

## SUPPORTING PROTECTED AREAS FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES II (SPACES II)

### CONTEXT

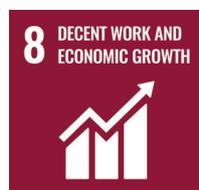
Mongolia's diverse landscapes provide habitats for a large number of plant and animal species. This biodiversity and the services these ecosystems provide, form the basis of Mongolia's economy, culture and development. To protect this basis, the government has established national and local protected areas on over 21% of the country's area.

Despite ongoing efforts, the current system of protected areas in Mongolia has been unable to effectively prevent environmental degradation. The exploitation of natural resources and the impacts of climate change pose significant threats to the biodiversity and ecosystem services both within and surrounding these extensive protected areas. Moreover, there is a pressing issue of insufficient funding and a lack of specialists, technical skills, and human resources within the responsible authorities.



A large part of Mongolia's rural population lives in buffer zones surrounding protected areas and is dependent on the resources these landscapes offer. While this population is affected by any degradation of natural resources, at the same time overexploitation of natural resources in and around protected areas is also driven by rural livelihoods. Knowledge of a more sustainable use of these natural resources is often lacking, as well as awareness among the population how they can contribute to the protection of landscapes.

We contribute to...



Commissioned by

German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Project area

Khan Khentii SPA, Tarvagatai Nuruu NP, Khomyn Tal NP, Khovd Aimag

Lead executing agency

Mongolian Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET)

Overall term

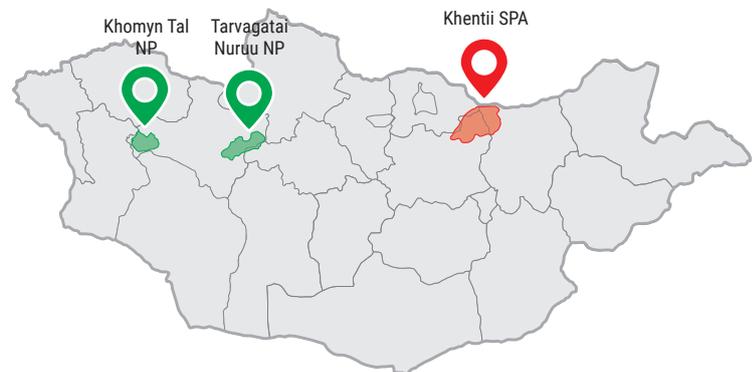
2024 - 2028

Total budget

6.000.000 EUR

### OBJECTIVE

#### Project region



Reformed sustainable and gender-sensitive management concepts are implemented in the landscapes of selected protected areas with the support of the local population.



**Policy consulting  
(National level)**

Together with the Mongolian Ministry of Environment and Tourism, the project strengthens the legal framework for protected areas. While SPACES I supported the reform of the national protected area law, the innovations introduced into the law must now be substantiated by detailed national as well as protected area specific regulations. This will enable more efficient protected area management by, for example, strengthening approaches of co-management and self-financing.



*Rangers of the Khan Khentii Special Protected Area*



*Nature trail established at Khan Khentii Special Protected Area with the support of the GIZ*



**Strengthening protected  
area management  
(Selected Protected Areas)**

Based on the revised protected area law, the project assists protected areas in the implementation of specific reform approaches in the areas of forest, waste and tourism management as well as co-management. For this, the project provides technical advice to the protected area administrations, and at the same time works with civil society and private stakeholders on relevant value chains.



**Environmental Education and  
Communication  
(Selected Protected Areas)**

Approaches strengthened to environmental education and communication (EEC) are tested in protected areas to enable their national replication in the future. The project advises staff of the protected area administrations on EEC matters and develops respective training programmes for rangers. At the same time EEC programmes for children and youth are created. All this work will mobilise support for the implementation of the new protected area law, increase the acceptance of protected areas among the population and thus also reduce the pressure on protected areas.



*Participant of a workshop on Environmental Education and Communication for eco-clubs of secondary schools from Khovd Aimag*

Published by: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH  
Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

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Layout/Photos: GIZ Mongolia

Commissioned by: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Date: January 2024

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.