

EU TRADE RELATED ASSISTANCE FOR MONGOLIA (TRAM)

NEWSLETTER



Монголын Худалдааг Дэмжих Төсөл

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TRADE POLICY

EU TRAM organised a study tour to Brussels on 17-24 November 2019, where the 9 Mongolian delegates from MFA, GASI, MNCCI, IPOM, Customs & NUM met representatives of the European Commission's DGs TRADE, AGRI, GROW, SANTE, TAXUD, DEVCO and EEAS. The participants discussed the implementation of GSP+, possible measures to increase low utilisation of GSP+ benefits, and EU standards for cosmetics, yak/camel hair, honey, meat and dairy products. They learned about the EU exporters' registration system (REX) and the registration process for Uvs' sea buckthorn geographical indication. The study tour enabled them to gain better understanding not only of general EU working procedures, but also of specific issues currently on the EU-Mongolia trade agenda.



TRADE FACILITATION

Supported by EU TRAM, Mongolian Customs delegates attended the WTO Trade Facilitation Committee meeting in Geneva on 15-18 October 2019. The delegation shared its experience in implementing various articles of the Trade Facilitation Agreement and assessed different notifications made by WTO Members under its articles. The delegation also held bilateral meetings with the TA Department of the WTO Secretariat, the Head of the Trade Facilitation Unit of UNCTAD and the Trade Representative of the Russian Federation, to discuss further capacity building in the respective area.



EXPORT DEVELOPMENT

With support from EU TRAM and MNCCI, the Mongolian Cosmetics Cluster organised a Cooperation Day on 01 November 2019 to present itself to the public. Witnessed by about 100 guests, the signature of MoUs initiated partnerships with several public and private sector bodies. The cluster's members include the major natural cosmetics manufacturers in Mongolia, MoFALL as the public body as well as research institutions and laboratories; the cluster is managed entirely by female entrepreneurs and demonstrates the effectiveness of the cluster development approach initiated and supported by EU TRAM.



The official opening of the Mongolian-European Chamber of Commerce and Industry (EuroChamber Mongolia) took place on 08 November 2019 with support from EU TRAM. The event was attended by Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr D. Tsogbatar, EU Ambassador in Mongolia HE Traian Laurentiu Hristea, EuroChamber Chairperson Mr Mark Gabel, and DG of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Mr V. Enkhbold. EuroChamber aims to support European investment in Mongolia, bring European business owners closer, organise regular discussions between the Mongolian Government and business owners, and create value for its members. More than 100 members are expected to join the chamber in 2020.

In order to facilitate effective exchange between MNCCI and chamber organisations and to understand EU market access requirements, TRAM organised a working visit to Berlin on 03-10 November 2019. This destination was in line with the Mongolian Export Programme 2018-2023, which names Berlin as the location for an information and trade promotion centre (ITPC) to attract investors and display Mongolian products with EU export potential. Participants included the top management of MNCCI and representatives of MFA, Customs and the four clusters supported by EU TRAM. The visit's programme focused on the role of chambers in public-private dialogue (PPD) and their export-related services for members. A MoU was signed with the Mongolian-German Business Association e.V. in Berlin for the establishment of the Mongolian ITPC in 2020.



IMPLEMENTED BY THE FOLLOWING CONSORTIUM:



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PROFILES



BATTSETSEG CHAGDGAA

“As a cluster, we have been learning not only how to build a powerful community, but also how to ensure sustainable development. Advocacy for common needs between a better now and a benign future is our aspiration.”

Basic information

Title: Chairperson, Board of Directors of the Mongolian Cosmetics Cluster (NGO)
Nationality: Mongolian
Years of experience: 10+

Ms Battsetseg Chagdgaa represents one of the cosmetics producers invited to EU TRAM's first cluster presentation in November 2018. She has successfully initiated and led the establishment of strong cooperation within the Mongolian cosmetics industry, by inviting producers to discuss their common challenges, opportunities and interests and to unite the cluster group. Battsetseg was elected Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Mongolian Cosmetics Cluster when it was founded as an NGO on 8 August 2019. Her ethical and decisive leadership, in cooperation with the management team, has helped the cluster to become a dynamic business group with strong motivation and ambitious goals. The latter include introducing European quality standards, registering Mongolian cosmetics in the EU market, utilising the unique selling position of Mongolian cosmetics with ingredients of animal origin, upgrading a laboratory for cosmetics R&D, building a shared factory for SMEs, and more. As a professional, Battsetseg has working experience in media and marketing. She left her job in an investment company to start her own business in the beauty sector eight years ago and became Co-founder and Director of Gilgerem, a natural soap brand.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- / 17-26 Jan 2020: Participation of MNCCI and its members in International Green Week trade fair in Berlin, Germany
- / 27 Jan 2020: Meeting of Project Steering Committee for EU TRAM
- / 10-13 Feb 2020: Participation of yak and baby camel hair cluster members in Apparel Sourcing trade fair in Paris, France

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Activity 1: Training of herders in Umnugobi and Arkhangai Aimag on raw material collection of baby camel hair and their role in the baby camel hair value chain (7-16 Oct)
- Activity 2: Expert mission for sea buckthorn cluster development and on export pricing (14-25 Oct)
- Activity 3: Participation of Mongolian delegation to the WTO Council for Trade in Services (29-31 Oct)
- Activity 4: Expert mission for cosmetics cluster development and on EU import regulations, pricing and value chain development (28 Oct-8 Nov)
- Activity 5: Participation of Mongolian delegation to the WTO Council for Trade in Goods (11-15 Nov)
- Activity 6: Organisation of 2019 Quality and Export Award Forum at MNCCI, with awards given to National Dermatology Centre for best quality services, Eco Wool LLC for best quality product, MCS International LLC for best quality organisation, and Milko LLC as best exporter (14 Nov)
- Activity 7: Workshop on negotiations skills for negotiating an FTA with Korea (November)
- Activity 8: Expert mission to consult MNCCI and NDA on the advancement of PPD (2-14 Dec)
- Activity 9: Workshops on draft Concept paper on trade policy and on draft Regulation on safeguard (December)