



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT  
AND TOURISM



23 October 2018

Dear Mr. Boccucci,

**Subject:** Request for three-month no-cost extension of the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme

On behalf of Government of Mongolia and participating UN Agencies in Mongolia, we request your kind approval of a three-month no-cost extension for the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme (NP). The current expiry date of the NP is 30 November 2018.

The need for extension arises primarily due to the additional time required for finalizing the REDD+ National Strategy at adequate quality, validate it at the national level and obtain full political commitments. Therefore, the extension is critical to complete the REDD+ readiness activities planned under the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme. One additional area that has not received sufficient attention in the Programme's originally approved scope of work and a basis for which is also expected to be laid out during the extension period relates to the importance of permafrost as a forest carbon sink in Mongolia.

The need for extension also is a key recommendation put forward by the final evaluation of the programme and has been endorsed by the National Programme Director and representatives of the three participating UN agencies at a debriefing meeting with the evaluation team held on Friday, 19 October 2018. Members of the Programme Executive Board (PEB) are expected to formalize their endorsement at the next meeting of the PEB scheduled for the first week of November. We will provide you with the approved minutes of the PEB meeting no later than 16 November 2018.

The undisbursed budget under the NP is estimated to stand at USD 483,000 as of 22 October 2018. A detailed workplan incl. costs for the downsized project management unit (PMU) during the extension period is attached, along with the preliminary recommendations of the final evaluation.

We look forward to your favorable response to our request and will provide additional supporting documents, especially the PEB minutes as soon as they are made available.

Yours sincerely,

Ts. Tsengel  
State Secretary, Ministry of Environment and  
Tourism & Chair of the UN-REDD Mongolia  
Programme Executive Board (PEB)

Yours sincerely

Beate Trankmann  
UN Resident Coordinator & co-chair of the  
UN-REDD Mongolia Programme Executive Board  
(PEB)

Enclosure: Detailed workplan and preliminary recommendations

To: Mr. Mario Boccucci  
Head, UN-REDD Programme Secretariat  
International Environment House  
11-13 Chemin des Anémones  
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland

cc. Mr. Oyunsanaa Byambasuren, National Programme Director  
Mr. Vinod Kumar Ahuja, FAO Representative  
Ms. Daniela Gasparikova, Deputy Resident Representative  
Mr. Alexis Maxime Corblin, Regional Technical Advisor, UN Environment Programme