





Climate Change and Disaster Related Migration in Mongolia (2017-2019)



In recent years, Mongolia has experienced increasing rates of internal migration from rural areas into urban centres, principally Mongolia's capital Ulaanbaatar. The volume and speed of internal migration into Ulaanbaatar has outpaced the Government of Mongolia's (GoM) ability to provide basic services such as running water, sanitation and sewerage, healthcare and education to new migrants.

Mongolia's unique geographical location and dependence of the nation's rural population on animal husbandry make Mongolia particularly vulnerable to environmental changes and severe weather events. The increasing trend of rural to urban migration in Mongolia has been linked to factors resulting from climate change, such as declining livelihood opportunities in rural areas that have been amplified by increasing incidences of severe droughts and winter storms (dzuds). If the trends continue, the increasing incidences of disasters will drive higher rates of rural to urban migration into Ulaanbaatar where government officials are already facing significant challenges to accommodate new arrivals.

In December 2017, IOM Mongolia launched eighteen-month project aimed to contribute to strengthened migration management in Mongolia, in the context of climate change and natural hazards.



DTM training for NEMA officials, December 2017. Photo/IOM



PROJECT DURATION

December 2017 - May 2019

PROJECT SUPPORT

The project funded by IOM Development Fund (IDF). Since 2001 the IDF has provided a unique global resource aimed at supporting developing Member States in their efforts to strengthen their migration management capacity. The Fund is designed to contribute to the harmonization of eligible Member State migration management policies and practices with their overall national development strategy.

https://developmentfund.iom.int/

PROJECT IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

Mongolian National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

PARTNER

Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, and Ulaanbaatar Municipality.







PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The overall objective is to support the Government of Mongolia to effectively manage internal migration from the rural to urban areas due to climate change and natural disasters.

Outcome: The Mongolian National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare and the Ulaanbaatar municipality use the DTM assessments to collect data at soum (district) level and use the data from DTM assessments to inform responses to climate change and disaster events. The project has three expected outputs:

1. NEMA, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare and the Ulaanbaatar municipality have improved skills and knowledge to track climate change and disaster related migration and coordinate responses.

Activities include:

- Introduction of DTM tools and tracking system to key government officials from NEMA, Ulaanbaatar municipality and other ministries.
- Adaptation and contextualization of DTM methodologies and components to the Mongolian context, which include conceptualization of operational implementation strategy, development of tools for data collection, data management, reporting, as well as training materials, and activities planning.
- Training of NEMA, government and municipal officers in the use of the DTM system. The training will cover assessment design, site selection and how to conduct the assessments.
- Workshop to bring together NEMA, government and municipal officers to discuss the use of DTM assessments, trends and reports to improve decision-making. During

the workshop a roadmap will be created on how to embed DTM assessments in future responses and policy.

2. Evidence and data on current migration flows and needs in selected 'soums' is collected and made accessible to key stakeholders including NEMA and local city authorities.

Activities include:

- DTM assessments in selected locations in coordination with NEMA and other government officials.
- Production of migration focused communications material to highlight the story of a selected family and how climate change and disasters have impacted the lives of families living in rural Mongolia.
- In conjunction with NEMA, develop a report summarizing the results from the DTM assessments. Printing and distribution among project partners and other key stakeholders.
- A dissemination meeting with project partners and other key stakeholders to discuss DTM assessment reports.
- 3. A draft plan of action for improved coordination to address climate change and disaster related migration is developed and made accessible to key stakeholders.

Activities include:

- Consultations to discuss and develop draft plan of action.
- Finalization and dissemination of the report, endorsement of the draft action plan.

For more information on IOM activities in Mongolia please check our website:

www.iom.int/countries/mongolia