

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF DESERTIFICATION AND FOREST LAND DEGRADATION IN MEXICO



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- II. Frame of reference
- III. National Forestry Program (PRONAFOR)
- IV. Cross-cutting actions
- V. Conclusions

I. Background

In Mexico, addressing problems of **desertification** in dry lands and also in other ecosystems (**degradation**) is mandated by Law



Desertification: “Loss of productive capacity caused by man in any of the existing ecosystems of the territory”.
General Law for Sustainable Rural Development

Often, desertification and land degradation start with the loss of forest vegetation



II. Frame of reference

70% of the national territory

138 million hectares with
forest vegetation



11 million
people inhabit forest zones

They use natural resources
on a daily basis



45%

of forest land is under owned by *ejidos* and
communities
(collective property)



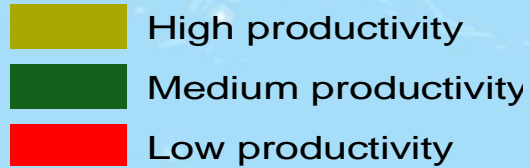
15,500 *ejidos* and indigenous
communities own 63 million hectares
of forest lands

Forestry is the main economic activity in **20%** of *ejidos* and indigenous communities



15 millions hectares have commercial potential

7.5 millions hectares are under use



Use of forest resources in arid and semi-arid zones is done by harvesting large areas



Revenues are often precarious
and seasonal

Overgrazing



Pests and diseases



Wildfires



Land use change



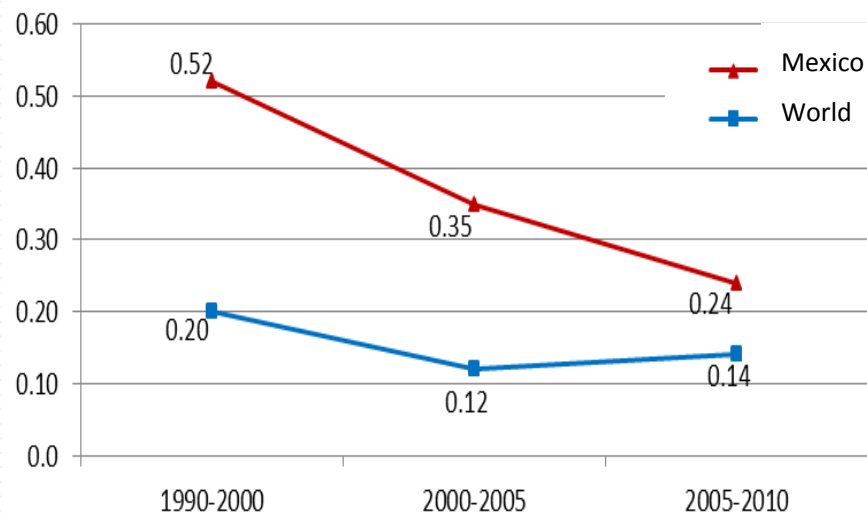
2005 - 2010

Annual deforestation rate of **155,000** hectares

0.24% of the country forest area



Deforestation rate (%)



III. National Forestry Program (PRONAFOR)

Environment Sector

- Water
- Biodiversity
- Natural Protected Areas
- Enforcement of Environmental Law
- Climate Change

NATIONAL FORESTRY PROGRAM 2014-2018 (PRONAFOR)

Integrates actions of
agencies that impact in
forest areas

**National Forestry
Commission**

Other Sectors

- Agriculture and cattle raising
- Social Development
- Development of Indigenous Peoples
- Economy-Financing
- Public Finance-Financing
- Education
- Urban development
- Communications and Transport
- Research

1. Increasing forest production and productivity



2. Ecosystem conservation and restoration



3. Combat and control of forest pests, diseases and fires



4. Forest governance and participation of forest owners



5. Strengthening of Institutions

SEMARNAT

SECRETARÍA DE
MEDIO AMBIENTE
Y RECURSOS NATURALES



Ministry of Environment and
Natural Resources



**National Forestry
Commission**

CONAGUA

COMISIÓN NACIONAL DEL AGUA

**National Water
Commission**



PROCURADURÍA FEDERAL DE
PROTECCIÓN AL AMBIENTE

**Federal Environment
Protection Agency**



INECC

INSTITUTO NACIONAL
DE ECOLOGÍA
Y CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO

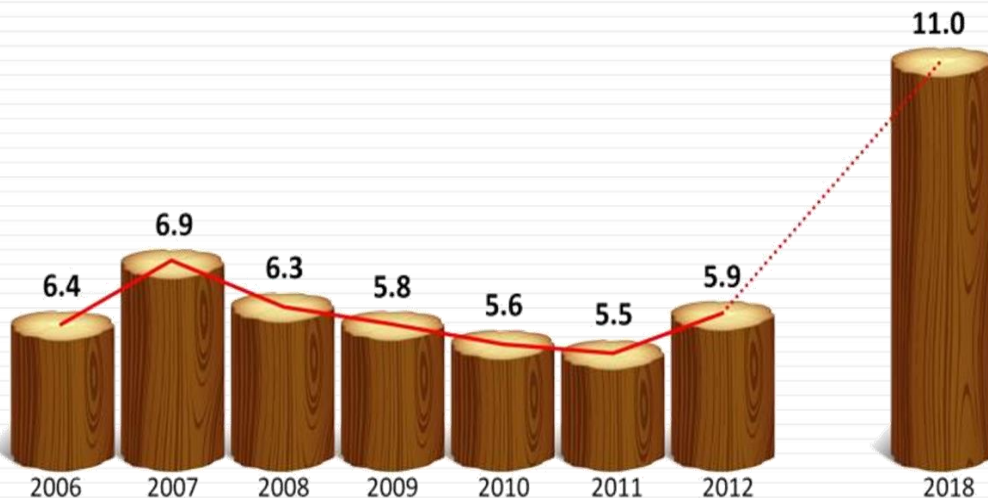
**National Institute of Ecology
and Climate Change**



COMISIÓN NACIONAL DE
ÁREAS NATURALES

**National Natural Protected
Areas Commission**

Increasing timber production to
11 million cubic meters annually



The mark of
responsible forestry



Certification of over
2.5 million hectares by 2018

Conservation of **3.1 million** hectares by 2018,
through schemes of Payment for Environmental Services



Currently, there are over **289 thousand hectares of forest plantations**
Increasing planted area to reach **385,000 hectares**



Soil restoration and reforestation of **1 million hectares** by 2018



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

20 million hectares restored
in APEC region

**Initiative
20x20**

Bringing **20 million**
hectares of degraded land in
Latin America & the Caribbean
into restoration by **2020**

PRONAFOR. Support program for land owners:

- Annual call
- Operational rules with requirements and eligible areas

In 2013 and 2014

636 million dollars

provided to landowners for forest projects



Dissemination



Reception of applications



Project implementation

Mexican Forest Fund: Ensures budget for forestry projects that require more than a year to be completed



IV. Cross-cutting actions



Reinforcing REDD+ and
South-South Cooperation



Community Production Forests
Climate Change and Forest Management
Climate Change in Coastal Watersheds



Community Forest Development



Banco Mundial

Forests and Climate Change



Land and Water
Conservation

**Latin America
Investment Facility**

REDD+ Implementation

Readiness Fund



REDD+ Readiness

National Forest and Soils Inventory 1:250,000

32 Inventories at State Level 1:50,000



National Strategy



Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System

MRV



PRONAFOR gives **higher priority** to areas included in the National Crusade Against Hunger to allocate support for forest projects



“National Crusade Against Hunger”



Evaluations **improve** programs



They are part of **accountability**
in the use of resources

V. Conclusions

Conclusions

- In Mexico, desertification is a broad legal term which includes loss of productive capacity in any ecosystem.
- Loss of forest cover is one of the initial processes of desertification and land degradation, which is relevant for Mexico since 70% of its land area is forested.

- Protection and conservation of forest vegetation is an important strategy for combating Desertification.
- Coordination of public policies and programs is essential to achieve efficiency in resource allocation and effectiveness of actions.

- Securing land tenure and direct involvement of its owners in natural resources management is essential for programs to be successful.



Thank you

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