

Country: Mexico

Agenda Item: The Role of Technology in Combating the Climate Crisis

The United Mexican States, mostly known as Mexico, is the thirteenth-largest country in the world by land area. The country is in North America. It is the northernmost country in Latin America and borders the United States of America to the north, and Guatemala and Belize to the southeast; while having maritime boundaries with the Pacific Ocean to the west, the Caribbean Sea to the southeast, and the Gulf of Mexico to the east. Almost all of Mexico lies in the North American Plate, with small parts of the Baja California peninsula on the Pacific and Cocos Plates.

The National Autonomous University of Mexico (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México) was officially established in 1910, and the university became one of the most important institutes of higher learning in Mexico. UNAM provides world class education in science, medicine, and engineering. In recent years, the largest scientific project being developed in Mexico was the construction of the Large Millimeter Telescope (Gran Telescopio Milimétrico, GMT), the world's largest and most sensitive single-aperture telescope in its frequency range. Mexico's IT sector is developing, a top-5 global rank in AI patents. Austrade predicts Mexico's IT spending will grow at a compound annual growth rate of 11 percent over 2011–2015. A bibliographic database for science proudly places Mexico at twenty eighth scientific publications, and thirty fourth considering its value of 134 for the h-index. Both positions are computed for the period of 1996 to 2007. The Inter-Ministerial Commission on Climate Change (CICC) was established in 2005 to mainstream climate change in development policy and is the Designated National Authority (DNA) on climate change and in particular, on Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) in Mexico.

To fight climate change, Mexico ranks 39th overall among the countries assessed, being a low performer in climate action. It also encourages sustainable transportation with electric bus corridors (Mexico City, Guadalajara), bike-sharing systems (e.g., Ecobici) and vehicle emission standards similar to U.S. regulations. However, it regulates methane. Methane is a major issue in oil & gas production and Mexico participates in global methane reduction initiatives and policies to reduce gas flaring and leaks. Unfortunately, Mexico is highly exposed to hurricanes, droughts, and heat caused by climate change. It works on drought monitoring systems, early warning systems for extreme weather and climate-resilient agriculture (water-efficient crops, soil protection).

<https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/>

<https://data.worldbank.org/>

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