



БАЙГАЛЬ ОРЧИН,  
АЯЛАЛ ЖУУЛЧЛАЛЫН ЯАМ



## Mongolia's Managed Resource Protected Areas (MRPA) project

### Brief Information

#### Implementation period:

July 2013 – Jun 2018

#### The target areas:

Uvs, Khentii and Dornod provinces

#### Implementation modality:

NIM, with Ministry of Environment and Tourism as an Implementing Partner, and the province and district governments at local levels.

### Project Finance

Total budget: USD 1,509,091

GEF \$1,309,091

UNDP \$200,000

Delivery as of now: USD 1,187.821

### Brief Description and Outputs

The objective is to catalyze the strategic expansion of Mongolia's protected area (PA) system through establishment of a network of community conservation areas covering under-represented terrestrial ecosystems. It aims to achieve this objective through:

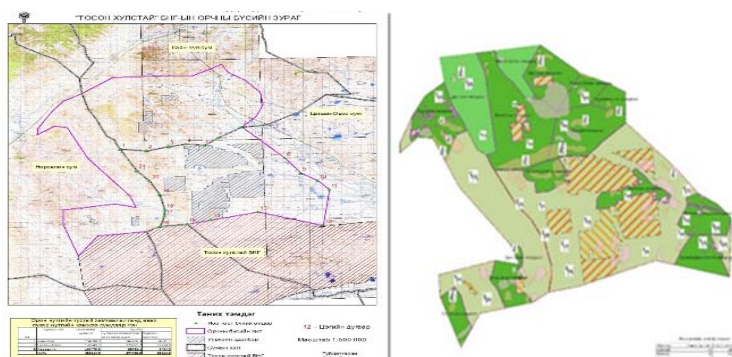
- Establishing a new protected area category for strategic PA expansion, and
- Emplacing institutional capacity and resource base development to ensure sustainability of managed resource PAs.

#### Expected outputs:

- Comprehensive legal framework for community conservation landscapes adopted and operational.
- Implementation regulatory guidelines and formal management performance standards generated.
- Existing community protected areas documented and designated as community conservation landscapes.
- Three community conservation landscapes expanded and demonstrating best practices under improved legal framework.
- Lessons learned captured and enhancing effectiveness of community conservation landscapes nationally.

## SPECIFICS OF THE TARGET

**Location:** Gulzat Local Protected Area (LPA) in Uvs province, Khavtgar LPA in Khentii province and Tumenkhaan-Shalz LPA in Dornod and Khentii provinces



**Population:** Total 11,273 in 3 target soums, 2910 within LPA in 3 soums

### Project Activities Planned in Khentii

Expansion of LPA in Norovlin soum;

-Continue to strengthen capacity and skills of local government of 3 target soums to ensure proper conservation of LPA;

-Empower Co-management Council of LPA and CBOs;

-Strengthen partnership of 2 SPAs and 3 soums in joint actions indicated in the MOU;

-Develop exemplary Soum land use plan in 2 soums of Dornod aimag, integrating pasture management and wildlife conservation jointly with Green Gold, SDC;

-Develop model of sustainable financing mechanism of LPA jointly with Biofin;

-Establish Revolving fund in 2 soums of Dornod jointly with Green Gold

### Topography

Buffer Zone of Toson Khulstai Nature Reserve. Dry steppe, upland meadow and wetlands, the main breeding and migration area for white tail gazelle and also consists of important wetlands and lakes used by numerous endangered bird species.

### Implementation challenges and way forward

Sustainable financing sources for the LPA is critical. The project is planning to develop model of sustainable financing mechanism of LPA management, jointly with Biotin National Team but application of this proposed financing model perhaps will not happen during project lifetime due to the project's limited budget. However, project will facilitate the potentials for financing of this model.

### Progress to date:

- Tumenkhaan-shalz LPA is a newly established LPA upon project start to which the project has focused on establishing and strengthening as model for other LPAs;
- Management structure have been developed and exercised – established Co-management Council with representation of soum authorities, neighboring 2 SPAs, and the donor projects. The new position of soum Ranger in charge of LPA was established and integrated into soum government structure;
- Demarcated boundary of LPA and installed 30 boundary poles and 25 information boards and signs within the LPA;
- Five years' Management and business plan, and co-management agreements have been developed and implementation is ongoing in partnership with other stakeholders (aimag Environment office, Canada Fund, Green Gold);
- The project has helped to reinforce the importance of considering connectivity in conservation planning, bringing this concept to the attention of aimag and soum level stakeholders. As a result, an MOU was signed between Dornod Governor's Office and Onon Balj SPAs, 3 soums of Tumenkhaan-shalz LPA on ensuring landscape-level conservation of Gazelle and it's habitat in the entire area;
- A number (15) of new CBOs (110 households, 160,806.6 ha) have been formed in the 3 target soums thereby including more households into the management of the LPAs and ensuring they may also benefit from the new protected area status of the area. Mapped boundaries and key resources for all communities and made an agreement with the Soum Governor which resulted in official recognition of these communities by local government;
- Provided small grants (of up to \$5,000) to 11 CBOs with a total amount of 38.4 mln. MNT;
- Schools in all 3 soums are implementing an Eco-school Programme which funded by Canada Fund. As a result, substantially raised teachers and student's awareness of the environment and related sustainable development issues.