ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

Australia Mongolia Extractives Program Phase II

June 2022

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Abbreviations

AMEP	Australia-Mongolia Extractives Program
AusIMM	Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
AustCham	Australia Chamber of Commerce in Mongolia
CBM	Coalbed Methane
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EITI	Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative
ESG	Environmental Social and Governance
FRC	Financial Regulatory Commission
GASI	General Authority for Specialized Inspection
IAP2	International Association of Public Participation
ICMM	International Council on Minerals and Metals
IMVAL	International Mineral Valuation Committee
MICA	Mongolian Institute for Certified Appraisers
MMHI	Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry
MoET	Ministry of Environment and Tourism
MonGeoCat	Mongolia's Geological Information Catalogue System
MONVAL	Mongolian Mineral Property Valuation Code
MOOC	Massive Online Open Course
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPIGM	Mongolian Professional Institutions of Geology and Mining
MRPAM	Mineral Resource and Petroleum Authority of Mongolia
MUST	Mongolian University of Science and Technology
NGDB	National Geoscience Database
NGS	National Geological Survey
NRGI	National Resource Governance Institute
REE	Rare Earth Element
OGIP	Original Gas In-Place
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SPA	State Procurement Agency
STEM	Science Technology, Engineering and Math
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
VALMIN	Valuation of Minerals Australasian Code for Public Reporting of Technical Assessments and Valuations of Mineral Assets
WAMS	Women Association in the Mining Sector

Executive Summary

FY 2021-22 has been a challenging year for the extractive sector in Mongolia. With the uncertainty of COVID-19, the unpredictable border closing between China and Mongolia that has seen stagnating exports and imports, the on-going Russian-Ukrainian war with its impacts on oil and gas prices, the sector has weakened. Compounded with global stagflation, local inflation and Tugrug devaluation, Mongolia's investment future is uncertain.

Despite these challenges the AMEP 2 program has been seizing opportunities to continue supporting the sector, through the building of existing key relationships, creating new ones and being proactive to achieve program objectives, as defined by *creating an enabling environment for investment in Mongolia's extractive sector with the collaboration of multi-stakeholders representing government, industry, and civil society*. The Ministry of Mines and Heavy Industry (MMHI), Mineral Resource Authority (MRPAM) and National Geological Survey (NGS) as well as the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MoET) have played predominant roles as collaborative partners. This has allowed AMEP 2 to tap into the strengths of these institutions while supporting their strategic policies, processes, and sector vision. Furthermore, the program has aimed to broaden its reach from the national to local level and hence has increased its' engagement and profile with multi-stakeholders.

The NGS and its pivotal Mongolia Geological Database (MonGeoCat) is central to the development of a national-scale, geospatial database, making it the authoritative source of the most important mines, mineral deposits, and areas in Mongolia. It is the gateway to investment and drives investor decisions. AMEP 2 and the NGS have uploaded approximately 350GB of private reports into the MonGeoCat during this fiscal year and have seen some 4,832 online users tap into the system. What this means to investors and ordinary citizens is that they have access to more publicly available geodata information. This information has the power to invoke value driven investment decisions, allow for responsive planning and build government credibility that shed light on transparency.

Data input has come from such sources as public (AMEP 1 and 2) and recently from privately funded exploration data as well as AMEP 2's rock sampling activity. Two hundred rare earth element (REE) samples were collected, researched, analyzed, and digitized into the system. *Mineral Guidelines for Prospecting and Exploration* specific to REE were used in the field, to ensure the capturing of correct data and use of methodologies. These guidelines are currently institutionalized and more recently form part of the regulatory framework. AMEP created 17 guidelines over the years for different mineral resources, so seeing them applied and utilized on the job, resonates how important they have become as they are applied. They also fill a void that enables further institutional and on-the job strengthening of systems that may be weak or broken.

MRPAM has long been a driving force in ensuring that awareness is created around REE identification, location, and value, yet still not much is known about it. AMEP 2 and our government partners organized a high-level symposium "Reinforcing Mining and Geology" to shed light on its importance, research finding, and the potential for exploiting these novelty minerals in Mongolia. This event saw 447 individuals participate including government, companies, and civil societies, each interested in learning more about these future energy sources aimed at reducing fossil fuel dependency. Events not only stimulate conversation and debate, but they are also initial steps toward participatory change and involvement.

Newly established relationships have played an important role during this fiscal year, enriching the programs reach and providing new partnerships not previously explored. AMEP 2 reached out to civil society organizations, research institutions, and local communities and employees at the national and

subnational level. The program strengthened collaborative ties with gender led organizations such as the Women Association in the Mining Sector (WAMS), who, through their 7 Module on-line training program, reached out to 200 sector employees, providing gender inclusion, diversity, and human rights training. This has been a timely initiative as the MMHI has begun rolling out its' gender strategy. The AMEP 2 program activity also linked into the training of Rio Tinto's employees after its' external audit revealed deep seated workplace issues related to bullying, sexual harassment, racism within its global operations[1]. Active training in the sector has the potential to change and modify behavior between genders, diminish the gender gap and reclaim lost voices, although it is too early to tell if these changes in behavior have taken place.

AMEP 2 also reached out to subnational beneficiaries through its' partnerships with the MoET, Environmental Assessors' Association, and Mongolian National Mining Association, supporting local government officials in three key aimags and their corresponding soums through public participation training in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. 441 local level officials benefitted from these trainings, aimed at ensuring that there is a clear understanding that citizen processes need to be transparent, inclusive, and fair. This type of training was conducted in parallel with an activity focused on enhancing the MoET EIA database through an initial feasibility study with roadmap. This activity is a foundational piece to potential downstream development of an e-government platform for public viewing of EIA documents, public participation comments and downstream community agreements. This collaborative support is part of a larger strategic vision of a digital nation that is efficient, transparent and aligns with good governance principles. This activity on a subnational level provided participants with an opportunity to find common ground, exchange concepts, build connections and support systems for participatory process.

AMEP 2 has formed a strong relationship with a series of stakeholders involved in the initiation and development of a code for Mineral Asset Valuation into the Mongolian Securities Market. This has seen the development and implementation of a MONVAL Committee, followed by a first-time training program on mineral asset valuation in Mongolia in conjunction with our Australian partner, Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM). This resulted in the training of 55 Mongolians, securing their place as leaders and stewards of the MONVAL Code, to better protect investors and the Mongolian Stock Exchange. The draft Law on Asset Valuation and Financial Regulatory Commission (FRC) and Registration for the Securities Market has also played an important role in continued outcomes of this activity. At writing of this report, the draft has channeled its way through to the Parliament and is expected to be passed in the upcoming session. Through AMEP, the MONVAL Code development process has received a tremendous amount of support and enduring advocacy to allow it to move towards its goal.

Providing institutional support and channeling investment and community needs to government partners has seen AMEP 2 collaborate with the MMHI. This has included but has not been limited to the planning and facilitation of public consultation around the draft Minerals Law including the development of regulations and guidance material for implementing this new law, as well as providing advice to inform the draft Subsoil Law. Due to political issues these activities have been slow to roll out. With frameworks in place the government has identified it has very direct needs in relation to raising awareness and debate around royalties and taxes. If supported in the Annual Plan 2022-2023, there are opportunities for further strengthening and around consensus building. The work on subsoil law on the other hand saw the completion of an analysis looking at the existing legal framework. On completion it was provided to the MMHI and is expected to be presented shortly to the Draft Law Committee. This sets the groundwork if the government decides to change, modify, or draft new sector laws or regulations such as the Minerals Law.

The Digital Licensing and Tendering process has been an important and significant activity in which

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[1] Rio Tinto Report in Workplace Culture at Rio Tinto 2022

AMEP 2 has actively collaborated with its partners the MMHI and MRPAM. This activity is also a gateway to investment and a step towards ensuring that old bureaucratic modalities are modernized and streamlined to accommodate ease of doing business. One such means was to work in close partnership to achieve the development of a drop-down menu bar for the system and to improve access and mobility externally and internally within the system. Creating awareness and embarking on trainings to demonstrate the system in operation were also completed, with a total of 902 attendees during 3 distinct events. These events facilitated discussions and debate with stakeholders on system transparency and provided feedback to the MMHI and MRPAM on potential areas for improvement.

Looking into the future of transitional energy, AMEP 2 collaborated closely with its partners at the MRPAM on the identification of Mongolia's alternate resources such as Coal Bed Methane (CBM). This resulted in the identification of an estimated 7.4 trillion m^3 potential of CBM resources from prospectivity analysis and the identification of 15 coal basins with potential for downstream tendering and licensing providing investment potential. As a new cutting-edge alternate resource in Mongolia, the program trained over 80 geologists on CBM in conjunction with technical advice from Australian experts. This has allowed for a potential new sector that has yet to be exploited.

AMEP 2's achievements have, since its inception, been built on the foundations and relationships developed with collaborative partners, stakeholders, and beneficiaries. These relationships have played an important role in placing AMEP 2 at the heart of the Mongolian extractive sector landscape. Activities for FY 2021-2022 have proven to have positive outcomes with long reaching multipliers often surfacing in the most unexpected ways.

The Annual Report 2021-2022 aims to highlight the achievements, progress, and outcomes of its' 10 key activities. It should be noted that although this report covers the FY 2021-2022, at the time of writing, not all activities are complete, limiting accurate data collection for events post report submission. This has an impact on measuring the true impact and a comprehensive results-based outcome.

Highlights

AMEP 2 Annual Report 2021-2022 presents the key highlights of the year's results from the program's collaborative partners at the national and subnational level.

Annual Highlights 2021-2022	
Collaborative Partnership	With an aim of strengthening collaboration, increasing engagement and inclusion a total of 1,366 people (391 female and 975 male stakeholders) were engaged in activities led by collaborative partners. The program developed and supported a total of 11 direct collaborative[2] partnerships and a total of 23 indirect collaborative partnerships[3]. Total beneficiaries consisted of representatives from government (534), from industry (736), academia/research institute (29), and from civil society (35), and international bi-laterals and multi-lateral organizations (20) media and others (12).
Communication and Outreach	Broadening reach and increasing program and activity dissemination, the program used multi-media platforms and other communications channels to deliver AMEP 2 news and updates, reaching over 1800 stakeholders via its' newsletters. The program had over 20,000 hits on its website and 915 number of likes and a approximate reach of 2000 individuals per month on social media.
Diversity and Inclusion	Highlighting the need for improved gender and inclusion, the 7 Module E-Learning Program was designed with 2 key partners and saw the training of 200 individuals representing workers from Erdenes Tavan Tolgoi. MMHI and Women Association in the Mining Sector (WAMS) will continue sharing of the E-learning program and monitoring MOOC for the number of attendees and ensure that it reaches target of 1000.
Training	Increasing knowledge and empowerment, AMEP 2 and its collaborative partners undertook a total of 19 trainings and workshops[4] in FY 2021-22. The program-built capacity and trained a total of 838 individuals from government (451), industry (362), academia/research (11), and civil society/community (14)[5].
Data Entry & Systems	Improving transparency and good governance AMEP 2 and its' collaborative partners saw 562 metadata units uploaded entered the MonGeoCat system with a total number of 4842 external users. Supported and improved transparency and systematic disclosure to ensure a competitive edge.
Community Engagement	Increasing community visibility and voice, approximately 1000 community members were engaged at the sub-national level through AMEP 2 activities, with some 441 having participated directly in AMEP 2 trainings and workshop activities.

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[2] Direct collaborative partnerships are identified as a partner "organizations/institutions" that proposed and implemented an activity. CP work directly with the AMEP Activity Managers and benefit through the AMEP2 program

[3] Indirect collaborative partners are identified as partner "organizations/institutions" who have developed their own network of partnerships through the AMEP 2, These have been actively engaged in the program implementation and have benefitted through the program activity.

[4] These include and are not limited to capacity, skills development, and training events

[5] It should be noted that these statistics are based on data collection ending prior to the fiscal year and at the time of report writing.

Investor and Company	Strengthening the investment climate has seen the engagement of a total of 736 representatives from industry from the likes of exploration and mining companies, associations, and supply chain members. Involved a total of 362 industry representatives in trainings and consultations.
Exploration	Addressing international standards, a total of 17 Mineral Guidelines have been developed from 2019-2022 to support geologists, exploration projects and companies, with a distribution of 2350 copies, to promote a common methodology and approach to exploration and reporting that meets international standards. Guidelines have been incorporated into Law.
Coal Bed Methane	Moving into energy transition an identified 7.4 trillion m^3 potential CBM resources and 15 coal basins with potential for downstream tendering and licensing and investment potential have been identified. Saw to the training of 80 geologists on CBM.
Environmental Impact Assessment & Public Consultation	Ensuring community participation on the local level, AMEP 2 provided trainings, guidelines, and tools on the EIA public participation process to a subnational audience in 3 aimags and soums. Beneficiaries included government counterparts with a total of 441 individuals, 95 female participants and 346 male participants on the on-line training to improve and strengthen local governance systems.

Note: The following statistics are based on current figures at the time of writing this report early June 2022.

Context

Understanding Mongolia's context is key to finding out how to best utilize, plan, implement and manage the programs resources, make value driven decisions, and ensure sustainability through ownership. Understanding these conditions has allowed the AMEP 2 program to proactively support initiatives and activities that focus on improvements both environmentally, socially, and through governance (ESG) with the objective of strengthening Mongolia's extractives sector investment climate.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the current geopolitical and looming economic crisis are having an impact on the country's investment climate and the extractives sector. Economic growth in Mongolia continues to be constrained by high inflation, ongoing trade disputes, geopolitical risks, and tighter external financing conditions. The country saw -4.6% economic growth in 2020[6]. With the unprecedented and continued boarder closure with the People's Republic of China (PCR) and the Russian invasion of the Ukraine, the country faces the risk of stagflation and potential default on its' loans.

Mongolia's economic growth is expected to climb from 1.4% in 2021 to 2.3% in 2022 with a projected growth of 5.6% for 2023, based on domestic demand, investment, and services[7]. This may seem optimistic as the Tugrug continues to devaluate and inflation has reached 15.1% in 2022 as trade disruptions continue and energy and food prices increase. Overall, impacts have seen households continue to save due to persistent uncertainty, this is further reflected in the labor market which saw a 5% decline in 2021 with a loss of about 60,000 jobs. Since COVID-19 restrictions were lifted and with business slowly returning to normal job recovery is underway, household incomes are slowly stabilizing.

Further, escalation of the Russian war and border issues could have lasting effects on commodity markets, heightening the risk of investor confidence, and in hurting exports. Mongolia depends on its minerals sector – the sector contributed 37.04% to the GDP in 2021. However, because of trade disruptions and bottlenecks, the sector has contracted sharply due to lack of exports, resulting in coal inventories building up.

As identified one of the major obstacles to socio-economic and political progress and prosperity is corruption. Mongolia ranked 110th out of 180 countries in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2021. The introduction and roll out of Mongolia's e-governance platforms have the potential to improve Mongolia's ranking as systems are implemented and accessed by end users or "the public". For the extractives sector this is important as it aligns with the Mongolian governments commitment to the Extractives Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI), with the objective to mainstream and disclose key extractive sector information as per the EITI Standards and Requirements. The key systems currently under construction and in some case ready to launch are a) d-Parliament (laws and regulations with focus on public participation)[8], b) licensing and tendering (on-line procurement for mining licenses and contracts), c) MonGeoCat (digital geological catalogue), additional downstream digitized platforms will eventually include and are not limited to d) on-line environmental impact assessment system. These are part of the e-Mongolia country wide strategy[9] which is reflected in Mongolia's Vision 2040 and New Recovery Program.

Given Mongolia's weak international performance in attracting and conducting business, it is expected that poor existing rankings will be improved through these e-digital platforms. However, currently, Mongolia continues to rank 101 out of 137 in the Global Competitiveness Index 2020 by the World

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[6] Asian Development Outlook 2022 Highlight Report p.13
[7] The Asian Development Bank (ADB) economic report Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2022 had identified
[8] D-Parliament aims to ensure public participation and citizen engagement in the legislative process was launched at State House on April 5, 2022
[9] In 2019 the government of Mongolia passed Resolution No. 73. Focused on digitization of administrative government services

Economic Forum. The Fraser Institutes [Annual Mining Survey 2021](#) echoes this poor ranking, highlighting Mongolia's investment challenges placing the country in 75th place on a global scale as a poor mining jurisdiction based on poor policies that inhibit investment[10]. Global investor survey respondents (some 80%) identified a series of challenges to investing in Mongolia which included licensing as an issue along with royalties and taxes, socioeconomic agreement/community development, trade barriers, and security.

One of the major good news stories that came out during the reporting period relates to the resolution of disputes between the Government of Mongolia and Rio Tinto over the Oyu Tolgoi agreement. Over the years this project has symbolized Mongolia's ability to partner with foreign investors such as Rio Tinto. Despite the challenges since the original deal in 2009, Mongolia has managed to work with its partners to keep the project on track. On December 20, 2021, Mongolia's Parliament adopted a resolution outlining the steps that should be taken to improve the agreement with Rio Tinto which manages the Oyu Tolgoi copper and gold mining joint venture. This was followed by a landmark decision on January 25, 2022, when Mongolia's Prime Minister and Rio Tinto's CEO inaugurated the start of the underground mining operations and agreed to a common path forward[11]. This has symbolized a sign of good faith and it is hoped that the economy will accelerate to above 6% in 2023-2024 when OT's underground mining phase will become fully operational in 2023[12].

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[10] It should be noted that there were a limited number of respondents to this survey; however, this survey did align with the findings from the Fraser Institute 2017.
[11] January 25, Mongolian Prime Minister Luvsannamsrai Oyun-Erdene and Rio Tinto CEO Jakob Stausholm
[12] [World Bank April 2022 Mongolia Economic Update - Report](#)

Overview: Strategic Goals and Outcomes

The overall objective of the AMEP 2 *is to create an enabling environment for investment in Mongolia's extractive sector with the collaboration of multi-stakeholders representing government, industry, and civil society.* It is through investment (national and international) that economic growth and development can occur, providing benefits and opportunities to citizens and communities.

The AMEP has been an active contributor to improving the investment environment in Mongolia at the national and sub-national level with collaborative partners since its inception in 2015. Although this annual report covers FY2021- 2022, it is important to mention the overriding impacts that AMEP has had during its seven-year period, that have resulted in short term to long term results and support of the programs objectives.

Given the important activity value chain linkages that meet the programs' overall objective, 6 key pillars[13] were identified as key enablers to strengthen and secure sustainable investment in Mongolia. These pillars are strategically aligned with Mongolia's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), it's commitment to the EITI national and subnational priorities and action plans specific to the extractives sector through key government institutions and bodies. These include, Mongolia's Vision 2050, the Action Plan of the Government of Mongolia for 2020-2024 and the New Recovery Policy.
The government of Mongolia has committed within its action plan to *create a sustainable and multi-pillar economic structure and implement the principle of fair distribution of wealth by developing transparent and responsible mining and value-added industry and ensuring the growth of mineral revenues will commence the construction of heavy industries, including oil, coal-chemical, copper concentrate and metallurgy and implement related infrastructure projects [14].* The program and its objective have aligned itself in a responsive manner to support these and other related commitments taking into consideration ESG.

AMEP 2's outputs and outcomes are strategically aligned with the 6 pillars identified that ensure an enabling investment environment, that is competitive, responsible, based on good governance, is inclusive and diverse, considers communities and the environment, and is futuristic in its approach to green energy transition. These are identified and summarized in Table 2 below.

As will be reported within this Annual Report 2021-2022, all AMEP 2 activities are not "stand alone activities" but instead align with one or more of these Pillars and support each other while contributing to the overall objectives of the program and in meeting the Government of Mongolia's strategic vision.

Achieving ultimate outcomes often comes over time and as illustrated in this report program support has contributed to these objectives transforming processes and procedures, systems, and access while empowering stakeholders. As with many activities these require ongoing support to enable the achievement of a "big picture" outcome.

The following section provides details on each of our activities implemented in 2021-2022 along the 6 strategic pillars and progress made towards achieving outcome.

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[13] The word pillar may be used interchangeably within this document with that of indicator

[14] Government of Mongolia Action Plan 2020-2024

Table 1: Strategic Pillars Objectives and AMEP 2 Activities 2021-22

Pillars	*Objective: Create an enabling environment for investment in Mongolia's extractive sector in collaboration with multi-stakeholders representing government, industry, and civil society*	AMEP 2 Activities 2021-22
Pillar 1: Competitive	Geology, skilled workforce, and the acceleration of extractive sector reforms (policy, legal and regulatory) enhance and create a competitive investment environment attracting investment (national and foreign). This enables the securing of investor interest, rights, as well as creating an equal playing field that has the potential to allow current operators and investors to grow.	1.1. Incorporation of private sector geo-science data into National Geo-science Database 1.2. Development of regulations and guidance material for implementing the new Minerals Law
Pillar 2: Responsible	Encouraging high standards, international/national best practices, and performance both socially, environmentally, culturally, and fiscally can lead to long term sustainability, opportunities, and benefits for all stakeholders, while reducing government and investor/company risks.	2.1. Support to MONVAL Committee – production of guidance for mineral valuation and training 2.2. Development of guidelines for prospecting, exploration and reporting of resources and reserves for five selected minerals
Pillar 3: Well Governed	Supporting good governance and transparency through the reduction of political interference, increased transparency, systematic disclosure, and improved regulatory quality throughout the sector and economy can lead to government effectiveness, public trust, and investor confidence.	3.1. Planning and facilitation of public consultation on the draft Minerals Law 3.2. Advice to inform the revision of the Law on Sub Soil
Pillar 4: Inclusive and Diverse	Endowing and involving Mongolia's young and educated, especially females, able-bodied persons, and other diverse groups can impact the sector to provide an alternate voice and to meet the new technological revolution driving the sector.	4.1. Development of e-learning program on gender issues in the mining sector
Pillar 5: Community and Environment	Ensuring that local communities and their environment are considered and respected so that benefits and opportunities are shared while mitigating impacts on local ecosystems. Involving communities through participatory processes is not only good practice but the gateway to obtaining a "social license to operate".	5.1. Supporting public participation in Environmental Impact Assessment

Pillar 6: Green Energy Transition	Supporting energy and resource efficiency, while considering future needs is key to Mongolia's economic outlook. Transitional minerals (rare earth elements) are a pathway from fossil-based to zero carbon emissions while addressing global warming. Environmental management systems, rehabilitation, environmental impacts, and mitigation of extractives projects throughout their life cycle also play an important role in energy transition.	6.1. Improved Geo-science data for Coalbed Methane 6.2. Data Processing and Quality Assurance on Rare Earth Element Rock Samples

Pillar 1: Competitive Investment Environment

Strengthening and attracting investment in Mongolia (regardless of national or foreign direct investment) requires excellent geology, a skilled workforce, strong political will, and sector reforms (policy, legal and regulatory and institutional). These combined can create a competitive investment environment that can secure investor interests and rights, create a more level playing field and engages current and downstream investors to develop their potential interests in country.

Having "world class" geology with lots of potential, a rich history, makes Mongolia a competitive and attractive place to invest, yet numerous obstacles lie in its path to securing its place as a mineral powerhouse. One of the leading challenges is accessible, accurate and timely geological information on the country's mineral resources, including data on prospective areas, occurrences, and mineralized zones, geochemical data, geophysical and aerial mapping. Centralized, digitized, accessible data can enable investors to make value driven decisions, give governments more negotiating power over natural resources and communities opportunities to manage and plan in anticipation of development.

AMEP 2 together with its collaborative partners have worked to support a competitive investment environment through key activities such as: ***Activity 1.1. Incorporation of private sector geo-science data into National Geo-science Database***, ***1.2. Digital Licensing and Tendering Process (as part of the Development of regulations and guidance material for implementing the new Minerals Law activity).*** These aim to ultimately set the stage for current and future interest in Mongolia's mineral resources, through the provision of accessible and accurate information, that is inclusive of a transparent process. They play an important role in advancing Mongolia's commitment to the EITI with the objective of mainstreaming and achieving systematic disclosure of information to all stakeholders interested in Mongolia's natural resources.

Furthermore, these activities are supported through information sharing and data collection by Pillar 6 Energy Transition with *Activity 6.1. Improved Geo-science data for Coalbed Methane and Activity* and *Activity 6.2. Data Processing and Quality Assurance on Rare Earth Element Rock Samples*, improving both quality of information and access to it through digital systems and downstream licensing and tendering process.

1.1. Incorporation of Private Sector Geo Science Data into the National Geological Database

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Intermediate Outcome	Improved data quality and analysis
Short Term Outcome	A fully functional, transparent, system that provides access to users such as potential investors and companies
Outputs	D1: 400 reports are reviewed, summarized in English and Mongolian and incorporated into NGDB. 300 metadata entered in MonGeoCat system. 350GB data was incorporated into NGDB and MonGeoCat.
	D2: Some 4,842 identified users during 2021- 2022 of the reports uploaded to NGDB and MonGeoCat.
	D3: Report on due diligence analysis of licenses and legal advice on obtaining privately funded data. As a result, for the first time, privately

	funded geoscience data was incorporated into national database and was made available to the public.

AMEP 1 and 2 have collaborated with the MRPAM and NGS in supporting the Mongolian governments "e-government initiative[15] for the development of its National Geological Database (NGDB)[16] and MonGeoCat[17].

AMEP 1 saw the initial phase focus on the development of NGDB and MonGeoCat systems followed by the collection of available public data (research papers, maps, etc.). AMEP 2 saw a continuation of this right up to FY 2021-2022, however with a specific focus on the collection of private sector data (company data such as feasibility studies etc.). A legal assessment was conducted in the commencement of 2021 to ensure that data privacy laws would not be breached, through the collecting and inputting process on the systems. The results from the analysis confirmed that the current government freedom of information act supports the sharing of data, and therefore no violations of privacy occur in the process. This proved to be an important step in integrating privately funded data into NGDB and MonGeoCat for the first time.

The workflow of data integration process consists of 9 key steps as illustrated in Figure 1. These steps have been repeated since the commencement of the collaborative partnership and have permitted Steps 8 and 9 to take place. Figure 1 highlights the process map in which NGS skills are strengthened throughout the course of the data systemization. It should be noted here that 4 members of the NGS staff have been working on the system together with AMEP 2 team. An important step in the process is the cleaning of metadata and quality assurance standards to meet investor needs.

Figure 1:National Geological Database and MonGeoCat Workflow 2015 –2022
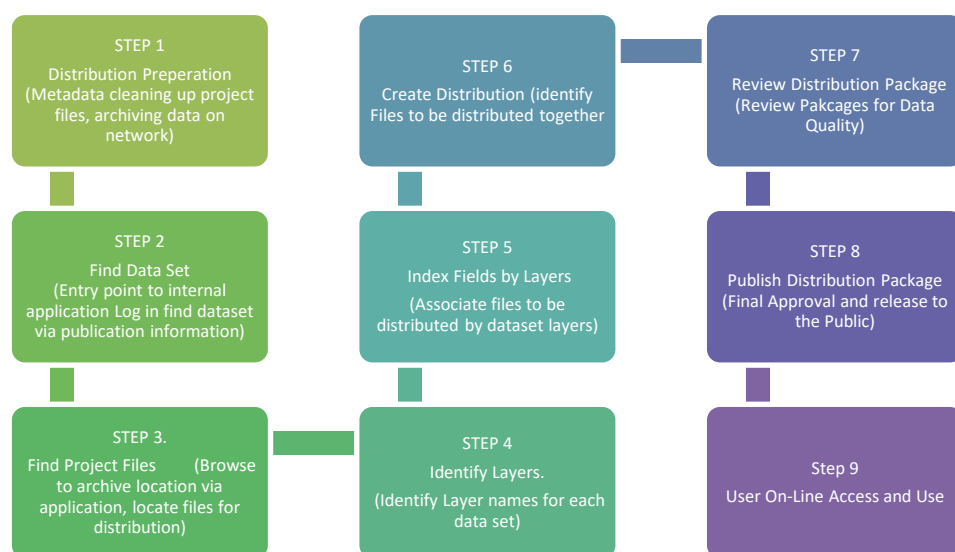
Since July 2021, a total of 400 reports including 5500 map, 1400 geo-referencing, over 5000 sampling were uploaded into MonGeoCat. Table 3 provides a summary of the number of documents uploaded since 2017. These documents are essential in their contribution to ensuring that the system contains the necessary data for both government, company, and public access. The system is also a vital tool for Mongolia's licensing and tendering process, providing essential information and data for the MMHI who has used data from the MonGeoCat and NGDB system to tender 109 mineral resource rich areas

in 2021[18].

Table 2: Metadata Uploads

AMEP Fiscal Years	Number of Meta Data Uploads[19]	Number of Users
June 2017 to June 2018	6780	1030
June 2018 to June 2019	4224	8729
June 2019 to June 2020	658	7434
June 2020 to June 2021	1390	8262
June 2021 to June 2022	562	4842

The system also houses maps. Currently, 43% of the Mongolia's land is mapped and uploaded onto the system, with 57% still in progress. It is estimated that all archived maps will be fully digitized by 2040. Table 4 illustrates the percentage of land mapped.

Table 3: MonGeoCat Mapping Progress 20 to 2022

Indicators	Value in Percentage % per Year			
	2019	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
50k scale Geological Mapping and General Prospecting	38.7%	40.0%	42.0%	43.0%

Access to the portal will have a profound impact on Mongolia's governance and transparency reducing corruption and building investor trust and government credibility. Furthermore, communities benefit through access of information and data which can drive improved local development and planning.

1.2. Digitization of Licenses and Tendering Process (as part of the Development of regulations and guidance material for implementing the new Minerals Law activity)

Intermediate Outcome	On-line implementation and use of digital license and tendering system
Short Term Outcome	Improved understanding of use of digital licensing and tendering system
Outputs	D1: Key system reviewed and assessed to ensure the adopted platform is suitable for the needs of the partners leading to a determined platform outcome of www.tender.gov.mn
	D2: Developed a specific add-on sub-menu key for investor (users) for ease of business access and use. Tested, corrected, updated, and harmonized the digitalization of the tendering process.
	D3: Supported and organized 3 key events that resulted in the outreach and participation of 902 participants and resulted in media coverage with an estimated outreach of 578,700 people

Mongolia's law and constitution make it clear that the state is the owner of all mineral resources situated below the ground. The granting of exploration rights given through the newly established digital on-line

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18 Vice Minister of MMHI Presentation on Reforming of Regulations on Mineral licensing through Tender 2022
19 Metadata refers to a set of data that describes and gives information about other data

e-licensing and tendering process can benefit the state through capital, technical expertise, build credibility, reduce bureaucracy, and create a positive business experience for private extractive companies. For companies it provides an opportunity to embark on what will become eventually a "one-stop" shop to obtaining licenses and ultimately enable a possibility to obtain a license after a long hiatus and previous moratorium on licenses. Geological information and licensing are key to a competitive investment environment and both systems although not currently integrated provide rely on each other for data and information.

A working group was established by representatives from MMHI, MRPAM and the NGS in 2021 to develop a transparent, competitive, on-line digital licensing and tendering process. This was supported by the Minister of MMHI and identified as a key priority by the Prime Minister of Mongolia[20].

In 2021, upon the request of the MMHI[21], the AMEP 2 met with the relevant officials for needed support on the development and implementation of a digitalization of a sub-menu for the mineral license application tendering process hosted by the State Procurement Agency (SPA) under www.tender.gov.mn. Understanding the value of moving this process forward AMEP 2 saw to the development of a report focused on a *Readiness Study on the Digitalization of the Mineral Exploration License Issuance Process*, to achieve a key understanding of system hosting and integration. The conclusion of this initial assessment verified an earlier assumption that the governments Tender and Procurement website would be a positive step in hosting this digital platform based on government requirements and cyber-security measures.

As a result of this key activity a specific add-on sub-menu was developed for the system and web interface. The menu was tested, corrected, updated, and harmonized within the digitalization process. The menu is an enabler for users specifically for interested investors who through the menu have access to the system and its features, increasing ease of business and supporting the governments' EITI commitment through "systematic disclosure". The menu and system also provide access to key areas within the licensing and tendering process framework.

On completion of the digitization of e-tendering and licencing system, AMEP 2 together with MMHI have undertaken 3 events/workshops to build capacity and awareness around the system (Table 5). The *New Recovery Policy Revival of Industrialization event* which was hosted in person and on zoom saw a total of 486 participants. MMHI Minister G. Yondon provided an overview of the system followed by a series of presentation highlighting the benefits and objectives of the on-line Licencing and Tendering Process and its' transparent tendering evaluation process. The presentation by the MMHI also featured the ease of use and impact the system would have in drawing in new investment and ensure ease of business. The MMHI in collaboration with the AMEP 2 conducted a second event that featured a more in-depth presentation of the Licensing and Tendering Process on April 1, 2022, and on April 21, 2022. The events saw the participation of 902 individuals in total representing industry, government, associations, institutions, media as well as civil society.

Table 4: Training and Awareness Events of the MMHI-MRPAM Licensing and Tendering Digitized System

| Type of Training / Workshop	Date	Attendees		
AMEP 2 Support		Total	Male	Female
New Recovery Policy Revival of Industrialization (in-person and remote attendance)	February 24, 2022	486	319	165

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[20] Under Order A/273 of 2021
[21] This was also a request from the MRPAM in June of 2021 for financial support on digitalization of the mineral exploration license issuance process.

Digitalization of Exploration License Workshop In Person Attendance	April 1, 2022	210	136	74
Digitalization of Exploration License Training ZOOM	April 21, 2022	206	124	82
Total		902	579	321

A survey was conducted on April 1, 2022, to receive feedback on the Digitized Licensing and Tendering system. Of those surveyed 57% of respondents stated that the system was an excellent user-friendly tool and 38% stated that it was good. Asked about governance and transparency 90% of respondents felt that this digital e-online platform would increase transparency, with 80% stating that it would increase investment. Open ended questions in the survey resulted in respondents stating that they felt the system is only as useful if the licenses and tenders demonstrate good geology. Other comments referred to the lack of access and information on private data, stating that public data on the current MonGeoCat systems not sufficient data to make value driven decisions.

Figure 2: Workshop Training Presentation of the Licensing and Tendering System
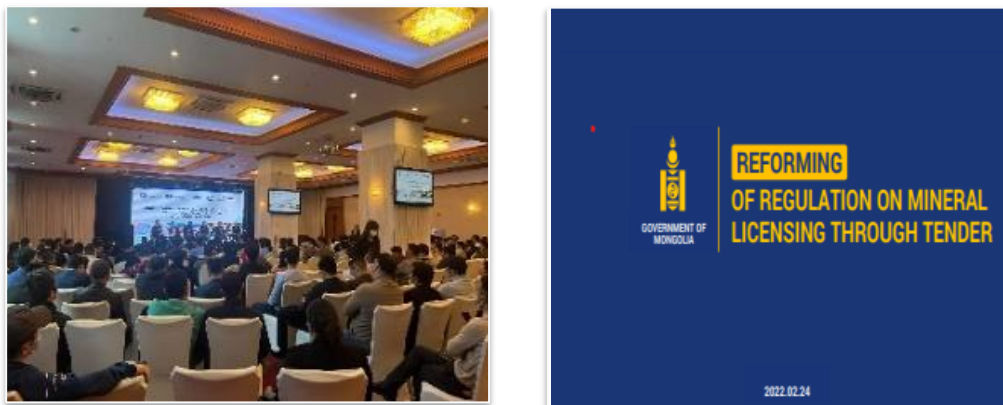
It should be highlighted that the MMHI and MRPAM have been promoting the on-line licensing and tendering process through key events and government sponsored activities. It is estimated that the government has reached out to its key constituents and companies in promoting the system. The Mongolian media and press have been active contributors to this process and have written approximately 13 press releases and articles on the system (Table 6). It is estimated that some 578,700 individuals have viewed these articles[22].

This is important as it highlights the governments seriousness in the implementation of its Vision 2050 Plan and New Recovery Program which is focused on governance and industrialization. Furthermore, it is expected that the Licensing and Tendering Process will be featured at the Prospectors and Developers Association (PDAC) in Canada[23].

Table 5: Media and Press Releases in the MMHI and Tendering and Licensing Process

Name of Press or News Agency	Date Published	Title
Blog Lehman Law	2022-02-26	Mongolia Implements New Tender Process to Obtain Mining Licenses. Click here
Invest Mongolia	2022-02-24	New Tender Process for Mining Licenses. Click here

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[22] Based on cumulative monthly readerships from identified news sources
[23] A delegation from the MMMHI will be going to the event held between June 13-15 and online from June 28-29, 2022

Montsame	2022-02-24	The number of exploration licenses has been increased to 350-400 [Click here]
UBN	2022-02-24	A conference on "Intensifying the Geology and Mining Sector" is being held [Click here]
ITOIM	2022-02-16	Exploration licenses will be issued online from March [Click here]
Press Center	2022-04-01	With the revised regulation of exploration licensing, the number of exploration licenses will increase 3-4 times a year [Click here]
UNEN	2022-03-07	O.Batnairamdal: It is clear that the increase in fuel prices on the world market will come gradually. There is no way to avoid it [Click here]
Zasagtur.mn	2022-03-28	Long-distance transportation from Tavan Tolgoi to Tsagaan Khad will start on 1 May [Click here]
Daily News	2022-04-01	The number of exploration licenses will increase 3-4 times a year with the revised regulation on licensing [Click here]
MMHI	2022-04-15	The number of exploration license will increase 3-4 times a year by digitalization. [Click here]
Mongolian Economy	2022-02-10	It is time for Mongolia's mining sector to enter a new stage of development [Click here]

This is a testimony to the importance of the digital system which will reduce the time frame for issuing a license from 35 days to 15 days. It will reduce the bureaucratic paperwork of some 300-600 pages for 1 tender process to a few clicks, and reduce the current 102 signatures required to a few e-signatures through digitization[24].

The official launching of the MMHI Licensing and Tendering digital platform has not been announced to date although its approval as per Regulation N A/67 April 12, 2022, permits its full implementation and operation.

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[24] Presentation Vice Minister Presentation 2022.02.24 Reforming of regulation on Mineral Licensing through Tender.

Pillar 2: Responsible Extractive Sector

The extractive industry has the potential to provide, opportunities and benefits that can include and are not limited to economic growth, and job creation. Responsible investors and their shareholders are often looking to understand the linkage between non-financial performance and the delivery of a range of business and government strategies and policies that uphold environmental, social and governance (ESG) best practices.

In Mongolia there has been a shift and the integration of "responsible mining" has entered government policy papers, action plans, public speeches by elected officials, principles and guidelines and codes for extractive sector business associations and organizations, as well as political platforms. This can be attributed to the efforts of key advocacy groups representing industry, civil society associations and sector leaders.

AMEP 2 has opened pathways to ensuring a responsible extractive sector climate that benefits both industry, government, and communities. The following key activities as outlined represent the significance of a responsible mining sector that ***Activity 2.1 Support to MONVAL Committee – production of guidance for mineral valuation and training*** and ***Activity 2.2 Development of guidelines for prospecting, exploration and reporting of resources and reserves for five key minerals*** that aims to build confidence and public trust in the financial sector for reporting and valuation purposes.

Activity 2.1: Support to MONVAL Committee – production of guidance for mineral valuation and training

Intermediate Outcome	Mongolian professionals apply methods and processes consistent with international best practices
Short Term Outcome	Awareness and learning opportunities provided for Mongolian professionals
Outputs	D1: Developed a guidance on methodologies for mineral valuation consistent with Ministry of Finance regulation.
	D2: Together with AusIMM developed an online training package. The course covered both VALMIN and MONVAL codes.
	D3: Delivered an online training for MONVAL committee members and qualified professionals. 55 MONVAL Appraisers certified for the first-time.
	D4: A total of 4 key MONVAL outreach events, including one with AustCham, with a total of 107 attendees.

This activity highlights a significant first step towards improved, reliable and accurate reporting of mineral asset valuation in accordance with international best practices and standards. Investors, financiers, shareholders, and companies, as well as industry professionals (geologists, mining engineers and metallurgists) recognize the value of ensuring correct and transparent public reporting.

There is high reputational risk for companies and individuals relating to incorrect public reporting on the value and the future potential of mineral assets. International examples have seen the suspension of trading, court appearances and fines being imposed on companies by regulators. For individuals, management roles could be lost, and membership of professional organizations can be suspended. For public investors this could have impending financial consequences and destroy public trust in

extractives companies and the stock market.

Between 2019 and 2020, AMEP 2 provided support to Mongolia's Financial Regulatory Commission (FRC) to develop a draft internationally compliant Mongolian Mineral Property Evaluation Code (MONVAL).   With the support and in partnership with AMEP 2 a MONVAL Committee was established on 5th of February 2021. This Committee was able to establish a platform for the development of a MONVAL Code, based on the IMVAL, which are internationally recognized standards that are used and relied upon in financial and other markets for regulatory compliance purposes and to secure lending and transactional activities. More specifically the Committee used the Australasian Code for Public Reporting of Technical Assessments and Valuations of Mineral Assets (VALMIN) as a guideline and in collaboration with AMEP 2 and AusIMM developed a draft MONVAL code and provided advice for the development of Mineral Evaluation guidelines. The purpose of the draft code is to ensure that Mineral Asset Valuations are conducted in a standardized and systematic manner, by appropriately qualified individuals, so that all relevant information is fully disclosed in company Valuation Reports. The Code therefore is complimented by the development of accompanying guidelines as important "standard operating procedure" towards the approaches and methods for valuation in the mineral development field. The MONVAL Committee succeeded in developing these guidelines with the Committee Members.

To strengthen the capacity of the MONVAL committee and certify professional appraisers, AMEP 2 partnered with AusIMM to develop a tailored training package consisting of 6 modules. This international partnership brought best practices to the doorstep of the Mongolian MONVAL Committee and saw the training package strengthened through defined opportunities for sharing expertise and experience. The training-built skills amongst professional appraisers and increased technical knowledge to ensure downstream awareness and transformation. This is the first-time type of training has been conducted in Mongolia.

Between February 28th and March 28th, an intense learning program was implemented on both the MONVAL Code and the VALMIN Code (Table 7). The program was attended by technical professional/consultants, certified valuators of whom some were members of the Joint Council of Geology and Mining Associations, the MPIGM and the Mongolian Institute of Certified Appraisers (MICA). The online modules consisted of four 105 minutes webinars that were composed of pre-recorded videos /interviews with experts, reading resources including case studies, articles and researchers, group discussions, and test questions.

Table 6: Mineral Valuation Code and Methodology (MONVAL Committee and AusIMM) Training Program

	Modules	Date	Facilitation
1	The MONVAL code, professional ethics	23 Feb, 2022	MONVAL Committee
2	Why the VALMIN code	28 Feb, 2022	The AusIMM
3	Interpretation and Application	7 March, 2022	The AusIMM
4	Mineral Valuation Methodologies and their application	14 March, 2022	The AusIMM
5	Misconceptions and Practical experience	21 March, 2022	The AusIMM
6	Comparison of the VALMIN & MONVAL codes, cases	28 March, 2022	The AusIMM

Fifty-five participants received their certificate of completion for the Mineral Valuation Code and Methodology Training Program. According to the MONVAL Committee this has seen some of the newly certified trainers being sequestered by companies and the MMHI to provide guidance, technical assistance, and support. One can surmise based on this information that there has been a growing understanding by the sector that MONVAL adds important value, and standardized practices.

Furthermore, this activity aligns with cross-cutting activities that are also supported by AMEP 2 such as the development of guidelines for prospecting, exploration, and reporting of resources. This enhances

sector strategies and builds on strengthening core competencies between diverse stakeholders. From a strategic perspective this activity and those also implemented by the program have strengthened institutional capacity and addressed standard operating procedures and have contributed to improving transparency.

Figure 3: MONVAL Program Graduation Ceremony 2022

MONVAL Course Graduates

Feedback results from the MONVAL training saw 53% respondents state that the training was excellent with 43% stating it was good. Respondents were asked open ended questions about how this program could improve their professional work. They responded that if following the methodology, they would have a stronger justification for report evaluations. They also stated that they had an increased knowledge in the use of various models and applications as opposed to using routine methods. This would provide them with more flexibility in addressing distinct needs. Respondents felt by using this knowledge they would gain more professional credibility which in turn could generate and stimulate investment. Respondents stated that in the future they would like to have more "hands on practice".

To ensure further outreach on the significance of MONVAL, AMEP 2 in coordination with the Australian Chamber of Commerce in Mongolia (AustCham) organized a Professional Speakers Series event on the subject of "*Public Reporting and Safeguarding Investments and Securities in Mongolia: Introduction to MONVAL Code*". This was held on April 15, 2022, and was widely received with some 60 attendees representing extractive sector companies and other interested organizations who were not sector specific, government institutions and professional associations. It provided participants an opportunity to learn more about the significance of the Code and to discuss, mechanisms for its adoption into mainstream practices.

A final two-day training workshop on *Valuation Guidance for Practitioners Applying the MONVAL Code* was held on June 7th and 8th 2022 prior to activity completion. This workshop led by AusIMM focused on building skills for valuators on becoming familiar with the MONVAL Guidance document and determining appropriate valuation approaches and methods to the mineral's development field. This workshop series saw a total of 49 participants, predominantly representing MICA. The trainings received favourable reviews whereby 54% of respondents indicated the trainings were excellent and 46% stated they were good as per an AMEP 2 post-event feedback survey[25].

AMEP 2 efforts on continued engagement with an ever-increasing stakeholder base, have seen a strong and collective advocacy form for the adoption of the MONVAL Code as a national standard and as an important legal and regulatory tool to ensuring best practices. Recent results in the month of June have

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[25] MONVAL Satisfaction Survey April 15, 2022 (Respondents 25 out of 50)

seen the MONVAL Committee inch closer to meeting its goal of an approval of the law on Asset Valuation and the FRC draft Registration for the Securities Market. AMEP 2 recommendations have been integrated within these draft laws. Approval would enable the MONVAL Committee, to become autonomous and lead appraisal processes based on the MONVAL Code and its' guidelines. It is expected that these will officially be approved in this or the next quarter.

Activity 2.2: Development of guidelines for prospecting, exploration and reporting of resources and reserves for five key minerals

Intermediate Outcome	Increased accuracy and uniformity in reporting to the Minerals Council of Mongolia
Short Term Outcome	Improved knowledge and skills for prospecting, exploration, and reporting of resources
Outputs	D1: 5 mineral guidelines (Phosphate, Manganese, Beryllium, Nickel-Cobalt, Chromium) have been developed and standardized in Mongolian and English.
	D2: Guidelines are currently mandated by MMHI Resolution H/76 of April 21, 2022.
	D3: Estimated some 1,500 geologists are conducting exploration work under the developed guidelines.

AMEP 2 in collaboration with the MMHI and the Center of Minerals Research and Geoinformation Training of the School of Mining & Geology of the Mongolian University of Science and Technology (MUST) developed a series of 17 Mineral Guidelines of which 5 were developed in the FY 2021-2022. These include 1) *Cobalt-nickel, 2) Manganese, 3) Beryllium, 4) Chromium, 5) Phosphate* with the addition of carbonate rocks, sand, and gravel[26].

The MMHI is responsible for the implementation of 2 key Resolutions (Number 203 (2015) and Number A/195 (2018)) that require all exploration companies to prepare exploration reports (including geological reserves) and submit these to the Mineral Resource Professional Council (MRPC) for discussion and registration into the National Mineral Reserve Registry (NMRR). Mineral Resolution A/76 (April 21, 2022) 2022 accepts the newly developed guidelines as an approved standard and integral part of the reporting process to the MRPC.

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[26] This was included in the FY 2021-2022 AMEP Workplan on request of the MMHI, as these commodities represent a large portion of commodities trade and infrastructure projects.

Figure 4: Mineral Guidelines Cover 2022
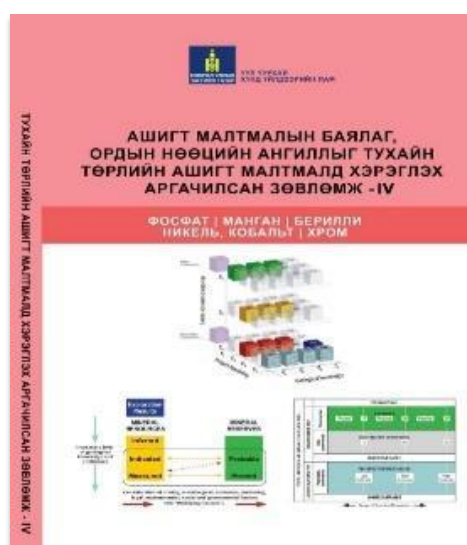
Previously, no unified guidelines or template existed so exploration companies submitted a range of different reports to the MRPC. In developing the mineral guidelines, the MMHI has managed to improve efficiency and data quality, as well as transparency of the registration process. Furthermore, the reporting requirements of reserves by the MRPC, align with international standards by global leaders such as Australia's Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) or Canada's National Instrument 43-101. These disclosure standards aim to ensure that misleading or fraudulent information related to mineral resources and properties is not published or promoted on the stock exchange through Initial Public Offering companies or to potential and existing investors. They in turn also align with those presented by the MONVAL Code and Guidelines.

This activity intersects with Activity 1.1 (Incorporating geoscience data into NGDB and MonGeoCat) and Activity 2.1 (MONVAL) given that its key purpose is to strengthen geologists and provide guidance through practical "in the field" applications to exploring and reporting on key minerals to the MRPC. By providing a practitioner's framework and methodology, specifically as it relates to selected minerals and the registration and reporting of resources and reserves, professional performance is improved, reliability and quality of data including estimates, and reserves are accurately reported. Ultimately it benefits end users of this data such as investors, shareholders, companies, and government.

No formal training was conducted during this activity however a series of meetings were undertaken to share information, knowledge, and experiences to enhance the guidelines and provide a framework for continued development.

Although, these guidelines were originally intended for use by professional geologists and experts they have had a broader impact and use as they have been integrated into university student's curriculum. The MUST requires students to study key chapters of the guidelines focused on general concepts, deposit classification, geological setting, and ore mineral composition within their undergraduate program on "Metallic Mineral Deposit Geology[27]" course. Other guideline chapters such as ore technology characteristics study, deposit hydrogeology, engineering geology (geotechnical), geo-ecological and other natural conditions study, deposit resource estimations and assessments, deposit study status, resource calculation and verification are used in the post graduate master's program on "Mineral Exploration Methodology"[28]. A total of 84 students at MUST use the guidelines between 2019-2022.

The guidelines are posted on the official website of the MMHI and MRPAM in addition to being distributed through the leading Geological Associations and Professional Institutions. It is estimated that these documents have been downloaded over 2000 times per annum. During 2021 – 2022, 2350 hard copies of the guidelines delivered to identified stakeholders.

These mineral guidelines have had a broad impact on the sector when it comes to prospecting and exploration. Not only have they been incorporated into a resolution making them a national standard, but they have been used by geologists and others reporting to the MRPC. According to the MPRC, in 2020 some 176 exploration reports were received of which 103 used the mineral guidelines developed

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[27] All 17 Mineral Guidebooks are used at the University of Science and Technology as part of its undergraduate curriculum
[28] All 17 Mineral Guidebooks are used at post-graduate level at the Mongolian University of Science and Technology as part of their training

with the support of AMEP 2. In 2021, some 128 reports were submitted to the MRPC of which 53 reports used mineral guidelines developed under AMEP 2. This has facilitated an improved investment environment through standardization, improved practices, and has become part of an educational process, building skills and knowledge with future Mongolian geologists and program graduates, providing practical skills and tools.

It is anticipated in the downstream that these documents will be more widely distributed by the NGS but also will be revised to accommodate new developments such as those reflected in the MONVAL Code.

Pillar 3: Well Governed Extractives Sector

A well governed extractives sector requires strong political will, rule of law, commitment, public participation, and information disclosure. It is the pathway to ensure that citizens benefit from their natural resources now and in the future. Lack of accountability through the clouded accessibility and quality of information can have a strong adverse impact on efficient and effective capital markets who are risk averse. Investors, shareholders, companies, policymakers, and others are all negatively impacted when it comes to decision-making if the rule of law its' implementation and enforcement are weak.

The MMHI has drafted a new Minerals Law that takes into consideration changes that need to be implemented to address transparency, systematic disclosure, and legal and regulatory gaps and overlaps. . It is expected that this draft law will be presented in the Autumn Session in Parliament commencing in October 2022 – February 2023.

Despite these challenges a series of target initiatives have been undertaken by the AMEP 2 program and its collaborative partners to improve governance and transparency and strengthen the rule of law and regulations for improved investment outcomes. These have included the following: ***Activity 3.1 Planning and facilitation of public consultation on the draft Minerals Law*** and ***Activity 3.2 Advice to Inform the Revision of the Law on Subsoil.*** Activities described under Pillar 1: Competitive Investment Environment also contribute to the well government extractive sector. It is expected that over time with the implementation of these systems and the strengthening of the law that these will have a significant impact on improving governance and transparency in the sector and in increasing investment.

Activity 3.1: Planning and facilitation of public consultation on the draft Minerals Law

Intermediate Outcome	Application of consultation framework process applied to draft laws in the mineral sector
Short Term Outcome	Improved knowledge and skills regarding key stakeholder "hot-button issues of the current mining law
Outputs	D1: Comparative assessment of the current Mineral Law and the new draft Mineral Law was carried out; skills and capacity development through research documents
	D2: Draft Mineral Law translated into English.
	D3: Production of pre-consultation materials (including background reference material) to inform the public and key stakeholders on the draft Minerals Law; development of a draft stakeholder engagement plan that aligns with legal requirements
	D4: Consultation Framework for Revised Version of the Draft Law Presentation
	D5: MMHI and relevant officials took initiative to advance consultation process through their own means, based on knowledge and skills provided through AMEP 2 products

AMEP 2 and its' collaborative partners have worked since FY 2020-2021 in providing the MMHI with timely research and assessments as well as technical recommendations to support constructive discussions around the development of regulations and guidance materials for the implementation of the new Minerals Law. This work included a review and *Assessment of Regulations around Mining Feasibility Studies*, whereby a draft revised regulation was presented as well as a *Report on Mine*

Management Plans in Australia. A *Guidance on Accounting Standards on Exploration and Mining* activities was developed a report on *Royalty on Minor Elements* followed by research and an analysis to support *Reforms to Exploration Licensing.* AMEP 2 also undertook an effective *Tax Rate Study.* All activities engaged members from the MMHI and other key stakeholders of which many are directly linked to the draft Minerals Law Working Group and its Sub-Working Committee. Presentations, workshops and trainings were conducted based on the results of these distinct research reports to better inform MMHI and other key stakeholders, so that value drive decisions could be made to improve discussions around the drat Minerals Law.

These key activities have directly and indirectly supported the internal workplan of the MMHI in developing and finalizing a draft version of the Minerals Law in June of 2021. The work was followed up by an impact and cost analysis of the revised draft Minerals Law in September of 23, 2021 that would lead to a round of discussions organized internally by the MMHI and its advisors. These activities were not supported by AMEP 2, however, were undertaken internally by the MMHI. The MMHI signaled a request to conduct a public consultation based on the revised draft Minerals Law. According to the Mongolian "Law on Laws" a public consultation process is required when undertaking a revision of laws (Article 24).

The scope of work for this year's activity included the development of pre-consultation materials in "plain language" on identified sections of the law and "hot button" issues, followed by a consultation and communications strategy. Stakeholders from bi-lateral and multi-lateral development partners, industry/professionals, and members from the selected soums and baghs of Dornod, Dornogobi, Umnugobi, Khovd and Orkhon and civil society were identified as stakeholders to that would be part of the consultation process. The framework for this process was delivered to the beneficiaries (MMHI Working Group) however was not implemented neither on the national or subnational level.

Figure 5: Public Consultation Materials Prepared for the MMHI for Revised Draft Law

Although this activity has been delayed for a broad range of political reasons, it should be noted that several initiatives have been undertaken by members of the working group to inform key stakeholders and the public of the revised draft law. AMEP 2 team carried out a comparative assessment of the existing Mineral Law and the revised draft Mineral Law and developed a Consultation Framework for Revised Version of the Draft Law. The draft revised Mineral Law is also translated in English. Numerous infographics and presentations were prepared in advance of the consultations and MMHI has used the materials to carry out further discussions on the draft law.

Due to political delays the program has suspended this activity until further notice from the collaborative partners and the working group. This has however not limited MMHI to engage in discussions with local communities in and around the draft law. Discussions with the Minster of the MMHI and the Policy Department have resulted in focusing engagements with key stakeholders around 'key issues' specifically royalties and taxes. This will be identified in the Annual Workplan 2022-2023 and will depend upon DFAT and MoF approval.

Activity 3.2: Advice to Inform the Revision of the Law on Subsoil

Intermediate Outcome	Key Ministries and agencies and regulators responsible for the subsoil law operate within the consistent legislative with clearly defined responsibilities
Short Term Outcome	Enhance knowledge with key Stakeholders (ministries, agencies, and regulators) on the use and application of the subsoil law
Outputs	D1: Preliminary research on the need and demand for revising Law on Subsoil
	D2: Impact assessment of the implementation of the Law on Subsoil
	D3: Draft concept note for revised Law on Subsoil inclusive of the introduction to the law
	D4: Draft revision of Law on Subsoil in Mongolian language inclusive of related changes for other laws
	D5: Coordination and knowledge sharing with 20 members of the MMHI Working Group

The Law on Subsoil is the fundamental legislation to "regulate issues related to use and protection of subsoil in the interest of present and future generations." As such, it defines the core regulatory framework of the geology sector. However, since its passage in 1988, subsequent sectoral laws, for example Minerals Law, Petroleum Law, Law on Water have made their own provisions for similar activities without corresponding amendments to the Law on Subsoil. Each of these sectoral laws regulates geological survey functions relating to specific resources, splitting functions, and reducing the flow of information.

These have ultimately resulted in overlap and lack of coherence between the laws and some perverse outcomes. There have been a series of attempts to complete the revision of this law in the past led by the Office of the President and MMHI (supported by AMEP 1) with no direct result. In April 2021, a MMHI government driven working group was formed consisting of all relevant inter-ministerial representatives with the aim to conclude this long pending revision.

For institutional bodies such as the MMHI and the NGS a study and revision of the law is expected to clarify some existing uncertainty on the roles and responsibilities between the NGS and Mineral MRPAM for geoscience data management. The significance of this will not only improve transparency and good governance but will also enable the institutions to improve organizational (process and procedures) and enhance informational functions, to better serve citizens and companies.

In October 2021, AMEP 2 in collaboration with the MMHI Working Group set about identifying key needs that resulted in the development of Terms of Reference to conduct an assessment on the Law of Subsoil with the understanding that this activity could improve government capacity on identifying bottlenecks from multi-stakeholder viewpoints and build a consensus on future steps forward to ensure value driven decisions are made to enhance the legal and regulatory framework from a governance and competitive viewpoint. It was clearly understood that this activity would require close coordination with the proposed Draft Minerals Law and subsequently would either impact this law or would be impacted by it.

AMEP 2 team in collaboration with the working group began a research analysis including data collection through key interviews with representatives from the following government institutions and agencies: MMHI, MRPAM, MoET, NGS, and the General Authority for Specialized IInspection (GASI) as well as others.

Data and information collected was assessed and analyzed revealing that due to a lack of harmonization, with other laws, the Law of Subsoil is challenged in its purpose and function and implementation. The study revealed that half the provisions in the law need to be amended to bring them in line with other laws, more specifically the Minerals Law. A draft Concept Note was developed for further discussion, with an expectation that a round of stakeholder consultations would take place, with comments incorporated into final recommendations by the Working Group and other key identified stakeholders.

Stakeholder engagement was a key process to the development of the Concept Note and Recommendations developed. The MMHI Working Group consists of 20 members (Table 8) 4 professional associations and 16 government agencies, all who were engaged in every step of the process, through internal discussions, presentations, and external expert consultations, sharing knowledge and lessons learned as well as different perspectives.

Table 7: Key Representatives of the Subsoil Working Group FY 2021-2022

Name	Title	Ministry
Head of MMHI Subsoil Working Group		
B.Uyanga	Acting Head of Department on Geological Policy	MMHI
Members		
Kh.Bayarkhangai	Analyst, Geological Policy Department	MMHI
T.Zuunnast	Senior Analyst, Mining Policy Department	MMHI
P.Khurelkhuu	Analyst, Petroleum Policy Implementation Coordination Division, Petroleum Policy Department	MMHI
D.Jadamba	Senior Officer, Legal Division, State Administration Management Department	MMHI
B.Buyannemekh	Senior Analyst, Environment and Natural Resource Management Department	MoET
G.Bolormaa	Senior analyst, Urban Development and Land Affairs Policy Implementation Coordination Department	Ministry of Construction and Urban Development
D.Gerelnyam	Head of Policy and Planning Department	Ministry of Road and Transportation Development
O.Oyunzul	Officer, Legal Policy Department	Ministry of Justice and Internal Affairs
D.Batmagnai	Acting head of Geology, Mining Cadastre Division	MRPAM
D.Enkhtuya	Senior Officer, Administration Management and Cooperation Department	Administration of Land Affairs, Geodesy and Cartography
N.Batbayar	Head of Environment, Geology and Mining Inspection	General Agency for Specialized Investigation
Kh.Shurentsetseg	Head of Water Use Division	Mongolian Water Authority
G.Altankhuyag	Head of Mineral Study, Planning and Economics Division	NGS
R.Enkhsaikhan	Head of Central Archives of Geological Data	NGS
Ch.Tegshsaikhan	Head of Underground Mining Specialized Engineers Association	Professional Mining Associations Council
Ya.Bat-Ireedui	Head of Integrated Council	Mongolian Geological

		Association
S.Lkhagva-Ochir	Executive Director	Mongolian Geological Association
D.Ganbat	Board Member	Mongolian Geological Association
Secretary of Working Group		
B.Tsatsral	Senior officer, Geological Policy Department	MMHI

In March 2022, the Head of the Working Group departed, leaving the key position vacant. Due to MMHI internal protocols and procedures the Working Group cannot move forward until a replacement is announced. This has delayed stakeholder consultation process on the draft Subsoil Law. Recent developments as of June 2022 have seen the appointment of a new Head of the Working Group which has signaled the beginning of continued discussions and debate around the Subsoil Law and the report findings. This may see recommendations proposed enter the draft law and may see things speed up with the working group.

Pillar 4: Inclusive and Diverse Extractives Sector

Gender equality and inclusion is a goal however it is difficult for any country to achieve its potential of a 50% female labor force within the extractives sector. Mongolia is no exception to this challenge. This would require equal access to education, technology, access to financing, and markets as men. This is even more challenging in the extractives sector where gender inequality is experienced differently by both women and men. Women tend to bear a disproportionate burden of impacts as opposed to men who tend to reap economic benefits through employment and wages. Companies therefore play an important role to recognize women's rights to resources and property, as well as within consultation and engagement processes and in the support of providing equal access to jobs, and economic opportunities. While promoting human rights and access to equal pay.

Mongolia's Law on Gender Equality (2019) which was approved by the MMHI saw the development of a responsive Human Rights Gender Policy for the sector. The focus of the policy aims to achieve gender parity, ensuring diversity and inclusion and the upholding human rights. For the sector it aims to drive sensitization around gender and human rights issues with industry participants and stakeholders. This comes at a time when there has been much media buzz around Rio Tinto's external audit *Report into Workplace Culture at Rio Tinto*, highlighting issues related to bullying, sexual harassment, and racism throughout its global operations. The report has seen senior management at mines such as Oyo Tolgoi begin to address some of these deep-rooted workplace issues.

The AMEP 2 program through its collaborative partnership with the MMHI and WAMS anticipates that the implementation of **Activity 4.1 On-line Gender Diversity and Inclusion Course** will reduce gender stereotypes and shift cultural norms, while creating awareness and thought-provoking insights on gender equality, human rights, and obligations. Ultimately, changing behaviours, whether as individuals or on a corporate level through the introduction of gender responsive company policies that impact, wages, promotions, and positions, and discourage inappropriate behaviour. Good policies tend to send a signal for more workplace diversification and improve work and life balance. It also comes at a moment when the focus within the industry sector has begun to reflect on core issues that have not been addressed, and now more than ever need to be corrected.

Activity 4.1: Development of e-learning program on gender issues in the mining sector

Intermediate Outcome	Improved practices around gender inclusion, diversity, and human rights within the sector
Short Term Outcome	Awareness raising and sensitization on key issues related to the MMHI Human Rights Gender Policy
Outputs	D1: E-learning Program Development Plan
	D2: Produced and launched 7 e-learning program modules; course launched on MOOC
	D3: Delivery of online training for 200 workers from Erdenes Tavan Tolgoi
	D4: Developed 35 workplace gender posters and distributed to mining companies

Since 2019, the MMHI has undertaken a series of commitments and actions to ensure gender inclusion and diversity within the extractives sector. This saw the development and approval of an extractives

sector Gender Policy as per the requirement of <u>Mongolia's National Committee on Gender Equality (NCGE)</u>[29]. The MMHI in conjunction with the Strengthening Extractive Sector Management in Mongolia SESMIM (Global Affairs Canada) funded program developed a gender policy which engaged stakeholders such as the WAMS. As the SESMIM project ended in 2019, the MMHI wanted to put policy into practice and thereby requested AMEP 2 to assist in implementing some of the measures outlined in the policy[30]. The focus of this was to create policy awareness with extractive sector companies and highlight the importance of gender inclusion, diversity, and human rights. Furthermore, participants from industry are expected to activate workplace change, that can ultimately benefit companies and their employees through the improvement of day-to-day interactions, enhance collaboration, and attract and retain diverse talent.

AMEP 2 developed a 7-module training program *Gender Inclusion and Diversity Workplace E-Learning* focused on the workplace, targeting junior to senior level employees and human resource personnel. The Modules include the following thematic areas as identified in the Table 9.

Table 8: Gender Modules 2021 – 2022

Module Number	Module Title
1	Who am I?
2	What are my rights and responsibilities? Principles of human rights and gender equality"
3	What are the legal, social, and economic guarantees of the environment in which I work and live?
4	Employee-friendly organization of the benefits of adopting human right and gender sensitive policies in organization value and behavior
5	Employee-friendly workplaces or adopting human right and gender sensitive concepts in workplaces/position
6	Results based budgeting
7	Leadership adopting human right and gender sensitive policies at the management level

Based on the multi-media program users are introduced to a fundamental understanding of their rights, roles, and responsibilities as well as topics related to sensitive issues and stereotypes.

The 7-Modules were designed to be hosted on Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC). The MOOC is an educational free on-line platform and accessible to millions of users interested learning on-line and is filled with a broad range of educational programs. Prior to determining the viability of this site an assessment was undertaken to ensure that the e-learning program / Learning Management System (LMS) would be accessible based on current technology needs of prospective participants.

All Modules were transformed from paper scripts to multi-media videos, inclusive of quizzes and multi-media features as well as taking into consideration the hearing impaired.

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[29] Policy was developed by SESMIM Project (Global Affairs Canada) (2019-2026)
[30] The Policy according to the MMHI Action Plan highlights the "1.7 Develop a gender-sensitive training module for government, private sector and stakeholder executives, employees, and training of national and local trainers".

*Figure 6: Web-based Video shots of the Gender E-Learning Program*
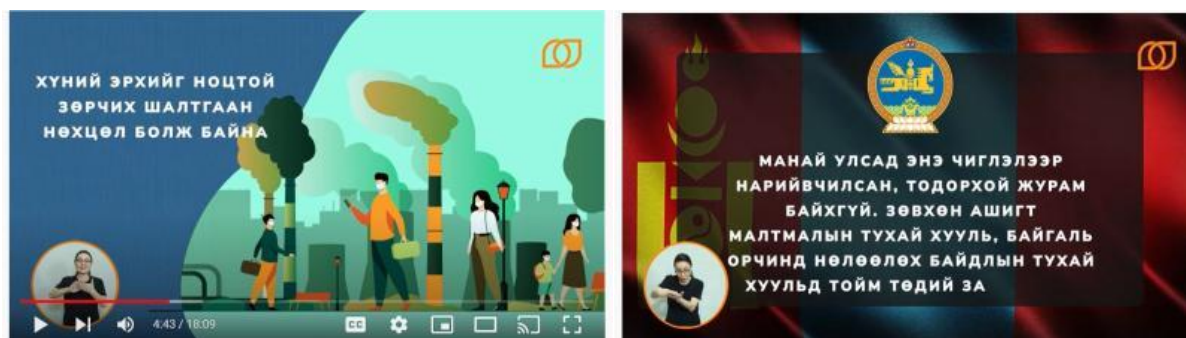
During the development of the 7-Module program AMEP 2 closely engaged with 10 other identified partners and stakeholders including and not limited to the MMHI, Open Society Forum, Oyu Tolgoi LLC, National Human Rights Commission, Mongolia's National Committee on Gender Equality (NCGE), MRPAM, NGS, Erdenes Tavan Tolgoi and Erdene Silver LLC. This collaborative effort within the program identified different issues, perspectives, and approaches in the development of the Modules, improving and assuring that distinct voices would be integrated into the program content.

Module 1 was developed and immediately piloted with 10 targeted on-line participants, from different sectors. These participants were requested to fill out feedback forms to improve the content and technical aspects of the on-line programming. Overall responses were positive regarding content with most respondents highlighting several technical glitches and application issues. Content was expressed to be of a high caliber and the media presentation received rave reviews. This was followed be several other mini-pilot sessions for other completed Modules.

The on-line program was officially launched on June 10, 2022, during an event with opening speeches by the Deputy Minister of the MMHI, Chargé d'affaires of the Australian Embassy and AMEP 2 Team Leader. A formal presentation was made by representatives of WAMS highlighting the driving forces behind the e-learning programs, and the methodologies and frameworks applied to the Modules. The event showcased the trainings conducted on the MOOC platform, but also featured interviews conducted with some 200 employees from Erdenes Tavan Tolgoi LLC and their managers and bosses. This training continues and it is expected that eventually some 1000 sector employees in Mongolia will be trained on-the- online program. The training itself was done in a unique format which saw participants either access the on-line training from a remote location or in a communal company setting. Employees who participated in the communal setting gained the added benefit of being able to openly discuss their experiences and issues in a forum amongst peers. These discussions were facilitated by a representative of WAMS.

To further raise awareness around Gender Diversity, Inclusion and Human Rights, the AMEP 2 collaborators developed a series of 35 Posters aimed at highlighting the following issues key principles of recognizing diversity at the workplace, challenging, and changing existing stereotypes, providing equal opportunities for everyone and so forth. These posters were distributed to 200 attendees of training and other stakeholders with the intention of creating awareness and providing guidance to improve workplace behavior and practices.

Figure 7: Gender Inclusion and Diversity Sample Posters
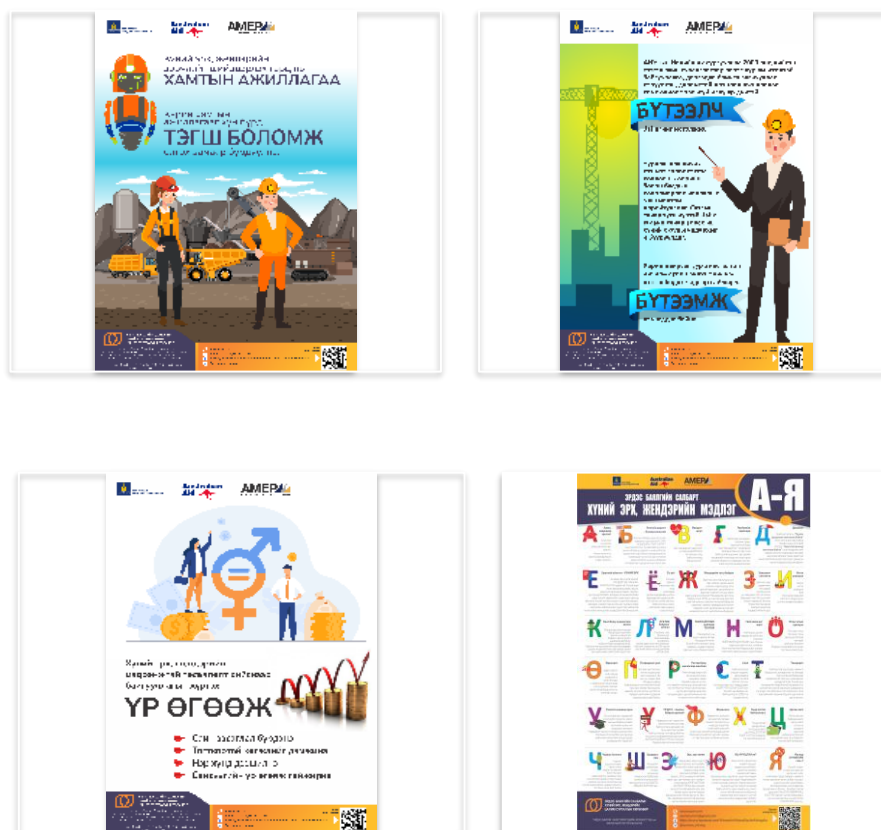
Continued awareness raising and marketing, monitoring and evaluation of the training program will be undertaken by WAMs with the institutional support of the MMHI post June 30, 2022. Through the month of July and August the MMHI will sent out a series of requests for extractive companies to participate in the program with the objective to train more than 1000 employees in the downstream.

Pillar 5: Community and Environment

Communities, environment, and sustainability play a pivotal role in the development of exploration and mining projects. Community engagement is key to the industry obtaining a "social license to operate", so it can positively impact, influence and co-exist with those surrounding it and ultimately become a driver towards positive change. One of the greatest challenges communities faces, is a lack of information about their rights and the law that applies to mining and the inherent value of the public participation process. Mining laws and governance are complex issues and public participation is often seen through the lens of being a process that does not bear results.

AMEP 2 through its FY 2021-2022 has collaborated with the MoET to strengthen awareness and increase communication with multi-stakeholders around the public participation process and rights associated with the rule of law, with the intent of facilitating a smoother "license to operate" process for investors. It also provided support to conduct a system analysis of MoET's existing information systems/databases on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Environmental Management Plan and other similar databases and develop a roadmap for integration. This feasibility study is a fundamental building block to the future development of an on-line database with a web-faced interface for users (public, private and government) to access key information related to the Environmental Impact Assessment.

Activity 5.1: Supporting public participation in Environmental Impact Assessment

Intermediate Outcome	Practical application of Environmental Impact Assessment guidelines and tools for the purpose of public participation
Short Term Outcome	Increased capacity and awareness around the rights associated with public participation in the Environmental Impact Assessment Process
Outputs	D1: Development of guidelines/pilot training programs on EIA process and public participation for local governments.
	D2: Online pilot trainings delivered for 3 identified aimag and soums for government counterparts; undertook a total of 3 key trainings at the subnational level with a total of 441 individuals, 97 female participants and 344 male participants
	D3: Assessment of MoET's existing information systems/databases on Environmental Impact Assessment, Environmental Management Plan and other similar databases and develop roadmap for integration.

This activity was initiated in the FY 2020-2021 with the commencement of a primary and secondary data review and assessment of selected case studies related to the current "public participation process" as related to the EIA under the current laws and regulations upon the request of the MoET.

Furthermore, the original concept of evaluating case studies in real time was shifted and mitigation measures were put in place resulting in the assessment and development of a report on *Ensuring Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment: An Analysis on Citizens' Representative Council's* (2021) based in part on a *Survey* focused on *Ensuring Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment: Stakeholder Survey (2021).*

This work was planned to be undertaken at the subnational level, with the MoET selecting the appropriate aimags. The plan was derailed due to COVID-19 that saw inter-provincial travel bans and increased restrictions on the sub-national level.

Given these circumstances mitigation measures were implemented and it was determined with the

collaborating partners (MoET, Environmental Assessors Association and the Mongolian National Mining Association) that a desk-top study would be conducted prior to any community based "participatory processes" analysis.

This research set the stage for the FY 2021-2022 activity which based on the baseline study, highlighted the ineffectiveness of the dissemination of information on the EIA process to local communities and more specifically to local government officials and environmental inspectors. Based on this AMEP 2 in support of its collaborative partners designed a Public Participation EIA Guideline and Toolkit. The Guidelines highlight much needed information including and not limited to the legal and regulatory framework, to information involving the role and responsibilities of Citizen's Representative Council, to participatory mechanism and feedback.

Table 9: Public Participation EIA Guideline and Toolkit

	Summary Guideline Content
1	Introduction
2	Regarding Environmental Impact Assessment
3	Stages of Environmental Impact Assessment as per Mine Life Cycle
4	Law on Ensuring Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment
5	Preparation of a Stakeholder Engagement Plan
6	Methodology
7	What should you consider when submitting Feedback to and EIA
8	Environmental Impact Assessment and the Right to Know
9	Guidelines and Tools

By providing this type of knowledge and accompanying skills, it is expected that a medium and long-term outcome will see increased community participation and diversity and improved processes and procedures as local governments are made aware of legal requirements, are able to implement a consultation process and are able to standardize their reporting accordingly. The application of these skills will ultimately improve transparency and build credibility with local authorities. These are important factors for reducing investor risk and community-company conflict.

On completion of the Public Participation EIA Guidelines a series of on-line training were held with 3 identified aimags and their corresponding soums and baghs that included Khentii, Sukhbaatar and Uvurkhangai. These were selected due to their proximity to exploration and mining sites. The results of this on-line webinar training saw a total of 3 workshops held with a total of 441 participants representing local governors, environmental officers, mining inspectorates, and other key stakeholders involved in the sector from the local level. Table 11 illustrates the number of trained participants. These trainings had a positive impact on participants who provided feedback that what they had learned would be easily transferred and applied to their local processes and standard operating procedures. Furthermore, it was discussed with the MoET that this activity would be duplicated throughout other Mongolian mining impacted regions in the coming months. This is an important step and has the potential.

Figure 8: EIA Training on Guidelines Power Point Presentation and On-line Training May 2022
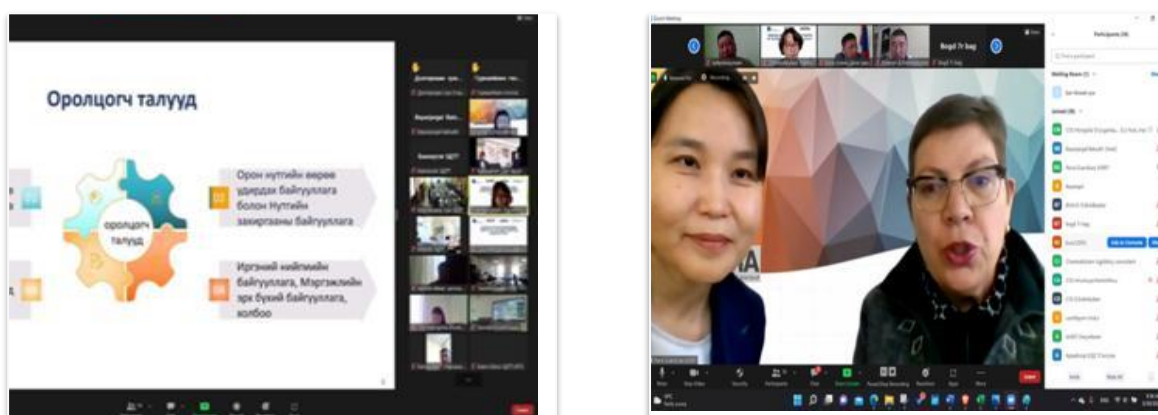
*Table 10: EIA Participatory Training FY 2021-2022*

Type of Training	Date	Participants		
		Total	Male	Female
Khentii Training	May 19, 2022	149	120	29
Sukhbaatar Training	May 26, 2022	125	88	37
Uvurkhangai Training	May 30, 2022	167	136	31
Total		441	344	97

As part of this activity, AMEP 2 also conducted a system analysis of MoET's existing information systems/databases on EIA, Environmental Management Plan and other similar databases and developed a roadmap for integration. This system analysis plays an important role in identifying key challenges and obstacles to the mainstreaming and disclosure of information as pivotal to improving transparency and good governance meeting the Government of Mongolia's commitment to the EITI specifically Requirement 6 which is focused on the Social and Economic Spending so that stakeholders are able to assess the desirable social and economic and environmental impacts and outcomes and more specifically 6.4 the environmental impact of the extractives activities.

In collaboration with the MoET, an analysis of the existing key information systems and data bases were analyzed including and not limited to the a) Detailed Environmental Impact Assessment Information System; b) "E-Mongolia" electronic system used for receiving and resolving general EIA reports electronically; c) Environmental Management Plans electronic system, d) Environmental Baseline Assessment Reports; and e) a sub-database on the rehabilitated and degraded land. Furthermore, a systems hardware and software analysis including infrastructure and human resources was conducted. Figure 9 illustrates an element of the EIA integrated assessment process.

Figure 9: EIA Integrated Assessment Process Map
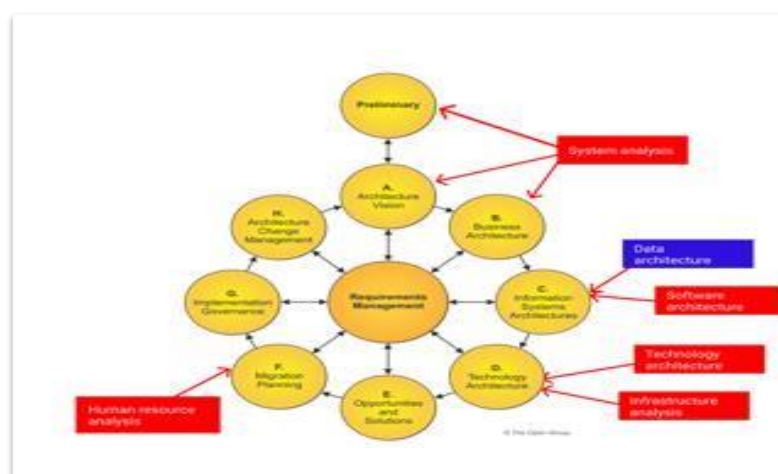
The work undertaken saw the MoET team work directly with the AMEP 2 expert consultant team during a step-by-step process and analysis. This permitted knowledge sharing and enabled the two teams to discuss and make value drive decisions around potential options for a roadmap. During this activity several key meetings and knowledge sharing events were formalized. These saw the total participation of 24 individuals and enabled discussions around key areas for consideration.

On May 29, 2022 a presentation to all key partners was undertaken at the MoET whereby the consultancy team highlighted its methodology, lessons learned and a series of strategic mechanisms and steps to move towards the achievement an integrated system and database. This opportunity enabled communication channels to open and strengthen relations for an improved final report with recommendations. It is expected that with the final report delivered at the end of June will to the MoET will take on the initiative of implementing key recommendations.

Pillar 6: Green Energy Transition

Currently, countries across the globe are moving towards are transitioning to green energy that sees a shift from fossil-based systems to renewable sources like solar, wind and lithium-ion batteries. Minerals play a critical role in this shift and are essential to clean energy technologies. The types of mineral resources for this transition include and are not limited to nickel, cobalt, graphite, manganese, and lithium, niobium. These rare earth elements (REE) are essential for wind turbines, electricity networks and for batter performance, longevity, and energy density.

For Mongolia the question is how it can use its natural resources in new ways to meet energy transition demands, while strengthening its investment environment. The country has a vast resource base, yet has not invested in the identification, exploration, or technology necessary to extract these resources in a commercially viable manner. With neighboring China increasing its control and demand for REE, Mongolia is strategically positioned as both host and potential supplier.

AMEP 2 has been working in close collaboration with the MMHI, MRPAM and the NGS of Mongolia in three key areas to support this growing and relatively new area of interest for the Government of Mongolia. AMEP 1 and 2 has been actively collaborating in supporting the data entry of key information related to REE through its the NGS geodata system referred to as MonGeoCat. The system enables the government to take stock of its strategic mineral resources and will provide opportunities to potential investors to explore areas containing REE.

Furthermore, the program has developed the NGS Mineral Guidelines for Critical Minerals such as niobium and tantalum, cobalt as well as other identified strategic minerals and metals. The guidelines are aimed at facilitating and supporting investor exploration activities in line with government regulations and laws regarding REE. With such ongoing support lies a greater opportunity for Mongolia to increase investment interest in REE and meet global demands and needs as energy transition plays a dominant role in global economies.

The AMEP 2 has been actively engaged in two collaborative partnerships which have focused on green "clean" energy options ***Activity 6.1. Improved Geo-science data for Coalbed Methane*** and ***Activity 6.2. Data Processing and Quality Assurance on Rare Earth Element Rock Samples***. These activities have been supported to assess, evaluate, and identify the potential that both CBM and REE and the potential to sustain not only future clean energy needs of Mongolia but to attract investment interest in what might become world class deposits. Collection of accurate data on these energy sources intersect and link in with AMEP 2's activities under *Pillar 1 Competitive Environment* as well.

Activity 6.1: Improved Geoscience Data for Coalbed Methane

Intermediate Outcome	Increased quality and quantity of the geodata related to CBM available to investors.
Short Term Outcome	Improved knowledge and skill to assess and evaluate CBM resources. Internationally recognized approach and tools in practice.
Outputs	D1: Methodology for prospectivity analysis and associated templates
	D2: Collected geo data and metadata entered to the NGDB and MonGeoCat
	D3: Prospectivity analysis report for CBM resources in Mongolia; identified 7.4 trillion M^3 CBM potential resources estimated based on 15 coal basins with potential for downstream tendering and licensing and investment potential. MMHI and MRPAM aims to call international tendering bid based on the analysis.

|	D4: 110 professionals and geologists were trained during FY 2021-22

AMEP 2 in support of its' collaborative partner the MRPAM responded to the request of identifying and improving access to the quality of geo-science data related to CBM. Non-conventional natural gas sources such as CBM are one of the fastest growing energy sources globally due to an ongoing depletion of traditional gas reserves. As an alternative source of energy, CBM is emerging as a significant clean energy source and therefore increasing investor interest.

To capture this the CBM activity developed a methodology for prospecting and conducted an analysis of identified CBM basins. It developed a series of screening tools and prepared local geologists as well as other professionals with the skills and knowledge to carry out screening and collecting data. Furthermore, data collected was entered into the NGDB and MonGeoCat system enabling end users to determine potential project viability.

Table 11: Trainings held on CBM

Type of Training	Date	Attendees		
		Total	Male	Female
CBM: Geology Exploration to Production	December 27, 2022	30	20	10
Prospecting Analysis of CBM	June 14, 2022	45	38	17
CBM resources practice	June 16, 2022	80	46	34
Total Participants		155	102	61

Figure 10: On-line Training 2022
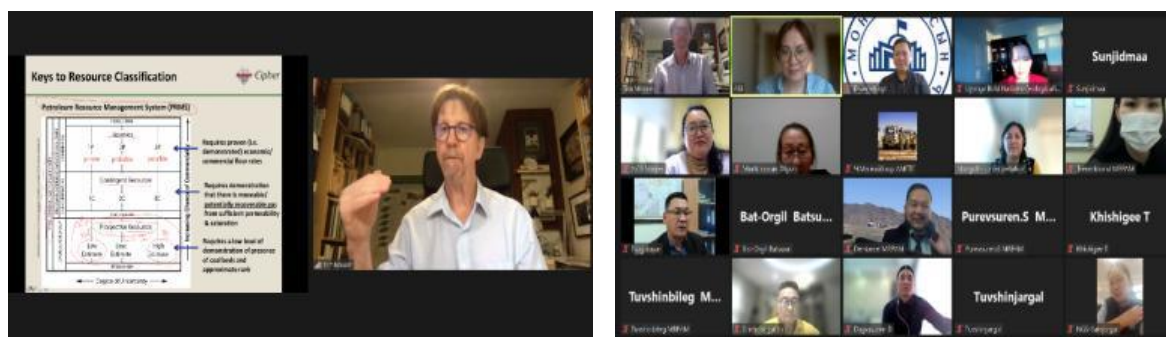
A prospectivity analysis study on *Coalbed Methane Resources in Mongolia* was carried out by a multi-disciplinary team of Australian and Mongolian experts. This provided ample opportunities for professional exchanges and experiences for all involved and strengthened perspectives and built consensus around core challenges.

The report which was submitted at the end of April 2022 highlighted key findings that saw a total of 88 areas and sub areas in 14 regions assessed for original gas in-place (OGIP) and as well as prospective resources. At the end of April 2022, it was estimated that undiscovered OGIP had a range of 12.97 trillion cubic meters with the highest levels reflected in Mongol Altai and South Gobi. This could have a strong potential for investment opportunities.

To promote these findings and the studies undertaken AMEP 2 and MRPAM held a two-day CBM seminar in Ulaanbaatar on June 15th and 16th 2022, with participants from Australia and Mongolia present. The two-day event was conducted in person and online by AMEP 2's Australian and Mongolian experts. The event saw the attendance of 43 persons on the June 15th, 2022, and 85 individuals on

June 16th, 2022. Participants during the two-day event included and were not limited to geologists, companies, staff from MRPAM, MMHI and others.

Figure 11: Workshop and Training June 15th and 16th, 2022

The workshop addressed some of the following key thematic areas; a) resource assessments; b) hydrogeology and CBM, c) methods and results of resource report. The second day was focused on providing training to interested geologists. Thematic topics and areas of discussion included: a) objectives of resource assessments, b) unconventional hydrogeology and c) CBM drilling equipment.

Discussions throughout the two-day event amidst the participants aimed to plant the seed to support and promote the newly formed CBM Association of Mongolia. The establishment of this Association would be the first of its kind, representing sector interests, encouraging further research and promotion of the sector as well as getting individuals interested in CBM together.

Awareness regarding CBM also went beyond the confines of the audience with media outlets reporting on the event and encouraging sector engagement The following highlights this:

1. Bloomberg: https://fb.watch/dLBheJvEer/?fs=e&s=cl
2. Zindaa Media: https://fb.watch/dLBjUw-2oV/?fs=e&s=cl
3. www.Ikon.com: https://ikon.mn/n/2l23
4. www.Itoim.com: http://www.itoim.mn/article/MvlnQ/33593

CBM is an alternative energy source and a gateway to investment just like REE and is significant for Mongolia's long term sustainable future. Media interest and the ongoing discussions will see newly formed organizations, companies drive this sector as interest continue to rise. With the recently established CBM Association and the MRPAM's ongoing interest in the sector it has the potential to grow rapidly given environmental influencers.

Activity 6.2: Data Processing and Quality Assurance on Rare Earth Element Rock Samples

Intermediate Outcome	Improved value driven decision-making as a result of investor access to REE) data (NGDB - MonGeoCat)
Short Term Outcome	Strengthen NGDB and MonGeoCat systems through collection and findings based on REE
Outputs	D1: Reported and uploaded 200 metadata on the NGDB and MonGeoCat based on identified REE rock samples
	D2: Collected 200 rock samples from South, East, and Northern regions, assessed and data entered in NGDB and MonGeoCat system

	D3: Organized a high-level symposium titled 'Reinforcing Mining and Geology' together with the Australian Embassy and British Embassy which was attended by 467 professionals in person and online.

Linked with *Activity 1.1. Incorporation of Private Sector Geo Science Data in the National Geological Database and MonGeoCat,* the data processing and quality assurance activity is aimed at the collection of REE rock samples within key identified and specified geological areas within Mongolia. The activity identified key rock specimens to support existing evidence of geographic mineral locations or identify new ones.

Sampling is critical to assist with decision making both for governments and companies and importantly for the purpose of exploration, downstream tendering and licensing, resource estimation, grade control. If poor sampling process are implemented these can lead to elevated project risks and can lead to limited investment interest. Furthermore, with a strong focus on REE, the rock samples provide a gateway to future investment in the energy transition sector. This activity was more than just collecting samples and analyzing them; it was as explained by one participant geologist, the opening of a new frontier for Mongolia.

Rock sampling saw an initial review of 200 reports, which identified sample needs and locations for collection. In turn collected samples would be prepared for petrographic and other analysis. The primary rocks to be collected were determined as REE minerals and metals, something not previously considered in Mongolia. Samples would verify reports and at the same time provide key data to be inputted into the MonGeoCat system. A series of geological field trips were undertaken from March 18-24, 2022, followed by May 9-15, 2022, and ultimately June 9-15, 2022, covering a total of 6 aimags and 30 soums.

This field excursion gave assigned geologists an opportunity to engage in improving their field practices, working with newly discovered mineral samples. Participants were able to engage and support one another, share experiences and build new skills and techniques through daily interactions. Using AMEP 2 developed Mineral Guidelines, geologists applied their knowledge and skills and put these into action following requirements. On collecting all materials would be submitted to the central Laboratory for analysis. The global supply chain for the procured microscope from Japan caused delays; however, AMEP 2 mitigated this risk by identifying alternative microscopes to conduct the analysis. Data entry with supporting reports already entered can provide both companies and the public with a glimpse into where REE samples can be found geographically for future licensing and tendering.

Figure 12: Field Excursion 2022

In February 2022, the Australian and the United Kingdom Embassies in Ulaanbaatar supported AMEP

2, the MMHI, and the NGS in the organization and implementation of a symposium focused on "*Reinforcing the Geology and Mining Sector in Mongolia.*"

During the symposium, a workshop on rare earth elements (REE) was held and participants exchanged information on the global use and impacts of REE on the world economy and its significance for powering sustainable energy transition. Australian geological experts on exploration licensing and geologists from British Geological Survey attended the symposium online. International experts shared information on global trend for REE and answered questions from their Mongolian counterparts representing government, industry, and research institutes. The symposium was significant in raising the awareness of Mongolia's position as a strategic host of REE and a potential supplier of these strategic resources once developed. Some 467 people attended on-line and in person. Additional Information on the event can be found as indicated in Table 13.

Table 12: Reinforcing the Geology and Mining Sector in Mongolia 2022

Type	Links
News	https://ngs.gov.mn/2022/02/25/4057/
Agenda	https://ngs.gov.mn/brochure/202202.pdf
Power Point Presentation	https://ngs.gov.mn/brochure/iltgegchid.pdf
Video Recording	https://fb.watch/c53QC69Xwj/

This activity will continue under the auspices of NGS as REE samples will continue to be collected and analyzed. Once the AMEP procured microscope arrives to Mongolia, collected rock samples will reveal far more detailed data and information. This activity will continue to move forward as data is collected and inputted into the database for private and public access.

Cross Cutting Integration

The AMEP 2 program saw cross-cutting thematic integration of a) gender inclusion and diversity, b) communications, and outreach and importantly c) collaboration and partnerships, throughout its 10 activities. These transected throughout the program, without losing focus on its main objective. As effective tools these themes provided the program with a greater reach and larger cumulative impact that might not have ordinarily been achieved.

The process of mainstreaming has involved innovation, flexibility and changes in established procedures, activities, and organizational culture so that issues could became integrated into values, missions, and management process and procedures. With the pandemic this required further thinking outside of "the box" to effectively bridge gaps that were ordinarily established through the building of personal relationships. It also required a review and update of the AMEP 2 Stakeholder Engagement and Inclusion Study, and a fresh strategic approach that is more inclusive and dynamic integrating technology and relationship building into one formula. This has proven highly effective as the AMEP 2 team has been communicating, following up and engaging a broader and diverse range of stakeholders.

A. Gender Inclusion and Diversity

AMEP 2 supports the implementation of policies and strategies to increase the meaningful economic engagement of women, and able-bodied citizens and others[31] to combat discrimination, harassment, and violence within the extractive sector. These are specifically, related to employment, local procurement, and decision-making and through the need to create a greater awareness and respect of human rights.

Throughout the FY 2021-2022 activities the AMEP 2 has attempted to target and encourage increased female participation both in leading collaborative activities and in female participation by targeting and encouraging them. Traditionally, the sector has low female representation and limited participation, however with the 2019 adoption of Mongolia's Gender Policy for the mining sector there has been a stronger focus on changing this.

For the AMEP 2 program there has been a consistent 1:3 balance of female to male participants. this ratio is higher than the 1:5 ratio as per the extractives sector[32]. Table 14 illustrates AMEP 2 statistics in relation to female to male participation in all activities per FY.

Table 13: Gender Statistics FY 2019-2022

Year	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Male	66.8%	67.0%	68.0%
Female	33.2%	33.0%	32.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The programs portfolio met and surpassed many of its gender- related objectives that were set out in its Annual Workplan 2021-22. AMEP 2 in collaboration with the MMHI has developed an on-line e-learning program aimed at raising awareness around the importance of the workplace gender balance, inclusion, diversity, and human rights. This interactive on-line program also took various steps to assure inclusion[33] through content development including narratives and case studies, as well as visual cues

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[31] LGBTQ and other vulnerable groups and minorities
[32] This was identified by the SESMIM report on Gender Impact Assessment Sector 2018.
[33] Inclusion includes LGBTQ, abled bodied persons, and vulnerable and minority groups

to engage the hearing impaired through sign language. In developing the program consultation with Mongolia's key organizations and institutions[34] representing able bodied persons were consulted.

Figure 13: Diversity and Inclusion E-learning Program

The training modules have been rolled out over the month of May and June of 2022. It should be highlighted that the program also aligns with the Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment" Strategy.

In 2019 training was provided to the AMEP 2 team focused on Human Rights and Abled Bodied Persons. The results of this training saw the adoption and implementation of business cards and activity materials produced in braille for the visually impaired and sign language for the hearing impaired. AMEP 2 staff has attempted to ensure that activities in 2021-2022 have a strong regard for able bodied persons and has used collaborative partnerships as means to highlight the importance of inclusion within each activity and methods to implement this within programming.

B. Communication and Outreach

The AMEP 2 program activities shared their knowledge and information as well as analysis and advocacy measures through a broad range of communication and outreach channels. These included and were not limited to national and subnational events, social media and learning platforms and through other on-line venues and media sources. Events such the *Mongolian Economic Forum*, the *50th Anniversary Event of Australia and Mongolia Relations,* or the Australian Embassy hosted events such as the Extractives Sector *Donor Coordination Meeting* or *Reinforcing the Geology and Mining Sector in Mongolia* bring about important opportunities to share information and network as well as showcase AMEP 2 achievements. Outreach was also achieved through webinars aimed at information sharing, capacity building and training.

Table 14: AMEP 2 Communications and Outreach Channels 2021-2022

Type	Results
Website	The website is AMEP's central information hub and provides information and knowledge, through posted activity deliverables as well as activity information. In 2021, the website averaged some 1500 monthly visitors; in 2022, the average grew to more than 2250 number of visitors a month with

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[34] Consulted *JICA DPUB2 Project for Promoting Employment of People with Disabilities (PWDs) in* Mongolia and Human Rights Committee of Mongolia

	a 50% increase.
Newsletter	The AMEP 2 program released a total of 3 newsletters in FY 2021-22. The newsletters are aimed at keeping stakeholders abreast of AMEP 2 events. Some 650 stakeholders received each edition of the newsletter with an average open rate of 50% from FY 2021- 22 of which 80% represents industry, 11% government and 4% civil society[35].
Social Media	The program used a series of social media channels to establish conversations on Mongolia's extractive sector and AMEP's collaborative role in supporting activities and events to promote an improved investment climate. Using these channels AMEP 2 also made a series of posts (126) and promoted AMEP 2 and its collaborators products. Online engagement from FY 2021-22 saw an increase in Facebook likes (635 to 827) and Twitter (53 to 88) followers.
Webinars	AMEP 2 conducted a total of 35 webinars during this reporting period of which a total of 1,043 participants attended on-line. [36]
Videos	AMEP developed three video interviews with partners and experts on environmental auditing, royalty, and minor elements. These videos have been watched by 250 viewers on YouTube.

Furthermore, an AMEP 2 on-line news media outlet search identified that 17 articles (Annex 1) were published and posted referring to program activities and events. Although this may not seem like many articles, it should be noted that the sites where the articles were posted have a combined total monthly readership/viewership of 3,053 people[37].

Further social media analytics revealed that (where data was available) the program had a reach of approximately, 2000 individuals per month. Overall AMEP 2 has been able to enhance its activity impact through these media sources. Below are two articles taken from the media news sites featuring the MONVAL and Licensing and Tendering Activity.

Figure 14: Media Press Coverage on AMEP 2 Activities FY 2021-2022

Furthermore, a review was undertaken of the program's communications revealing the need for a standardized approach to branding. An AMEP 2 Branding Guideline was developed, in consultation with DFAT and training was undertaken with the internal AMEP 2 team as well as external partners. This has not only been effective in ensuring a common brand image but has also contributed to marketing the programs deliverables elevating the exposure of the AMEP 2 program. The trainings which were video tapped and placed on-line are pivotal for Collaborative Partners, who may need

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[35] Webinar events post-June 28th have not been factored into these statistics given
[36] This does not include statistics collected on the Collaborative Proposals
[37] Based on Internet Analytics (similarweb.com) 2022 for the month the articles were published, not available of all sites

further guaidance. Furthermore, it has proven to be time and cost-effective, streamlining the management process. It should be noted that the Branding Guideline has been adopted as an internal procedure in the AMEP 2 program, both in contracting and with current and downstream activity partners who will be required to be trained on the document.

During March 2022, AMEP 2 set about a call for Collaborative Proposals to inform both stakeholders about the program and its goals and activities, and to encourage diverse stakeholders to submit proposals for the Annual Workplan 2022-23. During this time AMEP 2 set about contacting 650 identified multi-stakeholders through an email announcement and through two major newspaper announcements with an estimated reach of 8000 readers. Furthermore, information was placed on the AMEP website which saw increased traffic and activity between March 15th to April 15th yielding some 3,053 site visits. The site was also host to Collaborative Proposal Guidelines and Templates (English and Mongolian), a drop box library for resources and posted session PowerPoints and video tutorials for reference to guide participants in filling out the templates. No specific data was able to be collected on the number of downloads or views. Figure 15 below highlights the website page for the Collaborative Proposals with the video tutorial.

Figure 15: Collaborative Proposal Website Page 2022

The outreach and engagement process garnered a total of 85 participants who attended the AMEP 2 information sessions and 45 participants for the technical sessions and some 40 participants through the one-on-one support sessions. This can be considered a remarkable milestone, in comparison to previous years and under the current internet fatigue that many individuals and groups are suffering from.

With the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions the team has been able to further foster more personal one-on-one relationships, interweaving these with a hybrid on-line outreach process. The sessions not only assisted in identifying newcomers to the sector but also allowed the AMEP 2 team to reengage after a long COVID-19 hiatus with stakeholders and previous collaborators. Additional benefits can be described as follows:

- Created further awareness around AMEP 2 and its activities as demonstrated through feedback by participants
- Skills and capacity on how to write a proposal within a logic framework
- Ideas and approaches to engaging and collaborating with multi-stakeholders
- Out of the box thinking – creative solutions to complex problems
- Multi-stakeholder engagement and consultation
- Improved knowledge of best practices and potential partners
- Strengthened ties and relationships

A pop-up poll was conducted during the technical session on April 6, 2022, and 27 people responded. The pop-up poll highlighted that the session created further awareness around the AMEP program and its' activities. The details of this poll can be found in Annex 2.

C. Collaboration and Partnership

Collaborative partnerships play a critical role in the participation and engagement of multi-stakeholders. The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2), identifies the spectrum of public participation as highlighted in Figure 16, signaling the importance of collaboration as a means and mechanism to achieve stakeholder or community empowerment. By identifying and engaging stakeholders through the provision of information, followed by consultative feedback process and increased involvement, leading to collaboration the result is ultimately empowered individuals or groups who can make value driven decisions that can determine their destiny and autonomy.

Figure 16 International Association for Participation (IAP2) Public Participation Spectrum
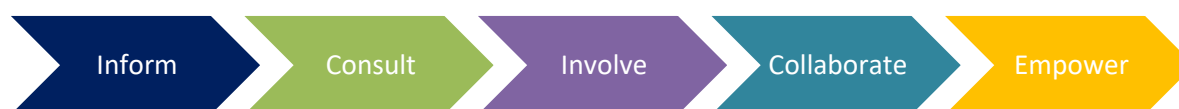
AMEP 2 has used collaboration and the development of partnerships as an important mechanism and tool in its annual work planning process so to meet sector priorities and achieve its goal. AMEP 2 in its FY 2021-2022 implemented 10 activities in collaboration with its direct partners and stakeholders. It should be noted that although these partnerships are directly with AMEP 2, the collaborative partners themselves have engaged with other partners to support activity initiatives and to ensure sustainability. These can be referred to as indirect collaborative partners. The below Figure 17 illustrates this woven network of indirect collaborative partners.

Figure 17 Collaborative Partnerships Amongst AMEP 2 Partners

Interactive visualization for direct and indirect partners of AMEP 2 Activities:

- By year and activity - https://public.flourish.studio/visualisation/6115821/

- By organization - https://public.flourish.studio/visualisation/6115791/

- By gender - https://public.flourish.studio/visualisation/9932929/

To gain a further understanding of AMEP 2's collaboration and partnership relationships two key surveys were conducted a) *Collaboration Perception Survey* and b) *Activity Partnership Survey.* Both of these surveys were also conducted in 2019 ensuring a developed baseline.

The **Collaboration Perceptions Survey** was designed using a collective understanding that collaboration *is a process that enables different entities or stakeholders to work together to achieve a mutual outcome or goal.* The **Activity Partnership Survey** was designed with an understanding that the surveys' focus was on gaining a better understanding of the relationship formed between two or more entities, collaborating, and participating on AMEP 2 activities.

Both survey's aim to:

- Understand and assess perceptions of collaboration and partnerships, amongst key stakeholders
- Explore the latest perspectives on current and future opportunities and challenges facing the extractives sector in Mongolia and program activities
- Measure success or failure of both the organization and its activities in achieving continuous improvements in sustainable development
- Track results against 2019 survey results
- Identify new opportunities and methods for AMEP 2 to achieve its goals

The surveys were conducted online by AMEP 2, with participants representing the private sector (mining companies, consultants, investors, and non-mining companies), the public sector (MMHI, MRPAM, NGS, MoET and others such as multi-laterals), academia, trade associations including mining and geology, and civil society organizations (CSO) and the media. The following table highlights the involvement of participant groups of the two surveys.

Table 15: Number of AMEP Survey Respondents 2022

Survey 2022 Results	Total # Responses	Private Sector	Public Sector	Civil Society	Media & Others
Collaboration Perceptions Survey	165	85	26	45	9
Activity Partnership Survey	36	7	10	14	5
Total	201	92	36	59	14

It should be noted that the of the total (201) respondents for both surveys, the majority represented the private sector (92 individuals), followed by the public sector (36 individuals) and some 24 individuals representing civil society. Overall, the survey saw a more inclusive participation of different multi-stakeholder groups. It is expected that AMEP 2 in its' FY 2022-2023 will continue to build on this.

The engagement and feedback from these participants have allowed AMEP 2 to reassess its understanding of collaboration and how to build stronger partnerships to ensure empowerment and sustainability of activity outcomes.

1) Collaboration Perception Survey 2022

The AMEP 2 program conducted a Collaboration Perception Survey between February 27th to March 18th, 2022. The survey consisted of 13 questions (Annex 3) and was delivered on-line via email to AMEP identified stakeholders. The *Collaborative Perception Survey 2022* yielded some telling results of which are highlighted in the Table 17 below.
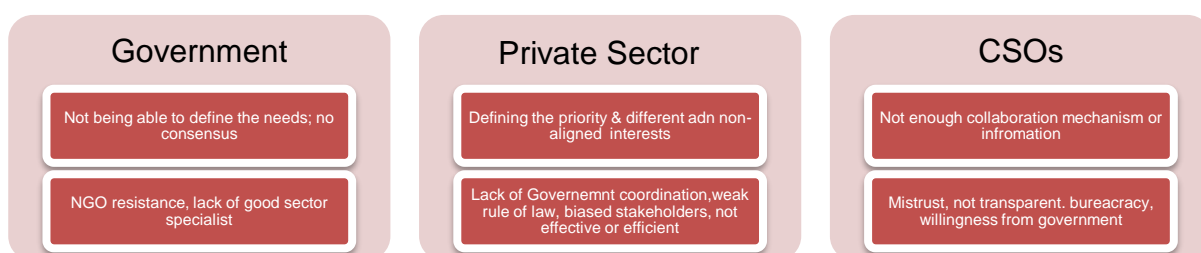
Table 16: Eight Key Highlights of Collaborative Perception Survey 2022

Collaborative Arrangements	62% of the respondents identified that they had participated in a collaborative arrangement that involved the planning or implementation and participation of an extractive sector activity.

Focus	The majority (60%) of respondents stated that they collaborated on projects or activities related to the following extractive sector initiatives a) mining and quarrying (30%), 2) governance and law (16%), 3) research methodologies and recommendations(14%)
Effect	Survey findings demonstrated a 23% increase in positive perceptions around effective and improved collaboration since 2019.
Obstacles	The four major challenges hindering collaboration were identifed as 1) poor rule of law, procedures, and process, 2) mutual understanding and coordination followed by 3) lack of systems for approach, guidelines, and tools and 4) lack of leadership strategy and vision
Significance	Top 3 reasons why collaboration are important was described as 1) improved public trust in the mining industry (17%), 2) improves government accountability (16%), 3) allows stakeholders to use skills and insights of others to improve policies and practices (15%).

Decision making processes between collaborative partners is an important element to ensuring an inclusive approach whereby there is common understanding, a transparent decision making process. Respondents were asked about their perceptions in regards to the particpation of CSOs and private companies in the "particpatory and implementation and monitoring processes". The respondents (64%) identified that they were somewhat integrated into these process, and 21% respondents stated they were not integrated in these processes at all. Further questioning revealed that the greatest hinderance for civil society particpation is lack of information, financing and funding, and weak mechanisms as well as mistrust. Figure 18 further highlgihts these sentiments as expressed by the 3 key stakeholders.

Figure 18: Key Challenges in Developing Effective Collaboration 2022

Government	Private Sector	CSOs
Not being able to define the needs; no consensus	Defining the priority & different adn non-aligned interests	Not enough collaboration mechanism or infromation
NGO resistance, lack of good sector specialist	Lack of Governemnt coordination, weak rule of law, biased stakeholders, not effective or efficient	Mistrust, not transparent. bureacracy, willingness from government

Taking the results of the Collaboration Perception Survey 2022 into consideration for the coming FY 2022-2023 AMEP 2 has used various techniques and to provide support and build capacity with interested partners by providing them with opportunities to learn new skills that are applicable to a broad range of applications, not necessarily related only to proposal writing for the program but beyond.

2) Partnership Survey 2022

The AMEP 2 program conducted its online **Activity Partnership Survey 2022**, between April 1st to 22nd, 2022. The survey can be found in Annex 4. The survey reached 140 collaborative partners and received 34 responses. Of the respondents 36.1% were male and 63.9% were female. A further breakdown of survey respondents determined that 16.6% represented government, 25% CSOs, 5% industry and the remaining 52.8% represented others including associations, academia, and consultants etc.

The purpose of the short survey of 9 questions enables AMEP 2 to receive valuable feedback from its partners and provides the team an opportunity to identify strengths weakness for improvement management, quality assurance, monitoring, and evaluation.

Of the respondents the majority (63%) strongly agree and 34% agreed that AMEP 2 has been able to identify and understand issues and needs in support of the collaborative partnership and implemented activity. Overall satisfaction with AMEP 2 as a collaborative partner was met with 64% of respondents stating they were very satisfied and 34% satisfied and 1% not so satisfied (Figure 19).

Figure 19: Summary Graph of Responses Based on AMEP 2 Partnership Survey 2022
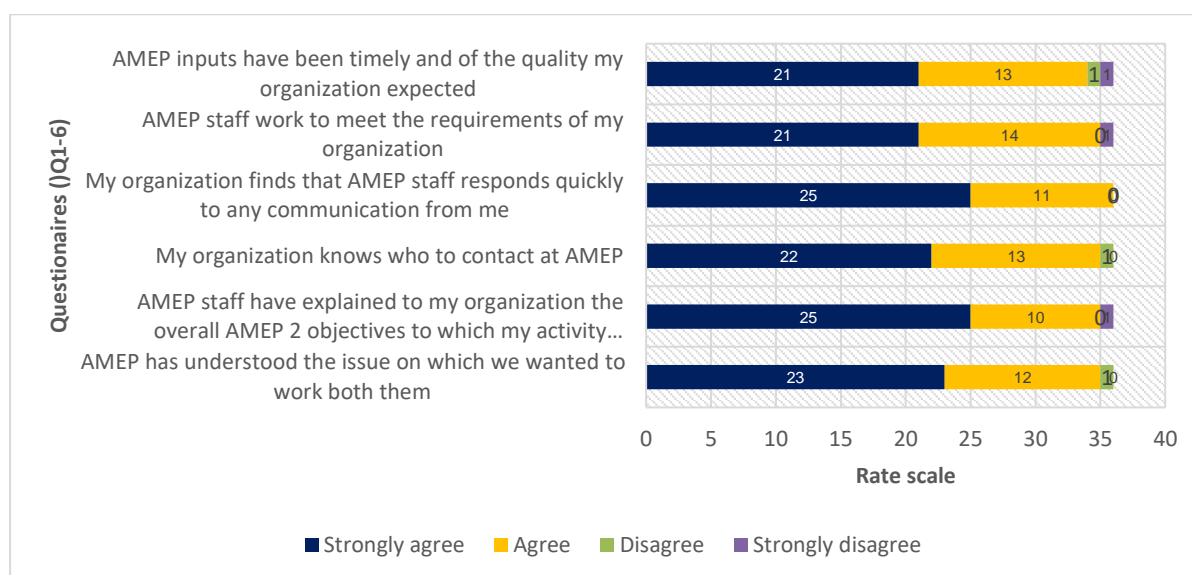
Overall respondents positively identified that they knew whom to contact in AMEP 2 and that the staff is responsive and assists to ensure that partners needs were taken care of. Further survey results revealed that 61% were satisfied with their collaborative partnership with AMEP 2 with 19% responding that AMEP 2 could improve and another 20% of the respondents made no comment. Of the comments related to improvement it was highlighted that AMEP 2 needs to engage in a more meaningful manner and participation so that there is a stronger coordination between stakeholders as well as stronger stewardship role. Using these comments as lessons learned AMEP 2 will set about in its FY 2022-2023 to engage in a more meaningful way through a series of stakeholder engagement processes.
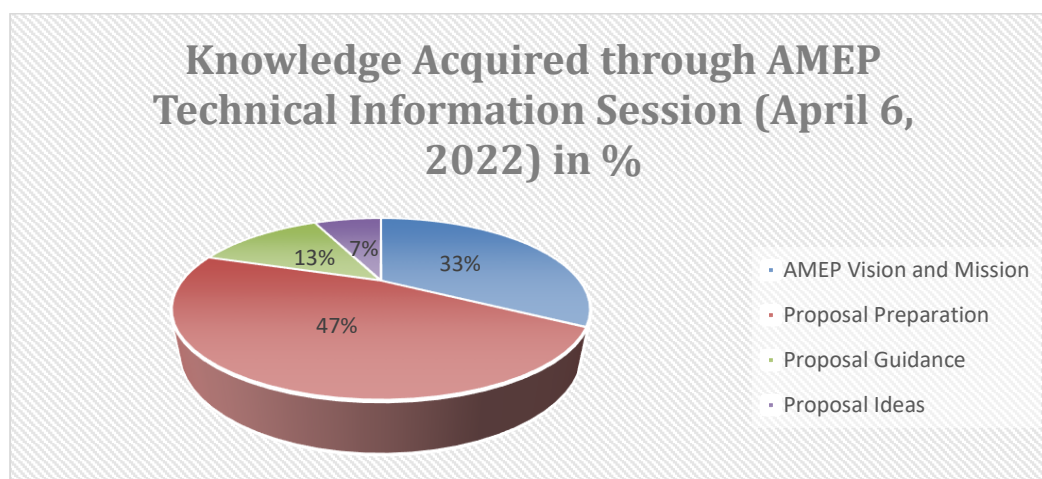
Annex 1: Online Web Media Sources 2021-2022

#	On-Line News & Social Media Site	Article Title and Date	Link
1	Mongolia Mining Journal	Ашигт малтмалын хөрөнгийн үнэлгээний аргачлалын талаар сургалт болно 2022-02-17	Ашигт малтмалын хөрөнгийн үнэлгээний аргачлалын талаар сургалт болно (mongolianminingjournal.com)
2	Mongolia Mining Journal	Ашигт малтмалын хөрөнгийн үнэлгээний мэргэжилтнүүдэд гэрчилгээ гардуулав 2022-04-27	https://www.mongolianminingjournal.com/a/72197
3	Facebook Mongolia Mining Journal Page	Ашигт малтмалын хөрөнгийн үнэлгээний мэргэжилтнүүдэд гэрчилгээ гардуулав 2022-04-27	https://www.facebook.com/mongolianminingjournal/?ref=br_rs
4	Linked In Mongolia Mining Journal	Ашигт малтмалын хөрөнгийн үнэлгээний мэргэжилтнүүдэд гэрчилгээ гардуулав 2022-04-27	https://www.linkedin.com/company/mongolian-mining-journal
5	News.mn	Г.Ёндон: Газрын тосны асуудлаар ОХУ-д ажиллах томилолт өгсөн 2022-02-24	Г.Ёндон: Газрын тосны асуудлаар ОХУ-д ажиллах томилолт өгсөн | News.MN
5	MPress	Ашигт малтмалын хөрөнгийн үнэлгээний мэргэжилтнүүдэд гэрчилгээ гардууллаа 2022-04-27	https://mpress.mn/p/8059
6	Facebook MPress	Ашигт малтмалын хөрөнгийн үнэлгээний мэргэжилтнүүдэд гэрчилгээ гардууллаа 2022-04-27	https://www.facebook.com/mpress.mn
7	Twitter MPress	Ашигт малтмалын хөрөнгийн үнэлгээний мэргэжилтнүүдэд гэрчилгээ гардууллаа 2022-04-27	https://twitter.com/MpressMn/status/1519235381513838592
8	The UB Post	"Геологи, уул уурхайн салбарыг эрчимжүүлэх нь" сэдэвт хурал болж байна 2022-04-27	https://www.ubn.mn/p/24360
9	The UB Post	Digitized System to facilitate mining licences May 9, 2022	PressReader.com - Digital Newspaper & Magazine Subscriptions
10	GoGo	"Геологи, уул уурхайн салбарыг эрчимжүүлэх нь" сэдэвт хурал болов 2022-02-25	https://gogo.mn/r/4nmgm
11	Facebook Page (GoGo)	"Геологи, уул уурхайн салбарыг эрчимжүүлэх нь" сэдэвт хурал болов 2022-02-25	https://www.facebook.com/page/550482678364362/search/?q=13%20%D1%82%D3%A9%D1%81%D3%A9%D0%BB
12	Twitter (GoGo)	"Геологи, уул уурхайн салбарыг эрчимжүүлэх нь" сэдэвт хурал болов 2022-02-25	https://twitter.com/newsGoGomn/status/1497067840238718976
13	Mongolian Economy	Геологи, хайгуулын ажлыг эрчимжүүлнэ 2022-02-25	Геологи, хайгуулын ажлыг эрчимжүүлнэ | Mongolian Economy

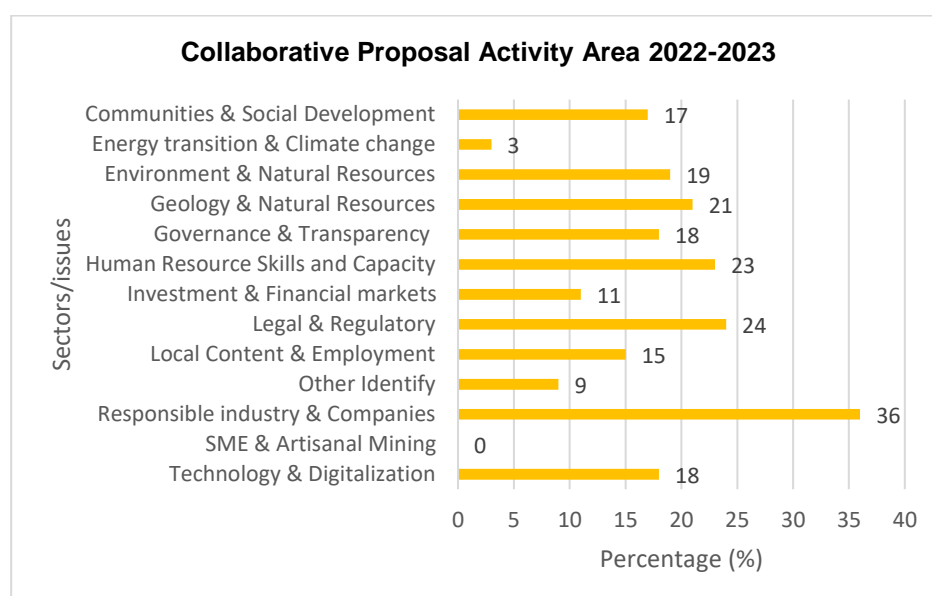| 14	Үндэсний геологийн алба	Австрали-Монголын эрдэс баялгийн салбарын хамтын ажиллагааны хөтөлбөрийн ажлын уулзалт боллоо 2021-12-16	https://ngs.gov.mn/2021/12/16/
15	ToTgo	Хайгуулын тусгай зөвшөөрлийн лицензийг 350-400 болгон нэмжээ 2022-3-07	https://tinyurl.com/548j4jtm
16	Australia Chamber of Commerce News Website	Public Reporting and Safeguarding Investments and Securities in Mongolia Introduction to MONVAL CODE	Professional Speakers Series of April 2022 – AustCham (austchammongolia.com)
17	Cipher	Energy Transition and Coal Bed Methane in Mongolia May 21, 2022	| ENERGY TRANSITION AND COAL BED METHANE IN MONGOLIACipher Consulting Pty Ltd (ciphercoal.com)

Annex 2: AMEP 2 Pop-up Poll Up Poll

Results from Respondents in Percentage on April 6, 2022

Knowledge Acquired through AMEP Technical Information Session (April 6, 2022) in %

- AMEP Vision and Mission — 33%
- Proposal Preparation — 47%
- Proposal Guidance — 13%
- Proposal Ideas — 7%

Respondents also felt that they had not just acquired knowledge regarding the AMEP program but had also learned about proposal preparation including learning about the logic model (47%) and received guidance (13%) and proposal ideas (7%).

The communication and outreach for the Collaborative Proposal resulted in 52 proposals from a broad range of stakeholders, representing 38.5% (n=20) industry, 30.8% (n=16) government, and 19.2% (n=10) civil society organizations, 11.5% (n=6) academia. Collaborative proposals submitted to AMEP 2 for the coming fiscal year (2022-2023), identified the following areas that align with their proposals.

Collaborative Proposal Activity Area 2022-2023

Sectors/issues	Percentage (%)
Communities & Social Development	17
Energy transition & Climate change	3
Environment & Natural Resources	19
Geology & Natural Resources	21
Governance & Transparency	18
Human Resource Skills and Capacity	23
Investment & Financial markets	11
Legal & Regulatory	24
Local Content & Employment	15
Other Identify	9
Responsible industry & Companies	36
SME & Artisanal Mining	0
Technology & Digitalization	18

Most proposals (36%) identified activities related to ensuring a responsible mining industry and companies, followed by legal and regulatory (24%) activities and human resource skills and capacity development (23%). Selected activities will be implemented in the FY 2022-2023.

Annex 3: Collaborative Perception Survey 2022

Questionnaire

Australia Mongolia Extractives Program (AMEP) 2's objective is to support government, civil society and the private sector to collaborate to develop the investment environment for the extractives sector in Mongolia. The purpose of this brief questionnaire is to hear the opinion and perception of the stakeholders on the existing collaboration, and challenge to effective collaboration, and recommendation to address the challenges.

This evaluation form will be used to establish whether people's perceptions and practice of collaboration in the sector have changed over the past three years in order to inform an evaluation of the program and improve the performance, quality, and effectiveness of the AMEP2.

For the purposes of this questionnaire, collaboration is defined as two or more agencies to work together to achieve a defined and common aim. It can be among Government agencies, private sector, civil society, and professional organizations or between organizations in these categories.

Gender: Male   Female   Others

Age: 18-25   25-35   35-45   45-55   55-65   66+

Type of organization:
Government organization
CSO/ NGO
State owned company
Company
Professional association
University, research institute
International organization and development project
Media
Others

Position:
Director/ manager above
Senior officer/ officer
Assistant/clerk/technician

Sector:
Geology and Mining
Oil and gas
Energy
Environment
Agriculture
Education
Health
Bank and finance
Information technology and communication
Others

Does your organization participate in in collaborative projects or activities in regard to mining sector in Mongolia?
Yes
No (go to Q4)

If the answer is yes, then what mining issues does your collaborative project(s) address or focus on?

………………………………………………………………………………

………………………………………………………………………………

………………………………………………………………………………

With what organizations does your organizations partner mostly as a collaboration in the sector?

		Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Most of the time
1.	Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry	1	2	3	4	5
2.	Ministry of Environment and Tourism	1	2	3	4	5
3.	Ministry of Finance	1	2	3	4	5
4.	Mineral Resource and Petroleum Authority	1	2	3	4	5
5.	State Professional Inspection Agency	1	2	3	4	5
6.	Other ministries and agencies	1	2	3	4	5
7.	Municipal, district government organizations	1	2	3	4	5
8.	Provincial government organizations					
9.	Civil Society organizations	1	2	3	4	5
10	Professional associations	1	2	3	4	5
11.	Private companies	1	2	3	4	5
12	Universities and research institutes	1	2	3	4	5
13	Media	1	2	3	4	5
14	Other…………………. (Please specify)	1	2	3	4	5

How would you rate overall collaboration in practice in the sector?
Highly effective
Effective
Occasionally effective
Not at all effective

In the last two years, has it:
Improved
Stayed the same
Got worse

What are the main challenges that hinder effective collaboration in your opinion?
………………………………………………………………………………

………………………………………………………………………………

………………………………………………………………………………
In your opinion, what area in the sector needs collaboration most?
   ………………………………………………………………………………

………………………………………………………………………………..

………………………………………………………………………………

Please tell us where you think collaboration is important in the sector by ticking all the statements below that you agree with: (multiple choice)

	Statements
1.	It is essential to allow government to be held to account for its decisions in the sector
2.	It allows stakeholders to use the skills and insights of others to improve policy and practice
3.	It allows stakeholders to use the skills and insights of others to implement activities
4.	It increases transparency
5.	It increases trust among stakeholders
6.	It increases public trust in the mining industry
7.	It reduces risks for private sector investors
8.	It helps stakeholders to get their message out more effectively
9.	It reduces duplication of effort

10.	It is required by legislation or official policy

In your opinion, are there enough information and knowledge sharing opportunities between key stakeholders in the sector?

There are enough

There are some, but not enough

There are none

If the answer is that there are some opportunities, what are the most commonly used mechanism, procedure and platforms for sharing information?

	Mechanism, procedure, and platforms
1.	Working group discussion
2.	Public consultation
3.	Consultation workshop/seminar
4.	Roundtable discussion/forums
5.	Trainings
6.	Individual meetings
8.	Professional associations
9.	Other…………….

How well do you see the participation of civil society in the development, implementation and monitoring of sectoral policies is ensured?

1.	It is adequately ensured well enough
2.	Adequately integrated
3.	Participation happens but not enough influence on the process
4.	Not adequately integrated because of participation mechanisms and procedures are weak
5.	Not adequately integrated because of Habits of consultation are not well enough developed
6.	Not adequately integrated because of Mutual mistrust among stakeholders
7.	Not integrated because of Access to information on participation procedures and mechanisms is not sufficient
8.	Not integrated because of Insufficient financial and other capacities of potential participants

How well do you see the participation of the private sector in policymaking of sector?

1.	It is adequately ensured well enough
2.	Adequately integrated
3.	Participation happens but not enough influence on the process
4.	Not adequately integrated because of participation mechanisms and procedures are weak
5.	Not adequately integrated because of Habits of consultation are not well enough developed
6.	Not adequately integrated because of Mutual mistrust among stakeholders
7.	Not integrated because of Access to information on participation procedures and mechanisms is not sufficient
8.	Not integrated because of Insufficient financial and other capacities of potential participants

In order to promote collaboration in the sector what are the areas and activities that AMEP 2 could support?

…………………………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………

Thank you

Survey Summary Results

Although summarized in the Annual Report under Cross Cutting Integration, Section 1) Collaboration and Perceptions Survey 2022, the following highlight some of the other key results identified through the survey:

The survey was sent to 650 individuals with a response from 165 individuals. The response rate was 6 times higher than the same survey conducted in 2019. The 2022 survey respondents consisted of 54% who identified as male and 46% who identified as female. In 2019, 28 number of stakeholders responded to the survey request, resulting in a 75% male to 25% female ratio of respondents. The female response rate increased by 21% from 2019 to 2022.

A contributing factor to this increase in respondents can be linked to the programs' increased momentum and number of in person activities and meetings, allowing for solid relationships and partnerships to be formed, therefore enabling more responses. The lifting of COVID-19 restrictions has also played an important role in this, whereby engagement has become more fluid.

Participants of the survey responded that the most significant collaborative partner in the extractives sector is perceived as the MRPAM (58.3%), the MMHI (46.2%), followed by the MoET (30.4%) and private companies (20%). This perception illustrates the strong role government institutions and private sector companies are seen as playing in the extractives within Mongolia. It also brings to question why government institutions are perceived as strong partners when they are often described in governance and transparency surveys as opaque. Although no information was collected on these aspects, there is a rationale that these partners are the core of the institutions governing and managing the sector therefore more stable and more likely to make partners for better change.

Annex 4: Partnership Survey

The following survey was designed to engage partner organizations in providing feedback on the AMEP2 program. Section on Cross Cutting Integration Section 2) Partnership highlights some of the key results.

AMEP 2: ACTIVITY PARTNER SURVEY

Dear Partner Organization,

We kindly ask you to fill out this short AMEP Partner Survey. The purpose of this survey is to identify and learn more about what elements of our program need improvement or have resulted in positive outcomes and activities. Results of this survey will enable to improve our performance and ensure that we continue to meet the needs of our partner organizations and the extractive sector in Mongolia.

We look forward to your comments and feedback. The survey will take approximately five minutes to complete. If you have any additional questions or comments, please address these to XXX

This short survey enables us to understand AMEP's performance over some key service standards that we have set ourselves for work with partners on delivering AMEP 2 outcomes. It should take only a few minutes to complete.

Where your activity is a continuation of an activity started under the first phase (DATES) of AMEP, please give an answer that applies to your experience over the past year (Dates).

Please use the full range of marks and the comment boxes, and return the completed survey to XXX

1. AMEP has been able to identify and understand our issues and needs and provide the necessary support. to our institution/organization d our issue(s)

Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree	

Comment:

2. The AMEP Activity Lead has provided the necessary information on the AMEP program, strategic vision, and objectives to our institution/organization to which our activity contributes

Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree	

Comment:

3. My organization knows who to contact at AMEP.

Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree	

Comment:	

4. My organization finds that AMEP program staff is responsive to any communication from me.

Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree	

Comment:	

5. AMEP staff work to meet the requirements of my organization.

Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree	

Comment:	

6. (If you have received technical assistance or other inputs from AMEP for your activity) AMEP inputs have been timely and of the quality my organisation expected.

Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree	

Comment:	

7. Please rate your knowledge and information related to the topic of presentation? (1-5 points)
    1. General knowledge of the scope of presentation
    2. Professional understanding of context
    3. Methodology and approach
    4. Future trend and tendency
    5. Future improvement and development

8. Please rate your changes of knowledge and information related to the topic and context after the presentation? (1-5 points)
    6. General knowledge of the scope of presentation
    7. Professional understanding of context
    8. Methodology and approach
    9. Future trend and tendency
    10. Future improvement and development

 9. What could be improved or what advice would be for AMEP2?
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Thank you,