

Joint SDG Fund
PORTOFLIO ON INTEGRATED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LNOB
Joint Programme 2020 Annual Progress Report

Cover page

Country: Mongolia

Joint Programme title: Extending Social Protection with Enhanced Shock Responsiveness

Short title: SP-Herders UNJP

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Budget (Joint SDG Fund contribution): **USD 1,990,000**

Overall budget (with co-funding): **USD 2,365,000**

Annual Financial Delivery Rate (= Total the UNJP Expenditures / transferred funds x 100%): **62% (USD 616,800)**

Rate of Committed Funding (= Total the UNJP Commitments / transferred funds x 100%): **91% (USD 905,450)**

Short description of the Joint Programme (max 1 paragraph):

the UNJP on Extending Social Protection to Herders with Enhanced Shock Responsiveness aims to demonstrate how partnerships are critical to accelerating the achievement of the SDGs by supporting the government and stakeholders to promote social protection, with focus on having more herders to be covered by social protection schemes including social insurance, and reducing their vulnerabilities to poverty and extreme climate change. The programme results will primarily contribute in 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, and 17.17.

Executive summary

The PUNOs, in close cooperation with the government and national counterparts, have implemented the programme for the first year reaching the following achievements. The implementation is expected to yield more results in the second year.

The UNJP tested new approaches to extend social protection among herder men and women. For example, it introduced peer-to-peer learning at pilot soums¹ of Zavkhan province, where herders, members of cooperatives, pastureland user groups (PUGs), lifelong education center staff and trade union representatives were trained as social insurance trainers, to advocate for the benefits of social and health insurance programmes among their peer herders. This is an innovative and practical approach, which complements traditional ways of raising awareness by social and health insurance officers only. Moreover, during the year, the UNJP, identified and started testing eight mechanisms to increase social and health insurance coverage with the involvement of cooperatives and PUGs.² The project is preparing to introduce herders' social protection and sustainable livestock production programme in TVETs and Lifelong Education centers in the first year, and actual intervention will take place in the second year. Altogether, activities of this year have contributed directly and indirectly to increase social and health insurance coverage of herders by 10% in the target 5 soums in Zavkhan province and national average increased by 5%³. The COVID-19 has made the Government and public to understand more about the importance of social protection programme. The Government exempted contribution amount equivalent to that of estimated from minimum wage (MNT 56,700) for those who contribute voluntarily to social insurance scheme for a period between April and October, 2020, and continued on with partial exemption of contributions. The Government also implemented in 2020 the law on buyback of social insurance contributions.

In addition, young herders learned entrepreneurship skills and advanced knowledge on livestock production. They show a great interest in starting their own businesses as a way to diversify their income and reduce their livelihood vulnerability.

the UNJP has promoted and piloted a Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP) programme for rural children who were at risk of dzud, which is a climate related weather shock, by vertically expanding the Child Money Program (CMP). It demonstrated the value of mainstreaming SRSP into the national social protection system. The pilot generated lessons on whether and how to scale up the pilot programme in order to support children and households to avoid negative coping strategies, such as reduced food consumption, reduced expenditure for health need and education during shocks.

the UNJP has started introducing the Resilience Index Measurement and Analysis (RIMA-II) in Mongolia to define to analyse herder household resilience capacity to climate-related risks such as dzud and other types of shocks in the programme pilot soums. The questionnaire has been adapted into Mongolian context; data and information were collected from 2240 herder households in 16 soums of Zavkhan province and 7 soums of Khuvsgul province. The collected raw data has been shared with RIMA experts for further analysis. As a result of this work, the UNJP will provide a report on resilience capacity which will be used by the Government to define shock responsive assistances to the people that are in need. The UNJP has supported four cooperatives, as a result, herders have gotten well repaired warehouse, new storage containers for hay, fodder and wool, cashmere and other livestock raw materials and as well as fence for fodder cultivation fields, which can be interpreted into a better income generation, thus livelihood and being prepared for shocks. This tangible support has led herders to mobilize the additional income and resource for establishing and maintaining the shock responsive Contingency fund. Herder household members agreed to contribute MNT 20,000 (around USD8), Toonot Doono cooperative in Tes soum, Zavkhan. This model will be scaled up in other soum cooperatives in the pilot province, Zavkhan. Moreover, 19 local extension practitioners (13 women and 6 men) were trained for 3-day ToT for better implementation of climate-smart livestock production practices for building herders' resilience to climate change.

A. Annual Progress

A.1 The overall approach

¹ Soum – a second level administrative subdivision of Mongolia.

² A report submitted by National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Cooperatives, December 2020

³ General agency for Social Insurance of Mongolia, data received via email at the end of the year.

Broader context and the UNJP changes

In 2020, The UNJP had to adjust its approach on SRSP due to the Government's social protection interventions in response to COVID-19 pandemic impact. The socio-economic impact of the pandemic has greatly increased the demand for social protection, particularly SRSP. The UNJP conducted child-focused shock-responsive social protection (SRSP) pilot establishing administrative mechanisms for rapid horizontal expansion of the Child Money Programme (CMP). In April 2020 the Government top-up of the CMP increasing the benefit size of the CMP to MNT 100,000 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. Hence, the UNJP had to reorient its support for MLSP helping the Government in strengthening SRSP system to focus on those engaged in herding and agriculture, to include a new type of shock that affects larger portions of the population.

Ensuring that the UNJP remains strategic and catalytic

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 result will be reported against UNDAF Indicator 2.4.1 Percentage of economically active population contributing to the social insurance system. Due to pandemics, the UNDAF 2017-2021 has been extended for another year and the UNCT is currently in the process of developing CCA for next round of UNSDCF, which is expected to start being implemented from 2023. Both success and lessons-learnt from the UNJP pilot interventions, research findings and dialogues will feed into CCA, thus in UNSDCF (2023-2027)

The current pandemic has shown importance of social protection system. The UNJP was designed to increase social protection coverage and strengthen shock responsiveness, thus, as a whole, considered as a response to pandemics, therefore was not re-purposed. The UNJP was designed to demonstrate and promote policy interventions on shock-responsive social protection (SRSP) during both climate and non-climate related shocks. The UNJP has piloted the CMP top-up in February, March and April 2020, but in April 2020 the Government has made a decision to increase child money benefit up to MNT 100,000 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. Hence, the UNJP had to reorient its support for MLSP helping the Government in strengthening SRSP system to focus on those engaged in herding and agriculture, to include a new type of shock that affects larger portions of the population.

The UNJP does not need to realign its priorities. 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 shows that the UNJP is still strategic and catalytic in the context of Mongolia.

The UNJP is part of UN Mongolia SERP, Pillar 2. Protecting people. One of the gaps highlighted in the SERP report is that the Government has poor M&E capacity to assess and evaluate its social protection response to the pandemic; lack of accurate targeting 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 will continue to promote policy and legal changes to institutionalize SRSP measures for children, including MIS improvement, as well as technical support in capacity strengthening for M&E Framework for regular and SRSP social welfare programmes.

Recently, the Government of Mongolia submitted the revision of law on social insurance and the UNJP will provide technical comments and promote stakeholder discussions on the draft, where requested. It will continue to support the Government for promotion and enforcement of the law.

A.2 Update on priority issues

SDG acceleration

The UNJP results will primarily contribute in 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, and 17.17.

- Contribution to SDG target 1.3: the UNJP has prepared for policy interventions in its second 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%. 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 illustrated the feasibility of the system to respond to shocks, as well as generated some lessons and evidences to inform the next steps in strengthening the shock-responsiveness of the social protection system, which is essential in building resilience of the poor reducing their vulnerabilities to shocks. Moreover, the pilot entrepreneurship projects support 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 reduce 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 are aiming at increasing economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labor-intensive sectors.
- Contribution to SDG target 13.1: Herder households' resilience to shocks will be increased through strengthened institutional capacity to mainstream shock-responsiveness into the national social protection system. Mongolia will see an overall improvement of its social protection system as a whole, as a result of improved budget structure and implementation of a sound social protection financing strategy.

Vulnerable groups

Herders, in most of the cases, are in lack of regular income, thus are not covered by social protection system and are highly vulnerable to adverse livelihoods risks due to climate and non-climate shocks. The UNJP has trained 34 people from 5 pilot soums of Zavkhan province as local trainers on social and health insurance programmes and their benefits, who, in their turn reached out 2,000 herders altogether. The UNJP focused on was young children from herder households who were at risk of climate driven shocks, namely dzud. The UNJP has provided cash assistance to all children aged below 5 years old from rural soums of Zavkhan province, which experienced the most severe dzud conditions according to the Dzud Risk Mapping. Over 6800 children aged 0-5 years old from 23 soums excluding the provincial center soum, were provided a cash assistance of MNT 60,000 in 3 installments by 20,000 MNT in mid-February, March and April 2020. This early response action aimed to support the households with young children in their continued smooth consumption, when they started to experience income constraints due to harsh winter conditions that led the households to increase their spending for fodder to save their livestock. In total, 20,377 children benefitted from the SRSP cash assistance of 3 rounds, out of which 48% were girls and 52% were boys. By the end of the UNJP, all children in Mongolia indirectly benefit through protecting them from shocks by strengthening the shock-responsiveness of the social protection system.

Another focus of the UNJP is young herder households who were at risk of climate driven shocks, namely dzud. In total 150 herders attended two-round trainings organized by the UNJP on starting business and gained basic skills around the topic. 10 businesses were selected to be further invested and to be further trained. If not for their animals, these young herders will be immediately at the risk of being poor.

The UNJP provided pedigree young rams and bucks to 15 vulnerable herder households – 9 young families and 6 female headed households – in 3 soums, that depend on a small herd (less than 200 sheep) for their livelihood, to improve the quality and productivity of their livestock and increase household income and resilience to shocks. The lack of market-oriented genetic improvement incentives has led to a decrease in livestock productivity and a deterioration in the quality of products and raw materials. The UNJP addressed this circumstance and to increase resilient capacity of herds and local livestock breeds, organized a Trade Fair for Pedigree Animal among 23

soums of targeted Zavkhan province. In the fair, organized on September 18-19, 2020 in Zavkhan province, 67 pedigree rams and bucks were sold for 17.35 million MNT out of 135 pedigree sires of locally adapted breeds introduced by pedigree animal breeding units from 18 soums of Zavkhan province and 2 nucleus flocks of state breeding centres in Zavkhan and Uvs province. Improving quality of animals, in terms of resilience to cold climate and better production of meat, milk, wool and cashmere, will result in better productivity, thus better livelihood of herders.

Gender marker

- The project interventions to extend social and health insurance coverage target both men and women.
- A lack of long-term support in livelihood promotion programme is one of critical factors that kept herder women, from accessing technical and financial resources that would allow them to expand their livelihood activities. The UNJP is supporting the introduction of a formal herder programme at TVETs and it will open-up opportunities for herder women to obtain different technical and soft skills and support their livelihood.
- The lack of market-oriented genetic improvements incentives, has led to a decrease livestock productivity and a deterioration in the quality of products and raw materials. According to the UNJP supported poor female-headed herder households providing pedigree young rams and bucks to improve their herd quality and productivity.

Partnerships

Each PUNO brings its unique expertise to build a partnership to multiply the impact of, otherwise, an individual intervention. The UNJP is finding the right mix of experience and expertise in improving social protection of left-behind population. ILO, FAO and UNFPA had made blended technical solution on conducting livelihood training. ILO focused on herder cooperatives’ capacity building, UNFPA conducted entrepreneurship skills for young herders while FAO took actions on providing solid livestock production solutions to herder communities. Moreover, based on a dzud risk map issued on 2 January 2020 by the National Agency for Meteorology and Environmental Monitoring, more than 50 percent of the country was at risk of dzud, of which 21 percent predicted at very high risk and 34 percent at high risk, FAO mobilized a fund (USD 126,000) from its special fund for early actions (SFERA). The additional funding has complimented the work that are undertaken under the UNJP focused on disaster prevention and mitigation to respond to shocks. The UNJP has also established a new partnership with non-traditional partners, such as pastureland user groups, cooperatives, lifelong education centers. The UNJP partnered with Asian Development Bank (ADB) where the latter has conducted a simulation analysis of the impact of CMP top-up on poverty and inequality, concluding that it has the potential of reducing the current level of poverty (28.4%) to 24.7 percent. The UNJP has complemented the ADB’s simulation analysis by undertaking a national level study to investigate the implementation issues, beneficiary satisfaction and use of the top-up in overcoming the socio-economic challenges faced by the households with children during the pandemic.

Strategic meetings

Type of event	Yes	No	Comments
the UNJP launch event	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	the UNJP was officially launched on 11 February 2020 in Zavkhan province involving government and local partners, as well as stakeholders.
Annual the UNJP development partners’/donors’ event*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The project was presented at the Development Partners’ Meeting organized on 26 November 2020.

Funding and financing

Evidences and lessons from the pilot of the shock responsive cash transfers through the child money programme that was conducted in 2020 served as 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 (≈ 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 will work to mobilize funds to leverage current activities as opportunities avail. The project presentation and information sharing with donor community may also start further discussion for coordination and collaboration. Therefore, the UNJP will closely work with the UNRCO and the donor community.

Innovation, learning and sharing

- The UNJP is applying a range of activities to capture the learning points. The UNJP’s steering committee and Technical committee meetings are held 4 times and two joint monitoring missions took place involving national and local authorities and development partners.
- Furthermore, the UNJP is enabled local herders to be trainers for advocating benefits of social and health insurance. Total 34 local herders, cooperative leaders and Trade Union volunteers learned on social protection content and reached over 2,000 herders. According to 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 capacities.

Strategic communications

- The UNJP informed about the joint programme activities through quarterly or half-yearly meetings to the Government, development partners and other projects and programmes for better coordination and communication.
- Also, PUNO communication officers took actions in the UNJP communication and posted over 16 posts, news and publications in UN SDG and UN agency sites. UNRCO Communication Officer is on board in November 2020, and is playing a key role to coordinate the agency-specific or thematic communications run by PUNOs. At the same time PUNOs took responsibility to communicating relevant aspects of the UNJP internally for which they are responsible for through their normal channels. Brochures and publications printed with SDG Fund and PUNO logos and distributed to partners and beneficiaries. At the same time their soft versions shared and delivered through social media in the form of infographics.

B. Annual Results

Overall progress

The UNJP achieved its targets successfully in 2020 with 91% commitment and 64% expenditure of funding. Number of long term collaboration agreements were established with the Government and partners to ensure the ownership of the UNJP support. For the first year, the UNJP, directly and indirectly contributed to herders’ health and social insurance coverage by 10% in pilot communities, 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.

- On track (expected annual results achieved)
 Satisfactory (majority of expected annual results achieved)
 Not-satisfactory (majority of expected annual results not yet achieved)

Please, explain briefly:

Contribution to Fund’s global results

The UNJP’s contribution to Joint SDG Fund outcome and outputs:

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

1.1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies have accelerated SDG progress in terms of scope

Target for 2020: 1 scheme piloted and demonstrated: 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 making decision to top up CMP at national level during pandemic.

RIMA II is in process. The data was collected and is currently being analyzed by RIMA experts. The results will be released early 2021.

1.2: Integrated multi-sectoral policies have accelerated SDG progress in terms of scale
Target for 2020: Not applicable for the first year. – Piloted and tested one scheme.

Social protection interventions such as peer to peer learning and testing of eight mechanisms to increase social insurance coverage through strengthening of herder cooperatives and pastureland users' groups have started, and initial result, according to province Social Insurance Office, has increased the coverage by 10% in the target herder communities.

Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

3.1: # of innovative solutions that were tested (disaggregated by % successful-unsuccessful)

Target for 2020: not applicable for the first year. – Initial pilots have been tested, and results are underway. For example, (i) introduction of social insurance incentive mechanisms through strengthening of herders' cooperatives and pastureland users' groups, (ii) introducing herders' curriculum to TVET and Lifelong Education Centre programme, (iii) identifying, encouraging and distributing social insurance officers' best practices nation-wide through MLSP, (iv) peer-to-peer learning to raise awareness of benefits of social and health insurance, and (v) IT based smart solutions to support current initiatives.

3.2: # of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead (shock)

Target for 2020: Herders' behavior is studied. 1 report – not achieved.

Report will be released in the second year. Although the report was not produced, the work is underway, and terms of reference and research method and sampling size have been agreed with the research institute. The project manager herself visited the target province and soums and collected information on why herders are laid back from social insurance using short questionnaires. (Mission report is available).

3.3: # and share of countries where national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators has been strengthened

Target for 2020: 1 – achieved.

National capacity to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators has increased. 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.

the UNJP Outputs and Outcomes

Achievement of expected contributions to outcomes

the UNJP has 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 initial pilots – peer-to-peer learning and leverages used through cooperatives – have shown the possibility of increasing social and health insurance coverage. The first pilot focuses on spreading words from peer to peer explaining the benefits of health and social insurance in a simple day-to-day language causing a wave of influence from one person to the next. The second pilot is mainly related to Government subsidy on wool and cashmere, which can only be distributed through cooperatives and/or PUGs. The project is working with a number of cooperatives in the pilot province to strengthen their governance so that the members make joint and

informed decision, e.g. to use the subsidy fund for social insurance coverage for member herders and contingency fund for prevention and mitigation of disaster.

- The UNJP contributed to strengthening institutional capacity to mainstream shock-responsiveness into the national social protection system have resulted in notable achievements in 2020. Prior to the onset of the global pandemic in 2019, the UNJP conducted a feasibility assessment of shock-responsive social protection measures for children. The assessment concluded that the existing governments' mechanism for child benefit is the most suitable system to reach the children in most effective way during shocks. The system was tested through a pilot, which was implemented in the winter of 2019-2020 generating some evidences and lessons to inform the government's response to shocks, including the COVID-19 pandemic, where around 850 billion MNT (≈300 mln USD) was leveraged for the child benefit top-up in 2020. The UNJP continued its support to the government in monitoring of its social protection response to the pandemic by significantly topping up the child benefit, with an aim to generate further evidences to inform the government's policies and programmes for institutionalization of shock-responsive social protection. In addition, the UNJP continued its policy advocacy to maintain the universality and the size of child benefit in 2021, which contributed in state budget allocation of 576 billion MNT (≈200 mln USD) required to maintain the current top-up of the child benefit in the first half of 2021 to help households with children in avoiding negative coping strategies caused by the pandemic.
- Further, the UNJP supported the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MLSP) in monitoring its pandemic response focusing on CMP and Food Stamp Programme (FSP) generating further evidences and lessons useful for the Governments' future decision about CMP size, coverage and measures to improve implementation, as well as institutionalization SRSP for children in the future. In this, the UNJP partnered with Asian Development Bank (ADB) where the latter has conducted a simulation analysis of the impact of CMP top-up on poverty and inequality, concluding that it has the potential of reducing the current level of poverty (28.4%) to 24.7 percent. The UNJP has complemented the ADB's simulation analysis by undertaking a national level study to investigate the implementation issues, beneficiary satisfaction and use of the top-up in overcoming the socio-economic challenges faced by the households with children during the pandemic. The study methodologies and tools were greatly informed by the findings and lessons of the pilot on SRSP for children and at the same time, the UNJP is building the local research capacity to design and undertake studies aimed at understanding shocks, impact of shocks, coping strategies and implications of government responses to shocks. Implementation of the UNJP in 2020 focused more on the pilot interventions in selected province/soums for testing the shock-responsiveness methods to demonstrate to strengthen the national social protection system. In 2021, the UNJP will continue the pilot testing and work closely with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to improve legal and policy environment to strengthen the social protection system in the country.

Achievement of expected 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.

- The UNJP is developing non-traditional, innovative approaches to increase herders' social and health insurance coverage. Following the discussion with the ministry, social insurance agency, cooperatives' association, life-long learning centers and TVETs, it has so far identified several new approaches to extended social protection and started testing the first few. These are (i) eight social insurance incentive mechanisms through strengthening of herders' cooperatives and pastureland users' groups; (ii) herder training curriculum development for TVETs and life-long education centers; (iii) experience sharing of best practices of social insurance officers at national level, (iv) peer-to-peer learning to raise awareness on social and health insurance benefits and (v) IT based smart applications. 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 in 2020. Thirty-four herders, lifelong training centre teachers and trade union volunteers were trained as local trainers for herders' training programme and became local advocates to promote social insurance benefits; The trainers organizes trainings for 40% of all herders in target 5 soums about the benefits of social and health insurance at their homes as a group⁴; 44 local social insurance officers of Zavkhan and Gobi-Altai provinces received capacity building training and were provided with funding and training materials to reach herders; they reached over 4000 herders distributing 1200 brochures to 840 households;
- MLSP began developing advocacy content, TV and radio programmes; audio-visual training materials 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. Eight incentive mechanisms were identified to increase herders' social and health insurance coverage through better governance and performance of cooperatives. Examples include: 1) herders paying their insurance contributions in non-monetary items such as livestock and raw material; 2) cooperative member's insurance premiums can be paid or deducted from their incentives of raw material supplied to national processing factories; 3) provide genetically improved animal breeding services to insured herders in priority; 4) negotiate with relevant organizations the possibility of providing discounts on veterinary services to herders who are covered by social insurance. 5) Herder cooperatives started to implement comprehensive small projects to improve cooperatives governance and performance and increase member herders' social insurance coverage. These Incentive mechanisms are under implementation in 6 herder cooperatives in 5 target soums, Zavkhan involving over 1,600 herder members and over 30 cooperative leaders
- Furthermore, the UNJP worked closely with nation-wide training institutions of Technical and Vocational Education and Lifelong Education Centres to establish a formal Herder training programme which includes a social protection content. Even though, a herder is a widespread traditional occupation in Mongolia, it has never been profiled and specified in terms of modern occupational standard in national curriculum. This situation impacted herders' social, political and labour rights and have stigmatized herders as "uneducated people with no qualification". In this context, a detailed assessment and evaluation were conducted with the view of developing a herder occupational profile with skills specifications, and training programme for nation-wide training institutions of TVET and Life-long training centres. The training programme will have less classroom learning and more practical training providing innovative education technologies with interactive training materials, and teachers' on site visit to students. Also, the Herder training programme will include herders' technical qualifications and soft skills that respond to climate change, economic shocks and market demand.
- Additionally, the UNJP supported Mongolian TVET training programme transition to e-learning platform providing methodological guidance enabling 2 specialists from the MLSP to attend to E-Learning Lab on Digital TVET online course. The participants taught in turn to 87 TVET specialists from 52 TVETs how to develop their e-learning content and make successful transition to e-learning platform in COVID-19 situation. Feasibility and needs assessment on IT based innovative solutions were carried out to increase the accessibility of herders to social protection services. Smart phone application and other IT solutions will be developed and implemented in 2021.

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 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

- The UNJP conducted the first two round of entrepreneurship trainings for young herders on site in 5 selected soums. Participation was high in all 5 soums and young herders showed a great interest in starting businesses as a mean to diversify their income. Some 36 project proposals have been submitted to our funding call and the UNJP made a site-visit to all selected soums to meet with the applicants in person and engaged local authorities and local SME specialists in the evaluation process so that it can be aligned with the overall development plan of the soums. Eight project proposals were selected through in person interviews and were awarded the seed funds.

⁴ Mongolian herders have a nomadic lifestyle, moving from one place to another, around the year. It is difficult to organize a classroom-training for herders; therefore, the UNJP tried peer-to-peer learning, so that herders teach the others who live nearby.

- In September, the UNJP had a joint mission with the other PUNOs, RC and the Minister for Labor and Social Protection to Zavkhan province to show the project implementation on the ground. Only 48% of the business grants could be distributed, the rest will be carried over to the year 2021. 157 young herders from the 5 soums in Zavkhan province attended the course given by SME specialists and have acquired knowledge on starting small businesses. Eight of them were provided seed funds to buy raw materials and necessary equipment to run their businesses.
- A sustainable marketplace for livestock products was established, collaborating with the Zavkhan province Governor's office. The PUNOs organized the "Zavkhan province herders' festival under the slogan "Cannot succeed without collaboration" on 18-19th of September in Uliyastai. In the two-day event gathered over 400 people including 335 herders from 24 soums of Zavkhan province, national textile, leather processing and carpet companies, livestock breeders and researchers, public and private sector representations.
- The exhibition of products made from livestock raw materials presented over 125 types of products to the public. Mongolian famous textile and leather processing enterprises invited to the event from Ulaanbaatar, Erdenet and Darkhan made good sales during the two days. Total sales of two days reached MNT 39.9 million of which Mogol noos LLC – MNT 10 million, Gobi LLC- MNT 10 million, Darkhan nekhii – MNT 14 million; Mongol Textile LLC-600.000 MNT; sales revenue of 17 soums' brand products amounted to 15.9 million MNT. This shows that a marketplace, and a partnership of herders and national enterprises can bring cash income increase to herders.

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

- The notable achievement in 2020, 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, which is a climate related weather shock, by vertically expanding the Child Money Program (CMP). The goal of the pilot was to demonstrate the value of mainstreaming SRSP into the national social protection system and to generate lessons on whether and how to scale up the pilot programme in order to support children and households to avoid negative coping strategies, such as reduced food consumption, reduced expenditure for health need and education during shocks.
- 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 2730 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 6800 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. This early response action aimed to support the households with young children in their continued smooth consumption, when they start to experience income constraints due to harsh winter conditions that lead the households to increase their spending for fodder to save their livestock.
- The specific feature of this pilot programme for children was that it used the existing Government system of social assistance for children, that includes targeting mechanisms, beneficiary databases, payment systems, human resources and monitoring mechanisms, and therefore, that allow for their rapid, temporary scale-up as a means of preparedness or early response nationwide during shocks and emergency situations.
- The post distribution monitoring of the pilot confirmed that supporting children during shock through the existing system such as the CMP system did not cause any additional burden in the national and local social welfare system. As the cash assistance was not subject to any bank fees and was not used to pay for any household loan or interest payments, the cash assistance pilot through the existing system was at the least administrative cost directly reaching the beneficiaries and meeting their needs.

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: 5

- Establishing a community contingency fund is one of the long-term shock responsive strategies. The UNJP has supported four cooperatives, as a result, herders have gotten well repaired warehouse, new storage containers for hay, fodder and wool, cashmere and other livestock raw materials and as well as fence for fodder cultivation fields, which can be interpreted into a better income generation, thus livelihood and being prepared for shocks. This tangible support has led herders to mobilize the additional income and resource for establishing and maintaining the shock responsive Contingency fund. Herder household members agreed to contribute MNT 20,000, Toonot Doono cooperative in Tes soum, Zavkhan. This model will be scaled up in other soum cooperatives in the pilot province, Zavkhan.
- 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. The lack of market-oriented genetic improvements incentives, has led to a decrease in livestock productivity and deterioration in quality of products and raw materials. the UNJP addressed this circumstance and to increase resilient capacity of herds and local livestock breeds, organized province level fair pedigree animal trade fair among 23 soums of targeted Zavkhan province. In the fair, organized on September 18-19, 2020 in Zavkhan province, 67 pedigree rams and bucks were sold for 17.35 million MNT out of 135 pedigree sires of locally adapted breeds introduced by pedigree animal breeding units from 18 soums of Zavkhan province and 2 nucleus flocks of state breeding centres in Zavkhan and Uvs provinces. Improving quality of animals, in terms of resilience to cold climate and better production of meat, milk, wool and cashmere, will result in better productivity, thus better livelihood of herders. Moreover, 19 local extension practitioners (13 women and 6 men) were trained for 3-day ToT for better implementation of climate-smart livestock production practices for disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and natural resource management at the herder community level in line with livestock production seasonality calendar.

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.

- Currently, the UNJP is conducting two policy level studies, Social protection diagnostic review (SPDR) and a Study on herders' behavior towards social and health insurance. Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions they are delayed. However, the final result and recommendations will be available June 2021 and multi-stakeholder national dialogue will be taken place accordingly.
- Provided technical support to MLSP on pension policy development enabling 2 specialists to attend at Executive E-Learning on Pension Policy and Management online course, ITCILO.
- Following these policy documents and researches, a national dialogue and conference will be hosted by UNRC in the second year.

Workplan

- the UNJP workplan was modified
 the UNJP workplan was not modified

Explain briefly:

C. Plan for the Next Year of implementation

Next year

Plan for 2021:

The UNJP has 3 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.

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

- Herders' behavior study and Social protection diagnostic reviews will be conducted to better understand situations and social insurance needs of male and female herders
- 2 reports and policy recommendation to the Government will be published
- 2 more innovative solutions are will be piloted and implemented to increase herders' social and health insurance coverage.

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

- Social entrepreneurship initiatives are consolidated and the sustainability is ensured by leveraging local funding and approved policies; complete the distribution of seed funds to businesses; complete all 3 planned entrepreneurship trainings for the young herders including a master class on felt design and production as well as dairy products packaging based on the needs of the young herders as expressed during our site visits
- 3 modules of Life Skills Books published for herders in Q1 and will conduct trainings with professional trainers for herders in Q1. The handbook contains information on communication, gender issues, gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health rights.

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

- SRSP programme impact evaluation will be completed with clear recommendations for policy changes

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

- Integrated approach to enhance livestock-based livelihoods resilience is adopted and conducted Training for strengthening the national capacity for assessing impact of social protection interventions on resilience of livestock-based livelihoods

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

- Multi-stakeholder national level dialogue on Social protection conference will be organized 2 times hosted by UNRC

Towards the end of the UNJP implementation

By the end of the UNJP, the overall objective of demonstrating how traditional and non-traditional partners can work together to implement and accelerate sustainable development agenda in the country, with particular focus for increased social protection for herder men and women. The social insurance coverage rate will achieve at least 20 percent by the end of the project which stood at 15 per cent in 2018. Health insurance coverage will be from 40 to 50 percent for the same period. In addition, herder households' resilience to shocks will improve through strengthened institutional capacity to mainstream shock-responsiveness into the national social protection system.

Risks and mitigation measures

- The UNJP conducted a rigorous impact evaluation to provide evidence on the impact of Child Money Programme including education, malnutrition and public perception. CMP is implemented with strong promotion activities to public introducing research findings. The overall public perception was very positive.
- The government of Mongolia is not able to increase its financial investment in social protection as a result of having accepted austerity measures from international bailout package.

- Public perception to increase herders' social insurance coverage was low. However, the UNJP applied different innovative solutions and tools that appreciated by local social insurance officers and local community leaders.
- In terms of risk that PUNOs operate as individual agencies rather than one. However, regular PUNO meetings with consultative, consensus based decisions and joint missions helped PUNOs work as one team. PUNOs regular meeting enabled to the UNJP to provide evidence of the expected results to progress reports.
- Lack of coordination and unified understanding among the players in the area of SRSP was one of the risks faced the UNJP. However, coordination between social protection and disaster management/humanitarian actors played important role to mitigate this risk.

Annex 1: Consolidated Annual Results

1. The UNJP contribution to global programmatic results (annual)

Global Impact: Progress towards SDGs

List up to 3 main SDG targets that your Joint Programme primarily focused on in 2020

SDG: **SDG Target 1.3** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

SDG: **SDG Target 1.5** By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters;

SDG: **SDG Target 13.1** strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

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

1.1 Did your Joint Programme contribute to implementation of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerate SDG progress in terms of scope⁵ in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly: **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 Did your Joint Programme contribute to implementation of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerate SDG progress in terms of scale⁶ in 2020? (if so, brief explanation)

Yes

No

Explain briefly: **1 scheme piloted and demonstrated.** Shock responsive social protection programme to top up CMP was piloted in avkhan province to prevent and mitigate negative impacts of dzud, and has made direct and indirect influence on the Government to make a decision to top up CMP at **national level** during pandemic. Child benefit was increased vertically.

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

1.3 Number of innovative solutions tested in 2020

Total number disaggregated by % successful and unsuccessful:

The UNJP is developing non-traditional, innovative approaches to increase herders' social and health insurance coverage. Following the discussion with the ministry, social insurance agency, cooperatives' association, life-long learning centers and TVETs, it has so far identified several new approaches to extend social and health insurance and started testing the first few. These are (i) eight social insurance incentive mechanisms through strengthening of herders' cooperatives and pastureland users' groups; (ii) herder training curriculum development for TVETs and life-long education centers; (iii) experience sharing of best practices of social insurance officers at national level, (iv) peer-to-peer

⁵Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

⁶Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

learning to raise awareness on social and health insurance benefits and (v) IT based smart applications. Moreover, the UNJP has piloted child money top up, and RIMA. However, it is a bit early to conclude the initiatives if successful or not.

1.4 Number of integrated policy solutions implemented with the national partners in lead in 2020

Total number: 1

Provide the list : Child Money programme

Explain briefly: Shock responsive social protection programme to top up CMP was piloted to prevent and mitigate negative impacts of dzud, and has made direct and indirect influence on the Government to make a decision to top up CMP at **national level** during pandemic. Child benefit was increased vertically.

1.5 Did your Joint Programme contribute to strengthening of national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly: National capacity to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators has increased. 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 and pastureland users' groups and life-long education centers.

1.6 Did your Joint Programme develop a functioning partnership framework for integrated policy solutions to accelerate progress on SDGs in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly: Technical Working group meeting of the UNJP, is functioning as a platform to bring all stakeholders who work for herders in Mongolia. Moreover, as indicated, the PUNOs also partnered with external partners such as ADB, as well as mobilized resources through internal channel to leverage the UNJP results.

2. Selected global performance indicators (annual)

2.1. Did your Joint Programme contribute to the improvement of overall UNCT coherence in 2020?

Yes, considerably contributed

Yes, contributed

No

Explain briefly: the UNJP contributes to Output 2.4, Outcome 2 of UNDAF Mongolia 2017-2021. The Output used to have only two traditional players – UNICEF and ILO – to work on social protection area. Now, with the UNJP, it welcomed UNFPA and FAO to work under the said output, which enables coordination and coherence of agency specific interventions for multiplied impact.

2.2. Did your Joint Programme contribute to reduced transaction costs for participating UN agencies in their interaction with national/regional and local authorities and/or public entities compared to other Joint Programmes?

Yes,

No

N/A (if there are no other joint programmes in the country)

Explain briefly: It is cost effective since the UNJP organizes joint field missions, meetings and workshops. PUNOs have agreed to design the training in a complimentary way to minimize the cost, without overlapping the content, e.g. one focuses more on livelihood trainings, the second on animal quality and climate resilience, the third on child protection and disaster risk reduction, and the last, but not least, on cooperative training to engage herders to work together for common interest. There are other joint programmes, but difficult to make comparison.

2.3. Was your Joint Programme aligned with the UNCT Results Groups in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly: the UNJP Outcome Results Group 2. Under the outcome results group, we have output group where we report on the project to UNInfo. The UNJP has been registered as one joint activity in UNInfo.

2.4. Did your Joint Programme secure additional funding resources in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly: The PUNOs contributed their responsible funding as planned in 2020.

3. Results as per the UNJP Results Framework (annual)

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Expected 2020 target	2020 Result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected 2021 target	Expected final target (if different from 2021)
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) ⁷ herders are covered by social insurance and health insurance respectively, which accounts for only 15 per cent	Gradual increase leading to 2021 Target	and national average increased by 5%		Social and health insurance coverage is increased from 15 to 20 per cent and from 40 to 50 per cent, respectively.	

⁷ Data received from GASInsurance, September 23, 2019;

	and 40 per cent, respectively, of total of 288,7 thousand herders ⁸ .					
Output 1.1: Innovative solutions responding to life contingencies and social insurance needs of herders applied to the administration of social insurance schemes, both men and women						
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. ⁹	Discussions and dialogues organized to come up with innovative solutions and creativeness.	Discussions took place. Number of non-traditional solutions were identified to increase coverage of social and health insurance of herders.		At least 2 innovative solutions tested to improve coverage of social insurance.	
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 youth development centers including life skill and income generating training.	UNFPA has prepared 90 trainers of the Life-Skill trainings and the trainings are offered through Youth development centers and Lifelong Education Centers in each soums of Mongolia, which are currently operating under the AFCYD. The UNFPA has supported 17 out 32 Youth Development centers in 2014-18.	At least 100 herding men and women are trained on life skills and livelihood skills	150 herders attended two-round trainings organized by the UNJP on starting business and gained basic skills around the topic. 10 businesses were selected to be further invested and trained.		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.	
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.	None	N/A		MLSP prepares and submits a proposal on shock-responsiveness measures for herders for parliament discussion.	
Output 2.1 Shock responsive social protection measures focusing on children in herder families piloted and documented.						

⁸ www.1212.mn

⁹ https://www.adb.org/publications/improving-delivery-social-protection-ict-mongolia-nepal-vietnam

<p>Output indicator 2.1: Empirical-based recommendations on the design and administration of shock-responsiveness measures in child money programme</p>	<p>UNICEF has conducted a study on shock responsive social protection, with particular focus on Child Money Programme, in 2018.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>The UNJP partnered with ADB where the latter has conducted a simulation analysis of the impact of CMP top-up on poverty and inequality. The UNJP report will be finalized in 2021.</p>	<p>1</p>	
<p>Output 2.2 The resilience of livestock-based livelihoods to climate-related risks and shocks enhanced at national, local and herder community</p>					
<p>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</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>15</p>	
<p>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</p>					
<p>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.</p>	<p>Mongolia is under the austerity programme of IMF. ABND on Social Protection Floor was carried out in 2015.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>1</p>	

Output 3.1: Financing strategy options for sustainable and adequate benefits guided by evidence and stakeholders' dialogue						
Output indicator 3.1.1: Number of reports and dialogues including the recommendation of financing strategy to the Government with focus on age and	The Mongolia Social Protection Floor was defined in 2015.	1 dialogue and 1 national conference is hosted by UNRC.	Will be organized in 2021.	Baseline studies were not out yet, and also there was restriction of organizing bigger meetings/ conferences due to COVID.	- ABND Report with focus on herders; - 1 dialogue and 1 national conference hosted by UNRC	

Annex 2: List of strategic documents

Strategic documents that were produced by the UNJP

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description of the document and the role of the UNJP in finalizing it
Study of Child Money Programme and Food Stamp Programme top-ups implemented in response to COVID-19	Dec 2020	'Study of Child Money Programme and Food Stamp Programme top-ups implemented in response to COVID-19' has strategic importance that supported the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MLSP) in monitoring its pandemic response focusing on CMP and Food Stamp Programme (FSP) generating further evidences and lessons useful for the Governments' future decision about CMP size, coverage and measures to improve implementation, as well as institutionalization SRSP for children in the future. In this, JP partnered with Asian Development Bank (ADB) where the latter has conducted a simulation analysis of the impact of CMP top-up on poverty and inequality, concluding that it has the potential of reducing the current level of poverty (28.4%) to 24.7 percent. JP has complemented the ADB's simulation analysis by undertaking a national level study to investigate the implementation issues, beneficiary satisfaction and use of the top-up in overcoming the socio-economic challenges faced by the households with children during the pandemic. The study methodologies and tools were greatly informed by the findings and lessons of the pilot on SRSP for children and at the same time, JP is building the local research capacity to

		design and undertake studies aimed at understanding shocks, impact of shocks, copying strategies and implications of government responses to shocks.
Post-Distribution Monitoring Report of our SRSP pilot for rural children	Dec 2020	The Post distribution monitoring report is the consolidated report of a beneficiary household’s survey and qualitative KII and FGDs. The strategic importance of the Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) is supported the Government to assess the quality of the cash distribution process, utilization and its immediate impact in overcoming the winter conditions and improve the future quality of related interventions.

Strategic documents for which the UNJP provided contribution

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description of the document and the role of the UNJP in finalizing it

Annex 3: Strategic communication results

3.1. Have you created a strategic communication plan for the Joint Programme?

- Yes
- No

Explain briefly: the UNJP followed the communication plan as described in the project document. The project, as described in the project document, heavily relies on RCO Communication specialist, who was recruited in November 2020. Initial discussion with the communication officer took place, and will develop a communication plan for remaining part of the project.

3.2. What percentage of the annual budget towards communications was utilized from the total budget? (Note that the entire the UNJP comms budget must be min 5% of the total the UNJP budget)

Explain briefly: Approximately 2-3 percent. In the past one year, the UNJP used low cost communication means such as PUNOs’ and partners’ websites, social media and twitter accounts. A special edition of Agricultural Tomorrow Newspaper was dedicated to promote.

3.3. Have visibility outcomes increased due to the provided funding for the UNJP strategic communications?

- Yes
- No

Explain briefly: Yes. All PUNOS and the Government including MLSP and Zavkhan province have posted and re-posted messages and interviews on their respective websites, FB and twitter accounts.

3.4. Does the Country Profile Page on the Joint SDG Fund website contribute to your the UNJP outreach?

- Yes
 No

Explain briefly: The country profile page was useful to the UNJP activities. Particularly, human stories on Country Profile page was shared locally.

3.5. How many articles (interviews, human interest stories, press releases, expert insights, etc) about your the UNJP were published by an external media outlet (Non-UN published)?

Total number: 4 or more

Explain briefly: Programme partners such as MLSP and Provincial Governors regularly posted the programme information on their websites, Facebook pages and twitters, and Agricultural Tomorrow newspaper has dedicated its one-time whole edition for the project. Minister for Labour and Social Protection is active on twitter and FB and regularly tweets about the project activities directly, particularly, in which she participates.

3.6. How many articles (interviews, human interest stories, press releases, expert insights, etc) about the Joint Programme were published by the UNCT and the UNJP PUNOs?

Total number: 8 or more

Explain briefly: UNCT and PUNOs used their respective websites and social media channels (FB and twitter).

3.7. Have you received an increase of social media followers?

- Yes
 No

Total number: (Not mandatory)

Explain briefly: the UNJP activities are regularly posted on UNRCO and PUNOs' FB and Twitter accounts. Number of followers have increased, but it is difficult to say by how many. For example, the Decent work FB posts on herders' peer-to-peer training reached one of the highest reaches, following which number of followers increases.

Multi-Media Faucets

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
Handbook for herders on benefits of social protection	24 Oct 2020	An easy-to-use handbook dedicated for herders to promote benefits of social and health insurance. This infographic handbook is distributed to over 1000 herder households in target 5 soums.
Assessment report on herder cooperatives to apply innovative mechanisms to increase herders' social insurance coverage	Dec 2020	The National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Cooperatives, contracted with the UNJP and conducted assessment on herder cooperatives.

Social Media Campaigns

Title of the document	Type (FB/Twitter/LinkedIn/Etc.)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
Herders' peer-to-peer training in increasing their social insurance coverage	FB/Twitter	https://www.facebook.com/decentproductivework/posts/1059578704478324
Local insurance officers trained as Trainers to reach herders effectively	FB/Twitter	https://www.facebook.com/decentproductivework/posts/1056989154737279
Intervention to herders in severe drought area in Mongolia	FB/Twitter	https://www.facebook.com/decentproductivework/posts/1063387220764139
Links to project event in Zavkhan	Websites	http://za.hhaag.gov.mn/post/54527 http://zavkhan.gov.mn/151/item/3393 https://montsame.mn/en/read/236932?fbclid=IwAR2L09Y_Ullwciw8KD5QtAZkl_4n2mxKnCmrzZY9Zo1lhVB7NsBylkkpf-k

Annex 4: Updated the UNJP Risk Management Matrix

Risks	Risk Level: (Likelihood x Impact)	Likelihood: Certain - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare - 1	Impact: Essential - 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1	Mitigating measures	Responsible Org./Person
Contextual risks					
Overall negative perception about cash transfer based on assumption that it leads to welfare dependency.	High (9)	3	3	A rigorous impact evaluation is conducted to provide evidence on the impact of cash on children's development, including education and malnutrition.	UNICEF/Chief of Social Policy
The government of Mongolia is not able to increase its financial investment in social protection as a result of having accepted austerity measures from international bailout package	High (9)	3	3	Mitigating measures are limited. The UN communicates and promotes the importance and social protection (social insurance and assistance) including creating fiscal space to cover all.	UNRCO

Public perceptions of herders as not up to development changes and therefore a lack of support for increased social protection spending for herders	Low (4)	2	2	Due to the pandemic, the importance of social protection systems including social and health insurance systems has increased, therefore, there is more support for increased social protection spending for herders.	ILO
Programmatic risks					
PUNOs operate as individual agencies rather than one.	High (15)	3	5	Regular meeting PUNO working group and Technical Working Group meetings helped UN agencies to work as one.	UNRCO
Programme outputs are not responsive to the specific needs of herders as herders; as mothers, fathers, daughters and sons, and as citizens	High (9)	3	3	All PUNOs contributed to the design of the behavioral outputs and draw on the findings in their respective work.	Each PUNO
Insufficient absorptive and technical capacity of national partners, leading to delayed completion of analytical works and timely delivery of the project outputs and difficulties in joint planning and joint delivery among the PUNOs and between the PUNOs and other external programmes	High (12)	3	4	Close coordination and joint work planning and delivery with the programmes of IFIs and other development partners enabled to achieve 2020 targets effectively.	UNRC and PUNOs
Institutional risks					
Lack of coordination and unified understanding among the players in the area of SRSP. Coordination between social protection and disaster management/humanitarian actors has been identified as a key challenge by several development partners examining SRSP in Mongolia.	High (12)	3	4	The pilot was success and the Government scaled up the design nationally.	UNICEF/Chief of Social Policy
Government's waning interest in participate in the UNJP and implement the recommendations	High (10)	2	5	Project partners have established an active network under the leadership of UNRC and the MLSP. Minister for Labour and Social Protection has made strong commitment to the project implementation.	UNRC
Fiduciary risks					
PUNOs are not able to provide evidence of the expected results	Low (6)	1	5	A regular monitoring of programme progress helped PUNOs to discuss implementation process and potential collaboration under UNRCO leadership.	UNRC