



Erdene Resource Development

PROFILE: AMARBUYANT MONASTERY

Sustainability



Renovated main temple at Amarbuyant Monastery

In remote southwestern Mongolia, the Amarbuyant Monastery has provided guidance to the local population for much of the past three centuries.

Around 1695, a modest monastery was established to provide spiritual and medicinal consultation and treatment. Pilgrims, civil servants, herders and merchants alike once sought the monastery's services.

By 1938, shortly before Mongolia's Soviet-inspired purges, as many as 1,500 monks lived at the site. The monastery complex became a large settlement, even relative to present day population density in Mongolia.

In 1990, newly recruited monks began resuscitating the region's unique form of Yellow-Sept Buddhism. Although modest repairs were completed in the late 1990s, much of the



315th anniversary procession at Amarbuyant Monastery, June 2010

monastery complex's structures remained in ruins until 2010, the auspicious 315th anniversary.

As part of its CRSD program, Erdene initiated a dialogue with the monastery. Erdene went on to become the monastery's largest corporate supporter in 2010, helping to finance renovations of seven key structures and shrines.

With improved monastery infrastructure, the inhabitant monks improved the space within which to deepen their spiritual practice and better serve local residents. In the future, Erdene plans to continue collaborating with Amarbuyant to support local cultural traditions and practices.



Main temple at Amarbuyant Monastery prior to renovation