



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Mexico

REDUCED DEFORESTATION, BETTER LAND MANAGEMENT, AND IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS

CONTEXT

Mexico has committed to meeting a **Net-Zero deforestation rate by 2030**



Mexico lost **91,600 hectares in average** between 2010-2015.



The **agriculture and forestry** sector was responsible for **15% of national GHG emissions** in 2015.



OVERVIEW

USAID supports Mexico’s goal to achieve net-zero deforestation by 2030 and meet its international climate commitments. Nearly half of Mexico is covered by forest – a total of 88 million hectares. Over 60 percent of Mexico’s forests is managed by communities with collective land tenure arrangements, such as *ejidos*, and the rest is on private and public lands. Every year over 90,000 hectares of forests are lost due to a variety of factors, including agricultural expansion, cattle ranching, illegal logging, and urbanization.

Counterpart Government of Mexico agencies include the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the National Forestry Commission, along with local governments. USAID is also engaging with non-governmental stakeholders, including the private sector, environmental NGOs, community forest enterprises, and local communities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. Activities include promoting better land use management and increasing income sources from community-based forest enterprises.

OBJECTIVE: REDUCED DEFORESTATION, IMPROVED LAND MANAGEMENT, AND IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS

USAID’s initiatives address the following objectives: reduce GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; improve the capacity of forest-related businesses and land management entities; and increase the participation of communities in sustainable value chains. In addition, USAID supports the development of markets for forest-carbon credits, improved forest monitoring systems, reducing the negative impacts of forest fires, and supporting regional land management entities.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AS A RESULT OF USAID SUPPORT



National and six state strategies developed for reduced deforestation.

\$60 million leveraged for buying forest carbon credits.



USAID support helped establish three high-tech monitoring sites to measure forest growth and health.



Over six million tons of GHG emissions reduced.



Over 800,000 hectares under improved management.



Over \$10 million of investment leveraged to reduce deforestation.

USAID SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES ACTIVITIES

Alliance for Sustainable Landscape and Markets: (Rainforest Alliance). This activity aims to increase the profitability and competitiveness of community-led sustainable farm and forestry businesses, by improving sustainable production practices in agroforestry and forestlands and providing assistance to develop partnerships with the public and private sector for sustainable sourcing.

Sustainable Management of Community Lands II (Consejo Civil Mexicano para la Silvicultura Sostenible). This activity supports better management of community forests, increasing the capacity of community-based forest enterprises, and reducing deforestation and forest degradation in the states of Campeche, Estado de Mexico, and Quintana Roo.

Mexico: Sustainable Landscapes (U.S. Forest Service). USAID supports strengthening the technical capacity of the Mexican National Forestry Commission to implement a robust and transparent national forest inventory and monitoring system to measure GHG emissions from forests, agriculture, and other land uses.

Stanford University (Stanford University). This activity works with private sector and Government of Mexico in designing effective carbon policy and business solutions. It also works with the incoming federal administration to support the development of forest-carbon credits as part of a national emission trading system in Mexico.

Small Projects Assistance (U.S. Peace Corps). USAID provides resources for volunteers to provide technical assistance and build capacity of Mexican institutions and individuals to better manage forest resources and implement a range of local environmental activities.

Communities and Renewable Energy (Iniciativa Climática de Mexico). This activity identifies and promotes best practices to mitigate social conflict associated with the development of energy projects; contributes to strengthening the legal, institutional, and public policy framework; and strengthens the capacities in all sectors to use best practices for more participatory planning of energy projects in Mexico.

Sustainable Landscapes Development Credit Authority, Implementers (FINDECA and Logra). Through loan guarantees totaling up to \$25 million, this activity aims to expand access to credit to small-holders (individuals and businesses) in Mexico to develop sustainable agricultural activities, livestock-ranching, and forestry-management activities.