

# **CURRENT SITUATION AND CHALLENGES IN ADULT EDUCATION IN MONGOLIA**

**National Center for Lifelong Education of  
Mongolia**

**20 January 2021**

# Legal context and effort of ALE in Mongolia

**1991:** Education Law of Mongolia stated 2 forms of education as formal and non-formal

**1992:** Initial effort of ALE – Non-formal Education Project for Responding to Learning Needs of Gobi Nomadic Women

**1997:** National Program for Non-Formal Education Development focusing on:

- ✓ Literacy and Second Chance Education
- ✓ Upgrade Education Levels, Vocational and Labour Skills
- ✓ Support on Learning creativity and Self-effort to level up Education

**2002:** More specific statements on a scope of non-formal education in Education Law

**2006:** Public budget for equivalent program for primary and secondary education in non-formal setting

During 1997-2019, **Equivalent Program** enabled 55194 out-of-school youth and adults get junior and secondary education certificates and improve the quality of their life.

**2013:** General Directions for Lifelong Education as:

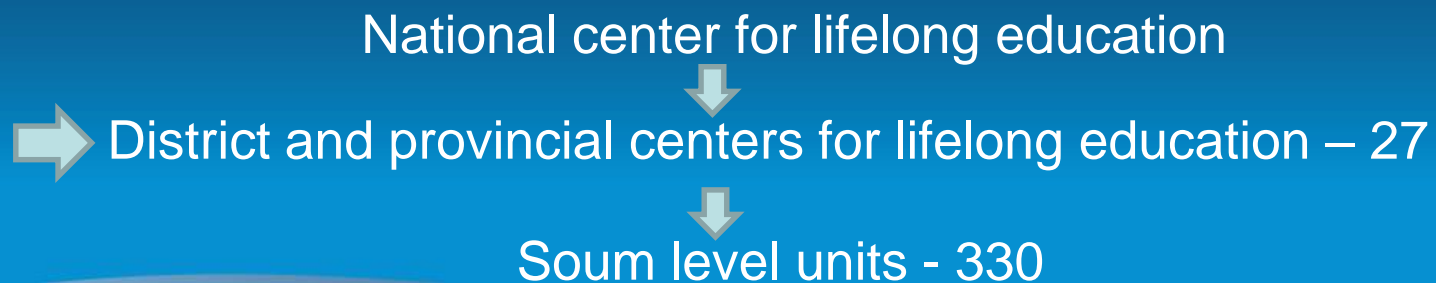
- ✓ Family education
- ✓ Citizenship education
- ✓ Moral education
- ✓ **Beauty and emotional education**
- ✓ Life-skill and science education

# Adult Learning and Education Services in Lifelong Education context of Mongolia

## NON-FORMAL education:

- Literacy Education
- Equivalent program for primary and secondary education
- Citizen needs-based continuous education

500 teachers



# Adult Learning and Education Services in Vocational Education and Training context of Mongolia

## NON-FORMAL & INFORMAL for world of work:

- Short term competence-based trainings
- Individually-motivated learning of work skills
- Workplace learning and training partnering with industries
- Professional skill-upgrade trainings
- Recognition and validation of prior learning (RPL)
- Vulnerable and unemployed individual targeted skill training through social welfare services

# Issues and challenges in Adult Learning and Education in Mongolia

- No legal documents for ALE, thus, its scope and framework are not identified
- Except literacy, no specific learning programs that meet a need of ALE
- Existing ALE pathways are not flexible and lacks of appropriate methodology and perspectives
- No nation-wide data and research on participation of ALE
- ICT utilization in ALE is not sufficient
- Features such as residency of population, nomadic lifestyles and livestock husbandry culture are factors that affect on ALE development in Mongolia
- Poverty and inequity in information access
- No funding mechanism for ALE



# Future actions to promote ALE concepts and practice

- Inter-sectoral governance, coordination mechanism and funding for ALE because all sectors benefit from ALE
- National Qualification Framework and standardization– **a path and guide for ALE**
- Continuous learning of skills required by world of work and establishing career and life guidance system
- Flexible pathways of learning targeting different groups such as retired individuals, home-staying moms, unemployed citizens, nomadic populations, prisoners
- Promotion of Open Education System using technologies
- Recognition and validation of prior learning in formal, non-formal and informal settings
- National level monitoring and evaluation mechanism in ALE

## Impact of the COVID-19 crisis

**2020:** all lifelong education and training services for youths and adults are basically terminated; and merely 5 percent of the services are delivered.

**2021:** technological advancement allows to provide the services through online and distance forms. However, access to and quality of the services are very much limited due to low quality internet connection, lack of ICT skills of adults and unavailability of required devices and tools.

Limited participation in formal and non-formal learning of adults; however, informal learning may have happened. Unfortunately, NO EVIDENCES and DATA





## Some measures during the COVID-19 crisis

- To mitigate impacts of the COVID-19, 10 TV-training content are developed and broadcasted in February-December 2021. In total, 193 episodes of trainings are delivered through TVs and social sites to support ALE
- In addition, ICT basic skill training is delivered by local Lifelong Education Centers to 1000 senior citizens during the COVID.

# Innovative practices in citizenship education

- ✓ Community-based entrepreneurship-oriented socio-emotional skill development program for youths in poorer areas
- ✓ Parent education programs for child well-being and achievement at Lifelong Education Centers
- ✓ Awareness campaign for youth participation in political elections
- ✓ Cultural awareness programs for youths and adults

## Prospects for sub-regional cooperation

- Sub-regional policy for promotion of ALE
- Sub-regional survey for ALE
- Promotion of ALE best practices in sub-regional countries
- Implementation of sub-regional project to disseminate ALE policy in member countries
- Establishing focal points in member countries for supporting ALE policy
- Develop ALE toolbox for sub-regional countries