

Final Narrative Report: Joint Programmes in the Seed Funding Tracks

INTRODUCTION

Reporting period: From the start date to the end date of the joint programme (JP).

- Please be succinct and to the point, focusing on the most important accomplishments and issues that you want to bring to the attention of the Joint SDG Fund at the global level.
- Please do not exceed the word limit for each narrative question.
- Kindly ensure that the information provided is duly reviewed and approved by the RC and all PUNOs involved in the JP.
- Please contact rena.hinoshita@un.org, maria.berenguer@un.org, vittoria.gemelli@un.org, and/or maya.marquez@un.org for questions and support.

Submission deadline from RCOs to the Joint SDG Fund: No later than 2 months from the JP end date via MS Form (<https://forms.office.com/e/zYeyMiXjAv>)

PROFILE

JOINT PROGRAMME (JP) PROFILE:	
UN Country Team	Mongolia
JP Title	Strengthening Digital E-Mongolia Services and Communities (DEMOSC)
Funding Round (Select the applicable funding round for the JP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Decent Jobs and Universal Social Protection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Digital Transformation <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Skills <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Access and Affordability <input type="checkbox"/> Food Systems Transformation <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Policy and Capacity Building <input type="checkbox"/> SDG Localization
Cross-fertilized SDG Transitions (Select up to 2 main SDG Transitions that are reflected in the JP progress to date)	<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change, Biodiversity Loss, Pollution <input type="checkbox"/> Decent Jobs and Universal Social Protection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Digital Transformation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education and Skills <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Access and Affordability <input type="checkbox"/> Food Systems Transformation
Contribution to Cooperation Framework Outcomes	Outcome 1 and Output 1.2 and Output 1.6, Outcome 2 and Output 2.1 and Output 2.2, Outcome 4 and Output 4.3
Actual Start Date (i.e. fund transfer date)	15/06/2024
Duration	12 months

Actual End Date (i.e. operational closure date)	15/06/2025
Total Approved Funding from the Joint SDG Fund	USD 250.000
Planned Financial Closure Date	30/03/2026
Fund Management Modality: Administrative Agent (Pass-through Only)	Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) - Mari Matsumoto, Portfolio Manager, mari.matsumoto@undp.org - Sara Ansari, Finance Manager, sara.ansari@undp.org
JP TEAM:	
Resident Coordinator	Name: Jaap Van Hierden Email: jacob.vanhierden@un.org
JP's RCO focal point	Name: Sang Won Lim Title: Development Coordination Officer Email: lim6@un.org
Lead PUNO focal point	Name: Barkhas Losolsuren Title/Organisation: Programme Analyst / UNDP Email: barkhas.losolsuren@undp.org
Other PUNOs focal points	Name: Tserennadmid Nyamkhuu Title/Organisation: Education Specialist / UNICEF Email: tnyamkhuu@unicef.org
JP's designated communications focal point	Name: Soyolmaa Dolgor Title/Organisation: Communications and Advocacy Officer / RCO Email: soyolmaa.dolgor@un.org

OVERVIEW

1. Overall self-assessment of the JP achievements.

The primary objective of the Joint SDG Fund's seed funding track is to provide countries with support and resources to incubate and pilot transformative solutions and approaches (including actions to develop and implement national roadmaps or priorities) that can subsequently lead to accelerating progress across [key SDG Transitions](#) at scale. Towards this objective, please evaluate the performance of the JP.

1.a. Rate the overall performance of the JP: Did the JP deliver its key results as planned in the ProDoc?

Unsatisfactory, Marginal Achievement: Less than 50% of expected results delivered.

Satisfactory Achievement: 50-75% of expected results delivered.

Very Good, Solid Achievement: 100% of expected results delivered; implementation completed on schedule.

Exceptional, Outstanding Achievement: 100% of expected results delivered ahead of schedule, with additional results or improvements delivered.

1.b. Incubation and validation of solutions/approaches/roadmaps: How much results did the JP reach in incubating innovative approaches/national roadmaps and/or piloting transformative solutions during the 12 months?

Limited Results: None of planned incubation activities/roadmaps or pilot solutions were rolled out.

Moderate Results: Planned incubation activities/roadmaps or pilots began but remain at the early stages or within the limited scope at the time of the JP closure.

Good Results: Planned incubation activities/roadmaps and pilot solutions are fully operational and validated.

Excellent Results: All planned incubation activities/roadmaps and pilot solutions are completed and validated ahead of schedule, showing promising potential or early sign of scale-up.

Not Applicable: The JP did not plan to incubate ideas, roadmaps or conduct pilots during this phase.

1.c. Sustainability and scalability potential: To what extent did the JP achieve in establishing pathways for future viability and scale-up of the innovations/solutions beyond the 12-month implementation?

Marginal Achievement: Concrete sustainability or scale-up plan was developed but not operationalized; only preliminary discussion with potential partners/funders took place.

Moderate Achievement: Sustainability and scale-up strategies were rolled out; potential scale-up pathways identified; active engagement with potential partners/funders underway.

Solid Achievement: Comprehensive sustainability and scale-up strategies achieved a broad uptake; viable pathways for expansion secured; engagement with potential partners/funders deepened and showing promising outcomes.

Exceptional Achievement: Robust sustainability and scale-up plans were implemented ahead of schedule; multiple viable scale-up pathways activated; strong commitments from partners/funders obtained; additional opportunities for expansion identified beyond initial plans.

Not Applicable: The JP has not yet reached the stage of planning for sustainability and scalability.

RESULTS OF THE JP

A. Results-Based Narrative

2. Overall results of the JP (600 words / 1.5 pages max)

Using bullet points, describe the key achievement made by the JP, especially around how it contributed to incubating and piloting new ideas and approaches (including actions to develop and implement national roadmaps/priority areas) to propel the [key SDG Transitions](#). Your response should cover how the JP made changes around '[enabling actions](#)': 1) developing new policy and regulatory frameworks; 2) identifying new pipelines of solutions; 3) strengthened capacities of key stakeholders; 4) enhanced partnerships and financing mixes to ensure sustainability and scale, and other transformative shifts. Please include specific reference to the SDG targets identified in the ProDoc.

Three main results that the JP has achieved over the past year are as follows:

- **The capacity of national and sub-national government entities to deliver digital e-government services to remote and low-connectivity areas was enhanced** through the deployment of a technology-equipped van, called KhurDan mobile unit, which proved to be a replicable and effective model for addressing geographic and infrastructure-related barriers, as well as limited digital skills, thereby enabling more equitable and inclusive access to e-government services.

A total of 4,823 citizens including herders, elderly, and remote households residing in four target locations (Ulaanbaatar, Darkhan-uul, Khentii and Dornod) accessed government digital services through the mobile outreach unit.

- **The capacity of civil servants and communities of the target locations in basic digital skills and effective use of e-government services was strengthened** through the operationalization of the first-ever Digital Training Facility.

A total of 706 civil servants (60% women) and 2,828 citizens were trained across targeted aimags, soums, and districts. The trainings were delivered by 11 master trainers using an interactive, practice-based approach.

- **The community-level digital capacity and connectivity in the target locations were enhanced** by equipping school-based Digital Community Information Workers (DCIWs) with structured training and tools, and through real-time connectivity monitoring.

A total of 70 schoolteachers, 10 education officials, and 350 students were trained as DCIWs. These DCIWs have reached out to 13,240 community members, including parents, elderly, herders, and persons with disabilities, fostering inclusive digital communities. Around 21,000 children indirectly benefited from improved school connectivity, greater access to digital learning, increased usage of digital platforms, and the presence of a DCIW support network that provides hands-on, timely assistance on using digital platforms (SDG4).

While achieving the above results, the JP has also made changes around the following ‘enabling actions’.

Developing new policy and regulatory frameworks [CF Output 1.1, SDG Target 9.1]:

- The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Mobile KhurDan Units developed by the JP was adopted by the Government, providing a framework for nationwide replication.
- The SOPs of the Digital Training Facility was also adopted by the Government,

Identification of new pipelines of solutions [SDG Targets 4.4, 5.b, 8,10]:

- KhurDan mobile unit (technology equipped van) proved to be suitable means to reach out remote communities with limited connectivity.

- The Giga Meter (formerly Daily Check Application) installed in the target schools proved to be an effective model that enables real-time monitoring of internet connectivity and usage (SDG 9, SDG 17).

Strengthening capacities of key stakeholders at scale [CF Output 1.4, SDG Targets 4.4, 5.b, 8, 9,10, 17]:

- Regulatory Agency for Government Digital Services (RAGDS), a newly created agency itself, became equipped with replicable model of providing mobile e-government services.
- 30 local government officials were trained on national ICT and education digital transformation policies. They also conducted knowledge-sharing sessions and advocated for scale-up in provinces like Selenge, Bulgan, Dundgobi, and Umnugobi (SDG 4, 17).
- A five-chapter, gender-sensitive online training module on digital literacy and education was developed and used for training DCIW's (SDG 4, 9, 17). A technical guideline documenting key findings and recommendations was produced.

Enhanced partnerships and financing mixes to ensure sustainability [SDG Target 1.3, 10]:

- One provincial government (Darkhan-uul) invested in the establishment of the KhurDan mobile unit and Digital Training Facility.
- One provincial government (Khentii) has committed budget support in its 2025–2028 plan to five digital literacy initiatives targeting 70,000 people, including vulnerable populations.
- These partnerships are expected to contribute to government-led scale-up, underpinning long-term public service inclusion and financial viability.

Transformative shifts toward institutionalization and scale-up readiness [SDG Target 9.1, 17]

- The JP laid a foundation for systemic transformation by transitioning from ad-hoc interventions to institutionalized, replicable service models supported by policy, human resource development, and digital infrastructure.
- Baseline and endline surveys showed a 20% increase in children's participation in digital learning, a 13% rise in school internet usage for education, and increased adoption of digital platforms and e-services such as digital signatures and the E-Mongolia application.
- Knowledge-sharing initiatives expanded adoption of the DCIW model to other provinces.

3. Constraints, adjustments and lessons (500 words / 1 page max)

In bullet points, please explain any constraints, including risks identified in the ProDoc's Risk Matrix, that were encountered and any adjustments that were made or mitigation actions taken by the JP team to strengthen the relevance and effectiveness of the JP and the coherence and coordination of UN system support.

In describing lessons learned, please be candid about both successes and failures, explaining what was learned from each experience and how these insights can inform future programming or scale-up efforts.

- *Mobile outreach proved critical for inclusivity and access:* The KhurDan model demonstrated that mobile outreach is a key enabler of digital inclusion, especially in remote areas with limited or no fixed infrastructure. Reaching marginalized populations would not have been feasible without mobile units. This approach is highly replicable and suitable for future digital transformation efforts in Mongolia.
- *Policy support enabled institutionalization:* The formal endorsement of Standard Operating Procedure for Mobile unit services and Digital Training Facility ensured the institutionalization of outreach and training initiatives. This policy foundation created a pathway for sustainability and national scale-up.
- *Community buy-in strengthened project sustainability:* Success in Darkhan-Uul, Khentii and Dornod provinces highlighted the importance of local government ownership, allocating their local budget to support mobile outreach, training facilities and capacity building activities, and underscoring the role of subnational commitment in long-term success.
- *Tailored training improved relevance and engagement:* Developing audience-specific training modules for both civil servants and marginalized groups enhanced the accessibility and effectiveness of capacity-building efforts. This strategy increased engagement and improved learning outcomes.
- *Empowering schools as digital enablers:* The JP yielded valuable lessons on how school-centered, community-embedded approaches can drive digital inclusion, while also highlighting key enablers of success such as local ownership, creativity, and visibility. Schools played a key role in advancing digital literacy at the grassroots level. Teachers and students acted as digital change agents, reinforcing community engagement.
- *Empowered DCIWs fostered community innovation:* Digital Community Information Workers (DCIWs), when given ownership and support, implemented creative digital literacy initiatives, including student poster-making competitions on “Online Safety,” with over 150 submissions, school-based podcast series on digital skills, social media campaigns using reels, infographics, and awareness content and youth events with guest speakers from the tech sector to inspire digital leadership.
- *Gender-sensitive approaches promoted equitable participation:* Deliberate efforts to include women resulted in 60% of trained civil servants being female. The gender-sensitive approach proved effective in ensuring equitable access and participation in digital skill-building.
- *Cross-sector collaboration enhanced coordination and alignment:* The strong collaboration between UN agencies, national ministries, government agencies and local governments in provinces ensured coherence with Mongolia’s digital transformation agenda and increased the relevance and impact of project interventions.
- *Leadership change in partner agencies delayed project implementation:* Following the June 2024 Parliamentary elections in Mongolia, a complete change in leadership—including key decision-makers—led to a four-month delay in project

implementation. The JP team mitigated this by re-engaging new stakeholders and securing renewed commitments.

- *Limited institutional capacity and staff turnover within government counterparts:* Weak institutional capacity and frequent staff changes within the implementing agency disrupted project continuity and slowed progress. To address this, the JP provided continuous support, simplified operational tools, and invested in capacity-building of newly assigned personnel.

Key Lessons:

- Empowering local actors — including schools, civil servants, and provincial governments — supports sustainability and ensures that digital transformation efforts are relevant and inclusive.
- Gender inclusion and mobile delivery models are proven enablers of equitable and scalable digital transformation.
- Youth engagement through the education system offers powerful opportunities for promoting digital awareness and behavioral change at the community level.
- Institutional capacity and continuity are vital for implementation success; early investments in human resource development and knowledge management are essential.

4. Scale up and pathways for transformative systems change (Select all that apply)

Please select all relevant pathways that the JP applied with the aim of scaling up systematic transformation:

Capacity-building & local ownership: Strengthening capacity of individuals, local institutions and communities to independently implement and sustain activities; or transferring ownership and management to local organizations for sustained impact.

Cross-sectoral collaboration & partnerships: Partnering with diverse stakeholder groups to address interconnected issues and amplify impact; engaging with private and public sector to replicate successful programme components; or institutionalize participatory governance mechanisms to ensure inclusivity and intensify effectiveness.

Policy integration & mainstreaming: Incorporating successful programme elements into national or local policies and regulations to ensure wider adoption and impact; or integrating programme components into existing systems and structures for wider reach, efficiency and sustainability.

Resource mobilization & financial sustainability: Developing innovative financing mechanisms and attracting new donors/investors to ensure financial sustainability and expansion; or influencing existing financing mechanisms or diversifying resource streams to support long-term programme viability and growth.

People-centred technology adoption & innovation: Leveraging technology and solutions to increase reach, efficiency, impact of activities; or using technology and innovation to enhance cross-sectoral collaboration and scale-up of impact.

Others. Please specify: _____

5. Measures taken with a focus on sustainability (500 words / 1 page max)

In bullet points, please elaborate how the JP has ensured the mid- to long-term sustainability and scalability of the JP results beyond its 12-month implementation period. Your response should focus on 1) measures taken to ensure financial, institutional, and community-level sustainability of the JP outcomes, 2) 'enabling actions' that supported sustainability and ownership, 3) the exit strategy that facilitated the scalability and replication of the successful JP interventions.

INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY-LEVEL SUSTAINABILITY

As the JP advanced, strategic efforts were made to ensure the long-term sustainability of its interventions. The focus extended beyond immediate outcomes to embedding practices, infrastructure, and capacities within institutional frameworks and communities, laying the groundwork for a forward-looking transition.

- **Strengthening institutional capacity:** The JP developed and secured official approval of regulatory documents, including Standard Operating Procedures for KhurDan mobile units and the Digital Training Facility. Two updated training programs were also created—one for civil servants and one for vulnerable groups—each with five tailored modules.
- **Infrastructure for digital skills:** Partnering with Darkhan-Uul's provincial government, the JP supported the establishment of a Digital Training Facility, ensuring sustainable digital literacy training for citizens and civil servants.
- **Innovative training delivery:** Eleven master trainers were certified, and delivered in-person digital literacy training to 2,828 community members and 706 civil servants, focusing on core digital skills, safe internet use, and information security.
- **Empowering educators:** In Darkhan-Uul, the DCIW under the education department prioritized Early Childhood Education (ECE) and TVET educators for training. A workplan was developed to continue this in the 2025–2026 academic year.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT AND LOCAL OWNERSHIP

The JP successfully leveraged strong financial and institutional commitment from local governments.

- **Local government investment was pivotal.** In Darkhan-Uul, the province co-funded Mongolia's first mobile e-government service—KhurDan—serving 4,823 citizens, including marginalized groups. It also co-financed the Digital Training Facility, promoting long-term digital inclusion.
- **Dornod province allocated** 2024 budget funds to continue the DCIW initiative, aiming to expand the school-based model. **In Khentii, the DCIW pilot secured buy-in,** leading the Governor's Office to allocate funding from its 2025–2028 plan

for digital literacy initiatives targeting 600 elderly citizens, 1,700 herders, and broader safety campaigns projected to reach over 70,000 people.

- **UNICEF mobilized USD 60,000** through the Giga initiative, extending Output 3 activities to Orkhon province.

ENABLING ACTIONS AND EXIT STRATEGY

The JP embedded multiple enabling actions and developed a structured exit strategy to ensure the continuity, scalability, and institutionalization of its interventions beyond the project implementation period.

- **Scalable models:** The KhurDan unit and the Digital Training Facility offer replicable models for other provinces or nationwide.
- **Capacity-building:** Certified trainers are equipped to continue digital literacy training among civil servants and marginalized groups.
- **Policy integration:** Official approval of SOPs, and recommendation support institutional ownership and potential nationwide expansion.
- **Education system alignment:** Digital literacy has been integrated into Darkhan-Uul's 2025–2026 education workplan, with DCIWs leading training for educators.
- **Sustained investment:** Ongoing financial commitments from Darkhan-Uul, Dornod, and Khentii underscore strong local ownership.
- **Open-access tools:** Customized training packages were handed over to local authorities and the Ministry of Education. A digital module with 27 subtopics and a QR code for access was distributed nationally for adaptation.
- **Knowledge-sharing:** The JP promoted uptake in non-target provinces (e.g., Selenge, Bulgan, Dundgobi, Umnugobi) through peer-learning and advocacy sessions.
- **Strategic alignment:** The JP aligned closely with Mongolia's digital transformation agenda through collaboration with UN agencies and government stakeholders. This multisectoral engagement enhanced the legitimacy and policy relevance of project interventions.
- **Adaptability:** Despite delays due to the 2024 elections, the JP re-engaged new leadership and ensured continuity, emphasizing the value of contingency planning.

B. Indicator-Based Performance Update

This section is based upon the JP results framework and workplan.

6. The JP results framework (Upload Excel)

Please assess the JP performance against the indicators identified in the ProDoc's Annex 1: Integrated results framework, namely 1) JP outputs and 2) JP contribution to Joint SDG Fund global indicators.

7. Key documents produced by the JP (Upload max. 10 files if available)

Please feel free to share up to 10 key documents, including, but not limited to, policy briefs, strategy papers, guidance notes, knowledge products and training materials that the JP would like to bring to the attention of the Joint SDG Fund at the global level. File types can be Word, Excel, PowerPoint, PDF, image, video and audio, but each file size must be below 1GB.

- I. [Standard Operating Procedure for KhurDan Mobile Unit services](#)
- II. [Standard Operating Procedure for Digital training facility](#)
- III. Tailored training modules for civil servant and the public (Attachment)
- IV. Conclusions and Recommendations from the Digital Community Information Workers Pilot Project (Attachment)

8. Number of people directly benefited by the JP

Direct beneficiaries are individuals, groups or organizations who actively participate in JP activities and directly benefit from its interventions, such as civil servants attending workshops, small business owners receiving training, or households accessing services provided by the JP. It is important to disaggregate the primary beneficiaries by sex and age as per table below when possible.

Type of engagement	Total Number of People	Number of Women and Girls*	Number of Children (ages of 0-14) *	Number of Youth (ages 15–24)*
Training/workshops for targeted groups	21,708	13,399	2,746	1,380
Awareness raising campaign for broad audience	228,517	134,825	-	-
Dialogues/consultations with relevant stakeholders	398	230	-	-
Coordination meetings with key partners	196	117	-	-
Access to expanded services	4823	3038	-	-
Others (Please specify): _____				

** Note that it is allowed to have overlaps in the reporting of women/girls and children/youth columns.*

9. Contributions to marginalized and vulnerable groups (250 words / 0.5 page max)

In bullet points, please provide a summary of how the JP benefited the marginalized and vulnerable groups identified in the ProDoc. Include results achieved at both institutional/policy and local/human levels. Please find the 20 standard LNOB groups in footnote 28 on page 17 of the UNSDG Output Indicator Framework's [Implementation Guide](#).

- Special attention was given to the participation of women and single mothers. Of the 4,823 citizens who received digital services through the KhurDan mobile service units in remote soums and districts of Khentii, Dornod, and Darkhan-Uul provinces as well as underserved areas of Ulaanbaatar, 63% were women. Additionally, 2,828 citizens received training in basic digital skills and how to access e-Mongolia services, with a particular focus on vulnerable and marginalized groups within the project’s target areas; 66% of these trainees were women.
- *Youth*: Through the school-based DCIW, 350 students received digital literacy training and contributed to peer and community education. This enabled 13,240 individuals, including youth, to access digital services and develop practical ICT skills.
- *Elderly persons*: DCIW provided tailored digital skills training to 385 elderly citizens, focusing on using E-Mongolia services, digital signatures, and online safety—enabling them to independently access essential public services. The KhurDan mobile outreach units’ focus was to reach them.
- *Persons with disabilities (PWDs)*: DCIW have delivered tailored digital skills training to 110 PWDs including 44% with visual impairments, 37% with physical or mobility challenges, 12% with hearing impairments, 4% with speech difficulties, and 2% with autism— along with 385 elderly citizens, and a number of herders. Many of these individuals had limited or no access to government e-services due to remoteness, low digital literacy, or disability-related barriers. For participants with disabilities, DCIW often provided one-on-one support by visiting them at home to ensure meaningful learning and accessibility. The JP demonstrated that the KhurDan mobile service unit is one of the most suitable and essential service delivery models for persons with disabilities who face challenges in accessing public services due to their physical limitations.
- *Internal migrants and nomadic herder families*: The KhurDan mobile outreach units delivered digital government services to 4,823 individuals in remote soums and districts of Khentii, Dornod, and Darkhan-Uul provinces, as well as underserved areas of Ulaanbaatar. This reduced geographic and infrastructure barriers for herder families and migrants, enhancing their access to e-services.
- *Policy and institutional level*: The project institutionalized mobile service delivery models and digital literacy platforms in local government systems. Gender equity and inclusivity were embedded in all policies, SOPs, and training resources developed.

10. Financial resources mobilized/leveraged

Please indicate the financial resources (in USD) mobilized or leveraged through the JP. Please clarify the source of funding/financing and the source type, such as PUNOs and Government contributions, public-private partnerships, private sector investments, and financial commitments from IFIs, DFIs and other donors.

Source of Funding/Financing	Type of Source (e.g. PUNO, PPP, DFI, donor, etc.)	Expected amount planned in the ProDoc	Actual amount mobilized as initially planned in the ProDoc	Additional amount newly mobilized beyond the ProDoc expectation
JP		\$ 250,000	\$250000	\$0
UNICEF-Giga		\$ 60.000	\$60000	\$0
Government	MDDIC	\$ 20.000	\$0	\$
Dornod province	Local government	\$0	\$0	\$10000
Darkhan-Uul province	Local government	\$0	\$0	\$69400

11. Cross-cutting issues and principles of leaving no one behind (LNOB)

For each question, select the relevant response. If yes, please list 1-2 examples of actions taken/results delivered, and if no, please provide a brief 1-2 sentence explanation in the table.

Question	Yes	No	Comment
The JP has adequately implemented environmental and social standards/safeguards to avoid and address adverse impacts on people and the planet.	Yes		The mobile outreach model (KhurDan) was designed to reduce travel burden and associated emissions by bringing services directly to underserved areas. The project followed inclusive training practices, ensuring all activities were safe, accessible, and non-discriminatory.
The JP has developed or operationalized a strategy to address human rights issues, undertaking and drawing upon relevant human rights analysis.	Yes		The JP emphasized equal access to public services and digital rights by targeting populations without access to digital infrastructure. It upheld the right to information and service access regardless of gender, location, or social status.
The JP has developed or operationalized a strategy to address structural inequalities facing women and girls.	Yes		Gender-sensitive training modules were implemented, resulting in 60% of trained civil servants being women. Targeted outreach and inclusive curricula ensured that women and girls had equitable access to digital literacy and government services
The JP has demonstrated positive results /effects for youth in accordance with the principles in Youth 2030.	Yes		The project empowered youth through school-based digital literacy campaigns and creative initiatives led by Digital Community Information

			Workers (DCIW), including poster competitions, podcasts, and tech-focused events designed for students.
The JP has developed or operationalized a strategy to address structural inequalities facing marginalized and vulnerable persons in any other LNOB groups. Please specify which groups:	Yes		The JP prioritized outreach to marginalized groups—including 1,700 herders and 600 elderly citizens—through mobile services and tailored digital skills training. Customized learning modules and in-person support helped ensure inclusion of those with limited prior digital exposure.

C. Strategic Communications and Partnership Update

12. Strategic communications

Please provide the links to written articles published by the JP, or the draft outline of a written article to be finalized in the coming weeks. Examples of human-interest stories, practical guidance on storytelling, other useful tools to produce impactful written articles can be found in the Joint SDG Fund's [Communications Guideline for Seed Funding Tracks](#) on [UNSDG Knowledge Portal](#) (NB: PUNOs may need to request access first).

List of links to written articles of human-interest stories:

- <https://un-dco.org/stories/bridging-digital-divide-mongolia>
- <https://www.jointsdgfund.org/article/un-supports-mongolias-effort-enhance-digital-literacy-nationwide>
- <https://mongolia.un.org/en/285715-un-supports-mongolia%E2%80%99s-effort-enhance-digital-literacy-nationwide>
- <https://jointsdgfund.org/article/bridging-digital-divide-how-digital-community-information-workers-are-transforming>
- <https://www.unicef.org/mongolia/press-releases/building-mongolias-digital-future-success-dciw-initiative>
- <https://mongolia.un.org/en/296085-un-joint-programme-strengthening-digital-e-mongolia-services-and-communities-concludes>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/724252020598547/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/719289703796994/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/1116967870242426/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/754159366948807/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/posts/pfbid0GRAdZdMDzpHD34kxbwqcRSK2oq4nFnL75o5Ls4teSDaLD2i7K8TCjZ8S5ZfqVVzbl>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/1930167664488484/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/738663818737680/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/1026630416226697/>

- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/posts/pfbid0gCAQEiPSXDGPjmdxVczFdbyCuNbWgXvqrjh8uP3Vj8BpZWA2vhPPnczcVh9FitBxl>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/1803754696903532/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/1231232468659419/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/posts/pfbid0umZtFx2W4kntX5dcNaNViYENt8i6QEHkSbovwgwtxGZurkDV7UxoJng5dyJopdkol>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/1457819542222318/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/712522624634670/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/videos/1827205968122161/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/posts/pfbid0uZt8JGGcjPPDw5BaY6aDEQXPoDz8wJaxK7VQgitX1NmmNpk5cfWwBu6irSnStKo4l>
- <https://www.facebook.com/khurdan.ragds/posts/pfbid02RYHjDZnEMivmvrYYVVc9Vbu8c55oSJmnBcrcB2FNW2W52Zodu3TA3zgvVHThhvryl>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1CsWsfT9XD/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1Fhg8k8LRd/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19XMtF6J3p/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1CECh4KtYk/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1EHEu4fB49/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/16kTkrfzyB/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1AxDKKvV2s/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1787V5oVp8/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1PojhRzSGN/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/178TUVtBkx/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1JaksGwHC7/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/16X91Y9nAm/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/18TJVTs4Pe/>

13. Strategic partnerships (Select all that apply)

What type of partnerships established during the JP made important contribution to the JP objectives?

- National Government Institutions (Please specify): **Technical Working Group (TWG)** established by the MDDIC for the project implementation
- Sub-national Government Institutions (Please specify): Local governor's offices, government agencies in national and subnational level
- International Financial Institutions & Development Finance Institutions (Please specify): _____
- Private Sector Companies or Industry Associations (Please specify): _____
- Civil Society Organizations, Philanthropic Organizations and Foundation (Please specify): _____
- Academic/Research Institutions (Please specify): _____

- Bilateral Development Partners (Please specify): _____
- Labour Unions or Organizations (Please specify): _____
- Others (Please specify): _____

ANNEX: SDG Localization Marker Survey

1) Please report on the SDG Localization monitoring indicators below. If an indicator is not applicable to your joint programme kindly state NA and briefly justify in the “Means of Verification” column.

Indicator	Baseline (2024)	Target (2025)	Evidence or means of verification
Number and type of local and regional governments and relevant local development stakeholders actively engaged in the programme design.	0	5	Provincial governments of Darkhan-Uul, Khentii, and Dornod were actively engaged from the design phase till end of implementation through co-creation workshops, consultations meetings and planning meetings. Local governor administration office, division of state digital service in provinces and education departments and civil society representatives were also involved.
Number and type of local and regional governments and relevant local development stakeholders with clear roles and responsibilities within the programme.	0	1	Letter of Agreements were signed with provincial governments and local authorities delineating roles for implementing mobile outreach (KhurDan) and Digital Training Facility. These documents are filed with JP administrative records.
Number and type of persons or representative organizations involved in activities developed with the primary aim of enhancing local populations’ ownership and inclusion in sustainable development processes at the subnational level, led by local development stakeholders.	# (%) women, indigenous people, youth, persons with disabilities) (type of org)	# (%) women, indigenous people, youth, persons with disabilities) (type of org)	Over 13,000 citizens engaged through DCIW-led community digital literacy outreach and an additional 8368 individuals actively participated in outreach activities via KhurDan mobile service unit and Digital Training Facility outreach activities. These participants included girls, women, elderly, youth, herders, persons with disabilities, and internal migrants. Partner CSOs and schools facilitated local ownership. Disaggregated participation lists available.
Number and type of specific events, publications, or training materials aimed primarily at building capacity for local sustainable development/SDG localization in local development stakeholders.	# (type)	# (type)	Developed 5-module digital skills training curriculum; delivered 11 ToTs and over 100 local training sessions. Produced gender-sensitive manuals and community outreach materials. All materials archived in JP digital repository.

<p>Number and type/description of specific coherent policies, regulations, and/or tools developed to enhance SDG localization (Disaggregated on policies, regulations, or tools focused on cross-sectoral or cross-level policy coherence).</p>	0	2	<p>Two SOPs developed: 1) for Mobile KhurDan Units and 2) Digital Training Facilities. Both approved at national level, enabling standardized service delivery across all 21 aimags. Copies of SOPs and approval letters available.</p>
<p>Number and type/description of mechanisms or activities developed to improve the transparent and accountable financing of SDG localization.</p>	# (type / description)	# (type / description)	<p>Subnational co-financing models were piloted in Darkhan-Uul Dornod and Khentii provinces. Local governments contributed funding to establish digital infrastructure, documented in provincial budgets and planning documents (2025–2028).</p>
<p>Number and type of relevant initiatives/processes that the projects contribute to reach large scale, transformative impact.</p>	# (% women, indigenous people, youth, persons with disabilities) (type of org)	# (% women indigenous people, youth, persons with disabilities) (type of org)	<p>3 initiatives including KhurDan Mobile service unit, 2) DTF to deliver e-government services in both mobile and in-person formats to vulnerable, marginalized groups and civil servants, and DCIW's.</p> <p>63% of 4,823 citizens who received digital services through the KhurDan mobile service units in remote soums and underserved area, were women. 66% of 2,828 citizens who received training in basic digital skills in DTF with a particular focus on vulnerable and marginalized groups within the project's target areas, were women.</p> <p>DCIW's have delivered tailored digital skills training to 110 PWDs including 44% with visual impairments, 37% with physical or mobility challenges, 12% with hearing impairments, 4% with speech difficulties, and 2% with autism— along with 385 elderly citizens, and a number of herders.</p>
<p>Percentage of programmatic expenditures allocated explicitly to activities that directly impact local sustainable development processes and systems (e.g. food systems value chains, local health or education systems, energy</p>	%	%	<p>Approximately 40% of programmatic budget allocated to rural digital inclusion, skills training, infrastructure, and outreach services. Verified in financial breakdowns and budget reports.</p>

and water management, local economic development, local climate action, multilevel governance) embedded in local SDG-related priorities which are expressed in local strategies.			
Number and type of local financial tools/instruments developed or strengthened to support SDG implementation at local level.	0	3	Budgetary lines integrated into Darkhan Uul, Dornod and Khentii province's 2025–2028 development plan. Draft and final budget plans available.
Total amount (in USD) of additional public and private sector resources mobilized for local SDG implementation at the local level.	\$	\$79,400	Darkhan-Uul, Dornod and Khentii provincial governments mobilized their own funding for establishment for Khurdan Mobile unit, DTF and DCIW pilot.
Percentage of results contributing to SDG localization that have met their preplanned target/milestones.	%	%	local service delivery and institutional targets reached. Indicators include number of trained citizens, operational KhurDan units and Digital Training Facility and adoption of SOPs.
Number of local and regional governments and/or local service providers integrating aspects of policy coherence for sustainable development into their monitoring and reporting processes.	# (type of actor)	# (type of actor)	NA (information not available)

2) What action areas has your JP prioritized since launch to advance the SDGs at the local level? (Select all that apply)

- Empowering local authorities and communities (e.g. capacity building, leadership development, technical support)
- Facilitating multi-stakeholder engagement (e.g. participatory planning processes, community consultations)
- Strengthening multi-level governance (e.g. vertical coordination, central-local policy alignment)
- Localizing SDG financing (e.g. municipal finance mechanisms, local resource mobilization, local SDG budgeting)
- Enhancing local data systems (e.g. disaggregated data collection, community-based monitoring)
- Expanding social service access (e.g. last-mile delivery, integrated service provision)
- Others (please specify): _____

3) To what extent has funding from the joint programme budget be directly channelled or mobilized to local-level actors (e.g. local governments, local community organizations, local service providers) to support SDG Localization efforts in the reporting period?

- 0% i.e. no resource has been directed to local-level actors.
- 1-24% of total programme funding directed to local-level actors.
- 25-49% of total programme funding directed to local-level actors.
- 50-74% of total programme funding directed to local-level actors.
- 75-100% of total programme funding directed to local-level actors.

4) Please describe how the territorial or localization approach is applied in your joint programme. Include the following key aspects into your response.

- Alignment between joint programme and local development plans and integration of results in local processes, frameworks and SDG monitoring system.
- Role of subnational-level (local and regional) governments and other key local institutions/stakeholders in the implementation of the joint programme.
- Description on how capacities and innovation of local stakeholders for integrating SDG and multi-actor collaboration are identified and reinforced.

The JP employed a strong territorial and localization approach, aligning closely with subnational development priorities and empowering local actors to drive sustainable, inclusive digital transformation. From the outset, the JP was designed to integrate seamlessly into local development plans, institutional frameworks, and SDG implementation processes at the provincial level.

A key element of this alignment was **the co-creation and joint validation of workplans with local government stakeholders**. Subnational governments played a central leadership role in the JP's implementation. Both the Darkhan-Uul and Khentii provincial governments contributed co-financing and designated focal points across key departments particularly digital service, education, social welfare, and civil service training to coordinate JP activities. These partnerships ensured ownership of outcomes and paved the way for the institutionalization of JP-supported models. For example, the integration of digital literacy training into Darkhan-Uul's 2025–2026 academic workplan demonstrates sustained alignment with provincial priorities.

Local institutions, including **education departments, schools and division of state digital service and civil service training centers, were instrumental in delivering results**. The establishment of Mongolia's first local Digital Training Facility and the piloting of the KhurDan mobile service units are concrete outcomes of localized collaboration. These models were not only designed with local inputs but also managed by provincial authorities, ensuring they are embedded in the existing service ecosystem.

The JP placed **a strong emphasis on building the capacities of local stakeholders** to lead, innovate, and collaborate on SDG implementation. Capacity needs were identified through participatory assessments and stakeholder consultations. As a result, tailored training programmes were developed for both civil servants and marginalized groups, including women, youth, and persons with disabilities. Eleven local master trainers were certified to deliver hands-on digital training, creating a decentralized model for capacity-building that can be replicated nationwide.

Moreover, the JP **fostered multi-actor collaboration by engaging a wide range of local actors—government officials, educators and community workers** to co-develop and co-deliver solutions. The role of DCIW, embedded within education departments, exemplifies this collaborative, localized approach. These actors are now key enablers of ongoing digital transformation within their communities.

Through its localization strategy, the JP not only responded to local needs but also strengthened the institutional and community capacities required to sustain and expand digital inclusion efforts—anchoring its results within Mongolia’s broader development and SDG agenda.

- END -