



Erdene Resource Development

## PUBLIC EDUCATION & OUTREACH

# Sustainability



**Kindergarten classroom furnished by Erdene**

From equipping kindergarten classrooms and advising teenagers about future careers to helping adults understand basic methods of mineral exploration, Erdene has helped create learning opportunities in its Mongolia project sites.

Foreign languages, earth science and career counseling were identified as the most appropriate areas within which secondary school staff, students and Erdene employees could collaborate. Erdene has worked directly with local teachers in their classrooms to apply teaching techniques based on the company's own management systems and organizational learning methods.

Erdene provided extracurricular learning opportunities for both teachers and students through community competitions and guided field excursions to local sites of interest. Career counseling emerged naturally as students and teachers sought to prepare for economic



**Nationally acclaimed professor teaches students about careers in mineral exploration and mining**

opportunities associated with the growing minerals industry.

Erdene has also helped to provide local stakeholders with independent information about the minerals industry and the Zuun Mod project. As a result, local stakeholders were able to discuss publicly more controversial and politicized issues associated with the minerals industry (such as royalties distribution and reclamation of illegal placer mines).

By informing local stakeholders and creating educational opportunities, Erdene enhances local participation in its Mongolia-based projects.



**Townhall meetings to exchange information and views about the Zuun Mod project**



Erdene Resource Development

LIVELIHOOD  
SECURITY  
&  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

# Sustainability



Local employee helps cut and measure core samples

Erdene contributes to the local economies through technical assistance, direct employment and disaster preparation and relief.

During the mineral exploration season, Erdene employs at least one local resident at each of its project sites. In the Zuun Mod project, as exploration delivered more encouraging results, as many as twelve seasonal jobs became available, creating direct economic benefits for the local population.

In southwestern Mongolia, Erdene entered into a partnership with the local government to co-finance and strengthen the capacity of its disaster preparedness trust funds. Erdene provided essential animal feed and fodder, for which the local government organized the discounted sale to local herders. Consequently, two revolving funds were bolstered to enable adequate disaster preparation over the long term.



Participant of community garden project harvesting potatoes near the Zuun Mod site

Following the recommendations of an Erdene-commissioned feasibility study on agricultural development, a nationally active Mongolian NGO proposed a comprehensive community gardening initiative near the Zuun Mod site. The initiative provided basic training and tools for vulnerable households to cultivate and sell vegetables. Twenty households completed the required training and labor to harvest vegetables, despite difficult drought conditions.

As its exploration and development projects advance, Erdene expects to help realize the significant potential for both direct and indirect local economic benefits.



Local breed of white-colored goat commands highest cashmere price in Mongolia