

PROJECT INFORMATION

Strengthening environmental protection requirements for the rehabilitation of areas devastated by mining in Mongolia



Coal mine Shivee Ovoo in April 2019

Source: G.U.B. Ingenieur AG

Background

The main challenges surrounding mining in Mongolia are the inconsistent rehabilitation of past mining facilities and poor consideration of environmental protection measures. The Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) of Mongolia seeks a balance between economic growth in the mining sector and the environmental protection efforts necessary to avoid the future costs of required environmental remediation. The ministries and management agencies responsible for these areas require proven administrative and technical mechanisms to achieve this. Therefore, the MET requested a transfer of knowledge and experience from the German lignite mining sector in support of this task.

Project details

The overall goal of the project was to ensure the environmentally sound rehabilitation of mining areas and minimize soil and water pollution. Using open-cast coal mining in Germany as an example, German experts carried out an audit of existing mining and environmental regulations for coal mining in Mongolia and visited selected open pits to assess the current situation. Based on these observations and experiences, they then developed with their Mongolian partners guidelines for the required material measures as well as criteria for sustainable recultivation. Furthermore, recommendations for hydrogeological monitoring in mining regions were created by adapting the experience of experts from the eastern German lignite mining district for the conditions encountered in Mongolia. Finally, an educational event was conducted in Mongolia, during which practice-oriented documents created for potential users in government agencies and mining companies were discussed and presented in both English and Mongolian.

Updated: March 2020

Target country: Mongolia

Duration: 09/2017 – 11/2019

Beneficiary: Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia (MET)

Implementing organisations:

G.U.B. Ingenieur AG, Branch office Freiberg; Lausitzer und Mitteldeutsche Bergbau-Verwaltungsgesellschaft (LMBV) mbH

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