





NATIONAL PROGRAMME ANNUAL REPORT MONGOLIA

UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme

Date: January to December 2017

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1. Annual Report for the UN-REDD National Programmes

The Annual Report for the National Programmes (NPs) highlights progress over the twelve-month period ending 31 December (1 January-31 December). This progress is reported against the consolidated Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2017, as approved by the National Programme Steering Committee or Executive Board.

The report includes the following sections:

- 1) National Programme Identification;
- 2) Progress Reporting;
- 3) Government & Non-Government Comments;
- 4) Results Matrix;
- 5) Progress against Warsaw Framework for REDD+;
- 6) Financial Delivery;
- 7) Adaptive management; and
- 8) Targeted Support.

2. National Programme Identification

National Programme Title	UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme
Implementing Partners ¹	The Department of Forest Policy Coordination (DFPC) of
	the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET)
Participating Organizations	FAO, UNDP and UNEP

Project Timeline					
Programme Duration	09/2015-11/2018	Original End Date ²	8/2018		
NPD Signature Date	18/09/2015	No-Cost Extension	[n/a]		
Date of First Fund Transfer ³	03/11/2015	Current End Date	11/2018		

Note on Closure Date:

Email received on April 27th, 2017 from UN-REDD Secretariat to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism said that the program will be 'extended till November 2018'. However, it did not state the actual date. Clarification was requested but not received.

PMU Mongolia are assuming closure date is 30th November 2018.

Financial Summary (USD)⁴				
UN Agency	Approved Programme	Amount	Cumulative Expenditures	
	Budget ⁵	Transferred ⁶	up to 31 December 2017 ⁷	
FAO	1,095,000	1,095,000	764,999	
UNDP	2,240,000	2,240,000	1,232,532	
UNEP	400,000	400,000	193,136	
Indirect Support Cost (7%)	261,450	261,450	163,831	
Total	3,996,450	3,996,450	2,354,498	

Signatures	from the designated U	JN organizations ⁸	Signature by the
FAO	UNDP	Government Counterpart	
Date and Name of Signa	Danie 91	A Johnson	ulle
[Date]	[Date]	, [Date]	
Adnan Quereshi	Danjela Gaspar	Johan Kieft	Tsengel. Ts

¹ Those organizations either sub-contracted by the Project Management Unit or those organizations officially identified in the National Programme Document (NPD) as responsible for implementing a defined aspect of the project.

² The original end date as stated in the NPD.

³ As reflected on the MPTF Office Gateway http://mptf.undp.org.

⁴ The financial information reported should include indirect costs, M&E and other associated costs. The information on expenditure is unofficial. Official certified financial information is provided by the HQ of the Participating UN Organizations by 30 April and can be accessed on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/CCF00).

⁵ The total budget for the entire duration of the Programme as specified in the signed Submission Form and NPD.

 $^{6\} Amount\ transferred\ to\ the\ participating\ UN\ Organization\ from\ the\ UN-REDD\ Multi-Partner\ Trust\ Fund.$

⁷ The sum of commitments and disbursement





3. Progress Reporting

This section aims to summarize the progress and identify key achievements of the NP during the reporting period. Additionally, the section aims to identify key challenges and solutions/ lessons that could be shared with other countries. These will be used as input to the UN-REDD consolidated annual report so please stick to the word limits.

3.1. Achievements

Please provide a description of key achievements made by the NP in relation to the 4 pillars of the Warsaw Framework and how the NP has supported those. [250 words for **each** pillar]

1. National Strategy or Action Plan (NS/AP)

Steps have been taken towards the development of Mongolia's National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan. A high-level meeting was conducted in 2017, where endorsement for the development of a National REDD Strategy and Action Plan was provided by the Minister and Cabinet Members. The REDD+ vision is aimed at climate change adaptation, mitigation and meeting sustainable development goals and this needs to be comprehensively communicated in the coming year. Awareness and communication work has been undertaken for public, high level policy makes are technical stakeholders. A core group has been formed for development of the Strategy, and technical documents are being developed by PMU with stakeholders. Supporting studies were completed in 2017: to support policies and measures on financing mechanisms; risk and anti-corruption; saxaul forest ecosystem service valuation. In addition, sub-national action plans are being developed, with three started in the reporting period which have been conducted through consultation with local stakeholders. The supporting work behind the development of Forest Reference Level provided an updated understanding on the scale and impacts of drivers of deforestation and degradation, with 150,000 ha annual forests degradation and 5,000 ha annual deforestation. Technical working groups and the CSO forum continue to provide inputs to the process. Training courses for Basic and Advanced REDD+ were developed and training started. The Strategy and Action Plan will be finalized and approved in the next reporting period.

2. National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)

The NFMS design and institutional arrangements are based on the existing technical and legal foundations in the country for the collection of forest data. A capacity building and action plan has been drafted that includes data collection, institutional data sharing agreements, data flows among key stakeholders and a clear division of institutional mandates for implementation of the NFMS. Reviews of the national forest inventory (NFI) methodology and Forest Taxation Inventory (FTI) methodology were carried out, and recommendations were made on institutionalization of refined and aligned inventory approaches. The national institutions capable of monitoring GHG in the AFOLU sector were identified for the next cycle of NFI, for Forest Reference Level (FRL) reporting and for implementing the NFMS. A series of training events has been conducted including remote sensing analysis and use of the Open Foris Collect Earth tool, and field inventory work and biomass modelling for local stakeholders. Training was delivered by local counterparts for relevant government stakeholders to improve the existing data collection particularly to ensure data standardization and development of the forest information system (FIS). There is a strong foundation for design of the NFMS based on existing systems and the NFMS will be designed and completed in the next reporting period.

3. Forest Reference Level (FRL)

A core group for FRL development was established in July 2017, consisting of individuals with technical responsibilities within the Monitoring Reporting and Verification Technical Working





Group (MRV). The core group assigned tasks for drafting Mongolia's first FRL submission to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), met monthly for the second half of the year and finalized the national FRL document (submitted in January 2018). Methodologies for FRL establishment were elaborated and refined with the support of FAO's global and regional technical backstopping team and in cooperation with key national counterparts. Capacity building in FRL and engagement with the TWG and core group was crucial in developing this document. Several points for future improvement, which could not be included in the first submission, were identified and will be explored in parallel to the FRL technical review process in 2018.

4. Safeguard Information System (SIS)

A Technical Working Group on Safeguards and SIS was formed and has actively participated in safeguards work. In 2017, key elements of the country approach to safeguards were developed, including: identification of goals and scope for safeguards approach; multistakeholder assessment of benefits and risks of proposed PAMs and recommendations to enhance benefits/reduce risks; and review of safeguards-relevant policies, laws and regulations (PLRs). The purpose and format of the national safeguards clarification were determined, and initial stakeholder inputs to the clarification provided (draft clarification due in Q1 2018). In addition, four representatives from key government agencies and the TWG participated in a South-South exchange on safeguards and SIS in Hanoi in October 2017. Initial steps on SIS development were also taken, such as discussion of SIS objectives and development of templates for assessing information systems and sources.

3.2. Challenges and solutions

Please provide a summary of the challenges faced and solutions put in place to address them. These could be of any nature, operational, good procedure, unsuccessful process that other countries could benefit from. [150 words]

The government has been in a state of uncertainty since the appointment of the new Minister in October 2017 following elections in 2017. Further uncertainty regarding government staff may create delays.

National investments in the forest sector are challenging when the Mongolian government is facing budget shortfalls due to economic problems. In terms of REDD+ implementation financ e, few donors are focused on Mongolia. Initial funding should focus on the re-allocation of do mestic finance and more efficient targeting of revenues.

High turnover of government staff is a major obstacle in programme implementation and long-term capacity building. Securing the participation of key institutes remains challenging, and a clear plan for collaboration on capacity development for NFMS and SIS will be formulated in early 2018.

Participation in safeguards related events and processes in 2017 was strong and active. However, the Programme recognizes the need to maintain this engagement and thus will be more strategic with fewer and shorter meetings/workshops in 2018.





4. Government & Non-Government Comments

This section provides the opportunity to capture government and civil society perspectives and provide additional or complementary information.

4.1. Government Comments

Government counterparts to provide their perspective and additional complementary information not included in the overall progress assessment. [500 words]

Forests are an important part of Mongolia's plans for long term development plans and are integral in achieving the countries sustainable development goals and international commitments. As such the Ministry of Environment and Tourism have taken positive steps towards supporting and implementing the UN-REDD Mongolia National Program. The Ministry of Environment and Tourism are pleased with the progress of the work to date, particularly with the major steps towards development of a National Strategy, development of safeguard information system and submission of the countries' Forests Reference Level. The Ministry have agreed to support the development and approval of a National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan, close collaboration will be needed with Ministries in the next year. This particularly related to the Ministry of Finance for REDD+ strategy. Achievements have been made in development of the four main components, and sub-national planning has been undertaken in three Aimags, for an area totaling over 6 million hectares which will have a significant input on the long-term management of forests. The Forest Reference Level was submitted in early 2018, and the work has been carried out well. The Program needs to focus on ensuring that capacities are built for all components of the REDD+ Readiness phase. The country is concerned that access to climate finance may be more difficult to attain than for tropical countries with clear anthropogenic drivers. However, the country will support the development of the REDD+ strategy in meeting the countries vision which is 'Climate resilient forests for a greener and sustainable future'.

4.2. Non-Government Comments

Civil society stakeholders to provide their perspective and additional complementary information (Please request a summary from existing stakeholder committees or platforms). [500 words]

The CSO forum known as the Forest-Sustainable Development Council was formed on 2nd November, 2016. It currently eighteen-member organizations representing 1000's of individual members from Forests User Groups, local agencies, associations representing the private sector and others. It includes herders, forest users and ethnic groups. Since the council's establishment many activities have been undertaken for the Forum members and their wider membership. This has included capacity building, provincial workshops, advocacy meetings, on issues such as forest user groups and private sector issues. Council members have taken part in discussions on policy and measure development especially related to forests enterprises, forest user groups and communities; and most of these recommendations have been integrated into the policies and measures developed for the strategy. The council members have expressed the wish for the forum to be sustainable and have a long-term role in forests policy development in Mongolia. This requires several steps to be completed, revision of the forum's standard operating procedures; endorsement by Ministry of Environment and Tourism; additional capacity building and more secure funding. In addition, the council have requested the establishment of an office, though his is not possible under the REDD+ Readiness program. In 2018, emphasis will be placed upon training, development of the national strategy, particularly discussion of its aims with the local membership, capacity building and advocacy. The forum would like to look at sustainability and external funding in the final year of





the REDD+ readiness phase. One of the key issues for the council is regards the institutionalisation of the forum within Mongolia and acceptance by the Ministry of Environment. This is important for both the inputs to the current National Program but also to participate in the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy Program on REDD+. The main concern of the Council is regarding long-term sustainability of their involvement in the REDD+ program. The Council appreciate that the drafting of the REDD+ policy is a unique and positive opportunity for the provision of civil society feedback and engagement into formulation and development of a national policy. However, opportunities for such engagement outside the REDD Program are limited in Mongolia.





5. Results Matrix

OUTCOME 1: ENGAGEMENT		MANAGEMENT ARRANGE	MENTS ESTABLISHED and IMPRO	OVED STAKEHOLDER AWARENESS AND EFFECTIVE STAKEHOLDER				
☐ Outcome A	ichieved; ⊠ O	n track to achieving this	☐ Expected minor delays	☐ Expected significant delays				
	outco	ome;	☐ Corrective measures in place	☐ Corrective measures in place				
Progress towa	Progress towards Outcome:							
REDD+ Mana	gement Arrangeme	ents: Institutional arrangen	nents for the implementation of t	he REDD+ National Strategy are not yet determined, it has been				
agreed that th	nese will be establis	hed when the Program is a	approved. A PEB has been establish	hed which is in effect takes on board the role of a taskforce prior to				
the approval o	of a National REDD+	Strategy endorsed by Mong	golian government.					
Initial arrange	ements for the Natio	onal Forests Management	System are outlined, and build on	existing data collection mechanisms. The Safeguard Information				
	-	•		es from inputs from Technical Working Groups, CSO forum, Focus				
•	•	•	est Policy and Coordination (Minis	stry of Environment) continue to be the key department for day to				
	_	lational REDD+ Program.						
•				on and stakeholder engagement strategies are being implemented.				
	Stakeholder awareness raising (not including public awareness) has been conducted through Technical Working Groups; CSO Forum; technical events organized							
		•	•	Ministers, and Technical Forum. In addition, awareness has been				
•	•	•		stakeholders, 400 aimag level and 200 CSO member organizations,				
	•	·		its and Sustainable Development Council, has contributed to the				
•		takeholder National REDD+	usion assessment was undertaken i	and a policy brief developed.				
Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target					
A broad-	Existing	By December 2017, at		olicies; NFMS and FRL, and Safeguards. These all met on regular				
based,	National REDD+	least 4 meetings of		neetings of each conducted; meetings of the SIS and Policy group				
multi-	Taskforce, draft	TWG's are held and T\		ccasion. These are minuted and reported. TWGs has provided				
stakeholder	ToR available,	provides technical inp	_	development of safeguards, Forest Reference Level, Policies and				
National	but	to the programme.	Measures.	teresopment of suregularity, rolest herefeliet Level, rollides und				
REDD+	membership	to the programme.		Meeting Minutes: http://reddplus.mn/eng/technical-working-				
Taskforce.	not fully		groups/					
	comprehensive.	By December 2017,		assessment / capacity building plan was implemented. Training				
		capacity building	courses on REDD+ using t	the REDD+ Academy and local materials were designed into three				





MONGOLIA AND TOURISM		
	materials for TWG and	main courses: Advanced for TWG and senior technical staff who play a considerable role as
	technical stakeholders	a REDD+ partner; 'Basic REDD+' for general level stakeholders, and a briefer version on
	are designed, and the	'Forests and Climate Change' for local communities. Advanced REDD+ training was
	capacities of the TWF are	conducted for 200 stakeholders in the capital, and Basic REDD+ for 400 staff from 10
	strengthened.	provinces Initial work was started with two Universities to integrate the Advanced REDD+
		course into a module on "Forests and Climate Change' into the University curriculum.
		Technical training on FRL development was undertaken for the TWG on FRL/NFMS. Technical
		training on SIS development was undertaken for the TWGs on Policies and SIS. TWG
		members remain key informants for the development of policies, studies on saxaul forest,
		private sector, corruption and financing.
		Mongolian Version REDD+ Academy Journals: http://reddplus.mn/eng/redd-learning-
		journals/
		Capacity Needs Assessment and Plan: http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-
		content/uploads/2017/12/Competence-based-needs-assessment-and-capacity-plan-
		Eng.pdf
	By December 2017,	Stakeholder awareness has been increased significantly through communication events, e.g.
	stakeholder awareness is	tree planting day events; Forest Forum; media and TV events. Awareness also has been
	increased significantly.	raised during the REDD+ Advanced and Basic Training events which included 600 key
	,	stakeholders from provincial and national levels.
		Awareness and Communication Materials:
		https://www.dropbox.com/s/295c7cx84a07kn1/Annex%201%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0
	• By December 2017, a	A decision was made by the PEB to develop and approve a taskforce following National
	decision on the REDD+	Program approval.
	taskforce implementation	
	mechanism is made.	
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Progress towards Output 1: A broad-based, multi-stakeholder National REDD+ Taskforce.

A National Taskforce has not yet been established, but will be undertaken following approval of the National REDD+ Program in 2018. This will include members from key agencies including no-forest sector, CSO and parliament members. However, the exact nature of this is yet to be determined. A senior policy staff member will work with the Ministry to ensure that this is completed in the next reporting period. Institutional arrangements for the implementation of the REDD+ National Strategy are not yet determined, it has been agreed that these will be established when the Program is approved. The Department of Forest Policy and Coordination (Ministry of Environment) continue to be the key department for day to day operations of the Mongolia UN-REDD National Programme.

Taskforce Briefing Paper: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/q3tekejpcyhib40/AACSc30C_YK_KSmQ9ShcsjSea?dl=0





Output 2: UN-RED	D Programme Ma	nagement Unit (PMU)	established
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
PMU established and fully operational.	Draft ToR in Roadmap and preliminary consultations have been held.	By the end of Q3, a participatory internal evaluation of the NP is conducted to ensure adaptive management.	The mid-term internal evaluation was conducted in Q4, a report was completed and action points developed from MTR recommendations. Mid Term Report: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/esqr1bwm2nj540n/AAB- DdH0NiBeq2DMK8e_vFara?dl=0 The PEB board met every six months to discuss progress and make any recommendations or amendments as appropriate. PEB Progress Report and Meeting Minutes: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5w7qhgg24rujwuo/AAATNWkMyGKhamqnYhz7NrTaa?dl=0

Progress towards Output 2: UN-REDD Programme Management Unit (PMU) established

The Program Management Unit consists of ten staff members, including two international advisors. The PMU was established in November 2015, with current National Program Director was appointed in December 2016, the Director of Forest Policy and Coordination Section under Ministry of Environment and Tourism. Staff were recruited including for UNDP the Policies and Governance Coordinator (2016); Communication Officer (2015); Finance Officer (2015), Program Manager (2015) and Chief Technical Advisor (April 2016). FAO recruited an International NFMS and FRL Advisor, two additional national staff have been hired. An office was provided at the Ministry, and equipped with office equipment, supplies, wireless communication etc.

The PMU receives support from both the country and regional offices when needed. The PMU undertake monthly work planning meetings. The PMU is headed by the National Program Director under the Ministry of Environment. The MTR found that the collaboration with the National Program Director was currently working well, but noted that there had been times in the last year where the NPD had been largely absent. It was noted that there are not regular meetings with the DFPC, outside the normal course of technical Working Groups. More regular cooperation in planning and reporting may be advantageous to build support and capacity in the Department. A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for program implementation was developed in 2017 to improve effectiveness and to describe the management structure and procedures. An internal evaluation of the program was conducted in December 2017 by the UN agencies in collaboration with the PMU and national partners. Several issues were identified which may help with the effectiveness and operation of the PMU.

• Program Evaluation Board (PEB) meetings are held every six months.

PEB Meeting Progress Reports and Minutes: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5w7qhgg24rujwuo/AAATNWkMyGKhamqnYhz7NrTaa?dl=0

- Good progress has been made towards meeting the results framework and recording progress towards the means of verification
- Annex 4.0 Results Framework and Progress towards Means of Verification: https://www.dropbox.com/s/y2015zg7u2nqitt/Annex%204%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0
 - Risks and issues log was updated in April 2017: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/l3tfjkcdbuayu8e/AABu01RCMLxOTEw30D9WWxWFa?dl=0





Output 3: CSO/	Output 3: CSO/LC forum established			
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target	
Forum established and fully operational.	No existing mechanism.	 Forum established and operational 	The forum, named as Forest and Sustainable Development Council, was established in 2016. Since then it has met on quarterly basis to discuss activities and operations. A review of operational guidelines was conducted by forum members, but had not yet been finalized.	
		 Forum strengthen ed and capacity built 	Draft stakeholder mapping and tracker tool for capacity of CSO members was completed in 2017. Trainings have been conducted on REDD+, Training of Trainers, Social Inclusion, Safeguard Information Systems, and Program Management. Capacities have been strengthened through training of members at regional level, and holding open days to showcase member activities and opportunities for engagement with government and private sector.	
		 Forum supported to provide technical inputs to REDDD+ strategy 	The forum has engaged in all discussions on policies and measures, including social inclusion; corruption; saxaul forest; risk and benefit analyses; and strategy format. There are members of the CSO forum who are members of the Technical Working group (TWG) (Policies and Safeguard groups) and PEB. Comments have been integrated into the development of the strategy and policies. Members participated in the discussions at provincial level for Aimag plans, in Khuvsgul and Selenge. The forum organized a discussion workshop on linkages between the private sector and Forest User Groups (FUGs), with a view to integrating this in policy development. Key challenges arise regards their long-term sustainability, recognition by the Ministry, and capacity to organize effective advocacy actions.	

Progress towards Output 3: LC / CSO Forum Established

The Mongolia Programme has taken steps in this direction by supporting the establishment of a self-selected 18-member Forest and Sustainable Development Council (FSDC) in November 2016. Initial discussions among the CSO and NGO communities in Mongolia in 2016 recognized that existing networks were not adequately designed to take on the complexity and breadth of technical issues that REDD+ involves. In the same meeting, FSDC also nominated a Secretary to coordinate the FSDC, as well as representatives to the PEB, and TWG on Strategies and Policies. FSDC subsequently agreed on the following scope of work:

- To raise concerns of civil society stakeholders on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks for further discussion at the national level;
- To strengthen and empower CSO/NGO network members and build their capacity for engaging in REDD+ related policies and practice;
- To strengthen the CSO/NGO Network members for working with international donors, and to improve capacity for engagement with future REDD+ or forest programs with international funding;
- Ensure that the rights of local and forest-dependent communities are being protected and benefit from REDD+ projects; and





• To ensure that gender and ethnic minority (indigenous people) issues are incorporated into the REDD+ National Action plan through discourse, policy recommendations and communication.

Since its establishment, FSDC developed a work plan for 2017, received capacity building on REDD+ and project management, deliberated over the development of policies and measures (PaMs) to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and participated in numerous technical events and workshops. Regional workshops have been conducted to present related forest policy issues to regional stakeholders, in conjunction with the Department of Forests Policy and Coordination (DFPC), which shows good collaboration with technical staff of the Ministry. An advocacy workshop on Forest User Group and Private Sector was conducted in late 2017, to highlight some of the CSO concerns regards private sector engagement with FUG's. Several additional activities have been planned but not yet conducted, including meeting with Ministry, advocacy activities, training follow up and improvement of the forum's regulations.

CSO Reports and Meeting Minutes: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ssbwwnbtkcuxj6f/AAC2Sj9-Im03zSio2yRISaQla?dl=0

Output 4: Publ	ic awareness rais	ed	
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
Awareness-raising plan developed and implemente d. Evidence of awareness increase.	The baseline survey has conducted, but public understanding of REDD+can be assumed to be weak.	REDD+ Communications and Knowledge Management Strategy implemented throughout the year.	The REDD+ communication strategy has been implemented. It focuses on key target groups: • Decision Makers – High level breakfast meeting with decision makers http://reddplus.mn/eng/breakfast-of-champions-moving-towards-a-greener-future-with-the- mongolia-redd-program/ • Public – Activities were conducted in mass media. https://www.dropbox.com/s/295c7cx84a07kn1/Annex%201%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0 • National Level stakeholders – Covered under Output 1. REDD+ awareness raised for 200+ national level stakeholders and 400 provincial level stakeholders. • International Donors – Mongolia jointly presented at a seminar at COP 23 with Papua New Guinea and Myanmar as a joint effort to highlight different REDD+ approaches, and the roles of forests sector in green growth and Sustainable Development Goals. A video was also produced. COP 23 Video – English: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QIXSyDgSsns Annex 1.0 Awareness and Communication Materials: https://www.dropbox.com/s/295c7cx84a07kn1/Annex%201%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0 • Videos and Films FRL News Release (Mongolian): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3E2gANX0060 REDD+, Forests and Climate Change – (Mongolian) - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AVKAZVohYF0 Regional REDD+ Video with Mongolian soundtrack - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyeg-





website is media includes Facebook REDD+ Mongolia (15,000).	MONGOLIA AND TOURISM		CPI MONGOLIA
website is media includes Facebook REDD+ Mongolia (15,000).			<u>E5p3vc</u>
improved and updated regularly.		website is further improved and updated	The website (<u>www.reddpluss.mn</u>) has been updated on a regular basis, 100,000 users. In addition, social media includes Facebook REDD+ Mongolia (15,000).
 REDD+ related materials in circulation and TV/radio programs broadcasted Number of REDD+ materials have been produced and media programs Annex 1.0 Awareness and Communication Materials https://www.dropbox.com/s/295c7cx84a07kn1/Annex%201%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0 Annex 2.0 Workshops and Capacity Building Events https://www.dropbox.com/s/loakjhr3aaocs21/Annex%202%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0 		related materials in circulation and TV/radio programs	Annex 1.0 Awareness and Communication Materials https://www.dropbox.com/s/295c7cx84a07kn1/Annex%201%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0 Annex 2.0 Workshops and Capacity Building Events

Progress towards Output 4: Public awareness raised

A stakeholder and public awareness survey was conducted in 2016, and repeated in 2017. The survey shows that behavior change or attitudes towards sustainable development and forests have shown only marginal improvement, whereas, knowledge of the REDD+ program and key activities that were supported has increased. This helps us to improve the communication strategy targets in 2018 to focus messages.

http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/External-Doc CKMM-Strategy-Mongolia-Eng.pdf

Output 5: Consultation and	participation	plan developed	
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
Consultation and	No	Consultation	• National Level stakeholders – Advanced REDD+ training was conducted for 200 national level
participation plan	existing	and	stakeholders; Basic REDD+ for 400 provincial level stakeholders.
developed and	materials	Stakeholder	• Conferences - Conferences on Forest Day, REDD+, University Students and technical forum were
implemented. Evidence	on REDD+	Plan	completed for over 250 stakeholders
of awareness increase	in this	implemented.	Annex 2.0 Workshops and Capacity Building Events
among non government	context		https://www.dropbox.com/s/loakjhr3aaocs21/Annex%202%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0
stakeholders of means of			• Social Inclusion Study – Completed study and workshops, including focus groups and validation
participation and			workshops.
providing feedback to			https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ypbu11tlzg1rr7d/AADt_JvBtEq461Xsw6cmJN26a?dl=0





policy processes.	Aimag Level – Aimag level consultations were conducted in Khuvsgul, Khenti and Selenge and
	part of sub-national planning activities, and will be expanded to two additional boreal forest
	aimags and one saxual forest.

Progress towards Output 5: Consultation and participation plan developed

Stakeholder consultation has been undertaken through technical working groups, provincial forums, sub-national planning and through inputs from the CSO forum. Stakeholder Engagement and Capacity Building Plan was completed, and training undertaken.

http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Stakeholder-engagement-plan-Eng.pdf

http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Competence-based-needs-assessment-and-capacity-plan-Eng.pdf

Output 6: Stakeholder Engagement and Operational Guidelines adapted to Mongolian context				
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target	
	No existing	• By Q2 2017,	 Social Inclusion Study and Training completed. 	
Stakeholde Engagement	guidelines.	Stakeholder	Policy Brief prepared.	
Operational Guidelines		engagement	https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ypbu11tlzg1rr7d/AADt_JvBtEq461Xsw6cmJN26a?dl=	
for REDD+		guidelines for REDD+	0	
Implementation		readiness and	 Stakeholder engagement handbook and guidelines consultant study started. 	
developed and		Implementation		
considered for		prepared.		
institutionalization.				

Progress towards Output 6: Stakeholder Engagement and Operational Guidelines adapted to Mongolian context

Based on lessons learned from other countries the programme advised the development of Stakeholder Engagement Operational Guidelines rather than FPIC guidelines. Inclusion study and policy brief completed. Stakeholder engagement guidelines are currently being prepared.





OUTCOME 2: N	OUTCOME 2: NATIONAL REDD+ STRATEGY PREPARED				
□ Outcome	☑ On track to achieving this	☐ Expected minor delays	☐ Expected significant delays		
Achieved;	outcome;	☐ Corrective measures in place ☐ Corrective measures in place			
Progress towards Outcome:					
The steps in de	veloping the National REDD+ Stra	ategy have taken place as planned and	will be developed and approved in 2018.		

Output 7: Barriers to REDD+ identified through: 1) analysis of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation; and 2) assessment of legal drivers of deforestation and forest degradation; and policy alignment needs.				
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target	
Challenges and opportunities in addressing land use and land cover change identified. Associated weaknesses and strengths in the policy, legal and institutional framework and capacities recognized.	Preliminary identification of drivers and review of policy and legal framework by National REDD+ Roadmap Taskforce.	By Q4 2017, update information on drivers completed.	Drivers study was updated and finalized, translation and reviews are ongoing, completed an Annex based on the Mongolian National Forest Inventory report. http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Drivers-of-forest-change-in-Mongolia-eng.pdf Information on drivers and scale was conducted through the assessments contributing to the Forest Reference Level, especially the spatial scale of Forest Degration from pests and fire, which accounts for 150,000 annual and deforestation of approximately 5,000 ha per year. http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2018-Mongolia-FREL_v1.5-1.pdf The Corruption study reported some inconsistencies in reporting on illegal logging and its scale, which should be investigated further. https://www.dropbox.com/sh/spmltdej3yblwor/AAApvRZrgXYtfSaD_fY3proVa?dl=0 The extent of grazing in forests as shown by the National Forest Inventory is very low, this is primarily because most NFI plots were sampled in good forest areas. The sampling of additional NFI plots in 2017 in degraded forests shows that grazing is far more prevelant in these areas; this data has not yet been analyzed.	

Progress towards Output 7: Barriers to REDD+ identified through: 1) analysis of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation; and 2) assessment of legal drivers of deforestation and forest degradation; and policy alignment needs.

An analysis of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation was undertaken in 2016, updates were undertaken with the inclusion of annex on National Forest Inventory. The Forest Reference Level analysis provided more weight regards the scale of deforestation and forest degradation.

The inclusion of additional NFI plots in degraded forest areas shows that grazing is higher incidence than reported under the NFI; suggesting that further





analysis of this would be advantageous. A study on risk and corruption issues was undertaken which did a general analysis of corruption, many of these contribute to indirect drivers especially related to governance and poor procurement procedures. The report provided inconclusive reports regards the scale of 'illegal' or unregulated logging and further analysis of this is recommended.

http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Drivers-of-forest-change-in-Mongolia-eng.pdf

Output 8: REDD+ policies and measures (PAMs) identified and prioritized through: 1) identification of PAMs to address barriers to REDD+; and 2) demonstration activities to test identified PAMs for REDD+

Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
Different PAMs options for		By April, draft	Draft list of PAM's has been developed. This has been further expanded on during consultation
addressing drivers of		list of PAM's	process.
deforestation and forest		prepared.	https://www.dropbox.com/sh/mm5l127e0av3nrt/AADrj_r1fOsuhqyFfTnY72s_a?dl=0
degradation, stakeholder		By July, PAM's	Study on saxaul forests has been conducted. A rapid valuation of economic values and policy
engagement, technical		for saxaul	recommendation report was completed; draft report is being finalized following review8.
approaches at national and		forests are	https://www.dropbox.com/sh/t1h4yh5gnxygewx/AABvv-o7Jfr0mC81rNPe9PAKa?dl=0
subnational levels		drafted.	
identified.			US Forest Service collaboration on pests and fire started with a pest assessment in summer 2017.
			https://www.dropbox.com/sh/mm5l127e0av3nrt/AADrj_r1fOsuhqyFfTnY72s_a?dl=0

Progress towards output 8: REDD+ policies and measures (PAMs) identified and prioritized through: 1) identification of PAMs to address barriers to REDD+; and 2) demonstration activities to test identified PAMs for REDD+

The process of identification PAMs has been supported by additional studies on saxaul forest, corruption, finance, and subnational planning; these are pending finalization in Q1 2018. The risk and benefit studies have also proven useful in contributing information to formulation of species PAM's and guidance notes for implementation. Demonstration activities to test PAM's with Forest User Groups has been undertaken through the co-funding support of the FAO GEF program who are working in over one hundred Forest User Groups. Briefing paper on pest control and approaches from North America was undertaken.

⁸ To be uploaded in Q1 2018.





Output 9: National	Output 9: National fund management and mechanism for distribution of positive incentives designed				
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target		
Transparent system for REDD+ finances identified	UNDP has existing review of environmental law framework. Information available from other projects on	 By December, option paper for finance mechanisms and analysis of forest revenues prepared. 	Study on finance mechanisms was completed. https://www.dropbox.com/sh/lkweo6b0nfno7w5/AAD4AvmgslTVk7iPxZTR-BORa?dl=0		
	benefit sharing.				

Progress towards Output 9: National funding mechanisms

The report on Finance Mechanisms was completed which provides an insight into funding, revenues and how they are spent in Mongolia.

Output 10: Capacity-building plans developed for key institutions for REDD+ Readiness				
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual	Progress Against Target	
		Target		
Institutional competencies and capacities required for	No comprehensive plan.	N/A	N/a	
receiving results-based payments identified and used to	Capacity development action plan for mainstreaming			
assess capacity needs for which concrete capacity	financing for sustainable forest management into			
development plans designed and implemented (# of	sectoral budgets			
plans).				

Progress towards Output:

Capacities are being developed, and are mentioned throughout the other Outputs.

Output 11: Gender analysis undertaken to make all outputs under the National Programme gender sensitive				
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target	
Concrete strategies and	No analysis	Social inclusion analysis	Social Inclusion report was completed.	
guidelines available to	done	competed by April.	http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Social-Inclusion-	
systemically address gender		Proposals to mainstream	<u>Final Report Eng.pdf</u>	
considerations and inclusion		social inclusion	Policy Brief was prepared	
of women in REDD+		considerations under	https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ypbu11tlzg1rr7d/AADt_JvBtEq461Xsw6cmJN26	
processes.		REDD+ strategy prepared.	a?dl=0	





AND TOURISM	SPIN ON GOLTA
	Stakeholder engagement handbook contract started in Q4 2017.

The social inclusion report and policy brief were completed, and these have been circulated to provide inputs to the REDD+ strategy and the Minister's updating of their Gender plan. A capacity building program for stakeholder engagement is being developed.

http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Social-Inclusion-Final Report Eng.pdf

Output 12: REDD+ social and environmental safeguard policy framework developed			
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target Progress Against Target	
REDD+ Social and Environmental Safeguard Policy Framework prepared and officially approved.	No material available.	Safeguard framework development initiated.	The development of a Mongolian approach to the REDD+ safeguards has made significant progress: goals/scope for the approach have been determined; benefits and risks assessment have been conducted; review of safeguards relevant PLRs conducted; safeguards clarification initiated; first half of the safeguards document drafted.

Progress towards output:

The development of the Mongolian national approach to the REDD+ safeguards made significant progress in 2017:

- Goals/scope for the approach were discussed in Q1 2017 and incorporated into the first draft of the safeguards document for Mongolia.
- Benefits and risks of 10 proposed REDD+ PAMs in the Strategy were assessed through a multi-stakeholder process at national level (and discussions on benefits & risks incorporated into aimag planning processes). The results of the assessment are available online ((Background report: English, Mongolian); Assessment table: English, Mongolian). Recommendations for the PAMs were drafted with stakeholders in late 2017.
- Policy Laws and Regulations relevant to safeguards were reviewed in 2017, with results and recommendations presented to stakeholders in late 2017. A final report on PLRs is expected in Q1 2018. In addition, an opportunity to feed results into an ongoing review of environmental legislation by MET is being pursued.
- Discussions on the purpose and format of the National Safeguards clarification were held with the Technical Working Group on Safeguards and Safeguard Information Systems (TWG S&SIS) in 2017, and a stakeholder workshop in December 2017 provided initial guidance and inputs to the clarification.
- Capacity building on safeguards and SIS included: numerous TWG-S&SIS meetings and workshops; safeguards module of REDD+ mini-academy in Ulaanbaatar (training of trainers); and participation of 4 government/TWG-S&SIS members in South-South exchange on Safeguards and SIS, in Hanoi in October 2017, including a presentation to the exchange on Mongolia's benefits & risks assessment process, and report-back to the TWG.
- The Mongolia safeguards document was updated to cover the elements completed so far.





Output 13: National REDD+ Strategy prepared through the collation of technical outputs from Outcomes 1-4				
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target	
Comprehensive National	No current	By Dec 2017, first draft of	Outline of strategy and formats has been approved, with endorsement of a	
REDD+ Strategy in place to	strategy,	National REDD+ strategy	National Program completed. Initially there was some reluctance to support	
implement results based	there is the	prepared	development of a high-profile policy, but with successful stakeholder	
actions.	Roadmap		engagement and awareness raising, a consensus has been reached.	

Progress towards targets:

Steps have been taken towards development and approval of a National Strategy. A briefing paper on options for development of the Strategy was completed, and high-level support for development of a Mongolian National Program and Action / Investment Plan attained in Q4 2017. Studies have been undertaken on policies, financing, risk and saxaul forest to help determine technical details of the strategy. In addition, consultation and development of sub-national plans in three forested provinces were drafted. Technical working groups and the FSDC continue to provide inputs to the process. Awareness and communication work has been undertaken for public, high level policy makers and technical stakeholders. Training courses for Basic and Advanced REDD+ were developed based on the UN-REDD REDD+ Academy materials, and training started for provinces and national stakeholders. A recent "high-level" meeting (14 December 2014), attended by members of Parliament and hosted by the Minister of Environment and Tourism provided an excellent opportunity to gather high-level support from ministerial champions for the development of the strategy and an investment plan (see http://reddplus.mn/eng/breakfast-of-champions-moving-towards-a-greener-future-with-the-mongolia-redd-program/). The development of the REDD+ strategy and action plan is on schedule to be prepared and in final stages of approval by the end of the Program. However, this is the most uncertain aspect of the Mongolia UN-REDD National Programme since it requires approval by cabinet and financial allocation by the Ministry of Finance. Support to the development of sub- national REDD+ Action Plans has been undertaken which will be crucial for the long-term management and funding of natural resources, especially since planning is usually undertaken on an annual basis in Mongolia.

Mongolian P	olicy Name	Description	'Equivalence' in UN-REDD
A National Program	National Strategy or Program	High level policy approved by Cabinet	National REDD+ Strategy. This document follows the Mongolian policy and is a relatively short strategic document, there is little flexibility for expanding on this format under Mongolian policy regulations.
	2. Action Plan	High level investment and action plan detailing sub activities, targets and budgets	National REDD+ Action Plan
Supporting Document	Technical Document	Document with detailed text and explanations	Situation analysis and detailed descriptions similar to more detailed country strategies in other countries.





Outcome 3: FOREST REFERENCE LEVELS DEVELOPED						
☐ Outcome Achieved;	☑ On track to achieving	☐ Expected minor delays	☐ Expected significant delays			
	this outcome;	☐ Corrective measures in place	☐ Corrective measures in place			
Progress towards Outcome:						
Substantial progress has been i	made towards achieving this out	come; a national FRL has been subr	mitted to UNFCCC.			
http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-co	ntent/uploads/2018/01/2018-N	<u> Iongolia-FREL_v1.5-1.pdf</u> .				
Comprehensive National No current strategy, there is By Dec 2017, first draft of			Outline of strategy and formats has been approved, with			
REDD+ Strategy in place to	REDD+ Strategy in place to the Roadmap		endorsement of a National Program completed. Initially			
implement results based prepared there was some reluctance to support development						
actions.			high-profile policy but successful stakeholder engagement,			
			awareness has			

Output 14: Capacity built for the development of FRLs				
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target	
Number of individuals with capacities for developing FREL/FRLs.	Almost no capacity in Mongolia specific	 By 12 months after Inception (Jan 2017), Action Plan developed 	 FRL Action Plan developed FRL core working group of 5 members formed, and monthly meetings held starting from July 2017 	
Action Plan developed and adopted	to preparing FREL /FRL No Action Plan on FREL/FRL	after inception, national agreements are reached.	 Agreements reached through collaborative decision making http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Forest- reference-level-decisions-Eng.pdf 	
National agreements on forest definition, scope and scale reached	development No national agreements	 By 24 months after inception (Jan 2018) 15 individuals are trained. 	 Responsibilities for developing FRL submission among FRL core group members agreed and divided FRL core group members fully involved and capacitated in FRL development 	

Key progress has been made on capacity building and consultation processes for the FRL development, which resulted in determining reference level discussions, data collection and analysis and ultimately resulted in submission of the countries Forest Reference Level to UNFCCC. Key stakeholder meetings have been conducted and a monthly meeting for the core group. Responsibilities for developing the FRL was decided and agreed based on institutional responsibilities. Capacity building has been undertaken for key institutions, especially on the Open Foris Collect Earth tools and land cover classification provided to 20 national stakeholders. http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2018-Mongolia-FREL v1.5-1.pdf.

http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Forest-reference-level-decisions-Eng.pdf





Output 15: FRLs methodologie	Output 15: FRLs methodologies developed and tested				
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target		
Complete set of historical activity data and emission	Some initial work has been	 By 18 months (June 2017) after inception, data compiled 	All data compiled.		
factors compiled. Decision on adjustment for national circumstances made Process for iterative	done, but it is not verified and not complete. No decision	By 24 months after inception (Jan 2018) a decision on national circumstance is reached	FRL report submission to UNFCCC http://redd.unfccc.int/files/2018_frel_submission_mongolia.pdf		
FREL/FRL development established and FREL/FRL submitted to UNFCCC	No process	By 30 months after inception (July 2018) a FREL/FRL submitted to UNFCCC	Consensus reached on no need to make adjustment to FRL for national circumstances		

Extensive data was collected to support the calculations for the Forest Reference Level. Activity data on deforestation and degradation was collected undertaken through land-use change detection: using satellite imagery analysis using Collect Earth tool, with more than 123,000 sample points in both boreal and saxual forest of different forest qualities and stocking rates between 1990 and 2015. An assessment of non-CO² emissions was undertaken for forest fire, and the gain in carbon stocks was determined through remote sensing (Collect Earth). Emission factors were derived from the use of the GIZ supported National Forests Inventory, but there were inadequate samples covering the more degraded forest habitats, as such the Program collected an additional 156 plots in degraded areas which will vastly improve the accuracy of emission factors and estimates for forest stocks in Mongolia. An assessment on national circumstances with respect to future climate change impacts on permafrost melting and climate change impacts on the forests, especially increase fire and pest risk, was undertaken using MAXENT modeling and climate change models.

The Forest Reference Level submission for Mongolia was drafted and submitted to UNFCCC in Jan 2018. http://reddplus.mn/eng/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2018-Mongolia-FREL_v1.5-1.pdf. FAO Regional missions were conducted to refine emission factor and carbon accounting approach; areas for improvement of FRL were identified by core group members, and included in the submission document.





Outcome 4: NATIONAL FOREST MONITORING SYSTEM AND SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION SYSTEM DEVELOPED				
☐ Outcome Achieved;	☑ On track to achieving	☐ Expected minor delays	☐ Expected significant delays	
	this outcome;	☐ Corrective measures in place	☐ Corrective measures in place	
Progress towards Outcome:				
Many of the components of the NFMS are already in place, including the national GHG Inventory, and an NFI covering the boreal forests. Satellite monitoring is				
being used for FRL development and the same method will be used for MRV. Activities associated with the institutionalization of the NFMS have been initiated and				
will be completed in the final year of the programme.				

Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
NFMS Action Plan % of activities implemented Number of NFMS Action Plan annual revisions conducted Central FIS database perationalized. Number of government institutions linked by Data sharing agreements. Forest management and monitoring system and guidelines developed Forest boundary delineation	NFMS Action Plan exists: (30%)* of activities implemented through GIZ No revisions No FIS database	By 36 months, 3 annual CBNA and NFMS reviews conducted (1 per year)	The 1st technical Capacity Needs Assessment was undertaken, to be developed further and implemented in final year. FRL and NFMS Capacity Building Plan https://www.dropbox.com/sh/unraeq6hxr4770e/AAA5qMW dl-10SfQzGZ8skT-fa?dl=0 The National Forests Monitoring System action plan was revised and updated. NFMS Action Plan - Revised https://www.dropbox.com/sh/85u800xi0nc4p9p/AABtddzgL
completed	uatabase	By 24 months, a web based GIS platform and FIS are operational	nkOu74hWZIQyD4ba?dl=0 Environment Information Centre (EIC) website identified as potential FIS platform. English language content development underway http://www.eic.mn:8080/geonetwork/srv/eng/main.home
		 By 18 months, a method for determining monitoring protocols and PAM is adopted. By 24 months, monitoring protocols are piloted in 2 subnational units. 	Land and forest cover map was adapted and improved for use in monitoring of REDD+ PAMs (e.g. comparing forest cover change and frequency of fire incidence in the forest under Forest User Group (FUG) management and the normal forest)





Substantial progress has been made towards the achievement and development of the National Forest Monitoring System and Forest Information System. A technical capacity needs assessment was conducted with technical working group members, and capacity building will be a focus of the final year of the program. A revision was undertaken of the NFMS action plan. A LoA with government institution responsible for Forests Information Systems was contracted and website contents were made into bilingual versions, and this will contribute towards the establishment of central REDD+ information database. A follow up meeting complete with FAO GEF program to develop Forest User Group (FUG) monitoring protocol compatible with FRDC's Forest Management Plan and Environmental information data tables was undertaken. Data sharing agreement signed between FRDC (in charge of national forest inventories), Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Ministry of Construction and Urban Development (oversight of land use data) and National Statistics Office (in charge of national demographic and environmental Statistics, including Forest Unit field data) was undertaken. Institutionalization plan was drafted which provides the legal foundation for REDD+ activity monitoring and data sharing and collection was completed.





Output 17: REDD+ MRV system develope	Output 17: REDD+ MRV system developed					
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target			
MRV system completed and capable of generating national GHG-I reports	No REDD+ MRV System in Mongolia	By 18 months, training on remote sensing and	-IPCC software and Collect Earth determined as the official tools for SLMS - analyzing and reporting national GHGi (agreed with			
(BURs) including LULUCF data suitable	No SLMS	GIS provided	CCPIU in Oct. 2017); training provided to key national			
for REDD+ reporting SLMS established with common land classification system	First NFI designed and completed, but	By 24 months, REDD+ SLMS is operational	stakeholders -Full NFI dataset in place after CCPIU completed Collect Earth			
National emission factors developed.	no national emission factors	By 18 months, tree species database is	assessment in Oct. 2017 -Assessment of NFI and FTI methodology completed			
Assessment report of NFI Number of individuals trained and	State of GHG-I	established	(Independent assessment of NFI and incor-Assessment of NFI			
capable:	reporting capacity not determined	By 24 months, NFI methodology is	and FTI methodology completed NFI Assessment Report			
In SLMS In GHG-I		assessed.	https://www.dropbox.com/sh/0ffaz1x9re1a900/AACKDfQnO4			
			YB-eaqh5VsErDea?dl=0			

Good progress has been made towards the development of the REDD MRV system. Support to Mongolian institutions was provided to support the forest and land use data collection for the updating of the 1st Biennial Update Report and national GHGi submitted to UNFCCC in Oct 2017. Support to the main partners including the Forest Research Development Centre (FRDC) has continued with two PMU staff based at the office, newly hired staff were provided training in National Forest Inventory and Collect Earth tools. The Activity Data was improved through revisiting National Forest Inventory plot points using Collect Earth. The independent assessment of the NFI and governments taxation inventory was undertaken with recommendations for the next cycles of forest inventories. National ownership defined; Climate Change Policy Implementation Unit (CCPIU) are a leading organization of reporting national GHGi and improvement of CCPIU staff capacity in translating RS data and utilizing Collect Earth. All key national counterparts of FRL and NFMS capable of performing forest monitoring and field measurement, regular FRL core working group meeting and workshops. Remote Sensing and Collect Earth analysis based on Dot-Grid system (CCPIU, FRDC). IPCC software, tree biomass model based on allometric equation and Emission Factor and land use change matrix for assessing LULUCF GHG analysis





Output 18: Safeguards Information System (SIS) established.							
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target				
Effective SIS providing information on how REDD+ safeguards are addressed and respected in Mongolia.	No safeguard information system in place	By Q2 2017, nationally appropriate safeguards and indicators are identified.	Initial assessment was undertaken for relevant institutions/partners for SIS development; work on safeguards approach commenced in 2017, and has been timed to coincide with the finalization of the PAM list. Initial steps taken in 2017 on SIS development include: development of templates for information systems assessment; discussion on SIS objectives;				
			and capacity building on SIS.				

Initial preparatory steps undertaken in 2016 including scoping of the likely institutions, agencies and partners to be involved in the development of Mongolia's SIS. Underlying work on the safeguards approach commenced in 2017, and has been timed to coincide with the finalization of the PAM list. Key elements are to be finalized in late 2017/early 2018, feeding into the development of the SIS. Initial discussions have been held with Forest Resources and Development Center (FRDC) and National Statistics Office (e.g. on potential links to SDG reporting system). In 2017, capacity building on SIS included participation of 4 government/TWG-S&SIS members in South-South exchange on Safeguards and SIS, in Hanoi in October 2017, including a presentation to the exchange on Mongolia's benefits & risks assessment process, and report-back to the TWG. This group was also tasked with an initial discussion on objectives for the SIS. Also in 2017, templates were developed for the assessment of information systems and sources (starting in early 2018). The Mongolia safeguards document was updated to cover the elements completed so far. 2018 work plan for the development of SIS prepared.





6. Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and Associated UNFCCC Decisions

This section aims to provide insight and to support a thought process into how countries are progressing against the framework of the convention, namely: 5.1) a National REDD+ Strategy; 5.2) a Safeguards and Safeguards Information System; 5.3) a National Forest Reference Level; and 5.4.) a National Forest Monitoring System. Only complete the sections that apply to the priorities identified for the country and mark as N/A any criteria that do not apply to the context of the country.

6.1. National Strategy

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source): ☑ National Programme; ☑ Targeted Support; ☐ Other Source; ☐ Not Applicable

Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a National REDD+ Strategy (NS) as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100

Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a National REDD+ Strategy (NS) as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100 words):

The initial steps were undertaken for development of the National Strategy, as outlined in the sections above. It is expected that it can be approved within the agreed program deadline, 36 months after starting date.

Indicator	√	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
		Not yet initiated	
	✓	Under design	The Minister of Environment and Tourism have discussed several policy objectives and
		Drafted, under deliberation	options for the REDD+ strategy. The Ministry agreed to support the development of a
Does the country have a		Adopted	National Program and Action / Investment Plan. These are policy documents under
National Strategy (NS) to achieve REDD+?		Link to the NS provided on the UNFCCC REDD+ Web Platform Info Hub	Mongolian legal framework. The process has been agreed and initial documents a being drafted. The most challenging document is the Financial investment.
		Implementation in early stages	
		Full implementation of NS	
Degree of completeness of national REDD+ strategies.	>	The NS identifies, assesses and prioritizes the direct and underlying drivers of deforestation and forest degradation,	An analysis of drivers of deforestation and degradation was undertaken, and updated following publishing of the Mongolian NFI report. An updated analysis of drivers, especially related to fire, pests and logging has been undertaken as part of the Collect Earth assessment which was conducted to provide activity data for the FRL.
		as well as the barriers to the "plus" (+) ⁹ activities on the basis of robust analyses.	

⁹ Plus (+) activities within the context of REDD+ refer to conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks





GOVERNMENT OF AND TOURISM			MONGOLIA
	√		
	✓	The NS proposes a coherent and coordinated set of policies and measures (PAMs) for REDD+ that are proportionate to the drivers & barriers, results-oriented and feasible.	These are being integrated into the Investment Plan. A risk and benefit assessment has been undertaken on the policies and measures.
	√	The NS relates to the scope and scale of the FRL, taking into account national circumstances.	The scope and scale considers the FRL, however, the scope and scale of the Strategy and Action Plan is wider as Mongolia's vision is wider also looking at sustainable development gals, climate change adaptation and maintaining ecosystem services.
	√	The NS defines the institutional arrangements for REDD+ implementation, including governance measures, participatory oversight and inter-sectoral coordination.	These will be included in the NS, though it requires more detailed documents and institutional arrangements to be determined for activities like SIS, NFMS. These are being addressed in the 2018 work plan.
Degree to which the NS incorporates principles of social inclusion and gender equality.	✓	The NS is developed through a multi- stakeholder, gender- responsive and participatory consultation and dialogue process.	A gender and social inclusion assessment has been undertaken, a social inclusion assessment of the PAM's and risk and benefit assessment has been undertaken. Discussion on subnational plans has also included the feedback from meetings at aimag and sum level.
	>	The proposed policies and measures for REDD+ integrate gender-responsive actions.	The Forest – Sustainable Development Council (i.e. the CSO Forum) provides comments on the policies and measures; council members have been participants in sub-national planning activities. A risk and benefit assessment has been undertaken as part of the safeguard assessment process which has included gender and social inclusion considerations. A Policy Brief on Social Inclusion was circulated.
	✓	The proposed policies and measures for REDD+ consider the realization of land and resource tenure rights (when relevant), as well as the development priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities as well as their development priorities.	The Forest – Sustainable Development Council (i.e. the CSO Forum) provides comments on the policies and measures; council members have been participants in sub-national planning activities. The land tenure impacts have been considered during the risk and benefit assessment for safeguards. Indigenous people, Forest User Groups, herders and local communities are members of the civil society forum, which has an extensive membership.
Degree of anchoring of the NS in the national development policy and	✓	There is effective inter-ministerial coordination for REDD+ action.	Inter-ministerial coordination is being undertaken by the Ministry of Environment, an assessment is being undertaken to determine the best solutions for high level policy coordination for 'REDD+' action.
institutional fabric.		Endorsement of the NS has been obtained at a high political level, beyond the agency or ministry that led the REDD+ readiness process.	Not yet submitted.





MONGOLIA AND TOURISM			⇒ II M O N G O L I A
	√	REDD+ actions or targets are embedded in the national plan or policy for sustainable development.	The REDD+ actions are already generally supported within existing government policies including Forest Policy; Sustainable Development Vison; Climate Change Action Plan; and Biodiversity Action Plan.
	√	There is evidence that ministries/agencies outside the forest and environment sectors are committed to implementing REDD+ policies and measures.	Main counterpart ministries have adopted policies and these are included in the strategy, especially development of the wood processing sector (Ministry of Light Industry and Agriculture).
		Financing arrangements to start implementing the NS (or to channel results-based finance) are designed.	Not yet designed. An initial study on finance mechanisms has been included but there still requires considerable action from the Ministry of Finance. Results based finance themselves may not be a high priority for Mongolia, though assessments should be undertaken on the suitability of REDD+ implementation finance, or UNFFCCC mechanisms for adaptation and mitigation.

6.2. Safeguard Information System

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source):

National Programme;

Targeted Support;

Other Source;

Not Applicable

Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a Safeguard Information System (SIS) as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100 words):

Initial discussions regard potential data and institutionalization have taken place, work will commence in 2017.

Indicator	✓	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
Does the country have a		No	SIS objectives discussed in 2017; to be finalized in Q1 2018.
Safeguard Information System	✓	SIS objectives determined	
(SIS) that provides information		Safeguard information needs and structure determined.	
on how the Cancun safeguards		Existing information systems and sources assessed.	
are being addressed and respected throughout implementation of REDD+		The SIS is designed, building on existing, together with any novel, information systems and sources clearly articulated in a national government-endorsed document.	
actions?		The SIS is functional, building on existing, together with any novel,	
		information systems and sources that are clearly articulated in a	
		national government-endorsed document.	
		Summary of information on REDD+ safeguards, informed by the	





AND TOURISM			
		SIS, has been submitted to UNFCCC.	
Degree ofcompleteness of the design of a country approach to address the social and environmental safeguards for REDD+	✓	Aligns with the NS, covering the social and environmental benefits and risks of the policies & measures for REDD+ being considered by the countries.	Social and environmental benefits & risk assessed through a multi- stakeholder process and recommendations for the Strategy prepared. Benefits & risks assessment results available online (Background
	✓ 	Defines specific policies, laws and regulations (PLRs), as well as other measures, to address the identified benefits and risks. Have institutional arrangements and/or capacities to implement those PLRs and to monitor the REDD+ safeguards.	report: English, Mongolian; Assessment table: English, Mongolian) Safeguards relevant PLRs reviewed, based on the identified benefits & risks, and recommendations for the PLR framework and PLR implementation developed. Results presented to stakeholders in late 2017; final report due in Q1 2018. Opportunity to influence ongoing MET legal review is being pursued
		Transparently provides information on how safeguards are respected and addressed.	

6.3. Forest Reference Level -

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source):

National Programme;

Targeted Support;

Other Source;

Not Applicable

Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a Forest Reference Level (FRL)as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100 words):

Capacity building in collecting data for construction of the FRL has been provided as well as an activity completed to collect data for the period 1990-2014 on land use change for the whole country to support GHGi and FRL construction. GIZ have completed the NFI and analysis of the results so that EFs can be derived.

Indicator	√	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
Has the country established a FRL?		Not yet initiated Capacity building phase	FRL drafted and ready for submission in January 2018. (FRL 5.2million tCO ₂ e between 2005-2015)
		Preliminary construction phase	
		Advanced construction phase (scope/scale/definition)	
	√	Submission drafted	
		Submitted to the UNFCCC	
Robustness of FRL submissions	V	Submission is transparent, complete, consistent and as much as possible accurate	The Collect Earth method is transparent and appears to be the most accurate method available to obtain activity data to date.





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	and allows reconstruction of the submitted FRL.					
v	Includes pools and gases, and REDD+ activities (Scope) and justification for omitting significant pools and/or activities.	Will include 5 pools, and activities to include deforestation and degradation caused by fire and pest, as well as illegal logging. No significant pools will be omitted.				
v	Justifies where the submission is inconsistent with previous versions of GHG inventory.	Data used in Biennial Update Report (BUR) did not contain spatially explicit information on forest change, therefore the estimates of changes in the FRL cannot be compared directly with the BUR. Carbon removal estimates are also different between BUR and FRL. The FRL only considers reforestation/afforestation as enhancement of forest carbon stocks, i.e. enhancement if non forest land converted to forest land, but does not include enhancement in forest land remaining forest land.				
v	Includes details of the forest definition used and national circumstances.	[Collect Earth definition] Boreal: 1ha min area, ≥10% canopy cover, ≥2m height Saxaul: 1ha min area, ≥4% canopy cover National circumstances not adjusted in the first submission, but future climate change impact using MAXENT described.				
v	Defines the geographic area covered by FRL (scale).	National scale covering the Boreal forest areas, and initially mention Saxual forests.				





6.4. National Forest Monitoring System

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source): ☑ National Programme; ☑ Targeted Support; ☐ Other Source; ☐ Not Applicable

Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100 words):

<u>Contribution of TWG</u>: TWG on FREL/FRL and NFMS was established in 2016, with 40 members, of which about 5-6 core members represent key national agencies. While major works have been carried out by the core team, the wider TWG membership was used for the consultation process to get more information/inputs for NFMS.

<u>Staffing and backstopping support for MRV</u>: The international consultant for NFMS implementation has been recruited and mobilized. MRV system was strengthened with regular technical backstopping support from regional and HQ FAO team.

Forest Information System development: FIS built on the existing national capacity; web based GHG inventory data of Environmental Information Center.

Indicator	√	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification		
Has the country established a NFMS?	√ 	No NFMS capacity building phase Preliminary construction phase Advanced construction phase (SLMS, NFI, GHGi) NFMS generating preliminary information for monitoring and MRV NFMS institutionalized and generating REDD+ monitoring and MRV (satellite land monitoring system, national forest inventory, greenhouse gas inventory)	 GHGi for LULUCF is completed using data from CCPIU Collect Earth study (1986-2015). NFI 2016 had an independent assessment of its suitability for FRL and possibility of incorporation with FTI. Updated Above ground biomass estimated in 2017 reflected in second edition of NFI (unpublished) Web-based SLMS built on the existing forest data web portal (EIC) Capacity-based needs assessment complete. Customized capacity building training in NFMS involving government entity, research institute and private company planned for 2018. 		
Degree of completeness of the NFMS in	✓	NFMS includes a Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS)	Collect Earth and ERISC forest change mapping completed and web-bas SLMS improvements planned by provision of English version of EIC w contents and additional NFI data update.		
UN-REDD supported	√	NFMS includes a National Forest Inventory (NFI)	First national multi-purpose forest inventory completed.		
countries	√	NFMS includes a National GHG Inventory (GHGi)	National GHGi completed with LULUCF sector included, will be updated.		
		The NFMS is suitable for estimating anthropogenic forest- related greenhouse gas emissions by sources, and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities;	The completed components of the NFMS (SLMS, NFI and GHGi) are suitable, and the future monitoring elements for forest dynamics will be designed to be so with piloting programme in 3-4 aimags. Coordination with FAO/GEF requested on this.		





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	>	The NFMS is consistent with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidance and guidelines	The MRV system confirmed through FRL submission follows IPCC guideline in forestry sector. Data collected for FRL is consistent and transparent, and the future monitoring elements for forest dynamics will be designed to be so.		
	√	The NFMS enables the assessment of different types of forest in the country, including natural forest.	In addition to 2016 NFI executed in boreal forest only, saxaul forest included in the latest forest monitoring activity by Climate Change Policy Implementation Unit.		



7. Financial Delivery

In the table below, please provide information on expenditure for 2017 against the planned and anticipated expenditure as per the Annual Work Plan (AWP) for 2017 as approved by the PEB/NSC, meaning before any budget revisions were done. Anticipated expenditure by 31 December 2018 should indicate what would be realistically expended at the end of that year, and therefore provide a measure of deviation against the AWP.

Programme Outcome	UN Organization	Annual (actual) Expenditure ¹⁰ for Jan – December 2017	Planned Expenditure for Jan – Dec 2017 ¹¹	Planned (anticipated) Expenditure for 2018 ¹²
Outcome 1: National REDD+	FAO			
Management Arrangements	UNDP	587,298.00	680,075.00	688,986.00
Established and Improved Stakeholder Awareness and Effective Stakeholder Engagement	UNEP			
Sub-total		587,298.00	680,075.00	688,986.00
	FAO			
Outcome 2: National REDD+ Strategy Prepared	UNDP	108,092.00	129,539.00	343,500.00
Trepared	UNEP	123,136.19	132,032.00	80,370.50
Sub-total		231,228.19	261,571.00	423,870.50
Outcome 3: Forest Reference	FAO	245,815.79	299,968.00	161,066.18
Emissions Levels and Forest Reference	UNDP			
Levels Developed	UNEP			
Sub-total		245,815.79	299,968.00	161,066.18
Outcome 4: National Forest	FAO	278,818.59	283,942.00	168,934.72
Monitoring System and Safeguards	UNDP			
Information System Developed	UNEP	70,000.00	70,000.00	132,483.01
Sub-total		348,818.59	353,942.00	301,417.73
Indirect Support Costs	FAO	36,724.39	40,873.70	23,100.06
(7% GMS)	UNDP	48,641.00	56,672.98	72,274.02
	UNEP	20,727.00	14,142.24	
Indirect Suppo	106,092.39	111,688.92	95,374.08	
	FAO (Total):	561,358.77	624,783.70	353,100.96
	UNDP (Total):	744,031.00	866,286.98	1,104,760.02
	UNEP (Total):	213,863.19	216,174.24	212,853.51
	Grand TOTAL:	1,519,252.96	1,707,244.92	1,766,088.57

 $^{^{10}}$ The sum of commitments and disbursements for 2017

 $^{^{\}rm 11}$ As indicated in the 2017 annual work plan.

¹²As indicated in the 2018 annual work plan.



8. Adaptive management

Referring to the deviations and delays indicated in the results framework above and considering whether expenditures are on track, please provide a short narrative of delays encountered, the reasons for them and what action has been considered to alleviate their impact on the Programme. Please indicate if these have been discussed at the Programme Executive Board (PEB) or National Steering Committee (NSC) meetings, between the Programme Management Unit (PMU) and national counterparts and what measures have been proposed to overcome them.

8.1. Delays and Corrective Actions

What delays/obstacles were encountered at country level? [150 words]

The NP is generally on target. No significant delays have been encountered.

Have any of the delays/obstacles been raised and/or discussed at the Programme Steering Committee meetings? [150 words]

□Yes; ⊠ No

What are the delays/obstacles anticipated in terms of their impact on the NP? [150 words]

There could be delays in the approval of NFMS, SIS and the National Strategy, which may arise because of the uncertainty regards senior staff at the Ministry following changes to the Minister in October 2017.

How are these delays/obstacles being addressed? [150 words]

The obstacle is caused by internal issues within the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, so it is difficult for the UN agencies to address. UNDP have organized meetings with the State Secretary to share the concerns.

8.2. Opportunities and Partnerships

Over the reporting period, have any opportunities that were not foreseen in the design of the programme been identified to help advance efforts on REDD+? [150 words]

<u>Coordination with FAO/GEF</u>: As one of the co-financing sources of the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme, FAO/GEF has been providing support to Forest User Groups (FUGs) in the field of management of FUG's thinning and livelihoods activities and forest resources monitoring. The UN-REDD National Programme would benefit from improved coordination. In line to support this, regular meetings have been established and a representative from FAO GEF program invited to the PEB membership. In the final year of both the programs closer linkages will be undertaken.

How are these opportunities being incorporated into the work of the NP? [150 words] Joint sharing of the work plan is being encouraged.



9. Targeted Support

If the country has received Targeted Support during the reporting period, please provide a narrative of how this was complementary to the NP, and how it has contributed to furthering the readiness process in country.

Summary of Targeted Support: [100 words]

Target Support finished in Q1 2017, remaining budget was used for the printing of knowledge products.

- Mongolian REDD+ Academy Journals 1-8: 1000 copies each
- Rapid Assessment of Drivers in Mongolia: 1000 copies
- Institutional Capacity Assessment: 1000 copies
- Forest Sector Finance Flows: 1000 copies
- Competence Based Capacity Needs Assessment: 1000 copies



10. Annexes

Annex 1.0 Awareness and Communication Materials https://www.dropbox.com/s/295c7cx84a07kn1/Annex%201%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0

Annex 2.0 Workshops and Capacity Building Events https://www.dropbox.com/s/loakjhr3aaocs21/Annex%202%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0

Annex 3.0 List of Publications https://www.dropbox.com/s/xxoon7e4avgdvnz/Annex%203%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0

Annex 4.0 Results Framework and Progress towards Means of Verification https://www.dropbox.com/s/y2015zg7u2nqitt/Annex%204%202017%20Report.docx?dl=0













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