

Partners

Sarlagiin Saikhan Khishig

A cooperative consisting of herders from the Khatgal area. Their goal is to produce environmentally friendly products, using native yak endowment to increase members' income, and create an example of good democratic governance.

Architects Without Borders

The Danish NGO Architects Without Borders is a humanitarian organisation, working to create development with architecture and urban planning as tools. The goal is to support the vulnerable and poor populations in the poorest countries. We create architect professional development projects; promote information on combating poverty and working with the prevention of natural disasters consequences.

www.arkitekturudengraenser.dk

Dairy without Borders

The Danish NGO Dairy without Borders focus on establishing and supporting minor local projects within the milk and dairy sector in selected developing countries. In this context the milk and dairy sector is defined as the process from milking (quality of milk) to the processing of the milk (process and packaging) and to either sale on the local market or return to the farmers, who deliver the milk.

www.mejerifolkudengraenser.dk

EcoLeap Foundation

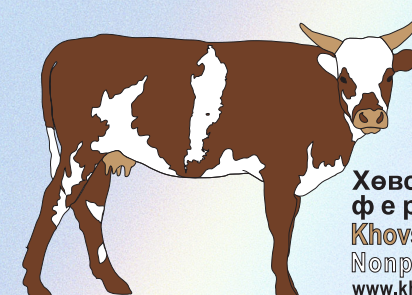
ecoLeap Foundation is a non-profit organisation who has worked with environmental activities in the Khovsgol area since 1999, as Mongolia Sunrise to Sunset, and was formally established in 2009.

www.ecoLeap.org

Engineers without Borders

The Danish NGO Engineers without Borders uses engineering as the catalyst for the change that the world needs and provide technical support to the project.

www.iug.dk



Хөвсгөлийн сүүний
фермийн төсөл
Khovsgol Dairy Project
Nonprofit organization
www.khovsgoldairyproject.org

Khovsgol Dairy Project

The long-term aim of Khovsgol Dairy Project is to build and establish a Dairy facility owned and managed by Sarlagiin Saikhan Khishig cooperative, a group of nomadic herders from the Khatgal area, Khovsgol province in the northern Mongolia.

On the short term we want to improve Sarlagiin Saikhan Khishig's possibility to produce milk products of a high quality that can be sold to a third party.

In addition, the herders will be trained in hygiene and commodity handling of milk, which will increase the general health of the population and prevent diseases.

The project will create local jobs and provide a boost to the entire region, which can help reverse the trend of urban migration.

www.khovsgoldairyproject.org



Context

Khovsgol is the poorest and most northern of Mongolia's 21 provinces (aimags). The name comes from Khovsgol Lake, which is Asia's second largest freshwater lake and contains 136 km long, 37 km wide.

The unemployment rate in 2013 was 15.1%, compared to the national average of 7.9%. The people in this area are dependent on their livestock, pasture opportunities, firewood and other natural products.

The agricultural sector represents 21% of the country's national product and employs 42% of the working population. Because of its high altitude, extreme temperature fluctuations, long winters and low rainfall, agricultural potential is limited. Farming is only possible for 95-110 days a year and agricultural farming only takes place on 1% of the country's total area. Today, a third of the country's population is still nomadic, and as nomadic herders, they move around with the seasons to the appropriate pastures.

Rationale

In Mongolia, there is a strong tradition for production and consumption of dairy products and 50-100 % of Mongolians' diet consists of dairy products. The nomads produce a surplus of milk and there is an unmet market for milk products both locally and nationally as there is local and national support for the development of dairy cooperatives.

29 nomads already organized themselves into Sarlagin Saihan Hishig Cooperative and another 63 nomadic families want to become part. Hereby, the nomads will be able to work together to improve feeding and breeding and being more resilient towards the hostile Winters. Furthermore, it will help them increase incomes and encourage the younger population to continuing living as nomads.

Milk from Khovsgol, which is mainly yak milk, has a particularly good image and will be a strong brand with the right support on improved hygiene and quality.

Overall objective

To improve the livelihood and quality of life of the nomadic herders in the khatgal area.

Immediate objectives

Dairy approach:

Optimization of milk quality, milk hygiene, storage and safe delivery. Products and processes. Dairy education.

Organizational approach:

Capacity building of cooperative including ways of cooperation, mechanisms for milk delivery and savings.

Agricultural approach:

Feed optimization, enhanced shelter / protecting cattle from harsh weather conditions.

Strategy for 2016-18

1. Capacity building of SSKH to develop their organization.
2. Setting up a milk collection and sales centre in Khatgal, so SSKH can produce high quality dairy products for sale.
3. Provide hygiene and commodity handling courses for the herders and provide appropriate training on milk quality control.
4. Develop a training strategy for the future staff of the dairy facility. Choosing 2-4 young people from Khatgal to study at School of Food Industrial technology in Ulaanbaatar.

