



Mongolia:  
Enhancing Resource  
Management through  
Institutional Transformation

PUBLIC CONSULTATION INTRODUCTION  
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Technical Advisor: Joan McEwen



# What is Public Consultation?

Key tool to improve transparency of government actions such as legislative changes, regulatory amendments and local level licensing agreements.

There are three different levels of engagement and input with public consultation: notification, consultation and participation.

# Levels of Engagement

**Notification** is used to provide information such as changes in law and new regulations. It is a one-way process - Public receives information but provides no input

**Consultation** actively seeks opinions from interested and affected people (stakeholders). It is a two-way flow of communication. Provides government with public input that helps make better decisions.

**Participation** sees the active involvement of the public and stakeholders in the decision-making process. Helps create a sense of “ownership” by participants in the final decision.

# Why Public Consultation is Important

Public consultation provides information for governments that helps to make better decisions AND also helps keep the public informed

Governments get access to better information to analyze and measure and helps meet public expectations

Consultation increases the level of transparency and improves the quality of the final product by:

- Bringing expertise into the discussion and offering up alternatives
- Helping decision-makers balance opposing views
- Identifying problems in advance
- Providing a chance to check costs and benefits
- Helping different parts of government to work together

# Gender Issues

Sustainable economic development means paying attention to the groups of people who are often marginalized by development projects or further harmed by potential unintended consequences such as increased alcohol consumption, domestic violence and prostitution.

Resource development projects can have a significant impact on the health and well-being of women, influenced by a broad range of cultural, social, economic and environmental factors.

One approach may be to set up a gender equality reference group as part of the consultation committee.

# Guiding Principles for Consultation

1. Involves all relevant stakeholders who are affected, interested and/or can contribute
2. Considered before decision is made not after-the-fact
3. Match level of engagement and information to stakeholders and desired outcome
4. Transparent, consistent, structured and timely
5. Background information should be clear and easily understood
6. What you are asking (scope and parameters) should be clear to all participants so expectations are met and people understand the impact their input will have on decision-making
7. Government should provide info back to stakeholders on how their input was considered

# Guiding Principle

Most importantly:

Government should ensure that the consultation process is mutually respectful, non-discriminatory and equitable, regardless of gender, race, age, educational level or religious belief.