

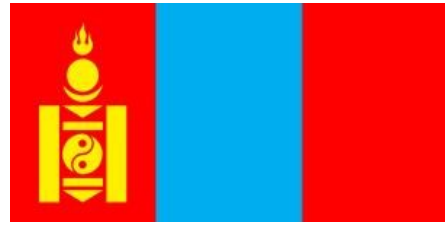
UN-REDD PROGRAMME



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



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National Programme Annual Report

MONGOLIA

UN-REDD Programme

January to December 2018

In accordance with the decision of the Policy Board, hard copies of this document will not be printed to minimize the environmental impact of the UN-REDD Programme processes and contribute to climate neutrality. The UN-REDD Programme's meeting documents are available on the internet at: www.unredd.net or www.un-redd.org.

Annual Report for the UN-REDD National Programmes

The Annual Report for the National Programmes (NPs) highlights progress over the twelve month period ending 31 December (1 January-31 December). This progress is reported against the consolidated Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2018, as approved by the National Programme Steering Committee or Executive Board.

The report includes the following sections:

- 1) [National Programme Identification](#);
- 2) [Progress Reporting](#);
- 3) [Government & Non-Government Comments](#);
- 4) [Results Matrix](#);
- 5) [Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and Associated UNFCCC Decisions](#);
- 6) [Financial Delivery](#);
- 7) [Adaptive management](#); and
- 8) [Targeted Support](#).

The lead agency for each National Programme is responsible for coordinating inputs to the Annual Reports, and for ensuring all agency and counterpart perspectives have been collected - in particular government and civil society organizations. The reports are reviewed and vetted by the agency teams, who provide quality assurance and recommendations to the national teams on articulating results and on adjustments to be made. It therefore follows an iterative process which serves to enhance the quality of the reports and enable a meaningful assessment of progress and identification of key lessons regarding knowledge exchange.

The Annual Report for the National Programmes should be submitted to the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat (un-redd@un-redd.org) as per timeline indicated below.

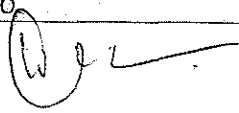



1. National Programme Identification

Please identify the National Programme (NP) by completing the information requested below. The Government Counterpart and designated National Programme focal points of the Participating UN Organizations are asked to provide their electronic signatures below, prior to submission to the UN-REDD Secretariat.

National Programme Title	UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme
Implementing Partners ¹	The Department of Forest Policy and Coordination (DFPC) of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET)
Participating Organizations	FAO, UNDP and UNEP

Project Timeline			
Programme Duration	09/2015-03/2019	Original End Date ²	30 November, 2018
NPD Signature Date	18/09/2015	No-Cost Extension	31/03/2019
Date of First Fund Transfer ³	03/11/2015	Current End Date	31/03/2019

Financial Summary (USD) ⁴			
UN Agency	Approved Programme Budget ⁵	Amount Transferred ⁶	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2018 ⁷
FAO	1,095,000	1,095,000	1,079,700
UNDP	2,240,000	2,240,000	2,124,390
UNEP	400,000	400,000	400,000
Indirect Support Cost (7%)	261,450	261,450	252,290
Total	3,996,450	3,996,450	3,856,380

Signatures from the designated UN organizations ⁸			Signature by the Government Counterpart
FAO	UNDP	UNEP	
			
Date and Name of Signatories in Full:			
[Date] April 3, 2019	[Date]	[Date] 05/04/19	[Date]
Vinod Ahuja FAO Rep	Beate Trankmann Resident Representative UNDP	Emelyne Cheney Regional Advisor, Forests and Climate Change	Ts. Tsengel State Secretary, MET

1 Those organizations either sub-contracted by the Project Management Unit or those organizations officially identified in the National Programme Document (NPD) as responsible for implementing a defined aspect of the project.

2 The original end date as stated in the NPD.

3 As reflected on the MPTF Office Gateway <http://mptf.undp.org>.

4 The financial information reported should include indirect costs, M&E and other associated costs. The information on expenditure is unofficial. Official certified financial information is provided by the HQ of the Participating UN Organizations by 30 April and can be accessed on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/CCF00>).

5 The total budget for the entire duration of the Programme as specified in the signed Submission Form and NPD.

6 Amount transferred to the participating UN Organization from the UN-REDD Multi-Partner Trust Fund.

7 The sum of commitments and disbursement

8 Each UN organization is to nominate one or more focal points to sign the report. Please refer to the UN-REDD Programme Planning, Monitoring and Reporting Framework document for further guidance.

2. Progress Reporting

This section aims to summarize the progress and identify key achievements of the NP during the reporting period. Additionally, the section aims to identify key challenges and solutions/ lessons that could be shared with other countries. These will be used as input to the UN-REDD consolidated annual report so please stick to the word limits.

2.1 Achievements

Please provide a description of key achievements made by the NP in relation to the 4 pillars of the Warsaw Framework and how the NP has supported those. [250 words for each pillar]

a) National Strategy

Mongolia's National Program on REDD+ (NP), which is Mongolia's National REDD+ Strategy, has been prepared along with an Action plan (AP). The formulation of Mongolia's REDD+ NP and AP was informed by a series of baseline and feasibility studies conducted between 2015 and 2018. These studies include:

- Assessment of Financing Mechanisms and Options for Mongolia's REDD + Action Plan,
- Assessment of Wood Product Value Chains and Recommendations for the Mongolian Wood-Processing Industry,
- Preliminary Assessment of Drivers of Forest Change in Mongolia
- Analysis of Corruption Risks and Development of Policies and Measures for Mongolia's National REDD+ Strategy,
- Mongolia's Forest Reference Level,
- Assessment of Benefits and Risks of REDD+ Policies and Measures through Mongolia's National REDD+ Safeguards Framework,
- Social Inclusion and Gender Dynamics for REDD+, and
- Rapid Assessment of Forest Fire Control and Prevention Strategies in Mongolia.

The NP and AP underwent an extensive stakeholder consultation process and incorporated guidance from the Core Group (CG) throughout 2018. However, Mongolia's REDD+ NP and AP remain yet to be approved by the Government of Mongolia and the political consultation process is currently ongoing.

b) National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)

Mongolia's first comprehensive and multi-purpose NFI from 2016 was updated in 2018 to include information on poorly-stocked forests. A decision to undertake the NFI on an annual continuous basis, covering at least 10% of permanent NFI sample plots, was taken by the MET, including a commitment to allocate budget for the NFI under the MET's forest management budget from 2019 onwards. Based on the collected raw data on belowground biomass stock of Mongolia's dominant tree species, *i.e.* larch and saxaul, regionally-specific biomass models were developed by national research institutes. Data generated through these studies will help improve the accuracy of biomass and GHG emission estimates in the future. In Oct 2018, the government formally approved a technical guidance document that makes Mongolia's national land use and land use change statistics compliant with the IPCC guideline.

c) Forest Reference Level (FRL)

A nationally-endorsed FRL was submitted to the UNFCCC for a Technical Assessment (TA) in January 2018. The FRL was further amended based on TA recommendations and resubmitted in June 2018 entailing a complete set of compiled historical activity data and emission factors. The FRL was developed by a core group of technical specialists from key national institutions, capacities of whom have been strengthened by the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme throughout the process. The TA team acknowledged the fact that the information and data set used for Mongolia's FRL were transparent, complete, and in overall accordance with the UNFCCC guidelines. In late November 2018, the UNFCCC provided a draft TA report, and Mongolia's response to the TA report was submitted to the UNFCCC in February 2019. The on-line publications of modified version of FRL and TA report in the UNFCCC website are expected soon.

d) Safeguards and Safeguard Information System (SIS)

Mongolia's national REDD+ Safeguards Framework (NSF) has been designed with stakeholder participation in accordance with the UNFCCC safeguards and national goals and circumstances making full use of existing systems and institutions in the country. It includes the following five key components: 1) goals and scope; 2) potential benefits and risks and measures to enhance/mitigate the benefits and risks; 3) safeguards relevant policies, laws and regulations; 4) national safeguards clarification; and 5) information on Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). Mongolia's Safeguards Information System (SIS) has also been designed and is set out in a two-volume report 'Mongolia's REDD+ Safeguard Information System: Proposed Structure, Functions and Roles'. In addition, an excel version of the SIS database structure has been developed with relevant indicators, which will be potentially integrated into an online database hosted by the Environment Information Center (EIC). The development of the NSF and SIS design was led by the Technical Working Group on Safeguards and SIS (TWG-S&SIS).

2.2 Challenges and solutions

Please provide a summary of the challenges faced and solutions put in place to address them. These could be of any nature, operational, good procedure, unsuccessful process that other countries could benefit from. [150 words]

The challenge encountered in 2018 that affected performance of the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme was related to changes in key personnel including RTAs, CTA and NPD. For instance, NPD was absent for almost five months due to restructuring in the Government including the MET in 2018, causing considerable delays in the implementation of 2018 work plan. A four-month no-cost extension was requested (and approved by the UN-REDD Secretariat) to allow time to address delays in the preparation of the NP and AP.

2.3 Gender

Describe actions/achievements relevant to gender equality, to mainstream gender, and/or how women have benefitted from/engaged in the NP [150 words].

A Handbook for Socially Inclusive and Gender Responsive Stakeholder Engagement was prepared based on Mongolia's experience and international best practices, for government gender specialists and forest extension officers at subnational level (*i.e.* aimag and soum levels).

A complementary capacity building manual was tested during a pilot training event in Mandal soum, Selenge aimag with participants representing rural women, forest user groups (FUGs), local gender focal points, the private sector and government entities (10 females and 10 males). These processes

informed the development of the NA and AP, as well as contributed to the development of a Gender Action Plan for the implementation of the Environment Sector Gender Strategy under the MET.

In total, the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme facilitated the participation of 1574 (857 male and 717 female) participants in various activities including workshops and capacity development training events during 2018. In its overall operational structure, the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme also ensured equal representation of women and men, demonstrated through its Programme Executive Board (PEB)(8 females, 7 males), REDD+ Strategy Technical Working Group (TWG) (4 females, 10 males), TWG on Safeguards and SIS (S&SIS) (9 females, 9 males), and TWG on NFMS/FRL (9 females, 8 males).

2.4 Social Inclusion, including IP/CSO work

Highlight any actions and results that demonstrate the active participation and promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples and CSOs in 2018 within the NP. Given the strong linkages between 'social inclusion and IP/CSO work' and gender, when reporting such information, be mindful to report on the gender dynamics of this work. For guidance on what this can include, please see gender guidance noted in the field above. [150 words]

As part of the socially-inclusive and gender-responsive efforts of the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme, the CSO Forum, known as the Forest-Sustainable Development Council (FSDC), established in 2016, continued to provide invaluable input, representing views from local communities and the civil society, to support the development of NP and AP. Select representatives of the FSDC are active participants of the PEB and TWGs. All members of FSDC were trained through 'Basic REDD+ Training of Trainers' programs, which provided an opportunity for building capacities at local levels in 2018.

3. Government & Non-Government Comments

This section provides the opportunity to capture government and civil society perspectives and provide additional or complementary information.

3.1 Government Comments

Government counterparts to provide their perspective and additional complementary information not included in the overall progress assessment. [500 words]

Despite the delays caused by changes in personnel, notable progress was made by the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme during 2018 in relation to the four pillars of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+. Key areas of progress include:

- Successful construction, completion and submission of Mongolia's FRL to the UNFCCC for a TA and resubmission of the FRL based on TA recommendations, and a satisfactory level of technical support was provided by the UN-REDD+ Mongolia National Programme in the preparation/revision of the FRL;
- NP and AP were prepared through an extensive stakeholder consultation process, including several rounds of reviews by the CG, TWGs and FSDC, and the effort by the PMU in promoting active participation of all stakeholders in this process needs to be highlighted, particularly in the midst of the Government restructuring to ensure progress in the development of the NP and AP;

- National Forum on the NP and AP was successfully organized under the leadership of the DFPC to solicit input from a wide range of stakeholders, and the NP and AP are expected to be officially adopted by the Government in early 2019;
- National REDD+ vision was identified, and the vision underpins Mongolia’s sustainable development visions by emphasizing the contributions of forests to ensuring social, economic and ecological well-being of Mongolian people, particularly in rural areas; and
- Mongolia’s NSF and SIS were prepared and submitted for official endorsement by the Government.

While recognizing the PMU’s efforts in strengthening the capacities of national and local forest authorities that are involved in conducting the NFI and implementing the NFMS, an increased level of support is needed to finalize the NFMS and Forest Information System (FIS) during the extension period in early 2019. This includes the integration of Web-GIS portal and FIS into the existing NFI platform (Forest Atlas).

In relation to the above areas of progress, various capacity development and awareness-raising activities that were successfully implemented by the PMU must be recognized. Such activities include the “Basic and Advanced REDD+” training, high-level study tour, technical training programs on forest monitoring, safeguards, SIS operationalization, social inclusion and gender mainstreaming and university curriculum on Forest and Climate Change.

Overall, activities were well planned and organized by PMU in coordination with national stakeholders. The PMU has developed good working relationships with all stakeholder groups including government institutions, NGOs, CSOs, the private sector and international development partners.

3.2 Non-Government Comments

Civil society stakeholders to provide their perspective and additional complementary information (Please request a summary from existing stakeholder committees or platforms). [500 words]

As described above, the CSO Forum known as the FSDC was formed on 2nd November 2016. Since then, the FSDC with 18 member organizations, representing FUGs, local communities, private-sector actors, ethnic groups and other civil society groups, has actively participated in the development of the NP and AP and during the baseline and feasibility studies.

The FSDC representatives have also participated in the PEB and TWGs, and they have been involved in discussions on the PAMs, social inclusion and gender, risks and benefits analysis, safeguards and corruption risks. Many CSO members expressed that this was the first time they had been asked to contribute to policy development and their voices were reflected and integrated in such a process. They also expressed that opportunities for them to engage in policy processes outside REDD+ were still limited in Mongolia. The FSDC applauds the achievement and efforts made by the PMU in involving CSOs in the ‘training of trainers’ programs to promote local capacity development and advocacy.

During 2018, the FSDC continued its good working relationship with PMU and had stepped up to take greater ownership and leadership in undertaking local capacity development activities. Furthermore, steps were taken to ensure the sustainability and legal recognition of the FSDC by identifying its mid and long-term visions and registering the FSDC as a legal entity (NGO). However, the sustainability of the FSDC is still challenged by a lack of resources, weak self-governing capacity, and limited recognition of the role of civil society in policy processes by the Government. These challenges together raise a question concerning the FSDC’s sustainability and continued involvement in Mongolia’s REDD+ process.

4. Results Matrix

OUTCOME 1: NATIONAL REDD+ MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS ESTABLISHED and IMPROVED STAKEHOLDER AWARENESS AND EFFECTIVE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	Expected minor delays Corrective measures in place	Expected significant delays Corrective measures in place
<p>Progress towards Outcome: REDD+ Management Arrangements:</p> <p>Institutional arrangements for the implementation of the NP and AP were proposed to the PEB in late 2017. The PEB has agreed and decided that REDD+ Task Force would be established when the NP and AP is approved by the Cabinet. Meanwhile, the PEB continues to take on the role of a multi-sectorial taskforce during the readiness phase.</p> <p>Initial institutional and management arrangements for the NFMS and SIS have been outlined and built on existing data collection mechanisms. Mongolia's NSF has been designed with stakeholder participation in accordance with the UNFCCC safeguards and national goals and circumstances making full use of existing systems and institutions in the country.</p> <p>Improved Stakeholder Awareness and Effective Stakeholder Engagement:</p> <p>Relevant stakeholder awareness has been raised through the TWGs, FSDC, validation meetings for technical studies' findings and recommendations, public awareness campaigns and events, a high-level study tour, local study tours and professional conferences. In addition, awareness has been raised by conducting the Advanced REDD+ Training based on REDD+ Academy of 200 national stakeholders and the Basic REDD+ Training of 400 aimag-level stakeholders and 200 CSO members. In 2018, CSO trainers (who were trained through the Basic REDD+ training of trainers (ToT) in 2017) conducted Basic REDD+ training events for more than 200 local level stakeholders, including soum and aimag level government officials, FUGs, forest enterprises, rangers and indigenous groups. The FSDC contributed actively to the development of REDD+ policies and measures.</p>			

Output 1: A broad-based, multi-stakeholder National REDD+ Taskforce established			
Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
A broad-based, multi-stakeholder National REDD+ Taskforce.	Existing National REDD+ Taskforce, draft ToR available, but membership not fully comprehensive.	By November 2018, at least 4 meetings of TWGs are held and TWGs provided technical inputs to the programme.	TWGs on Policies, NFMS/FRL and S&SIS were established in 2016. Since then these TWGs have been meeting on regular basis. In 2018, a total of four meetings per TWG took place. The TWGs have provided invaluable input to the development of safeguards, FRL, Policies and Measures. The following link provides Technical Working Group Meeting Minutes .
		By November 2018, Capacity building materials for TWGs and technical stakeholders are designed, and capacities of TWGs are strengthened.	The competence needs assessment and capacity building plan were implemented using capacity building materials on REDD+ (three main courses: Advanced REDD+ Training for the TWG and senior technical staff of government institutions leading REDD+; Basic REDD+ Training for general stakeholders, and a shorter version on 'Forests and Climate Change' for local communities. Capacities of TWGs were strengthened through a number of capacity-building activities, including the Advanced REDD+ training and other technical training events and seminars (Collect Earth, SEPAL, SIS operationalization, FRL construction, validation of findings of baseline/feasibility studies).

		By November 2018, a decision on a REDD+ Task Force/REDD+ implementation mechanisms is made.	When a Briefing Paper on Options for the REDD+ Taskforce was discussed at the PEB meeting held in 2017 it was agreed that the Taskforce would only be formed after the approval of the NP and AP by the Government in 2019.
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Progress towards Output 1:

TWGs continued to provide technical input to the development of four REDD+ elements. To ensure effective function of the TWGs, capacities of at least 200 technical experts, including the members of the TWGs and REDD+ partner government institutions were strengthened using capacity building materials that were designed by the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme based on REDD+ Academy Learning Journals and other materials. These technical staff and members of the TWGs now have a better understanding of REDD+, Forests and Climate Change, Nature-based climate solutions and the technical skills and knowledge needed for stakeholder engagement. Establishment of a National REDD+ Taskforce was postponed until REDD+ NP and AP are approved and endorsed by the Cabinet. Until then, PEB will provide oversight of Mongolia's REDD+ readiness process. Taskforce Briefing Paper can be found [here](#).

Output 2: UN-REDD Programme Management Unit (PMU) established

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
PMU established and fully operational.	Draft ToR in Roadmap and preliminary consultations have been held.	By the end of Q3 2018, organise an independent final evaluation of the NP.	The independent final evaluation was conducted in Q4 2018, a draft report was circulated among the three participating UN Organizations for review and comments. Comments were incorporated as deemed appropriate by the Evaluation Team. Based on the recommendations, a four months no-cost extension was requested (and approved by the UN-REDD Secretariat) to allow time to address delays in NP and AP development and other unfinished readiness activities.

Progress towards Output 2:

PMU operated with 9 staff (CTA, Programme Manager, AFO, Communications Officer, Secretary and Translator, and four technical experts). As indicated in the challenges section, changes in key personnel including RTAs, CTA and NPD (NPD was absent for almost five months due to changes in the Government structure in 2018), causing considerable delays in implementing the activities planned under 2018 work plan. However, the overall performance of the PMU was rated 'satisfactory' by the Final Evaluation team, 'considering the difficult operating environment, e.g., weak government ownership and leadership, understaffing and weak job security of implementation partners, translation/language issues, etc'. Financial audit was completed for 2017 finance (UNDP funds only) and no major issue was identified and found.

Output 3: CSO/LC forum established

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Forum established and fully operational.	No existing mechanism.	By Q3 2018 undertake an evaluation of the CSO Forum regarding its operational structure and function; Provide technical	During 2018, quarterly meetings of the FSDC were conducted to self-assess and review operation and functions of the FSDC in general, and to assess the progress against activities planned by the FSDC. The forum is now officially registered as a legal entity, NGO that can play a greater role in supporting full and effective stakeholder engagement through REDD+ implementation.

		inputs to REDD+ strategy; Conduct Quarterly Meetings of the Forum.	<p>The FSDC members were trained through the REDD+ Basic Training in Dec 2017, and more than 200 local stakeholders at local levels were trained by the FSDC in 2018. Both the members of the FSDC and local stakeholders now have a greater understanding of REDD+ and role of forests in climate change and are able to provide input to the sub-national planning of forest and climate change mitigation/adaptation activities.</p> <p>The FSDC members participated in workshops on safeguards, strategy, policies and measures, wood value chains, financing mechanism, and in a pilot-testing of training modules for Capacity Building Program for Socially Inclusive and Gender Responsive Engagement for REDD+ in Mongolia.</p>
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Progress towards Output 3:

As a result of a self-assessment of the FSDC regarding its operational structure and functions, it took the necessary steps to become a legal entity with NGO status in order to play an greater advocacy role during the implementation of NP and AP. However, this does not mean the sustainability of the Forum is ensured fully and it is still an issue due to lack of openness of the government to the civil society in general, and lack of resources. Majority of activities planned under this output in the reporting period were successfully completed by the FSDC members as it was fully in charge of its own planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of activities, with support of UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme.

Output 4: Public awareness raised			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<p>Awareness-raising plan developed and implemented.</p> <p>Evidence of awareness increase.</p>	<p>Not known, but understanding of REDD+ can be assumed to be weak</p>	<p>REDD+ Communications and Knowledge Management Strategy implemented throughout the year.</p> <p>By November 2018, stakeholder awareness of the REDD+ program is raised (confirmed through mid-term and final survey).</p>	<p>The REDD+ Communication and Knowledge Management Strategy was implemented successfully, with a focus on raising awareness of the following key target groups:</p> <p>Decision Makers – REDD+ Mongolia Study Tour to British Columbia, Canada for Policy Makers was conducted to highlight to Mongolian decision makers (Minister, three MPs, NPD and a rep from the Cabinet Secretariat) involved in the development and approval of the NP and AP and SFM policies in the country. As a result, Canada Forest Service and DFPC agreed to further explore the use and application of Carbon Budget Model, a tool developed by Canada Forest Service, by providing hands-on training to Mongolian experts. A scoping mission by Canada Forest Service may take place to identify areas of future collaboration between the two countries in 2019. Furthermore, capacities of technical officers from relevant government institutions were strengthened through the Advanced REDD+ Training.</p> <p>International community – A communication piece targeting international development partners was developed, in cooperation with the regional communication officer and consultants, to highlight the role of Mongolia’s forest in rural livelihood and economy, ecosystem protection and climate change. The piece was written based on stories from fields and in full or extracts from the UN-REDD 10 year stories. It was shared via websites and social media (twitter and Facebook) pages of UNEP-WCMC,</p>

			<p>UN-REDD Global, the Global Landscape Forum and REDD+ Mongolia. In addition, Mongolia’s progress and experience in designing NP and AP and developing its first FRL were shared with the international community at “Cool Forests at Risk! The critical role of boreal and mountain ecosystems for people, bioeconomy and climate” conference, which was held in Laxenburg, Austria.</p> <p>Public – a number of public awareness raising products were developed and circulated through various channels, including TV programs, website (www.reddpluss.mn, with 102,647 visitors, on average 522 visitors/month) and social media (FB page: REDD+ Mongolia, with 21,000+ followers). For instance, a video on Mongolia’s REDD+ Vision was produced and shared via these channels to raise public awareness on the importance of forests to climate resilience, livelihoods and economy. Furthermore, the following info briefs were developed and circulated to targeted audiences throughout the reporting period.</p> <p>Fire management in Mongolia: A changing climate Dealing with insect infestations in Mongolia’s boreal forest REDD+ and the wood-processing industries Financing mechanisms and options for implementing REDD+ in Mongolia Reducing corruption risks in Mongolia’s forest sector Operationalising socially inclusive and gender responsive stakeholder engagement in REDD+</p> <p>Videos and Films Comic Animations (series #3 and #4) REDD+ Vision video Tanaid Mod tariy</p>
<p>Progress towards Output 4: Stakeholder and public awareness surveys conducted in 2016 and 2017 indicated that behavioral change or shifts in attitudes towards sustainable development and forests were only marginal, whereas knowledge of REDD+ and key activities that were supported by the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme increased. Based on these findings, the focus and key messages were narrowed to target national and local stakeholders as well as international development partners in the forestry and environment sectors in 2018, with a message highlighting the role of forests in rural livelihoods, economy and ecosystem protection and climate change. A TOT approach was used to train key REDD+ stakeholders including local governments and service providers through the ‘Basic’ and ‘Advanced’ REDD+ Training courses. A follow-up survey in 2018 indicated that more than 600 participants, including local stakeholders, have a better understanding of the role of forest in climate change.</p>			

Output 5: Consultation and participation plan developed			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Consultation and participation plan developed and implemented. Evidence of awareness increase among non-government stakeholders of means of participation and providing feedback to policy processes.	No existing materials on REDD+ in this context	Consultation and Stakeholder Plan implemented.	Building on Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Competence-based needs assessment and capacity building plan , consultation and awareness raising activities were undertaken under Outputs 1, 3, 4 and 5. Key results of activities implemented under this output include the high-level study tour and development of the university curriculums. As a result, a Bachelor's and/or Master's level subject called Forest and Climate Change is offered at three public universities starting from the 2018/2019 academic calendar year.
Progress towards Output 5:			
Implementation of the Consultation and Participation Plan commenced in early 2017 and continued into the reporting period. REDD+ consultation materials were made available and these materials were used to raise the awareness of stakeholders including the general public and decision-makers. Stakeholder consultations were organized through the TWGs, FSDC, provincial forums, and sub-national REDD+ planning processes, as described under Outputs 1, 3 and 4. Participation of non-government stakeholders in policy development process increased as CSOs had actively participated and provided their feedback to the development process of policies and measure to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Mongolia.			

Output 6: Stakeholder Engagement Operational Guidelines, adapted to Mongolian context, developed and considered for institutionalization⁹			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Stakeholder Engagement Operational Guidelines for REDD+ Implementation developed and considered for institutionalization.	No existing guidelines.	By April 2018 draft Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines are prepared; By Q3 2018 options for institutionalization have been agreed.	Capacity building training manual and handbook for "Gender responsive and socially inclusive stakeholder engagement for REDD+ in Mongolia" was developed and tested. The comments and feedbacks provided by local and national stakeholders on draft manual and handbook during two rounds of test trainings and workshops were very practical and valuable in incorporating operational issues. These documents directly contributed to the implementing MET's efforts in building local capacities in gender and social inclusion, which were identified as major shortcomings in Mongolia, and development of such capacities was identified as part of the Gender Action Plan for the MET. The Handbook and Manual can now be accessed by local and national stakeholders.
Progress towards Output 6:			
With this Manual and Handbook, the program aims to build capacities of specialists and officers of the aimags and soums on how to engage with stakeholders in a socially inclusive and gender-responsive manner in the development and implementation of policies and measures under the NP and AP. The manual has been structured to turn the facilitator into a tour guide, who will take the participants onto a journey across six modules to help them build their attitudes, skills and knowledge for guiding socially inclusive and gender responsive actions.			

⁹ Description, indicators and targets of this output was amended following the Mid-term review.

OUTCOME 2: NATIONAL REDD+ STRATEGY PREPARED			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	Expected minor delays Corrective measures in place	Expected significant delays Corrective measures in place
Progress towards Outcome: The NP and AP were prepared based on a series of baseline and feasibility studies. The formulation of the NP and AP was informed by the technical outputs and findings of Outcomes 1-4, including those of NFMS, FRL, Safeguards and SIS.			

Output 8: REDD+ policies and measures (PAMs) identified and prioritized through: 1) identification of PAMs to address barriers to REDD+; and 2) demonstration activities to test identified PAMs for REDD+			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Different PAMs options for addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, stakeholder engagement, technical approaches at national and subnational levels identified.	Preliminary assessment by National REDD+ Roadmap Taskforce on PAMs	By April 2018, review and update Policies and Measures in relation to updated drivers	The following technical studies informing the development of PAMs were completed during the reporting period. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Corruption Risk Assessment</u> • <u>Assessment of Wood Product Value Chain and Recommendations for the Mongolian Wood Processing sector, and reports can be found here in English and Mon.</u> • <u>A rapid valuation of economic values and policy recommendation on Saxaul Forest;</u> • US Forest Service collaboration on pests and fire started with a pest assessment in summer 2017. A trip report on “Rapid Assessment of Forest Fire Control” can be accessed here.
Progress towards output 8: FSDC and TWGs continued to provide valuable input to the process of reviewing and updating PAMs and feedbacks were received through TWG meetings and consultations took place at subnational and national levels. This process was also greatly supported by additional technical studies mentioned above. The potential risks and benefits of proposed PAMs have also proven useful in contributing information to formulation of specific actions under PAMs.			

Output 9: Options for National REDD+ Funding Mechanism is developed¹⁰			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Potential mechanisms for financing the REDD+ National Program are identified and described	UNDP has existing review of environmental law framework. Information available from other projects on benefit sharing.	By Feb 2018, option paper for Financial Mechanisms is undertaken;	Study on finance mechanisms was completed in late 2017. Based on the findings of the study, an information brief was developed with key messages and findings were shared with policymakers, as occasions allowed during the reporting period, to re-consider resource allocation and priorities for efficient spending on forest protection and forest management activities. As an immediate result, a change in public resource allocation and prioritization practices was observed in FY 2019 budget allocation.
Progress towards Output 9: The study on Finance Mechanisms provides an insight into funding flows and revenues generated by the forestry and wood processing sectors, how they are spent and options for increasing financing for SFM. The study also provides recommendations for financing REDD+ implementation and SFM in Mongolia. The recommendations on the financing options for the promotion of SFM and more efficient use of current finance (e.g., a sharp reduction on pest control expenditure), more efficient forest revenue collection, earmarking of forest revenue for SFM, and providing positive economic or policy-based incentives to attract private sector finance, most obviously to the wood-processing sector, were reflected in the PAMs, NP and AP. An evidence of take up by the Government was observed in the reporting period as explained above.			

Output 10: Capacity-building plans developed for key institutions for REDD+ Readiness			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Institutional competencies and capacities required for receiving results-based payments identified and used to assess capacity needs for which concrete capacity development plans designed and implemented (# of plans).	No comprehensive plan. Capacity development action plan for mainstreaming financing for sustainable forest management into sectoral budgets	N/A	N/a
Progress towards Output: Capacities are being developed and are mainstreamed throughout activities planned the other Outputs.			

Output 11: Gender analysis undertaken to make all outputs under the National Programme gender sensitive			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Concrete strategies and guidelines available to systemically address gender considerations and inclusion of women in REDD+ processes.	No analysis done	N/A.	N/A
Progress towards Output: See Output 6			

¹⁰ Description, indicators and targets of this output was amended following the Mid-term review

Output 12: REDD+ social and environmental safeguard policy framework developed			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
REDD+ Social and Environmental Safeguard Policy Framework prepared and officially approved.	No material available.	Preparation and approval of draft safeguard Framework by Q2 2018.	<p>The following key progress was made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goals/scope for the safeguards approach were determined; • Potential benefits and risks of proposed PAMs were assessed and ways to reduce risks and enhance benefits were identified through a multi-stakeholder process (assessment tables: Eng and Mon), and results informed policy impact assessment for the NP and AP. • Mongolia’s national safeguards clarification (Eng and Mon) was finalized in 2018, taking the Cancun safeguards as its principles and presenting a set of national safeguards elements to clarify their content for Mongolia. These elements were also mapped against IFC performance standards. • Safeguards relevant policies, laws and regulations (PLRs) were assessed. Findings and recommendations of PLR review were fed into several subsequent processes, including through a set of recommendations submitted to the MET for consideration in their review of environmental legislation in 2018. Critical PLR gaps were also identified by this process. For more information, please see Background report on Policies, laws and regulations relevant to the Cancun Safeguards in Mongolia (Eng and Mon) • National REDD+ Safeguards Framework (NSF) (Eng and Mon) was prepared and this document sets out the main elements of Mongolia’s national framework on safeguards for REDD+. • Options for REDD+ Grievance Redress mechanism were assessed, and information was included in the NSF.
<p>Progress towards output:</p> <p>The NSF, developed through a participatory process during 2017-2018, aims to help the country contextualize the international REDD+ safeguards, meet international REDD+ safeguards requirements in a way that accords with national goals and circumstances, and make full use of existing systems and institutions in the country. The development of the NSF was led by the TWG on S&SIS. It included consideration of the following five key components: 1) goals and scope; 2) potential benefits and risks and measures to enhance/mitigate the benefits/risks; 3) REDD+ Safeguards relevant policies, laws and regulations; 4) national REDD+ safeguards clarification; and 5) REDD+ Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). The NSF is available in both Eng and Mon.</p>			
Output 13: National REDD+ Strategy prepared through the collation of technical outputs from Outcomes 1-4			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Comprehensive National REDD+ Strategy in place to implement results based actions.	No current strategy, there is the Roadmap	By Nov 2018, National REDD+ Strategy prepared and in final stages of approval	Outlines and formats of the NP and AP were agreed. Initially there was some reluctance to support development of a high-profile policy, but with successful stakeholder engagement and awareness raising, a consensus was reached.

Progress towards targets:

The NP and AP drafts were prepared and further updated in 2018. Updates were informed by various technical reports including those on financing mechanisms and options for the implementation of REDD+, wood-processing industry, corruption risks, fire and pest management, potential benefits and risks associated with proposed REDD+ PAMs, and gender responsive and socially inclusive stakeholder engagement. The updates were discussed and agreed through an extensive consultation process and active engagement of the TWGs on Policies and Strategies, Safeguards and SIS, and NFMS/FRL and CG throughout 2018.

Awareness and communication work targeted policymakers, technical and other stakeholders. However, due to the initial confusion regarding the formats of the NP and AP, there were some delays. It was later agreed that the NP and AP would follow the new Regulation #249 to ensure seamless integration with the national policy process and strong national ownership.

Outcome 3: FOREST REFERENCE LEVELS DEVELOPED

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved	<input type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome	Expected minor delays Corrective measures in place	Expected significant delays Corrective measures in place
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Progress towards Outcome:

With active participation by a team of national FRL experts, [Mongolia's first FRL](#) was constructed and submitted to the UNFCCC for Technical Assessment (TA) in January 2018. In the 1st half of 2018, the FRL underwent TA with international experts through the UNFCCC. [A modified FRL](#) was submitted to the UNFCCC in June 2018. At least, 15 individuals from different government institutions were equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to develop FRL/FREL. Additional data collection in relation to the country-specific FRL components was conducted by national research institutes and universities.

Output 14: Capacity built for the development of FRLs			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Number of individuals with capacities for developing FREL/FRLs.	Almost no capacity in Mongolia specific to preparing FREL /FRL No Action	By Jan 2018, 15 individuals are trained in development of the FREL/FRL	One staff member from CCPIU, 2 staff members from FRDC and 1 staff member from IRIMHE were involved in the FRL development, Technical Assessment and FRL guidance development.
Action Plan developed and adopted	Plan on FREL/FRL development		Capacity building training was delivered to the stakeholders relevant to the future FRL submission.
National agreements on forest definition, scope and scale reached	No national agreements		Two TWG workshops for FRL knowledge exchange were held (Jan, Oct 2018).
Stakeholder consultation workshop to present findings of the FRL review.			Four technical training events regarding the use of tools for remote sensing data analysis and field inventory methodology were delivered (1 NFI method, 2 FAO open foris tools, 1 R programming for data interpretation).

			Two carbon stock data collections, and 1 additional NFI data collection work were financed through contracts with national counterparts (Below ground biomass, saxaul forest inventory and Updated NFI data). FRL Action Plan was developed (2016) ¹¹ .
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Progress towards Output:
Capacity building training was delivered to the stakeholders relevant to the future FRL submission, and stakeholder consultation workshops to present findings were organized on a quarterly basis.

Output 15: FRLs methodologies developed and tested

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Complete set of historical activity data and emission factors compiled.	Some initial work has been done, but it is not verified and not complete.	By Jan 2018 , a decision on adjustment for national circumstances reached	Additional biomass data (saxaul, below ground biomass, degraded forest land) was compiled as references for future FRL establishment.
Decision on adjustment for national circumstances made	No decision	By Nov 2018 , FREL/FRL submitted to UNFCCC and review process conducted	Adjustment of FRL based on national circumstances was not considered due to lack of quantitative data on climate change impacts and potential effects of PAMs (i.e., future carbon scenario, vegetative distribution change)
Process for iterative FREL/FRL development established and FREL/FRL submitted to UNFCCC	No process		ALAMGC was officially delegated to produce land use change statistics in accordance with the IPCC guideline using both field verification data and remote sensing data for the next cycle of BUR with FRL.

Progress towards Output:
FRL methodology was developed and refined. The suitability of FRL construction methodology in relation with the IPCC guidance & guidelines and UNFCCC decisions was assessed by the Technical Assessment Team of UNFCCC. A user manual of FRL construction was developed and it is undergoing a final review.

¹¹ Since some parts in the FRL Action Plan has been altered during the FRL establishment process (2018), this document is not available for the public to avoid confusion.

Outcome 4: NATIONAL FOREST MONITORING SYSTEM AND SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION SYSTEM DEVELOPED			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome	Expected minor delays Corrective measures in place	Expected significant delays Corrective measures in place
Progress towards Outcome: National capacity, online data platform and institutionalization plan for operating NFMS are all in place.			

Output 16: NFMS and Forest Information System (FIS) development process managed			
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
NFMS Action Plan % of activities implemented Number of NFMS Action Plan annual revisions conducted Central FIS database operationalized. Number of government institutions linked by Data sharing agreements. Forest management and monitoring system and guidelines developed Forest boundary delineation completed	NFMS Action Plan exists: (30%)* of activities implemented through GIZ No revisions No FIS database	By Nov 2018, 3 annual CBNA and NFMS reviews conducted. By Jan 2018 after Inception, a web-GIS platform and FIS database is operational. By 18 months after Inception, a method for determining monitoring protocols for PAMs is adopted. By June 2018, monitoring protocols are piloted in two sub-national units. By Nov 2018, forest boundary delineation completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NFMS institutionalization document was developed (pending government endorsement); • Future cycle of NFI execution, GHG inventory reporting and a plan of online forest information system operationalization were identified. • A range of technical trainings were delivered to the TWG and provincial land managers including the use of monitoring tools and field measurement • The governmental decision was made on the continuous data collection for Multipurpose NFI using annual state allocated budget for management planning forest inventory.
Progress towards Output: NFMS and FIS were developed. NFI: 2nd cycle of NFI endorsed by government and its methodologies in accordance with Forest Taxation Inventory (FTI) approved; FRDC developed a recommendation paper on the implementation of the 2nd cycle of NFI within government's operational and technical capacity range. GHG inventory: Regarding international reporting, CCPIU is delegated to submit the report as a focal point of the UNFCCC in coordination with ALAMGC's land use change data and FRDC's forest degradation and deforestation data; For both the purpose of international and domestic reporting, afforestation activities with silvicultural practices at soum level, in the context of REDD+ was decided to be reported (OM table recorded by soum government) to measure carbon benefits of forest conservation and carbon stock enhancement activities. The relevant stakeholders having institutional mandates of the data reporting and provision were identified (FRDC, ALAMGC, Soum-level Forest Unit) as well as the role of data sharing platform with quality control was specified (EIC and National Statistics Office) in NFMS institutionalization document.			

Output 17: REDD+ MRV system developed			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<p>MRV system completed and capable of generating national GHG-I reports (BURs) including LULUCF data suitable for REDD+ reporting</p> <p>SLMS established with common land classification system National emission factors developed.</p> <p>Assessment report of NFI</p> <p>Number of individuals trained and capable in SLMS and GHGi</p>	<p>No REDD+ MRV System in Mongolia</p> <p>First NFI designed and completed, but no national emission factors</p> <p>State of GHG-I reporting capacity not determined</p>	<p>By Jan 2018 months after Inception, the REDD+ SLMS is operational.</p> <p>By 18 months after Inception, a tree species and forestry database is established and data gap analysis completed.</p> <p>By Jan 2018 months after Inception, the National forest inventory methodology is assessed.</p> <p>By Nov 2018s, national emission factors are developed. Within 36 months, Mongolian reports to UNFCCC (GHG inventory, LULUCF), as part of the BUR, are recognized as being of higher quality. By Nov 2018 , a national team of 12 individuals is capable of implementing each pillar of the MRV system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National land use change statistics became compliance with IPCC land use category to meet data transparency and consistency requirements with UNFCCC process • REDD+ SLMS portal was developed and operationalized with updated MRV data (Forest reference data in GIS format) in Forest Atlas web • 2nd edition of NFI book (2018) was drafted and officially endorsed (not yet published).
<p>Progress towards Output:</p> <p>REDD MRV system was developed.</p> <p>MRV capacity was developed through multiple training courses on QGIS, Openforis tools (Collect, Collect Earth, and SEPAL), Field inventory with NFI methodology</p> <p>REDD+ SLMS Portal was developed with updated MRV data base in Forest Atlas web</p> <p>Institutional responsibilities for international MRV (BUR, FRL) were officially assigned to ALAMGC, CCPIU and FRDC.</p>			

Output 18: Safeguards Information System (SIS) established.			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<p>Effective SIS providing information on how REDD+ safeguards are addressed and respected in Mongolia.</p>	<p>No safeguard information system in place</p>	<p>By Jan 2018, National REDD+ safeguards and indicators are tested and submitted for official endorsement.</p> <p>By June 2018, the safeguards information is made available in the central database.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIS objectives were determined, • Information systems and source were assessed against information needs for the SIS, • Indicators and an excel version of the SIS were developed; institutional roles, functions and arrangements were determined, • Operational requirements for the system were determined.
<p>Progress towards Output:</p> <p>The SIS was designed together with stakeholders and set out in a two volume report 'Mongolia's REDD+ Safeguard Information System: Proposed Structure, Functions and Roles' (Volume 1 and Volume 2). In addition, an excel version of the SIS database structure was developed, setting out its structure and proposed content/indicators. An integrated, online database, hosted by the Environment Information Centre (EIC) is proposed for further development.</p>			

5. Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and Associated UNFCCC Decisions

This section aims to provide insight and to support a thought process into how countries are progressing against the framework of the convention, namely: 5.1) a National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan; 5.2) a Safeguards and Safeguards Information System; 5.3) a National Forest Reference Emission Level/National Forest Reference Level; and 5.4) a National Forest Monitoring System. Only complete the sections that apply to the priorities identified for the country and mark as N/A any criteria that do not apply to the context of the country.

5.1 National Strategy or Action Plan

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source): <input type="checkbox"/> National Programme; <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Support; <input type="checkbox"/> Other Source; <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan (NS/AP) as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100 words):
The formulation of the NP and AP was informed by a series of baseline and feasibility studies. The NP and AP underwent an extensive stakeholder consultation process and incorporated guidance from the Core Working Group (CWG) throughout 2018. REDD+ NP and AP are expected to be officially endorsed by the Government in early 2019.

Indicator	✓	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
Does the country have a National Strategy or Action Plan (NS/AP) to achieve REDD+?		Not yet initiated	The NP and AP were prepared and reviewed through extensive consultation processes, including several rounds of reviews by the CWG, TWGs and FSDC. Both the changes in key personnel and initial confusion regarding the type of NS/AP to be produced resulted in slow progress. The current NP and AP follow the new Regulation #249 to ensure strong national ownership and increased chances of implementation.
		Under design	
	✓	Drafted, under deliberation	
		Adopted	
		Link to the NS/AP provided on the UNFCCC REDD+ Web Platform Info Hub	
		Implementation in early stages	
Degree of completeness of national REDD+ strategies and/or action plans.	✓	The NS/AP identifies, assesses and prioritizes the direct and underlying drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, as well as	An analysis of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation was undertaken and updated based on the updated NFI report. An analysis of drivers, especially concerning fires, pests and logging was undertaken as part of the Collect Earth assessment which provided activity data for the FRL.

		the barriers to the "plus" (+) ¹² activities on the basis of robust analyses.	
	✓	The NS/AP proposes a coherent and coordinated set of policies and measures (PAMs) for REDD+ that are proportionate to the drivers & barriers, results-oriented and feasible.	A set of four policy-level objectives and twelve measures were identified to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and to increase co-benefits.
	✓	The NS/AP relates to the scope and scale of the FREL/FRL, taking into account national circumstances.	The NP and AP are fully informed by the FRL. Following the FRL, the NP and AP focus initially on three REDD+ activities; reducing emissions from deforestation, reducing emissions from forest degradation, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. Initial results of PAMs implementation will contribute to future improvement of the FRL.
	✓	The NS/AP defines the institutional arrangements for REDD+ implementation, including governance measures, participatory oversight and inter-sectoral coordination.	The institutional and management arrangements for REDD+ implementation are described in the NP and AP.
Degree to which the NS/AP incorporates principles of social inclusion and gender equality.	✓	The NS/AP is developed through a multi-stakeholder, gender-responsive and participatory consultation and dialogue process.	The NP and AP went through extensive consultation processes as indicated above.
	✓	The proposed policies and measures for REDD+ integrate gender-responsive actions.	Proposed PAMs were analyzed through analysis of social inclusion and gender dynamics for REDD+. The NP and AP thus integrate gender-responsive and socially inclusive actions.
	✓	The proposed policies and measures for REDD+ consider the realization of land and resource tenure rights (when relevant), as well as the development priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities as well as their development priorities.	Results of studies on social inclusion gender dynamics, corruption risks assessment and potential benefits and risks informed the PAMs prioritization and related stakeholder consultations.
Degree of anchoring of the NS/AP in the national development policy and institutional fabric.		There is effective inter-ministerial coordination for REDD+ action.	This is expected to be established once the NP and AP are endorsed by the Government.
		Endorsement of the NS/AP has been obtained at a high political level, beyond the agency or ministry that led the REDD+ readiness process.	This is pending.

¹² Plus (+) activities within the context of REDD+ refer to conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks

	✓	REDD+ actions or targets are embedded in the national plan or policy for sustainable development.	Mongolia's REDD+ actions and targets are embedded into a number of existing national policies, including the State Forest Policy, Green Development Policy, Sustainable Development Vision and their respective action plans. Official endorsement of REDD+ NP and AP by the Government requires an assessment of linkages to the existing national policies and action plans. This has been done, and the result of this assessment is included in the NP as an annex.
	✓	There is evidence that ministries/agencies outside the forest and environment sectors are committed to implementing REDD+ policies and measures.	Other key ministries and agencies provided substantive inputs to the development of the NP and AP. For example, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry is committed to implementing REDD+ PAMs that are relevant to its operational mandate. Likewise, the National Development Agency is interested in being involved in PAMs implementation, where rural livelihood and economic development are concerned.
	✓	Financing arrangements to start implementing the NS/AP (or to channel results-based finance) are designed.	Recommendations on financing mechanisms and options for REDD+ implementation have been provided.

5.2 Safeguard Information System

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source): <input type="checkbox"/> National Programme; <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Support; <input type="checkbox"/> Other Source; <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a Safeguard Information System (SIS) as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100 words):
Mongolia's SIS was designed together with stakeholders and is set out in a two volume report 'Mongolia's REDD+ Safeguard Information System: Proposed Structure, Functions and Roles' (Volume 1 and Volume 2). In addition, an excel version of the SIS database structure was developed, setting out its structure and proposed content/indicators. An integrated, online database hosted by the Environment Information Center (EIC) is proposed for further development.

Indicator	✓	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
Does the country have a Safeguard Information System (SIS) that provides information on how the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout		No	SIS objectives, information needs and structures and initial indicators were determined. Relevant information systems and source were assessed. Institutional arrangements for SIS were identified. The excel version of SIS database structure was developed. The SIS structure, functions and roles have been proposed and pending government endorsement.
	✓	SIS objectives determined	
	✓	Safeguard information needs and structure determined.	
	✓	Existing information systems and sources assessed.	
	✓	The SIS is designed, building on existing, together with any novel, information systems and sources clearly	

implementation of REDD+ actions?		articulated in a national government-endorsed document.	
		The SIS is functional, building on existing, together with any novel, information systems and sources that are clearly articulated in a national government-endorsed document.	
		Summary of information on REDD+ safeguards, informed by the SIS, has been submitted to UNFCCC.	
Degree of completeness of the design of a country approach to address the social and environmental safeguards for REDD+	✓	Aligns with the NS, covering the social and environmental benefits and risks of the policies & measures for REDD+ being considered by the countries.	The national approach to the safeguards was developed through a multi-stakeholder process and is set out in Mongolia's National Safeguards Framework document. As part of this, social and environmental benefits and risks were assessed and informed policy impact assessment of the PAMs. Safeguards-relevant PLRs and institutional arrangements for their implementation were reviewed, and additional measures to address benefits and risks were proposed. Institutional arrangements for REDD+ implementation regarding the safeguards were also proposed.
	✓	Defines specific policies, laws and regulations (PLRs), as well as other measures, to address the identified benefits and risks.	
		Have institutional arrangements and/or capacities to implement those PLRs and to monitor the REDD+ safeguards.	
		Transparently provides information on how safeguards are respected and addressed.	

5.3 Forest Reference Emission Level / Forest Reference Level

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source): National Programme; Targeted Support; Other Source; Not Applicable

Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a Forest Reference Emission Level / Forest Reference Level (FREL/FRL) as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100 words):

A nationally-endorsed FRL was submitted to the UNFCCC for a Technical Assessment (TA) in January 2018. The FRL was further amended based on TA recommendations and resubmitted in June 2018 entailing a complete set of compiled historical activity data and emission factors. The FRL was developed by a core group of technical specialists from key national institutions, capacities of whom have been strengthened by the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme throughout the process.

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
Has the country established a FRL?		Not yet initiated	
		Capacity building phase	
		Preliminary construction phase	
		Advanced construction phase (scope/scale/definition)	
		Submission drafted	
		✓	Submitted to the UNFCCC
Robustness of FRL submissions	✓	Submission is transparent, complete, consistent and as much as possible accurate and allows reconstruction of the submitted FRL.	The UNFCCC TA acknowledged the information and data set used for Mongolia's FRL to be transparent, complete, and in overall accordance with the IPCC Guidance & guidelines, and UNFCCC decisions.
	✓	Includes pools and gases, and REDD+ activities (Scope) and justification for omitting significant pools and/or activities.	Mongolia's FRL covers the entire national territory, covers the net emissions from the annual average CO2 emissions associated with gross deforestation and forest degradation and annual average removals from reforestation and afforestation, and four carbon pools. The revised FRL, submitted in June 2018 excluded soil carbon and left it as a primary improvement area in next cycle of FRL.
	✓	Justifies where the submission is inconsistent with previous versions of GHG inventory.	Inconsistency between the submitted BUR (2017) and FRL (2018) was explained to the TA team, and future BUR submission expected to adopt improved methodologies and estimates consistent with the FRL
	✓	Includes details of the forest definition used and national circumstances.	A forest definition was adopted from MPNI. National circumstances were not considered in this current FRL due to lack of quantifiable data.
	✓	Defines the geographic area covered by FRL (scale).	The FRL covered boreal and saxaul area and reported the change estimate at national scale. However, carbon emission factor for saxaul area was not considered due to weak species-specific data at the time of submission.
	✓	Defines the geographic area covered by FREL/FRL (scale).	Geographical area covered by FRL is defined as national scale.

5.4 National Forest Monitoring System

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source): <input type="checkbox"/> National Programme; <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Support; <input type="checkbox"/> Other Source; <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100 words):
NFMS institutionalization document was developed (to be endorsed by government); Future cycle of NFI execution, GHG inventory reporting and a plan for setting up an online forest information system were identified. A range of technical training was delivered to the TWG and provincial land managers including the use of monitoring tools and field measurement. A decision by the Government was made on continuous data collection for multipurpose NFI using annual state allocated budget.

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means of verification
Has the country established a NFMS?		No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NFMS/MRV capacity has been developed with a number of LoAs and ToRs. Web-based SLMS developed and displays NFI sample units with attribute information, forest cover and forest change map with GIS format. Updated NFI data (2018) was added in Forest Atlas web. ALAMGC, CCPIU and FRDC will play a main data provider role for future cycle of international reporting and domestic NFMS. A proposal for NFMS institutionalization was prepared and pending approved by the Government.
		NFMS capacity building phase	
		Preliminary construction phase	
	✓	Advanced construction phase (SLMS, NFI, GHGi)	
	✓	NFMS generating preliminary information for monitoring and MRV	
		NFMS institutionalized and generating REDD+ monitoring and MRV (satellite land monitoring system, national forest inventory, greenhouse gas inventory)	
Degree of completeness of the NFMS in UN-REDD supported countries	✓	NFMS includes a Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS)	SLMS web and Forest Atlas portal have been updated and operational as a conjoint MRV and inventory platform.
	✓	NFMS includes a National Forest Inventory (NFI)	1 st Cycle of NFI completed. MET committed to conduct annual quota of NFI sampling and FTI field measurement. NFI 2nd cycle is secured.
	✓	NFMS includes a National GHG Inventory (GHGi)	ALAMGC issued a decree (2018) and is delegated as a main body for National GHGi data provision.
	✓	The NFMS is suitable for estimating anthropogenic forest-related greenhouse gas emissions by sources, and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities;	Together with NFI/FTI, OM table format provides the information on the forest degradation and deforestation factors as well as afforestation practices by soum government.

			Measuring protocol of carbon outcomes of REDD+ demonstration activities at local level were proposed by FRDC in the SOPs on FUG monitoring.
	✓	The NFMS is consistent with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidance and guidelines	ALAMGC converted its accumulated land data to the IPCC land use category for consistency with international reporting.
	✓	The NFMS enables the assessment of different types of forest in the country, including natural forest.	Boreal forest was assessed though 1 st cycle NFI. FRDC visited and set 40 semi-permanent sample plots in saxaul area (2018). Saxaul forest mapping and area estimate is being updated. The revised NFI/FTI annual sampling plots includes the degraded forest stock, forest land under varied silvicultural treatment and saxaul forest (all forest in the country).

6. Financial Delivery

In the table below, please provide information on expenditure for 2018 against the planned and anticipated expenditure as per the Annual Work Plan (AWP) for 2018 as approved by the PEB/NSC, meaning before any budget revisions were done. Anticipated expenditure by 31 December 2019 should indicate what would be realistically expended at the end of that year, and therefore provide a measure of deviation against the AWP.

Programme Outcome	UN Organization	Annual (actual) Expenditure ¹³ for Jan – December 2018	Planned Expenditure for Jan – Dec 2018 ¹⁴	Planned (anticipated) Expenditure for 2019 ¹⁵
Outcome 1: [input text]	FAO			
	UNDP	655,311	688,986	30,112
	UNEP			
Sub-total		655,311	688,986	30,112
Outcome 2: [input text]	FAO			
	UNDP	234,220	343,500	85,495
	UNEP	21,776	23,415	
Sub-total		255,996	366,915	85,495
Outcome 3: [input text]	FAO	172,022	154,313	
	UNDP			
	UNEP			
Sub-total		172,022	154,313	-
Outcome 4: [input text]	FAO	232,790	260,808	15,300
	UNDP			
	UNEP	184,846	184,845	
Sub-total		417,636	445,653	15,300
Indirect Support Costs (7% GMS)	FAO	22,997	29,058	1,070
	UNDP	50,230	30,975	8,093
	UNEP	14,578	12,940	
Indirect Support Costs (Total)		87,805	72,973	9,163
FAO (Total):		427,809	444,179	16,370
UNDP (Total):		939,761	1,063,461	123,700
UNEP (Total):		221,200	221,200	-
Grand TOTAL:		1,588,770	1,728,840	140,070

¹³ The sum of commitments and disbursements for 2018

¹⁴ As indicated in the 2018 annual work plan.

¹⁵ As indicated in the 2019 annual work plan.

7. Adaptive management

Referring to the deviations and delays indicated in the results framework above and considering whether expenditures are on track, please provide a short narrative of delays encountered, the reasons for them and what action has been considered to alleviate their impact on the Programme. Please indicate if these have been discussed at the Programme Executive Board (PEB) or National Steering Committee (NSC) meetings, between the Programme Management Unit (PMU) and national counterparts and what measures have been proposed to overcome them.

7.1 Delays and Corrective Actions

What delays/obstacles were encountered at country level? [150 words]
As mentioned in the challenges section of this report, the delays were encountered during the reporting period due to changes in key personnel, including CTA, NPD and RTAs. This required significantly longer time for technical consultations, approval and endorsement of the NP and AP.
Have any of the delays/obstacles been raised and/or discussed at the Programme Steering Committee meetings? [150 words]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No Obstacles encountered during the reporting period have been discussed at the PEB meetings in April and November 2018, for guidance and recommendations.
What are the delays/obstacles anticipated in terms of their impact on the NP? [150 words]
Due to these obstacles, planned activities were delayed, requiring an extension of the UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme. The PEB decided to request a 4-month no cost extension, which was granted by the UN-REDD Secretariat.
How are these delays/obstacles being addressed? [150 words]
To make the necessary progress on the development of the NP and AP, the CG consisting of technical officers from relevant institutions was established, and additional two national consultants were recruited. An interim CTA was recruited to ensure business continuity.

7.2 Opportunities and Partnerships

Over the reporting period, have any opportunities that were not foreseen in the design of the programme been identified to help advance efforts on REDD+? [150 words]
The recommendations from the Safeguards related PLR review provided useful input to an environment sector legislation review process executed by the Ministry of Justice and MET. The UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme contributed to making Mongolia's national land use and land use change statistics compliant with the IPCC guideline.
How are these opportunities being incorporated into the work of the NP? [150 words]
Through constant coordination with relevant national institutions and partners, the PMU was able to identify opportunities to incorporate REDD+ into various national and sectoral planning and policy processes, action plans and tools to ensure enabling conditions for REDD+ in Mongolia

8. Targeted Support

If the country has received Targeted Support during the reporting period, please provide a narrative of how this was complementary to the NP, and how it has contributed to furthering the readiness process in country.

Summary of Targeted Support: [100 words]
N/A