

AFFORESTATION POLICY AND MANAGEMENT OF SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS IN MONGOLIA

Tergel.B

Master's student National university of Mongolia, Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar

Baasanjav.G

научный руководитель, Supervisor, National university of Mongolia, Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar

Abstract. In this text, the afforestation of specially protected areas in Mongolia is mentioned in legal, social and ecological contexts.

Keywords: Afforestation policy, specially protected area, legal frameworks, ecological considerations, social and economic considerations.

Ecological considerations

Ecological considerations play a crucial role in the successful planning and implementation of afforestation and protected area management initiatives in Mongolia. Biodiversity conservation, water resources, climate change, and habitat connectivity are some of the key ecological considerations that must be taken into account when planning and implementing these initiatives. The conservation of biodiversity in Mongolia is important as it is home to a diverse range of plant and animal species, many of which are endemic to the region. It is necessary to select appropriate species for afforestation, protect key habitats for endangered species, and control invasive species. Mongolia's forests and protected areas are also critical sources of water for local communities, and hence, it is important to consider their impact on water resources by selecting appropriate species that require low water and implementing measures to control erosion and sedimentation. Due to Mongolia's vulnerability to climate change, it is important to consider the potential impacts of climate change on ecosystems and take steps to enhance their resilience by selecting more resilient species and restoring degraded ecosystems. Finally, enhancing habitat connectivity is also crucial as Mongolia's forests and protected areas are often fragmented. Implementing wildlife corridors, protecting migration routes, and connecting fragmented habitats through afforestation initiatives are some of the measures that can be taken to enhance habitat connectivity.

Overall, ecological considerations must be taken into account to ensure that these initiatives are effective, sustainable, and contribute to the conservation of Mongolia's unique ecosystems.

Social and economic considerations

The social and economic considerations involved in afforestation and protected area management initiatives in Mongolia are significant. Local communities are dependent on these resources for their livelihoods, so it is essential to engage with them and take their needs and priorities into account. Alternative livelihoods, access to markets, and fair sharing of benefits among all stakeholders are important in this regard. Mongolia's forests and protected areas are also important tourism destinations, so sustainable tourism practices must be promoted, and infrastructure and services should be developed to support tourism. Additionally, since Mongolia is

rich in natural resources such as minerals and timber, strategies must be developed to minimize the impacts of resource extraction on forests and protected areas. It is crucial to ensure that the benefits of these initiatives are not outweighed by negative impacts on the environment or local communities. Social and economic considerations are vital for the successful planning and implementation of afforestation and protected area management initiatives in Mongolia. By taking these considerations into account, it is possible to ensure that these initiatives are sustainable, inclusive, and benefit local communities.

Legal and regulatory frameworks

In Mongolia, afforestation and protected area management are governed by a range of legal and regulatory frameworks. Here are some of the key laws and regulations that are relevant to afforestation and protected area management in Mongolia:

- **Forest Law:** The Forest Law of Mongolia was first enacted in 1997 and has since been revised several times. The law provides a framework for the management, protection, and use of forest resources in Mongolia, including afforestation activities. It also establishes the rights and responsibilities of forest owners and users.
- **Law on Special Protected Areas:** The Law on Special Protected Areas was enacted in 2000 and provides a legal framework for the establishment, management, and protection of specially protected areas in Mongolia. The law identifies different categories of protected areas, including national parks, nature reserves, and protected landscapes.
- **Environmental Protection Law:** The Environmental Protection Law of Mongolia was enacted in 1995 and has since been revised several times. The law sets out the legal framework for the protection and management of the environment in Mongolia, including the management of protected areas and afforestation activities.
- **Land Law:** The Land Law of Mongolia was enacted in 2002 and provides a legal framework for the management and use of land resources in Mongolia. The law includes provisions related to the allocation of land for afforestation purposes and the rights and responsibilities of landowners and users.
- **State Policy on Forest and Afforestation:** The State Policy on Forest and Afforestation was approved in 2007 and provides a strategic framework for the development and management of forest resources in Mongolia. The policy includes specific targets related to afforestation activities, including the establishment of forest plantations and the promotion of sustainable forest management practices.

These laws and regulations provide a legal framework for the management and protection of forest resources and protected areas in Mongolia. However, the implementation and enforcement of these laws can be challenging, particularly in remote and rural areas of the country.

Conclusion

Afforestation in Mongolia's protected areas is an important aspect of sustainable land use management and wildlife conservation. Legal and regulatory frameworks governing afforestation and protected area management should be considered, along with ecological, social, and economic considerations. Mongolia has established laws and policies related to forest and wildlife conservation, protected areas, and sustainable land use management. Ecological considerations include biodiversity conservation, water resources, climate change, and habitat connectivity. Social and economic considerations include engaging with local communities, developing alternative livelihoods, promoting sustainable tourism, and minimizing the impacts of resource extraction. By taking a holistic and inclusive approach, afforestation initiatives can be effective, sustainable, and contribute to the conservation of Mongolia's unique ecosystems.

Bibliography:

1. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
2. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports

3. Forest Law of Mongolia (1997)
4. Law on Special Protected Areas (2000)
5. Environmental Protection Law of Mongolia (1995)
6. The Land Law of Mongolia (2002)
7. State Policy on Forest and Afforestation of (2007)