

**CO-CREATING KNOWLEDGE WITH MONGOLIAN LOCAL
TEACHERS, SOUM (VILLAGE) OFFICIALS, AND PARTNER
INSTITUTIONS: A COLLABORATIVE OUTREACH
COMPONENT OF THE MONGOLIAN RANGELANDS AND
RESILIENCE PROJECT (MOR2)**

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Research Questions & Objectives

Research Questions

- Pastoralism: to be or not to be?
- What is the impact of current social economic and climate change in your local community life?
- How resilient is the rangeland, what is the resilience mechanism?
- How and which way herders can adapt to the changes?

Objectives

- Collaboratively research and document current social economic and ecological changes.
- Help educate young herders and help them to understand the rangeland changes.

Results & Products

1. Local soum rangeland book

- Provide ecological field training to local soum teachers and stakeholders to familiarize with ecological field sampling methods.
- Develop a rangeland book together with local soum stakeholders on the local rangeland climate and historical specifics

2. Capacity building training for our young collaborators

- Organize capacity building short-time trainings
- Explore the opportunities and possibilities to continue with virtual training

Data availability:

- Focus group, interviews notes and records
- Soum profile, Soum statistical information
- Group profiles

Local soum stakeholder's responsibility:

- Collect data and questionnaire from respective age groups.
- Summarize and compile them for the book
- Collect photos of historical events, dominant plants and vegetation condition.

Integrate MOR 2 project data together with local soum stakeholder's data and summarize them for the book

Local Soum Rangeland Handbook

- *Chapter 1: Soum timeline: history and seasonal*
 - Provide background on overall soum transformations and development since collective period, including social, ecological and economic setting and changes
 - More emphasis will be given on the history and changes in rangeland and natural resource utilization practices and how these practices have been changed since collective period during the period of 1990-2012. Based on interviews with different age group (elderlies over 61, middle 46-60 and 31-45, young 16-30) and hear their opinions and practices.
- **Chapter 2: Simple hand-written sketch maps to map herder movements (define boundaries)**
 - Teachers will sketch map on the basis of current herder movements and this map will represent movement patterns for the entire soum. It is important to consider annual variability of the movement patterns. We need to decide whether the maps should be drawn on 2011-2012 movement. During the dzud years the movements patterns would look slightly different. We can have two types of mapping exercise: 1) 2011-2012 movement, 2) 2009-2010 Dzud movement patterns

Local Soum Rangeland Handbook

- **Chapter 3: Resilience assessment**
 - Herding practices, perception about changes in pasture, vegetation and other rangeland resources and conditions. Different age groups could have different opinions. This chapter will be more focused on:
 - Herder's livestock management practices
 - Herd composition changes
 - Changes in various management practices: well, hay, movement, veterinary services, breed improvement, herder organization, cooperation with other organization
- **Chapter 4: Ecological sampling and social survey research inputs**
 - Have estimates of biomass, species richness, plant cover, soil and summarize social surveys and study.
- **Chapter 5: Basic climate info: rainfall patterns, temperature pattern, water and hydrology regime**
 - Changes in hydro-meteorological condition
 - A timeline of significant weather and other events influencing local livelihoods.
- **Conclusion:**
 - Resilience and adaptive capacity building

Local Soum Rangeland Handbook

- **Time of deliverables**
 - Questionnaire and surveys will be submitted by Aug.25th.2012
 - First set of products will be submitted by Oct.1st.2012
 - Last set of products will be submitted by Dec.15th.2012
 - Evaluation of the handbook will be held in March 2012
 - Final printing will be in June 2012 after the final edition.
- **Projected audience and beneficiaries**
 - 6-11 th grade school kids
 - Young Herders
 - Local Soum community

Research Training Opportunities

For Young Collaborators and Researchers

- Possible training opportunities for this summer:
 - Social data entry, Access Database and Proposal writing
 - Tungaa
 - GPS Training (held in eco workshop)- Melinda
 - Excel training – Niah, Khishig
- Possibilities and demand for further virtual training