



Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem

SHORELINE CLEAN-UP OF HOVSGOL LAKE AND SETUP OF A WATER SANITATION ZONE IN KHATGAL VILLAGE

Campaign Report



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1. Background

Khuvsgul lake is located in the northwest of Mongolia, at the foot of the eastern Sayan Mountains (Figure 1). It is 1,645 m above sea level, 136 km long and 262 m deep. It is the second-most voluminous freshwater lake in Asia, and holds almost 90% of Mongolia's fresh water and 0.4% of all the fresh water in the world.



Figure 1. The Khusgul lake

Khuvsgul lake is one of seventeen *ancient lakes* worldwide more than 2 million years old and the most pristine and is the most significant drinking water reserve of Mongolia. Its water is potable without any treatment. **Khuvsgul** is an ultraoligotrophic lake with low levels of nutrients and primary productivity and high water clarity. The Lake area is a National Park bigger than Yellowstone and strictly protected as a transition zone between Central Asian Steppe and Siberian Taiga. The town of Khamgal is at the southern end of the lake (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Khatgal Village

2. Purpose:

It has the following purposes:

- Organization of clean-up campaign of lake Hovsgol shoreline including forested area of Khatgal village and tourist camps along the shore of the lake. This activity will include public awareness to local people living the area and let them participate on cleaning campaign;
- Setup of a water sanitation zone along the shoreline near Khatgal village in order to prevent washing of vehicles and camping of backpack tourists on the lake shore sanitation zone.

Creation of information system for tourists about garbage collecting and recycling, organization of various environmental education forms for local people, their involvement in environmental protection; water resources changes and pollution, impact of and adaptation to climate change.

- Attraction of Mass Media, creation of media materials on activities results.

3. Implemented activities:

Promoted public awareness activities among nomadic families and tourist camps located in western and eastern shore of the lake on importance of lake shoreline areas, prevention from pollution. and involvement of local communities in such activities. Distributed over 1500 copies of 3 types promotion materials for around 500 people. In the **clean-up campaign** involved the representatives from the Village Government, specialists from Khuvsgul Protected Area, hydro-meteorological observation stations, Association of Sayan Region Herder Communities (head Narantsetseg S.), pupils and teacher from "Khyin Kholboo" Eco Club from the Khatgal's Secondary (11th year) School. The Khatgal village Government and Khuvsgul Protected Area office helped the campaign with their Vehicles.

The Khatgal Village Government has announced the day of 28th September as a day for cleaning-up campaign. As a result all citizens of the village and all government and non-government organizations involved in the campaign and cleaned the solid wastes over 3500 ha areas covering from Jankhai (west bank of the lake) to Eg River bridge and from the bridge to the site "Mergen" site (east bank). Over 200 people from 20 organizations have involved in this cleaning-up campaign and cleaned over 70 tones (or 15 trucks) of solids wastes. Overall, this activity was well organized and effectively implemented (Figure 3).



Figure 3. Clean up campaign

There has been installed protection pole with distance of 1.5 metre along the sanitation zone of Khuvsgul lake near to Khatgal village for 2 km distance in order to protect the sanitation zone from pollution by washing of vehicles and camping of backpack tourist. The area covers 300 metre from bridge at Eg River to the "fish value" and 1700 metre from the water collection point (the place from where the citizens of the Khatgal village collect water from the lake) of the lake to the southern bend of "Damjlag Baaz" (Figure 4).



Figure 4. The sanitation zone protection pole

There also has been installed 3 sign boards along the lake shoreline and 1 in the Protected Area's entrance gate for prohibition of washing, vehicles, clothes and others in the sanitation zone area (Figure 5).



The Village Government issued 2 order on to improve the protection of the lake areas and maintaining the sign boards and sanitation zone protection poles (Original copy of the Decrees are attached, Annex 1).

Prepared media materials (video clips) on the activities for attraction of Mass Media

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t the achieved results of the campaign had been introduced to the Village citizen on 30th September 2012 and organized public meeting to introduce the results. Also certificates have been awarded to actively participated organizations.

Achieved results:

- Over 3500 ha areas was cleaned from solid wastes during the campaign within the Lake Khuvsgul and Khatgal Village;
- Lake sanitation zone is protected by 2 km long protection poles to prevent entrance of vehicles into the sanitation zones of the lake within the Khatgal Village;
- The sanitation zone protection poles and prohibition sign boards handed over to Village Government and accordingly the Village Government will responsible for further maintains.

Implementing personals and organizations:

The **Campaign was organized** under the Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem and the following implemented by the following organizations.

- Myagmarjalbuu L., Campaign Consultant,
- Khatgal Village Governor Office and Environment Team (Batbilguun, Governor, Sainbayar, waste management specialis)
- Mongolia Water Forum - Uskhelts (P. Batimaa, director),
- Domogt Dalai LLC (Bayartsetseg B., Director and Campaign Team Leader),
- Association of Sayan Region Herder Communities (Narantsetseg S., Head)
- Support team to install poles and boards (Bayrmagnai B., Batkhuu O., Bumandelger B).,
- Khuin Kholboo Eco Club of Khatgal's Secondary School (Pupils and teachers)
- Khuvsgul Protected Area's Administration Office
- Hydro-meteorological observation post of the Khatgal Village

Brief summary of the Khatgal Village Governor's decrees

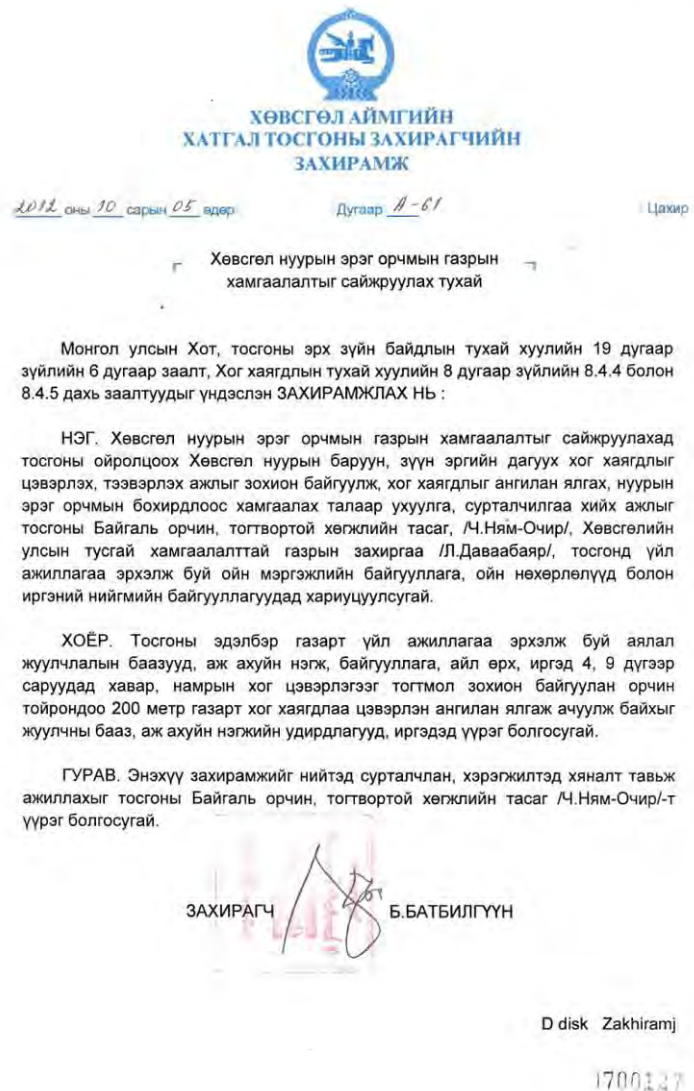
Date: 06 Oct.2012, #A-61

Purpose: For improving protection of the Lake Khuvsgul's shoreline areas

Summary of content:

Conduct solid waste cleaning campaigns of the Lake Khuvsgul shorelines, Khatgal village's forested areas and tourist regions. Conduct public awareness activities for local communities regarding protection of lake shorelines and let them participate on cleaning campaign. The Village's Environment Team (Director Nyam-Ochir Ts.), Khuvsgul Protected Area's Administration Office (Director Davaabayar L.) and forest management companies and herder communities and other social organizations shall be responsible for organization and participation.

All tourist camps, organizations, households and citizens within the village area shall clean-up their surroundings in 200 m radius areas in April and September of each year and transport solid wastes to the designated places. The



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The Environment Team shall be responsible for the implementation of these requirements.

Date: 06 Oct.2012, #A-62

Purpose: For improving the protection of sanitation zone of the Lake Khuvsgul

Summary of content:

To establish sanitation zones for 2 km upstream from the Eg river and install protection poles and install prohibition sign boards for washing and camping in the Khuvsgul's shoreline sanitation zones. The Village's Environment Team (Director Nyam-Ochir Ts.) and "Domogt Dalai" LLC shall be responsible for implementation and maintenance.



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