighted. The PUNOs worked to mobilize funds to leverage current activities as opportunities available. The UNJP presentation and information sharing with development partners facilitated further discussion for coordination and collaboration.
- The implementation of the UNJP has coincided with years of multiple challenges caused by the combined risks of Covid-19 and dzud that threaten the livelihoods of herder households. When the warning signs of an upcoming dzud and the devastating impact it would have on the poorest herding households were clear, FAO immediately triggered the mobilization of fund from its Early Action Fund. In January 2020, USD 126,000 was released for interventions to safeguard livelihoods by protecting livestock assets of 450 vulnerable herder households in 4 provinces, and in December 2020, USD 300,000 to protect the livelihoods of 1000 vulnerable herder households in dzud-affected 53 soums of 6 provinces.²⁸ To reduce the impact of the emergency that threatened the livelihoods of one third of the population, HCT provided proper coordination among the humanitarian clusters, resulting in the Mongolian government mobilizing MNT 53.7 billion (about USD 19 million) from international humanitarian funds and organizations.

Strategic meetings

Type of event	Yes	No	Description/Comments
Annual JP development partners'/donors' event*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The UNJP was presented at the Development Partners' Meeting organized on 26 November 2020. 2. The UNJP organized Development Partners meeting on 30 June 2022 and presented its achievements. During the meeting, discussion was made on findings and recommendations of Herders' study and SPDR & FS among development partners.
Other strategic events	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In June 2021, the UNJP, jointly with the Government and development partners, organized a workshop to enable the discussion around the evidence and lessons generated in the past 2 years to inform the government and development partners on the joint country roadmap to mainstream shock-responsiveness into the national social protection system. 2. Launch of Herders' study, held on 2 June 2022, to which development partners were invited for participation.

Innovation, learning and sharing

- The UNJP applied a range of activities to capture the learning points. The UNJP was presented at the Development Partners' Meeting organized on 26 November 2020. In June 2021, the UNJP, jointly with the Government and development partners, organized a workshop to enable the discussion around the evidence and lessons generated in the past 2 years to inform the Government and development partners on the joint country roadmap to mainstream shock-responsiveness into the national social protection system. The UNJP's Steering committee convened annually (2 times) and technical committee meetings held quarterly (10 times) in 2020-2022 having detailed discussion on the workplan, joint actions, and policy interventions sharing pilot findings and results with partners and constituents.
- Furthermore, the UNJP enabled local herders to be prepared as trainers for advocating benefits of social and health insurance. A total of 124 local herders, cooperative leaders and Trade Union volunteers learned on social protection content, and local team of trainers reached over 12,000 herders. With the support of the UNJP's activities, herders attended to a discussion on a draft revision of Cooperative Law of Mongolia bringing their voice to improve cooperative governance and financial capacities²⁹.
- Using the innovative data visualization platform called "tableau", the UNJP has made available the findings of the monitoring survey results of the Government's SRSP response to the pandemic in an interactive and user friendly way and linked it to the UNICEF webpage. Available at: <https://www.unicef.org/mongolia/mn/child-focused-shock-response?fbclid=IwAR3Yk8BSrpNm9TIUyip29z-TDdX3WsLfoXO7IfIU55NUnEmFtIq2livipoE>

²⁸ <https://www.fao.org/3/ca9392en/CA9392EN.pdf>

²⁹ [Herder's peer-to-peer approach to extend social protection to herders | Joint SDG Fund](#)

II. Final Results

Overall progress

The UNJP achieved its targets successfully in 2020-2022 with 100% expenditure of funding. The UNJP, directly and indirectly contributed to herders' health and social insurance coverage increase of 10% in target provinces, developed innovative solutions, piloted shock responsive social protection measures focusing on children in herder families with improved resilience capacity and entrepreneurial skills to diversify their income. The COVID-19 pandemic has made the Government and public understand better the importance of social protection programme. A number of long-term partnership and strategies were established with the Government and social partners to ensure the ownership of the UNJP results.

- All expected results achieved
- Majority of expected results achieved
- Only some expected results achieved

Contribution to Fund's global results

Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1 (as per targets set by the JP)

Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale

Indicator 1.1: Number of shock-responsive social protection schemes for herders' children and assets for future improvements and replications; Target for 2021: 1 scheme piloted, demonstrated and achieved.

- ⇒ Shock responsive social protection programme to top up CMP to prevent and mitigate negative impacts of dzud was piloted and has made direct and indirect influence on the Government in making decision to top-up CMP at national level during COVID-19 pandemic. The simulation exercise done by ADB indicates that without Government measures the poverty can reach 36.7 per cent; with the CMP top-up only, it would keep it at 24.7 per cent, while reduction can be to 17.6 per cent, if implemented fully with all measures. It should be noted that the actual poverty rate was kept at 27.8 per cent (almost the same as pre-pandemic figure of 28.4 per cent).

Indicator 1.2: Accessibility of social insurance schemes and benefits for herders-social insurance coverage will be increased from 15 to 20 and health insurance from 40 to 50 percent. Target for 2021: 1 scheme: piloted and achieved³⁰.

- ⇒ Social protection interventions such as increasing herders' social insurance coverage through establishing Herder programme at National Lifelong Education Centre and capacity building for herder cooperatives are achieved and results are institutionalized.

Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Output 3 (as per targets set by the JP)

Joint SDG Fund Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

Indicator 3.1: Number of innovative solutions that were tested. Target for 2021- 2: tested and achieved –

- ⇒ Innovative solutions have been piloted, and results are achieved. Namely, (i) development of an official Herder training programme to National Lifelong Education Centre setting up a sustainable knowledge infrastructure for improving herders' life skills and updating their knowledge on livestock production. This intervention enabled herders to access social-protection-related information with the ultimate goal of extending their social insurance coverage (ii), introduction of social insurance incentive mechanisms through strengthening of herders' cooperatives and pastureland users' groups³¹.

³⁰ General Agency for Social Insurance of Mongolia, semi-annual data on voluntary social insurance coverage, 2021, <https://www.ndaatgal.mn/v1/1st>; [Social Insurance Officers Discuss Their Effort to Extend Social Protection to Herders \(ilo.org\)](#)

³¹ [Mongolia's Herder Programme | Joint SDG Fund](#); <https://www.jointsdgfund.org/article/herders-peer-peer-approach-extend-social-protection-herders>; [Cooperatives Use Incentive Mechanisms to Extend Social Protection to Herders \(ilo.org\)](#) and A report submitted by National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Cooperatives, December 2020; [UN Joint Programme: Training on Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining and Benefits of Social Insurance was held in Dornogobi aimag \(ilo.org\)](#)

Indicator 3.2: Number of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead (sheep). Target for 2021-1- achieved:

- ⇒ Policy dialogue on social protection is held based on findings and recommendations from the studies of "Herders' Behavior towards Social and Health Insurance" and "Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy"³². The Study on Herders' Behavior towards Social and Health Insurance is completed, and a launch of study made involving the Government, and development partners. Based on the findings and recommendations of the study, MLSP proposed to have more concrete policy note for herders. The policy note is developed, translated and delivered to the Government. The SPDR and FS report will be completed at the end of August and a launch and policy discussion are planned in early September 2022.

Indicator 3.3: Number and share of countries where national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators has been strengthened. Target for 2020-1, 2021-1: – achieved.

- ⇒ The national Herder training programme was established on a partnership of six the government and social partners enabling cost effective collaboration in province and soums. Local delegates of six organizations teamed up to reach out herders promoting benefits of social and health insurance, livelihood skills and employment regulations. In addition, two officials have attended the Executive Training on Social Protection Policy which is the UNJP's contribution to social protection legal reform that is currently ongoing in the country. Moreover, social insurance trainings have been organized by non-traditional partners such herders or beneficiaries through their cooperatives, pastureland users' groups and life-long education centers and social partners of trade union and employers' associations.

JP Outputs and Outcomes

- ⇒ **Achievement of expected JP outputs**

Output 1.1 Innovative solutions responding to situations and social insurance needs of herders applied to administration of social insurance schemes, both men and women

Output Indicator 1.1: Number of innovative solutions recommendations for improvements or design of new schemes for herders, including measures responding to women's specific needs and interests.

2020 target: Discussions and dialogues organized to come up with innovative solutions and creativeness; 2021 target: Social and health insurance coverage is increased from 15 to 20 per cent and from 40 to 50 per cent, respectively.

- The UNJP developed non-traditional, innovative approaches to increase herders' social and health insurance coverage, based on the discussion with the ministry, social insurance agency, cooperatives' association, life-long learning centers, pasture user groups, Trade Unions and Federation of Employers, which were piloted and implemented. The tools are designed with 'quick-win' approach built on existing system, structure and nation-wide established institutions. For example, expanded social insurance knowledge sources/advocates by involving lifelong centre teachers, delegates of trade unions and pasture user groups, addition to local social insurance officers; provided much needed funding to Soum social insurance officers to reach out herders; brought the knowledge and information to herders' homes through local trainers.
- Important milestones achieved, notably, herders' social and health insurance coverage is increased by 10% in target 5 soums, Zavkhan and by 2% in western 5 provinces (total 5,600 herders newly contributed) in 2020-2021³³. 124 herders, lifelong training centre teachers, social insurance and trade union volunteers were trained as local trainers for herders' training programme and became local advocates to promote social insurance benefits. They reached out 12,000 herders in 84 soums of western five provinces distributing 16,000 brochures to 6,400 households.
- MLSP developed and delivered advocacy content, TV and radio programmes; 24,000 copies of awareness raising brochure, poster and calendars to promote the benefits of social insurance and support assistant herders.
- Additionally, the UNJP collaborated with herder cooperatives and pastureland user groups conducting social insurance incentive mechanisms to improve herders' social insurance coverage and income. Twelve incentive

³² A Study on Herders' Behavior towards Social and Health Insurance, *UN Joint Programme: Does herders' behaviour affect their active enrollment in social and health insurance programme?*; *UN Joint Programme: Малчдын нийгмийн даатгал, эрүүл мэндийн даатгалын талаарх зан үйлийн судалгаа*

³³ General Agency for Social Insurance of Mongolia, semi-annual data on voluntary social insurance coverage, 2021, <https://www.ndaatgal.mn/v1/lst>.

mechanisms were identified to increase herders' social and health insurance coverage through better governance and performance of cooperatives. The six herder cooperatives in 5 target soums, Zavkhan implemented each 3-6 incentive mechanisms and increased their members' social insurance coverage up to 40-80% involving over 2,700 herder members and over 30 cooperative leaders³⁴.

- The Ministry of Education and Science and Lifelong Education Center ensured sustainability of the Herder programme and made it as a part of its formal and national programmes. The lifelong education teachers in all 21 provinces and 330 soums become key advocates along with local social insurance officers that can reach out herders, even in their pastoral camping grounds. They team up with social insurance officers, Trade Union delegates, and pastureland group leaders in 330 soums and reach out herders effectively.
- The UNJP SP-Herders collaborated with Confederation of Mongolian Trade Union (CMTU) to promote freedom of association and the rights to collective bargaining among assistant herders through local unions at nation-wide.
- Basing on the UNJP's partnership with six Government and social partners, regional consultations for establishing further sustainable and effective collaboration were organized in all provinces and soums. As result of this partnership and consultations, each 330 soums obtained 5-6 local trainer/advocates who can distribute three areas of knowledge of benefits of social insurance, livelihood skills and herders' employment regulations through 22 modules. A total 1,860 local trainers are trained through 6 partners nationally.

Output 1.2 Improved income generating and entrepreneurship promotion activities/programmes accessible to herding men and women.

Output Indicator 1.2 Number of cooperatives/herders using services offered by youth development centers including life skill and income generating training.

2020 target: At least 100 herding men and women are trained on life skills and livelihood skills; 2021 target: At least 100 herders are trained on life skills and livelihood skills. At least 60 herding men and women have started a business and/or cooperative; achieved

- The UNJP established fourteen startups in five target soums of Zavkhan province. The project involved a total of 74 herding women and men. The herders formed business entities and signed triparty agreements with the soum governor's office and the Developing Solution, a startup incubation NGO contracted for the project. Some of entrepreneurs who lacked equipment before improved their productivity by more than 80%.
- The herders also got the opportunity to learn from similar businesses established in the province of Zavkhan. The provincial Labour and Social Department officers expressed their interest in introducing similar ongoing support for the recipients of local livelihood improvement programmes funded by the state. The beneficiaries were greatly encouraged to enroll in the social and health insurance programmes.
- Live-skills education was provided with the support of the National Lifelong Education Center and embraces a variety of topics such as sexual and reproductive health, preventing gender-based violence, and soft skills such as communication, self-confidence, decision making and stress management. The project provided training tools and printed herders' handouts. More than one thousand herders were trained by the Lifelong Education teachers. The training modules, including their electronic formats, were incorporated into the "Herders' Curriculum" of the Lifelong Education facilities.

Output 2.1 Shock responsive social protection measures focusing on children in herder families piloted and documented

Output indicator 2.1: Empirical-based recommendations on the design and administration of shock-responsiveness measures in child money programme

2020 target: 0; 2021 target: 1: achieved

- The notable achievement in 2020-2021, contributing to strengthening institutional capacity to mainstream shock-responsiveness into the national social protection system was the evidence, knowledge and lessons generated through the pilot on Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP) for children. The UNJP jointly with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MSLP) and Zavkhan Provincial Government piloted a SRSP programme for rural children who were at risk of dzud as is a climate related weather shock, by vertically expanding the Child Money Program (CMP).³⁵

³⁴ [Cooperatives Use Incentive Mechanisms to Extend Social Protection to Herders \(ilo.org\)](#)

³⁵ [UNICEF Mongolia is working on strengthening the shock responsive social protection upon a successful pilot project in Zavkhan province | Joint SDG Fund](#)

- The pilot programme was implemented in Zavkhan province in 2 phases in the winter of 2019-2020. Under the first phase of the pilot programme, a total of 2,730 children aged 0-5 years old from Bayantes, Ikh-Uul, Tosontsengel and Tes soums of Zavkhan province, which are known to have severe winters and the most snowfall historically, received a cash assistance of MNT 40,000, which was transferred into their CMP account in December, 2019. This cash assistance aimed at supporting the households with young children to prepare for winter as an early action by purchasing warm clothes and nutritious food for them, as well as using it for insulation and fuel for their homes etc.
- Under the second phase of the pilot, over 6,800 children aged 0-5 years old from 23 soums excluding the provincial center soum, were provided with a cash assistance of MNT 60,000 in 3 installments by MNT 20,000 in mid-February, March and April 2020.
- The UNJP continued vertical expansion of Government's flagship social protection programme for children throughout 2021 helping the families in overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic challenges related to income and livelihood loss. A wealth of solid evidence was generated and made available in a user-friendly way linked to the UNICEF Mongolia's web page compiling the reports, studies and finding of the SRSP related pilots and surveys of the Governments' social protection response to COVID-19 pandemic.
- Supported the MLSP in monitoring its pandemic response focusing on Child Money Programme (CMP) and Food Stamp Programme generated solid evidence and lessons, that informed the Governments' decision about CMP size, coverage and measures to improve implementation, as well as institutionalization SRSP for children in the future.
- Based on the evidence generated, the UNJP continuously advocated for sustaining the increased benefit level of the CMP during this unprecedented time of pandemic, resulting in Government's decision to continue the shock-responsive top-up until mid-2022. With the RCO has issued recommendations to the highest-level government officials and influential politicians concerning the importance of universal child benefit in overcoming the crisis with less loss in future human capital development and ensuring inclusive post-pandemic recovery.
- Post distribution monitoring results informed the recommendations to the Government on potentials of the e-welfare in preparedness and shock responsiveness of the social protection services. The monitoring results also reveal that current infrastructure for delivering the cash transfer programmes can be employed for outreach to targeted groups. Furthermore, as CMP and pregnant mother benefits employ the same infrastructure as all the cash transfers, it is clear that all cash transfer programmes can be effectively used for shock responsive social protection services.

Output 2.2 The resilience of livestock-based livelihoods to climate-related risks and shocks enhanced at national, local and herder community level

Output indicator 2.2 Number of vulnerable (young and female-headed) herder households improved their coping strategies for dzud at national, local and community level. 2020 target: 0; 2021 target: 1: achieved

- To enhance the resilience of livestock-based livelihoods at all levels, particular focus was given for disaster (dzud) risk reduction and management (DRR/M) and the adoption of climate-smart practices by herder communities.
- A new interagency partnership for *dzud*-related shock-responsive social protection was created, extending existing working group/task force consisted of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFALI), the National Agency for Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Monitoring (NAHMEM), with its Research Institute and international humanitarian actors by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MLSP) with its structural agencies and institutions.
- The UNJP has made significant contribution to improving stakeholders' understanding on the resilience capacity of Mongolian herder households and providing a baseline to further development of evidence-based policy, programmes and investments for food security along the humanitarian and development nexus. The resilience capacity analysis of 10,023 herder households from 336 districts of 21 provinces and sub-capital areas of the country, using the Resilience Index Measurement Analysis (RIMA), a tool recommended by the UN Resilience Guidance (2020) carried out with engagement of 1072 local government officers³⁶.
- The resilience capacity of the herder households was determined by establishing a causal relationship between resilience and its critical determinants. The result showed that the average resilience capacity index (RCI) was 40.28; and Darkhan-Uul aimag has the highest (58.9) and Zavkhan province the lowest (33.2) RCI³⁷.

³⁶ UN Country Results Report Mongolia 2017-2021, p 24. https://mongolia.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/2017-2020_%20UN%20Country%20Results%20Report%20Mongolia_ENG_final.pdf

³⁷ UN Mongolia Annual Result Report 2021, p 20. <https://mongolia.un.org/en/180343-un-mongolia-annual-results-report-2021>

- The findings of the RIMA study have provided the baseline indicator for Outcome 3 of the Strategic Priority 2 in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2023-2027), approved in May 2022 by the UN and the Government of Mongolia.
- A total of 730 counterparts participated in training, workshops and consultations on DRR/M including cross-sectoral coordination, risk governance, contingency planning, preparedness and response to safeguard and increase the resilience of livestock-based livelihoods.
- As a result of feasibility assessment to identify entry points for channeling anticipatory action to safeguard the livelihoods of vulnerable herder households from dzud preceded by drought through national social protection systems, stakeholders made the following recommendation to the government:
 - it is important to include a provision on risk-informed shock-response social protection in the revision of the country's social welfare law to include *dzud*, which affects the livelihoods of herder households who make up about a third of the population of country
 - the integrated and operational household database should be strengthened, as it is an ideal system for identifying beneficiaries both in the case of a shock and potentially before a shock, for transfers that support household preparedness
 - a dynamic needs assessment of herders, especially young households, affected by *dzud* and drought and in the interoperability of the database should be carried out
 - a tool like FAO's RIMA be utilized for more effective targeting and monitoring of *dzud*-response social-protection interventions
 - clear financing arrangements to support the deployment of emergency social-protection responses and the use of reserve and contingency funds by the MLSP are necessary, with a consideration that member organizations of the humanitarian country team (HCT) have already used available funding sources for *dzud* response and further funding through humanitarian actors in particular, for anticipatory action, is limited
 - explore financing agreements with international financial institutions that could be activated promptly if *dzud* conditions occur.
- As a result of technical and financial support provided by the UNJP to build the resilience of targeted herder communities, the access of vulnerable herder households to productive assets, skills and services to adopt climate-smart good practices has been improved, as well as the community responsibility to prepare and respond to dzud by accumulating community assets (fodder reserves, warehouse, fenced fodder cultivation plots), including financial (community- contingency fund) and market access.

Output 3.1 Multi-stakeholder national level dialogue on social protection conference will be hosted by UNRC

Output indicator 3.1.1: Number of reports and dialogues including the recommendation of financing strategy to the Government with focus on age and gender.

2020 target: 1 dialogue and 1 national conference is hosted by UNRC; 2021 target: Report with focus on herders; 1 dialogue and 1 national conference hosted by UNRC

- The UNJP and Maastricht University research team of "Study on Herders' Behavior towards Social and Health Insurance" and "Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy (SPDR & FS)"³⁸ organized social dialogue on the findings and recommendation from Herders' study and SPDR & FS and proposed to the Government a comprehensive policy note to contribute ongoing discussion to revision of Social Insurance Package Law indicating importance of a shift from voluntary to compulsory insurance and inclusion of specific tailored features for herders, such as the subsidization of the contributions and the differentiation of contributory categories.
- As the recommendations highlight the shift towards a mandatory system for Mongolian herders shall be the starting point of a comprehensive strategy comprising a number of subsidiary recommendations preparing a convenient policy environment for participants and establishing enforcement mechanisms. The study proposed concrete recommendations such as suspending the clause on retroactive payment of social insurance contributions, drawing a legal provision concerning the regulation for herders' social insurance, tailor contributions to herders' financial capacity, incentivize youth membership through reduced contributions, ensure and incentivize contribution collection and compliance, increase and train the social insurance inspectors' staff, facilitate access to social insurance services and improve knowledge of, and attitudes towards, social security schemes.

³⁸ UN Joint Programme in Mongolia: Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy Study for Mongolia

- The key strategies proposed by the study of SPDR and Financing Strategies for Social Protection in Mongolia, are: (i) to maintain the current government transfers to the SSF at 2% of GDP, (ii) to increase spending on health with 2 percentage points to 5% of GDP, and (iii) to reform social welfare, as recommended in the parallel report providing a diagnostic review of social protection in Mongolia”.
- Provided technical support to MLSP on pension policy development by enabling 2 specialists to attend at Executive E-Learning on Pension Policy and Management online course, ITCILO.

Achievement of expected JP outcomes

The UNJP aimed to achieve three outcomes: (1) effective coverage of social and health insurance is extended to herding men and women (2) institutional capacity to mainstream shock-responsiveness into the national social protection system strengthened and (3) social protection financing strategy for sustainable and adequate benefits for herding men, women, boys and girls, those in other age groups, guided by evidence, stakeholders’ dialogue and consensus, formulated.

The social insurance of herding men and women are extended by 10% in target soums and 5% nationally in 2020-2021. National social protection system strengthened having shock responsive social protection capacity of implementing Child Money Programme. The UNJP contributed strengthening institutional capacity to mainstream shock-responsiveness into the national social protection system providing the evidence, knowledge and lessons generated through the pilot on Shock-Responsive Social Protection for children. The UNJP organized social dialogue on the findings and recommendation from “Study on Herders’ Behavior towards Social and Health Insurance”³⁹ and “Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy” and proposed to the Government a comprehensive policy note to contribute ongoing discussion to revision of Social Insurance Package Law indicating importance of a shift from voluntary to compulsory insurance and inclusion of specific tailored features for herders, such as the subsidization of the contributions and the differentiation of contributory categories.

Monitoring and data collection:

- Through the UNJP Technical Committee and PUNO Working Group meetings on quarterly and monthly basis, activities and data on results were presented and updated. Especially for the Technical Committee meeting presentations, the collected updates and data from PUNOs were presented to the Government, partners and stakeholders.
- The UNJP commissioned a national research institute to conduct a survey of Governments’ SRSP response to COVID-19. Although international and national consultants were supporting the team in conceptualization, methodology development, training of enumerators, data analysis and report writing, the national research institute lacked the capacity to conduct the research on a relatively new topic and struggled to develop study tools and the reports in 2 languages.

III. JP finalization and evaluation

Final JP evaluation and lessons learned

The date when the evaluation was launched (month/year): 4 April 2022

The date when the evaluation report was approved (month/year): 24 August 2022

The below is the summary of the findings of the Final JP Evaluation⁴⁰:

The UNJP was highly effective as it achieved the expected results using the existing institutional structure in Mongolia instead of developing new structure within frameworks of the project. It shows the effectiveness of the “Quick Win” approach. Key results of the UNJP include:

- Strengthening NGOs, CSOs and national institutions through partnerships and expanding the pool of partners that can competently deliver advice, trainings on social and health insurance, gender-based violence, and sexual and reproductive health and rights further for herders’ community.

³⁹ *A Study on Herders’ Behavior towards Social and Health Insurance, UN Joint Programme: Does herders’ behaviour affect their active enrollment in social and health insurance programme? ; UN Joint Programme: Малчдын нийгмийн даатгал, эрүүл мэндийн даатгалын талаарх зан үйлийн судалгаа*

⁴⁰ *The Final Evaluation Report, UNJP SP-Herders, TERI NGO, 2022.*

- Improvements of the local herders' and government's knowledge in climate related shock responsiveness such as green fodder planting, improving the livestock productivity via better breeding.
- The social partnership applied effectively to the UNJP, especially in the herders' social and health insurance component. The UNJP had the different stakeholders of the project at the policy and implementation levels including the national government, local government, civil society organizations and professional associations. The use of the available social structure brought the double benefit for Mongolia, the approach was contributed to the capacity building of the local organizations.
- The important studies conducted as to be bases for further changes of the social and health insurance policy and social protection financing strategy. These are "Herders' behavioral study towards social and health insurance" and "Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy".
- Successful piloting of the CMP and advocacy with the national government. The UNJP demonstrated the importance of policy interventions on SRSP through its pilot CMP during both climate and non-climate related shocks.
- UNJP made an excellent contribution to expanding the herders' understanding about benefits of the social and health insurance and its existing legal and regulatory frameworks.

In addition, UNJP was impactful. UNJP brought positive impact on the institutional changes at the local and government levels. CMP generated the solid evidence and high-level policy advocacy, which led into continued vertical expansion of Government's flagship social protection programme for children throughout 2021 helping the families in overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic challenges related to income and livelihood loss. The UNJP continued to promote policy and legal changes to institutionalize SRSP measures in the relevant policies. UNJP made a great impact on the digitalization of the social insurance services in rural population to access to the paperless system. Ministry of Labour and Social Protection considered to adopt the JP method of monitoring and facilitating of the micro/small income generation projects. Most importantly, prospects of sustainability of the 22-training curriculum for the herders are high, where the UNJP developed them via contracted civil society organizations, the curriculums remain part of training institutions' curriculum. In addition, local institutions partnership at the soum level for the advocacy of the social and health insurance for herders. It impacted at the public and private partnership development at the soum level and province levels by signing the cooperation MOU among the social partners. Despite these, the interrelation of the sub-components of the UNJP was not very strong to support each other. The PUNOs tend to operate as individual agencies rather than one entity. Each of PUNOs achieved the UNJP objectives successfully as particular PUNOs have taken the lead specific in the matters. The evaluation attempted to substantiate it by the findings.

Relevance, Design Validity and Coherence

The evaluation results confirm that UNJP is well aligned with the core needs in improvements of the social protection system and shock responsiveness policy for vulnerable herders' community. The herders' social insurance coverage objective was highly relevant in the context of Mongolia and aligned with national government priorities including the national government policy such as Vision-2050 of Mongolia as long-term policy to increase coverage of social insurance' up to 90 percent by 2025 and 99 percent by 2030. UNJP was relevant to respond to pandemics, although it was designed before the pandemic. The PUNOs cooperated well with their respective social partners. The UNJP was implemented under the Resident Coordinator's Office to ensure that the UN collectively contributes towards achievement of the national sustainable development goals and targets. The UNRC and the Minister for Labour and Social Protection co-chair the Joint Programme Steering Committee to review the progress and to make relevant decisions. This was a very high-level Steering Committee compared to the other single UN agency programmes.

Implementation progress and effectiveness, impact, and sustainability

With regards to effectiveness the "Quick win" approach" leads the stakeholders to reach the programme objectives effectively. This is an approach to use the existing structure and methodologies within the country instead of creating new structure. Therefore, the approach was effectively utilized in the case at hand. UNJP overachieved its target (20%) of social insurance coverage of herders in the target soums as the actual achieved rate was 24.6%. The local governments' capacity in the target soums had been strengthened in promoting the social and health insurance for herders and shock responsiveness. The project contributed to the acceleration of the relevant SDGs at the national level. The local partnership among the social partners brought positive impact in advocating the insurance benefits as well as it led the local institutions to team up for any other local activities. The UNJP conducted two studies on social protection and for policy reform: "Study on Herders' Behavior towards Social and Health Insurance" and "Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy (SPDR&FS)". These studies identified issues in the current social protection scheme, policy gaps, implementation issues and suggested for further changes in the social protection systems and financing for social protection.

Through piloting the Child Money Programme (CMP) in the pandemic, the CMP top-up benefit became a permanent for the nation even after the end of the pandemic. Empirical recommendations on the design and administration of shock-

responsiveness measures in child money programme were provided to the Government of Mongolia based on the results of the UNJP pilot programme. The UNJP's technical support in generation of solid evidence and high-level policy advocacy have resulted in continued vertical expansion of Government's flagship social protection programme for children throughout 2021 helping the families in overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic challenges related to income and livelihood loss. The impact of the vertical expansion of the CMP has been validated through various studies and studies of development partners.

Resource use efficiency

Although the UNJP's implementation period overlapped with the COVID-19 pandemic period in Mongolia, it reached the objectives of the programme as a result of the effective implementation. The country was in a strict quarantine for one and half years from November 2020 to December, and thus conducting meetings and trainings were not allowed all the way until end of 2021. As a result, UNJP faced implementation challenges that would ordinarily would not have been factor. However, challenges were overcome successfully by introducing on-line solutions.

The programme partners and the herders were satisfied with the technical experts and consultants procured to provide specific expertise in the relevant UNJP interventions. It was an indication that in terms of the human resources the UNJP was efficient. The PUNOs were composed of skilled and motivated managers with a high degree of credibility with partners. The financial impact of the JP in terms of the cost efficiency was not assessed. It is considerable that respective national government at the Ministerial level should appoint one focal point for the entire JP regardless of components to improve efficiency.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are made for the next UNJP:

1. Improve the internal coordination mechanism to support each other's interventions to have added synergy. The economic empowerment activities should be tied into the social protection activities, especially the mainstreaming of social and health insurance. A future UNJP should bring the components together, and the potential of the joint approach needs to be spelled out more precisely by involving the local counterparts actively into the programme design phase and consult the local counterparts to facilitate UNJP interventions of different components to support each other to achieve shared objectives in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Design a monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management system to use among the PUNOs so that progress toward results, best practices, and lessons learned can be systematically tracked and reported to all stakeholders. A joint monitoring and evaluation could be conducted for all components at the same time for better efficiency and for improvements in coherence.
3. Track the financial efficiency for the next UNJP to find ways to quantify the joint programme efficiency as the programme is perceived to have resulted in cost savings through joint efforts.
4. The effective practice of the social partnership of organizations at the local level should be disseminated for any other further UN projects. Disseminate the non-conventional approaches of advocating herders' social and health insurance for other locations via contracted partners

Lessons learnt and good practices

The evaluation identified several good practices and lessons learnt to be considered for next UNJP as below:

- The team working approach for "Advocating the social and health insurance for herders' was very effective at the local level as it brought the stakeholders together to work collectively to reach the shared objective. Therefore, it is suggested to disseminate the team working approach at the local level for building the local partnership for any other UNJP projects.
- The the UNJP intervention to provide the pedigree animals for herders for better productivity can be a best practice to support the vulnerable herders to improve the quality and productivity of their livestock. In the pilot programme only 15 households in 3 target soums received 30 pedigree sheep but those HHs received 2271 newborns with better breed. The UNJP addressed the lack of market-oriented genetic improvements, which led to a decrease in livestock productivity and deterioration in quality of products and raw materials. The UNJP's efforts to organize a trade fair of the pedigree animals was a best practice.
- One of the objectives of UNJP was to increase the social and health insurance coverage of herders. The UNJP piloted several non-traditional innovative approaches to advocate the importance and benefits of social and health insurance for herders. Out of them, contractual obligation between employer herder and assistant herders supported by Confederation of Mongolian Trade Unions and Mongolian Employers' Association was ranked high as an effective approach by the local government, social partners and the herders. The Employers Association trains the employer herders in obligations, responsibilities and rights of being an employer, while Trade Union trains the assistant herder in his duties and rights. The herder employer should pay the contributions for social insurance for the assistant herders.

Furthermore, it should be included in the “*Regulation for Sain Malchin*”⁴¹ as a criterion for employer-herder to meet. It is also noted that the best practice here is that the owner of the livestock (*taviul mal*) pays the “insurance contribution for herders” for those who herd their livestock. It is very common in rural Mongolia, people who live in urban settlement own number of livestock and ask the herder to herd the livestock and pay for the herder per head of animals.

After the JP: follow-up and possibilities for sustainability of the impact and further scaling

- From the early stage of the UNJP implementation, ensuring the sustainability of the results was one of the main discussions and consideration. Thus, the UNJP collaborated with nation-wide institutions such as National Life-long Education Centre, Confederation of Mongolian Trade Unions, National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Cooperatives and Federation of Pasture User Groups ensuring their enhanced capacity and ownership of the awareness, efforts, and the results. Basing on the partnership among six government and social partners, 22 modules to promote benefits of social insurance, livelihood skills and herders’ employment framework enabled to be implemented in 330 soums and 21 provinces after the completion of the UNJP-SP-Herders. The six government and social partners are collaborating to reach out herders in their nomadic camps through a team of 5-6 local trainers.
- Additionally, close collaboration with MLSP brought important ownership of promotion and distribution of the best practices of local social insurance officers among themselves and making it sustainable activity for the future⁴². Local social insurance officers of 159 soums, 8 provinces were provided by digitalization equipment (and capacity to use them): this ensures that local social insurance data will be collected and monitored, also provide sustainable digitalized service for easy use by local citizens on the issuance of their pension and welfare benefits.

⁴¹ *Sain malchin-the best herder award in province and soums.*

⁴² [Social insurance officers are mobilizing local capacity to educate herders on social protection with the support of UNJP | Joint SDG Fund](#)

Annex 1: Consolidated Final Results

1. JP contribution to global Fund's programmatic results

Global Impact: Progress towards SDGs

Select up to 3 SDG *indicators* that your Joint Programme primarily contributed to (in relation to SDG targets listed in your JP ProDoc)

Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1

Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale

Indicator 1.1: Number of shock-responsive social protection schemes for herders' children and assets for future improvements and replications; Target for 2021-1

Joint SDG Fund Output 3

- Joint SDG Fund Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

Indicator 3.1: Number of innovative solutions that were tested. Target for 2021- 2

Indicator 3.2: Number of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead (shock). Target for 202-1

Global Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale

Outcome indicators	Expected final target	Final result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)
1.1: Number of shock-responsive social protection schemes for herders' children and assets for future improvements and replications ⁴³	1	1	
<i>List the policies:</i>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 scheme piloted and demonstrated. Shock responsive social protection programme to top up CMP was piloted in Zavkhan province to prevent and mitigate negative impacts of dzud and has made direct and/or indirect influence on the Government to make a decision to top up CMP at national level during pandemic. Child benefit was increased vertically. 			
1.2: Accessibility of social insurance schemes and benefits for herders-social insurance coverage will be increased from 15 to 20 and health insurance from 40 to 50 percent. ⁴⁴	1	1	
<i>List the policies:</i>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PUNOs tested new innovative approaches to extend social protection among herder men and women introducing peer-to-peer awareness raising learning modality, where herders, members of cooperatives, pastureland user groups (PUGs), lifelong education center trainers and trade union representatives worked together to advocate for the benefits of social and health insurance programmes among their peer herders⁴⁵. Altogether, the 			

⁴³Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

⁴⁴Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

⁴⁵ [Mongolia's Herder Programme | Joint SDG Fund](#)

two-years' activities have contributed directly and indirectly to increase in social and health insurance coverage of herders by 10% in the 5 target soums in Zavkhan province, 5% nationally in 2020-2021⁴⁶.

Global Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

Output indicators	Expected final target	Final result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)
3.1 Number of innovative solutions that were tested (disaggregated by % successful-unsuccessful)	2	4	Developed additional innovative solutions
3.2: Number of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead	1	1	Under a lead of Ministry of Labour and Social Protection there was implemented SRSP CMP vertically at national level.

Did your Joint Programme contribute to strengthening of national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators?

Yes

No

Explain briefly:

2. Results as per JP Programmatic Results Framework

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Expected final target	Final result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)
Outcome 1: More herding men and women access social and health insurance effectively				
Outcome 1 indicator 1: Number of herders covered by health and social insurance, disaggregated by men and women, and age groups	According to GASInsurance, 40,906 (22,856 are women) and 114,610 (55,420 are women) ⁴⁷ herders are covered by social insurance and health insurance respectively, which accounts for only 15 per cent and 40 per cent, respectively, of total of 288,7 thousand herders ⁴⁸ .	Social and health insurance coverage is increased from 15 to 20 per cent and from 40 to 50 per cent, respectively.	The UNJP contributed directly and indirectly to increase in social and health insurance coverage of herders by 10% in the 5 target soums in Zavkhan province, 5% nationally in 2020-2021. ⁴⁹	
Output 1.1 indicator: Innovative solutions responding to life contingencies and social insurance needs of herders applied to the administration of social insurance schemes, both men and women				

⁴⁶ General Agency for Social Insurance of Mongolia, semi-annual data on voluntary social insurance coverage, 2021, <https://www.ndaatgal.mn/v1/lst>.

⁴⁷ Data received from GASInsurance, September 23, 2019;

⁴⁸ www.1212.mn

⁴⁹ General Agency for Social Insurance of Mongolia, semi-annual data on voluntary social insurance coverage, 2021, <https://www.ndaatgal.mn/v1/lst>.

Output 1.1 indicator: Number of innovative solutions recommendations for improvements or design of new schemes for herders, including measures responding to women's specific needs and interests.	Integrated Sectoral Database (ISDB) that uses MySQL, with 10 million household data records occupying 4.1 gigabytes, and able to serve up to 10,000 simultaneous users. The architecture and database for ISDB was developed under the Food Stamp Program from the proxy means test survey response and protocols. ⁵⁰	2 innovative solutions	Piloted and implemented 5 innovative solutions; accessibility to benefits of social insurance information Herder programme upscaled nationally and ensured its sustainability through six government and social partners collaboration nationally. In addition, 5 more innovative solutions are implemented	
Output 1.2 indicator: Improved income generating and entrepreneurship promotion activities/programmes accessible to herding men and women				
Output Indicator 1.2 Number of cooperatives/herders using services offered youth development centers including life skill and income generating training.	0	160	1,890. The local trainers of Zavkhan lifelong education center expanded the training reaching a much higher number of herders in the five selected soums.	
Outcome 2: Institutional capacity to mainstream shock-responsiveness into the national social protection system strengthened				
Outcome indicator 2: Government, in consultation with social partners, considers improved organizational structures, financial and technical resources or improved training tools for herders' increased resilience.	Existing social protection schemes and husbandry services for herders are not sensitive to shocks, disaster risk reduction and management.	1	Shock-Responsive Social Protection Child Money Programme for children piloted and implemented jointly with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection; and the programme vertically expanded nationally	
Output 2.1 Shock responsive social protection measures focusing on children in herder families piloted and documented.				
Output indicator 2.1: Empirical-based recommendations on the design and administration of shock-responsiveness measures in child money programme	UNICEF has conducted a study on shock responsive social protection, with particular focus on Child Money Programme, in 2018.	1	The UNJP partnered with ADB where the latter has conducted a simulation analysis of the impact of CMP top-up on poverty and inequality. Furthermore, the	

⁵⁰ <https://www.adb.org/publications/improving-delivery-social-protection-ict-mongolia-nepal-vietnam>

			SOP for M&E has also been given to the Government.	
Output 2.2 The resilience of livestock-based livelihoods to climate-related risks and shocks enhanced at national, local and herder community				
Output indicator 2.2.3 Number of vulnerable (young and female-headed) herder households improved their coping strategies for dzud at national, local and community level	0	5	15 - the UNJP procured pedigree young rams and bucks to 15 poor herder households – 9 young families and 6 female headed households – in 3 soums, each has less than 200 sheep and goats, to improve quality of their livestock for better resilience and survival during harsh winter, and better quality of raw materials such as cashmere and wool.	
Outcome 3. Social protection financing strategy formulated for sustainable and adequate benefits for herding men, women, boys and girls, those in other groups, guided by evidence and stakeholders' dialogue				
Outcome Indicator 3: Government, in consultation with social partners, formulate a financing strategy for SP for herders that takes into account a whole life cycle approach, for male and female herders.	Mongolia is under the austerity programme of IMF. Social Protection Floor was carried out in 2015	1	1 A SPDR and Financing Strategy report produced	
Output indicator 3.1: Number of reports and dialogues including the recommendation of financing strategy to the Government	The Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy produced, and Mongolian Social Protection Floor evaluation was re-defined.	1 dialogue and 1 national conference are held hosted by UNRC.	Basing on the findings and recommendation from Herders' Behavior and SPDR & FS studies, 2 policy dialogues are held in June 2022. The concrete policy recommendation to herder package is developed.	Due to COVID-19 restrictions data collection delayed. The Final report on Herders' Behavior study is produced. No variation.

Annex 2: Strategic documents

2.1. Contribution to social protection strategies, policies and legal frameworks

Strategic documents developed or adapted by JP

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on extending social protection coverage (Yes/No)	Focus on improved comprehensiveness of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on enhancing adequacy of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on improving governance, administration and/or implementation of social protection system (Yes/No)	Focus on cross-sectoral integration with healthcare, childcare, education, employment, food security, etc. (Yes/No)	<i>If published, provide the hyperlink</i>
Study of Child Money Programme and Food Stamp Programme top-ups implemented in response to COVID-19	Dec 2020	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Post-Distribution Monitoring Report of our SRSP pilot for rural children	Dec 2020	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://www.unicef.org/mongolia/mn/child-focused-shock-response?fbclid=IwAR3Yk8BSrpNm9TIUyip29z-TDdX3WslfoXO7IfIU55NUnEmFtIq2livipoE
Post-Distribution Monitoring Report of our SRSP pilot for rural pregnant women	Apr 2022	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
A Study on Herders' Behavior towards Social and Health Insurance	May 2022	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://www.ilo.org/beijing/what-we-do/events-and-meetings/WCMS_847370/lang-en/index.htm
Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy for Mongolia	June 2022	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

Strategic documents for which JP provided contribution (but did not produce or lead in producing)

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on extending social protection coverage (Yes/No)	Focus on improved comprehensiveness of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on enhancing adequacy of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on improving governance, administration and/or implementation of social protection system (Yes/No)	Focus on cross-sectoral integration with healthcare, childcare, education, employment, food security, etc. (Yes/No)	<i>If published, provide the hyperlink</i>
N/A							

2.2. Focus on vulnerable populations

Strategic documents developed or adapted by JP

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on gender equality and women empowerment (Yes/No)	Focus on children (Yes/No)	Focus on youth (Yes/No)	Focus on older persons (Yes/No)	Focus on other group/s (List the group/s)	Focus on PwDs (Yes/No)	Included disaggregated data by disability - and whenever possible by age, gender and/or type of disability (Yes/No)
Social Protection Diagnostic Review and Financing Strategy for Mongolia	June 2022	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	herders	Yes	Yes

Strategic documents for which JP provided contribution (but did not produce or lead in producing)

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on gender equality and women empowerment (Yes/No)	Focus on children (Yes/No)	Focus on youth (Yes/No)	Focus on older persons (Yes/No)	Focus on other group/s (List the group/s)	Focus on PwDs (Yes/No)	Included disaggregated data by disability - and whenever possible by age, gender and/or type of disability (Yes/No)
N/A								

Annex 3: Results questionnaire

- Completed online using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/DfvPvaGfsg>.

Annex 4: Final report on JP evaluation

- *Provided separately.*