

# Mongolia

World Vision

Child Sponsorship



## Country Profile

Capital: Ulaanbaatar

Area: 1.565 million sq km

Language: Mongol

Population: 2.7 million (2002 est.)

Ethnic Groups: Mongol 85%, Turkic 7%, Tungusic 4.6%, other (incl. Chinese and Russian) 3.4%.

Religion: Tibetan Buddhist Lamaism 96%, Muslim, Shamanism and Christian 4%.

Resources: Copper concentrate, dehaired cashmere, textiles, hides.

Currency: togrog/tugrik

Life Expectancy: 65 years

The first time World Vision worked in Mongolia was in 1991, when the organization provided a 20 foot container full of medical supplies to help clinics and hospitals that were facing a serious shortage of drugs and medicines. World Vision began emergency relief work in Mongolia following severe snowstorms in 1993, helping to provide the basic necessities such as meat, vegetables, baby food, rice, wheat flour and medicines to over 21,000 affected people.

In May 1995, World Vision started an office in the capital, Ulaanbaatar. Since then, World Vision's programmes have grown to care for some 160,000 beneficiaries in the community.

You can help some 2,500 children, their families and communities in the Uvurkhangai Province, south-west of Ulaanbaatar, who are participating in the Uvurkhangai Area Development Programme (ADP).

World Vision seeks to help the community people in the ADP to become self-supporting by the year 2017.

## Uvurkhangai Area Development Programme (ADP)

The ADP covers six soums namely Arvaikheer, Khaikhorin, Khochert, Zumbainola, Oyunga and Olziit with a total population of 10,000 families or about 50,000 people. Arvaikheer is the capital town of the aimag (province) of Uvurkhangai situated 420 kms west of the capital city of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar.

The province covers an area of 62,900 square kilometers and is located in the central part of Mongolia. The ruins of the famous city of Khara Khorum, capital of the ancient Mongolia Empire is located in this province.

The community which consists of the dominant Khalkh Mongols people group, suffers from shortages of basic amenities and services, and lives in unhygienic surroundings.

### PROJECT GOALS:

#### 1. Poor health due to the lack of adequate health and sanitation facilities

Large families living in gers or cramped hashas /baishan (wooden shelters with a fence) make up this community and the children especially are prone to infectious diseases. Due to lack of proper drainage, polluted water holes which create ideal breeding grounds for diseases to increase during the summer.

During the extreme Mongolia winters, children in these hashas and gers are exposed to the cold and often suffer from respiratory and other health problems. There is a high percentage of cases of liver, kidney and stomach ailments in the area. There is also a lack of clean drinking water.

World Vision seeks to help the community to improve health and the well being of the community through improved access to safe drinking water, balanced diet, immunizations, sanitation and housing.



Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness;  
Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.



A young Mongolian boy standing outside his traditional home known as a "ger".

their children are some of the reasons, many children drop out of school. The kindergartens are overcrowded and unable to accommodate the increasing number of school going children due to lack of space. This also causes the school drop-out rate to be high.

**2 Lack of income and savings**

Household have little or no steady income, during the winters. In order to meet their daily needs, poor families normally resort to borrowing money from relatives, moneylenders and local businessmen.

During the summer when manual work is available these loans are paid off with their hard earned income. A daily wage worker gets US\$1 per day. As a result, families are caught in this vicious cycle and find it impossible to save and provide for their children's future.

The average income per family ranges from US\$15 to US\$30 a month. Food security is also an issue. Therefore, families have little resilience to manage and overcome setbacks they face in their lives.

World Vision aims to help reduce the drop-out rate in school by encouraging children to attend school and educate the parents to understand the importance of children's education. Education will enable the children to develop their full potential as an individual.



Rehabilitation and Food Distribution



Wool crafting and tailoring training for women

**4 Emergency Relief**

In Mongolia, natural disasters are not uncommon such as rapid spreading of forest fires during the dry and windy spring season, severe droughts in spring and autumn, and heavy snowfall in winters.

World Vision has ongoing relief and rehabilitation work in the soum of KhairKhorin and will help the community to increase their preparedness to meet natural or man-made disasters and emergencies.

World Vision seeks to help the community to achieve economic self-reliant through micro-enterprise development, vocational education and training, improving access to markets for the local produce and promotion of economic co-operation.

**5 Community Capacity Building**

World Vision Mongolia envisages the communities in the Uvurkhangai ADP would have hope, based on empowerment and leadership to manage the activities and sustain them within the community. People can be motivated and willing to work voluntarily to develop their own communities.



Informal education for pre-schoolers

Scholarship programme for students

The people's desire in these areas is to move their communities toward sustainable development and respect for the community leaders.

World Vision aims to strengthen the leadership in the community by increasing their self-esteem, self-respect and abilities to develop their potentials in managing their own development process.

**3 Education**

The school is far from the community target areas and has limited space to accommodate all the children. Many of them do not go to school. Parents find it hard to provide clothes and educational aids for



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