



# Mongolia: Enhancing Resource Management through Institutional Transformation

Newsletter: January 2017

## ABOUT MERIT

The Mongolia: Enhancing Resource Management through Institutional Transformation (MERIT) Project, funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC), will contribute to stimulate sustainable economic growth in Mongolia by strengthening the capacity of public institutions and local communities to effectively manage the extractive sector.

One of the key activities of MERIT is to work in selected aimags and soums where there are mining impacted communities to raise awareness of income-generating opportunities and promote constructive and mutually beneficial collaboration between all levels of government, local communities and industry.



*Project first Steering Committee meeting, August 30, 2016.*

The Project is expected to achieve the following results:

- Improved management capacity and coordination of key strategic mining institutions (MMHI, MRPAM, MET, MNMA)
- Strengthened effective collaboration between public institutions (central, aimag and soum levels), civil society organizations, and local communities involved in mining
- Increased public sector training capacity supporting the extractive sector through collaboration with tertiary training institutions (IGG, MUST)

MERIT is a consortium of two Canadian non-governmental organizations, Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO) and World University Service of Canada (WUSC).

Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO) is one of Canada's leading volunteer-based development organizations. Founded in 1967, the mission is to catalyze and strengthen sustainable economic and social growth in Canada and glob-

ally through the collaborative approach of highly experienced Technical Advisors (TAs). CESO is comprised of a team who believe deeply in the power of partnership to reduce poverty, foster economic health and stability, and transform lives.

With origins dating back to the 1920s, WUSC is a leading Canadian development agency, which focuses on human development and global understanding through education and training. WUSC is a network of professionals, students, volunteers, faculty, and community leaders who, together, provide opportunities to some of the world's most disadvantaged youth. The programs and services improve access to and quality of education, expand employment opportunities and foster empowerment for youth. WUSC send long-term TAs to support partners - government, civil society and the private sector globally.

## FIRST YEAR

Improving mining governance is one of the Government of Mongolia's top priorities and MERIT is aligned with its Action Plan (2016-2020). Specifically, MERIT will support sustainable and transparent development of the mining sector.

### Capacity Development Plans

MERIT is deploying experienced Canadian Technical Advisors (TAs) to develop Capacity Development Plans (CDPs) for key strategic mining and training institutions. These plans will guide the development of staff capacity to more efficiently manage implementation and monitoring of policies, regulations and procedures and develop meaningful inter-agency coordination. They will also provide clear and effective processes for information sharing and meaningful consultation among government, local communities and industry.



*CDP signing by MERIT Project Director, Cindy Fair and State Secretary of Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Tsengel Tsegmed.*

- CDP for Mineral Resources and Petroleum Authority of Mongolia (MRPAM) was approved on May 26, 2016
- CDP for Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) was approved on November 22, 2016
- CDP for Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry (MMHI) was approved on December 09, 2016

### Capacity Development Activities

Training from Sep, 2016 to Jan, 2017 included:

- Forty-nine participants attended the first event, 'Petroleum Exploration and Production Agreement'. The lecture was given by MRPAM officer who participated in an Executive Development Program in Canada from July 17th-30th, 2016.
- The second lecture by MRPAM officer was on 'Legal Environment, Implementation Activities and Present Situation of Canadian Petroleum Sector'.
- On October 27, MERIT organized online training on "Guidance, Regulation, Reserves and Resources" for executive officials of MRPAM in collaboration with Sproule, World Petroleum Consultants in Canada.
- Twenty-three delegates including Deputy Director for North-east Asia and Oceania from Global Affairs Canada, First Secretary and Trade Commissioner from Canadian Embassy attended a presentation by MERIT TA on 'Knowledge Portal – Our One-Stop-Shop Repository'. The knowledge portal is conceived to be a product that could be used to deposit, Canadian and Mongolian, eLearning outputs from the MERIT and SESMIM projects.



*At the 'Knowledge Portal – Our One-Stop-Shop Repository' training, November 30, 2016.*

- MERIT project has organized an on-site training on 'Reserves and Resource Classification System and Legal Framework' with support of Sproule, World Petroleum Consultants of Canada, on January 9-12, 2017 to MRPAM staff as well as participants from other institutions, NGOs and the ministry. The workshop culminated with participants' recommendations on the way forward for a national reserves classification system.



*Participants received Certificates at Sproule training, Jan 2017.*

### Recent Activities



*Pam Petten, MERIT TA worked at Mongolian University of Science and Technology.*

MERIT TA worked at School of Mining and Geology, Mongolian University of Science and Technology (MUST) to draft a CDP, gathering her data through one-on-one or group meetings and surveys of faculty and relevant staff.

At the Institute of Geography and GeoEcology, Mongolian Academy of Sciences (IGG), MERIT TA spent several weeks facilitating the development of an institutional strategic plan and a CDP.

Another, MERIT TA facilitated the development of a strategic plan and a CDP for Mongolian National Mining Association (MNMA) gathering his data from its members and clients and from wide range of stakeholders including the government, international organizations and mining companies.

- TA on public consultation: MMHI
- TA on change management: MMHI

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- TA on communications: MMHI
- TA on gender equality: MMHI
- TA on monitoring and evaluation: MET
- TA on communications: MET
- TA on GIS: IGG
- TA on HR: MRPAM
- Development of 2017-2018 AWP
- Investigations at Aimag level

### Find us at:

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Questions or suggestions? We'd love to hear from you!