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хөгжил ТББ



26 CSOs Consortium of Mongolia

TA6594-REG: Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19 through Community-Led Interventions

Lessons learned

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Duration: 30 min

Date: 23 February 2023

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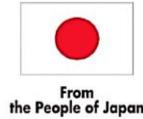
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26 CSOs Consortium of Mongolia

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3. Working with ADB
4. Challenges of working with ADB
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1. Introduction of organisation





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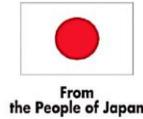
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Lead organization

Mongolian Remote Sensing Society NGO

- Solid waste management through local community activities/training
- Land use land cover & climate change analysis through remote sensing technology/GIS
- Local community development support through implementing the small grant projects of green development & human right
- Observer organisation of the “United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change” in Mongolia





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Right, Sustainable Development NGO



- Knowledge products (articles, factsheets, photo reports, case studies, video making) in sustainable development
- Green soum and land shaft architecture concept development
- Community development in sustainable development
- Organizing the donation campaign, training among the communities
- Planting trees, vegetables and fruits
- Over 20 focal points in other aimags of Mongolia
- Nature Training centre where local
- Beekeeping and biofertilizer production
- Members produce herbal tea, sewing products
- Works at the grassroots to develop the green soums of Mongolia
- Land shaft architecture and green soum concept development
- Community development to enhance for establishment green soums



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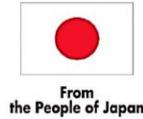


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2. Introduction of the project



- The major 2 towns (soums) and 1 city along the railway line from Russia to Ulaanbaatar
- COVID-19 the most affected and high high-risks
- 49% (1.57 million) of the Mongolian population
- 60% of the poorest, the most vulnerable groups (care-needed, homeless, with disabilities, etc.)



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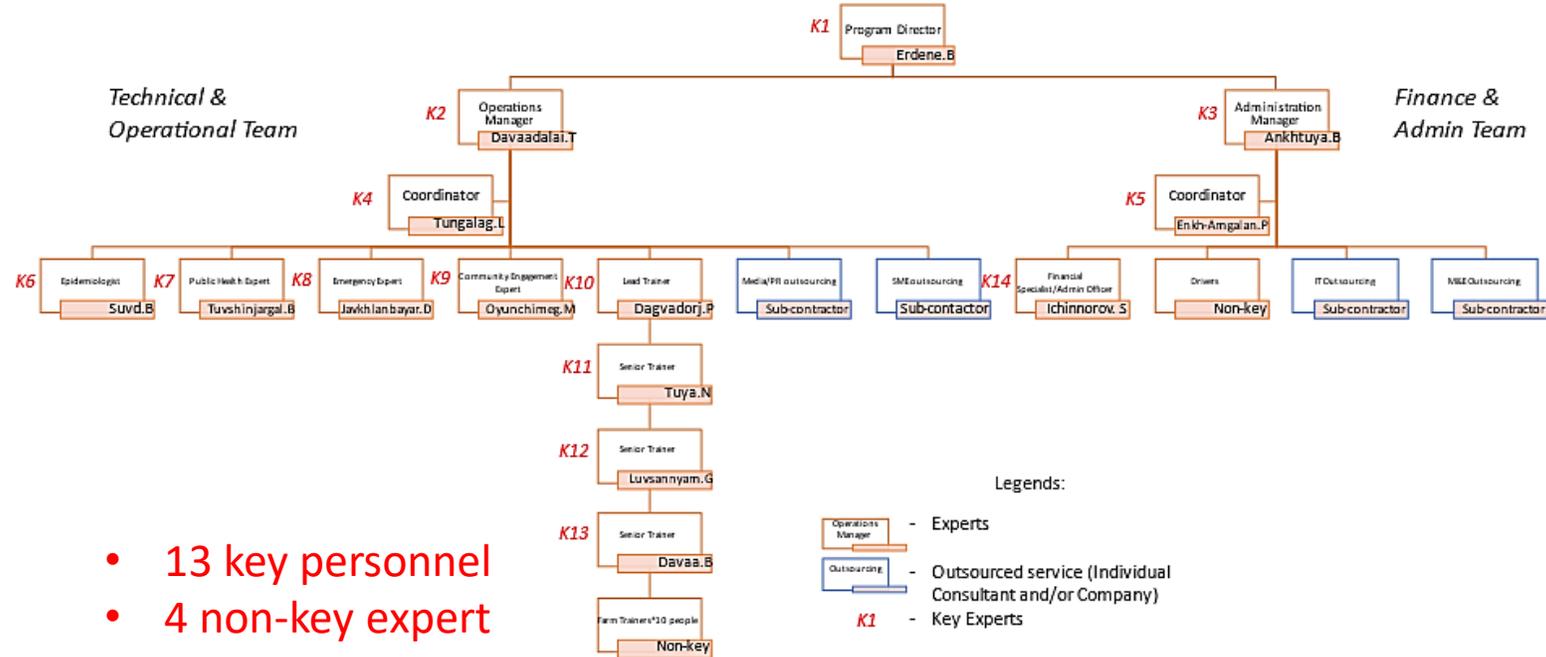


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Objectives: The main objective and purpose of this project is to strengthen the COVID-19 public health response through community-based prevention and mitigation actions.

Scope: The CSO will address the risks of prolonged impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent waves of community transmission. The COVID-19 public health response will be delivered through community-based prevention and mitigation actions resulting from completing activities as outlined in the detailed tasks.

TEAM STRUCTURE OF CONSORTIUM OF 26 CSOs FROM MONGOLIA



- 13 key personnel
- 4 non-key expert
- 4 sub-contractors



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Mitigated the impact of COVID-19

Pillar I. Prevention and Mitigation

- 1.1 COVID-19 prevention and mitigation social campaign
- 1.2 COVID-19 prevention and mitigation for farms and products of communities
- 1.3 COVID-19 situation adaptation capacity program
- 1.4 Community health worker

Pillar II. Social Protection

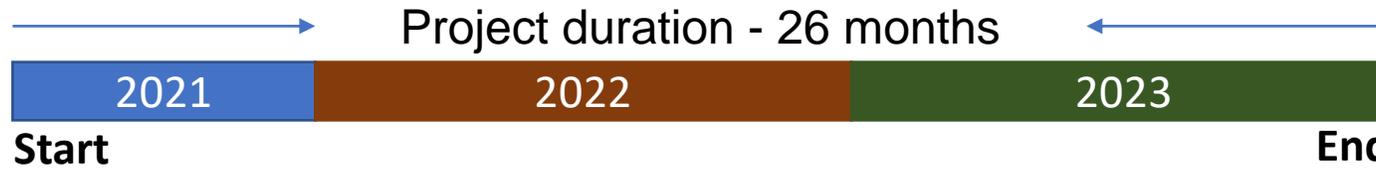
- 2.1 Food direct support for poor families which do not have capability to work
- 2.2 Local hotline service
- 2.3 Basic needs direct support for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups
- 2.4 Goodwill donation campaign for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups

Pillar III. Economic Support

- 3.1 Farm and product training content preparation and delivery
- 3.2 Vegetable planting and greenhouse supports
- 3.3 Beekeeping, bio-fertilizer and chicken farm supports
- 3.4 Dairy and bakery products, and sewing shop supports
- 3.5 Disinfection materials, PPE, device production support
- 3.6 Community-based SME supports

COMMUNITY-LED

The Government & CSOs (The Consortium of 26 CSOs which is represented by 4 NGOs in Mongolia) Partnership





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More members were joined with 26 CSOs consortium:

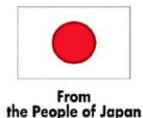
The beginning, 26 CSOs consortium started its project with 26 CSOs, but during the implementation of the project, more CSOs from Ulaanbaatar city, Bayangol & Mandal soums joined to the consortium.

As of today, the consortium has 39 CSOs.

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TA Outputs and Results



Project Lifetime Targets



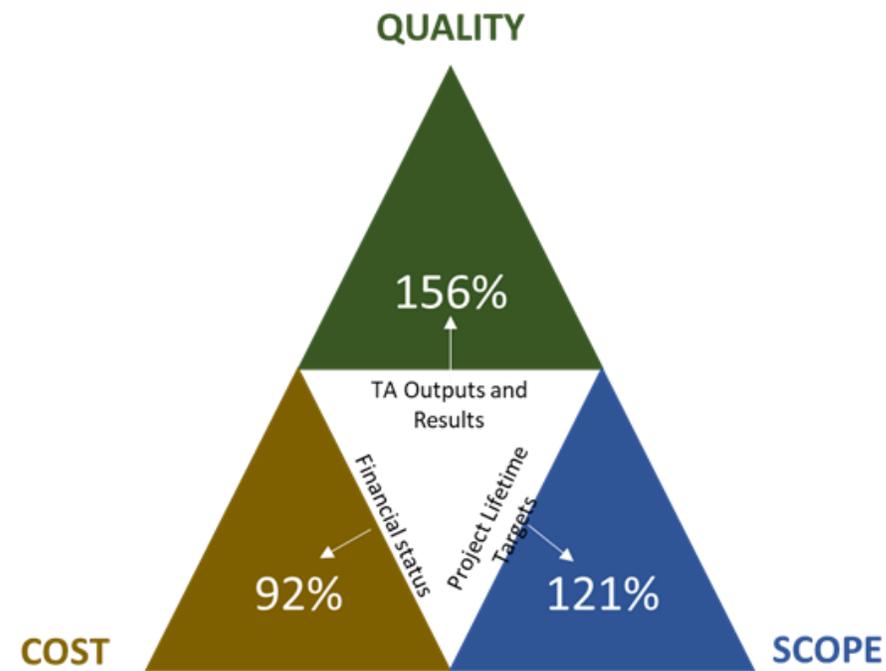
Financial completion

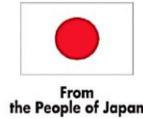


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Unintended Outputs and Results:

Donation campaign, Food support, Local hotline service, Basic need support, Vegetable planting, Bakery & sewing





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TA 6594-REG: MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 THROUGH COMMUNITY-LED INTERVENTIONS – Lead CSO for the Consortium of 26 CSOs in Mongolia-MRSS

Contract variation: Contract No. S/53-972 Variation No. 4 (2022-2169)

Under the contract variation: (i) Basic need support, (ii) Donation campaign, (iii) Bakery and sewing production



2.3 Basic need support to the vulnerable groups (children, elders, female heads, disabled people)



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ADB Mission team, 26CSO consortium with Mandal soum governors

3. Working with ADB

ADB project management team: Supportive, provides professional guidelines, and clear about following the rules and process



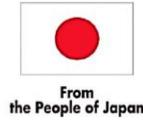
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- 17,634 CSOs
- Limited funding opportunities
- HR retention issues
- Lack of management capacities to have survival and successful functioning.





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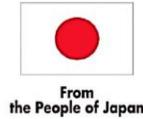


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As CSOs, we have issues to be developed:

- English Language Barrier
- Lack of professional capability to work with international organisations
- Inadequate professional policies, procedure personnel
- Weak oversight governance, technology and technical disadvantages
- Lack of financial support to expand the activities





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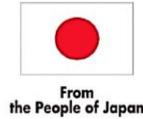


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Benefits from ADB:

- Able to communicate from anywhere with each other to share the experiences
- Able to plant qualified seeds to harvest qualified vegetables
- Enhance the livelihood of members through economic support (bakery, sewing, dairy production, and so on)
- Learned from the ADB team to develop the project documentation
- It is believed and hoped that there is a potential to collaborate with ADB





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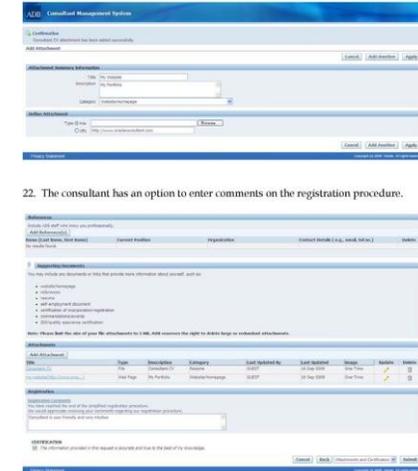


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ADB changed the perspectives:

- It has been observed that there is a huge potential to support more and more people CSOs through having ADB support
- It helped us to see and understand more about the vulnerable groups of our societies and their willingness (workplace for sustainable income generation).
- Local CSOs are motivated to participate in more biddings to obtain advantages for their development
- Understood all documentation processes (both finance and administration) of ADB that helped to continue the cooperation with ADB
- Learned to manage a certain amount of funding to reach more people and beneficiaries

The CMS platform is well-designed and convenient to work on



22. The consultant has an option to enter comments on the registration procedure.

ADB TA Claims Partner Welcome Mongolian Remote Sensing Society

Dashboard Create Claims/Liquidation Create Advance References

Claim Details Payment Information Other Attachments Consultant's Certification Billing Unit Disbursement Processing

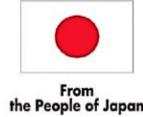
Status: Paid

Consulting Firm	Mongolian Remote Sensing Society View Consulting Firm Profile	CP Transaction No.	00083128
Contract	553972	Invoice No.	260521MON001
TA Number/Title	TA 6594-REG MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF COVID19 THROUGH COMMUNITY-LED INTERVENTIONS	Invoice Date	26-Jun-2021

PROGRESS PAYMENT For progress payment payable in multiple currencies, please refer to your contract's terms and conditions to verify available currencies.

Details/Files	Category	Progress Payment No.	Achieved Payment Milestone	Currency	Amount
Show	1101 - Consultants-First Payment	1	After issuance of the Notice to Proceed	USD	31,045.00
Total Progress Payment (USD)					31,045.00

Process of financial funding and procurement even though it is slow



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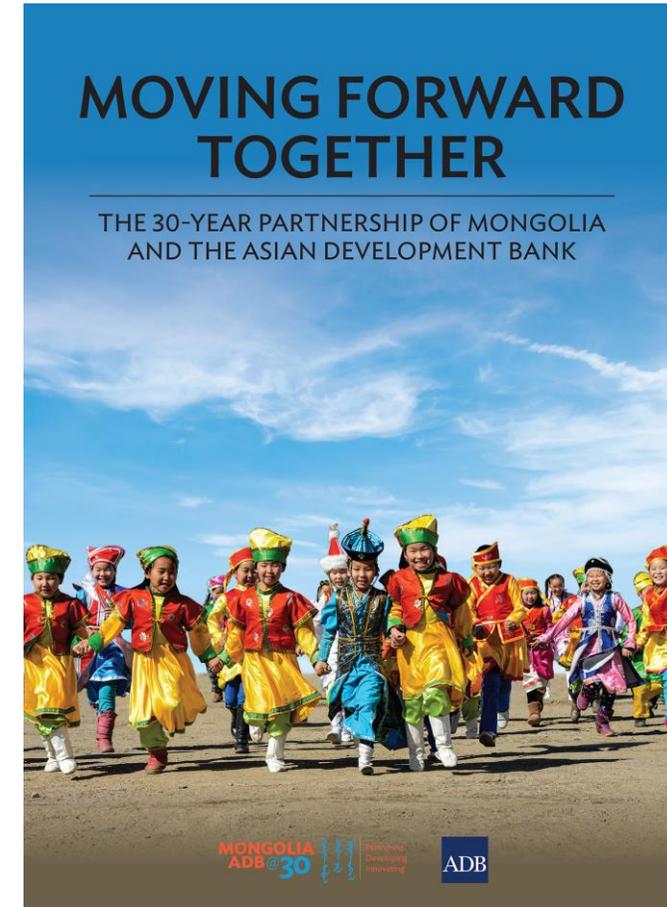
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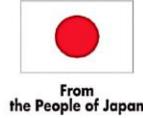
Appreciation

For the last 30 years, ADB has invested and supported loans and grants in many sectors in Mongolia.

- ✓ Creating accessible social services for vulnerable groups such as education, health, nutrition, etc.;
- ✓ Mongolian infrastructure development, habitat improvement, urban re-development;
- ✓ Improving waste management; and
- ✓ Strengthen the capacity of CSOs.

In 2020, ADB Country Office in Mongolia established a Mongolian CSO Consultative Committee. ADB provides members with detailed information on all projects and programs it plans to implement in Mongolia. Through its network, the Committee's member organisations provide accurate information to the public and contribute to the effectiveness of projects and programs.





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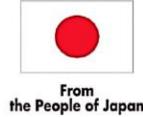


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4. Challenges to work with ADB

- It has been assumed that a process of financing and procurement could be designed for the CSOs facing to reimbursing issues.
- Reviewing time and period of the documents in TASU is slower than our expectation which would affect the project implementation time-line and due dates, but CSOs can manage it.





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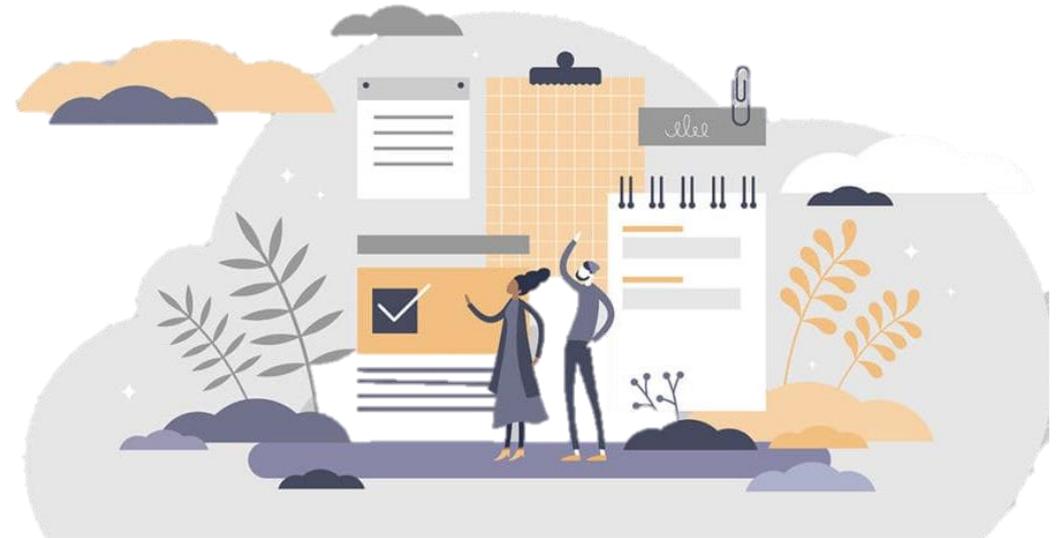
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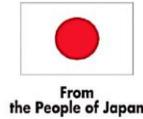
5. Recommendations for other organisations

PROPER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR CSOs

ADB needs dedicated financial and procurement processes for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). Generally, CSOs are not-for-profit communities by main groups of local people who have similar interests and abilities. As a result, CSOs need more reserve money and saving profits to finance planned considerable procurements and activities. However, ADB's procurement processes are designed to be like "Pay by yourself and Claim from us" even for CSOs that do have such kind of financial reserve.

Yes, ADB has an "Advance Payment" method to solve this cash flow issue for CSOs. However, this process requires a lot of documentation and effort as well as time. Therefore, we suggest organisations consider this cash flow deficiency issue for procurements. To be precise, one must be planned its procurement activities based on the Advance payment and financial abilities.





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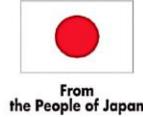
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BACKUP PLAN FOR SEASONAL AND OTHER CRITICAL TASKS WITH SPECIFIC DEADLINE

When making plans for seasonal and critical tasks with specific deadlines such as the new year, lunar new year celebration, or special day, etc., please consider ADB's financial and procurement processing times and requirements to receive a necessary amount from ADB timely manner successfully.

Thus, it is better to have a plan B if you cannot receive the requirement budget from ADB on time in order not to fail to implement tasks with specific deadlines.





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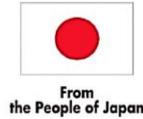


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ADAPTATION:

- Re-planning and discussion of interventions with the ADB team which is highly supportive
- It is safe to ask and make sure to next step from the ADB team
- Be aware of the financial and procurement documentation requirements of ADB, and it helps to navigate your work properly to save time



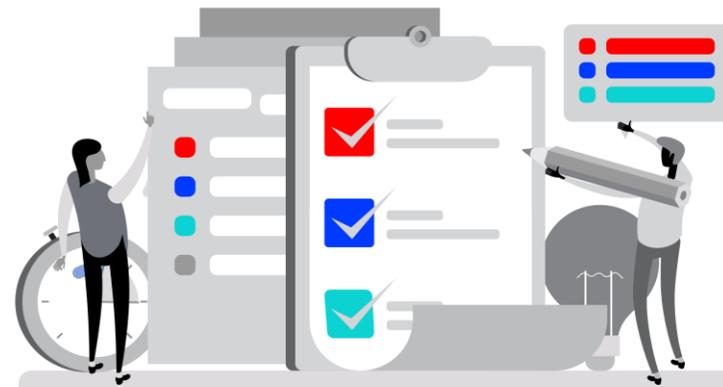


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6. Recommendations to ADB

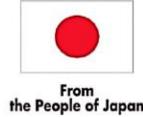


NO reimbursement, ONLY advanced payment process could be allowable grassroots CSOs, BUT documentation requirements could be reduced

The tendering and bidding selection process must be in Manila, not in Mongolia due to some conflicts of interest in government organisations/ or the local PMOs.

The corruption index is high and states in 116 out of 176 countries.

The projects in Mongolia must be implemented by local entities (CSOs, or organisations) not international NGOs/ or organisations. Mongolian CSOs can be capable to implement the ADB project while learning



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6. Recommendations to ADB

In the future:

Mongolia has a very small population, a large territory, a harsh ecological climate, and poor infrastructure.

Therefore, CSOs need a platform for long-distance communication to exchange knowledge, information and lesson-learned experience timely.

“Knowledge Electronic Platform Infrastructure for rural CSOs in Mongolia”.





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IN CONCLUSION

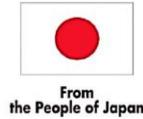
Even though it is challenging to work by complying with the ADB requirements, it was worth 26 CSOs consortium as follows:

- We have learned and improved a lot
- Over 3000 people, 400HHs, 32 CSOs received benefits
- Internet connection through smartphone and laptop enabled to exchange and share experiences and conduct training.
- Management team learned very much from the ADB team
- 26 CSO consortium is levelled and now we can implement more projects from the ADB

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GRATITUDE from 26 CSOs consortium

We wanted to express how much we thank the ADB. Thanks to implementing the project, more and more local CSOs joined us, and we reached a lot of people and HHs from targeted vulnerable groups.

Working with ADB keeps us inspired to support and enhance more people to bring a strong social impact to our society. We appreciate the ADB very much to provide this opportunity which enabled 26 CSOs consortiums to bring a huge contribution in our society.

It would be grateful and awesome if we have a chance to implement such kinds of projects again by working with the ADB. If there will be, we would like to reach more aimags and soums of Mongolia.

