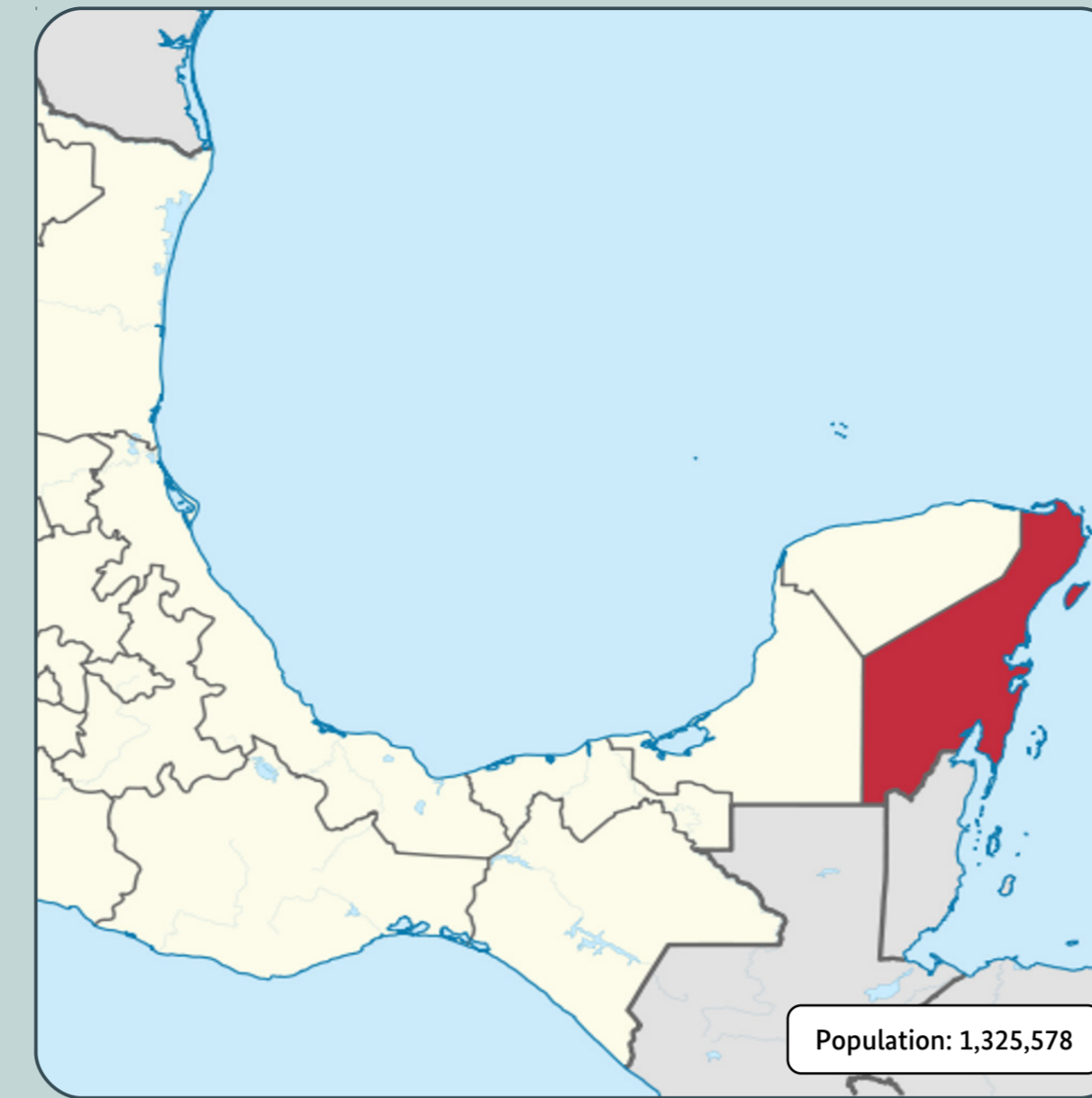


Quintana Roo Biodiversity conservation in a highly touristic state



Quintana Roo is located in Southeastern Mexico, on the Yucatan Peninsula.

It is part of the Mesoamerican Reef. It has more than 50 coral species, and its coral reefs are shelters for more than 500 fish species, marine mammals, and other marine vertebrates. It is also part of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor, a multinational initiative to conserve and protect the ecological connectivity between countries of Central America. 70% of the total surface is covered with tropical forest. In addition, it is home to the Mayan culture, one of the most diverse and important of Mexico.

The main economic activity is tourism, which has increased pressure on ecosystem conversion and loss, particularly mangroves that buffer the coast line against hurricanes. The government of Quintana Roo developed environmental policy instruments for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Now a days, there are 8 Ecological Zoning Programs, covering a surface of 920,00 hectares.



Acronyms

CONABIO	National Commission for Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity
SEMAQROO	State Ministry of Ecology and Environment
LFA	Environmental Operation License
CDA	Certificate of Environmental Performance
ENAREDD+	National Strategy of Mexico for REDD+ greenhouse gas
GHG	Greenhouse gas
CTC-REDD+ -QROO	Technical Advisory Council of Emission Reduction by Deforestation and Forest Degradation of Quintana Roo

A



This Program has the main goal to reduce the impact on the environment caused by the daily activities of these entities, at the same time that reduce the operating costs.

This Program was drawn up for administrative bodies, and decentralized entities of the State, and it has the main goal to reduce the impact on the environment caused by the daily activities of these entities, at the same time that reduce the operating costs. Performing these actions are expected to have multiplier effects on employees and society, being an example of application of eco-efficient practices, and promoting their replication individually, and thus create environmental awareness in the use of resources.

The program also seeks to positively impact the behavior of green markets, to gradually become the most preferred by the society, and thus promote the supply of goods and services that their inputs and processes production protect the environment and help to maintain the structure and processes of ecosystems.

It is planned to be carried out through:

- Training and broadcasting
- Promoting the efficient and rational use of energy and water
- Having a responsible consumption of office materials and green purchasing
- Having an integrated waste management.



Solid waste separation in government offices. Image provided by Armando May Interán

- 1. Including environmental targets within the State Development Plan
- 2. Drawing up the State Sectorial Program for the Protection of Environment and Natural Resources
- 4. Drawing up the State Program of Environmental Management System of Quintana Roo

B



SEMAQROO performs corrective actions of environmental regulation through environmental management instruments.

Because the fixed emissions are a major cause of pollution in the State, the State Ministry of Ecology and Environment (SEMAQROO) performs corrective actions of environmental regulation through environmental management instruments such as the Environmental Operation License (LFA) and the Certificate of Environmental Performance (CDA).

Through these instruments, companies are required to submit an analysis of their emissions produced by their activities; this analysis must be performed by evaluation units accredited by the Mexican Accreditation Entity (EMA).

With this analysis, the SEMAQROO gets a monitoring of pollutant emissions to air, water and soil, and determines the compliance of companies with Mexican Official Standards.

If stationary sources do not meet the parameters of environmental standards, the necessary corrective measures should be carried out, in order to correct the parameters outside of the standards.



Fuel station inspection. Image provided by Diego Cano

- 7. Establishment of closed seasons for marine invertebrates and vertebrates
- 8. Control of fixed emissions through environmental management instruments

D



ENAREDD+ is the public policy planning document that seeks to mitigate of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The National Strategy of Mexico for REDD+ (ENAREDD+) is the public policy planning that seeks to mitigate of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, through policies, measures and actions that should be incorporated into planning instruments for sustainable development. ENAREDD+ seeks to join efforts of different government agencies and civil society actors, federal, state and municipal levels.

Therefore, the SEMAQROO created the Technical Advisory Council of Emission Reduction by Deforestation and Forest Degradation (CTC-REDD+ -QROO). The CTC consists of a wide range of representatives from different groups such as:

- Civil society organizations
- Producer organizations
- Expert associations
- Academic institutions.

Its goal is to develop and implement sustainable development policies, to achieve economic and social development without compromising natural capital and human wellbeing of future generations.



Workshop of carbon capture monitoring in the municipality of Felipe Carrillo Puerto. Image provided by Yenn

- 15. State implementation of National Strategy of Mexico for REDD+ (ENAREDD+)
- 15. State implementation of National Strategy of Climate Change

Not all five Strategic Goals are covered due to the following reasons:

Although Quintana Roo is internationally recognized for its biological diversity, in particular for the presence of highly biodiverse coral reefs, it is necessary to make more environmental policy instruments. It is important to mention that it will be the host state for the Thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of CBD (COP-13).

IMPRINT

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AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS STRATEGIC GOALS

A Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

- Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.
- Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.
- Target 3: By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio-economic conditions.
- Target 4: By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.

B Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

- Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.
- Target 6: By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.
- Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.
- Target 8: By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.
- Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.
- Target 10: By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.

C To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

- Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.
- Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.
- Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.

D Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

- Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.
- Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.
- Target 16: By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.

E Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

- Target 17: By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.
- Target 18: By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.
- Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.
- Target 20: By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.