



MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION AND
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Save the Children

"PROMOTING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION THROUGHOUT PRIMARY AND LOWER-SECONDARY EDUCATION IN MONGOLIA" PROJECT (2021-2024)

NEWSLETTER № 8

FEBRUARY 2024



Members of the Student Council of School #79 present information.

Culture hall of School #79 in Bayanzurkh district, "Inclusive Education" awareness-raising public event, October 26, 2023

JOINT CONSULTATION-MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMISSION AND SCHOOL SUPPORT TEAM

May and October 2023

In May 2023, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (MLSP) organized a training workshop for all the members of the sub-commissions of health, education, and social protection (HESP) of 21 provinces and 9 districts of the capital city in cooperation with the UNICEF, JICA, the Norwegian Lutheran Mission, the Asian Development Bank, and Save the Children.

The training was held in Ulaanbaatar on May 16, 2023, in the conference hall of the Millennium Hotel, and a total of 210 people participated. It aimed to introduce to the members of the provincial and district sub-commissions of HESP the policies and activities of the government regarding children with disabilities, the measures to be implemented in the future, and the methods of using the "Integrated Information Data" for children with disabilities, in order to provide them with professional methods and increase their capacity.

In addition, in cooperation with the MLSP, on October 31, 2023, a consultation meeting was organized at the training hall of the Mongolia-Japan Center, which included representatives of the Bayanzurkh, Songinokhairkhan, and Chingeltei districts' sub-commissions of HESP and Education Enrollment Support Councils, and the support team of the

target schools of UB. A total of 45 people representing the above organizations participated in the consultation meeting.

The above consultation meetings discussed topics as follows.

- Methods of working with children with disabilities
- Roles of the sub-commission of HESP in early identifications of developmental delays in supporting the development of young children
- Participation of the support team of schools and kindergartens in creating an inclusive school
- Developing a local action plan for the Education Enrollment Support Council's involvement
- Community-based early childhood development centers' professional and methodological support for implementation and monitoring of the joint order of the ministers of Labor and Social Protection, Education and Science, and Health



Training of sub-commissions of 21 provinces and 9 districts, the conference hall of the Millennium Hotel, May 16, 2023



A consultation meeting of target districts' sub-commissions and school support teams, the training hall of the Mongolia-Japan Center, October 31, 2023



Ch. Jargal, an officer of the MES, is presenting about IE policy for children with disabilities.



Ch. Ariunbolor, an officer of the MLSP, answers questions of the participants



A. Dolgorsuren, a member of the sub-commission of Songinokhairkhan district, and a specialist of the Department for Family, Children, and Youth Development, gives her opinion.

“INCLUSIVE EDUCATION” AWARENESS-RAISING PUBLIC EVENT

October 2023



Students of School #79 visited the event to get the information they needed, Culture hall of School #79 in Bayanzurkh district, October 26, 2023

In order to increase the knowledge and understanding of parents, teachers, students, and the public about inclusive education and to provide information and advice, the "Inclusive Education" public event was organized on October 26, 2023, in the art culture hall of School #79 of Bayanzurkh district.

This event was organized with the cooperation of professional local organizations and engaged the public on a large scale. During this event, more than 300 teachers, parents, and students received information and advice free of charge from professionals in their areas of interest.

This awareness-raising public event was carried out jointly with the Autism Association of Mongolia, the Down Syndrome Association of Mongolia, the Mongolian National Federation of the Blind, the Deaf Education NGO, the Association of Parents with Differently-abled Children, and the Student Council members and teachers of School #79, a project's target school.



Representatives of the Mongolian Down Syndrome Association gave information to visitors



Members of the Student Council of School #79 gave information to the visitors

THE NATIONAL DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP ON “INCLUSIVE EDUCATION”

November 2023

The national workshop “Inclusive Education” to share the results and best practices of the project was held on November 20-21, 2023, in Ulaanbaatar. The workshop was attended by 32 specialists in charge of inclusive education from the Education and Science Departments of aimags and UB districts.

In her opening speech, Fumi Matsumoto, the Project Manager, said: “You will study the training modules on inclusive education developed by the consulting teams under our project. I would like you to share what you have learned here in your provinces and districts.” During the workshop, the participants learned about the key contents and methodologies of training modules. On the second day of the workshop, the participants visited Schools #37 and #79 and Special Schools in Ulaanbaatar and got acquainted with the project activities and best practices in these schools, as well as visited Child-friendly spaces.

A.Yerkegul, Head of the Training, Research, and Methodology Division of the Department of Education and Science of Bayan-Ulgii province, said: “At today’s training, I learned about education for children with special needs and how to deliver education in an accessible form using methods and programs that take into account the characteristics of each child, as well as expanded my knowledge of the legal and regulatory framework. I met experts from the consultant team who developed the materials Inclusive education produced by Save the Children and learned how to work with children with different needs.”

Also, D.Baatarkhuu, a specialist in charge of child development, protection, and inclusive education at the Department of Education and Science of Gobi-Altai province, shared his opinion on the workshop: “We visited the target schools and got acquainted with the Child-friendly spaces and learning materials for children with special needs, and how teachers work with the children. These schools have built and installed development rooms, toilets, ramps, and auxiliary equipment for children with special needs. There are a lot of things to learn.”



Participants of the workshop, training room of Innovation center of the Ulaanbaatar, November 20, 2023



Participants visit CFS, School #79, November 21, 2023,

CHILD-LED COUNCIL STUDENTS AND PEERS' ACTIVITIES

2023

The child-led council students of our target schools are organizing various activities to learn and develop with their peers, within the framework of the "Friend's Program" campaign. Among these, the most featured activities are:

School
#79:

A drawing contest was organized involving children with special needs named "My Wish in my family and school", and they expressed their wishes through their drawings. After the contest, child-led council members organized a meeting with their family members and classmates to discuss how they would respond to the students' wishes.

School
#127:

The "Active Reader" campaign is being organized every year. Student leaders called all school students to reduce phone use and instead read books, and they suggested a list of reading books. As a result, the number of students who came to the school library increased by 50% compared with the previous year.

School
#65:

They showed the videos about inclusive education and children with special needs Save the Children developed to other students, and after watching the contents, they organized discussions and advocacy activities among students.

School
#67:

The "Active reader" campaign has been continued as this is a representative activity of the child-led organization. Under the campaign, students created reading materials with big-sized letters to help the children with special needs read. They worked together to support each other's reading skills.

**School
#37:**

Through student exchange, lower-secondary school students are assigned to study with primary school students and are encouraged to study together. The student council organizes this activity as a tradition.

**School
#49:**

They organize a tour of the school every year. During the tour, primary-grade students visit classes and places they should know, meet the school principal and staff, and learn about their daily activities.

**School #2:
Arvaikheer,
Uvurkhangai.**

The “I can” contest is being conducted every year. Children with special needs present their creations about what they have learned, drawn, and created.

**School
#7: Khovd.**

Through the “Friend’s Program” campaign, lower-secondary-grade students studied with primary-grade students 2 hours a week after class. They helped the primary-grade students to do homework, read, and count.



Learn together handbook dissemination workshop for students, School #127, October 10, 2023

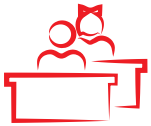


Primary grade students are visiting to a lower secondary class, School #39, December 4, 2023

SCHOOL'S ADVOCACY ACTIVITY: "ALL MY LOVE TO MY FAMILY"

December 2023

On December 16, 2023, the advocacy activity "All my love to my family" was organized in School #2 of Arvaikheer, Uvurkhangai province.



The event was attended by **27** students of one higher-secondary class and **29** parents, creating an opportunity, conditions, and environment to spend one day together and to pay attention to their children.

This activity was organized to involve parents and caregivers in school activities, to have warm conversations with their children, to create memories together, and to improve the understanding and attitude towards inclusive education.

Students of the class with their parents visited to 5 stations: "Let's learn together", "Let's create together", "Let's sing together", "Let's play together", and "Let's talk together", allowing students to discuss and complete tasks together, and shared deep thoughts and feelings with their families.

When evaluating the event, parents and children commented on the need to organize this activity as a tradition for higher-secondary school students, and it created an opportunity for parents to be together with their children and create their childhood memories together. In

addition, the Education and Science Department has taken into consideration the work of organizing it in other schools as well and proposed implementing it.



Student A of 11th grade is attending in the campaign activity with her mother in the art classroom of school. December 16, 2023



Student B of 11th grade is drawing a picture with his parents in the art classroom of school.
December 16, 2023



Students of 11th grade attended the activity "Let's create together" as part of the advocacy campaign with their parents at the school.
December 16, 2023



Cooperative and creative arts of students and caretakers who attended the advocacy campaign.
December 16, 2023



Students and parents are having a face to face conversation and opening their hearts during the advocacy campaign in the school's art hall.
December 16, 2023



Students and parents show and explain the family photos during the advocacy campaign in the school's art hall.
December 16, 2023

I AM A STUDENT OF KHOVD UNIVERSITY

2023

School# 7 is a model school for inclusive education in the province and one of the project's target schools in the Khovd province. Its mission is "to support every child's social, psychological and cognitive development, and create equal opportunities for successful learning based on students' different needs". This article focuses on a girl with cerebral palsy who graduated from School #7.

B. Jawzan studied at and graduated from School #7 in 2023. During her time there,

she excelled academically and passed the general admission exam in both social science studies and Mongolian language. She is currently enrolled in the first grade in psychology at the Mongolian National University's Khovd branch.

B.Jawzan studied in the Child-Friendly Space at the school provided by the project, following an individual education plan with the Mongolian language and social science teachers to prepare for the general entrance exam.

She stated,

“ With the two teachers who helped me study for the test, I am really satisfied.” She also said, **“The principal, training manager, class teacher, and the teachers who helped me study for the test came to greet me and wish me luck when I first arrived at the university... I was a little afraid of what other students would think when I first entered the university. However, it was nice to see that all of them wanted to help me and communicate politely. I aim to complete my Psychology bachelor’s degree to assist children with developmental differences and give confidence and motivation to other children with special needs.”**



B.Jawzan, a student of Khovd University, lobby area of School #7, December 2023



PROJECT GOAL

Promoting Inclusive Education throughout Primary and Lower-Secondary Education in three districts of Ulaanbaatar city, Khovd and Uvurkhangaï aimags

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- 1 To improve readiness for 5th grade students to ensure a smooth transfer from primary to lower-secondary school;
- 2 To establish an Inclusive Education model in public lower-secondary schools;
- 3 To support parents to help their children in their transition and further learning;
- 4 To advocate for the improvement of related policies and regulations at the national level and promote inclusive education nationwide

DONOR:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

PROJECT DURATION:

Three years (March 2021- March 2024)

BENEFICIARY NUMBERS:

Direct: 20,606 **Indirect:** 28,650

TARGET SCHOOLS

School #79, #127, Amgalan, and #30 of Bayanzurkh district

School #37, #49, #61, and #39 of Chingeltei district

School #67, #65, #9, and #76 of Songino-Khairkhan district

School #2 of Arvaikheer soum, Uvurkhangaï aimag, and School #1 of Uyanga soum, Uvurkhangaï aimag

School #7 and #3 of Khovd aimag



Save the Children

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