



MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY FOR WELL-BEING

As the core topic of the COP 13, Mexico proposes “mainstreaming of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for well-being in sectoral and inter-sectoral plans, programs and policies”.

Mainstreaming aims to reduce, prevent and mitigate negative impacts and generate positive effects on biodiversity and ecosystem services; focusing on productive activities in order to contribute to sustainable development. The main sectors of interest at COP 13 are four:

Agriculture: promote knowledge, use and management of agricultural ecosystems; enhance their productivity and diversification; integrate positive incentives for biodiversity in agricultural production; and reduce agricultural pollution.

Fisheries: reduce overfishing, improve fishing methods making them more selective in order to avoid bycatch, strengthen sustainable fishing, promote public policies to generate value chains and maintain the balance between economic benefits and biodiversity conservation.

Forestry: promote the importance of forests as reservoirs of terrestrial biodiversity and providers of goods and ecosystem services, such as: mitigation and adaptation to climate change; reduction of desertification, land

degradation and natural disaster risks and; develop better and diversified forestry management practices that include incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, while avoiding the uncontrolled and unsustainable use of forests.

Tourism: establish sustainable tourism practices; promote tourism as a financial strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services; and promote public awareness.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN COP 13?

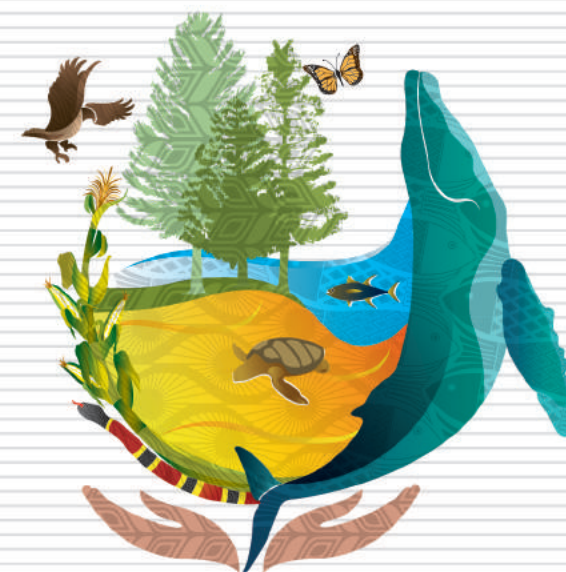
Almost ten thousand representatives of CBD Parties, observers, international organizations and relevant stakeholders will meet in Cancun, to achieve agreements to strengthen the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Furthermore, around 200 Ministers of Environment and other sectors from all over the world will meet in a high-level dialogue to share successful case studies from national experiences focused on mainstreaming biodiversity in plans, programs and policies.

Simultaneously, side events -such as expositions, presentations, exhibitions, fairs and forums- will be held (Business, Civil Society, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, Cities and Subnational Governments, amongst others).

COP13-COPMOP8-COPMOP2 CANCUN, MEXICO 2016

From December 4 to 17



MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY FOR WELL-BEING
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO
THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY (COP 13)

EIGHTH TO THE CARTAGENA
PROTOCOL (COP-MOP 8)

SECOND TO THE NAGOYA
PROTOCOL (COP-MOP 2)





WHAT DOES BIODIVERSITY MEAN AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

“Biological diversity or biodiversity is the variety of life”.

Biodiversity comprises living organisms that inhabit the planet, as well as the diversity within species (genes), and the ecosystems of which they are part of.

It also refers to the associations and interactions among species, and the evolutionary processes that influence them all.

All living organisms are related, and life as a whole depends on biodiversity.

Biodiversity is closely linked to human well-being through the goods and services it provides, such as oxygen, water, food, energy, medicines, fibers, raw materials, as well as protection against pests and diseases, among others.

Mexico is a megadiverse country that hosts around 10% of the world’s known species, most of which are endemic.

BIODIVERSITY CRISIS

Our world is facing an environmental crisis that compromises the well-being of present and future generations. The main drivers of biodiversity loss are:

1. Ecosystems loss, degradation and fragmentation;
2. overexploitation of species and ecosystem services;
3. pollution of air, soil and water;
4. climate change and;
5. introduction of invasive alien species.

WHAT IS THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY?

Also known as CBD, it has its origin in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development the “Earth Summit”, that took place in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

With 196 Parties, CBD is regarded as the most important global instrument to promote the conservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.

It has two Protocols that support its implementation:

1. **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, in force since 2003.**
2. **Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, in force since 2014.**

The Nagoya- Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety will shortly enter into force.

WHAT IS THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP) OF THE CBD?

The COP is the main governing body of CBD. It brings together the representatives of all its signatory Parties and key stakeholders who are in charge of promoting the implementation of the Convention.

Since the Convention entered into force in December 1993, the COP has celebrated 12 ordinary meetings and has adopted 367 decisions.

Mexico will host the Thirteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 13), the Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol (COP-MOP 8), and the Second Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (COP-MOP 2). These meetings will be held from 4-17 December 2016 in Cancun, Quintana Roo.

Mexico’s President, Lic. Enrique Peña Nieto, and his administration are committed to provide an ideal setting to facilitate negotiations towards the achievement of the objectives of the Convention, its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets.

MEXICO’S ROLE WITHIN THE CBD

Since its inception, Mexico has taken an active role in the Convention, following and complying with CBD’s objectives.

As a megadiverse country, in 2002 Mexico proposed the creation of the Like-Minded Megadiverse Countries (LMMC) group, which guided the negotiations leading to the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol.

To the date, and within its national framework, Mexico has implemented several instruments for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, among which the following stand out:

- **The Federal System of Natural Protected Areas that covers over 25 million hectares (12.96% of national territory).**
- **The Payment for Ecosystem Services which covers 3 million hectares.**
- **The establishment of 12, 000 Units of Wildlife Conservation and Management, which cover around 39 million hectares (19.3% of national territory).**
- **Sustainable forestry, though community led programs, forest and plantation certification, as well as reforestation activities.**
- **National strategies on Biodiversity, Plant Conservation, Invasive Species and Islands, among others**
- **Subnational Studies and Strategies on Biodiversity in 22 Federal Entities.**