



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Mexico

CLIMATE CHANGE

FACT SHEET

CONTEXT



15 million hectares have been **degraded** in the last **20 years**.



Mexico lost an average of **280,000+ hectares** of forest per year in the last **3 years**.



Deforestation and **degradation** are especially severe in **Campeche, Yucatan, Quintana Roo** and **Chiapas**.

OVERVIEW

Mexico is a critical net carbon sink for the world. Nearly half of Mexico is covered by forests, which host 10 percent of the world’s biodiversity. Due to agriculture expansion, cattle ranching, illegal logging, fires and urban expansion, Mexico loses 280 thousand hectares of forest per year. USAID supports the Government of Mexico’s goal to achieve net-zero deforestation by 2030.

USAID is assisting Mexico in addressing illegal logging and reducing its greenhouse gas emissions through economic incentives, and is also partnering with the private sector to help small farmers integrate into markets that value good stewardship of the environment. We partner with the Government of Mexico, non-governmental stakeholders - including the private sector, environmental NGOs, community forest enterprises, and local communities in the states of Campeche, Chiapas, Jalisco, Oaxaca, and Quintana Roo . USAID is expanding the reach of nature-based climate solutions in the agriculture, land-use, and forestry sectors, and advancing climate-friendly energy initiatives.

In the energy sector, USAID reduces greenhouse gas emissions sub-nationally by improving energy efficiency measures in the building and transportation sectors and reducing short-lived climate pollutants, helping Mexico on its pathway toward net-zero emissions after 2030.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AS A RESULT OF USAID SUPPORT



Mobilized **\$17 Million USD** for **sustainable landscape purposes** from local and international partners, including **23 loans** through local financial providers.



Communities generated **\$1.6 million USD** from the sale of forest carbon credits.



Reduced, sequestered, or avoided over 1.66 million metric tons of **greenhouse gas emissions** in Mexico (equivalent to 344,000 gas-powered cars being driven for a year).



17,000 people with **improved livelihoods**.

USAID CLIMATE ACTIVITIES

Sustainable Prosperous Communities (The Nature Conservancy) \$31m, 2021-2026. Sustainable Prosperous Communities (SPC) reduces greenhouse gas emissions in areas with a high threat of deforestation in southern Mexico. The program strengthens the capacity of smallholder producers to better access markets along selected sustainable value chains including coffee, timber, cocoa, and ecotourism.

Southern Mexico - Generating Employment and Sustainability (SURGES) (Palladium International): \$29m, 2022-2027. The goal of the project is to mobilize \$250m in investment and sales to support sustainable growth in southern Mexico. In addition, the activity will facilitate strategic alliances between public, private and civil society actors to collaboratively identify solutions to constraints to finance and market access.

Partnership for Net Zero Cities (RTI International): \$24m, 2022-2027. Net Zero Cities aims to reduce GHG emissions at the subnational level in Mexico. It will improve energy efficiency in the buildings and transport sectors, as well as by reducing short-lived climate pollutants in five of Mexico's largest cities. Net Zero Cities will mobilize \$550 million in investment, and reduce or avoid 17.35 MtCO₂e, equivalent to over 3.3 million gasoline powered passenger vehicles driven for over one year.

Sustainable Landscapes Ventures (Conservation International) \$9m (USAID) / \$2m (leveraged funds), 2020-2025. Sustainable Landscapes Ventures mobilizes resources to enable farmers to implement solutions that reduce deforestation, forest degradation, grow local economies, and overcome financial barriers and catalyze commercial investments in sustainable supply chains that preserve forests and improve livelihoods.

Sustainable Management of Community Lands II (Consejo Civil Mexicano para la Silvicultura Sostenible) \$4.2m (USAID) / \$4.2m (leveraged funds), 2018-2023. 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.

Alliance for Sustainable Landscape and Markets: (Rainforest Alliance) \$4.1m (USAID) / \$4.4m (leveraged funds), 2018-2023. This activity aims to increase the profitability of community-led sustainable farm and forestry businesses, by improving sustainable production practices to develop partnerships for sustainable sourcing.

CO₂munitario (Pronatura Mexico) \$4.1m (USAID) / \$4.1m (leveraged funds), 2019-2024. By applying the Climate Action Reserve's forest carbon protocol, the CO₂munitario will certify 202,000 hectares to generate forest carbon credits in different states. Program components include the generation of carbon credits, public policy and market strengthening, and organizational capacity strengthening.

Sustainable Landscapes and Forest Transparency (U.S. Forest Service) \$4m, 2020-2023. USAID with the U.S. Forest Service will build the capacity of the GOM in forest management and governance by strengthening Mexico's forest management system to improve the transparency and legality of forest products, reduce illegal logging, and improve sustainable practices at the community level.

Applying the "LandScale Assessment Framework" in Mexico (Rainforest Alliance) \$1.3m (USAID) / \$1.1m (leveraged funds), 2019-2023. This program has three objectives: 1) Establish a local committee with local partners to jointly plan, invest, act, and adaptively manage for long-term sustainability outcomes in one landscape; 2) Create new financial and regulatory incentives that support the application and replication of landscape-scale sustainability; and 3) Engage the finance, public and private sectors to deepen investment in landscape-scale sustainability aspects.