



A Letter from the Executive Director

We did it! The doors of the Dayan Derkh Monastery have once again opened. We are collaborating with Mongolia's Buddhist leadership to create an environmental education camp at the monastery site. During summer 2007, we will host children and monks coming to learn about the natural environment.



In addition to funding and co-managing the environmental outreach work in Mongolia's Eg-Uur valley, The Tributary Fund (TTF) is poised to expand its work and embark on its global mission. During 2007 and 2008, we will engage in a broad dialogue with religious leaders, community leaders and scientists from all over the world. We are working to improve our ability to make conservation culturally relevant in communities that face crisis, like Mongolia's Eg-Uur valley.

Thank you so much for your interest in TTF. We'll keep you posted on our upcoming work.

Sain saikhan bukhniig yorooi
(wishing you all good things),
-Betsy Gaines Quammen

Our Mission:

The Tributary Fund (TTF) exists to protect ecosystems around the globe by creating conservation awareness, addressing economic needs, and strengthening cultural practices that embody conservation ethics. The Fund is committed to building partnerships among scientists and community and religious leaders toward the creation of culturally-relevant solutions to environmental problems.

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Meet Chimga

Ask Chuluunchimeg Luvsandash, better known as Chimga, about her work with the Taimen Conservation Fund (TCF), and she'll tell you that she has found her true calling. Chimga grew up in Hovsgol province near the Eg River. For two years, Chimga has been the Outreach Director for TCF, in charge of promoting biodiversity awareness through seminars on fisheries research, mining impacts, environmental laws, and sustainable business. Additionally she works hand-in-hand with the Buddhist leadership at the Dayan Derkh and Gandan monasteries.

Last summer, Chimga organized environmental awareness "Open Days" in 15 locations along the Eg and Uur rivers. In conjunction with the educational seminars, community members participated in folk performances, horse races, and wrestling—nomads do not believe in "all work, no play!" Free check-ups from visiting doctors were also made available.

The Dayan Derkh Monastery, now fully restored and operational, has become a center for environmental dialogue in the watershed. Chimga is currently establishing a children's summer camp at the monastery site where kids can learn about their environment and the importance of ecosystem health. TTF is working to raise money for a classroom and dorm for the summer participants. Camp sessions begin in June 2007.





Young Monks Go To School

TTF supports five local children for their studies at the main national Buddhist monastery, Gandan Monastery. These young boys are interested in becoming monks at the newly opened Dayan Derkh monastery and will be placed there upon graduation.



Mining Tours

TTF is funding the Taimen Conservation Fund's efforts to address the impacts of increased gold mining exploration in the Eg-Uur watershed. We sent forty representatives from the Eg-Uur watershed to visit the Zaamar mine, a devastated site subjected to nineteenth-century dredging technology. After viewing the damaged area, the communities along the Eg and Uur rivers created a mining watchdog group called the *Motherland Coalition*, which actively monitors individuals panning for gold (using mercury) and companies drilling test holes.

TTF Announces New Staff Member



Welcome to Susan Higgins, who joins The Tributary Fund as its new Development Director. She has a 25-year career in natural resources management with a focus on linking watershed science with policy change. A trained facilitator, Sue holds degrees in biology and natural resources management. Prior to her work as a science outreach director for the Montana Water Center, she administered the research program and operations of

the Whirling Disease Foundation, initiated Montana's State Water Plan while at the Montana DNRC, and earlier directed the Montana Watercourse Water Education program. Currently she is Co-chair of the Montana Watershed Coordination Council and serves on the Board of the Montana Outdoor Science School. She and her husband Scott Gill have two girls, Kate (14) and Lizzie (11).

