

## APPENDIX C: SUMMARY OF THE FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION

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## APPENDIX C: SUMMARY OF THE FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION

### 1. OVERVIEW

- **Objective:** To go beyond the impacts identified in the survey and interviews and focus on potential solutions and the role that different stakeholders can have in implementing the solutions
- **Date:** April 06, 2021
- **Number of participants:** 7 women ASM
- **Interview duration:** 105 min for the discussion
- **Interview method:** Interviews conducted via Zoom application.
- **Issues discussed:** 4 issues were discussed
- **Moderator:** Ms. Bolormaa
- **Note taker:** Ms. Munkhzaya

### 2. PART I

We followed the plan for the FG discussion as follows:

- Establishing the ground rules with the FG participants
- Present an Overview of the FG agenda, times and duration
- Present Focus groups objectives:
  1. Generate new ideas
  2. Reflect on potential solutions that are context appropriate to the existing challenges and the role that EMEH ASM NGO can have to address these problems
  3. Structure the analysis of the challenges and solutions into
    - a. short-term seeking to address the short-term impact of covid-19
    - b. medium to long-term seeking to address issues that go beyond the short-term impacts of the pandemic
- Inform participants that the FG results will inform the final report. In combination with the analysis of the survey, interviews will be integrated into the final report. Which will be available to the ASM NGO and will be shared widely within Mongolia.

### 3. PART II

#### General information of participants

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	Sex	Number of years working in ASM	Role in the EMEH ASM NGO	Number of children	Type of role in ASM
Participant 1	female	12 years	member	4	Dig, wash
Participant 2	female	15 years	member	4	Wash
Participant 3	female	20 years	member	3	Dig, wash
Participant 4	female	9 years	member	3	Dig, wash
Participant 5	female	10 years	member	2	Dig, wash
Participant 6	female	9 years	member	4	Dig, wash
Participant 7	female	20 years	member	5	Dig, wash

### 4. PART III

#### - **What opportunities exist in the external environment?**

All participants told that three partite agreement (Local Government-Mining company-ASM NGO) is the best opportunity for them. Mining companies after their exploitation of deposit, let ASM NGO to mine on tailings, before environmental reclamation and local government will play in a role of managing party. ASMiners are also ready to participant in an environmental reclamation. Also, this agreement should be signed only with residents of Zaamar soum. ASMiners also can create fund to raise economy.

*Current problems are:*

No support from local government, no agreement between three parties.

Environmental reclamation companies conduct mining activities.

#### - **What are the existing threats in the external environment?**

*COVID-19 related threats:*

Main threat is due to the lockdown all the traffic closed in the area and police restriction is around the town, ASMiners try to escape the police and go to mine site (5 police post around the town). They do illegal mining. When they are arrested by police, they pay penalty, police confiscate their mining equipment and transport.

*Nonrelated to COVID-19 threats:*

No license on the land use. Security of mining companies confiscate their belongings. Violence and threats from police and security. There was a case that they get punishment (in a matter of criminal law). In that case they don't know how to protect themselves.

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### - ***What are the NGO`s strengths?***

Following strengths of NGO, they mentioned:

- To become more organized or organized
- Stable income
- Risk of losing health and their lives will be decreased
- Less threats and sustainability
- Livelihood will be improved
- Possible to sign tripartite agreement
- Get united and deliver their voice

Also, they answered the question How to fix these issues?

Government should accept and support ASM.

ASMiners should become united.

### - ***What are the NGO`s weaknesses?***

*What were EMEH strengths before the pandemic?*

Members of the NGO were more active. They owned world good practice for ASM. They had agreement with mining company and they used tailing from the mining and did environmental reclamation.

Due to the COVID-19:

- Members became less active
- Financial facility of NGO reduced
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- Due to the lockdown planned activities of NGO postponed

In the future in a framework of NGO they want to have social insurance and health insurance. They want to learn from ASMiners of other countries.

In this session participants mentioned following issue:

In Zaamar soum, according to the ASM law miners can get license on land in a partnership with other miners. Some miners take copy of documents and make like they are partners but in reality, they don't cooperate with these people. Representatives from local government they give permission to land only for their relatives.

*What can be done to eliminate or reduce these weaknesses?*

It is important to strengthen EMEH NGO`s activity, get united and deliver their voice to the government.