



Agency on Land  
Affairs, Geodesy and  
Cartography



WWF Mongolia  
Programme Office

## REPORT ON INTEGRATION OF DATA ON LOCAL PROTECTED AREAS' INTO GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM



...pride of my land...



...we are the masters of  
our land...



...what we have? ...

Ulaanbaatar  
2008

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## INTRODUCTION

All the information about the local protected areas of Mongolia consolidated in the Agency on Land Affairs, Geodesy and Cartography (ALAGAC), Department of Geology and Mining Cadastre of the Agency of Mineral Resources and Oil, Specially Protected Area Administration within the Ministry of Nature and Environment of Mongolia. The absence of the integrated information system among above mentioned organizations results inaccuracy and low quality of data/information and reports.

At present, in order to prevent negative influence of mining on their land resources the local administration and population tend to take their land under the local protection. Theoretically, it conflicts with the classical definition of protected area, in other words, all the justifications on protected area are violated. Moreover, due to present gaps existed in mining licensing as well as in cadastral system the newly protected lands usually coincides with licensed mining areas, resulting the conflict of interest among the public and companies. Thus, an integration of data and information at the local level, and its consolidation in geographic information system become necessary.

The work on integration of local available data and information to establish database for local protected areas started from the May of 2007 under the cooperation of WWF-Mongolian Programme office and Agency of Land Affairs, Geodesy and Cartography (ALAGAC). This report has developed within aforementioned collaborative research and monitoring work.

### Acknowledgements

We wish to thank Agency of Mineral Resources and Oil, Agency of Land Affairs, Geodesy and Cartography, local land authorities, local participants and all others who gave a valuable data and information to fulfil this research work. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to National Land Management Centre for their valuable recommendations and precise advices in developing the part of policy regulation, explanations and recommendations of this report.

## PART 1. POLICY REGULATIONS ON LOCAL PROTECTED AREA ISSUES

The local protected area issues is a part of the national land affairs, thus it should be regulated by Constitution. According to the Constitution of Mongolia: "...land and its resources, as mineral resources, forests, water, wildlife, plant and all other related with land, would be under the public power and government protection". This is considered as a basic and a general policy under umbrella of which all the land affairs should be regulated and implemented. In the article 2 of the chapter 3 in the Law on Specially Protected Areas it is stated: "Aimags, capital, soums and districts can separate some part of land on their territory for protection and conservation purposes". It was the policy regulation, which made it possible to develop local governed and specially protected areas, independently from the State Administrative body.

The legal relations within local protected areas should be implemented in order to facilitate and not violate national priorities and law system, and should be directly related to the policy and function of legal institutions, responsible for national protected areas issues. According to the analysis made in environmental law system the local protected areas' policies can be divided into the general and the specific regulations. The general regulations are the common legal documents, regarding to managing the state land, whilst the specific regulations developed, particularly, to manage relations within the local protected areas. For instance, the local PA as territory or land will be regulated by the Law on Land and as a subject to be conserved by the Law on Specially Protected Area and the Government Resolution on Taking Land Under the local protection approved by the Minister of Nature and Environment. In general, local protected areas are subject of the different legal documents because of it is considered as a specific land use type.

The local protected areas are the object of local community interests, and thus, should serve for interest of local population and their needs and necessities. Consequently, it is important to develop a specific legal document, which will focus on this issue, and as mentioned before, there are a few main policy documents exist, now:

- The resolution on Taking land under the local protection – the core document regarding the local protected area
- Law on Land, Law on Environmental protection, Law on Specially Protected Areas – the indirect policies.

All these legislations regulate such issues as: purpose and objectives of the Local protected areas, their indicators and benchmarks, classification, protection and/or conservation, regulation of land rent and/or possession, financial mechanisms, and duties and rights of subjects related to the local protected areas, their norms and standards, defining and regulating responsibility system.

The following are the justifications to take land under the local protected area:

1. If the object (e.g. ecosystem, historical monument, worship place etc.) experiences real danger and need to be prevented and/or restored;
2. If the possible threats identified during the research survey and/or planning works (e.g. conserve natural resources, planning rational use of the territory, conserve landscapes, protect historical and cultural monuments/heritages etc.);

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3. In order to facilitate implementation of actions (develop tourism to promote ecological and ethical education).

According to the resolution number 07 from 2000 on Taking land under the local protection, approved by the Minister of Nature and Environment, the “local protected area” is the land taken under the protection by the decision of aimag, soum or district authorities to conserve ecosystem stability and promote sustainable land use in territories with natural, historic and cultural significances. The territory of local protected area, according to the land classification, defined as a natural reserves and at the administrative level can be classified as aimag’s, soum’s and district’s reserve land. Depending on the purpose of the protection it, also, can be classified as following:

- Forest, wildlife, plant and water reserve land;
- Natural and historical heritage reserve land.

If it is necessary, the territory of reserve land can be divided into zones as, zone for use and protective.

The difference of local protected area from the other land classes is in impossibility to determine total area and purpose of protection beforehand, i.e. specifics of the local protected areas defining through planning based on detailed researches. Thus, local authorities are responsible to monitor and to control Local protected areas, and to report conditions timely.

All the people related to local protected area function and take responsibility for it can be defined as local protected area legal subject. All local protected area subjects have appropriate rights on defining rules, changing, improving and decision making, if necessary. Moreover, they are responsible for making improvements and developing the regulations at the local level in order to facilitate better management within local protected areas. The Government is only one legal subject who has rights to own the local protected area land, and through its relevant administrative bodies, responsible to implement its policies. Citizens, business entities and organization can possess, use the land within the local protected area in purposes assigned by law. Thus, public and organizations can use land under the local protected area on contract base and implement any action, which not harmful for ecosystem in long-term, i.e. sustainable for the region.

Table 1. *Legal subjects in local protected area affairs*

	Subjects	Rights and responsibilities
1	Ministry of Nature and Environment	<p>Rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As a state administrative body in charge of environmental issues have rights to implement all the management activities, which important;</li> </ul> <p>Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To facilitate, enforce and improve policy environment;</li> <li>- To establish suitable economic and financial mechanism/system for local protected areas;</li> </ul>
	The central state administrative body in charge of SPAs	<p>Rights, Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to organize implementation of national policy and legislation on SPAs;</li> <li>- to request, plan and allow research works within the SPAs, collect reports and integrate into the database;</li> <li>- to approve projects related to land use plan, establish recreational and tourism centres in cooperation with state central administrative body.</li> </ul>
	Aimag and capital city citizens' representative Hurals and Governors	<p>Rights, responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To make decision regarding proposals made by Governor on taking the land under the local protected area, to determine and to change its numbers;</li> <li>- to free land or its part from the protection according to the certain requests and conditions;</li> <li>- to request State administrative body to change the scheme or status of PA;</li> <li>- to monitor and control land use, and possess land to citizens, business entities and organizations under the certain conditions and fees.</li> </ul>
	Aimag, Soum and Duureg Governors	<p>Rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to initiate and propose project on taking land under the local and/or state protection to the relevant Representative Hural;</li> <li>- to administer the implementation of relevant legislation and Government decisions;</li> </ul> <p>Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To conduct monitoring and control;</li> <li>- To pass decision made regarding the protected areas to the Department of environmental protection every year within the first quarter of the year;</li> </ul>
	Governmental	
	Environmental	Rights and responsibilities:

	inspector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To administer implementation of legislation, cut off violations, determine punishment for violator;</li> <li>- in order to facilitate policy implementation have rights to conduct inspection in business entities and organizations and private capital;</li> <li>- to stop, to punish, to limit and to request citizens, business entities and organizations violated the legislation;</li> <li>- to be provided and used distinctive badges, defensive weapons, equipment</li> </ul>
	Agency on Land Affairs, Geodesy and Cartography	<p>Rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To request data and information on local protected area, the number of land users, business entities and organizations within local protected area from relevant local authorities;</li> <li>- to request the land users, business entities and organizations to provide conclusions of land inspection works on land health and quality issues</li> </ul> <p>Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to produce reports on data and information regarding the local protected area and number of land users within it, timely;</li> <li>- to reflect borders and location of local protected area in land management plans for aimag, soum and districts.</li> </ul>
2	Business entities and organizations <sup>1</sup>	<p>Rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to possess and use land according to the terms reflected in contract;</li> <li>- to request conduct land quality inspection decisions from land owners and possess land according to the common legislations;</li> <li>- to extend the terms of possession if not violated the law and relevant legislation during the previous term;</li> </ul> <p>Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to allow state inspection survey timely according to the general rules;</li> <li>- to conduct land conservation, protection and restoration activities;</li> <li>- to enter and exit the land using the predefined roads;</li> <li>- to apply with request to change land use plan in case decided to change the purpose of land use;</li> <li>- responsible in restoration and rehabilitation of land possessed after the time is off.</li> </ul>
	Citizens <sup>1</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> In case possessing land within the Local protected areas, only.

As it showed in table, the legal rights and responsibilities of the subjects have been reflected in all relevant policy documents, however, the transparency

Among them as well as enforcement of those policies are not significant in local protected areas land use environment. This contributes in existing gaps on information sharing, networking and integration.

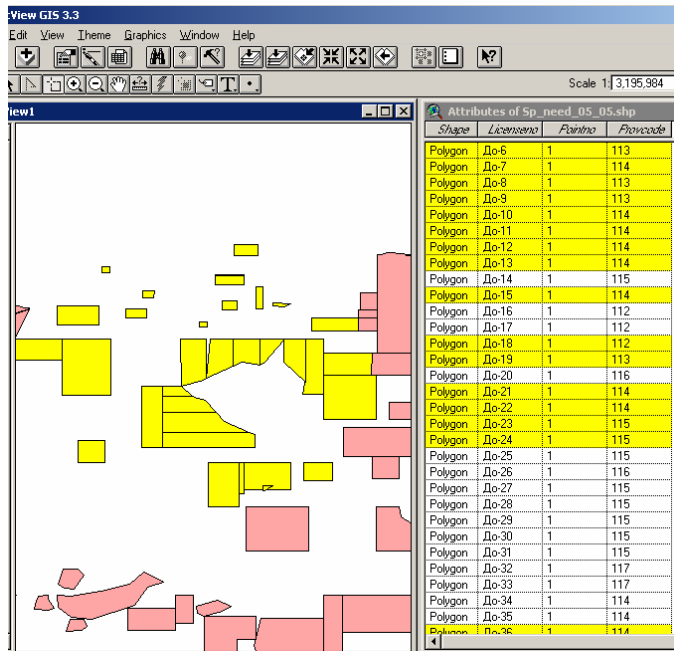
The legal relation of local protected areas can be cancelled in the following situation occurred:

1. If the objectives, necessities and justifications to protect land have changed, i.e. the objects to be protected exhausted, values are decreased etc.;
2. If the protective period or time assigned have been off, i.e. the time limit of protection adopted by Local Citizen's Representative Hural is finished;
3. If the local protected area have brought under the State protection, i.e. become national park, strictly protected area, heritage etc.;
4. if the experts observed the valuable resource of natural/mineral resources to be used in number to support national economy growth with decision made among the relevant legal entities and the state administrative body in charge of mineral resources aimag, soum and district Citizen's representative Hural decides to fully or partially free the land from protection.

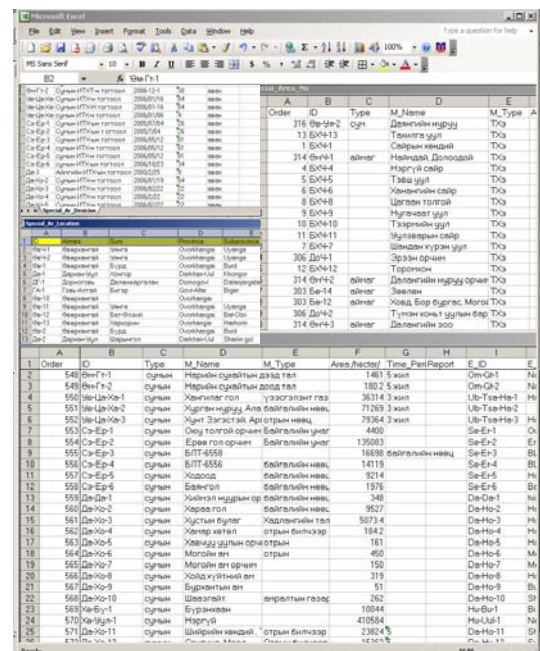
## PART 2. METHODOLOGY ON INTEGRATION OF DATA AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE ABOUT THE LOCAL PROTECTED AREAS INTO GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Geology and mining cadastral department of the Agency of mineral resources and oil register the information regarding the Local protected areas in two ways: 1. spatial data – integrated in Arc View GIS software; 2. attribute/table – in Microsoft access environment by aimag/soum; by name; by objective/purpose; by administrative units; by the state of protection (time limit of protection) (figure 1.). This method requires many steps for input and output of all the information. Thus, it is necessary to systemise the data at the user level to improve the access to the information. To facilitate integrated information network the data collected in Microsoft Access environment have been linked/networked into one system with the spatial data attributes.

Figure 1



a. Spatial data



b. Information integrated into tabular database in Microsoft access software

The information from those databases processed by the number of decree, of agreement (table 1.), the spatial data have been integrated into map with scale of 1:500000 (figure 2.) and sent to the local land authorities to check for the accuracy.

The work was conducted in 2 steps. The first step started from 15 May, 2007; however, due to inaccuracy of the baseline data the timeframe was extended. The final filled datasheets were resent in 25 September 2007 again to local authorities. The information replied by the local authorities were more informative, thus all the corrections in both tabular and spatial database made (e.g. coordinates, boundaries etc.) and integrated into database network.

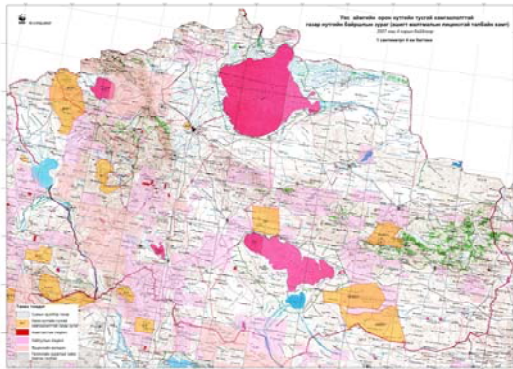
Table 1. *The example of the integrated data sheet*

Number in the map (license number)	Aimag	Soum	Type	Decree number	Justification	Name	Year of protection	Year of cancelation	Cancelation justification	Notes
To-1	Tuv	Sumber, Jargalant	Aimag			Khavchuu				
To-10	Tuv	Arkhus	Aimag	2000/03/15, n28		Narstai uul				
To-100	Tuv	Bayantsagaan	Aimag	2002/07/18, n73		Togos khad				
To-101	Tuv	Bayantsagaan	Aimag			Khuukhen khongoriin khun chuluu				
To-102	Tuv	Sergelen	aimag			Zulegt uul				

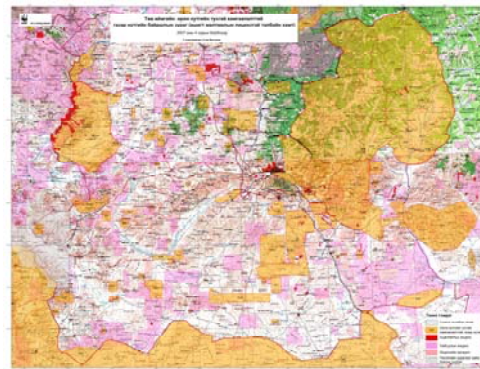
The requirements for sample datasheet, sent for revision to the local authorities, were to fill the number license, to fill gaps in table, and to provide exact coordinates and area info.

Sample of maps passed to local authorities for revision with scale of 1:500000

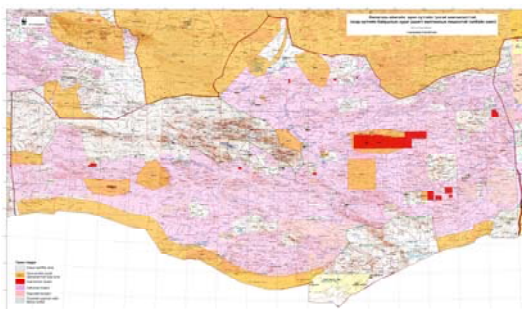
Figure 2



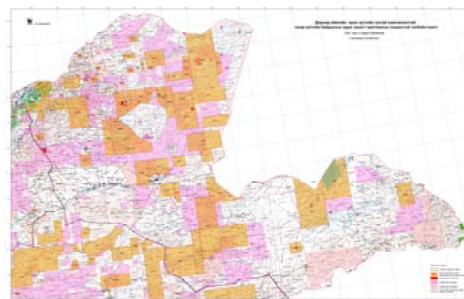
a. Location of local protected areas in Uvs aimag (including mining licence areas)



b. Location of local protected areas in Tuv aimag (including mining licence areas)



c. Location of local protected areas in Umngovi aimag (including mining licence areas)



d. Location of local protected areas in Dornod aimag (including mining licence areas)

## PART 3. GENERAL DATA AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON LOCAL PROTECTED AREAS IN MONGOLIA

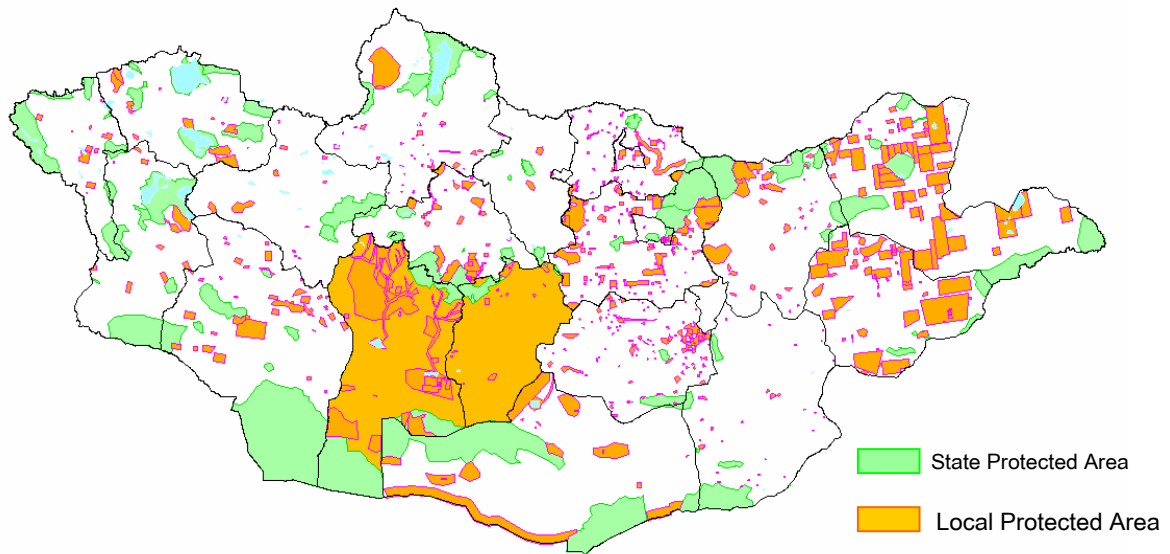
In December, 2007, totally 220227.7 ha area cancelled from total 16531585.9 ha of LPA in Mongolia, and currently in total 911 Local protected areas exist, covering of 16311358.2 ha area are registered. This mean almost 10.3 per cents of total territory of the country occupied by the Local protected areas, of which, 485 or 11437300.5 ha area adopted by Aimag Citizen's representative Hural, 384 or 3540506.9 ha by Soum Citizen's representative Hural, and adopted by both aimag and soum Citizen's representative Hural accounts of 30 or 1238100.0 ha area.

Table 1. Information on local protected areas (by aimags)

№	Local protected areas												
	Aimag name	Aimag Area	Local protected areas		Adopted by Aimag Citizen's representative Hural		Adopted by Soum Citizen's representative Hural		Not defined		Per cents of total	Cancelled area	
			Total number	Area	Total number	Area	Total number	Area	Total number	Area		Total number	Area
1	Bayan-Ulgii	4625871.7	14	126631.8	5	72072.3	9	54559.5			2.7		
2	Uvs	6997601.6	13	379686.5	-	-	13	379686.5			5.4		
3	Hovd	7659885.6	10	257498.8	7	106282.4	3	151216.4			3.4		
4	Zawhan	8263818.9	20	137145.5	2	81593.5	18	55552.0			1.7		
5	Govi-Altai	14190516.9	43	759360.2	5	13217.9	33	702135.2	5	44007.1	5.4		
6	Arhangai	5524331.0	30	552374.9	3	15717.2	27	536657.7			10.0		
7	Bayanhongor	11568590.8	21	2653229.5	19	2568908.6	2	84320.9			22.9	15	64520.2
8	Uvurhangai	6306904.0	14	104413.3	12	86254.6	2	4886.7	1	13272	1.7	1	474.4
9	Dornod	12813408.4	57	3211381.4	57	3211381.4					25.1		
10	Suhbaatar	8492515.5	47	2406473.6	21	2204356.6	25	190215.6	1	11901.4	29.0	9	5181.9
11	Hentii	8208741.4	35	680742.4	10	254825.1	24	371521.1			26.9		
12	Dornogovi	11145407.1	95	49870.2	15	14658.0	80	35212.2			1.7		
13	Selenge	4156460.2	50	277170.5	47	137059.6	3	140110.9			8.9	1	51.2
14	Dundgovi	7531732.1	135	470865.3	11	123397.6	117	345481.5	7	1986.2	6.3		
15	Huvs gul	10042707.7	127	530491.9	124	115493.3	3	414998.6			5.3		
16	Tuv	7579880.8	145	1413616.2	131	1269133.2	2	9222.0	12	135261.0	1.5		
17	Umnigovi	16586879.3	23	2149804.7	8	1109070.8	11	9061.6	4	1031672.3	2.5		
18	Bulgan	4882907.5	3	49173.0	3	49173.0					1.0		
19	Darhan-Uul	321004.7	16	56829.7	4	1161.2	12	55668.5			17.7		
20	Orhon	84464.1	1	3544.2	1	3547.2					4.2		
21	Govi-Sumber	561042.3									0.0		
22	Ulaanbaatar	399308.1	12	41054.6							10.3		
<b>Total</b>		<b>157943979.7</b>	<b>911.0</b>	<b>16311358.2</b>	<b>485.0</b>	<b>11437300.5</b>	<b>384.0</b>	<b>3540506.9</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>1238100.0</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>220227.7</b>

Note: The data integrated from the existing database, the area of Local protected areas for Bayanhongor and Uvurhangai aimag was percentage from the total area of recently existed Local protected areas is aimag.

Figure 1



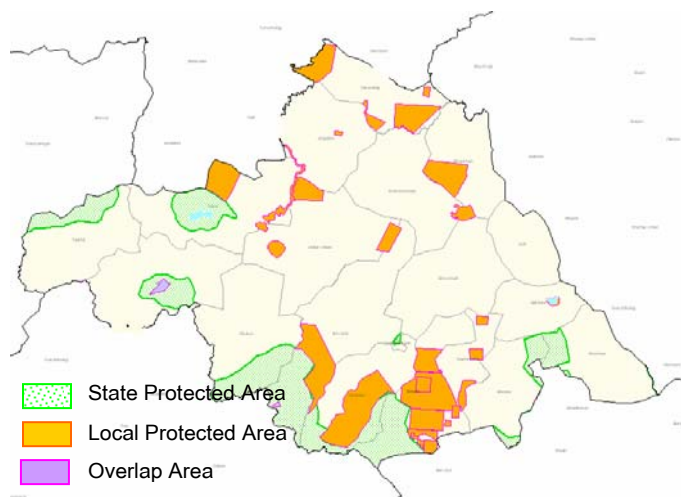
*Spatial data of the State and Local protected areas over Mongolia*

The coincidence of borders and decrees of Local protected areas within administrative units and overlay of borders with SPAs, and already cancelled Local protected areas are not been revised due to the complexity of the issue. Thus, the maps have not been revised spatial coincidences. For instance, The Tarvagatai national park established in 2000, whilst its part Maruz spring taken under the protection in 2001, thus the coincidence of the information have been taken as it was sent by the local authorities. For some places, however, the numbers of decree or decision to take under the local protected area have been revised, respectively, to the information obtained and border coincidences have not been showed on maps.

## PART 4. INTEGRATED DATA ON LOCAL PROTECTED AREAS IN AIMAG LEVEL

### ***Arhangai aimag***

The total area of aimag accounts 552433.1 ha, of which 10% occupied by 30 Local protected areas. Three local protected areas with total area of 15717.2 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 536657.7 ha or 27 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural.



The local protected areas as Noyon Hangai, Huh Nuur were protected earlier than becoming the State Protected Areas, thus the coincidence were corrected on the map appropriately to the new changes.

The most of the Local protected areas brought under the protection due to conserve natural landscape, implement rational use of natural resource and protect mineral water sources. During this work information about 29 local protected areas totally have been received, and the number of decree for local protected area

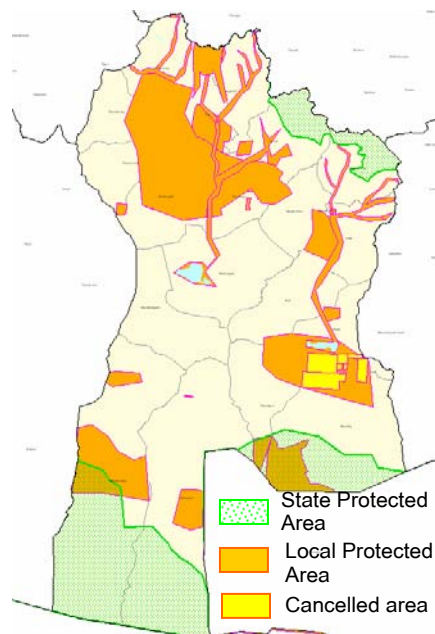
surrounding Ugii nuur lake have not been filled in the form.

### ***Bayanhongor aimag***

By decree of ... of 2007 the territory of Bayanhongor aimag fully brought under the protection. During this work we reflected the territories which taken under the protection before this event.

The total area of aimag accounts 11568590.8 ha, of which 22.9% or 2653229.5 ha were occupied by 21 local protected areas. Twenty one local protected areas with total area of 2568908.6.0 ha was protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 84320.9 ha or 2 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural. However, 15 Local protected areas with total area of 164520.2 ha was cancelled. Moreover, the borders of 3 local protected areas coincide with SPAs' border, because of the territory of aimag fully under the local protected areas' protection these coincidences have not been reflected on the map.

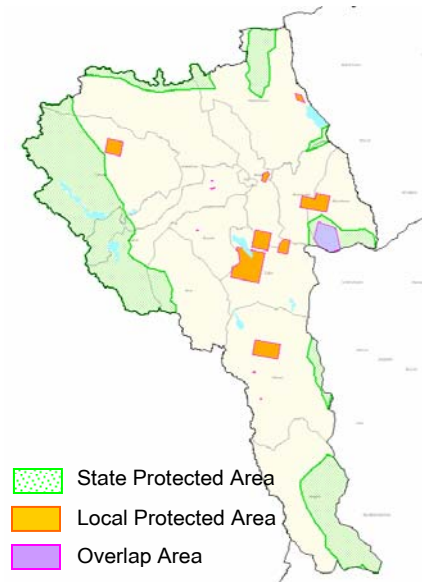
The main reasons to be brought under the local protected area were conservation of the natural ecosystems, protect natural heritages, conserve mineral resources, and protect forests, mineral water sources and rivers. Due to the aimag authorities have not sent the required information as decree number of protection, decree number of cancellation the database is not obtain the full information.



### ***Bayan-Ulgii aimag***

The total area of aimag accounts 4625871.7 ha, of which 2.7% or 126631.8 ha occupied by 14 local protected areas. Five Local protected areas with total area of 72072.3 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 54559.5 ha or 9 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural. The Tsambagarav were protected before taking it under the state protection, thus this coincidence have been neglected.

The main justifications to be protected was in conservation of the natural landscapes, rational use of natural resources, and protection of the water sources, forests and rivers. The information obtained from aimag authorities' cover 13 local protected areas, currently information about the place named 'Har Tahir Shar Modnii Hadlan' not available.



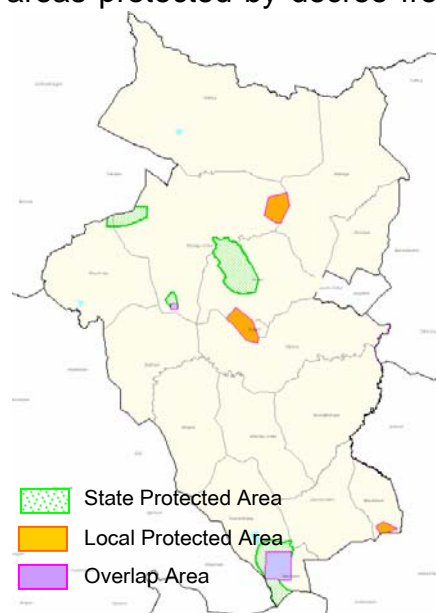
### ***Bulgan aimag***

The aimag authorities until now have not responded to the request sent in 15 May and 15 September of 2007, thus all the information has been obtained from the previously collected data at the Agency of Mineral resources and oil.

The total area of aimag accounts 4882907.5 ha, of which 1% or 49173.0 ha occupied by 3 local protected areas. All local protected areas protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural. The Hugni Han, Uran togoo were protected before taking it under the state protection, thus these coincidences have been neglected.

The main justifications to be protected were in conservation of the natural landscapes and rehabilitation of habitats for endangered wildlife and plant species.

The information regarding the decree number, location and names of place have been received late, thus to avoid the inaccuracy the old versions of data have been used. According to the information sent from the local authorities totally 223252.9 ha area of which in Bureghangai soum 10258 ha, in Mogod soum 1050 ha, in hutag-Undur soum 125639.2, in Bugat soum 3335 ha and in Teshig soum 92202.9 ha area protected by local protected areas.

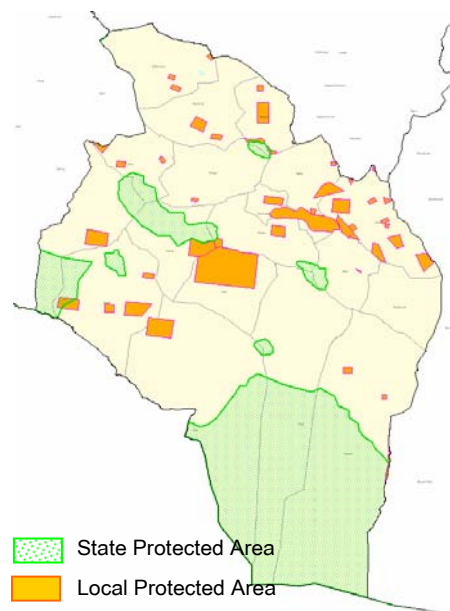


### ***Gobi-Altai aimag***

The total area of aimag accounts 14190516.9 ha, of which 5.4% or 759360.2 ha occupied by 43 local protected areas. Five Local protected areas with total area of 13217.9 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 702135.2.3 ha or 33 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural. Also, 5 Local protected areas with area of 44007.1 ha, the information of which have not found were revised and inserted into the integrated database.

The main justifications to be protected was in conservation of the natural landscapes, rational use of natural resources, protect historical and cultural heritages and protection of the water sources and habitat for endangered species of wildlife and plants. Totally 35 Local protected areas' information are available and missing for another 8 local protected areas the information on decree number, attachments and all supplementary data.

Due to some information, especially, regarding the coordinates, names and area of local protected areas at soum level not fulfil requirements the local authorities will revise mistakes according to the common methodology. The revised and full versions of local protected areas' data are expected in the first quarter of 2008.



### ***Gobi-Sumber aimag***

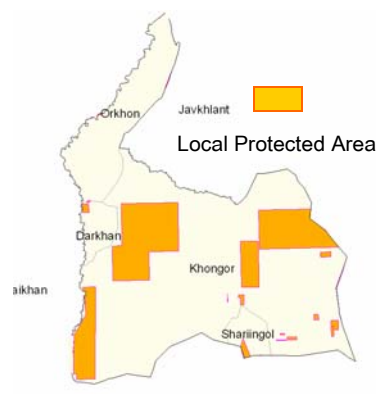
The aimag level information on local protected areas consist of decree number, place names, coordinates and all other supplementary data have been received. However, due to some technical inconsistencies occurred in data input in GIS the data was inserted by point data, the land were not marked on the map. The materials obtained from the local authorities have not reflected total areas of local protected areas thus there is no idea about total territories protected by local government decisions.

### ***Darhan-Uul aimag***

The aimag authorities, until now, have not responded to the request sent in 15 September of 2007, thus all the information have been obtained from the previously collected data at the Agency of Mineral resources and oil.

The total area of aimag accounts 321004.7 ha, of which 17.7% or 56829.7 ha occupied by 16 Local protected areas. Four local protected areas with total area of 1161.2 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 55668.5 ha or 12 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural.

The legal justifications to be brought under the local protected areas were according to the articles in Law on Land and Law on mineral resources. The more detailed information is missed still.



### ***Dornogobi aimag***

The total area of aimag accounts 11145407.1 ha, of which 1.7% or 49870.2 ha occupied by 95 local protected areas. Fifteen local protected areas with total area of 14658.0 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 35212.2 ha or 80 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural.



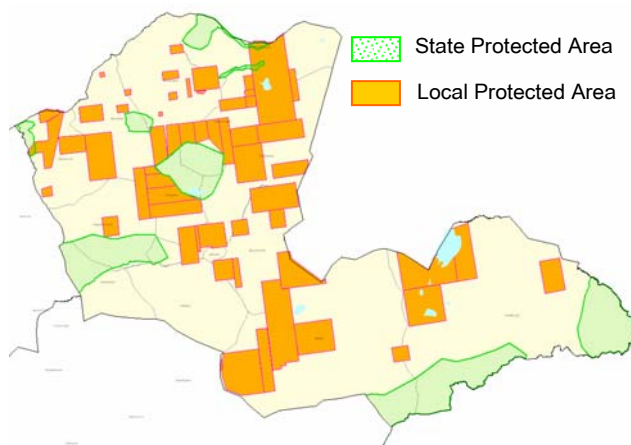
The legal justifications to be brought under the local protected area were in conservation of natural landscapes, protecting natural, historical and cultural heritages, conserving habitat of endangered wildlife and plant species, protection saxaul shrub lands, underground water resources, and preserving traditional worshipping places. Information for 86 local protected areas is fully obtained and from 9 local protected areas still missing (e.g. copies of decree and attachment and so on).

State Protected Area
  Local Protected Area

### ***Dornod aimag***

The total area of aimag accounts 12813408.4 ha, of which 25.1% or 3211381.4 ha occupied by 57 local protected areas. All local protected areas protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural.

The legal justifications to be brought under the local protected area were in conservation of natural landscapes, preserve traditional worshipping places and protect mineral water sources. The most of the local protected areas' territories are used for reservation for long distance pasture and hay making, also. All the information regarding local protected areas are fully obtained

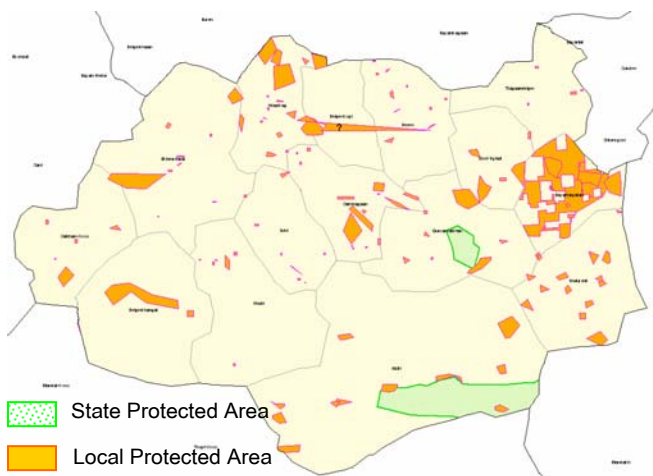


State Protected Area
  Local Protected Area

### ***Dundgobi aimag***

By decree of ... of 2007 the territory of Dundgobi aimag fully brought under the protection. In period of this research work, however, the protection regime for whole aimag were cancelled and some area taken under the local protected area.

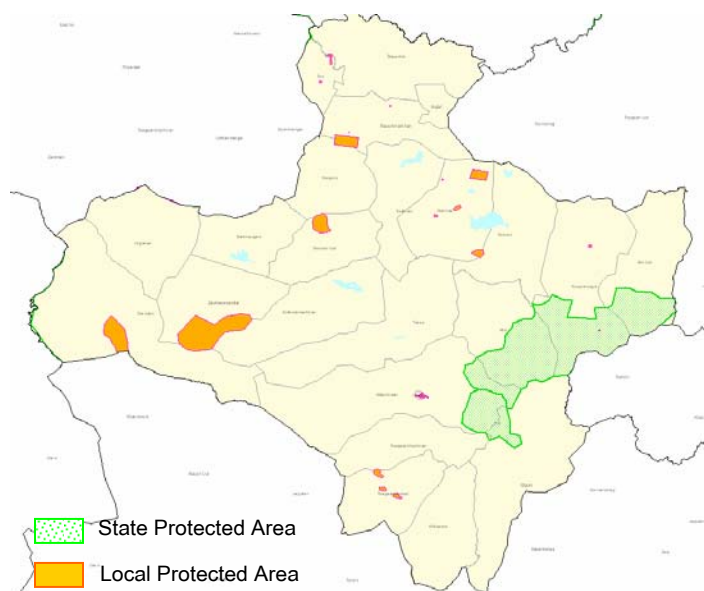
The total area of aimag accounts 7531732.1 ha, of which 6.3% or 470865.3 ha occupied by 135 local protected areas. Eleven local protected areas with total area of 123397.6 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 345481.5 ha or 117 Local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural. The information of the status of decree on local protected area establishment for 7 places with total area of 1986.2 ha has not indicated. Moreover, the number and date of decree for much of the local protected areas have not submitted.



The legal justifications to be brought under the local protected area were in conservation of natural landscapes, conserve natural, historical and cultural heritages, preserve traditional worshipping places and protect traditional medicine place

(mineral waters, mineral mud etc.). The information as decree number, dates and so on for some Local protected areas are still missing.

### ***Zavhan aimag***



The total area of aimag accounts 8263818.9 ha, of which 1.7% or 137145.5 ha occupied by 20 Local protected areas. Two local protected areas with total area of 81593.5 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 55552.0 ha or 18 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural. The information on geographic coordinates, location and name of 3 places occupying 68.5 ha falls into the territory of Otgon soum has not been identified, thus, local authorities will revise those information with the soum land officer and resubmit.

National park named Tarvagatai was taken under the state protected area as National Park in 2000, whilst in database Maruz mineral water resource taken under the local protected area in 2001. This had not match with data sent by the local authorities, thus we have not reflect this coincidence ion a map.

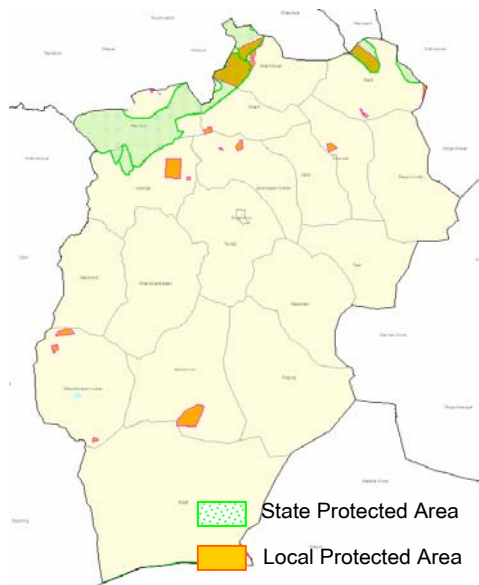
The legal justification of taking land under the local protected area were in conserving natural landscapes, conserve/protect natural, historic and cultural heritages, protect habitat for wildlife, pasture reserve and the certain area was protected in number to breed Przewalski horse. The copies of decree and all additional materials regarding the local protected areas, except of one, have not been received.

### ***Orhon aimag***

Totally 4.2% or the territory or 3544.2 ha area, located surrounding Bayan-Onдор mountain, in number to conserve its natural landscapes, have been taken under the local protected areas.

### ***Uvurhangai aimag***

In Uvurhangai aimag by decree from 15 March 2005 territory of five soums and by the decree of 30 May 2005 of fourteen soums' territory or the total territory of aimag has been covered by local protected areas. For this, the sum of local protected areas has been calculated subtracting the areas of recently occupied by local protected areas, communication network, roads and under the mining licences.



Here we showed the LPA network recently operated at the territory of aimag.

The total area of aimag accounts 6306904.0 ha, of which 1.7% or 104413.3 ha occupied by 14 Local protected areas. Eleven local protected areas with total area of 86254.6 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 4886.7 ha or 2 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural. The information about one LPA, which occupies 13272.0 ha are not available, however 474.4 ha of this area had been cancelled of local protected areas network.

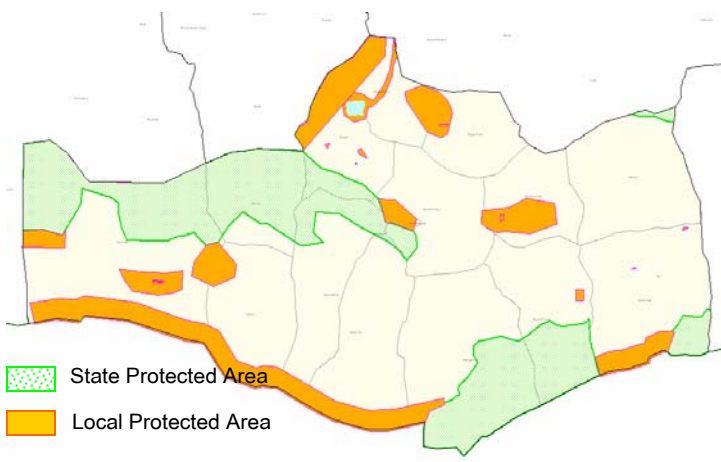
Due to the borders of two Local protected areas have coincided with SPAs border and taking into account that currently whole territory of the aimag under the protection, the boundaries of local protected areas left as it was previously mapped. Thus, in future, it should be considered in case if there will be any needs to free the land out of local protected areas.

The legal justifications to be protected were in conserve mineral waters, historic and cultural heritages, plant species and protect the surroundings of the geographic centre of the country. Even we received some information the copies of the decrees, attachment and supplementary legal documents have not been submitted yet. Moreover, there is still absent information regarding how much area have been free off from the local protected areas.

### **Umnigobi aimag**

The total area of aimag accounts 16586879.3 ha, of which 2.5 % or 2149804.7 ha occupied by 23 local protected areas. Eight local protected areas with total area of 1109070.8 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 9061.6 ha or 11 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural. Copy of decree and information is not sufficient for 4 local protected areas occupying 1031672.3 ha have been registered and no any information has been found for 8 local protected areas.

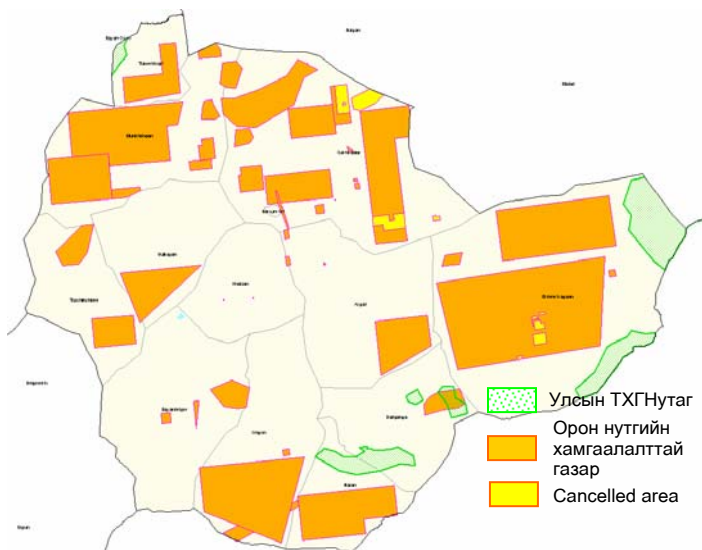
The legal justifications to be protected were in conserve historic and cultural heritages, protect archaeological places, preserve long distance pastures, establish mining reserve lands, and develop tourism and recreation. The information is not yet finalized due to absence of the detailed data from the local authorities.



### **Suhbaatar aimag**

The total area of aimag accounts 8492515.5 ha, of which 29 % or 2461655.6 ha occupied by 47 local protected areas. Twenty one local protected areas with total area of 2204356.6 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 190215.6 ha or 1 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural. Nine local protected areas with total area of 55181.9 ha area released of the local protected areas.

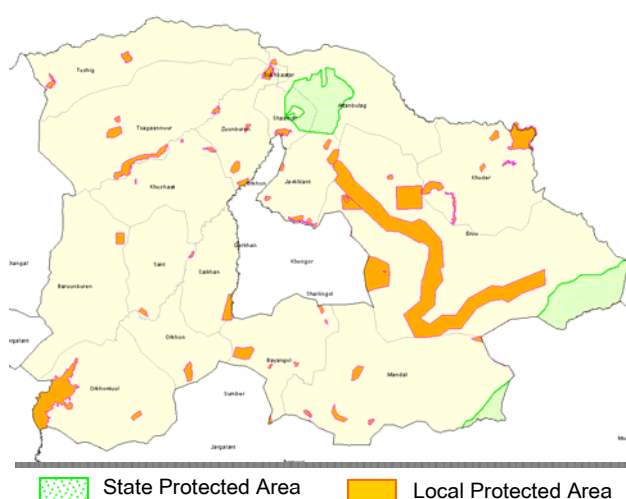
The legal justifications to be protected were in conserve natural landscapes, historic and cultural heritages protect habitat for endangered species of animal and plants, preserve long distance pastures and hay making places. Some additional information from the local authorities is still missing.



### **Selenge aimag**

The total area of aimag accounts 4156460.2 ha, of which 8.9 % or 277170.5ha occupied by 50 local protected areas. Forty seven (tree of which have no number of the decree) local protected areas with total area of 137059.6ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen’s representative Hural and 140110.9 ha or 3 local protected areas (one of which have no info about the number of the decree) by Soum Citizen’s representative Hural. Additionally one local protected area with area of 51.2 ha have been registered.

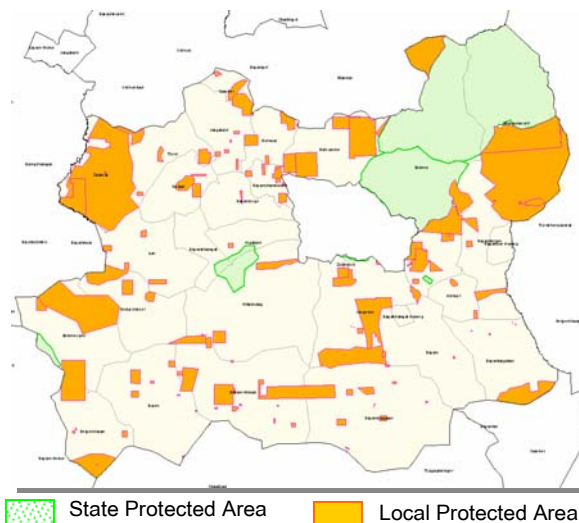
The legal justifications to be protected were in conserve natural landscapes, protect natural, historic and cultural heritages, protect river basin and conserve mineral resources. Information regarding number of decree, their copies and supplementary material from the local authorities is still missing.



### **Tuv aimag**

The total area of aimag accounts 7579880.8 ha, of which 1.5 % or 1413616.2 ha occupied by 145 local protected areas. One hundred and thirty one local protected areas with total area of 1269133.2 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen’s representative Hural and 9222.0 ha or 2 local protected areas (one of which have no info about the number of the decree) by Soum Citizen’s representative Hural. Additionally 12 local protected areas with area of 135261.0 ha have been registered.

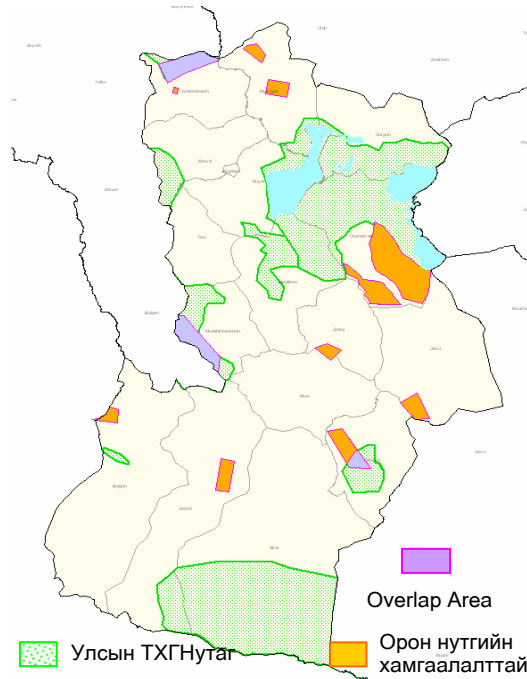
The legal justifications to be protected were in conserve natural landscapes, protect natural, historic and cultural heritages, conserve pastures, protect habitat for wildlife and plant species, preserve worshipping places and protect potable water source areas. Information for some places is still missing.



## ***Hovd aimag***

The total area of aimag accounts 7659885.6 ha, of which 3.4 % or 257498.8 ha occupied by 10 local protected areas. Seven local protected areas with total area of 106282.4 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 151216.4 ha or 3 local protected areas (one of which have no info about the number of the decree) by Soum Citizen's representative Hural. Due to Tsambagarav and Munkh-khairkhan now have a status of the state protected area the coincidence of the borders have been removed. Some correction made in borders of Myangan Ugalzat National Park and neighbouring it Local protected areas.

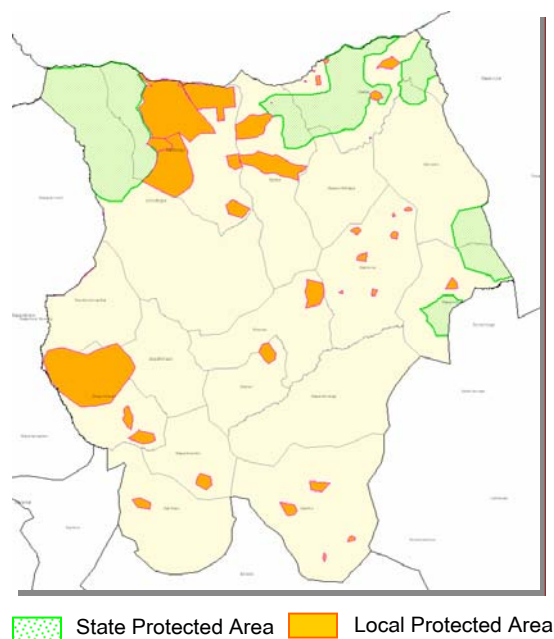
The legal justifications to be protected were in conserve natural landscapes, protect natural, historic and cultural heritages, protect habitat for wildlife and plant species, and develop tourism. Information for some places is still missing, moreover, some materials need to be checked and returned back have not been received.



## ***Hentii aimag***

The total area of aimag accounts 8208741.4 ha, of which 26.9 % or 680742.4 ha occupied by 35 local protected areas. Ten local protected areas with total area of 254825.1 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 371521.1 ha or 24 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural.

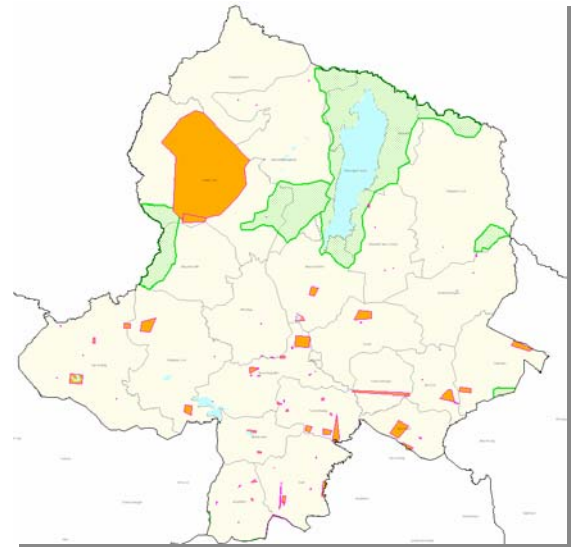
The legal justifications to be protected were in conserve natural landscapes, develop tourism, and conserve and protect natural caves, worship places. The information of 33 local protected areas is fulfilled requirements and inputted into database the copies of decree and additional data for 2 other local protected areas are still missing.



## ***Huvsgul aimag***

The total area of aimag accounts 10042707.7 ha, of which 5.3 % or 530491.9 ha occupied by 127 local protected areas. One hundred twenty four local protected areas with total area of 115493.3.0 ha protected by decree from Aimag Citizen's representative Hural and 414998.6 ha or 3 local protected areas by Soum Citizen's representative Hural.

The legal justifications to be protected were in conserve natural landscapes, to sustain natural heritage places, protect historic and cultural heritages, and conserve biological diversity. All the information regarding the local protected areas have been received and integrated into the database. However, the location of some places could not be mapped and will be revised during the next steps.

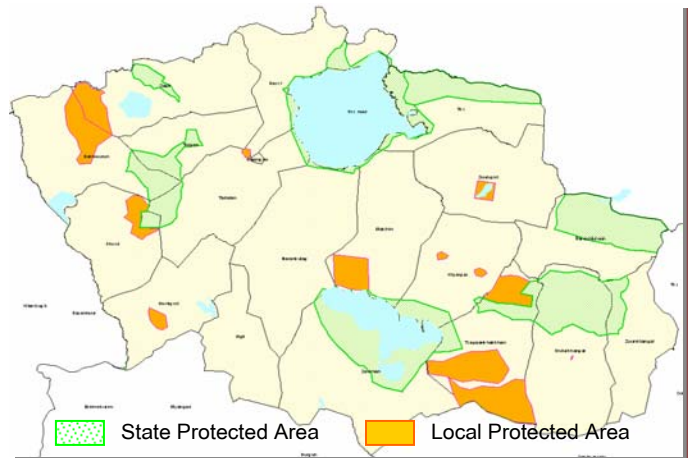


State Protected Area      Local Protected Area

## ***Uvs aimag***

The total area of aimag accounts 6997601.6 ha, of which 5.4 % or 379686.5 ha occupied by 13 local protected areas. All the local protected areas were brought under the protection according to the decree of Soum Citizen's representative Hural.

The legal justifications to be protected were in conserve natural landscapes, rational use of natural resources, conserve and protect historic and cultural heritages, mineral water sources, endangered wildlife and plant species, and protect river source and basin. The copies of decree and attachments are still missing for some places.



State Protected Area      Local Protected Area

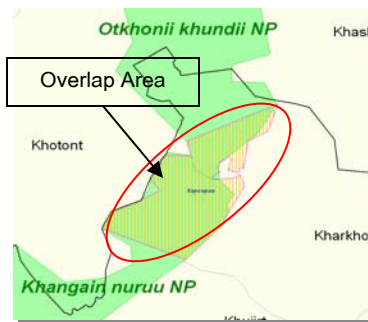
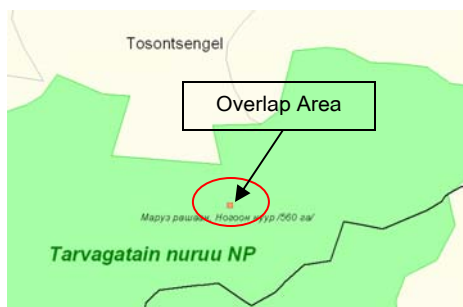
## ***GAPs in information system and issues for further considerations***

Depending on new social demands in data and information and with development of the science and technology issues regarding the information become more and more complicated and necessary in life.

Due to the lack of the accurate information about the local protected areas such inconsistencies as coincidence of borders, violation of the administrative boundaries, and coincidence with state protected areas and so on. Moreover, inappropriate reporting format, inaccuracy of data, especially, regarding the location of the local protected areas, postponing the report submission or absence of such for newly accepted local protected areas are create the gaps for developing the database processing.

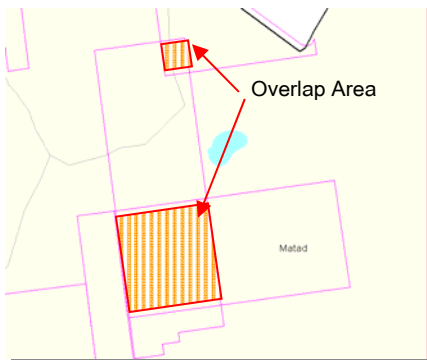
Different cases and ways to solve:

### 1. Coincidence of strictly protected areas and local protected areas boundaries



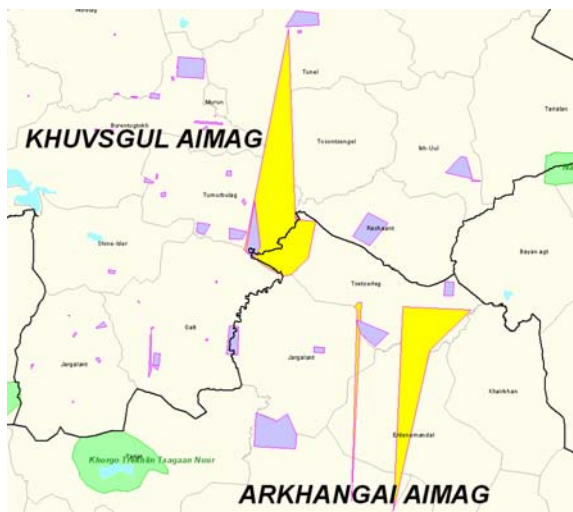
Example 1: In this case two different regimes of protection coexist and due to which of this type were first is unknown special expertise needed. In this purpose local specialists and protected area administration should play a role of experts in order to solve the problem and timely respond to database to make corrections.

### 2. Coincidence of two local protected areas boundaries



Example 2: In this case boundaries of two local protected areas are coincides and the area of them are same as documented. Thus, it is impossible automatically remove the problem and need to be corrected by local experts, e.g. land officer, environmental officer, inspector, through on-site checking. At present, we removed coincidences only for those, which had such conflicts.

3. The coordinates documented in aimag, soum decrees crosses the boundaries of the other aimag/soum, which makes difficult to integrate it into the database



Example 3. In this case, the decision to be taken under the protection have been accepted, however due to the gaps occurred in registration of the land name and coordinates are defined wrong. The GIS specialist theoretically can map it within the territory of the aimag or soum accordingly to the documents. However, the better way is o resent the request to revise and submit more reliable data and input it into the database. In this database the shapes of the local protected areas limited within the territory of the certain administrative unit.

4. The typewriting of the place names and abbreviations are different. This causes the changes of the meaning, grouping and arranging the data in the network

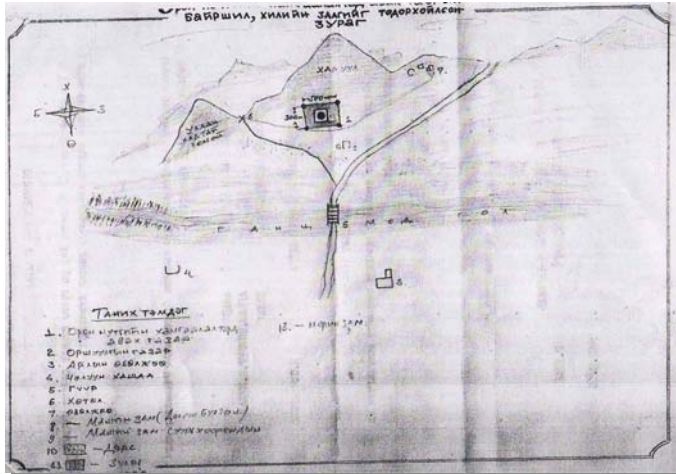
Example 4: The following table shows the mistakes occurred in typing. These kinds of mistakes are simple in their nature, but creates a large gap or malfunction of the database and related with it network.

№	Wrong			Right (Revice)		
	License number	Aimag name	Soum name	License number	Aimag name	Soum name
1	Du-So-6	Dundgovi	Saikhan ovoo	Du-So-4	Dundgovi	Saikhan-Ovoo
2	Du-So-4	Dundgovi	Saikhan-Ovoo	Du-So-4	Dundgovi	Saikhan-Ovoo
3	Du-ED-1	Dundgovi	Erdenedalai	Du-Ed-1	Dundgovi	Erdenedalai
4	Du-Ed-3	Dundgovi	Erdenedalai	Du-Ed-3	Dundgovi	Erdenedalai
5	Uv-8	Uvs	undurkhangai	Uv-Ukh-8	Uvs	Undurkhangai
...	...	...	...			

From the table: a) in 1, 2 row the names of soum and aimag written differently. In process of arranging the information, integration and searching within database the name of Saikhan-Ovoo soum, for instance, can appear two times; b) in 3, 4 row the index of licence had written differently one in upper another in lower cases, which also creates similar problem in database; c) in 5 row two mistakes can be identified: 1. that letter 'O' in soum name written in 2 way; 2. the licence number differentiation between aimag and soum have been misarranged. The license number should write as abbreviation of aimag name, abbreviation of soum name and number of the licence. This also will result malfunction during the use of the database as well as process.

## 5. Information submitted by local authorities

In some aimags the location of local protected areas are unknown, e.g. coordinates, name of the place, elevation points etc., this results mapping problems. In other words, such data can not be reflected in a map and gaps in information have created.



a. The border lines of the local protected areas were schematic

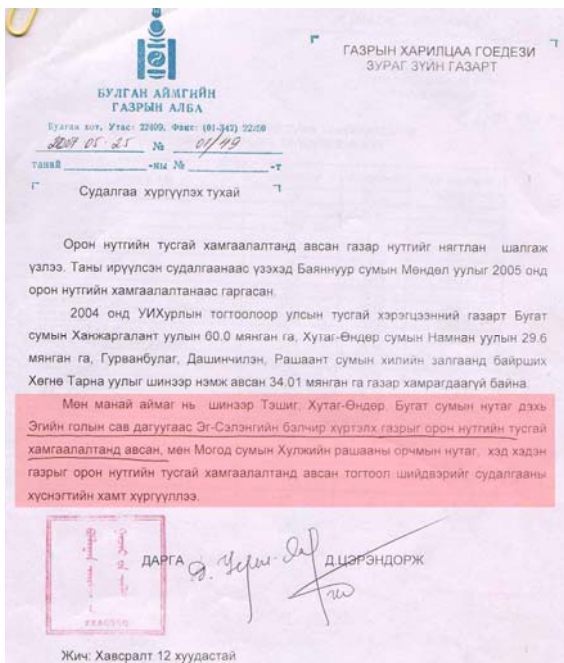
Сумын ИТХ-ийн эзэмшсэн бүс  
7-р хуралдааны үеийн тогтоолын карт

ТУСГАЙ ХАМГААЛТАНД АВАХ ГАЗАР НУТГИЙН  
ТАЛБЭЙН ХЭМЖЭЭ

№	Газрын нэр	Хэмжээ / га /	Газрын нэр	Хэмжээ / га /
1.	Эрдэнэ-Уул		Бодь модны ам	75
2.	Дархан-Уул	232	Ногоон морьны ам	210
3.	Жижиг уул	376	Хөвөнгийн туяа уул	516
4.	Баян тэгс уул	332	Өлгийтний дунд	24
5.	Их дулаан	272	Алтан уул	116
6.	Баян хангай уул	480	Бичигт хадан хөвөн	15
7.	Бургийн нуруу	544	Хар усны тусгай	24
8.	Их лагцага уул	1632	Дэлгэр жорголын рашаан	24 В
9.	Бага залцага уул	1600	Хуучин сумын ам	20
10.	Зурх уулын ам	184		
11.	Бага дулаан	744		
12.	Орлон голын сав			
13.	Шувуут уул	184		
14.	Бургад уул	68		
15.	Арцат овоо уул	140		
16.	Улаан хангай	516		
17.	Зурагийн могой	32		
	Дүн	7910		1025.8

Газрын дэмжлэг: Баянгол, Баянгол, Баянгол

b. The state of the name, area



c. The names similar to the river basin name.

The local protected area boundaries lined using the small scale maps or have no any detailed geographic data, thus such information can not integrated in to the large scale maps. Another question is How to map local protected areas represented by only one point? It also not contains the area information.

## **PART 5. RECOMMENDATIONS OF POLICY REGULATIONS FOR LOCAL PROTECTED AREAS AND MEASURES FOR FURTHER ACTIONS**

### ***2.1 The policy violations in local protected areas and their legal explanations***

1. The current information technology system within the local protected areas is not developed well. In land management affairs the information issues: collection, integration, processing and dissemination play a major role. The information issues become more and more important in our lives due to the increased social needs in info and advances in science and technology. However, information management come to force with policy and regulations. At the current stage the information collection and storing is not systematic due to the absence of the specialized standards, regulations regarding its justifications.

Due to the lack of the data and information the borders of local protected areas coincides with each others, crossing the borders of different soum/aimag and overlays with boundaries of Strictly Protected Areas. Moreover, inappropriate collection and organization of data itself at the local level, submission of the reports on local protected areas untimely or absence of report submission, and inconsistency of geographic data, e.g. coordinates, area info, makes it difficult to integrate local protected areas' data into integrated tabular and geographic information system. Furthermore, absence of dissemination of local protected areas' information to the public causes unprompted violation of legislations regarding local protected area by local population. Finally, in order to sustain conservation and protective function of local protected areas in is necessary to mark, place signboards and other cautioned measures to avoid all possible violations.

2. The absence of the cooperation and transparency among all the subjects responsible for local protected area function is noticeable. Currently, in order to monitor, control and cadastre land as an object of land use ALAGAC registers all the information about the local protected areas, Agency for mineral resources and oil uses information about the spatial distribution of local protected areas to arrange mining licence activity and avoid the coincidence of the local protected areas and mines, and Ministry of Nature and Environment in uses information to support management issues in order to sustain conservation functions of the local protected area. The information stored in databases within abovementioned organizations, however, considerably different in content and level of information. This somehow influenced by the absence of the internal and external monitoring from the public, NGOs and other relevant interesting bodies of this process. The reasons of inconsistencies between major organizations can be explained, firstly, by the gaps occurred in policy environment or there is no any statutes allowing transparency among them. Secondly, by capacity, professional background and willing of the personnel working in field of data management. Thirdly, the administrative and responsibility sharing system within and out of organization is weak enough.
3. The policy environment to facilitate the local protected areas' function is developed weakly. Law enforcement is a major process to accomplish the protective and conservation function of any protected areas. Unfortunately, for local protected areas it is visible inconsistency and/or gap between all relevant legal documents, e.g. different terminology; absence of chapters regarding the public participation in

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protection measures; deficiency of controlling, monitoring and assessment methods and responsible bodies could be assigned; no any standards and requirements for data collection, sharing and revision within the environmental data and databases; poor capacity development program for local authorities and officers. All those constitutes that the process of data management for local protected areas is not yet developed in Mongolia, comparing to the international trends in this issue.

4. It is necessary to create financial mechanisms to develop local protected areas in Mongolia. It is hard to establish economically viable and environmentally sound relations in order to sustain nature and environment. In this respect, it is quit new solution to increase public awareness in protection of land and its natural resources, and unfortunately, there are no any countries fulfilled this issue, yet. For post socialist countries as Mongolia, developing economic mechanism in environment is difficult, because of the mentality formed within the more than half century is defined as pressure through the legal system (e.g. law and regulations, punishment scheme etc.). Currently, only one way to promote economic mechanism and to support the local protected areas in its pure definition is to develop ecological tourism within those areas. Moreover, it is needed to develop economic support system (pay for participation in protection, conservation and rehabilitation, support increase the household income through developing small business, develop help yourself scheme for population using the land within the local protected areas through capacity building programs) to aware local population to act in protection and conservation of protected objects, e.g. historic and cultural heritages, mineral water resources and so on. Moreover, it is necessary to separate financial resource to document and create a database for this process. Unfortunately, currently there are no any actions implemented from the central government in this way.

## ***2.2. Recommendations for further policy and management actions.***

Due to changes occurred in political and socio-economic relations of the country it is become necessary to change policy environment in all sphere of life. This process is currently on the way in environmental sector, especially for the local protected areas, of Mongolia. To date, improve legislations respectively to the social, economic and environmental transformation through assigning norms of action, enforce law implementation by subjects involved in process of establishment, function and sustain local protected areas, create sustainable legal environment for transparent action of those subjects, promote sustainable land management concept among the major players and subjects, establish strong monitoring and assessment system and all other issues required for the current environmental and land use management system of protected areas.

It is necessary to develop local protected area management independently within the land use management program of the country. For this it is essential to develop its policy environment at first. The following management and policy regulations could be implemented further to develop local protected area issues:

- to manage local protected areas the state administrative bodies, local authorities and all of the responsible bodies should establish its legal environment;
- to develop sustainable management within the local protected areas research, monitoring and assessment activities should be timely implemented by research

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and other relevant organization (e.g. environmental health, plant inspection, geology and mining, land survey etc.);

- to prevent possible violations and changes within the protected areas environmental inspectors, local land and environmental officers should be guided to implement monitoring activities. Moreover, it is recommended to establish local protected areas' monitoring network at the administrative unit. The monitoring should be executed in way to identify the main threat on environment, land health condition and further used for developing the programme of action to solve problem occurred or to prevent them;
- to conserve and rational use of local protected areas the state inspection of land condition and quality is necessary. This must implemented once in five years based on the request made by the local authorities, possessing body or public itself;
- to make proper monitoring, planning and implementation it is necessary to formulate standard of the data management for local protected areas and create one centralized data management organization;
- to condition transparent function of the local protected areas the state and public control should be implemented equally and/or transparently, and its economic mechanism should be monitored by the local Government and/or relevant authority;
- to improve activities within the local protected areas and capacity building at the local level the State Administrative body in charge of environmental issues, specifically, of protected area matters should be responsible to organize and arrange activities (e.g. trainings, on-site schools, thematic excursions etc.).