



ADRA

THE NOMADS

ADRA Mongolia Official Newsletter

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J.Tserenkhand, A Happy Yak Milkwoman / follow her story on page 18

THE NOMADS • VOL 1 NO 2

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Justice,
Compassion,
Love

Country Director's Cor

Special Report

"Today we visited ADRA Mongolia headquarters and community projects they have. Praise God for the work He is doing in the country, helping people physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually. His power."

Pastor Ted Wilson, President of the World Church of Seventh-day Adventists visited ADRA Mongolia country office in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia together with his wife, Nancy recently. He was accompanied by Pastor Kim Yo Han, newly-elected President of the Northern Asia Pacific Division (NSD), Pastor Han Suk Hee - President/Mongolia Mission (MM) of SDAs, together with Pastor Nyamdavaa Dovchuren - Executive Secretary, Angelina Pagarigan - Treasurer and other church leaders on 22nd August 2022.

The visit coincided with the former's visit for the 30th founding anniversary celebration of the Seventh-day Adventists presence in Mongolia since 1994 after the fall of communism in 1991. During the visit, the Adventist church leadership acquainted themselves in the work and ministry of ADRA Mongolia through a comprehensive presentation led by the Agency's Country Director, Windell M. Maranan. He shared the core area of operations is concentrated in the promotion of organic agriculture in the country after the central government recognized ADRA Mongolia's pioneering role of improving the sector and by contributing 89.2% of organic agri-products through one its projects.

As well, he shared the current country operations aligned by the Agency's general purpose

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*ers to hear about the excellent com-
wonderful ways they have of help-
spiritually as Jesus did and through*

Pastor Ted Wilson
President
General Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists

of serving humanity so that all may live as God intended by ensuring that all means of work is done with justice, compassion and love based on the biblical mandate found in Micah 6:8.

“Today we visited ADRA Mongolia headquarters to hear about the excellent community projects they have. Praise God for the wonderful ways they have of helping people physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually as Jesus did and through His power. I am personally touched and encouraged by learning and seeing the wonderful work of the church through the ministry of ADRA Mongolia here in Mongolia. On a personal note, please let me and wife be part of the excellent work that the team is doing on the ground as I pray and give a humble monetary contribution to be used to further the amazing work that you all do”, says Pastor Wilson as he appreciated the team and the leadership and praise God for His blessings on the Agency’s work and ministry.

ADRA Mongolia is one of the 130 country offices and operating globally under the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) which is the official humanitarian and development agency of the Seventh-day Adventist Church established in 1956. It is mandated to demonstrate God’s love and extend His ministry of compassion.



Pr Ted and Mrs Nancy Wilson joined in this photo-op with ADRA Mongolia team and other church leaders



Pr Ted Wilson expresses his appreciation in the work and ministry of ADRA Mongolia through its different projects





Windell Maranan, Country Director/ADRA Mongolia made a powerpoint presentation on the Agency's overall operation and future strategies and plans



A brief discussion on strengthening the partnership between ADRA Mongolia and the church in general

WHERE WE SERVE



Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Economics Resilience-2 (SAFER-2) Project

Donors: Canadian Food Grains Bank (CFGB), ADRA Canada, ADRA China-HongKong, ADRA Netherlands

Budget: 376,289.87 USD

Duration: 3 years (2020-2023)

Key focus area: Ulgii, Bugat and Sagsai Districts of Bayan- Ulgii Province

Beneficiary Partners: 845 households (3718 individuals)



Fine Wool Sheep B

Donors: Help Intern

Budget: 100.000 US

Duration: 1 year (J

Key focus area: Dar

Beneficiary Partne



Bayan-Ulgii



Zavkhan



Pasture Land-Use It Sustainably (PLUS) Project

Donors: ADRA Switzerland, Zurich & Aargau provinces

Budget: 292,933 USD

Duration: 2.6 years (2021-2023)

Key focus area: Pasture User Groups (PUGs) in Ider District of Zavkhan Province

Beneficiary Partners: 100 herder households (440 individuals)

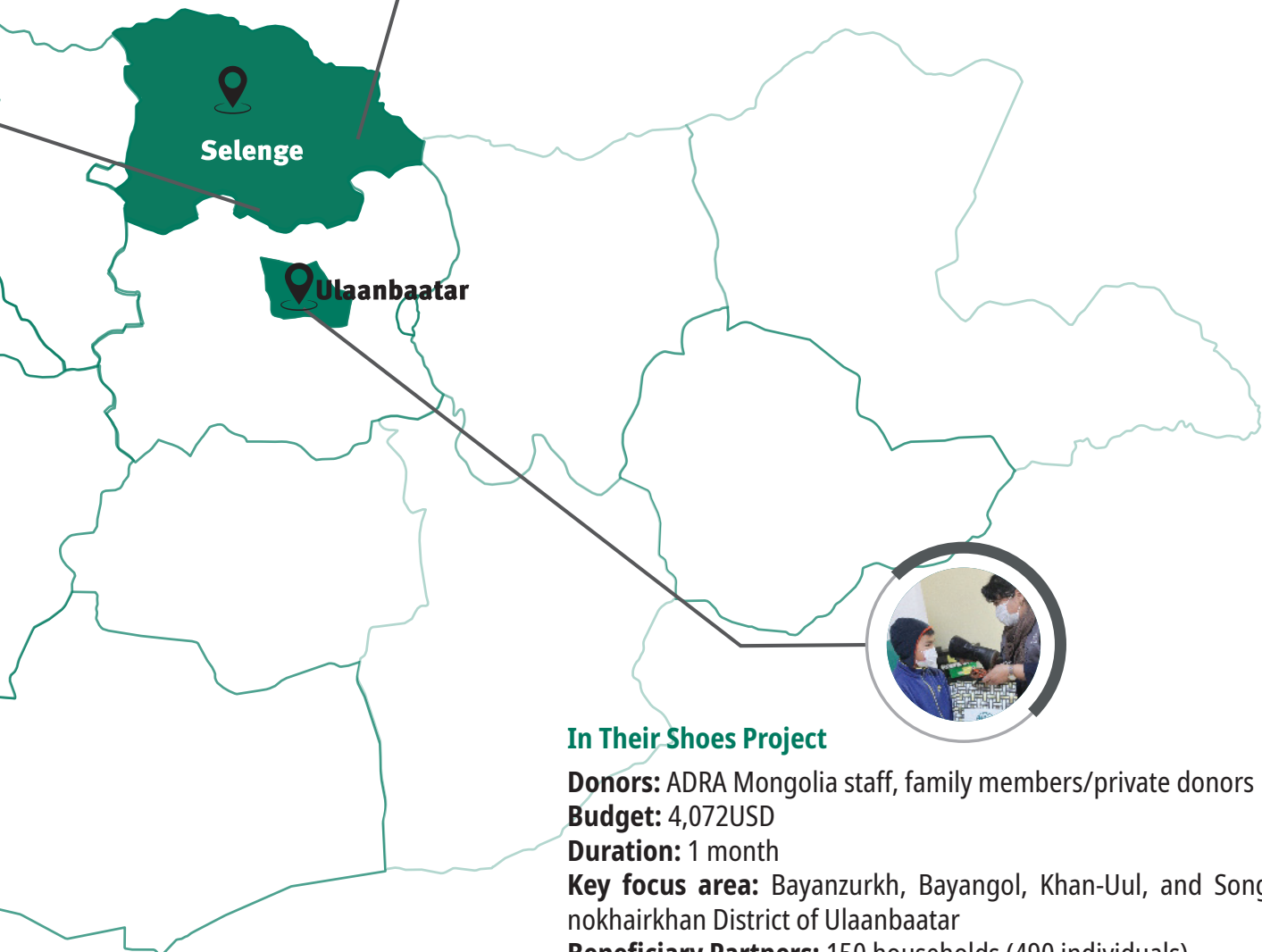


Breeding Project
 National/ADRA Asia
 SD
 (July 2022- July2023)
 Arkhan-Uul Province
 Herders: 100 herders



Partnership On Organic Agriculture (POAg) Project

Donors: ADRA Germany, BMZ
Budget: 1,264,921.75 USD
Duration: 4 years (2018-2022)
Key focus area: 11 Districts in Selenge Province
Beneficiary Partners: 31 cooperatives 928 members (4083 individuals)



In Their Shoes Project

Donors: ADRA Mongolia staff, family members/private donors
Budget: 4,072USD
Duration: 1 month
Key focus area: Bayanzurkh, Bayangol, Khan-Uul, and Songi-nokhairkhan District of Ulaanbaatar
Beneficiary Partners: 150 households (490 individuals)

Project-in-Focus

Pasture Land - Use it Sustainably (PLUS) Project

The dramatic and sharp increase in animal populations in Mongolia (almost two-fold increase within a past decade, since 2010) had unforeseen consequences for the soil cover of the grassland. The animal numbers driven overgrazing on the scale never experienced before led to a degradation of the vegetation in large parts of the steppe area, which cannot grow fast enough before the herds graze again in the same place. The productivity per area decreases, the biomass potential is exhausted, so that the plants have no opportunity to root and reproduce. The benefit of carbon sink is lost. In addition, nutrient-rich and easily digestible grasses are gradually displaced by more resistant species and eventually disappear. Once the plant cover is pierced, the degradation process accelerates.

The project area is located in west central Mongolia around the soum (district) of Ider, in Zavkhan province. The area receives an average of 350 mm of rainfall per year, mostly during the months of July and August, with some in the spring. Snow covers the higher elevations in winter, which are generally avoided from December through February. Commonly, in seasonally-humid-then-dry environments desertification begins when the available rainfall becomes less effective.

The plants growing, the amount of bare soil between plants, and the effectiveness of the available rainfall will always reflect the level of the carbon sink. Healthy soils covered in diverse species of grass and other plants are powerful natural carbon sinks. Infertile, degraded soil is unable to store carbon, releasing it into the atmosphere and contributing hugely to global climate change.



ADRA Partners with Savory Institute

The project “PLUS – Pasture Land – Use it Sustainably” is a multi-partner initiative led by ADRA Mongolia and the Savory Institute which seeks to introduce and consolidate the use and understanding of Holistic Planned Grazing among the herders and communities of the Ider soum (district) in Mongolia, in addition to supporting and nurturing other ongoing processes and activities related to value chains and animal health and productivity at a district and national scales.



PLUS Project Highlights

Donors: ADRA Swiss, Zurich and Aargau cantons Switzerland

Duration: June 2021 - December 2023

Beneficiaries: 100 herder households

Project Goal

The project goal is sustainability of herder communities of Pasture Users Groups (PUGs) livelihoods in Ider soum is increased with adoption of Holistic Management approach of pasturing land/s.

Expected results:

- Knowledge about the HM approach by Savory Institute disseminated and adopted by Pasture User Groups.
- Holistic Management Hub is established in Ider soum.
- Increased herders' households' income through improved quality of milk and dairy products sold to local markets and establish value chain through enhanced management capacity of female herders.



Darkhan Uul Bagh herders constructing a demo plot to show pasture recovery after adapting holistic management approach on rangeland management.

Holistic Management (HM) is a human and nature-centered design and decision-making framework with associated strategic planning procedures that result in socially sound, financially viable, and ecologically regenerative outcomes.

HOW TO “READ” PASTURE LAND?

Would you like to know how to improve your overgrazed pastures to productive and **healthy soil**?

Healthy Soil

Healthy soil is covered with many plants and with plant litter between the plants, and capping is broken. Most of the rainfall soaks in and is available for plants to grow, and to fill rivers, springs, wells and boreholes. Plant litter and dung and urine from livestock and wildlife feed the soil. Plants establish and grow better and longer when the soil holds moisture for longer, stays cool, and provides enough nutrients.

Unhealthy Soil

Unhealthy soil is bare with little or no plant litter covering the soil between plants. The soil is capped. Most of the rainfall will evaporate or run off, which causes erosion, and less water will be available for plants to grow or to fill rivers, springs and boreholes. No plant litter and very little dung and urine is available to feed the soil. Plants struggle to establish and grow when soil is capped, has little moisture and for shorter periods, is very hot or very cold and cannot provide enough nutrients.



It is very important not to overgrazed the grass during the growing season...

In the growing season, grazing and trampling grass plants - for no longer than about 3 days at a time, and then staying away for at least 2 to 3 months - stimulates plant and root growth. Plants will grow upright and produce lots of leaves and stems. The same timing is good for shrubs that are browsed.





ADRA and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) Initiative

ADRA Mongolia has partnered with Savory Institute (SI) in order to implement the Pasture Land – Use it Sustainably (PLUS) Project which seeks to introduce and consolidate the use and understanding of Holistic Planned Grazing among the herders and communities of the Ider Soum of Zavkhan aimag in Mongolia as part of its climate change adaptation initiative desertification.

Savory Institute is a non-profit based in Boulder, Colorado with 54 regional learning Hubs around the globe. Founded in 2009, the Institute has trained over 15,000 farmers, ranchers, and pastoralists and influenced management of nearly 22 million hectares of grasslands through the adoption of Holistic Planned Grazing – a process that mimics ancestral grazing patterns of wild herbivores that co-evolved with healthy grassland ecosystems.

Developed by Allan Savory in the 1960’s, Holistic Management (HM) has been proven in a wide variety of contexts to regenerate grasslands, build soil, increase biodiversity, and sequester significant amounts of carbon while also improving social and economic outcomes. The Savory Global Network currently operates across six continents training, equipping, and mentoring new Hubs (learning centers) and educators. Since 2009, it has achieved the following impact:

- 54 global hubs
- 172 accredited educators
- 15,755 farmers/ranchers/pastoralists

trained

- 21.7 million hectares of land holistically managed

In addition, Savory Institute periodically engages with municipalities, governments, and other NGO’s to collaborate on multi-year projects that build capacity within those organizations to scale the use of regenerative land management practices.

Examples of special projects include joint efforts with Heifer International in Senegal, with The Nature Conservancy in Colorado, and with ADRA in Mongolia. Savory Institute’s big audacious goal for 2025 is to establish 100 Hubs, setting the stage to influence management on 1 billion hectares of land and make a significant dent in carbon drawdown before it is too late. Through a growing global network and new programs in the pipeline to accelerate adoption, this goal is not just achievable, but necessary to create a livable planet for many generations to come.



Ecological short term monitoring session



Mr. Byron Shelton, Savory Master Corp Educator/Master EOV Verifier; Mr. Simon Goodall, Savory Accredited Professional/EOV Verifier; and Mr. Guillermo Fernandez Lopez, Photographer/Videographer from the Savory Institute who are based in the USA collaborated with the Pasture Land Use It Sustainably (PLUS) Project in Ider district of Zavkhan province on August 09 – 16, 2022.



Taking soil samples

The Savory Institute experts conducted the



Land "reading" practical session



Water infiltration session



Pasture planning through holistic management

Ecological Outcome Verification (EOV) baseline practical training with hands-on field sessions that taught participants how to 'read' the land. They also conducted ecological monitoring for short-term indicators for some of the local government officials, herders, as well as ADRA staff.

Furthermore, Byron Shelton and Simon Goodall identified EOV reference areas and baselines and gathered soil samples and other essential data. They also reviewed other holistic management principles and tools which have been taught previously online and onsite with the participants.



FINE WOOL SHEEP BREEDING PROJECT

Mongolia has a long livestock semi-nomadic herding tradition with primarily sheep, goats, cattle, yak, horses and Bactrian camels. These animals provide milk and milk products, meat, fibre (sheep, yak and camel wool and goat cashmere) and transport (from horses).

During 1920-1990 Mongolia maintained herders in cooperatives and controlled livestock numbers, but after communism the privatization of state herds caused increase in livestock numbers over the last 30 years from about 30 million head to now over 70 million head. This is putting extreme grazing pressure on the fragile steppe pastoral environment, with now over 54% of grasslands classified as degraded. However once communism collapsed in 1990, one of the downsides was also the collapse of the strong government veterinary and breeding



Khangai breed



Orkhon breed

services to the herders.

As of 2018, Mongolia has about 29 million sheep, which is about 3% of the world's sheep flock, of which 0.065% or 19,000 sheep are fine and fine wool sheep.

The evaluation of several breeds of Mongolian livestock at risk of extinction was obtained from the DAD-IS International Domesticated Livestock Database. In particular, the breeds of Mongolian livestock created by many years of hard work, such as Khangai with fine wool, Orkhon with fine wool, Jargalant, Yero with high productivity, are included in the "endangered breeds".



Brendon Irvine explains the technical aspect of Fine Wool Sheep Breeding project before the staff of the Research Institute of Animal Husbandry

ADRA Mongolia has proposed to support the National Animal Gene Bank (NAGB), under the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry (MoFALI) as well as the Research Institute for Animal Husbandry (RI-AH) from the Mongolian University of Life Sciences (MULS), and assist with the revival of the fine wool flocks within Mongolia. This will be undertaken with the following action:

1. Selection and importation of very high genetic merit Merino rams' frozen semen from Australia
2. Training of Mongolian veterinarians to undertake Laparoscopic Artificial Insemination (AI), using the imported Australian Merino frozen semen
3. Support to the Mongolian veterinarians with the NAGB to provide AI services to herding families (about 80) who still maintain fine and semi-fine wool breeds, assisting with the genetic upgrading of these flocks.
4. Support the revival of the high genetic merit breeding nucleus flock that can provide high genetic merit rams to

the herders in the future

This 18 month pilot program would be able to support the importation of approximately 3000 doses of high genetic merit Merino frozen semen for upgrading the remaining fine wool flocks. This project is envisaged to be an initial pilot project that will establish the skills and genetic resources that can enable an expansion of the fine wool flock numbers and quality in Mongolia.



ADRA Mongolia team led by Windell Maranan Country Director with Zoljargal S, Programs Coordinator and Brendon Irvine Programs and Planning Director ADRA Asia inspect the laboratory of Research Institute of Animal Husbandry headed by Dr Myagmarsuren P.



OUR STORIES

J.TSERENKHAND, A HAPPY YAK MILKWOMAN

Mother of three, one of those is a disabled child, Jantsan TSERENKHAND is one of the representatives of yak milkwomen who lives in Tsetserleg bagh of Ider soum, Zavkhan aimag. She has regularly attended trainings and

planning meetings organized by the PLUS project implemented by ADRA Mongolia and has improved her skills and knowledge (on) holistic management.

Tserenkhand sold all of her livestock of sheep and goats and bought yaks since it is easier to herd and milk yaks than having a large number of small animals while caring for the daily needs of her family especially her child with a disability.

Through attending a number of trainings regarding “Milk product hygiene and proper practices” with an “Ider Milk Initiative” short-term project under the PLUS Project she was able to increase the number of her dairy production and now produces 8 types of products regularly thereby increasing their household income. She has also learned the importance of rotating her winter and summer pasture areas by fencing to restore grasslands (which is one-third of a hectare) and prevent desertification through the Savory Institute’s Holistic Management Approach training sessions. Furthermore, Tserenkhand has developed a summer grazing plan with her neighboring herders using participatory tools in order to successfully implement the plan together with neighbors through rotating and restoring the pastures.





MIRZABAY, THE MASTER GARDENING TRAINER

Mirzabay Tuleukhan has no experience in gardening. Because of the soil condition in Bayan Ulgii Province which is very rocky and hard, he never thought he could plant vegetables in his yard. But he attended the master gardeners' training of ADRA Mongolia's Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Economic Resilience II (SAFER 2) Project, which empowered him with the knowledge and skill of planting vegetables. He found out that it was possible to plant vegetables if he followed certain methods.

During the first year, he attended 8 types of training and started to learn how to prepare the soil, dug out the first layer and mixed manure with the bottom layer of the soil, with the tools that were provided by ADRA. Then he planted the good quality seed in the soil he prepared. During the first year, Mirzabay harvested 10 bags (500kgs) of potatoes and he was so encouraged. The following year he got his son and daughter to attend the master gardeners' training, after which, he started working with his son. Together, they were able to harvest 20 bags (1 ton) of potatoes.

Currently, Mirzabay is providing for his family with the income from selling vegetables that he harvested. He said, "I would like to say thank you to ADRA for providing all the necessary trainings, the good seeds and tools. All your support is immeasurable. Thank you ADRA!"





NEWS Bits

ADRA Mongolia Participates in the UN-sponsored National Consultation on Mongolian Education

The Mongolian Ministry of Education and Science in cooperation with the United Nations held the Transforming Education National Consultation on 5 July 2022 at the Soyombo Hall in the Best Western Tuushin Hotel, Ulaanbatar.

The dialogue is done with different stakeholders (INGOs wherein ADRA participated, embassies, youth representatives, other private and public entities, etc.) to discuss the draft of the “Transforming Education” initiative of Mongolia that is focusing on two areas namely: 1. Affirming the results of fully re-opening schools after COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring access to education for all children; 2. Transforming education and education sys-

tem through the sub categories: a. skilled and social security guaranteed teachers; b. learning and skills for work, life and sustainable development; c. equitable, accessible, healthy and safe schools; d. digital learning; e. funding for education.

After the presentations of some key note speakers, the participants were asked to divide into groups to choose up to 3 initiatives from the focused areas and their sub-categories and to identify proposed solutions and indicators. The final document will be presented by the office of the UN Secretary General in his intention to convene a Transforming Education Summit (TES) in September 2022.





ADRA Engages on IFRC's Era of Climate Change Conference

ADRA Mongolia participated in a fruitful and efficient two-day International Conference on "Protecting Health and Livelihoods in the Era of Climate Change through Civil Society Engagement" on July 6-7, 2022 at the Shangri-La Hotel in Ulaanbaatar with Mr. Windell Maranan, Country Director and Ms. D.Ganchimeg, PLUS Project Manager as representatives of the Agency.

The International Conference was organized by the Mongolian Red Cross Society and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia. First day program focused on National Developments on Climate Adaptation through enabling National Policy and legal

Framework for Adaptation.

Meanwhile, second day program were on Technical Dialogue on Climate Adaptation through engaging roles of civil society and its networks in climate change adaptation. Various sector representatives from different Ministries, embassies, UN agencies, public and private sectors, national and international NGOs, SCOs, herders, farmers as well as researchers graced the conference and exchanged their opinions and feedback regarding climate adaption actions.

At the end of the conference participants developed and reached consensus on further steps for climate action for health and livelihoods in Mongolia.



Mitte Eingang • Entrance



ADRA Mongolia Attends the World Organic Convention in Nuremberg, Germany

ADRA Mongolia participated in BIOFACH/VIVANESS 2022 event with Mr. Windell Maranan, Country Director and Ms. Enkhsetseg Ganzorig Marketing Manager POAg project. Over a four-day period from 26–29 July 2022, all the participants and exhibitions of the international organic community was on display in Nuremberg, Germany. BIOFACH, the world's leading fair for organic food, and VIVANESS, the international trade fair for Natural and Organic Personal Care, celebrated their comeback with a one-off 'summer edition'. The more than 24,000 trade visitors from 137 countries were reunited.



The event offered numerous highlights including the Agriculture Forum in the congress, the dedicated display area "Unpackaged", and the Workshop Area at VIVANESS, all of which made their debut in 2022. From the beginning, however, the major issues of our times like climate protection, sustainability, and global food security were also a key themes.

The 123 technically informed sessions led by high-calibre presenters made the BIOFACH and VIVANESS Congress a cutting-edge forum for the sector. Alongside the main theme "Organic.Climate.Resilience", the 2022 round of the congress explored issues relating to current market developments and trends as well as political and legislative frameworks.





Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Economics Resilience (SAFER-2) Project

As part of its activities in the second quarter of the year, the Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Economics Resilience - 2 (SAFER 2) Project recently concluded the following: selection of 350 households that will be engaged in farming, selection of the 15 Master Gardener Trainers who are the key people in-charge of 10-15 households each trainer.

Fifteen training gardens were also established with raised boxes and cold frames along with the distribution of seeds and tools for the 365 participants. The agricultural theory and practice trainings were also organized in accordance with the approved curriculum which is done in both Mongolian and Kazakh languages.



SAFER-2 project agronomist is with beneficiaries





ADRA Board Visits Project Implementation

ADRA Mongolia organized a four-day monitoring visit for ADRA Board members as part of its leadership training activity and visited the Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Economics Resilience II (SAFER-2) Project from 29 Aug - 1 Sep 2022 at Bayan-Ulgii Province.

ADRA Mongolia Board members present include Joel Tompkins, Treasurer - Northern Asia Pacific Division of SDA; Angelina Pagarigan, Treasurer- Mongolia Mission of SDAs; Nyamsuren Myagmar, Director - Ministerial Department; Bayarmaa Sengedash, business woman; along with Windell Maranan, Country Director/Board Secretary accompanied by Enkhmandakh Bold, ADRA PR & Marketing Officer and Kellie Tompkins as guests/visitors.

The visiting team observed the overall interaction of the SAFER-2 project staff with the beneficiaries and other stakeholders, along with how the project activities were being implemented on the grassroots level. The visiting team made a courtesy call with Honorable Bauyrzhan D., Governor of Bayan-Ulgii Province at his office and discussed in detail the impact of the SAFER-2 project in the communities.

Furthermore, the governor expressed his sincere appreciation of how the initiatives of ADRA Mongolia contributed to the development of the province in the last 11 years. At the end of the meeting, Governor Bauyrzhan

D. appreciated ADRA through the leadership of Mr. Windell Maranan and the whole ADRA Mongolia team.

“We are grateful for ADRA Mongolia through the SAFER-2 Project and its successful implementation to develop our agriculture sector and increase the quality of our vegetable products. Experts say that our province can even supply 40 percent of its vegetable products domestically” says Governor Bauyrzhan D.

A debriefing meeting was conducted in the ADRA Mongolia field office at the conclusion of the Board’s visit to discuss the findings and recommendations of the Board. The SAFER - 2 project team also thanked the Board members for their valuable time spent in Bayan-Ulgii and their constructive feedback.



The Board members with Mr Bauyrzhan D - Bayan Ulgii Governor

“We are grateful for ADRA Mongolia through the SAFER-2 Project and its successful implementation to develop our agriculture sector and increase the quality of our vegetable products. Experts say that our province can even supply 40 percent of its vegetable products domestically.”

- Bauyrzhan D., Governor of Bayan Ulgii Province

ADRA Germany and ADRA Canada Visit Respective Projects

ADRA Germany team visited the Partnership for Organic Agriculture (POAg) as part of their project monitoring visit from 24 July - 2 August 2022 led by Katja Mischke, Program Coordinator/ADRA Germany and Phoung Nguyen, Finance Coordinator/ADRA Germany. They are accompanied by Zoljargal Sandorj Program Coordinator/ADRA Mongolia and



Katja Mischke and Phoung Nguyen of ADRA Germany with the POAg team

Tsetsgee Gavaa, Project Manager/POAG Project and went to Selenge Province to see the progress of the project implementation and met different stakeholders including the discussions of the project activities.

The team visited a number of offices including the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry (MOFALI); Office of the Governor-Selenge Province; the beneficiary partners of organic bee farming and organic vegetables from different baghs (villages) and 10 cooperatives from seven districts.

As well, ADRA Germany and ADRA Mongolia team members were invited to the Governor's Office by Saintsog, J. Assistant to the Selenge Governor with the presence of Murun.Y, Head/Development Policy Department; and Batjargal.D Head/Legal Department. The local government expressed their appreciation and showed strong support in the promotion of organic agriculture project in their province.



Suraj Shrestha of ADRA Canada and SAFER-2 team are visiting beneficiaries

ADRA Canada's visit took place between 18-25 August 2022 represented by Suraj Shrestha, ADRA Canada Technical Specialist/Nutrition Security and made a project monitoring visit to SAFER 2 project in Bayan-Ulgii province.

The Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Economics Resilience-2 (SAFER-2) is being funded by Canadian Food grains Bank (CFGFB) through the partnership of ADRA Canada and aims to increase food security as well as support livelihood means

for the people of Bayan-Ulgii. Suraj visited different project sites (Sagsay, Bugat and Ulgii districts) and met with beneficiary partners including other project stakeholders. Part of the monitoring visit are discussions on the plans and activities as well as the project impact of the SAFER 2 project in the lives of the beneficiary partners.



2022 Green Days of Autumn Fair

It's been four years that ADRA Mongolia has been participating in the Green Days of Autumn Fair through the Partnership for Organic Agriculture (POAg) Project. The fair which is being organized by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture Industry (MOFALI) in cooperation with the UB government, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB) is being held annually in the Central Stadium of Ulaanbaatar, the capital city of Mongolia and is currently ongoing from 19 - 25 September 2022.

Farmers from the capital and 21 provinces are able to showcase their crops, honey, baked goods and other animal products through the fair.

The booth of ADRA Mongolia showcasing organic agricultural products has been graced by the presence of the Honourable Chairman of the State Khural (Parliament) of Mongolia, Mr. Gambojavyn Zandanshatar and his team.

Present during the visit is the Country Director of ADRA Mongolia, Mr. Windell Maranan and POAg Project Manager, Ms. Tsetsegee Gavaa with the Selenge Tavan Khairhan Co-operative Union Leader Ms. Oyuntuya.





ADRA Asia Leadership Summit 2022

ADRA Mongolia participated in the regional meetings initiated by ADRA Asia in Bangkok, Thailand from 6-15 September 2022.

The meetings which are being attended by different participants from the 17 ADRA country offices in the Asia region including the leadership from ADRA International focus on topics from organizational leadership and management, role of technology and digital transformation and the relationship between ADRA and mission.

The meetings also include a space for conversations on programs strategy and management and relevant updates on emergency management and disaster response.



STAFF CORNER

Enkhtur Jambaljav - 24 years in ADRA!

Turuu is a senior driver and joined ADRA Mongolia in 1998. He has worked with seven administrations including country directors in the last 24 years!

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU?

I was hired by ADRA Mongolia in 1998. Mostly the vision and work of ADRA aligns my worldview, as well as coworkers' attitude motivated me to work in ADRA for last 24 years. They don't see me as just a driver but they respect me and treat me as their family. Actually, I barely quit one time from ADRA of some of my friends suggested me that there was a better opportunity in the US Embassy here in Ulaanbaatar. So I applied, and I got a call from the US embassy to the interview, But I was on the project ground driving in the countryside, and couldn't attend the interview. Is it bad luck or good luck? who knows, Maybe the ADRA spirit didn't let me go (laughs out loud).

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR POSITION?

I like to go to countryside, seeing the nature and feel the peace is the most loving part of my position. Of course there are many challenges as well as car is breaking down in the



middle of nowhere. I was just a driver when I was hired, but now i have learned tons of things which are building houses, keeping time, and dealing with seven country directors was fantastic experience.

WHAT DOES THE WORK OF ADRA MEAN TO YOU?

ADRA is not just a work, but its part of my life and family now. Oftentimes the old friends wonder and asked me, why I am still working in ADRA. I answer them, where else could I go, and it's not your business! (laugh out loud).

CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT ONE OF YOUR MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES WORKING IN ADRA?

There were lots of precious memories I experienced such as bird's attack, car broke down, and others. I will never forget that one event that happen to our team in 2000.

It was freezing cold, cruel and extreme winter and five of us were going to Ovorkhangai province for a project purpose. I was driving a Russian army jeep called UAZ 469, tough, strong, and the best of its kind that time! All of a sudden, we fell down into the the small ravine while driving on a very snowy white road. We didn't see the ravine because it was covered with thick snow. We tried to go out but didn't work. Then one last time I accelerated with full power to go out, but car stuck on the edge of the ravine with rear wheels and front wheels were of no use. I avoided too much acceleration, fearing that if the petrol run out we could freeze and die there. We couldn't call for some help because of no phone signal.

Also, the three ladies who were with me sat on the hood of the jeep and tried to put some weight in front, but the car didn't move a bit, and even dug the frozen ground to make a way to no avail. Time was late and getting dark, we stayed digging the ground and sent one lady to find help. It was already night, and suddenly wolves started howling. Oh no, not today! We worried after that lady whom we sent for help. We immediately left the car and went looking for her. For-



Turuu and the team stuck in the thick snow

unately we found her safe, and found a winter shelter with lumbers there. So we gathered the lumbers and brought them to the small ravine and made a makeshift path where the car was - and finally drove out of it. I will never forget that event, because it was a life changing experience for me and made us all have deep thoughts on how to fight to live and never give up!



ADRA

LAYOUT / DESIGN
Enkhmandakh Bold

SUPERVISING EDITOR
Windell Maranan

EDITOR
Raquel Maranan

CONTRIBUTORS
Enkhtur Jambaljav
Ganchimeg Dorj
Asemgul Baitik
Enkhmandakh Bold

