Background

The 8th dialogue on “Sustainable Urban Development in Mongolia” was held in UN House on 16 June, 2014 in partnership with the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development (MCUD).

Context of the dialogue:

Mongolia has experienced rapid urbanisation since the 1950s when only about 20 percent of people resided in urban areas. From a historical pre-dominance of nomadic and rural habitats, Mongolia is now overwhelmingly urban with 68 percent of the total population living in cities and towns, much higher than the Asian regional average.

The capital, Ulaanbaatar (UB), has been the engine of Mongolia’s urbanisation. Economic growth is increasingly concentrated in the capital which with about 40 percent of the total population, generates more than 60 percent of the country’s GDP and 50 percent of its total investment. Occupying only 0.3 percent of its land area, and with population increasing at an annual rate of more than 4 percent since 2000, UB dominates the urban landscape of Mongolia.

Urbanization in Mongolia has two interlinking features. One, the unplanned growth of the capital city and rapid migration have brought many challenges, including unemployment, traffic congestion, air pollution, negative environmental impacts, and the expansion of the ger areas. More than 60 percent of UB’s population lives in ger areas that are often built on or along sites prone to natural disasters, lacking access to modern infrastructure such as piped-in water, sanitation, electricity, paved roads, public transportation, health clinics, schools, housing and recreation facilities.

Two, the predominance of UB dwarfs the problems of other urban centres in the country. It also highlights the need for a more balanced approach that spreads out urbanization by creating additional growth poles, thereby reducing the intense pressure on the capital city.
Urbanization, if done well, can benefit the entire country. Urban areas are centres of education, innovations, political power, technological advancement, social services and finance, all which have the potential to play a positive role in enhancing people’s human development. Indeed, few countries have reached high levels of human development without high levels of urbanization.

Sustainable urban development needs attention and sound policies to ensure that the benefits of development and growth reach all citizens – whether they move to the cities, smaller towns, or live in a rural setting. There is a growing demand for public policies to effectively manage the complex urban reality in Mongolia and respond to the needs of all urban residents, both current and future generations.

How should Mongolia plan for urban development so that the cities are liveable, healthy, prosperous, sustainable, and promote human development for all citizens? This question is motivating the Dialogue.

Dialogue Structure:

The dialogue was organized as a Panel Discussion. Dialogue was moderated Mr. Saurabh Sinha, Senior Economist of UNDP Mongolia.

The dialogue was structured as Opening and Discussion Sessions.

During the Opening session, Mr. Saurabh Sinha, senior economist of UNDP Mongolia welcomed and invited special guests Ms. Sezin Sinanoglu, UN Resident Coordinator, and UNDP Resident Representative for the Welcome Remarks, Mr. Bayarsaikhan, Minister of Construction and Urban Development, Govt. of Mongolia and Mr. E. Bat-Uul, Mayor of Ulaanbaatar City for the Opening Remarks and Mr. Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary- General, Assistant Administrator and Director of UNDP’s Regional Bureau of Asia and the Pacific for the Keynote Speech.

After the opening remarks and keynote speech, there was a presentation on “Sustainable Urban Development in Mongolia: The Key Issues” by Joseph D’Cruz, Regional Team Leader, Inclusive Growth, Asia Pacific Regional Centre, UNDP. Outlines of the presentation were on current trends and analysis on Urban Economic Sustainability, Human and Social Capital
Development, Democratic Governance-Response to Urban Challenges, Urban Environmental Sustainability and UNDP’s Urban Development Strategy.

Prior to the start of the panel discussion the moderator presented the discussion structure and the panel discussion was followed by an open exchange of views and opinions among participants.

Panelists were Ms. D.Altantuya, Director of “Shine zuun ger khoroolol” NGO, Mr. Ts.Myagmarjargal, Vice President of MCS group, Ms.A.Enkhjargal, Public Health Professional Association, Ms. B.Tuul, Head of the Steering Committee for Private Housing and Public Utility Development Center, Mr. J.Tsendasuren, Governor of Zuunmod soum, Tuv aimag, Mr.G.Batbayar, Member of Darkhan Local Khural.

Over 130 people representing different stakeholders, including policymakers, government officials, delegates from city, aimag, district and horoo administrations, international organizations, NGOs, private sector and civil society participated in discussions.

Specific impacts of the Development Dialogue:

Following issues arisen for identifying suitable approaches for sustainable urban development in Mongolia at the forum:

- What are the key challenges of urban governance?
- To what extent are urban concerns factored into national/sectoral/regional planning?
- What can be done to spread out urbanisation to other cities and reduce pressure on UB?
- How can Mongolian cities become sustainable and smart – i.e. healthy, resilient, and liveable?
- How can urban growth in Mongolia be more inclusive enhancing human development of all citizens?

Key points and thoughts addressing agenda items expressed by panelists and participants are summarized as below:

- Come up with appropriate land and infrastructure planning at Aimag level;
• Need for inception session, research study to migrants coming to city, on behavior, law and regulation knowledge and social accountability/personal responsibility;
• Pay more attention to Aimag centre cities with regard to sustainable development on infrastructure, education, especially employment opportunity, in order to reduce migration to Ulaanbaatar city. These are issues to be implemented under the decentralization policy of the Government;
• From private sector perspective, need to pay attention on standardized eco production and utilization;
• Need for unequal tax policy depending on region;
• Keep income within the region;
• Public service tariffs to be liberalized;
• Issue out local governance responsibility, on managing Local governance development fund;
• Upgrade cities status to national status;
• Easy access to public transportation and urban facilities for disabled people;
• Amend the definition and legal aspects of cities in law
• Make research study, analyses on currents urbanization trends in Mongolia, come up with cities development policy
Photo gallery of DD8:
SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN MONGOLIA
DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE #8
Date: Monday, 16 June 2014
Time: 13.45-16.00 PM
Venue: UN House

AGENDA

13:45 Registration and Tea/Coffee

14:00-14:20 Welcome remarks
- Ms. Sezin Sinanoglu, UNDP Resident Representative
  Opening remarks
- H.E. Mr. Ts.Bayarsaikhan, Minister of Construction and Urban Development
- Mr. E. Bat-Uul, Mayor of Ulaanbaatar City
  Keynote speech
- Mr. Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary General, Director of UNDP’s Regional Bureau of Asia and the Pacific

14:20-14:45 Presentation on “Sustainable Urban Development in Mongolia: The Key Issues”
- Mr. Joseph D’Cruz, Regional Team Leader, Inclusive Growth and Poverty, Asia Pacific Regional Centre, UNDP

14:45-15:30 Panel Discussion
  Moderator Mr. Saurabh Sinha, Senior Economist, UNDP
  Panelists
  - Ms. D. Altantuya, Director of “Shine zuun ger khoroolol” NGO
  - Mr. L.Myagmarjav, Vice President of MCS group
  - Ms. A. Enkhjargal, Public Health Professional Association
  - Ms. B. Tuul, Head of the Steering Committee for Public Utility
  - Mr. J. Tsendsuren, Governor of Zuunmod Soum, Tuv Aimag
  - Mr.G. Batbayar, Member of Darkhan Local Khural

15:30-15:55 Open discussion

15:55-16:00 Closing remarks
- Ministry of Construction and Urban Development
- Mr. Thomas Eriksson, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative
Development Dialogue 8:
SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN MONGOLIA

Partner Agency: Ministry of Construction and Urban Development Government of Mongolia

1:45-4:00 PM Monday, 16 June 2014
UN House, UB, Mongolia

CONTEXT

Mongolia has experienced rapid urbanisation since the 1950s when only about 20 percent of people resided in urban areas. From a historical pre-dominance of nomadic and rural habitats, Mongolia is now overwhelmingly urban with 68 percent of the total population living in cities and towns, much higher than the Asian regional average.

The capital, Ulaanbaatar (UB), has been the engine of Mongolia’s urbanisation. Economic growth is increasingly concentrated in the capital which with about 40 percent of the total population generates more than 60 percent of the country's GDP and 50 percent of its total investment. Occupying only 0.3 percent of its land area, and with population increasing at an annual rate of more than 4 percent since 2000, UB dominates the urban landscape of Mongolia.

Unplanned growth of the capital city and rapid migration have brought many challenges, including unemployment, traffic congestion, air pollution, and the expansion of the ger areas. More than 60 percent of UB’s population lives in ger areas that are often built on or along sites prone to natural disasters, lacking access to modern infrastructure such as piped-in water, sanitation, electricity, paved roads, public transportation, health clinics and schools.

Urban areas are centres of education, innovations, political power, technological advancement, social services and finance, and can play a positive role in enhancing people’s human development. Indeed, few countries have reached high levels of human development without high levels of urbanization.

Urban development that is inclusive and sustainable, and promotes human development, needs sound policies to ensure that the benefits of growth and urbanization reach all citizens – whether
they move to the cities, smaller towns, or live in a rural setting. It also needs a more balanced approach that effectively manages the complex urban reality of Mongolia and creates additional growth poles to reduce the intense pressure on the capital city.

How should Mongolia plan for urban development so that the cities are liveable, healthy, prosperous, sustainable, and promote human development for all citizens? This question is motivating the Dialogue.

**DIALOGUE STRUCTURE**

The Dialogue will be organized as a Panel Discussion. Prior to the start of the panel discussion there will be a brief presentation of the issues to structure the discussion. The panel discussion will be followed by an open exchange of views among participants.

**ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION**

The Dialogue is expected to raise a number of questions relevant for identifying suitable approaches for sustainable urban development in Mongolia:

- How can urban growth in Mongolia be more inclusive enhancing human development of all citizens?
- How can Mongolian cities become sustainable and smart – i.e. healthy, resilient, and liveable?
- What are the key challenges of urban governance?
- To what extent are urban concerns factored into larger national/sectoral/regional planning?

**AGENDA**

13:45 Registration and Tea/Coffee

14:00-14:20 Welcome remarks
- Ms. Sezin Sinanoglu, UNDP Resident Representative

Opening remarks
- H.E. Mr. Ts.Bayarsaikhan, Minister of Construction and Urban Development
- Mr. E. Bat-Uul, Mayor of Ulaanbaatar City

Keynote speech
- Mr. Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary General, Director of UNDP’s Regional Bureau of Asia and the Pacific

14:20-14:45 Presentation on “Sustainable Urban Development in Mongolia: The Key Issues”
- Mr. Joseph D’Cruz, Regional Team Leader, Inclusive Growth and Poverty, Asia Pacific Regional Centre, UNDP

14:45-15:30 Panel Discussion
Moderator Mr. Saurabh Sinha, Senior Economist, UNDP
Panelists

- Ms. D. Altantuya, Director of “Shine zuun ger khoroolol” NGO
- Mr. L. Myagmarjav, Vice President of MCS group
- Ms. A. Enkhjargal, Public Health Professional Association
- Ms. B. Tuul, Head of the Steering Committee for Public Utility
- Mr. J. Tsendasuren, Governor of Zuunmod Soum, Tuv Aimag
- Mr. G. Batbayar, Member of Darkhan Local Khural

15:30-15:55 Open discussion

15:55-16:00 Closing remarks
- Ministry of Construction and Urban Development
- Mr. Thomas Eriksson, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative
Development Dialogue 8
SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN MONGOLIA
(16 June 2014, Ulaanbaatar)

Opening remark by
Mr. Ts. Bayarsaikhan, Minister of Construction and Urban Development

His excellency Mr. Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary-General, Regional director for Asia and the Pacific in the UNDP
Her Excellency Ms. Sezin Sinanoğlu, UNDP Resident Representative.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon to all of you attending today’s Development Dialogue on sustainable urban development in Mongolia.

Today’s Dialogue is one of the Development Dialogue series organized by the UNDP in cooperation with the Government organizations of Mongolia.

The objective of this dialogue is to exchange views and opinions about urban development in our country, social challenges accompanying the urbanization, and its impacts and to share international experiences. The dialogue brings together national and local governments, relevant officials, civil society, the private sector, and representatives of international organizations.

Urban development in Mongolia with its ancient history, extreme continental climate, vast territory, and traditional nomadic culture, and customs has seen distinct history and has undergone on its own with some special characteristics.

Since the mid 20th century the country has undertaken rapid urbanization and established urban centers. With transition to a market economy in 1990s as the Mongolian constitution stipulates “Legal basis for cities and villages in administrative and territorial units shall be established by law” (Provision 2. Article 57. Constitution of Mongolia). Law on Cities and Villages was adopted in 1993 to establish legal basis for economic, social development and management of urban centers.

Today Mongolia’s population stands at 2.9 million and urbanization level reached 67 percent due to migration into urban centers from rural areas. 76 percent of population lives in urban areas such the capital city, regional centers, aimag centers, and soums centers. Capital Ulaanbaatar city houses 44 percent of population, 70 percent of economic entities, and produces over 60 percent of Gross Domestic Product.

As a result the population settlement structure has changed and in some respect has caused adverse impact on rapid social development. Inequality in urban and rural development could sometimes serve as a factor for rapid urbanization.

The Government of Mongolia has given considerable attention to address policy challenges such as ensuring the long-term sustainable development, and constructing urban centers with access to health, security services and comfortable lifestyles by creating interlinked system of urban and rural settlements, establishing balanced development throughout the country and reforming urban development planning. Hence a National Committee led by the Prime Minister has been established to manage and supervise development of “Master Plan of urban development in Mongolia”. I am pleased to note that UNHABITAT is to cooperate and assist us on the Master Plan development.

A document “supplements to the UB city development master plan for 2020 and its development trend for 2030” is being developed to be adopted by the Parliament for the first time in history.

The Government Action Plan for 2012-2016 constitutes to pursue a policy “redevelopment of all aimag centers and settlements with more than 15000 population into cities” to develop urban centers and their infrastructure, and to reduce overcrowding in urban areas in order to achieve the economic development and the sustainable growth. Major reconstruction work such as revisions to aimag centers development plans, construction of 1000 apartment complexes and “Soum center development” program have been undertaken by the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development with state budget fund to discourage migration to urban areas from rural areas, to improve sustainable, healthy, safe living conditions in rural areas and to increase housing supply. The Ministry has also presented a proposal “upgrading of some city status to national status” to the Parliament for approval.

I trust that you all participate actively in today’s dialogue by freely exchanging your views and opinions in order to provide your valuable inputs into development of a State Policy and Planning on improvement of Mongolia’s urban development and legal system to international standards, addressing the challenges and problems facing the urbanization in Mongolia and identifying the current and future demand and trends.

I wish you all a success in the Development dialogue.

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Annex 4

OPENING REMARKS BY
MR. BAT-UUL, MAYOR OF THE ULAANBAATAR CITY
AT THE DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE ON “SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN MONGOLIA”

Honored guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon,

I would like to take this opportunity to give due recognition and to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to Ms. Sezin Sinanoglu, UNDP Resident Representative in Mongolia, H.E. Mr. Ts. Bayarsalkhan, Minister of Construction and Urban Development, who organize this important dialogue on pressing problems and challenges faced by Ulaanbaatar city and Mr. Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary General, Director of UNDP’s Regional Bureau of Asia and the Pacific, the honored guest in this event.

Capital city of Mongolia occupies only 0.3 percent of land area of Mongolia, but it homes 44% of total population of this country. 63% of GDP is produced here, 64% of enterprises operate in the capital city and the city produces and delivers 70% of construction, trade, transport, communication, services and social and public services of entire country. As of 2014, 38% of total households in the city live in the apartments with centralized utility system and 62% of them reside in ger areas.

According to the “Updated Master Plan of Ulaanbaatar up to 2020 year” and “Urban Development Policy Framework up to 2030” the population growth for next 10 years forecasts to grow by 400 thousand.

Given this situation, lack of clear and appropriate legal framework, increased air, water and ground pollution, unplanned expansion of ger areas and city, lack of coordination, inappropriate utilization, poor access to road and public transport, deficiency in municipal engineering infrastructure, housing and social infrastructure are the key challenges the city is to tackle to meet up the needs of growing population.

The Municipal Administration is taking actions to tackle the issues. Preparatory work for establishing Public Housing Corporation (PHC), which has an objective to supply affordable housing to city residents has completed. The Municipal Administration has developed “Health and security index of the city and district”. This was first practice to have such index. City Budget for 2014 was approved through consultative process involving residents. Capital City Rules was developed. Residential Area Mapping has been completed. The data included in this Map is valuable baseline for many exercises such as realistic and effective planning of investments in both city and ger districts and costing of proposals and plans and used for official use by relevant ministries, agencies and state administration bodies.

We are highly satisfied with successful implementation UNDP projects in the area of Poverty Reduction, Governance and Environment, particularly for energy efficient housing project implemented in Ulaanbaatar. The Municipal Administration has interest in working with UNDP in many areas of cooperation in the future. We are willing to work with UNDP together to learn from best practices of Good Governance, where UNDP has firsthand experience from many countries all over the world, and disseminate it into our daily practice and on urban planning, infrastructure projects such as enhancing institutional capacity of the city and upgrading and improving supply of engineering infrastructure in ger areas.

Let me conclude my remark, by expressing our thankfulness to Ms. Sezin Sinanoglu, UNDP Resident Representative in Mongolia and your team for your support and cooperation for the well-being of residents of Ulaanbaatar and its development.

Fruitful outputs from this Dialogue and success in future effort.

Thank you for your attention.

[Signature]
Annex 5

Keynote Speech by

Mr. Haoliang Xu
Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Your Excellency Mr. Bayarsaikhan, Minister of Construction and Urban Development (MCUD) and Member of Parliament (MP) of Mongolia,
Your Excellency Mr. Bat-Uul, Mayor of Ulaanbaatar City,
Excellencies,
Representatives of Development Partners,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Urbanization is one of the defining trends in recent decades. The movement of large populations from rural to urban areas in search of opportunity and security has dramatically reshaped the development landscape.

Governments around the world are grappling with the challenges and opportunities created by the increase in urban populations. The real challenge is not just to construct adequate infrastructure, but also to help urban populations realize their dreams and aspirations for a better quality of life, safety and security, and a life of human dignity for themselves and their families.

In Mongolia in the 1950s only 20 percent of Mongolians lived in urban areas. By 2010 this had surged to 68%, significantly higher than the regional average of 42.2%. Ulaanbaatar alone now houses 40% of the country’s population. Sixty-five percent of national GDP is now generated here, and urban settlements overall account for more than 80% of economic activity. When people in the rest of the world think of Mongolia, they think of a nomadic nation herding livestock across the rolling steppes. But Mongolia is now an urban country.

Those of us working in development, governments, international organizations, and civil society need to adjust our perspectives and frameworks to account for this change. We need to increasingly focus on enhancing human development of city dwellers. This is the theme and purpose of today’s dialogue. To frame today’s discussion, I would like to touch upon three key areas; challenges and opportunities that can be created if managed well. These challenges relate to sustainability, exclusion, and participation.

Sustainability

The rapid growth of cities like Ulaanbaatar places a tremendous strain on its environment and infrastructure. One of the most visible symptoms of this is air pollution. The World Health Organization ranks Ulaanbaatar as one of the cities in the world with the worst air pollution. Air pollution here is driven mainly by transportation and heating. In responding to this challenge, it is important to seize the opportunity to promote more sustainable and affordable options such as improved public transportation, incentives for energy efficient vehicles, and urban planning that promotes walking and bicycling when and where possible, thus making the city livable.

There are many examples of visionary city governments that have successfully done just this, such as the Busway system in Jakarta and urban transportation planning in Latin American cities. As Enrique Peñalosa, the former Mayor of Bogota said: “A developed country is not a place where the poor use cars, but where the rich use public transport.”

Similar visionary thinking can be applied to the challenge of energy demand and energy efficiency. On the side, with its blue skies Mongolia offers ample opportunities to benefit from solar energy – a renewable source. On the other hand, it is paramount that energy is used efficiently and with the least loss. I was happy to learn that UNDP Mongolia has worked with the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development in developing building norms and standards for energy efficiency. But of course, success and energy gains will only be achieved if these standards are enforced and implemented.

Looking forward, it will be important to also recognize and plan for the impacts of climate change and increased climate variability. While cities in Mongolia are not vulnerable to catastrophes such as typhoons or widespread floods, they still feel the impacts of climate change through the knock-on effects of harsh winters (dzuds) and summer droughts.

Exclusion

People migrate to cities in search of a better life, a safer environment, access to better services and facilities, and the opportunity to earn higher incomes. This promise is not always fulfilled. In many instances, migrants end up living in informal settlements in peri-urban areas, with limited access to government services and infrastructure and facing high levels of unemployment and poverty. We can see the same in and around Ulaanbaatar.
Urban deprivation and inequality are not regularly analysed in Mongolia, and it is difficult to paint a detailed picture of exclusion at this point. However, there is evidence from our consultations with local partners and stakeholders that significant disparities exist in access to services and employment opportunities. A 2010 World Bank study indicated that some ger areas had an unemployment rate as high as 68 percent, compared to 23 percent in the better-off areas of the city. These disparities and inequalities deprive many Mongolian citizens of the benefits that the country’s progress should bring. It also creates social tensions that can manifest in crime and violence, particularly if those who are excluded are youth.

UNDP has worked with the Government of Bangladesh on improving livelihoods and living conditions of the poor. We would be happy to provide more details about this and other projects that may help our partner institutions in Mongolia design effective strategies for reducing exclusion and urban poverty. This brings me to the third issue that I wish to highlight today.

Participatory Governance

Participation and civic engagement are critical for good governance. In cities across the world, participatory approaches to governance have been linked with better quality service delivery, inclusive policies, and social cohesion. Successful participatory approaches begin at the local level, where citizens are most connected to government institutions and where they feel the greatest impact of policies on their daily lives.

Over the last 2 years, UNDP has been working with local councils around the country to build their capacities to better represent their constituencies in local planning efforts. United Nations-HABITAT’s Community-led ger Area Upgrading in Ulaanbaatar City project is another example of civic engagement in local development. In order to empower ger area residents, local-level Community Development Councils were established, which can take on the responsibilities of operation and maintenance of projects to address development issues in their respective neighbourhoods.

Successful participatory governance requires both a robust state and an active civil society with healthy levels of civic engagement. This is why UNDP supports governments across the Asia and the Pacific to create mechanisms for citizens’ engagement in policy processes. It also focuses on increasing the capacities and skills of civil society organizations to effectively participate and engage in decision-making processes and increase government accountability.

UNDP’s value

UNDP recognizes the significance of urbanization and urban challenges at global and regional levels. We have an urban development strategy in the Asia-Pacific that focuses on sustaining human development through inclusive and sustainable growth; building urban resilience; and offering solutions to the challenges of urban governance.

We recognize that for effective urban development, we must focus not only in supporting decentralized governments and structures at the urban level but also policy development at the national level. UNDP stands ready to provide support to the urbanization policy making in Mongolia. I would like to particularly highlight some concrete areas where we can strengthen our partnership on urbanization in Mongolia:

- UNDP is building a regional policy team that includes international experts on urbanization. They will work on scaling successful local initiatives up to national reforms across countries in Asia and the Pacific. We will focus on sharing information through a South-South urbanization exchange model.
- Here in Mongolia, a concrete partnership is already developing. At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ulaanbaatar City administration, UNDP will be providing technical inputs to the proposed Northeast Asian Mayors’ Forum to be held here later in August.

This high-profile meeting will bring together city administrators from six Northeast Asian nations to discuss common challenges and opportunities in making urban development dynamic, inclusive, and sustainable.

I congratulate and commend the Government of Mongolia, and particularly Your Excellencies, Minister and Your Excellency the Mayor of Ulaanbaatar City, for recognizing the importance of sustainable urban development as a way to promoting human development in the country.

UNDP very much looks forward to strengthening our existing partnerships with the government and stakeholders on addressing the urban challenges that Mongolia faces.

Let us work together.

Thank you.
Mr. BAYARSAIKHAN TSEVELMAA  
Member of Parliament,  
Minister of Construction and Urban Development

Mr. Bayarsaikhan serves as a Member of the Government and a Minister of Construction and Urban Development since 2013. He has been elected as a Member of Parliament at the Legislative body for 4 terms since 1996. He had served as a Chairman of Standing Committee on Environment and Rural Development of Parliament (1994-1996), a Member of the Government and a Minister of Social Protection and Labor (2004-2006), a Head of Standing Committee on Economy (2006-2011). He graduated from University of Economy and Statistics of Moscow with an Economist-engineer major and National University of Mongolia with an Economist-statistician major. He holds a Master's degree in Economics and currently is a Doctoral Candidate. He is fluent in English and Russian.

Mr. HAOLIANG XU  
UN Assistant Secretary-General,  
Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific in the UNDP

Mr. Haoliang Xu joined UNDP in 1995 and has worked in the Asia and Pacific and Eastern Europe and the CIS Regions respectively. He has worked in UNDP New York headquarters (1997-1999), Iran (2000-02), Timor-Leste (2002-04), Pakistan (2004-07) and served two terms in Kazakhstan (1995-97, 2007-10). Before taking the current position, he was UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator in Kazakhstan (2007-10) and Deputy Regional Director for Europe and the CIS in New York (2010-13). He holds a Bachelor's degree in Bridge Engineering from Tongji University, a Masters in Management Science from Stevens Institute of Technology and a Masters in International Affairs from Columbia University. He is a citizen of People’s Republic of China. He is fluent in English and Russian.

Ms. SEZIN SINANOGLU  
UN Resident Coordinator,  
UNDP Resident Representative in Mongolia

Prior to joining as UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Mongolia, Ms. Sinanoglu was Chief of the Asia/Pacific/Europe/CIS Section of the United Nations Volunteers programme in Bonn, Germany (2008-2010). Prior to that, she served as UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Kyrgyzstan (2004-2008) and Turkmenistan (2002-2004). From 2001-2002, she was the Assistant Programme Director of the Electricity Network Rehabilitation Programme for UNDP in Northern Iraq. She began her career with UNDP in 1995 as a Programme Officer in Turkey. Ms. Sinanoglu holds a Masters in City Planning and a Bachelor of City and Regional Planning from the Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey.

Mr. BAT-UUL ERDEINE  
Governor of the Capital City,  
Mayor of the Ulaanbaatar City

Mr. Bat-Uul serves as a Governor of the Capital City and Mayor of the Ulaanbaatar City since 2012. He is a public figure and politician who worked as a scientist at the Mongolian Academy of Sciences (1985-1989) and contributed to form a Democratic Party and served as a first Chairman of the Party (1980-1992). He was elected into Member of People’s Great Khural (1990-1992) and worked as a Director at the Political Research Institute of the Democratic Party and General Secretary and Deputy Chairman of the Democratic Party (1992-1996). Afterwards, he worked at the Chugu Co., Ltd (2000-2004) and he was elected into the Parliament for 2 terms during 2004 and 2008. He graduated from the National University of Mongolia with a Physicist major. Since he became a Mayor, he initiated the broad range of actions on ger district re-planning and development and upgrading of the institutional capacity of engineering infrastructure which are the tackling issues of Ulaanbaatar city.
Development Dialogue 8: SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN MONGOLIA

Mr. JOSEPH D’CRUZ
Regional Team Leader, Inclusive Growth and Poverty Alleviation for the Asia Pacific

Mr. Joseph leads the team on inclusive growth and poverty alleviation for the Asia Pacific. Immediately prior to this he provided environmental conservation and GEF-funded projects with advice on programme formulation, approval processes, implementation and supervision. His services also support the mainstreaming of environmental conservation priorities within and across ‘non-traditional’ government decision-making sectors. Prior to joining the Centre, Joseph was a GEF consultant working on the formulation and implementation of numerous UNDP/GEF projects throughout the Asia-Pacific and Arab States regions. Joseph has also consulted for a variety of bilateral and multilateral organizations and for the private sector.

Mr. THOMAS ERIKSSON
Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia


MODERATOR:

Mr. SAURABH SINHA
Senior Economist UNDP

Mr. Saurabh Sinha is the Senior Economist with UNDP in Mongolia since 2011. Saurabh has a PhD from IDS Sussex and more than 25 years of international economic research, teaching, and policy advisory experience. Prior to coming to Mongolia, Saurabh has worked with the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, UNDP Viet Nam, and as a consultant to various UNDP Country Offices, the World Bank and bilateral donors. He has published extensively in international journals and at various times has taught development economics at Sussex University; National Economics University, Hanoi; and IIT, Delhi.

PANELISTS:

Mr. BATBAYAR GANKHUYAG
Member of Citizens Representative Khural of Darkhan-Uul Aimag, Vice Governor of Darkhan Soum

Mr. Batbayar has been elected as a Member of Citizens Representative Khural for 2 terms since 2008. He served as a Manager responsible for Socio-economic issues at the Trade Union of Darkhan-Uul aimag (2002-2004), a Head of Labor Union of health organizations of Darkhan-Uul aimag (2001-2012), a Deputy Head of Committee of Mongolian People’s Party of Darkhan-Jul Aimag and currently serves as a Vice Governor of Darkhan Soum. He majored as a teacher and a Manager of Public Administration.
Mr. Tsendsuren Janchiv  
Zuunmod Soum Governor and  
Zuunmod City Mayor, Tuv Aimag

Mr. Tsendsuren is a Chairman of Citizens Representative Khuur of Tuv Aimag and a Member of Mongolian Cities Association. He worked as an Executive Director at Canadian & Mongolia joint “Kuane Drilling” LLC (2008-2012) and serves as a Zuunmod soum Governor and Zuunmod City Mayor since 2012. He graduated from University of Economics and Finance with Bachelor degree in Business administration and his profession is Economist of Banking and Loan. He advanced her English in Hongkong. He is fluent in English and Russian.

Ms. Altantuya Darisuren  
Head of “New century-Ger District” NGO

Ms. Altantuya’s contribution to development of ger districts in Ulaanbaatar city had started in 2006 and currently she serves as a Head of Residents Committee of the ‘Unur” Community Area and a Leader of 41 group of residents in 30, 31st khoroo of Songinokhairkhan district and 11 group of Savings at the “Community-led ger area upgrading” Project under the UN HABITAT. She also serves as a civil representative of the “Business Incubator”, which extended by SME’s and household entrepreneurs under her leadership at the Center of Public utility service which built by the Project. She is a member of Mongolian Lecturer Center. She majored as a teacher and a Manager of Public Administration.

Mr. Myagmarjav Luvsanjav  
Vice President of “MCS Holding” LLC

Mr. Myagmarjav works as a Vice President of MCS holding LLC and Director of Human Resources since 2014. He worked as a Lecturer of Economic Theory at the Economic School of National University of Mongolia (1995-1998), a Senior officer at the State Property Committee (1995-1998) and served as a Sales Analyst of the Sales Strategy & Planning Department at Guinness UDV North America (member of the DIAGEO Group) (2000-2002). He also worked as a part time Lecturer at the Economic school of National University of Mongolia (2002-2003), an Executive Director of Zuunkhaaraa Trade LLC (2002-2004), a Managing Director of the MCS Coca Cola Co.,ltd (2004-2014). Mr. Myagmarjav holds a Bachelor degree in Economics from National University of Mongolia and a MBA from Graduate School of Business, University of Bridgeport, CT, USA. He is an economist and a lecturer of economics. He is proficient in English and Russian.

Ms. Enkhjargal Altangerel  
Researcher of “Public Health Professionals’ Association”

Ms. Enkhjargal works at the Public Health Professional's Association since 2013. She worked as a Researcher of Environmental Health Research Center at the Public Health Institute (1999-2007), a National Project Manager at the United Nations Volunteers program, Mongolia (2007-2008), an Officer in charge of environmental health, injury and violence of Ministry of Health (2008-2009), an Officer at the Japan International Corporation of Welfare Services (JICWELS) and a Grants manager at the EPOS health management consulting company (2010-2013). She holds a Bachelor degree of Hygiene and Epidemiology from the Mongolian National Medical University and a Master degree of Public and Environmental Health (MSc) from the Malaysian National University (UKM). She is fluent in English and Russian.

Ms. Tuul Badamtseren  
Head of steering committee of the  
“Center for private housing and public utility service development”

Ms. Tuul is a Board member of the “Mongolian common utility services association” and “Mongol us tunshel” NGO. She worked as a ventilator technician at Public utility service company of Octyabir district (1990-2000) and was technician, controller, heat engineer and general engineer at 7th, 8th and 1st sub-branch of the Public utility service company (1990-2003). Currently she works as a Director of the ‘Housing hold’ LLC. She holds a Master degree in Engineering of heating, gas supply and ventilation system from Ural polytechnic University of the Sverdlovsk, Russia. She is a certified engineer.