

Government policy for combating desertification in Mongolia

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Environmental policy documents and programs

- A number of policy documents, including the MDG-based Comprehensive National Development Strategy of Mongolia, environmental legislations prioritized wide-range goals and measures to address land degradation and desertification.
 - MDG-based Comprehensive National Development Strategy of Mongolia
 - National program for Water/2010/
 - Green Development Strategy/2014/
 - Green Wall program/2005/
 - National program for Forest/2003/
 - **National program to Combat desertification/2010/**
 - National program for Climate Change/2010/
 - Sub-programs and Plans of Aimags/Administrative unit of Mongolia/
 - National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan etc

Desertification and Comprehensive National Development Goal

The long-term development policy of Mongolia, its priorities, and strategies for their implementation and expected outcomes are defined in the MDG-based Comprehensive National Development Strategy of Mongolia

- The MDG-based Comprehensive National Development Strategy of Mongolia shall be implemented within the framework of the following six priority areas:
 - Achieve the Millennium Development Goals and provide for an all-round development of Mongolian people.
 - Intensively develop export-oriented, private sector-led, high technology-driven manufacturing and services, with particular focus on information, communication development, promoting bio and nanotechnology, transit transportation, logistics, financial mediation services, deeper processing of agricultural products, and create a sustainable, knowledge-based economy.

Desertification and National Comprehensive Development Goal

- Exploit mineral deposits of strategic importance, generate and accumulate savings, ensure intensive and high economic growth, and develop modern processing industry.
- Ensure intensive development of the country's regions, their infrastructure, and reduce urban-rural development disparities.
- ***Create a sustainable environment for development by promoting capacities and measures on adaptation to climate change, halting imbalances in the country's ecosystems and protecting them.***
- Consolidate further political democracy, foster a transparent, accountable, just system free from corruption and red tape.

Desertification and national Comprehensive Development Goal

- Strategic objectives of Environmental policy/Chapter 6/
 - Promote capacity to adapt to climate change and desertification, to reduce their negative impacts.

Green Development Strategy

The purpose:

The purpose of the Green Development Policy is to ensure that Mongolia evolves as developed nation that has built conditions for environmental sustainability, so that it will be inherited by future generations who will gain benefits from it in the long-term through participatory and inclusive economic growth based on the green development concept.

*In the Green Development Plan endorsed by the Parliament in 2014, the national policy has been defined as follows:
“Reduction of impacts from desertification, land degradation and drought by creating conditions to minimize human impacts on environment in climate change conditions and through rapid economic growth”*

Green Development Strategy

The following strategic objectives will be achieved to ensure green development:

- *Strategic objective #1:* Promote a sustainable consumption and production pattern with efficient use of natural resources, low greenhouse gas emissions, and reduced waste generation;
- ***Strategic objective #2:*** **Sustain ecosystem's carrying capacity by enhancing environmental protection and restoration activities, and reducing environmental pollution and degradation;**
- *Strategic objective #3:* Increase investment in natural capital, human development and clean technology by introducing financing, tax, lending and other incentives for supporting a green economy;

Green Development Strategy

The strategic objectives:

- *Strategic objective #4:* Engrain a green lifestyle by reducing poverty and promoting green jobs;
- *Strategic objective #5:* Encourage education, science, and technology to serve as the catalyst for green development, and develop cultural values and livelihoods that are in harmony with nature;
- *Strategic objective #6:* Develop and implement a population settlement plan in accordance with climate change, while considering the availability of natural resources and the resilience of regions.

National Action Program to Combat Desertification

Overall Objective of NAP CD

To prevent, cope with and revert desertification and land degradation in Mongolia to ensure environmental sustainability, improve livelihoods of the rural population and generate environmental services of global importance.



The NAP CD has following objectives:

- To strengthen National Capacity and Institutional Framework for Combating Desertification
- To improve the Legal and Policy Framework
- To enhance science, technology and knowledge
- To increase the advocacy, awareness rising and education
- Support concrete actions at local level and increase investment



Guiding principles to implement the NAP

The following guidelines describe the new strategies and approaches which will be applied throughout the different components:

- Community participation based policy development and decision making process.
- Provide inter-sectoral cooperation.
- Reorganize the relationship between local government and population.
- Incentive system to enhance direct participation of community
- Invest primarily in areas which are not yet too much degraded, where there is a good potential to bring tangible improvements with limited resources. Support activities on improving livelihoods and generating tangible benefit in the degraded areas.
- Desertification endangers the nomadic and semi-nomadic lifestyle and the cultural identity of Mongolia. It threatens the livelihoods of the rural population. Therefore, it is recommended to give a message to everybody that human itself is the victim of desertification`s impact.

NAP CD timeframe and its phases for implementation

The NAP CD has two phases and every phase has its :

- The first phase covering the years from 2010 to 2015, within the first phase, the complex action will be taken including strengthening legislation of combating desertification, capacity building and increasing public participation in actions to combat desertification.
 - Law on Soil protection and coping with desertification
 - Relevant procedures
 - New Government policy document for Crop production,
 - Government policy for Agriculture development etc
- The second phase will be implemented in period of 2016-2020. Actions to cope with intensity of desertification by rehabilitate and restore degraded and vulnerable areas adversely affected by desertification will be taken within this phase.

Bilateral and multilateral cooperation

- Government policy focuses on to strengthen multilateral cooperation to cope with desertification and has achieved some progress on implementing international donor projects and programs, and collaborating with countries and organizations signatory to UNCCD.
- Mongolia collaborates with international organizations and countries such as GEF, UN agencies/UNDP, UNEP.../, ESCAP-NEASPEC, GIZ, SDC, Republic of Korea/Korea Forest Service/JICA, KOICA, China, The Government of the Netherlands, The Government of the Switzerland etc.

Bilateral and multilateral cooperation

- The multilateral cooperation activities focused on:
 - strengthening capacity of national institutions to combat desertification,
 - introducing new and innovative management concepts of natural resource management,
 - moderating its negative impacts on socio-economic development.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION