



The Mexican-German Climate Alliance: Contributing to Coherent Energy and Climate Policies

Global challenge: Transition to a low-carbon economy

Germany and Mexico are among the world's top ten emitters of greenhouse gases (GHG). Similarly to Germany, Mexico has set itself ambitious mitigation and adaptation goals and has assumed a pioneering role among developing countries in terms of climate policy. Mexico's nationally determined contribution (NDC) foresees an unconditional 22% reduction in GHG emissions relative to business-as-usual levels by 2030. Conditional upon international support, it is envisaged that a reduction of up to 36% will be achieved.

Mexico is highly dependent on fossil fuels and its energy sector accounts for almost 70% of total GHG emissions. The transition to a low-carbon energy system will therefore be key to ensuring it meets its mitigation objectives. The country initiated an energy reform in 2014, liberalising the oil, gas and electricity sectors and taking further steps to phase out fossil fuel subsidies. Linking energy policy more closely with climate objectives, the Energy Transition Act provides the new legal basis for promoting sustainable energy. In November 2016, Mexico was the first emerging country to submit a long-term climate strategy for the period up to 2050.

Our approach: Working hand in hand against climate change

If we are to be successful in tackling climate change, effective policies, innovative approaches and joint activities from all parts of society are needed. The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, operating on behalf of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), has been supporting Mexico's climate change and sustainable energy efforts through different projects. GIZ is implementing the project "Mexican-German Climate Change Alliance", working at national and sub-national level as well as with civil society and the private sector in two main areas.

Promoting NDC implementation at all levels

The Mexican Government is currently working on a NDC implementation plan which will define measures for achieving the targets set out in its NDC. The Mexican-German Climate Alliance is supporting the Mexican Government in the implementation of its NDC. The project is helping to strengthen capacities at all levels in the field of developing, implementing and monitoring climate-oriented action plans and instruments.

Disseminating innovative approaches for climate protection

The Mexican-German Climate Alliance organises high-level dialogue events, expert workshops and study trips with the aim of disseminating innovative and effective climate policy approaches and enhancing networking, cooperation and mutual learning.

Selected outcomes linked to the Mexican energy sector

Mexican-German cooperation on renewable energy (RE) and energy efficiency (EE)

The Mexican-German Climate Change Alliance facilitated the cooperation of the state of Rhineland-Palatinate and Mexican state of Aguascalientes in the fields of RE, EE and environmental technologies. Following delegation visits to Mexico and Germany, the two countries signed a Joint Declaration of Intent to consolidate their cooperation in January 2015.

Supporting the development of Mexico's emissions registry

As part of the new National Emissions Registry, the first emission reports are to be provided by the private sector. The Mexican-German Climate Alliance supported the Mexican communications strategy, which included guidebooks and training concepts aimed at raising awareness among private sector actors on the goals and requirements of the Registry.

Setting up an Energy Agency for Mexico City based on German experiences

The project initiated expert dialogue between the Berlin Energy Agency and the Government of Mexico City regarding the development of a similar agency in Mexico City. Among other things, the experts examined the topics

of institutional design and financial sustainability. In line with climate, energy and development strategies, Mexico City's new Energy Agency addresses issues such as EE and RE more systematically and works together with the private sector.

Outlook: New IKI projects aiming to enhance support for effective energy and climate policies

Strengthening the coherence of energy and climate policies in Mexico

Experiences gained in the context of the project so far have highlighted the need to further align Mexico's energy and climate policies and strengthen their coherence. To this end, the project 'Strengthening the coherence of climate and energy policy in Mexico' supports relevant stakeholders in the harmonisation of their energy and climate policies. It will start in September 2017.

Preparing the establishment and implementation of an Emissions Trading System (ETS) in Mexico

Mexico is currently preparing to introduce a national ETS. The IKI project "Preparation of an Emissions Trading System" in Mexico, starting in September 2017, will assist in creating the institutional framework and technical capacities among public and private actors that are required to establish and implement an ETS in Mexico.

Supporting climate mitigation in Mexican cities

Mexico faces rapid urbanisation processes and urban sprawl, accompanied by rising energy demand and GHG emissions. This constitutes a major challenge for urban policy-making. Since August 2017, the IKI project 'Climate protection in Mexican urban policy' is supporting climate-friendly urban policy and planning in pilot cities throughout Mexico.

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