

FACTS

MONGOLIAN SUSTAINABLE CASHMERE PLATFORM



Duration: 2020-2027 (estimated end date)

Facilitated by:

- UNDP Mongolia
- UNDP Green Commodities Program

Funding Support By:

UNDP ENSURE (Ensuring Sustainability and Resilience of Green Landscapes in Mongolia) Project supported by GEF provides funding for 2020 budget.

Co-financing options are currently being explored for Year 2 (2021)

Delivery in fiscal year:

2020 – US\$306,450

Target and stakeholder groups:

- ✓ Herders, Herder Groups, Rural communities, Traders
- ✓ Private Sector, National processing companies, International buyers and brands
- ✓ State and Government organizations, Government agencies
- ✓ Development Partners, International Donor Organizations
- ✓ Civil Society Organizations

SUMMARY

Mongolian Sustainable Cashmere Platform is a national-level umbrella mechanism with collaborative leadership. The MSCP adopts a comprehensive systematic strategy to tackle key challenges currently facing the sector. The Mongolian Sustainable Cashmere Platform (MSCP) will work with a range of stakeholders to produce, implement and monitor a Collective Action Plan for Sustainable cashmere in Mongolia.

GOAL

1

To formulate and implement a collective action plan that addresses the root causes limiting the sustainability of cashmere in Mongolia;

2

To work alongside government to ensure a strong and coherent legal and institutional framework for sustainable cashmere in Mongolia;

3

To establish partnerships and coordinated investments and actions that accelerate current efforts to advance the sustainability of cashmere production and processing in Mongolia;

4

To position Mongolia as a global leader for sustainable cashmere

BACKGROUND

As many developing countries, Mongolia faces the challenge of balancing economic development with environmental degradation, natural resource depletion and social issues. 77% of the total land area is affected by desertification and soil degradation, while large areas are overgrazed nation-wide. Over the past 70 years, the

average temperature has risen by 2°C, while the climate change is worsening the situation. On the other hand, over the past 20 years, the international market has seen a sharp increase in demand for natural fibers of animal origin, including luxury cashmere products.

STAGES AND KEY MILESTONES



STRUCTURE OF THE PLATFORM AND ITS GOVERNANCE



As a result, the number of goats in Mongolia has increased from 5.1 million to 27 million, leading to overgrazing, deforestation, environmental degradation due to pasture and soil erosion, and loss of biodiversity. The livestock sector output accounts for over 80% of the country's agriculture output, employing close to 30% of total workforce in the country.

Cashmere is a strategic commodity in Mongolia, making the sector an important pillar of the country's economy, supporting the livelihood of about million pastoralist herders. While the herders acknowledge and face disappearing pastureland, they struggle to change everyday practices and are largely uninformed about ways to shift to more sustainable herding and raw material

preparation and production which is also true for national processing companies.

Many projects, programs and interventions have been initiated by sector stakeholders and champions to address challenges with a focus on Sustainable cashmere. The next growth step is to ensure collective action and integration of activities among stakeholders to accelerate outcomes, increase efficiency and maximize the impact of interventions. Consensus and trust building between stakeholders is key to stimulating collective action for sustainable cashmere production, trading, processing and sales. Therefore, UNDP Mongolia with the support of UNDP Green Commodities Program recognized the need to introduce sustainability measures into cashmere sector and initiated innovative Sustainable Cashmere Platform for multi-stakeholder collaboration with the overarching objective to position Mongolia as a global leader for sustainable cashmere.

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) supports developing countries in accelerating progress to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. The key is to support systemic change in the agricultural commodity sector, which is an important driver of the country's economy.



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