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From
the People of Japan



Save the
Children

"PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE, HOLISTIC AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENTAL SUPPORT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD IN MONGOLIA" PROJECT

NEWSLETTER № 1

July 2025



Igawahara Masaru, Ambassador of Japan to Mongolia, with medical staff during a visit to the "Achlakhui" Family Health Centre on 9th April 2025.

THE EXCHANGE MEETING

March 2025

Save the Children organised the exchange meeting on 21st March 2025, in Ulaanbaatar. The purpose of the meeting was to present the results of the 2024-2025 year of the "Promoting Holistic and Inclusive Developmental Support in Early Childhood in Mongolia" project, share their experiences among the stakeholders, and exchange views on next year's activities.



More than 45 people, including representatives of target kindergartens and Family Health Centres, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Family, Labor and Social Protection, local governance office, local education and health departments, branch commissions and non-governmental organizations, participated in this annual meeting.

During the meeting, representatives from the target kindergartens and Family Health Centres, the local branch commission, presented their good experiences and lessons learned to the participants. Also, representatives of the three ministries made presentations and introduced the policies pursued in their respective sectors, regarding the health, education, and social protection of young children. They highlighted the project's results. J.Myagmar, Head of the Preschool Education Division of the Ministry of Education, mentioned that, "We are aiming to further strengthen the capacity of the kindergarten support team to support children with special needs in kindergarten, improve the methodology for teachers, and coordinate the education policies with the health and social protection sectors. This project is very supportive to reaching its goal". S.Regzen, the Head of the division of

Disability Person of the Ministry of Family, Labor and Social Protection, noted that "Under this project, the work skills of the branch commission members in the targeted provinces, district have improved through the technical support n provided to them, and the videos disseminated on social media which successfully reached the public. In the future, we aim to work together to strengthen the capacity of all branch commission members and update the policy documents related to the branch commission".

B.Purevjav, a specialist from the Ministry of Health, mentioned that primary health care services are provided at Family Health Centres, but parents lack training and advice on the health and development of young children. This Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan funded project is working with us to provide training for parents".



Takashi Umeda, Second Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in Mongolia, gave the opening speech at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Ulaanbaatar on 21st March 2025



Eri Nomoto, Project Manager, presented technical equipment to the head of the branch commission. Holiday Inn Hotel in Ulaanbaatar on 21st March 2025



A group of participants who attended the exchange meeting, at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Ulaanbaatar on 21st March 2025



A group of participants who attended the exchange meeting at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Ulaanbaatar on 21st March 2025

Mr. IGAWAHARA MASARU, AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN TO MONGOLIA, VISITS THE PROJECT SITES

April 2025

On 9th April 2025, Igawahara Masaru, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Mongolia, visited Kindergarten #32 and the “Achlakhui” Family Health Centre in Bayanzurkh District of Ulaanbaatar, where the project is being implemented, and heard about the achievements of the project to date. During the Ambassador's visit, D.Lkhagvasuren, the head of kindergarten #32, shared the results of the project with the guests



The ambassador visits the Child Development Support room in the kindergarten #32 on 9th April 2025.

Since the start of the project implementation in the kindergartens, teachers and staff have been learning methods of working with children with diverse needs, increasing their knowledge and skills. Under the project, a “Child Development Support room” was established with relevant furniture, books, and teaching aids to support the learning for all children, including children with diverse needs. Infrastructure renovations such as ramps, assistive handrails, and toilets were also completed. As a result of the project, eight children with diverse needs are attending a regular kindergarten with other children.

The Ambassador also visited the “Achlakhui” Family Health Centre, which provides primary health care services to residents of the 8th Khoroo of Bayanzurkh District. As part of the project, the Family Health Centre’s doctors and staff received in-service training on early identification of developmental concerns and support for young children. A new Children’s

Health Examination room was established and equipped to facilitate child health check ups and growth and development assessments.



Since the project began, **157** children aged **9, 18,** and **36** months have attended for their assessments, and **six** children with acute malnutrition and **13** children with growth and language delays have been identified.

Early identification and timely treatment of children at a young age will prevent further risks later on.

The Ambassador expressed his warm gratitude to the staff of these organizations and wished them success in their future work.



The ambassador visits the Children's Health Examination room at Achlakhui Family Health Centre on 9th April 2025.

THE “PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE, HOLISTIC AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENTAL SUPPORT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD IN MONGOLIA” PROJECT KICK-OFF MEETING

April 2025

The kick-off meeting for the 2025-2026 target organizations was held on 24th April 2025, at the Mongol-Japan Centre in Ulaanbaatar.

The meeting was attended by administrators, doctors, and teachers from the “Nemuulen”, “Anan”, and “Mend-Arivjih” Family Health Centres, Kindergartens No. 320, 81, and 83 of Chingeltgei, Songinokhairkhan, and Bayanzurkh districts of Ulaanbaatar. Officials from the Governor's office participated in the meeting.

L.Bayan-Altai, Country manager and representative of Save the Children in Mongolia, opened the meeting. In his opening speech, he emphasized that “Starting today, the project is being implemented in your organizations. I hope that you will work fruitfully with the project team over the next 2 years”. After the opening, the project team presented the project objectives, activities, and the contents of the Memorandum of Understanding to the meeting participants.

At the end of the meeting, L.Bayan-Altai, and the directors of the target Kindergartens and Family Health Centres signed a Memorandum of Understanding, defining the activities to be implemented during the project, mutual rights, and obligations.



L.Bayan-Altai, Country manager and representative of Save the Children in Mongolia, T.Selenge, Director of the kindergarten #83 in Chingeltgei district signed the MoU during the meeting at the Mongol-Japan Centre on 24th April 2025



Participants who attended the meeting. The meeting hall of the Mongol-Japan Centre on 24th April 2025

TRAINING OF “MONGOL TANAKA-BINET INTELLIGENCE TEST”

June 2025

The first 4 days of 5-day training course for the Mongol Tanaka-Binet Intelligence test, was held between 27-30th May at the Institute of Education Research of Mongolian State University of Education (MSUE), and the last 1-day training was held on 18 June 2025.



A total of **17** participants from target kindergartens, Family Health Centres, and partner organizations of Bayanzurkh, Chingeltei, Songinokhairkhan, Khan-Uul districts of Ulaanbaatar, Bayankhongor, and Selenge provinces participated in the training.



Participants of Mongol Tanaka-Binet training at Mongolian State University of Education on 18th June 2025

Eight trainers from the MSUE and four specialists, online, from the Centre for Psychological Development, Research, and Support at Nagoya University conducted Mongol Tanaka-Binet intelligence test training.

The training aimed to prepare participants to administer “Mongol Tanaka-Binet” intelligence test by providing them with an understanding of the theoretical basis of the intelligence test, the process for administering, scoring, and interpreting the results of the test. Participants will use this test to assess and support the child's cognitive development at their organizations. The training went for five days and combined theoretical and practical training, and the final day of training included administering the test to children.

All participants successfully completed the 5 days (40 hours) training and received a



Mongol Tanaka-Binet Intelligence test training in process on 29th May 2025

certificate and a test kit. In the future, test administrators, who attended the training will share the information and the importance of the test with their organization's management and other staff. They will create a plan to assess the children in the target districts, have it approved by the organization's management, and implement the assessment activity. They will report back in March 2026.



Dr. Munkhjargal, the Director of the School of Educational Studies, gave the opening speech on 27th May 2025

LOCAL PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING IN SELENGE PROVINCE

May 2025

On 8th May 2025, the regular meeting of the Selenge Local Steering Committee for the project “Promoting Sustainable, Holistic and Inclusive developmental Support in Early Childhood in Mongolia” was implemented in Selenge Province, at the Honor Hall of the Governor’s Office.



The participants of the meeting in the Honor Hall of the Governor's Office of Selenge province on 8th May 2025

The meeting was attended by 16 participants, including representatives of the target organizations and members of the Local Steering Committee, which was newly approved under the Governor’s Order No. A/222 of 2025. The council consists of representatives from the Labor and Social Welfare Department, the Health Department, the Education Department, the Child and Family Development and Protection

Department, the Association of People with Disabilities, and relevant specialists.

During the meeting, the representatives of Kindergarten, Family Health Centre, and the Branch commission were informed about the results of the 2024-2025-year implementation of the project. They discussed strengthening future collaboration and planning activities for the upcoming year.

**THE RESULTS
OF THE 2024-
2025 PROJECT
YEAR WERE
PRESENTED BY:**

- Ya.Uugantsetseg, Secretary of the Sub-Commission on Health, Education, and Social Protection for Children with Disabilities,
- Ts.Tsetsegsuren, Head of the “Emneh Bag” Family Health Centre,
- N.Uchral, Methodologist of Kindergarten No. 3 in Sukhbaatar soum.

Also, the project coordinator facilitated an open discussion among participants regarding the selection of target organizations for the 2026-2027 year of the project. This meeting marked an important step towards further

strengthening and expanding stakeholder collaboration and ensuring the effective implementation of initiatives aimed at supporting the holistic development of young children.



Participants discussed the results during the meeting at Honor Hall of the Governor's Office of Selenge province on 8th May 2025



PROJECT GOAL

In Bayanzurkh, Chingeltei, Songinohairhan districts of Ulaanbaatar, as well as in the provinces of Bayankhongor and Selenge, a strong foundation will be built for local public service providers (family health centres, branch commissions, kindergartens) to promote holistic and inclusive support for early childhood development .

✓ PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- 1 System strengthening of the service delivery by Family Health Centre; primary schools;
- 2 Strengthening the capacity of branch commissions;
- 3 Strengthen the system of kindergartens to prepare children for the transition to
- 4 Awareness-raising activities for parents and local residents;
- 5 Policy advocacy for inclusive education nationwide;

₹ DONOR

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

🕒 PROJECT DURATION

One year (March 2025- March 2026)

🏠 TARGET FAMILY HEALTH CENTRES AND KINDERGARTENS

2024-2025

Areas	Family Health Centres	Kindergartens
Bayanzurkh district of Ulaanbaatar	"Achlankhui" Family Health Centre	32 nd KG
Songinokhairkhan district of Ulaanbaatar	"Eeltei" Family Health Centre	117 th KG
Chingeltei district of Ulaanbaatar	"Enerengui Uilst" Family Health Centre	18 th KG
Bayankhongor province	"Enkh burd" Family Health Centre	16 th KG
Selenge province	"Emneh" Family Health Centre	6 th KG

2025-2026

Areas	Family Health Centres	Kindergartens
Bayanzurkh district of Ulaanbaatar	"Nemuulen" Family Health Centre	320 th KG
Songinokhairkhan district of Ulaanbaatar	"Anan" Family Health Centre	81 st KG
Chingeltei district of Ulaanbaatar	"Mend arivjikh" Family Health Centre	83 rd KG
Bayankhongor province	"Otoch Manal" Family Health Centre	1 st KG
Selenge province	"Nomt Khan" Family Health Centre	3 rd KG

BENEFICIARY NUMBERS

Direct: 6,354 **Indirect:** 125,093



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