# Transparency of Environmental Information





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## I. Structure and legal frame of public information in Environmental sector

# Environmental information is provided to public in two ways:

1. <u>http://geodata.mne-ngic.mn/</u>, a website of MEGD which contains latest news and data on environmental status.

#### Legal environment:

Law on Environmental Protection: the law, which was adopted in 1995, was amended on Jan 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008 to include 7 sections under clause "Environmental Database". The development, deliverance and use of environmental information are being conducted in compliance with these sections.



# The national environmental database is composed of the following sectors.

1/ Land and soil; 2/ Underground wealth and mineral resources; 3/ Water and spring; 4/Forest; 5/ Natural flora; 6/ Fauna; 7/ Air and pollution; 8/ Climate; 9/ Natural disasters; 10/ Chemical toxic and hazardous elements; 11/Waste;

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12/ Protected Areas;

- 13/ Environmental jurisdiction;
- 14/ Assessment of environmental impacts;
- 15/ Environmental policy and implementation;
- 16/ Statistical figures and reports;
  - 17/ Environmental protection cost and budget;
  - 18/ Organizations and human resources of environmental sector;
  - 19/ Meta database;
  - 20/ Other environmental information.
  - 21/Indemnity of environmental damages ;
  - 22/Violations of environmental laws and regulations.



Since 2010, a policy on the development, distribution and use of information database and the complete list of environmental information database has been implemented successfully in accordance with Government Resolution number 85.

2. Statistical data on environmental sector is being assembled.

Legal environment:

- Law of statistics
- In accordance with cooperative resolution passed by the Minister of environmental affairs and Director of National Statistical Center, an administrative statistical form and indexes are being implemented.



II. Information transparency and implementation of laws and regulations on access to information

Mongolian legal framework on information transparency and the right to information is composed of:

- Constitution of Mongolia
- Law on state secrets

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- Law on approval of state secret list and individual privacy
- other related laws and regulations

**2011-** "Law on Information Transparency and Right and Freedom to Access Information " was adopted.

The implementation of this law is being monitored by the State Secretary to insure the transparency of information database.

The following information will be posted clearly on the Ministry website's news board, and any changes or amendments to the information will be applied to the news board within 3 days.

## To ensure the transparency of activities

1. Ministry of Environment and Green Development's vision, mission, operational strategy, leading sectors and their activities, project outcomes as well as operational structure.

2. List of forms and materials required to access information and other services provided by the Ministry.

3. List of laws and regulations being implemented for each activity and operation.

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- 4. Information on professional organizations, names, addresses and activities of specialized license owners, list of specialized licenses issued with issue and expiry dates.
- 5. Completion of projects and policies being implemented with national fund and international loans.

#### To ensure the transparency of Human Resources

- 1. Career opportunities and list of positions available
- 2. Code of conduct
- 3. Human Resource strategy, the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of strategies, and measures to ensure the transparency of human resources administration.
- 4. Measures to ensure the accurate and honest evaluation of civil servant work performance.



# To ensure the transparency of budget, finance and acquisition

- 1. Current year budget and the utilization of previous year budget, following year budget plan.
- 2. Year-end financial statement, and the audit report on the financial statement.
- 3. Acquisition based on transparent, fair and beneficial principles, policy on tender selection.
- 4. List of documents required for tenders, criterion for tender participants, and rationale for selection.

5. Report on acquired products, services and activities, audit report on acquisitions, other monitoring and evaluation reports.

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The following decrees and policies were implemented previously to distribute information to the public, receive feedback and comments and compromise issues:

- 1. By decree A145 passed in 2012 by Minister of Nature, Environment and Tourism, "Policy on distribution of Breaking News" has been successfully implemented. Based on the policy, the following information has been obtained immediately and distributed to the public.
  - 1. Climatic pollutant element content (SO2, NO2, CO, PM10)
  - 2. Import, usage and storage of chemically toxic and hazardous chemicals.
  - 3. Information on forest wild fires.
  - 4. Information on illegal logging and transportation of logging.



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- 5. Information on waste and soil pollution
- 6. Water usage, pollution and deficiency of water sources
- 7. Climate information
- 8. Information on illegal use of natural resources
- 9. Information on evaluation and monitoring
- 2. In accordance with decree A57 passed in 2011 by Minister of Nature, Environment and Tourism, "Policy on obtainment and distribution of information by branch environmental organizations in the countryside" has been implemented. As a result, 74 organizations in the countryside have compiled weekly reports and posted on the ministry website,



3. In accordance with degree A115 passed in 2013 by the Minister of Environment and Green Development, a work group on information transparency and distribution of environmental sectors have been appointed with the State Secretary as leader.



## Issues in implementing transparency of environmental information

- 1. Environmental information is composed of many different factors and subjects, therefore, our Ministry cannot represent the subject alone. Inter-sectoral regulation is needed, and a lack of structure and policy on this subject is an issue.
- 2. Lack of funds and financial resources to develop information database is another issue as well as human resource deficiency.
- 3. We are awaiting activities to improve legal environment related to our objectives.

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

