



Better quality of life, through
better packaging, for more people

PRESS RELEASE

World Packaging Organisation (WPO) and UNIDO: a successful project in Mongolia



From nature to packaging. These photos were taken on the 1st WPO and UNIDO project in Mongolia.

March, 2024 – For the second time, as a result of a cooperation agreement with UNIDO, **WPO (World Packaging Organisation – www.worldpackaging.org)** ended another successful project which goal was to help the food sector in Mongolia to achieve international standards through the development of practical guidelines, covering the production of safe food. Although a non-resident agency in the country, UNIDO carries out its mandate in Mongolia, a member state since 1985, against the backdrop of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), and in close cooperation with the UN Country Team. “The UNSDCF is a result of a comprehensive, consultative process of identifying the major development priorities in the country vis-a-viz the UN’s comparative advantages. It sets the basis for the strategic scope and nature of the collective work of the UN system’s programme”, explains Ali Badarneh, Division Chief at UNIDO Austria and responsible for the interface with **WPO**.

WPO General Secretary, Johannes Bergmair, that conducted the project in Mongolia, adds: “There were a few steps in the project. We started reviewing all the project related documentation and liaising with

national and international experts to have a clear understanding of the project scope. The result was two guides, one to compliance for the identified actors and another to best practices for the identified actors along the value chain.” The guides are based on Codex/CAC/RCP 1-1969 and international best practices.

“Once again, we are very proud of the results of this new conjunction action UNIDO - **WPO** in Mongolia. It is gratifying to see such important documents, as the Guidelines to Facilitate Good Practices in the Food Packaging Industry, developed by a **WPO** expert, in this case, our General Secretary, Johannes Bergmair. In addition to the guides, a training course has been recorded so that it can be used by Mongolia Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry”, celebrates **WPO** President, Luciana Pellegrino.

Project background

UNIDO was invited by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry (MOFALI) to provide a technical assistance under the World Bank’s International Development Association (IDA) funded “Mongolia Export Development Project (EDP)”, focusing on “Strengthening Certification Services to Enhance Export Competitiveness of Small and Medium Agri-Businesses”. The overall objective of the EDP is “to support Mongolian small and medium size firms (SMEs) in the non-mining sectors to strengthen their export capabilities and expand access to export markets” through improved compliance of market requirements. This entails the need of developing food and non-food related certification services, which would be also accepted by domestic and foreign buyers. The Sustainable Food Systems Division (DTA/AGR/SFS) of the Agribusiness Department at UNIDO lead the overall EDP project implementation, monitoring and evaluation in close cooperation with other departments and divisions of the HQ and the regional office in China. **WPO** participated since the early stage of the project.

Just to remind, in November 2017, **WPO** and UNIDO signed a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) for strategic cooperation in the field of packaging capacity building. The purpose is “to achieve the mutually declared objectives towards the operationalization of UNIDO’s mandate for inclusive sustainable industrial development”.

About WPO


World Packaging Organisation (WPO) is a non-profit, non-governmental, international federation of packaging institutes, associations, federations and other interested parties including corporations and trade associations. Its mission is “Better quality of life through better packaging for more people”. WPO joins 84 members, representing 63 countries that includes Full Members, Honorary Members, Affiliate Members and a Regional Federation.


Press information:

Liliam Benzi


WPO Press & Communication Liaison Officer


ldbcom@uol.com.br

 (+ 55 11) 99989-1597

 WPO – World Packaging Organization

 WorldPackOrg1

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 liliambenzi

 [linkedin.com/in/WPO](https://www.linkedin.com/in/WPO) World Packaging Organization

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