

# Water for Growth, People and Environment Mongolia



## Focus Areas

- In partnership with the government of Mongolia, the 2030 WRG conducted an analysis to assess the scale and urgency of the country's water challenges and the required solutions.
- Following the analysis, the 2030 WRG partnered with private, public, and civil society organizations to address the identified challenges. A multi-stakeholder platform is focused on:
  - **Reducing water demand and augmenting supply** in the South Gobi and Ulaanbaatar regions.
  - **Improving water valuation** and developing incentives for sustainable water management.
  - Building the capacity of stakeholders and encouraging collaboration in the following areas:
    - Water database development
    - Stakeholder training
    - River basin governance.

## The Challenge

- As Mongolia transitions from an agrarian economy to one driven by mining and urbanization, the country's limited and unevenly distributed water resources are under increasing pressure.
- Water-scarce areas can already be found in the urban and economic zones of the country's capital of Ulaanbaatar and the mining-intensive and water-starved Southern Gobi region.
- By 2030, Mongolia is projected to be unable to meet almost half of the total water demand in Ulaanbaatar.
- Poor water governance, lack of long-term management and resolution of water issues could significantly affect the country's growth.

## Results and Outcomes

### Mining

- In order to augment water supply, the government was contemplating an expensive solution to transfer water from the north of Mongolia to South Gobi. Using its hydro-economic analysis, the 2030 WRG was able to catalyze a new discussion among stakeholders, including the government and the mining industry, to explore new and cheaper solutions to close the water gap.
- The 2030 WRG also supported the IFC Mining Roundtable, which led to eight mining companies in South Gobi adopting a voluntary code of practice for water management in mining industry.

## Ulaanbaatar

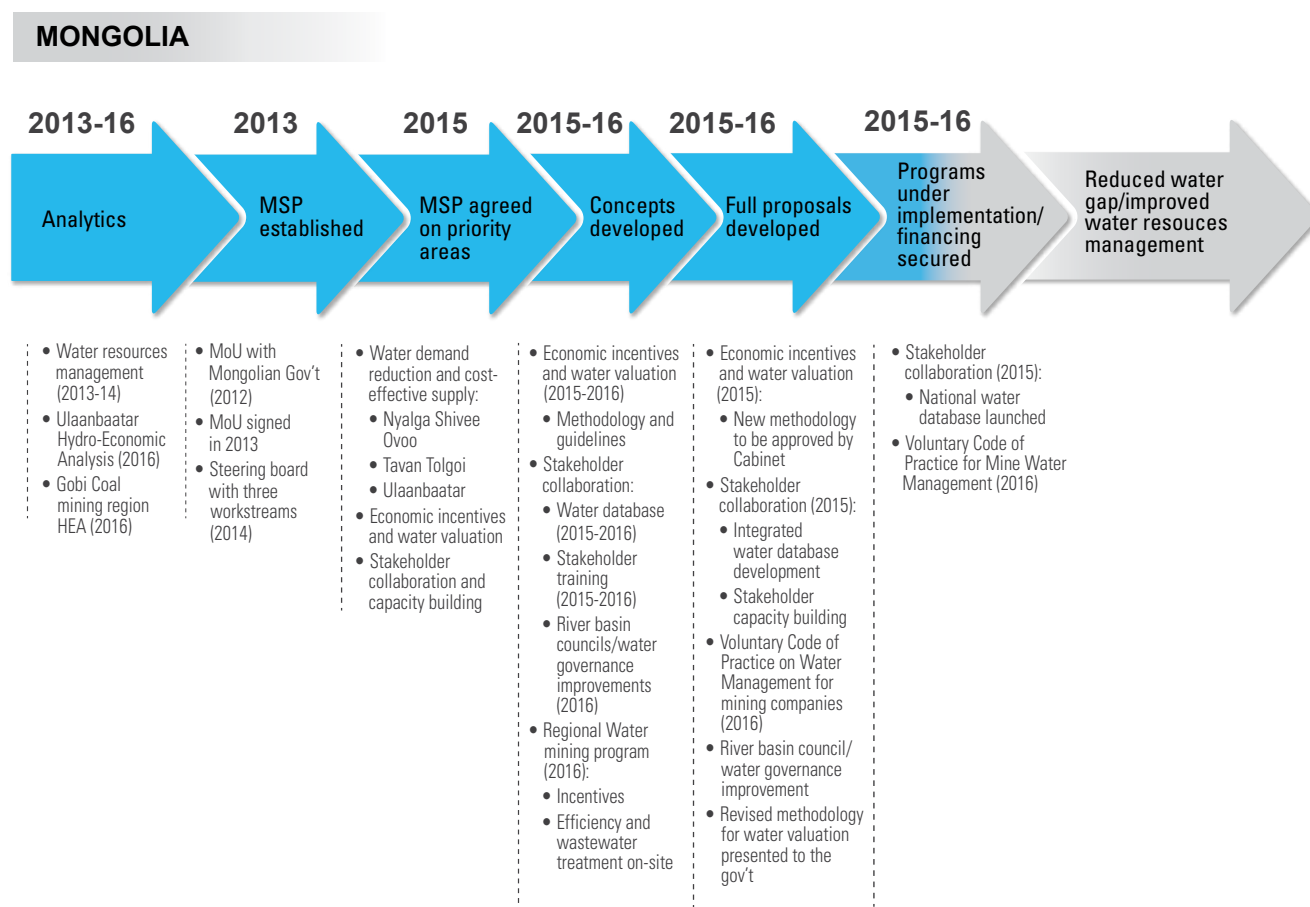
- The 2030 WRG is supporting wastewater reuse in Ulaanbaatar. It aims to achieve substantially more industrial wastewater reuse in the city, particularly by industry, by developing a comprehensive policy framework, developing capacity, and facilitating the implementation of wastewater reuse projects.

## Improving water valuation and creating right incentives

- The Mongolian multi-stakeholder partnership has conducted a comprehensive assessment and drafted a new methodology for the country's ecological and economic valuation of water resources, contributing to the design and implementation of smart incentives for efficient water use across sectors.

## Building capacity and encouraging stakeholder collaboration

- Three river basins have been selected as pilot projects to implement equitable water allocation for the private sector, the government, and civil society, with the aim of improving livelihoods, ensuring environmental sustainability, and promoting gender equality.
- The 2030 WRG is working towards increasing transparency and inclusiveness in water resources management in Mongolia.



## Who We Are

The 2030 Water Resources Group is a unique public-private-civil society collaboration. We facilitate open, trust-based dialogue processes to drive action on water resources reform in water stressed countries in developing economies. The ultimate aim of such reforms and actions is to close the gap between water demand and supply by the year 2030.

## Our Mission

If countries maintain a business-as-usual approach to managing water, we can expect a 40 percent gap between fresh water supply and demand by 2030. Our mission is to help countries achieve water security by facilitating collective action between government, private sector and the civil society.

## Contact

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