

INTERNATIONAL
LAND
COALITION

ASIA



CENTRAL ASIA RANGELANDS INITIATIVE

Diverse Tenure Systems GOOD PRACTICES OF MEMBERS

Ulaanbaatar 2018



ENVIRONMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
“JASIL”

GOOD PRACTICE: COMMUNITY BASED CO-MANAGEMENT OF PASTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Stakeholders: JASIL has working closely with the Ministry of Nature and the Environment, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the Mongolian State Agriculture University, the National University of Mongolia, the Private Institute of Eco-Asia, and with local governments and 54 communities of Lun and batsumber soums of Tuv aimak, Khotont soum of Arkhangai aimak and Deluin soum of Bayan-Ulgii aimak and Jasil’s study team members include staff representing the Mongolian Research Institute of Animal Husbandry and the Institute for Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment Monitoring and others.

Background issues: The Co-management approach chosen as collaborative adapted management to the specific conditions of Mongolia, including its vast and sparsely inhabited land area, a weak State and still nascent civil society, unclear property rights, increased degradation and impacts of climate change and a land tenure reform process still in the making.

Description of activities of the good practice: Under co-management the herding families enter into contracts with each other and with the local government for seasonal use of lands following scientific confirmation on the amount of herd animals particular plots of pastoral land can support. During the testing 54 community leaders signed co-management contracts with 4 soum level governors and 42 community leaders and 2,830 community members entered into innovative co-management contracts among themselves and with 18 bag level governors. Currently JASIL is testing different operational methods with the local communities, for example how ICTs can improve effectiveness of co-management of pasture and natural resources management and improving livelihood of herder’s communities by delivering, disseminating and using locally specific weather forecast data.

Main results: The development and facilitation of “Procedure for the allocation of certain natural resources to the communities for their protection and sound use”, which was approved by the Nature and Environment Minister’s Decree is main outcome. Since then it has been the main policy and guiding document for the implementation of CBNRM approaches in the country at the national level

Changes good practice brought: Success of co-management takes time and effort to be introduced, tested and integrated in local practices, and the experience of JASIL and its partners have demonstrated that these new forms of collective action for land and natural resource management have strengthen the

adaptability of herders leading to improved livelihoods with their improved land use rights and it will depend on a favorable legal atmosphere, long-term supportive government policies and actions, and endurance of local people to withstand failures and overcome challenges which can be expected to occur.

Lessons learned: Local people and herders learn about participating in decision-making, expressing and exchanging voices and collaborative learning about pasture use rights; researchers and students learn about becoming more knowledgeable about co-management; carrying out participatory action research and collaborative learning; learning from local realities. All stakeholders have learned about collaborative learning, experience sharing and networking for the benefit of everyone.

Suggestions how to implement in other places: National governments need to continuously support community based pasture land and natural resources co-management through including it to laws and national policies and programs, and international donors invited to support of such actions at both local and national level for the case of pastoral agriculture dominated countries and regions of Central Asia.





NATIONAL PASTURE USERS' ASSOCIATION OF KYRGYZSTAN "KYRGYZ JAYITY"

GOOD PRACTICE: ELECTRONIC PASTURE COMMITTEE

Background issues: Strengthening of pasture degradation processes due to un-systematic and uncontrolled use; Decline of pasture infrastructure; 3-level management system; Lack of legislation; Using the lacks of the pasture rent institute, wealthy pastoralists themselves began to seize huge areas or sublet them

Description of activities of the good practice: The "Electronic Pasture Committee" information system in Kyrgyzstan is a program that allows for the management of pastures. It contains an electronic map of the territory and keeps a record of pasture areas from 454 Pasture User Unions (PUUs) in the country. This was created in accordance with the "Law on Pastures" (2009). It also records the number of pasture users and livestock, accounting for vaccination, payments for livestock and pasture tickets issued. The system includes a plan for pasture use, which comprises terms, routes, and pasture areas with yield and capacity data, which are updated annually by the committee. It is an innovative approach in pasture management, based on local pasture user associations

PUUs were established in the years after enactment of the Law on Pastures. They have been working hard to support pasture users, coordinate with other stakeholders and address challenges for effective management of pastures. However, NAPUKKJ's members still need further support in order to better perform their roles and achieve their goals.

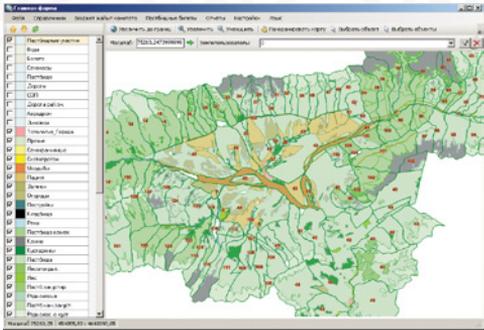
Main results : The introduction of an electronic pasture committee allowed for rational and steady management of pastures, taking into account the ecologically safe load on pastures. It was shown to be effective. This mechanism allows quick management of pastures and monitors the condition of pastures and the processes of land degradation. It includes functions for counting livestock numbers, controlling vaccination, and also allows for the search for pasture tickets, the route for the transfer of livestock, the number of grazing livestock, the grazing area, and the calculation of payments.

The electronic pasture committee will promote the formation of an equitable and socially acceptable pasture distribution system, resolve conflicts of interest, ensure effective public control (reporting, transparency), and thereby improve the pasture management system at the local level. Our analysis shows that all leaders and members of the pilot pasture committees in Kyrgyzstan noted the importance of the electronic module, as the automated information system made it very easy for them to work with pasture users. This gives confidence that the results ob-

tained during its implementation will be sustainable and will continue to further improve pasture management practices in pilot pasture committees, and will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the state of the environment.

Changes good practice brought: Positive: law implementation; pasture planning and management; decreasing the degradation processes; international cooperation; experience exchange; community based management of land

Negative: land taxes; pasture payments; land conflicts; corruption and lack of legislation knowledge



NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF PASTURE USER
GROUPS OF HERDERS

MONGOLIAN NATIONAL
FEDERATION OF PASTURE
USER GROUPS OF HERDERS

GOOD PRACTICE: A TERRITORY-BASED, HERDER-CENTERED, COLLECTIVE RANGE-MANAGEMENT APPROACH - PASTURE-USER GROUPS (PUGS).

Background: Degradation of Mongolia's rangelands has reached an alarming level. The rangelands, which comprise 70 percent of the total national territory, are the backbone of the rural economy and provide food security for the entire nation. According to the Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism (MNET), 65% of all rangeland is degraded from a moderate to heavy level.

Main results of Good practice: has developed a manual (13 steps to establish and enforce RUAs) which is widely used by various stakeholders.

Changes:

- Conflicts among herders have reduced. How? “fewer conflicts over rangeland use were reported in the Green Gold project sites than in control sites”.
- Establishment of RUAs: As of Jan 2018, about 870 PUGs established rangeland use agreements with Soum Government. At the initiative of some Soum Governors, PUG rangeland use agreement is made annually to use as a tool to enforce rotational grazing plan and increase responsibility from herders’ side.
- Herders’ participation in local governance: As of December 2017, there are about 130 Soum Associations of PUGs (APUGs) have been formed and it has a status of Non-Government Organizations. Compared to 2008, in the election of 2012, the number of herder- members in the Local Hural has increased from those of 57 to 207 herders in Green Gold target soums
- Access to LDF funding: One of the most important changes introduced by the Integrated Budget Law in January 2013 is the provision of citizens’ participation in the budgeting process. Herder Groups, PUGs, APUGs and herder cooperatives to lobby and gain financial support from LDF for investments on public goods such as improving rangeland infrastructures (fencing, wells, roads etc.,)
- Creation of civil society organization at the soum level: PUG unites the interest of herders to improve the management of their communal rangelands.
- PUGs create herder cooperative for better access to markets: PUG matching fund Green Gold supports to use economic incentives for collective management of rangelands. Each of the member herder households contribute 15 CHF and GG contributes an equal amount. As of today, more than 60 herder cooperative are set up at the APUGs.

Lessons learned: To achieve successful implementation of RUA, participatory and inclusive way of negotiations, clearly stated conditions, responsibilities and activities of two parties - PUG and local government - are required.

Suggestions how to implement in other places The recognition of the RUA at national level by different agencies and ministries is important. The PUG/RUA approach is showing the potential for nationwide uptake. Need to duplicate: training, Strong enforcement mechanisms, Using local champions and best practice,



PUBLIC FUND “FARMER OF KAZAKHSTAN”

GOOD PRACTICE: LOCALLY MANAGED DISTANCE PASTURE USE

Stakeholders: Lepsy village Sarkand district of Almaty region of Kazakhstan, totally involved 155 households

Background issues: degradation of pastures, especially in the past; productivity of pastures decreased by 50 - 60%; lack of infrastructure on rangeland; wells on pasture pastures are destroyed; failure to comply with the pasture capacity; the absence of experienced herders; and the poor awareness of livestock owners about the proper use of pastures.

Description of activities of the good practice: -Training of farmers and livestock owners on the rational use of pastures;

- Restoration of two wells on otgons and a waterfalls site;
- Purchase of a yurt, a solar generator and a pump;
- Introduction of a system of seasonal rotation of pastures and pasture grazing

Main results: formed a herd with the size of 520 sheep and 152 heads of cattle for grazing on pasture pastures;

- Sustainable pasture management is covering area of 5,850 hectares;
- The load on the pastureland is reduced by 17%;
- Increase in living weight per head of cattle which amounted to 40-45 kg, compared to livestock discharged near the village;
- Income of the members of local communities participating in the project increased by 18-20%;
- 2 brochures have been published, a video film has been prepared, 6 articles in newspapers have been published.

Lessons learned:

- Members of the Local Communities continue to implement the technologies of rational use of pastures introduced by the project (to develop pastures of pastures).
- The development of remote pastures for small livestock owners remains difficult, due to the lack of support from local executive bodies and the government.
- Nonetheless, informal associations began to be organized in the villages to jointly solve the issues of arranging seasonal pastures, organizing united cattle herds and using pasture rotation in remote pastures.

What is needed to expand this practice: Government subsidies, grants and

investments are needed to restore pasture infrastructure.

Experts are needed who will conduct applied studies and develop pasture rotation schemes.

To help people to establish communities or co-operatives for pasture use.

Provide information (brochures) on grazing rates and pasture carrying capacity



INSTITUTE OF ECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, KAZAKHSTAN

GOOD PRACTICE: VILLAGE BASED MANAGEMENT OF PASTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Stakeholders: 3 rural villages of Balkash district, 1 rural village of Ili district and “ODAC-Enbekshikazakh Alliance for sustainable economic and human development”, Almaty region, Kazakhstan

Background issues: -the majority of laws that are not acts of direct action, for the implementation of which it is necessary to develop a number of by-laws at various levels;

- frequent changes in the legal regulation that create some legal uncertainty, impedes sustainable land management;
- difficult access to relevant knowledge and technology, credit resources at

the local level;

- Insufficiency and (or) insufficient availability of information;

Description of activities of the good practice: - Inventory and monitoring of degraded pastureland (using GIS);

- Creation of maps of the current state, desertification and recommended activities for ecological profiles;
- Assessment of economic losses caused by degradation and salinization of the soil-vegetation component of ecosystems;
- Conducting training seminars on sustainable land management for stakeholders (herders and peasant farms, agro-industrial associations, etc.);
- Involvement of interested partners for the implementation of the objectives.

Changes good practice brought: Destructive types of economic activity (unsustainable livestock and pasture farming and unsustainable farming) have been prevented.

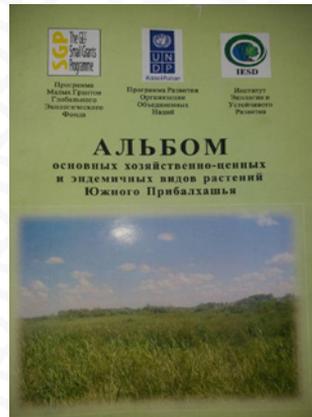
The self-organization of the local population (community) has been initiated, the provision "Rule of the Council for the Environment and Nature Management" has been developed, and environmental management councils have been created.

Lessons learned: Achieving the effectiveness of the implemented activities are possible only with the direct interest of the local population.

When assessing the sustainability, it is necessary to take into account the environmental and economic impact and how it affects the reduction of unsustainable economic activities.

When conducting educational and training activities, the emphasis should be placed on adapting people to the realities of the market economy.

What is needed to expand this practice: The received results can be replicated in the territory of other rural districts in the country



KYRGYZ ASSOCIATION OF FOREST AND LAND USERS (KAFLU)

GOOD PRACTICE: FSC VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION DEVELOPMENT

'FSC voluntary certification development – as a tool for environmental conservation. 52 forest users received FSC certificate. FSC certification is company voluntary confirmation of forest management and the supply chain compliance with the international requirements of this system.

Changes: Positive: FSC is a label that provides confidence to consumers.

Negative: Many forest users do not know and do not understand the benefits of certification.

Lessons learned: Many places and forest users need to implement certification for responsible, transparent forest management, and respect for forest resources, respect for rights and work of local communities



CENTER FOR POLICY RESEARCH,
MONGOLIA

GOOD PRACTICE: PILOTING HERDER BASED PARTICIPATORY AND SUSTAINABLE PASTURE MANAGEMENT

Stakeholders: All Mongolia's central and local government bodies involved in rural development, pastureland management, livestock risk management and value chain development for herders in 21 provinces and 330 districts

Background issues: The key challenge is the current largely open access pastureland tenure system leading to overgrazing and increasing inequality in accessing key resources

Description of activities of the good practice: CPR has been trying to demonstrate how the challenge above can be addressed through promoting VGGT principles in general and pastureland use agreements in particular in case of pilot projects funded by international and bilateral donors

Main results: CPR has demonstrated the feasibility of pastureland use agreements and ways of reducing the herd size without compromising herders' incomes in 2012-2017

Changes good practice brought: CPR-promoted Smart Herder Program has been adopted so far by around 20 districts of Mongolia. The key content is about pastureland use agreements and reducing the herd size without compromising herders' incomes.

Lessons learned: Pilot projects at the grassroots level is important for demonstrating the feasibility of innovative approaches and building pressure on policymakers to change the legal environment





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