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ABSTRACT

Despite the vast data of social quality research about Asian societies, not many studies have been carried out on the current situation of social quality in Mongolia. The purpose of this paper is to highlight the level of social quality in Mongolia focusing on the dimensions of social inclusion and exclusion. Using the data of Mongolia’s current society in terms of population growth; quality and access to social and welfare; social inclusion and services exclusion, this paper describes the situation of social change as a consequence of social transformation. The study refers to the social quality theory as the measurement of social progress, which should have certain useful implication for our assessment of the development process in Mongolia. Subsequently, this work increases the awareness and understanding of Mongolia’s current social quality and provide a number of policy options and recommendations for improving social quality conditions in Mongolia.

Keywords: Social quality, inclusion, social development, social transformation.
INTRODUCTION

Mongolia is the eighteenth largest country and one of the countries with the lowest population densities. Geologically, Mongolia is a landlocked country located in Central Asia, sandwiched between Russia and China. For centuries, Mongolia has been home for nomadic people. It covers an area of 1,564,100.0 square kilometers (Solongo, 2007, p. 92) and is largely relatively flat steppes. The history of the modern nation-state of Mongolia dates from its formal declaration of independence in 1921, and its independence was fragile up until the 1940s.

Social changes in Mongolia have drastically been accelerated since 1990s. A significant change involved in the discontinuing of most of the larger state-owned and highly productive industries such as leather and skin producing factories and only a few were privatized by the government’s decision causing unemployment, poverty, lower family income, and chaos in the society after Mongolia’s transformation toward the democratization over 20 years ago. It is defined as once Aristotle said, “transition period is to tell those changes that are to start” (B.Dash-Yondon, translation, 2013).

However, not much change has taken place since the “great-jump policy of social changes” during the past 10 years; it is still difficult to predict that society, in spite of multiple threats and crises could change for the better. The reason is the total budget of Mongolia has been on the increase, but the foundation of the society stays extremely unstable and fragile. These problems can be overcome if we take persistent measures in intensifying the state’s complex policy on development of national enterprises, creating a harmonious internal political atmosphere, alleviating unemployment and poverty among the population, and improving the educational system which plays an important role in the people’s spiritual lives.

The changed social landscape of Mongolia

Since 1990s, some societal changes of Mongolia in areas such as demography, politics, economics, religion, legal reforms and social development have been made so far. Those changes could be approached from various dimensions.
Demography and social development

Mongolia’s socioeconomic development appears to be slow and fragile due to the instability of people’s health care system and high infant mortality rate in 1921 (B. Dash-Yondon, 2013). There are three different factors; birth and death rates, and external migration that directly affects the population growth of each country. Mongolia has conducted a population count three times throughout history, the first of which was in 1918. The enumerated population of Mongolia in 1918 was 647.8 thousand, and reached to 738.2 thousand when it was enumerated in 1935 for the second time in history. In 2013, the total population of Mongolia increased to 2 million 889 thousand (The population of Mongolia in the 20th century, UB, 2003).

Several other factors, contributed to the decrease in Mongolia’s birth rate since 1990s. Some possible reasons are socioeconomic transition, freedom to abort unwanted pregnancy, women’s modern self-regulatory methods of birth control, late marriage, a decline in the numbers of family members, and the rise of women’s educational level. In addition, the decline in general birth rate in 1990 reached 4.5%, and 2.8% in 1995 and 2.2% in 2000. However, this rate decreased constantly by 1.9% in 2005. In contrast, the rate rose by 2.1% in 2006 (Mongolia’s social changes, 2013).

One reason for the increase in the birth rate after 2006 could be attributed to the numerous supportive programs on human development, including “newborn babies” who by provision of new laws are given ‘supplementary benefits for mothers and children’ and ‘monetary allowance for mothers, children and family’. These practices could give rise to several other issues, such as, what are the effective ways to accomplish Mongolia’s current social development? What social changes have been made in Mongolia?

The economic reforms

Within the transition period of the centrally planned economy to free market economy, Mongolia like many other nations prioritizes that its society needs to be equipped and provided with good education and merits, better health care and service, and other social guarantees that consist of
common accomplishments of economics, politics, and mental civilization. During the previous socialist regime Mongolians were pre-programmed with the ideas that all the sectors would have been developed if the country’s economy stabilized. However, the desired development did not take place. The poor and underdeveloped conditions are apparent as many Mongolians live in poor condition and avoid producing national invention, high-tech innovation, and improve social values; but instead praying for the idea of “economic support” and trying to implement economic projects over and over again.

Scholars predicted that the economic recession of Mongolia which started in the 1990s would have continued for a decade. The economic recession had an effect on Mongolia’s economy, but required responsible actions to be taken. The economic recession also affected Mongolia’s agriculture and herders as well. In 1989 to 1992 the gross domestic product (GDP) and annual per capita income decreased by an average of 9.7%, but the population increased by 1.9% in total. At the end of 1992 the GDP per capita declined by over 20%, many factories had to cease operations, which caused widespread unemployment in the economy, regular manufacturing activities came to a halt. The imported goods for industrial and technological use were estimated to be 696.1 million US dollars in 1989. This figure declined to 340.6 million US dollars in 1992 indicating a total decline of 51.1% within three years due to the dramatic changes of external environment, lack of external reserves and its resource-substitution incapability. This caused the loss of permanent production and service activities and the decline of dramatic supply (Mongols: sociological research, 1997).

In addition, the foreign trade, manufacturing and construction work dropped and transportation fell by 75% while passengers decreased by 7% due to the lack of fuels, rare technical equipment and facilities, and poor relationship between transporters and consumers. Apart from the fact that the principles and regulatory irregularities appeared in manufacturing, consuming, and monetary and financial sectors, crimes such as embezzling individuals’ property were committed in the society, and industries and service were halted due to weak administration and unskilled employees in the free market economy.

The crises in Mongolia’s society worsened, which led to the rapid economic fall. The economist indicated that the economy of Mongolia dropped by 7% at the end of 1992 and
reached the same economic level as in 1981. In the middle of 1992 the shops’ exhausted their supplies and over 30% of the total food products were given out based on the card granting system. The main reason for this steep decline in foreign trade and increase of foreign loans was due to the government estimates of one US dollar as equivalent to 40 MNG tugriks, but 80 MNG tugriks when sold out abroad (Mongols: sociological research, 1997).

However, the newly established government of Mongolia in 1992 called this situation as a “transition period” but concluded there would have been more negative effects if the low currency exchange rates continued. In order to liberalize the market, most of the small and medium size enterprises and farming as well as more than 60% of livestock were privatized. It was a common phenomenon that a husband of the family acts as the head and the wife as an accountant who both worked in a number of factories.

Numerous measures were undertaken such as the program of stabilization taken by the government of Mongolia, the deficit of the gross domestic products declined to three times lesser than the end of 1993. The growth of the gross domestic products increased by 2.3 % in 1994. The agricultural and industrial products at that time commanded 69.2% of the total GDP per capita and 60% of the value added tax of Mongolia (The Mongols: sociological survey, 1997).

The political reforms

The first political organization in Mongolia, which was established at the beginning of the twentieth century, was the Mongolia’s People’s Revolutionary Party (MPRP). Throughout the history of Mongolia, the People’ Revolutionary Party that accepted several other newly founded political parties, some of which originated from the MPRP, has changed tremendously. At the same time, many other political parties that were established to conduct different political approaches and thoughts in the politics of Mongolia, could have to set up the basis of a multi-party system of Mongolian politics. Since then there have been only three political powers such as the MPRP, Democratic Party, and Third Power that competed in the politics of Mongolia.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, the power of governance gradually moved from one political power to another in a peaceful way. The type of governance changed in a violent
freeway at the end of the twentieth century. According to some professional organizations’
survey, the transition process to the democratic regime were considered as relatively effective
until the mid of 1990s, but a lot more unexpected consequences appeared after the second half of
1990; furthermore, development declined in the years after 2000.

In fact, there are many signs of the circumstances of social conflicts which created crises and
confrontations both in the external and internal political scenario in the new constitution of
Mongolia. This new constitution of Mongolia has become the product of mutual understanding
and harmony among various political parties rather than crises and disagreements affecting the
political climate of Mongolia. Lately, politicians, political scientists and highly educated citizens
of Mongolia have been arguing about what could have been objective faults, subjective reasons
and causes, possibilities of corrections, and further development of the new constitution if there
have been any.

The legal reforms

For the Mongolians, before the 1990s, it was common to take the issues of legal culture and legal
consciousness on Marxist-Leninist theoretical and methodological attitudes or mono-party
approaches. The issues of legal, cultural development must be connected to the state’s
fundamental laws, constitutional concepts and its basic principles. According to the constitution
of 1924, it was pointed out that, “the people’s main goal was aimed at conducting the policies in
connection with the collapsing capitalist regime from its ground and preferring cooperative
unification of the society”. However, in the constitution of 1940 it was approved that, “the
People’s Republic of Mongolia, which destroyed repressive and feudal oppression, was aimed at
developing its country on the way of anti-feudal approaches” (The constitution of Mongolia, 1992).

In the course of the new constitution of Mongolia, the state sovereignty and independence of
Mongolia have been reinforced apart from the fact that the fundamental principles of the country
such as politically democratic regime, free market economic system of statehood protecting all
types of public and private properties, ‘people’ oriented discrimination-free society, unilateral
predominance-free state and governmental functions distributed in three authorized bodies, civil society and self-administration in acceptance with locally governed democratic ruling, pluralism oriented social culture and spirits, and judicially protected constitution have been established in Mongolia based upon the principles affecting human rights and liberty, respect of law, multi-party based parliament.

As a result, socialist ideology and socialist legal culture have been preserved while free thoughts, ideas, assumptions, and pluralism have been taken as a set of principles for the legal culture. What do we include in the newly established legal culture and consciousness within the past 20 years? In fact, conducting activities of governmental organizations under laws and regulations, allowing governmental officials to work apart from bureaucracy and trouble, fighting bribes and corruption, forming proper morality in the society, and developing citizens’ consciousness with regards to the respect for human rights are as all essential matters as salary, pensions, and food (B.Chimed, Respecting constitution, 2006).

Therefore, the legal consciousness cover those many issues such as studying legal science, giving evaluations, holding laws, changing laws in their need, and implementing laws effectively. Each and everyone in this society to study more about laws is not required; the only way to develop legal culture is to provide an opportunity for alleviating legal “illiteracy” and unlawfulness concept (R.Uranbileg, the issues of forming legal consciousness of the population, Diss, Ulaanbaatar, 1995).

The governmental strategy of development

The social development plan in Mongolia currently is hardly discussed with any relevance to the strategy of the economic development. Based on the data from the Asian Development Bank’s Social Protection Index (SPI) in 2008, Mongolian poverty targeting rates excesses to 50% and its coverage rate for the elderly is almost 100%. Thus, in the evaluation of the quality of the social condition of the Mongolian society, it is difficult to isolate the social protection issues from the economic growth. As a transition country experiencing economic development, Mongolia takes on market-orientation, and just like other transition countries has endured many pains, initial
‘transformational recession’. Through the social transition of Mongolia, the government took economic development as the most important strategy for national autonomy and sustainable development, whereas social protection policy mainly focus on poverty alleviation and social assistance, social insurance coverage appears very limited.

On the other hand, the state also has to develop its social policy to provide social security for the majority of the population. In Mongolia, its 1992’s Constitution declared that the state’s duty to ensure citizens’ freedom and rights, particularly their rights to social welfare. The Constitution stated that the Mongolia’s nearest goals and strategy of development is: ‘It shall aim to establish humane, civil, democratic society’. Under this background, a number of social policy programs were produced, including social insurance law, for the compensation of work injury and unemployment, etc. In 1994, The National Poverty Alleviation Program (NPAP) was launched to reduce the officially measured incidence of poverty (1994-2000).

The government created a new social security system comprising three key elements: social welfare services and assistance benefits, employment services, and social insurance. The Government’s development strategies for health identified improved access to and quality of health care, particularly maternal and child health services and primary health care as immediate targets.

Touching on the state’s capacity to finance welfare, the state’s statistical report shows that in the last 15 years, the public expenditure of social welfare increased steadily since 1997 to 2009. However, the rate has decreased sharply since 2010 (NSO, 2012). In the last five years, Mongolia’s social insurance system were mainly focused on transferring to multi-staged pension and benefit system by complying with National Development Comprehensive Policy, with the coverage of including herdsman, self-employed people, small medium entrepreneurs in social insurance, developing pension insurance fund management.

In all, Mongolia’s transition to a market economy in the 1990s adversely affected the Government’s ability to finance and deliver health services and provide social security services to cushion the social impact of the transition. Following the transition, the Government initiated steps to change the social welfare system from provision of universal access to more targeted assistance. Indeed, an underdeveloped country, the Mongolian government has progressed in the
area of economic development and achieved reduction in poverty. Government actions to provide financial support to family development and children are stimulating a higher birth rate in Mongolia, but the Government’s financial and technical capacity constraints hindered the development and implementation of a more comprehensive reform on the country’s social security system.

The material life and social quality: from economic growth to social security

In the analysis of social quality, the condition of the socio-economic security should be the basis of our assessment on the quality of society. These factors including (1) diminishing the risks to human lives, (2) enhancing of chances for individual’s development and (3), maintaining human right and citizenship (Van der Maesen & Keizer, 2003). It refers not only to the level of economic growth, but also the level of social protection provided by the public agents. The very necessity for resolving these issues is due to the ongoing pressure from people living for social peace, but also for ensuring people’s welfare rights and social citizenship.

From the 1920s to the late 1980s, Mongolia’s political economy of the modern state was essentially determined by its communist principles. In the past, government policies largely followed the Soviet model, with elements of collectivization of agriculture and herding, the purging of real or perceived political opposition and the destruction of religion. As a communist society, the combination of the single-party state and the command economy provides the government with unprecedented control over population processes, particularly internal migration fertility levels.

It created a steady framework of macroeconomics since the 1990s, and result in the booming of the Mongolia economy. This transformation was encouraged by various agents from the sectors of international banking, financial organizations, and private sector (Asia Development Bank, 2008). In line with this transition, there has been significant economic growth in recent years, which has been averaging nine percent annually between 2000-2003, and the gross domestic product (GDP) per capita has risen from US$456 in 2000 to an estimated $2,111 in 2010 (NSO, 2010). Mongolia has now become one of the fastest growing countries in the world,
and finds itself on the threshold of prosperity with its vast mineral resources, including copper, gold, and coal.

In Mongolia, the economic security is defined as follow: ‘Economic security means building an economic structure, which has the potential for effective economic reproduction through the use of internal resources. Economic security represents the cornerstone of the independence and sovereignty of Mongolia’. According to this definition, the policy measures to achieve this goal is to build multi-pillared system of economy, maintaining rational investment policy, ensuring financial security, and energy, mineral resource, foreign trade and integration. However, for the purpose of development, the economic security is not the sole pursuit; social security is also an important goal.

Thus, as a developing country, Mongolia struggles for both goals: economic growth and social protection. Mongolia does not have a highly developed social security system to cover all people and the rate of traditional mode of social transfer is low, and the effect of income redistribution is low due to the low rate of social transfer programmes. However, in the constitution of Mongolia, the state obligation of welfare protection is as follow: ‘The State is responsible to the citizens for the creation of economic, social, legal, and other guarantees ensuring human rights and freedoms, for the prevention of violations of human rights and freedoms, and restoration of infringed rights’ (GoM, 1992). Although the previous ex-socialist system assume social security and welfare are part of the state duty leading to a system of state welfare, the program to implement these obligations is rare.

Achieving adequate levels of social security appears difficult due to widespread poverty, unemployment and social exclusion which are serious problems in Mongolia. Although the economy of Mongolia has been progressing rapidly over the last few years, Mongolia is faced with social challenges. It is implementing policies on improving living standards, supporting invalids. Between 1990 and 2001, poverty levels have risen with real unemployment, and for other social groups, the most seriously affected groups of poverty were the elderly, disabled, children, and single parent families. To the present-days, the poverty level was over 35%, with a serious unemployment rate estimated at over 17% (Asian Development Bank, 2012). In 2010, the poverty rate even reached as high of 39.8% and down to 29.8% in 2011.
The issue of unemployment is unresolved. Although official unemployment is decreasing, under employment remains persistent, with 24% of the labor force unable to find appropriate jobs (ADB, 2013). The number of unemployed individuals reached 37.2 thousand at the end of January 2013 (NSO, Population census, 2013). Typically the young make up the bulk of the unemployed. Protecting people with low skills and low income from the impact of high inflation and enabling their full participation in economic growth through greater employment and access to core public services are key issues that the Government of Mongolia is keen to challenge. As rapid economic growth is transforming the labor market, but fundamental skills mismatch prevents many from finding jobs. For instance, Mongolia’s mining sector is expected to boom but only benefited few Mongolians by way of creating employment. In addition, high global mineral price leads to increased inflationary pressures.

The rural-urban migration is also another issue. Population migration is a social phenomenon which causes positive and negative consequences in all areas of society, economy, population group, the quality and access to social and healthcare services, education, cultural services, the living standards of people, social welfare, security, urban planning. In recent years the society and economy in our country have changed radically and the flow of migration to urban settlements still remain strong, which has become a factor affecting accessibility to social services such as healthcare and education (UNDP report, 2009) In Mongolia, the urban population has increased and there were 1,345,000 people who lived in urban areas, 57% of total population, as of 2000 when 1,798,100 people lived in urban areas, 67.9%, in 2010 (UNFPA, 2012).

This increase in population in the urban areas of Mongolia within the last decade is approximate to the population increase in 30 years prior to this decade. The main attractions of urban areas are that the development of social sectors such as production, services, education and health care in Ulaanbaatar city and province centers are better than in rural areas. Therefore, many people are moving to urban areas, which increases the size of the urban population as part of the total population of Mongolia. Erdenet and Darkhan cities are after Ulaanbaatar and around 26.9% of urban populations are living in other cities and urban areas.
Rapid urbanization in Mongolia and semi-nomadic ways of life still predominating in rural areas highlighted the personal risk, among the most seriously affected were the elderly, disabled, children, and single parent families. Unfortunately, getting migrants to register with the authorities is a daunting task. Lack of registration causes many problems for new migrants. Quite simply “many people do not care about this registration and unless urgently needed do not register with the governor offices” (Nyamdorj, 2005, p. 39). As a result, it is likely that in their first year in the city, migrants will make do without many necessary services just because of a lack of registration (Baatarzorig, 2005, p. 63).

In the recent National University of Mongolia’s migration study, 36.9% of the respondents had no knowledge about the registration process, and 34.2% found out about it only after coming to the city (Bolormaa, 2009, p.129). There are organizations, which seek to educate migrants-socially excluded groups of people with multiple disadvantages on this vital procedure. Thus we need anti-exclusion and pro-inclusion policies to support unregistered migrants as soon as possible in order to make sure that no Mongolian is left out of social relations and services. Migrants have to obtain a certificate to leave their home in rural areas, and get residence registration in the city. Also, there are many stable and safe working opportunities in the city and urban areas that mainly attracts population and is expanding the urbanization process.

**Social change and social inclusion**

According to Silver (2010), and Rawsthorne and Howard (2011) social exclusion and social inclusion are not necessarily opposites. It is often necessary to pursue both anti-exclusion and pro-inclusion policies and there is an urgent need to support individuals, families and communities experiencing social exclusion. Thus, the government and various organizations can develop research and policy formation, which is vital to provide services to migrant populations (Byambatseren, 2005). Thus, governmental policies can contribute to strengthen a socially cohesive society, which fights exclusion and marginalization, promotes trust and upward mobility, and aims at the well-being of all its members. The social inclusion is an essential element in the understanding and measurement of social quality. According to Beck, et. al.
(2001, p.346), modern democratic societies do not need more influential leadership, instead of equal opportunities for citizens to address their circumstances, to develop their own views and poverty, because it is obvious that income level is an important determinant of participation. Thus, we have to make sure that no one is left out from social welfare, social and health services since unregistered citizens are still the citizens of the country. Moreover, there are barriers that restrict access to social life, which cannot be understood by reference to a single sub-system, such as the economy, or access to health care delivery, or to education; or by reference to an existing societal unit, such as family or household.

In a developing country like Mongolia, to develop social policies have great importance to increase social inclusion. This can be done through social policies both on strengthening social network and to extend the formal system of social security. For the informal social network of life security, we need to cultivate social capitals and develop the sprint of mutual help. Social inclusion is an active relational process. To rebuild social bonds, participation of all citizens, especially unregistered migrants-excluded groups, in designing, executing, and monitoring policies is a prerequisite to social inclusion. According to Putnam (2001) social inclusion is a prerequisite for people’s participation, and the exclusion is a relational process of declining participation, solidarity and access (Silver & Miller, 2002).

To reduce the negative impact of market-oriented development on social cohesion, the government establishes a Social Safety Net Sector Development Plan in order to reduce the size of various kinds of vulnerable groups. However, with the socio-economic transition and more people swarming into the city and taking life changing risks in life, the basic social safety net is not suitable for this social changes, as in Mongolia the redistribution effect of the socio-economic security is limited. Many people in the informal sector do not gain access to social welfare and education; it has become difficult to handle the issue of poverty and inequality. Thus, we need to develop a social security system as a measure of social inclusion.

The issue of social inclusion refers not only to the full employment of the labor market, but also the expansion of the social insurance programs and develops public services with the state budget. This is a specific need because of the lack of social services, which could not be implemented in some remote areas. Thus, to strengthen the system of income redistribution is
also an alternative for poverty reduction. Mongolia mainly uses social insurance system to resolve issue on protecting citizens’ social guarantee from social risks, which can affect population’s live ability. In the program, citizens and employers pay social insurance premium and create special fund and from this fund insured people who coincided risk, can get pensions and allowances respecting period of paying premium, and the lowest level of wage.

Also, as Mongolian economic growth has declined which is not good for most of the citizens, where a large fraction of the population falls behind and disparities in wealth and income are steadily increasing (D.Aldar. B.Tsevegdorj, 2013).

Meanwhile, population migration is also an important issue on social inclusion. Rural-urban migration is a complex issue, with myriad causes and even more results. Migrants may also be pushed by natural disasters or constraints such as drought, flood, hunger, and zud (a natural disaster which causes large numbers of livestock to die off).

To overcome this bias, poorer, less educated citizens may have to be treated differently in order to have equal say, both because their resources are poor and because, without adopting a misplaced essentialism, they often have different needs, such as meeting at hours or in venues that do not impose hardships on workers. The principle in the state’s Law on social welfare of Mongolia relies on the following: a) Financing social welfare from reliable consistent source; b) Social insurance and welfare rate shall be defined to close level to the living standard. The adoption of the new constitution of Mongolia in 1992 there has been radical economic, political changes and reforms (GoM, 1992).

As argued, if socio-economic security improvements lead to social inclusion, social differentiation or deficiency in social participation, the performance in social quality couldn’t be better. Therefore, we have to monitor the process of migration, as many of these migrants can be likely the members of the socially excluded group of people, especially unregistered (people who do not hold legal certification of migration) has increased dramatically due to rapid urbanization in Mongolia.

The third policy issue of social inclusion is on people’s participation by adopting inclusive social policies. In a democracy, no one should lose out permanently and systematically because they are denied a voice, directly or indirectly. The processes of deliberation, decision-making,
execution, and monitoring should be open, transparent and protect the rights of minorities. To get everyone involved may require outreach, affirmative action, or quotas. Government should provide resources and opportunities to engage at every stage and to put new issues on the agenda. Thus, to evaluate social quality of Mongolia, we can’t only see fiancé expenditure in social security and welfare provided by the government, but also the need to discuss the social effects of enhancing social exclusion and social cohesion, social participation. Economic, demographic, and cultural pressures all push and pull people from one location to another, acting on individuals’ personal decisions.

CONCLUSION

The matters of human development, social development, and poverty enormously depend on spiritual poverty and cultural degradation of the current society. Poverty is not only the term of the economics but also the notion of cultural and spiritual development. The national poverty originally comes from human spirits, yet the only way to get rid of the poverty is to produce material and spiritual values such as scientific, cultural and arts inventions, new models and images towards national productivity and new technology that are all formed by human creativity.

Based upon more than 20 years of experience in democratization, formation of civil society and achievements of legal science, there are far more possibilities to determine the ways on developing legal culture. Furthermore, several improvements and reforms need to be done, for instance, refining the related legislations, advancing the quality for proposing a bill, forming respectfulness of legitimacy over governmental organizations, proper distribution of authority over legislative, executive, and judicial bodies, creating a right function of legal information, introducing respectfulness of law in the society, improving functions of structural, organizational, and practical methods, empowering system of legal education. As a scholar, I would like to say that we are all trying to bring new changes and reforms to build a better country based on mutual supports since we have been living in the same integrated spiritual environments.
This study develops an analysis about social issues from a social policy perspective, on the recent stage of development in Mongolia. It provides the basis for international comparison of social quality studies. The data used in this study was obtained from the statistics produced by the National Statistical Office of Mongolia, with a focus on the improvement of people’s livelihoods on social protection. By a review on this developmental process, this paper study the situation of the socio-economic security in Mongolia.

In the past two decades, the Mongolian government has developed a new social security system comprising three key elements: social welfare services and assistance benefits, employment services, and social insurance. The Mongolian government gives priority to the agenda of poverty reduction and increasing employment. Thus, the income redistribution policy which was targeted at improving the living condition of the poor and vulnerable people encourages their initiatives of employment. Currently, Mongolia’s socio-economic security is not low if compared to other countries of an equivalent economic level. This development has opened a broad opportunity for implementing many long-term or mid-term development plans for development and poverty alleviation.

Despite the great success in improving people’s living standards, we found that the social redistribution tends be too little for poor people and social insurance mainly focuses on the formal section. This policy in social protection is favorable to alleviate the market transition to social stability, social psychology and culture needed by the government to give the people proper social protection. When some policies were carried out for the labor market stability, the government also adopts a set of policy measures to support the private sector and the foreign direct investment within a regulated market, issuing licenses to businesses of foreign trade, and to strengthen their status in the global market.

Accordingly, we need to see how the social policy development will aid the economic growth and the national social development. Under this orientation, many people shifted from the public sector and joined the private sector, assuming the economic growth will be the principal way of poverty reduction (World Bank, 1996). In recent years, over population in one area created many problems such as air, soil, and water pollution, inappropriate use of land;
increasing unemployment; poverty related to expansion of the city boundaries with “ger” districts; deserted rural areas; loss of skilled staff and reduction of population in remote areas.

Thus, we need to improve the condition of social security in order to raise the extent of social quality in society. The top priorities should be on the maintenance and improvement of social welfare services for the most vulnerable. At the same time, the system needed to help the unemployed and underemployed to find productive and sustainable jobs. Given the government’s financial and technical capacity constraints, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) supported the restructuring of the social security system through the Social Security Sector Development Program.

In regard to social participation, the levels of social protection is very low, limited government fiancé can’t support too much, and traditional family culture seriously affected public events. So in the beginning, civil society take active in providing informal social security services and social international organization like UNICEF has made great effort in the development of social Program. In Mongolia, citizens are entitled to receive social welfare from the state. Different social groups will receive varying levels of social welfare and preferential policy, depending on their differences in age, health status, employment opportunities, belonging to vulnerable parts of society, family and marriage status.

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