

National REDD+ Taskforce in Mongolia

Working Group 1: Drivers and strategies

Terms of reference

Chair: [to be appointed by Director of Forest Agency]

Facilitator: Ms Bunchingiv, UNDP Mongolia

Objective: to identify the key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Mongolia, and to identify potential strategies to address them.

1 Drivers

1.1 Overview of land use trends, forest policy and governance relevant to REDD+

- Describe the major land use trends in Mongolia, eg use of forests, increase in mining, types of agriculture, use of pastureland.
- Describe the main thrust of the 2011 forest policy in Mongolia, eg describe the extent to which it is focused on things such as forest protection and sustainable forest management.
- Identify the main governance challenges for the forest sector.

1.2 Identification of key drivers

Consider the list of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation below.

Please:

- Add any drivers that are missing and delete any drivers that are not relevant.
- Place the drivers in order of priority and explain the reason why by describing the extent of the problem and it's urgency.

Boreal forests

Priority	Driver	Extent of problem (how many hectares affected each year? which areas affected?)
Number??	Tree disease	25,000 ha/year
??	Illegal collection of fuel wood	
??	Fire	Fire management report
	Insect attack	
	Timber extraction for round wood (legal)	
	Timber extraction for round wood (illegal)	
	Effects of climate change	
	Overgrazing on forest edge	

	Grazing inside forest areas	
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Saxaul forests

Priority	Driver
Number ??	Overgrazing
??	Effects of climate change
??	Collection of fuel wood (legal)
	Collection of fuel wood (illegal)

1.3 Review of current strategies

Identify existing strategies that are being used to address deforestation and forest degradation. Identify:

- Which ones are working well?
- Which ones are not working well?

2 Identifying the main causes of deforestation and forest degradation

This section needs to identify the underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation from both within and outside the forest sector. It should identify which drivers are direct, and which are indirect (underlying, ie the reason people do it). Consider the major land use trends (eg uses of land, the impacts of existing forest policy, and governance issues).

Below is an example of a process to identify the cause/s of a driver of deforestation. Please prepare a table like this for each of the key drivers identified above (eg. Fire, insect attack, etc).

Driver	Direct cause	Underlying cause	Action needed	Possible REDD+ strategy
Illegal collection of firewood	Local community collect fuel wood for domestic use	Inadequate supply of legal fuel wood	Increase legal supply of fuel wood	Review policy on SFM to increase productivity of forest
	Commercial producers collect fuel wood for sale in UB			
Fire	People start fires	Special permission can be obtained to collect burnt wood	Remove perverse incentive to start fires	Change the policy allowing the collection of burnt wood

Insect attack				
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Please do this for boreal forests and Saxaul forests separately.

Identify any areas where further studies are required on the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. [Note: these studies could be commissioned later during the preparation of the National REDD+ Strategy]

2.1 Implications of climate change

Review the current climate models for Mongolia and identify the implications of climate change for the forest sector

3 Enhancing forest biomass (forest carbon stocks)

- Briefly explain the importance of enhancing biomass (forest carbon stocks) in Mongolia. Consider both boreal and Saxaul forests.
- Review Mongolia's past experience with enhancing forest biomass in boreal forests and for Saxaul forests. Identify current programmes to enhance biomass, including their cost (e.g. Green Wall Programme). Explain how successful past efforts have been and the lessons learned.
- Identify future opportunities for enhancing biomass in both boreal and Saxaul forests.
- Consider the implications of climate change may have on any proposals to increase forest biomass.

4 Review of potential REDD+ strategies

Suggest a broad process for reviewing the potential REDD+ strategies described above.