

TAKHI REINTRODUCTION IN MONGOLIA

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In 1968, the last Przewalski Horse (*Equus ferus ssp. przewalski*)i was observed in the wild in South-Western Mongolia. Surviving *Takhi* (as the animal is called in Mongolia), descending from only 13 ancestors, has been taken in captivity about a century ago. The Foundation Reserves for the Przewalski Horse (FRPH) together with its Mongolian counterpart MACNE designed and executed a reintroduction programme in the *Hustai* National Park in Central Mongolia, based on an ecosystem approach “*avant la lettre*.” At present, over 250 *Takhi* roam the mountain steppe of *Hustai* National Park. Over 90% of these are born in the wild. As a result of this, Przewalski’s Horse is one of the few species that have been upgraded a category in the Red Data Book of Species (IUCN): from “extinct in the wild” to “critically endangered.” The presentation elaborates on the principles of ecosystem management as endorsed by the CBD, in relation to the management of *Hustai* National Park and its *Takhi* population.