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STREAM Newsletter

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Highlights

AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY COMPONENTS

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- International conference on research and policy development towards SFM
- 🗸 International study tour

Awareness-raising and youth participation in SFM

"SUSTAINABLE RESILIENT ECOSYSTEM AND AGRICULTURE MANAGEMENT IN MONGOLIA" PROJECT

SOUM TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

progress on the development of land The management plans for the associated soums continues to unfold. A strong emphasis has been placed on facilitating a series of public consultation meetings, rooted in a participatory approach. These meetings, conducted in the Yeruu, Javkhlant, and Mandal soums of Selenge aimag, as well as Binder soum in Khentii aimag, engaged more than 1,800 including soum authorities, land, individuals, agriculture, and environmental officers, herders, farmers, cooperatives, and representatives from environmental and women's NGOs. The territorial development plans for these four soums have been approved by their respective Citizens' Representative Khurals. These plans serve as crucial mid-term documents, spanning a period of 5-7 years, for effective land administration and land resource management within the entire soum territory. Read more

AGRICULTURE COMPONENT



AGROECOLOGICAL VALUE CHAINS



Specialized training to prepare technicians on artificial insemination was organized, involving local livestock specialists and herders of target soums. Eight people have been trained as technicians and have effectively applied their knowledge to perform the required procedures in practice. This comprehensive endeavor has not only contributed to the practical application of acquired knowledge and skills but has also played a pivotal role in bolstering the local capacity. By facilitating the augmentation of the Mongolian cattle breed, these interventions are aligned with the broader goal of fostering sustainable agricultural advancement. Read more

The project has taken significant strides in reducing livestock numbers by focusing on enhancing the beef and mutton value chain. One of the key initiatives within this project is to enhance Mongolian cattle and sheep breeds, aiming to bolster live weight, meat production, and overall quality. To achieve this successfully implemented objective, we artificial insemination with Red Angus in 1,150 cows from more than 90 households, and for 558 sheep from 9 households, using Altai breeds. This resulted in an average conception rate of 77%. This intervention aimed to demonstrate the fast growth abilities and efficiencies of such good quality breed to the locals. Read more



In addition, training on the practical application of electrocautery castration techniques was organized with the involvement of local livestock experts and herders. These techniques were used on over 50 young cattle and 480 lambs to enhance growth, ensuring early economic turnover. For more

AGRICULTURE COMPONENT



Practical application of the electrocautery castration technology on lambs

A FEED PRODUCTION AND RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

To contribute to the development of beef and mutton-related value chains and to enhance and secure local livestock fodder resources, a factory with the capacity to manufacture 900-1000 kg of salt mineral blocks per hour was established in collaboration with Khangai LLC, a local private-sector enterprise. This factory has a high capacity to meet the feed needs of Khentii province and the eastern region.

The project has provided assistance to diversify concentrated feed by developing recipes for nine different types of concentrated feeds for various animals. At the same time, Khangai LLC's human resource capacity was significantly enhanced with a focus on innovative production.

AGRICULTURE COMPONENT



A total of over 20 tons of two product types were produced and delivered to local consumers and stakeholders at a factory price. According to the consumers, the newly invented products were most helpful for the exhausted animals during the harsh winter in the target region. <u>Read more</u>

The project initiated the field interventions in two agroforestry pilot demonstration sites in Javkhlant soum and the model area for tree planting in Yeruu soum of Selenge aimag. <u>Read</u> <u>more</u>

Pilot activities were organized through a costsharing approach to foster partnerships between the public and private sectors. These initiatives were driven by the voluntary participation of local authorities, residents, and cooperatives, aligning with the principles of the national movements "One Billion Trees" and "Food Supply and Security" initiated by the President of Mongolia:

AGROFORESTRY PILOT DEMONSTRATIONS

- Around 8,600 trees were planted and showed a survival rate of 90 percent
- An engineering well was constructed to ensure a reliable water supply for tree planting
- A complete electricity line with a length of 380m was established
- A drip irrigation system was installed with water meters and a reservoir with a capacity of 25 m3 to ensure irrigation efficiency, water saving and soil conservation
- Capacity building trainings on tree and vegetable growing, maintenance and pest control technologies were organized

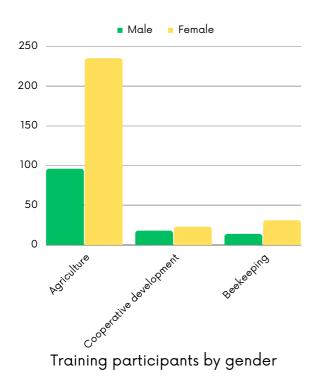
As a result of these measures, the local plant and grass communities were restored, and the average yield reached 2.5 tons per hectare, which is on par with undegraded vegetation communities. More than 300 herders visited the site, observed the positive outcome, and learned how to use green and renewable energy to restore the degraded ecosystem.



Fenced area of agroforestry pilot demonstration: before and after construction of the electric fence

CAPACITY BUILDING

A total of 550 people in the project target soums including farmers, herders, and beekeepers have improved their knowledge and skills through theoretical and practical training on the cultivation and growing technology of vegetables, and trees from seeds and cuttings, plant protection, and as well as on beekeeping and cooperative development, etc. Approximately 53 percent of the participants in the training were women. For more



Sh. Oyunchimeg, a farmer from Yuroo Soum of Selenge Aimag, attended a series of trainings organized by the project including the legume cultivation training, and has planted beans and peas in her field for the first time. She has expressed that these theoretical and practical trainings have provided valuable practical skills and learning opportunities for participants. <u>Read</u> <u>more</u>





Demonstration plot in Javkhlant soum: 21 August 2022 (fence just established)



Demonstration plot in Javkhlant soum: 24 August 2023

PILOT-SITE DEMONSTRATION OF SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

The STREAM project is dedicated to showcasing best practices for sustainable forest management (SFM), through the establishment of demonstration plots across six soums in Selenge and Khentii aimags. This initiative is designed to enhance the health and stability of forests, overall simultaneously bolstering their economic potential for the future. The project's scope encompasses comprehensive SFM monitoring, which entails tree and shrub inventory, ground vegetation assessment, insect assessment, soil profile evaluation, decomposition rates, and permafrost depth determination.

From January to September 2023, the project team, in collaboration with local authorities and citizens, successfully planted over 1000 trees. These included a diverse selection of tree and shrub species, such as poplar, elm, willow, sea buckthorn, and pine trees, strategically placed within shelterbelts and demonstration plots spanning both aimags.

The Forestry Component of this endeavor receives support from a University Consortium led by Mendel University in Brno, Czech Republic. Comprising eight universities from European Union member states, along with the University of Utah in the USA, and national universities like the National University of Mongolia, the Mongolian University of Life Sciences, and the German-Mongolian Institute for Resource and Technology, this partnership forms the backbone of our pilot-site demonstration.

CAPACITY BUILDING ON SFM

A total number of 276 (123 $\stackrel{\circ}{_{+}}$, 153 $\stackrel{\circ}{_{-}}$) forest technicians of inter-soum forest units (ISFUs), forest user groups (FUGs), and professional forest organizations participated in the following SFM capacity-building sessions:

- \checkmark Intergrated training on forest legislation
- Occupational safety & health for forestry operations
- Training for forest rangers and environmental inspectors
- Training for engineers and technicians of soum and ISFU
- ✓ "Tree-friendly" tree climbing

 Workshop for professional foresters
and officials on managing forest health



TREE NURSERY IN JAVKHLANT SOUM, SELENGE AIMAG

In a 50x30 meter tree nursery, a diverse array of trees has been cultivated through sowing and planting of stem cuttings. This initiative serves a dual purpose: 1) to establish a source of seedlings and cuttings and 2) to empower local beneficiaries with hands-on tree-planting training.

Within this nursery, we have carefully nurtured a different selection of trees (16,000 pieces in total), featuring three sections of maple trees, another three dedicated to elm trees, and singular sections for Siberian apricot, long-peduncled almond, and the Siberian pea shrub. Together with the Soum Governor's Office, we ensure that the nursery remains in prime condition, with regular weeding and irrigation practices in place to support the growth and vitality of these plants.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS SFM

The "International Conference on Research and Policy Development towards Sustainable Forest Management in Mongolia" was convened by the Forestry component of the STREAM project on June 27, 2023. This significant international conference had the primary objective of facilitating the exchange of knowledge regarding forestry research and addressing the imminent transformative phase in Mongolia's forestry sector.

The conference aimed to inspire and catalyze the growth of applied forestry research. This research, in turn, would play a pivotal role in supporting the formulation of forestry-related policies, thereby contributing to the overall advancement and development of Mongolia's forestry sector. <u>Watch interview</u>



INTERNATIONAL STUDY TOUR

The STREAM project, in collaboration with the Mendel University, facilitated a forestry study tour to the Czech Republic from May 21 to June 2, 2023. This educational tour was designed with a specific thematic emphasis on woodprocessing technologies that enhance the value of harvested wood from various species, dimensions, and qualities. Additionally, the tour featured visits to contemporary tree nurseries and forested areas to provide insights into modern Czech seedling production techniques and sustainable forest management (SFM) strategies.

The tour was attended by a group of 11 highly skilled national experts, as recommended by the National Forest Agency along with the project technical staff. <u>Read more</u>



AWARENESS-RAISING AND YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN SFM

"A DAY WITH FORESTERS"

The STREAM project, in collaboration with Mendel University, organized engaging and informative events titled "A Day with Foresters." These events were specifically designed to educate children and youth about the significance of forests through entertaining and educational games. They took place in Selenge (Javkhlant, Yeruu, Mandal soums, and Bugant village) and Khentii (Binder, Bayan-Adarga, and Umnuldeger soums) aimags. Over 250 children enthusiastically participated in this event. Through a series of adventurous and interactive activities conducted within the forest environment, these young participants not only deepened their fundamental understanding of forests but also gained valuable insights into the crucial role forests play in nature. <u>Watch short video</u>











WE CONTRIBUTE TO...



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