

# Invest with Impact

Reduce inequality with digital banking

### Remote, yet connected

Mongolia is one of the least densely populated countries in the world, with much of the population living in remote rural areas. Many still follow a nomadic or herder lifestyle that has not changed for centuries. For those especially, the realities of life in Mongolia are harsh; with monthly temperature variations of 45°C not uncommon and no city or town within a day's travel for most people. Yet since a few years, more and more Mongolians have a bank account. By now roughly 80% of the population have access via digital banking, supported by a widespread mobile telephony network, which serves as its backbone.

### Reaching out to the rural unbanked

Khan Bank, first established in 1991 as the Cooperative Agricultural Bank, is the largest commercial bank in Mongolia. Khan Bank has made it a key priority to provide financial services to people living in remote rural areas that would otherwise lack access to banking services. At least 5% of the portfolio is dedicated to small or micro-entrepreneurs; mostly families involved in the production and sale of agricultural products. Approximately 67% involves services to retail customers; individuals.

Khan Bank has been able to become the country's largest commercial bank by pioneering mobile banking in 2007 and embracing digital banking in 2013. While it serves a huge number of customers predominantly via digital and mobile services, it has more than 530 branches around the country, servicing over 78% of country's 3.2 million inhabitants. It is also making considerable inroads into the micro, SME and corporate banking segments and intends to grow this part of its business further.

### **FMO Loan**

Khan Bank has been an excellent FMO client since it first took out a loan facility in 2009. Most recently in 2018 FMO arranged a USD 120 million loan, the largest in the bank's history. As part of a financial sector-wide initiative to upgrade environmental and social standards led by the Mongolian Banking Association FMO will also support further initiatives to strengthen Khan Bank's environmental and social management system outside the loan facility.





### In perspective

Mongolia relies heavily on commodity exports. Its once fast-growing economy experienced a slowdown as a result of the decline in commodity prices since 2015. GDP growth was as low as ~1% in 2016, but currently stands at 6.9% again.

While the economy was slowing down the IMF instigated Mongolia's central bank to appoint an independent auditor to review the asset quality of the whole Mongolian banking sector. The review, which took place in 2017, caused unrest in the sector and created reluctance from investors or financiers to support banks before the review ended.

As FMO and Khan Bank have a longstanding partnership FMO was confident that the bank's review would be acceptable and proceeded with the preparations for a new loan facility. The loan also signals FMO's own commitment to the Mongolian market, and the transaction is expected to help pave the way for further funding from other international financial institutions. As expected, Khan Bank had a positive review which e.g. also led to no requirement to adjust the Bank's loan loss provisioning charges.

Khan Bank uses the FMO arranged loan to continue to provide financial services to people that would otherwise lack access to banking services, financing micro and SME sub-loans. To achieve successful distribution Khan Bank will continue to develop its ability to reach the country's most remote regions, and to upgrade its mobile banking and digital banking capabilities.







## The development of

Kahn Bank	2018
Customers	2.4 mln
Employees	6,316
Offices	538
ATM's/POS machines	1,143/17,298
FMO investment	
Total syndicated loan	USD 120mln
FMO	USD 45 mln
Fund investment	USD 2.5 mln

"Creating access to financial services for those in the most remote parts of a country."



### The Fund Manager

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#### The Investment Advisor

FMO Investment Management BV ('FMO IM') is a MiFID licensed Dutch investment firm and 100% subsidiary of the Dutch development bank FMO NV. FMO IM advises on the loan portfolio at the request of the Fund Manager. All loans offered to the fund have successfully completed the investment process of FMO and have thus been added to FMO's own loan portfolio.

Contact

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