



Impacts on Youth during COVID-19 in Mongolia



Innovative distance learning

While many children learning from home lack steady internet access, 4,800 hours of TV-based lessons for grades 1-12 were created and broadcast on 15 different channels; TV lessons for special needs students, health education, cultural interest, and studying for the national exams were also created and broadcast.



Addressing youth mental health

About 1/4 of youth reported insomnia, depression, and anxiety during the pandemic, so the Authority for Family and Youth Development launched mental health hotlines to provide professional counseling; youth also have access to moderated social media groups where they can discuss SRH, family planning, and mental health issues.



Online activities and resources

To combat boredom and depression among youth during the pandemic, the Youth Development Centers created several online, interactive activities for young people, such as learning musical instruments, dancing, and basic psychology/self-help topics.



Youth employment support

The government allocated 500 billion MNT (nearly \$200 million USD) to provide youth with training programs related to professional skills, health education, and healthy lifestyles by providing participants in the program with a monthly scholarship of 500,000 MNT (around \$180).



Supporting isolated students

Many Mongolian university students who normally live far from their families in dormitories in the cities were stranded in their dorms by strict lockdowns and movement restrictions, and were provided with hygienic packets and food items by the Ministry of Education and Science and civil society partners.



Online consultations for new youth laws

The Ministry of Labor ensured youth participation in planning for the implementation of the new Youth Development Law by posting proposed regulations on its website and soliciting youth feedback and general comments, as well as discussing specific challenges they were facing during the pandemic.



In an effort to encourage youth to get involved in productive activities the virtual campaign "Youth Unite against Coronavirus" taught young people to sew face masks, and encouraged to teach others to make masks and share them with people in need.