

JUNE 2022

SEPTEMBER 2022



NEWSLETTER

planetGOLD Mongolia | November 2022



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The [planetGOLD Mongolia](#) project is working towards the formalization and professionalization of artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector in Mongolia, including the elimination of mercury use in gold processing. The team is working with various stakeholders along the gold supply chain – miners, gold traders, local and national governments as well as civil society – to sustainably improve artisanal mining operations as an important economic opportunity for remote communities and to support the revision of regulations governing the sector. In partnership with the national government, the project team is working to create an enabling environment for a formalized artisanal mining sector that enhances community development, improves productivity, and eliminates the use of mercury. For regular project updates, follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Meetings



planetGOLD projects in Mongolia and the Philippines hold second combined PSC meeting in Manila

planetGOLD projects in Mongolia and the Philippines held their second combined Project Steering Committee meeting in Manila on Sept. 22-23. The two projects are funded by the [Global Environment Facility](#) (GEF), implemented by the [United Nations Industrial Development Organization](#) (UNIDO) and [United Nations Environment Programme](#) (UNEP) and executed by the [Artisanal Gold Council](#).

The meeting provided an excellent opportunity for stakeholders and delegates to share experiences and report on the overall progress of the projects as they head into the final 15 months scheduled for the programme. Many delegates, stakeholders and staff were attending the meeting with a freshly updated perspective on the state of select projects in Mongolia and the Philippines. The Mongolian delegation and planetGOLD Mongolia Project Steering Committee, led by Mongolia's Deputy [Minister of Environment and Tourism](#), Mr. Tuvdendorj Gantumur, traveled to the Philippines and visited the Paracale project in Camarines Norte province. Along with their peers on the planetGOLD Philippines Project Steering Committee, they inspected mining operations and viewed the ongoing development of the Mercury Free Processing System which has taken impressive steps towards its completion in early 2023.



planetGOLD Mongolia Project Manager visits Mongolia to meet with project's stakeholders

SEPTEMBER

Mr. Rene Roger Tissot, planetGOLD Mongolia Project Manager visited Mongolia in September to discuss the project's progress with stakeholders such as the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, [Bank of Mongolia](#), and [Financial Regulatory Commission](#). A field visit to Mandal soum and Tunkhel village of Selenge province was conducted to meet with local government, processing plants and miners. The team discussed the benefits and issues related to the construction and installation of the Mercury Free Processing System, and how to ensure the partnership's ability to produce enough ore.



New Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining regulations have been approved by the Government of Mongolia

AUGUST

New Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM) Regulation was approved by Government Resolution #296 on August 3, 2022. The planetGOLD Mongolia project was included in a taskforce led by the [Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry](#) for revising and developing new ASM regulations. The working group included many other important stakeholders from the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), Mineral Resources and Petroleum Agency of Mongolia, General Agency for Specialized Inspection, ASM National Federation and Ecological Policy Unit. Approval of the new ASM regulations is the beginning of the long and challenging endeavor to establish formal, professional and responsible ASM in Mongolia. The next step that the key stakeholders will take is to promote the ASM Regulations to all miners and local governments in Mongolia and implement it effectively. The planetGOLD project will support the endeavor in order to make small-scale gold mining safer, cleaner, and more profitable. Please read more from our new blog linked below.

[Blog](#)

Training program

Launch of the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Gender Committee pilot

SEPTEMBER



The planetGOLD Mongolia project launched a pilot of the Artisanal Miners Gender Committee, and held a workshop on September 15, 2022, in Mandal Soum, Selenge Province. A group of 21 artisanal miners (14 men and seven women) participated in the workshop. The event was opened by Ms. Erdenetsetseg, Chairperson of Mandal Civil Representative Khural and Mr. Roger Tissot, planetGOLD

Mongolia Project Manager.

The Gender Committee (GC) of Artisanal Miners was established to provide an informal voluntary networking platform. This platform provided open dialogue on issues related to gender equality and human rights among female and male artisanal miners. A provincial level Artisanal Miners Gender Committee is important, because it contributes to socially responsibility and workplace gender equality in artisanal mining. The pilot Gender Committee will be incorporated under the Selenge provincial ASM association at the inter-soum level, with policy and leadership support from the ASM NF. The one-day workshop focused on sharing knowledge on the artisanal mining legal framework, and introducing gender-equitable practices as part of responsible ASGM. In addition, an introduction of the planetGOLD Mongolia project was presented to the artisanal miners for the purpose of enhancing their knowledge and raising awareness. The workshop strengthened collaboration and community-building skills of the artisanal miners. Please find more information of the one-day workshop from our blog linked below.

[Blog](#)

Legal Framework of Occupational Safety and Health in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining sector Training

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

The training on the Legal Framework of Occupational Safety and Health in the Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) sector was conducted in Gobi-Altai and Selenge provinces in August and September, respectively. Based on observations from the previous training; the materials were modified slightly to be simplified, and more practical for government officials. A total of 42 government officials (26 women and 16 men) participated. The participants were provided with knowledge and skills on ASM and OSH legislations, identification and assessment of workplace risks and hazards, mercury use and health impact in the ASGM sector. During the group works, the participants raised some concerning issues about the ASGM sector. These include: a lack of coordination and collaboration between the government agencies responsible for OHS at the provincial level; illegal gold mining, and data inaccuracy. Further improvements regarding roles and responsibilities of OSH Council at, aimag and soum levels, were discussed.





Introducing planetGOLD Mongolia project and Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining sector to American Center for Mongolian Studies Organization

JULY

The planetGOLD Mongolia project team conducted an awareness raising, introductory meeting, with the [American Center for Mongolian Studies](#) organization. Mr. Altanbagana, National Project Manager of planetGOLD Mongolia; met with summer field researchers from the American Center for Mongolian Studies, and delivered a detailed presentation on the activities of planetGOLD, and Artisanal and Small-scale gold mining (ASGM). Following the presentation, a Q&A session was organized, where open dialogue was held with the researchers, on the subjects of ASGM formalization, its importance, and the gold trade.

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[Global Environment Facility](#) funded [planetGOLD Mongolia](#) is a project led by the [United Nations Environment Programme](#) and [United Nations Industrial Development Organization](#), and executed by the [Artisanal Gold Council](#) in partnership with the [Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia](#).



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