

# **2021 RESILIENCE LEARNING MONTH** EVENT SUMMARY



Building Resilience to Climate Change for a Globally Important Protected Area—A Case Study from Mongolia's Blue Pearl: Khuvsgul Lake National Park

18 November 2021, Thursday 10-11 a.m. Manila Time (GMT+8) Zoom



Khuvsgul Lake National Park is one of Mongolia's most popular tourist destinations and supports global biodiversity values and the country's largest source of freshwater. Climate change threatens these values. Many protected areas across Asia and the Pacific are also threatened by climate change, yet few quantitative studies or applied management guidance is available for land managers. This study presents the first quantitative assessment of climate change impacts to a protected area in Mongolia, and identifies climate risks and adaptation measures for three dimensions: biodiversity, livelihoods, and tourism.

Protected areas are essential to help address the global extinction crisis that threatens biodiversity, and to buffer against the impacts of climate change. Protected area management can be regarded as a type of "nature-based solution" to climate change, and needs to be incorporated into rural and urban development planning.

> MARK R. BEZUIJEN Principal Environment Specialist, EARD, ADB

#### **SPEAKERS**

## FACILITATOR



MARK R. BEZUIJEN Principal Environment Specialist, Asian Development Bank



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**MICHAEL RUSSELL** Climate Change and Adaptation Consultant

## **KEY MESSAGES**

- Protected areas are not only vital to help protect biodiversity but are a key type of "nature-based solution" that buffers against the impacts of climate change.
- To maximize the benefits of protected areas for providing resilience against climate change, land managers and policy makers require site-specific adaptation measures and guidance based on science.
- Existing protected area networks need to be included in urban and rural development planning in order to maximize the benefits that protected areas can provide for climate resilience

## FURTHER INFORMATION

ADB. 2020. Building the Climate Change Resilience of Mongolia's Blue Pearl: The Case Study of Khuvsgul Lake National Park. <u>https://www.adb.org/publications/climatechange-resilience-mongolia-blue-pearl</u>

ADB Grant 9183-MON: Integrated Livelihoods Improvement and Sustainable Tourism in Khuvsgul Lake National Park Project. <u>https://www.adb.org/</u> <u>projects/48216-001/main</u>

ADB Loans 3787/3788-MON: Sustainable Tourism Development Project. <u>https://www.adb.org/projects/</u> <u>documents/mon-50013-002-Ina-0</u>

#### DISCUSSANT



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