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**TITLE:** Understanding of Grassland Ecosystems under Climate Change and Economic Development Pressures in the Mongolia Plateau

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**ABSTRACT BODY:** The land use and land cover change, especially in the form of grassland degradation, in the Mongolian Plateau, exhibited a unique spatio-temporal pattern that is a characteristic of a mixed stress from economic development and climate change of the region. The social dimension of the region played a key role in shaping the landscape and land use change, including the cultural clashes with economic development, conflicts between indigenous people and business ventures, and exogenous international influences. Various research projects have been conducted in the region to focus on physical degradation of grasslands and/or on economic development but there is a lack of understanding how the social and economic dimensions interact with grassland ecosystems and changes. In this talk, a synthesis report was made based on the most recent workshop held in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, of China, that specifically focused on climate change and grassland ecosystems. The report analyzed the degree of grassland degradation, its climate and social drivers, and coupling nature of economic development and conservation of traditional grassland values. The goal is to fully understand the socio-ecological-economic interactions that together shape the trajectory of the grassland ecosystems in the Mongolia Plateau.

(No Image Selected)

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**INDEX TERMS:** [1632] GLOBAL CHANGE / Land cover change, [1637] GLOBAL CHANGE / Regional climate change, [0439] BIOGEOSCIENCES / Ecosystems, structure and dynamics, [0480] BIOGEOSCIENCES / Remote sensing.

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