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RURAL CHILDREN'S EDUCATION IN MONGOLIA

<u>VIDEO</u> <u>AUDIO</u>

NARRATION

BAYARKHUU AND TSENGEL HERD
GOATS IN THE FIELD

On the steppes of western Mongolia, Bayarkhuu and his schoolmate Tsengel herd a tribe of goats in search of better grazing grounds. (7.5)

HERD OF GOATS APPROACH

Bayarkhuu's family owns more than 130 animals. He's expected to play his part in tending to the tribe, especially during the summer months when the goats may roam hundreds of kilometers. (11.5)

BAYARKHUU AND TSENGEL
ENTER A WOODEN ENCLOSURE
FOR ANIMALS

Tsengel's family members are also herders. But they live in a remote region far from town. So she stays at Bayarkhuu's home during the school year, and helps out with the livestock after class. (9.25)

BAYARKHUU & TSENGEL FEED GOATS Bayarkhuu and Tsengel may not remain classmates much longer. At ten, Bayarkhuu still attends school. But as he grows older he will face increasing pressure to drop out and work full time for the family. (12)

BAYARKHUU LOOKS DOWN FROM

Now that the government has privatized ownership

WOODEN FENCE

of cattle, more and more parents want their children to stay involved in the family business. (7)

Bayarkhuu hopes he won't have to choose. (3)

BAYARKHUU ON CAMERA

BAYARKHUU (Mongolian) M

"When you devote yourself only to animal herding you wouldn't know anything but looking after animals. You would miss out on knowledge and education." (9)

NARRATION

CLASSROOM OF YOUNG RURAL STUDENTS

Overall, primary school enrollment is rising in Mongolia. But in rural areas, particularly in the far west, many children find it a struggle to go to class. Drop out rates are much higher here, with boys accounting for nearly three-quarters of those who leave. (14)

SCHOOL SCENES

Many rural schools suffer from poor sanitation and overcrowded dormitories, further discouraging children from staying in school.

Unicef representative, Bertrand Desmoulins. (9.15)

BERTRAND DESMOULINS (English) M

BERTRAND DESMOULINS, UNICEF REPRESENTATIVE, ON CAMERA "Those factors literally push the children outside the school. It is already very difficult for them to be outside their home and family and when they literally have to suffer to be able to study, very often the call to go back to the "ger" is greater than the call for staying in school." (21)

	<u>NARRATION</u>
STUDENTS WALK UP STAIRS	UNICEF is working to improve conditions in schools
	and dormitories, and to offer non-formal education
STUDENTS PLAY CHESS	programs for those who cannot attend school. (7)
SCHOOL BATHROOM	It aims to train dormitory teachers to better handle
	the needs of students, and to equip schools with
	clean water and sanitation systems. (7)
BOY STUDIES	The goal is to help more students like12-year-old
	Munkhjargal, who stays at a dorm in Zavkhan, in the
	western province of Uvs. Munkhjargal wants to
	become a teacher, not a herder like his parents. He
	says the good conditions at school and the dorm
	make it easier to continue his courses. (17)
BOYS RIDE CAMEL	It's an effort to adapt schools to care for a
	community on the move and ensure that all
	children have access to education no matter where
	they call home. (8)
UN LOGO	This report was prepared by Steve Middleton for the

United Nations. (4)