

# Development & Implementation of an Equity-Focused HIA Methodology for the Mongolian Mining Sector

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Presentation by: Meghan Wagler

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# Presentation Outline

1. Project Background & Mongolian Context: Mining & EIA/HIA
  2. Goal, Objectives & Methodology
  3. An HIA Tool for Mongolia: Challenges with applying the IFC framework
  4. Next Steps
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# Project Background

- May 2009 – International Conference on Mining and Health held in UB, Mongolia
  - Two main conclusions of conference:
    - Government lacks capacity to insist that SIA and HIA be completed
    - No formal way for affected communities to participate in EIA and mine licensure processes
  - Policy-level initiatives to broaden impact assessments in Mongolia → Evidence is needed.
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# Mongolian Context: Mining & EIA/HIA

- Explosion of mining exploration and development in the past decade
  - >70% of industrial output
  - 78% of export revenues
  - Employs >42,000 people (formal sector)
- 2006 Mining and Minerals Law
  - No provisions for SIA, HIA, community IA
- 1998 EIA Law
  - Currently under revision: > Community participation; + health impacts; MOH and MOE working group
- Oyu Tolgoi – HIA for major gold/copper mine



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# Population & Health Indicators

- Population: **3 million** population (60% Urban); Density: **1.75 pop/km<sup>2</sup>**– Least densely populated country in the world
  - GNI per capita: **\$1630 US** (Lower middle income)
  - Life expectancy: **67 years**
  - Large health and socio-economic disparities exist between urban and rural populations
  - Mining presents both a promise and a risk in regards to economic growth and social equity
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# Goal

- To support public, private, and CSO interests in and commitment to the development of a **HIA methodology** for Mongolia's mining sector that applies a **social determinants** and **health equity framework**.



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# Objectives:

1. To form **an international partnership** of Canadian and Mongolian health systems researchers dedicated to applying health equity frameworks to mining impact assessments
  2. **Develop consensus on a methodology and tools** for implementing a social determinants of health and equity-focused HIA that is relevant to Mongolian communities, the international policy-making environment, and the international mining sector
  3. To **develop and test these tools** in the Mongolian context
  4. To **provide evidence-based support for and encourage ongoing efforts to broaden the 2006 Mongolia Minerals Law and the 1998 EIA Law**
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# Methodology

- “Integrated Knowledge Translation”
  - PHASE 1 – *In Progress*: **Develop an Equity-Focused HIA Methodology for Mongolia**
    - Participatory process
    - Inter-sectoral Expert Working Group
    - ~4 full-day workshops and discussions between June and November 2010
    - Draft HIA tool for use in Mongolian context based on international best practice guidelines (IFC, ICMM, Winkler et al)
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# Methodology

- **PHASE 2: Demonstration of HIA Tool in Mongolian Mining Sector**
    - Focusing on a current mining development in Mongolia; model or demonstration “desk” HIA using existing data for analysis
  - **PHASE 3: Wider Consultation Activities as Needed**
    - Targeting knowledge users
    - Consider, discuss, debate developed HIA strategy
  - **PHASE 4: Dissemination and Evaluation**
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# Technical Expert Working Group

## ■ Multi-Sectoral

- MOH & MOEnvironment
- State Inspection Agency
- Department of Health
- Public Health Institute
- Mongolian Employers Federation
- Mineral Resources Authority Mongolia
- Mongolian National Mining Association
- Health Sciences University of Mongolia
- Energy Resources, LLC & Oyu Tolgoi, LLC
- Pact International & VSO
- Etc...

## ■ Community Participation



# HIA Tool for Mongolia's Mining Sector

- EWG very enthusiastic & supportive of initiative
- Adaptation of IFC (2009) and ICMM (2010) guidelines
- Building in equity and social determinants concepts
- Issues of language, translation and terminology
  - Equity, health determinants/impacts/outcomes
- Distinction between health outcomes and determinants of health
- Proposed tool being revised based on EWG input & practical experience

# Other Issues & Next Steps

- Issues to address at policy level:
  - Capacity to conduct HIA: Who is going to do it?
  - Transparency and corruption issues
  - Health Promotion Training Centre??
  - Inclusion of occupational health impacts??
  
- Small inter-sectoral working group to translate IFC guidelines into Mongolian (reference doc)
  
- Expert Working Group members to contribute to future funding proposals
  - CIHR Knowledge Translation Grant – Due February 2011
  - ???

# Project Team & Funding

- Primary Investigators: Dr. C. Janes (SFU) & Dr. Ts. Sodnompil (DOH Mongolia)
- Research Team: Dr. L.Oyun & Dr. D.Boldmaa (DOH Mongolia); Dr. J. Snyder & Meghan Wagler (SFU); Dr. L. Laing (University of Alberta); Dr. C. Davison (University of Ottawa)
- Funding: Canadian Institutes of Health Research - Catalyst Grant
  - Seed money, on a short-term basis (1 year)
  - Supports research activities representing a first step towards the pursuit of more comprehensive funding opportunities

# THANK YOU!

Contact Information:

[meghanwagler@gmail.com](mailto:meghanwagler@gmail.com)

[cjanes@sfu.ca](mailto:cjanes@sfu.ca)

