Mongolia became PAGE’s first partner country in 2013, and over the years has demonstrated a strong dedication to transforming its economy into a driver of sustainability and social inclusion. PAGE’s engagement in Mongolia has largely been in support of the National Green Development Policy (NGDP), which was first approved by Parliament in 2014, and has since been accompanied by an Action Plan and a Sustainable Development Vision 2030. In particular, PAGE has provided support in the areas of evidence-based policy appraisal, analysis for different options for implementation of the NGDP, and support for policy reform in specific sectors and thematic areas, such as green construction, sustainable public procurement, green economy learning, sustainable finance, waste management and sustainable trade.

In doing so, PAGE has contributed towards progress in achieving Mongolia’s Nationally Determined Contribution of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 14% by 2030, and Sustainable Development Goals 4, 8, 11, 12, 13 and 17.

Supporting national policy and planning for green development
With the National Green Development Policy (NGDP), Mongolia has established a national framework that sets clear goals for the green development pathway of the country, centred on promotion of sustainable consumption and production, growth within ecosystem carrying capacity, smart, green cities adaptive to climate change, increased investment in natural capital, human development, green technology, and green lifestyles and education. In order to support Mongolia in realizing these objectives, PAGE has undertaken policy assessments, including Threshold 21 modelling work that informs long-term macro-economic planning and forecasting through system dynamics modelling. Complemented by a comprehensive training programme, this work has resulted in significantly improved institutional and individual capacities in utilizing modelling, now available to support future policy and planning processes.

PAGE also took an active role in developing tools to monitor Mongolia’s green economy transition and helped the government—in collaboration with the National Statistics Office and the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)—to define indicators for measuring progress towards the objectives of the NGDP. This led to a government decision in 2017 to allocate national budgetary resources to operationalize 33 indicators for tracking green economy progress.

At sub-national level, PAGE partners, in collaboration with Global Green Growth Institute and SDC-financed project Education for Sustainable Development, have supported the integration of NGDP principles and SDG/NDC objectives into sub-national planning, providing green economy training and technical support for local development plans. Eight aimags (provinces) and the capital Ulaanbaatar have taken up this work to date.

PAGE has also worked to ensure that gender considerations are mainstreamed throughout Mongolia’s green development policy. In particular, PAGE produced a report analysing how existing green development policies contribute to gender equality objectives and offered recommendations for mainstreaming gender into the implementation of the NGDP. This work was presented to Mongolian policymakers in 2017 and has contributed to national discussions around the linkages between the SDGs, the NGDP and gender equality.

Sectoral and thematic policy reform
In 2014, public procurement of products and services accounted for about 12% of GDP in Mongolia. As part of the forward-looking strategy of the NGDP, Mongolia
set a target for at least 20% of this public procurement to be “green” by 2020. To support this goal, PAG...