

STEP-BY-STEPPE



ADRA MONGOLIA: CREATING OPPORTUNITY, CHANGING LIVES

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY CHILD



A working group for the children with disability has formed.

The Ensuring Access to Education and Health for Children with Cognitive Disabilities (EACH) project is funded by the European Union through ADRA United Kingdom and is aimed at diagnosing children with cognitive disabilities from an earlier age. The project is also working towards ensuring higher quality health services, and providing equal opportunities for children

with cognitive disabilities so that they can access preschool and secondary school education and to improve access to the current social care services as well as methodologies for children with cognitive disabilities.

As part of the EACH project, working groups are formed which consist of specialists from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the Ministry of Social Care and Labor, and the Ministry of Health. Besides this, there will also be some professors, researchers and doctors who are specialized in education and health issues related to children with disabilities, who will be a part of the working group.

The baseline survey for

the project has begun and is taking place in Zavkhan, and Bayankhongor provinces and some districts of Ulaanbaatar city. The project team is also investigating the current situation of social care, health and education provision from the government, government policy and looking at difficulties which may be encountered when delivering qualified services to children with cognitive disabilities. The research is highly concerned with children with cognitive disabilities and their parents' opinions, public ideas and specialist recommendations from the above mentioned three ministries.



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PERMACULTURE TRAINING TEACHES GREATER EFFECTIVENESS WITH LESS EFFORT!

The Food Security Program of ADRA Mongolia successfully conducted "Permaculture" training from July 14-28, in cooperation with the Australian Southern Cross Permaculture Institute. Funding was provided by ADRA Australia and ADRA Canada. The training was conducted in Tosontsengel soum of Zavkhan province.

There were a total of 24 participants including project staff from the "BIO – Supporting Rural Livelihoods through Improved Food Security" project and project cooperative members from the "SPADE – The Sustainable Poverty Reduction through Agricultural Development" project, funded by European Union through ADRA Germany; as well as other Food Security Program staff.

The participants learned how to create essential plans and structures which produce greater effectiveness while putting in less effort! In addition, the training covered very beneficial and practical information and also introduced new technologies; such as, how to utilize waste to prepare organic fertilizer, how

to feed earthworms, the role of domestic hens, how to diminish soil evaporation and preserve water and how to create a food forest line, including flora protection management.

At the end of the training the successful participants were given a certificate and returned to their homes with great aspirations to implement and teach what they have learned during the training. We wish them good luck!



Permaculture training session



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WHAT'S NEW AT THE CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY CENTER ?

The Community Based Rehabilitation Centre (CBRC) has been very active over the past month, and has been involved in many varying and exciting activities.

The Centre ran a sewing training course every day during the month of July. While children received physical therapy or took part in a support group their parents were sharing ideas on different sewing techniques and designs. Together they produced outfits in both Mongolian and European styles. The aim of the course was to help parents gain skills to earn some extra money; as well as spending time at home with their children with



Sewing training session

disabilities. This course may continue to produce bags in cooperation with World Vision.

At the end of July, the CBRC organized a two-day parents' camp which focused on early diagnosis and prevention of disabilities. There were 40 participants and 5 specialists from the Department of Governmental Support for Chingeltei district, and a health specialist from

the Social Development Office. Apart from attending lessons parents also had a good opportunity to socialize which gave the whole camp a very positive atmosphere.

Since last week the CBRC has been running a new occupational therapy activity where older children make postcards by hand. Children can take the postcards home and give them to their families and friends or leave them at the Centre where the project staff are now trying to find a way to sell them. Hopefully, this will help the CBRC to gain a small amount of money for future events. CBRC is funded by Slovak Aid through ADRA Slovakia.

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MICROFINANCE COOPERATIVES FORMED

The Micro Economic Development (MED) program organized a four day meeting for cooperatives to share experience in Ulaanbaatar city. A total of 18 leaders from newly established cooperatives, Self Help Group members and people who were interested in establishing cooperatives participated in the meeting.

The Cooperative Training Center staff gave some lectures regarding cooperative law, regulatory environment, internal auditing, and management principles. The participants were also

introduced to the "White Gold" cooperative operation, which demonstrated how their newly learned lessons could be implemented in real practice. Small and medium enterprise supporter the 'Business Incubator Center' caught participants' attention on sales and marketing issues and noted the opportunity for further cooperation with cooperatives.

Currently, three more Self Help Groups (SHG's) have compiled all of the necessary documents according to Mongolian cooperative law and are awaiting permission to launch their cooperatives formally in



Participants are introducing with equipments

Zavkhan province. Five SHG's in Selenge province and six SHG's in Bayankhongor province have already shown their willingness to form cooperatives.

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