



UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Social Impact Assessment in the **Mongolian**
Minerals Sector Training Workshop

8-9 June 2020

UK PROGRAMME

✓ **BACKGROUND**

Mongolia has faced significant changes in recent decades, with increasing amounts of foreign and state-led investments in mineral extraction in rural regions. In the last decade, mineral extraction has expanded rapidly in rural regions, taking over pastureland. With over 1840 mining companies operating, extraction generates 27% of GDP, employs 4% of the workforce and comprises more than 80% of exports.

In this region, mega-mines financed by international investors such as IFC and EBRD, voluntarily follow international labour, environmental and social responsibility standards. Companies which do not receive lending by the major international banks follow the national legal requirements to obtain a license and commence extraction. Mongolia has taken steps to ensure responsible mining through its Environmental Impact Assessment Laws but equivalent detailed guidelines for social protection are currently lacking. The Mongolian Government is working towards developing national guidelines to ensure responsible mining in this growing sector. Policies and guidelines produced in Mongolia may serve as a leading example for Central Asian countries such as Kyrgyzstan.

Researchers at the School of Geography and the Environment are collaborating with the Mongolian Government through a Governmental Working Group to advise in the development of detailed social impact assessment guidelines.

✓ **WORKSHOP AIMS**

In the last decade, the expansion of artisanal and large-scale mining in Mongolia has transformed the economy, patterns of land use, livelihoods and labour, and politics on multiple scales. Given these rapid changes, this workshop aims to:

- Share knowledge of best practices and developments related to the social impacts of mining;
- Share evidence on the social impacts of mining from field sites in Mongolia;
- Build sustainable partnerships between UK experts and policymakers in Mongolia.

This event has been made possible through the support of the Higher Education Innovation Fund via the Oxford Policy Engagement Network Fellowships scheme

✓ **ONLINE VENUE - ZOOM WEBINAR**

This workshop will take place via the Zoom webinar platform. Mongolian participants will gather at the Blue Sky Hotel, Ulaanbaatar to enable further discussion before and after the workshop, which will be facilitated by Bayarsaikhan Namsrai.

All those participating in the UK need to have downloaded the Zoom app to their computer/device and set-up a free account (at the minimum). They will need a device that has a camera and a microphone.

MEETING PLACE:

BLUE SKY HOTEL



PROGRAMME

8 JUNE 2020

- 7:00** — Welcome from Organizers, Ariell Ahearn
- 7:20** — Welcome from Craig Morley, University of Oxford Senior International Strategy Officer
- 7:40** — Welcome from Munkhtseren, Sharav, Chief of Strategic Management and Coordination Department, Cabinet Secretariat of Mongolia
- 8:00** — Social Impact and Resettlement
Dr Jill Shankleman, Director, JSL Consulting
- 8:30** — Q&A
- 8:45** — Coffee and Tea Break
- 9:00** — Environmental Law
Professor Liz Fischer, Oxford Law School
- 9:45** — Q&A
- 10:00** — Can Nomadic People Be Displaced?
Professor Dawn Chatty, Oxford Department of International Development and the Refugee Studies Centre
- 10:45** — Q&A and Discussion
- 11:00** — Formal Dinner for Mongolian Participants

9 JUNE 2020

- 7:00** — Oxford University Presentation of Case Studies
- **Overview of social impact issues found from research conducted in Gурvantes, Khanbogd counties of South Gobi Province by Gobi Framework team**
 - **Report on the Consultative Meeting on the implementation of Article 41 held on 3 December 2019 by N. Bayarsaikhan**
- 7:45** — Q&A
- 8:00** — SIA Guideline Development in Mongolia by Sanchir Jargalsaikhan
- 8:30** — Q&A
- 8:40** — Coffee Break
- 9:00** — Space-enabled Applications for the Mining Sector
- **Alistair Lees, Head of Extractive Industry, Introduction to the Catapult and programs**
 - **Dr Cristian Rossi, Principal Earth Observation Specialist, Introduction to space applications**
 - **Maral Bayaraa, Earth Observation Specialist, Space application examples in the mining sector (in Mongolian)**
- 9:45** — Q&A
- 10:15** — Social Impact Assessment and Benefit Sharing
Dr Emma Wilson, Independent Researcher and Consultant
- 11:00** — Formal Dinner and Networking Reception for Mongolian Participants

SPEAKER BIOS



ARIELL AHEARN is the Course Director for the MSc/MPhil in Nature, Society and Environmental Governance and a departmental lecturer in the School for Geography and the Environment at the University of Oxford. Since 2004, she has worked extensively in rural Mongolia with mobile pastoralist communities around land use and rural development issues. Her PhD focused on rural social change and contemporary pastoralist land use practices and local governance. In 2016 she engaged as an expert on a multi-disciplinary team to conduct a qualitative analysis of herder livelihoods and socio-economic changes in relation to the Oyu Tolgoi mega mine in the Gobi desert as part of the facilitation of a complaint through the IFC's Office of Compliance Ombudsman. She has published on rural development in Mongolia on topics covering household separation, education, gender and local administration of land. She is currently serving as Co-I on the ESRC-GCRF funding project, Gobi Framework: Mediation Model for Sustainable Infrastructure Development.



ALASTAIR LEES is Head of Extractive Industries and formally Global Services Development Director at the Satellite Applications Catapult. He has over 20 years experience leading global business and IT transformation projects built on a career started at Accenture. Alastair also co-founded a successful start-up business in Brazil and speaks Portuguese fluently. Most recently Alastair was head of project management at Cloudbreach, a Cloud consultancy startup, now present in twenty locations globally. Alastair is passionate about transforming organisational performance through effective use of innovative technology. Alastair holds a BSc in Information Technology, Business Management and Language from the University of York.



JILL SHANKLEMAN has over 25 years of experience as a senior social and environmental specialist within the World Bank's political risk insurance arm (MIGA), and bilateral development bank, FMO. Her principle areas of focus are oil, gas, mining, energy, power, biofuels and infrastructure projects. She is a published author on the oil industry, voluntary standards, and post-conflict stabilization in resource rich countries. She has worked worldwide including Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Russia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Turkey, USA, and the UK.

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MARAL BAYARARA is an Earth Observation Specialist at Satellite Applications Catapult, focused on remote sensing solutions within different parts of the mining life-cycle, including mineral exploration, tailings dams monitoring and environmental assessment. She has technical expertise in multi-spectral and SAR remote sensing leveraging latest analytical techniques such as Object Based Image Analysis and Machine Learning. Prior to her current role, Maral has been a Remote Sensing analyst at Airbus Defence and Space, developing innovative applications both within operational and R&D settings. Maral holds a MSci (Hons) in Geology from the University of Bristol.



LIZ FISHER is Professor of Environmental Law at Corpus Christi College and the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford. She researches in the areas of environmental law and administrative law exploring the interrelationship between law, administration and regulatory problems in different legal cultures. In particular she focuses on the role of science in that interrelationship. Her 2007 book, *Risk Regulation and Administrative Constitutionalism*, won the SLS Peter Birks Prize for Outstanding Legal Scholarship 2008. She is author of *Environmental Law: A Very Short Introduction* (OUP 2017) and co-author of *Fisher, Lange and Scotford, Environmental Law: Text, Cases and Materials* (2nd ed, OUP 2019). She is General Editor of the *Journal of Environmental Law and Review* and Articles Editor of the *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*. She has won teaching awards, and served as Vice Dean of the Law Faculty 2013-6.



CRAIG MORLEY is the Senior Strategy Officer for the University of Oxford's International Strategy Office. Prior to joining Oxford, Craig was a diplomat at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, where he worked in a number of policy roles including on China, the Middle East and North Africa, the UN, and also in a Strategic Communication role. He had previously worked as an Aide and Adviser to a Member of Parliament. He holds a BA (Honours) in Geography from the University of Leeds, and a PGDip in Finance (Economic Policy) from the University of London.

SPEAKER BIOS

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CRISTIAN ROSSI received the B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in telecommunication engineering from the Polytechnic of Milan, Milan, Italy, in 2003 and 2006, respectively, and the Ph.D. degree in remote sensing technology from the Technical University of Munich, Munich, Germany, in 2016. From 2006 to 2008, he was a Project Engineer with Aresys, Milan. From 2008 to 2017, he was a Research Scientist with the German Aerospace Center (DLR), Wessling, Germany, where he was involved in the development of the integrated TanDEM-X processor and in novel interferometry algorithms for synthetic aperture radar missions. Since 2017, he has been the Principal Earth Observation Specialist at the Satellite Applications Catapult at Harwell Campus, Didcot, U.K., where he is technically leading several national and international projects focused on the exploitation of remote sensing data for land applications. His research interests include urban remote sensing, multisource data fusion, DEMs, and environmental parameter estimation.



DAWN CHATTY is Emerita Professor of Anthropology and Forced Migration and former Director of the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford. She is a social anthropologist whose ethnographic interests lie in the Middle East, particularly with nomadic pastoral tribes and refugee young people. Her research interests include a number of forced migration and development issues such as conservation-induced displacement, tribal resettlement, modern technology and social change, gender and development and the impact of prolonged conflict on refugee young people. Dawn is both an academic anthropologist and a practitioner, having carefully developed her career in universities in the United States, Lebanon, Syria and Oman, as well as with a number of development agencies such as the UNDP, UNICEF, FAO and IFAD. Professor Chatty is the author of a number of books including: *From Camel to Truck: the Bedouin in the Modern World* (1986), *Mobile Pastoralists: development planning and social change in Oman* (1996), *Conservation and Mobile Indigenous Peoples: Displacement, settlement and sustainable development* (2002), *Displacement and dispossession in the modern Middle East* (2010) and *Syria: The making and unmaking of a refugee state*



TROY STERNBERG is a researcher at the School for Geography and the Environment at the University of Oxford, where he works on pastoral environments in the Gobi Desert. His focus is on natural hazards, environmental processes, the effectiveness of traditional nomadic strategies and the comparative ecological impact of livelihoods across the Asian steppe. In Mongolia his interest is in developing rural water access, quantifying drought and degradation and placing Mongolian pastoralism and the Gobi environment in a broader global context. To understand change his fieldwork encompasses Mongolia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, India and the Middle East. Awards include British Academy, Thesiger-Oman Desert Fellowship, John Fell Fund, British Science Award, EU, Royal Geographical Society and the US Fulbright Scholarship. His edited book *Climate Hazard Crises in Asian Environments* was published in 2017.



EMMA WILSON has over 25 years' experience of working on community relations and corporate responsibility in energy and mining, including social impact assessment, social audit, public and stakeholder engagement and the analysis of international standards. She speaks fluent Russian and has worked in Russia, Central Asia, Norway, Greenland, Qatar and several African countries. From 2007-2015, Emma was a senior researcher at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), leading the Energy Team. Since leaving IIED, Emma continues working on energy and public engagement projects in Central Asia and the Arctic, although she is increasingly focusing her work in the UK. Emma is currently working with the Consultation Institute on its strategy, knowledge materials, and advice and guidance programme relating to public engagement on climate change and the environment.



MONGOLIA WORKING GROUP

The Joint Working Group was established by the initiatives of the Gobi Framework team with a collaboration of the Cabinet Secretariat of Mongolia in January 2020. The main objective of this Working Group is to design a policy proposal and methodology for social impact assessment (SIA) that is currently absent in Mongolia. Under the revisions of environmental impact assessment (EIA) laws, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism administers EIA while the Ministry of Health conducts health impact assessment (HIA) under the 2012 order of Health Minister framework. Most specifically, the Government is obliged to adopt both SIA and HIA procedures by the EIA Law of Mongolia Article 7 (2012), which states that

" The Government shall adopt procedures and methodologies for impact assessment, which shall include issues related to environmental impact assessment, assessment analysis, review and regulation of professional council activities, and social and health impact assessment".

However, the Government still has not adopted procedures and methodologies for SIA. Both EIA and HIA processes inevitably incorporate SIA in their investigation, but it has been insufficient. As a result, this has caused many social issues for herders and has created distrust and conflict between locals and infrastructure development projects. The Government of Mongolia acknowledges the urgent need and critical importance of SIA and is leading the Working Group to further legalize procedures and methodologies for SIA and HIA. However, due to the lack of experts and experience in conducting SIA, the Working Group is now developing clear guidance and methodology for SIA that is specifically suited for Mongolia's nomadic rural context. The following shows the members of the Working Group.

OFFICIAL WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

LEAD

Sector Management and Coordination Department, the Cabinet Secretariat

MEMBERS

- Sector Management and Coordination department of the Cabinet Secretariat
- Geology and Mining Policy Coordination Department of the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources Management of the Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism
- Department of Environment, Geology and Mining Inspection, Professional Inspection Agency
- Population Development Department of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
- Public Health Department of the Ministry of Health
- Steps Without Borders NGO
- Gobi Framework Project of Oxford University

ADVISORS

School of Geography and Environment, University of Oxford

DEPUTY WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

The role of Deputy Working Group is to assist the official Working Group on designing methodologies. The Deputy Working Group consists of professionals, who work on assessments in their ministries and have hands-on experience on the ground.

LEAD

Sector Management and Coordination Department of the Cabinet Secretariat

MEMBERS

- Population Development Department of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare
- Public Health Department of the Ministry of Health
- National Center for Public Health of the Ministry of Health
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources Management of the Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism
- Step without Borders NGO
- Gobi Framework Project of Oxford University

ADVISORS

School of Geography and Environment, University of Oxford

GOBI FRAMEWORK PROJECT: 2018-2021

Timeline: September 2018 to August 2021

Funder: ESRC-GCRF

Countries: Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia & Tajikistan

Website: <https://gobiframework.ouce.ox.ac.uk/>



With funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (UK) and Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) this project is based in the School of Geography and the Environment at the University of Oxford with host institutions located in Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia and Tajikistan.

THE KEY AIMS OF THE PROJECT ARE TO:

- To address the challenge of building relationships of trust, cooperation and transparency between key stakeholders in infrastructure development projects; ensuring that socio-economically marginalized communities and local governance institutions are included as partners in the instigation and implementation of large-scale, foreign-backed infrastructure projects which directly affect their livelihoods, environments and access to land and resources.
- To enhance the capacity of communities and government to maximize economic advantages and minimize negative impacts of major infrastructure projects through robust institutional frameworks for mediation.
- To build connections between Mongolia and Central Asian countries in order to facilitate knowledge exchange and lessons learned from the Mongolian mineral sector.

Since late 2018, original research has been conducted at three sites in rural Mongolia and three sites in Kyrgyzstan to understand the nature of conflict and challenges posed by major infrastructure investments in the region. The Gobi Framework team is writing an edited book, academic journal articles, and case studies to share our findings. We are developing content for a website app which can be used by a range of stakeholders in Central Asia upon completion of our project.