

FACTSHEET

September 2020



FACTS

Duration:

2020-2027 (estimated end date)

Facilitated by:

UNDP Mongolia,
Green Commodities Program

Funding Support By:

Year 2020 - UNDP ENSURE
(Ensuring Sustainability and
Resilience of Green Landscapes in
Mongolia) Programme supported
by GEF.

Co-financing options are currently
being explored for Year 2 (2021)

Delivery in fiscal year:

2020 – US\$306,450

Target and stakeholder groups:

- ➔ Herders, Herder Groups, Rural communities
- ➔ National and International Private Sector, Processing companies, traders
- ➔ State, Government organizations, Government agencies, Local government
- ➔ Development Partners, International Donor Organizations
- ➔ Civil Society Organizations, International and domestic NGOs, Professional bodies
- ➔ Academic and research institutions

MONGOLIAN SUSTAINABLE CASHMERE PLATFORM



SUMMARY:

The Mongolian Sustainable Cashmere Platform is a national-level umbrella mechanism with collaborative leadership. The MSCP adopts a comprehensive systematic strategy to tackle key challenges

currently facing the sector. The Mongolian Sustainable Cashmere Platform (MSCP) will work with a range of stakeholders to produce and implement a Collective Action Plan for sustainable cashmere.

PLATFORM OBJECTIVES:

- ➔ To formulate and implement a collective action plan that addresses the root causes limiting the sustainability of cashmere in Mongolia;
- ➔ To work alongside government to ensure a strong and coherent legal and institutional framework for sustainable cashmere in Mongolia;
- ➔ To establish partnerships and coordinated investments and actions that accelerate current efforts to advance the sustainability of cashmere production and processing in Mongolia;
- ➔ To position Mongolia as a global leader for sustainable cashmere

BACKGROUND:

As many developing countries, Mongolia faces the challenge of balancing economic growth with environmental degradation and natural resource depletion. Alarming statistics show that almost 70% of our pastureland is degraded while quarter of land is affected by desertification.

The livestock sector output accounts for over 80% of the country's agriculture output, employing close to 30% of total workforce in the country. Specifically, cashmere is a strategic commodity in Mongolia making the sector an important pillar of the country's economy,

supporting the livelihood of about million pastoralist herders. Increasing global demand for natural fibres and more accessible 'luxury' products has resulted in unprecedented surge in demand for cashmere. It was followed by rapid expansion of goat herds, from 7 to 27 million within two decades, in Mongolia, the world's second largest producer of cashmere. This caused significant environmental degradation due to overgrazing, deforestation, erosion of the landscape and rangeland and loss of biodiversity. While the herders acknowledge and face disappearing pastureland, they struggle to change everyday practices and are largely uninformed about ways to shift to more sustainable herding and raw material preparation which is also true for national processing companies. Scattered nomadic herders and purchases via traders and middlemen makes traceability, assessment and monitoring of social and

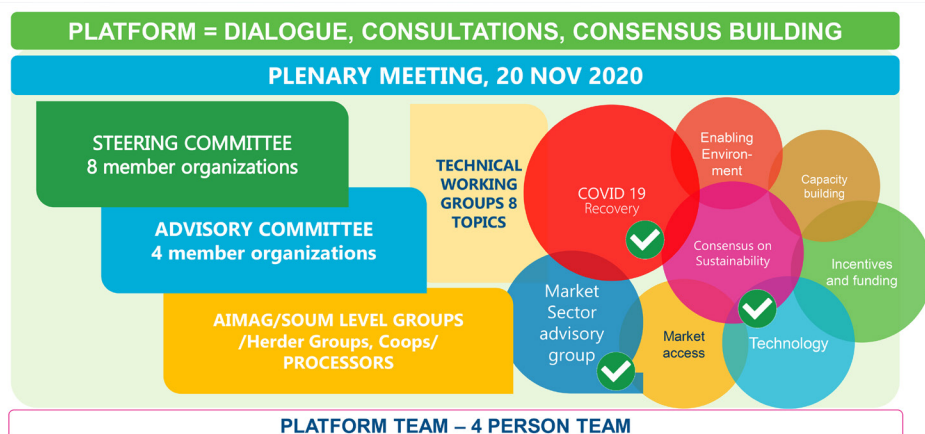
environmental aspects difficult, leading some to question if it is even possible to achieve sustainable sourcing of cashmere from Mongolia. Sustainable pasture management will ensure the nation's long-term socioeconomic stability and resilience. Numerous NGOs, projects and intervention programs around "sustainable cashmere" are active in Mongolia but are using different approaches and ways of measuring impact. Thus, buyers and brands face difficulty in clarity and confidence on best approaches to follow on sourcing cashmere that meets their sustainability requirements. UNDP Mongolia with the support of UNDP Green Commodities Program recognized the need to introduce sustainability measures into cashmere sector and initiated innovative Sustainable Cashmere Platform with the overarching objective to position Mongolia as a global leader for sustainable cashmere.



STAGES AND KEY MILESTONES



STRUCTURE OF THE PLATFORM AND ITS GOVERNANCE



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