



SPOTLIGHT

Border-to-border fight against gender-based violence.....P.2

Green, affordable house design face-off.....P.3

Design Studio spices up fibre SME designs.....P.4



Sunder Erdenekhuyag
Country Coordinator
for Mongolia

“ What a year 2017 has been! Thanks to your engaging collaboration, dear beneficiaries, partners, and donors, the second issue of the Uniterra Mongolia newsletter showcases an eventful season of our joint achievements in not only fibre and residential subsectors, but also gender and youth inclusion! **Happy New Year!** ”

Jointly operated by **WUSC** (World University Service of Canada) and **CECI** (the Centre for International Studies and Cooperation) with the financial support of the **Government of Canada**, the **Uniterra Program** has been implemented in Mongolia since 2015.

Dedicated to improve employment opportunities for youth — more than 35% of total population — Uniterra relies on our **volunteers'** expertise to strengthen the capacities of our **partners** to meet the market needs.



#16days: Unur Bul Orphanage's early teens reflected on healthy relationships on Dec. 10 — the last day of worldwide campaign against gender-based violence.

Data from Oct-Dec 2017



1,610 people engaged

63%

Women

43%

Youth



54 Workshops & Trainings

Travelling far and wide to fight gender-based violence

Eastern and western aimags, four ministries, all nine Ulaanbaatar districts



Supporting the government's country-wide action plan against gender-based violence, Andy Scheske, Uniterra's gender advisor at Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, travelled to Sukhbaatar and Uvs aimags **from Sept. 18 to 22** to share advice on gender concepts, shelter programs, victim

blaming, as well as work-life balance and double burden with provincial governments, police, and non-profit organizations. Officials from nearby eastern



and western aimags also travelled to join the regional meetings. **In November** due to feedback, she expanded her double burden module in programs with the Orkhon provincial government as well as all nine Ulaanbaatar district governments.



BREAKFAST WITH EMPLOYERS

Job preparation opportunities abound this fall for students in biz!

This November, Mongolian University of Science and Technology's School of Business Administration and Humanities organized a series of job preparation workshops for its students, a focus brought on by a successful first-ever networking breakfast organized in June by volunteer Sanjukta Das.

MUST alumna and Uniterra's country coordinator Sunder Erdenekhuyag shared her experience from student to employer, and Ossama Mazbough shared a company's perspective on recruitment and retention strategies. A second MUST networking breakfast takes place on Jan. 12.

Gender Awareness through Theatre is back

Returning after a successful pilot this spring is the Gender Awareness through Theatre project in TVET (technical, vocational, and educational training) schools, through our collaboration with Mongolian non-profit organization Vocational Education and Training Partnership (VETP)!



In November, phase II's Training of Trainers engaged a new team to lead and document the workshops: drama students from the Mongolian Institute of Cinematography and multimedia students from the Mongolian Korean Polytechnic College. So far, the Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET) and Construction

Technology School in Ulaanbaatar hosted the project, where students and teachers presented plays on themes such as gender stereotypes transferring from generation to generation and the life of a female student pursuing a career in construction. She said, "Gender should not determine our path; hard work can take us where we want to go."

НИЙГМИЙН АЖИЛТАН, СЭТГЭЛ ҮЙЧДЭД
ЗОРИУЛСАН СУРГАЛТ

2017 оны 12-р сарын 20-ны өдөр



Canadian ambassador presents new social work resources in Mongolian

Psychologists and social workers now have three new guides in Mongolian to support their work.

Produced by Uniterra's Haley Toll and Andy Scheske, three handbooks were presented by Canadian ambassador David Sproule to the Mongolian Professional Art Therapists Association and the National Committee on Gender Equality on Dec. 20.

The resources provided detailed, practical advice on crisis intervention for acute trauma, arts-based psychosocial support methods for

mental health practitioners working in domestic violence shelters, and shelter programs development and management.



Thirty more youth or women fibre specialists can now take advantage of the latest industry-level technology to independently produce knitted products.

This November and March, Uniterra and the

Mongolian University of Science and Technology's Shima Seiki Training Centre joint hosted two practical training sessions on operating the Japanese computer-based knitting machines to design, customize, and tailor fibre garments.



Applying theory from translated manuals of Shima Seiki curriculum, participants graduated with a globally recognized certificate that led them to join Mongolian major producers, expand their current businesses, or become entrepreneurs.



PITCHING GREEN, AFFORDABLE IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE GER

GreenBox: the Affordable Green Building Competition kicked off on Dec. 22 with technical expert speakers!

Thirty-three students signed up for this year's event, organized by Uniterra and the Mongolian University of Science and Technology. In January, they presented their first designs and learned about pitching to projects to investors.

On Feb. 2, five shortlisted teams will present their 3-D final projects to industry panellists and compete for the chance to realize their vision!

Turning an idea into reality

Seven new businesses received funding **this November** for their social solutions!

Mongolian NGO Development Solutions, supported by Uniterra's Misha Goforth, advised TVET students and entrepreneurs in Dalanzadgad on business design. In Khanbogd, herders, single mothers, and other groups also learned to exchange environmental solutions through support

groups. In UB hosted by universities, Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Mongolian Wool and Cashmere Association this mid-December, professors as well as start-ups, SMEs, MNCCI employees explored with Uniterra's Glynis Dorey the Commercialization of Innovation, role-playing and practising business pitches!

Connecting local leaders for sustainability

Our Mongolian partners are now leading efforts to coordinate collaboration councils for green buildings and sustainable fibre processes in Mongolia!

On Nov. 16 and 23, multi-stakeholder conferences took place for the two subsectors with more participation than before, involving government, industries, professional associations, education institutes, and non-profit groups.

Towards green construction, the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development announced it will officially establish a council of interested stakeholders after identifying its focus.

The Mongolian Wool and Cashmere Association led the latest fibre meeting, where education institutes urged companies to offer internships for students to become skilled human resources.



Top: Fibre Council, above: Green Construction Council

HELPING SMALL WOOL BIZ GO GLOBAL WITH CREATIVITY

Design Studio, a joint venture between Uniterra and the Mongolian Wool and Cashmere Association, officially launched this fall to inspire textile innovation!

Three Mongolian professional designers are selected for training and mentorship to support fibre SMEs with internationally-competitive designs.

In late October, the project kicked off with the support of the World Bank's Export Development Project and the New York-based Parsons

School of Design, offering nearly 50 designers and SME managers a week of interactive workshops on creative design concepts.

SMEs will also benefit from affordable training on automated knitting machines **as of Nov. 1**, thanks

to an memorandum of understanding signed between MWCA and the Shima Seiki Training Centre established at the Mongolian University of Science and Technology.



SETTING GRADUATES' FOUNDATIONS FOR CAREERS



Future construction professionals filled the Mongolian University of Science and Technology's hall **on Nov. 4** for Job Fair 2017!

Exploring careers with Mongolian National Construction Association and Nomin Construction, they also learned to see hiring as an employer from Uniterra's Ossama Mazbouh.

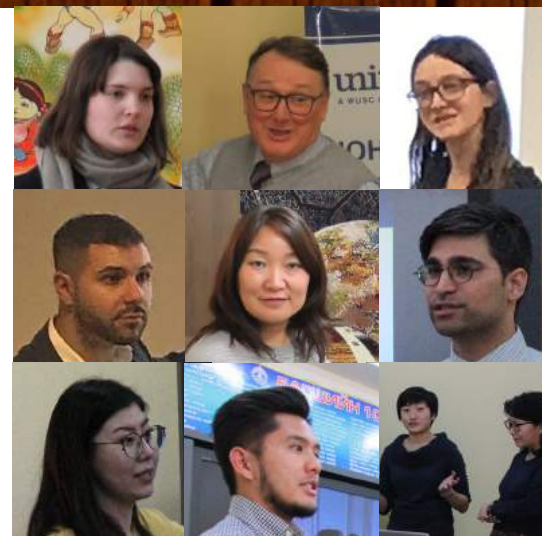
Yves Carmel discussed wood construction feasibility and prefabrication technology, giving attendees a copy of "Introduction to Wood Design" produced by the Canadian Wood Council and translated by Uniterra.

Nine volunteers, four trips to Darkhan, Erdenet

Uniterra travelled four times to Darkhan and Erdenet **from October and December** to exchange knowledge with vocational school students, companies, and entrepreneurs!

The 800-employee strong Erdenet Carpet's management worked closely with Ossama Mazbouh and Krista Verver to improve its human resource management. Small fibre enterprises

and other entrepreneurs also discussed risk management and communication strategies with Waqas Yousafzai, Ken Umali, and Vivian Chui. With engineers, architects, students, and company managers, Yves Carmel and Joanna Hausen looked into green building concepts, life cycle assessment for construction, and corporate social responsibility.



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