

CEC Operational Plan 2011-2012

Project Accomplishments

Irasema Coronado
Executive Director

Council Session, 10-11 July 2013
Los Cabos, Baja California, Mexico



cec.org



CEC Secretariat Staff



Improving Indoor Air Quality to Reduce Exposure to Airborne Contaminants in Alaskan Native Populations and Other Indigenous Communities in North America

Reduced the need for respiratory medical care in Alaskan Native populations by lessening exposure to airborne contaminants in homes

- ✓ Worked with 30 households in four communities in Alaska to reduce concentrations of indoor airborne contaminants that affect the health of children in indigenous communities
- ✓ After home remediation, noted decrease in reported hospital/clinic visits and missed days of school related to respiratory illness
- ✓ Shared lessons learned via a CECTalks webcast on 30 May 2013; reached approximately 260 individuals/organizations, including some in the United Kingdom, Japan and Italy



Partners

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
Association of Council Village
Presidents
Tribal authorities
CDC Arctic Investigations Program
US Department of Housing and Urban
Development

Capacity Building to Improve the Environmental Health of Vulnerable Communities in North America

Provided public access to tools and information to reduce the risk of exposure of vulnerable communities to environmental contamination

- ✓ Completed the *Framework Document: Factors to Consider in Characterizing Vulnerability to Environmental Contamination Across North America*; its development included multi-stakeholder participation via CEC workshops and JPAC meetings
- ✓ Implemented AirNow-International in the state of Nuevo León, Mexico; provided initial installation and training at Mexico's *Sistema Nacional de Información de la Calidad del Aire* (Sinaica)
- ✓ Incorporated the Mexico City's *Sistema de Monitoreo Atmosférico* (Simat) into the AirNow-International community



Partners

Academic institutions

NGOs

Federal and local
environmental and health
government agencies

North American Grasslands: Management Initiatives and Partnerships to Enhance Ecosystem and Community Resilience

Through a continental partnership, ranchers and communities are now sharing an extensive set of management practices to accelerate grassland conservation and sustainable use

- ✓ Established the North American Grasslands Alliance through consultation with over 120 stakeholders
- ✓ Compiled an online repository of 100 beneficial management practices, including 10 case studies and interactive map
- ✓ Held three expert and partner meetings
- ✓ Developed a Partnership Framework document
- ✓ Completed intensive bird monitoring



Partners

Federal and state environment, agricultural, and natural resource agencies

NGOs

Universities

Ranchers' groups

Big Bend-Río Bravo Collaboration for Transboundary Landscape Conservation

A binational coalition of managers, scientists, NGOs, and private conservation partners joined forces to identify conservation priorities in the region, improve the science and ecosystem management of the Rio Grande, and support the creation of sustainable economies for Mexican border communities

- ✓ Prepared a Binational Conservation Assessment for the Big Bend-Río Bravo region
- ✓ Completed a proposal for developing desired future conditions for the Big Bend reach of the Rio Grande/Río Bravo
- ✓ Conducted outreach activities with stakeholders in Mexico and US. Studied sediments and habitat over approximately 160 km of river bank
- ✓ Developed a five-year strategy on binational invasive species' management
- ✓ Eradicated and controlled exotic invasive species along the Rio Grande/Río Bravo; treated 30 km of river bank
- ✓ Conducted ecotourism activities in northern Coahuila communities



Partners

Federal and state
natural resource
agencies

NGOs

Universities

Ranchers groups

North American Invasive Species Network (NAISN)

With the support of the CEC, the North American Invasive Species Network, a consortium of research centers and agencies throughout North America, developed tools to improve data sharing and training to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species

- ✓ Streamlined planning for the North American Invasive Species Network (NAISN) and additional NAISN hubs
- ✓ Improved the tools for information and data sharing on invasive species
- ✓ Developed outreach material on preventing the spread and introduction of invasive species



(www.naisn.org)

Partners

NAISN Consortium
(universities and research
centers for invasive
species)

Conabio

Engaging Communities to Conserve Marine Biodiversity through North American Marine Protected Areas Network

Citizen groups and government agencies now have access to better tools to engage communities and scientists in sustaining healthy oceans through the promotion of marine protected areas

- ✓ Developed two guides for designing marine protected areas networks in a changing climate
- ✓ Produced five films on the benefits of marine protected areas; over 150,000 online views
- ✓ Hosted CECTalks webcast on 28 January 2013, on Tackling Climate Change Impacts in North America's Marine Protected Areas
- ✓ Supported World Ocean Day events at National Geographic, the Smithsonian, Montreal Biodome, and Veracruz Aquarium



Partners

Parks Canada
DFO
NOAA
CONANP
CELC Aquariums
ICES
Universities

Tracking Pollutant Releases and Transfers in North America (North American PRTR Project)

Increased the access to information, awareness and understanding of the sources and handling of pollutants of common concern across North America to support decision-making relative to pollution prevention and reduction

- ✓ Integrated four years of data into *Taking Stock Online* and enhanced tools for data analysis
- ✓ Increased outreach through webinar and video on the use of *Taking Stock Online*
- ✓ Supported stakeholder engagement for activities under the NAPRTR Project
- ✓ Updated the *Action Plan to Enhance the Comparability of PRTR Data in North America*
- ✓ Conducted a multi-year analysis of PRTR data and of pollution prevention and reduction efforts to include in the *Taking Stock Report*
- ✓ The PRTR project is a model of regional collaboration for international organizations (UNITAR, OECD, CCAD)



Partners

Multi-stakeholder
Consultative Group: industry,
NGOs, academia,
government, general public

Approaches for Identifying and Tracking Chemicals in Commerce in North America

Tracking of chemicals in commerce is now possible throughout North America and the public has access to an inventory of 5,830 chemicals in Mexico

- ✓ 60 representatives from government, industry, academia and NGO community attended the May 2012 Chemicals Management Forum
- ✓ Published Mexico's national chemicals inventory
- ✓ Completed trilateral comparison of inventories



Partners

Federal environmental and health agencies

Risk Reduction Strategies to Reduce the Exposure to Chemicals of Mutual Concern

Researchers and government experts have joined efforts to develop specific strategies and tools for policy-makers to reduce environmental and health risks associated with chemicals in North America

- ✓ Developed a five-year mercury strategy and explored mercury waste management options
- ✓ Updated the dioxin/furan emissions inventory in Mexico; completed key documents related to dioxins and furans
- ✓ Characterized PBDEs/brominated flame retardants in landfills and biosolids in Mexico; studied available techniques, management practices and alternatives to these substances
- ✓ Closed out the lindane and hexachlorocyclohexane North American Regional Action Plans (NARAP)



Partners

Federal environmental and health agencies

Universities and research institutions in Mexico

Environmental Monitoring and Assessment of Chemicals of Mutual Concern

With the support from and sharing of best practices in Canada and the United States, Mexico has enhanced its capacity and national program for the integration of an environmental and monitoring network throughout North America

- ✓ Established three monitoring sites in Mexico (total of seven to date) and one mercury monitoring site in Yucatán, Mexico
- ✓ Validated and updated sampling and analytical protocols
- ✓ Developed a microsite for sharing information regarding the Mexican monitoring activities with stakeholders
- ✓ Conducted two training courses for Mexican laboratory technicians and two validation exercises within Mexican labs to ensure compliance with sampling and analysis protocols in Mexico
- ✓ Developed a human biomonitoring program in Mexico
- ✓ Established environmental indicators on a regional level to collaborate on a North American approach to SAICM



Partners

Federal environmental and health agencies and labs
Universities and research institutions in Mexico

Enhancing Environmental Law Enforcement in North America

Created a unique forum for Canada, Mexico and the US to share information and expertise in cooperative efforts to curb illegal international trade in wildlife and environmentally regulated materials

- ✓ Delivered the Notice and Consent Electronic Data Exchange System that leads to modification of Annex III of the La Paz Agreement between Mexico and the US on transboundary movements of hazardous wastes
- ✓ Improved trilateral collaboration on environmental law enforcement: seized 256 tons of non-compliant shipments of SLABs in Mexico; imposed C\$80,000 in fines for hunters attempting to illegally export polar bear fur to Mexico
- ✓ Provided a platform and training for intelligence analysis
- ✓ Trained 20 officials in the use of electronic media for investigations
- ✓ Delivered online training on hazardous waste and ODS in Mandarin language
- ✓ Presented the book on *Environmental legislations in North America*, co-published with UNAM



Partners

Environment Canada
Semarnat, Profepa
US EPA, US FWS
Customs
Ad-hoc officials

Improving Comparability of Emissions Data, Methodologies and Inventories in North America

Provided baseline information to achieve reliable and comparable GHG emissions data and information that can be shared across the region

- ✓ Published the Comprehensive Assessment of the Comparability of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and Black Carbon Emissions Inventories in North America
- ✓ Provided input for the development of cooperative work addressing black carbon under the 2013-2014 OP



Ecosystem Carbon Sources and Storage: Information to Quantify and Manage for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions

Improved information and models on land cover change and landscape-level carbon accounting are now being used to better manage GHG emissions associated with forest degradation and deforestation

- ✓ Developed science-based decision support models, data and tools that quantify the impacts of alternative forest and land management options on the carbon balance of North American forests
- ✓ Assessed forest disturbances on carbon modelling
- ✓ Created comprehensive land cover and land cover change data



Partners

CFS, CCRS, NR-CAN

USFS, USGS

Conabio, Conafor, Inegi

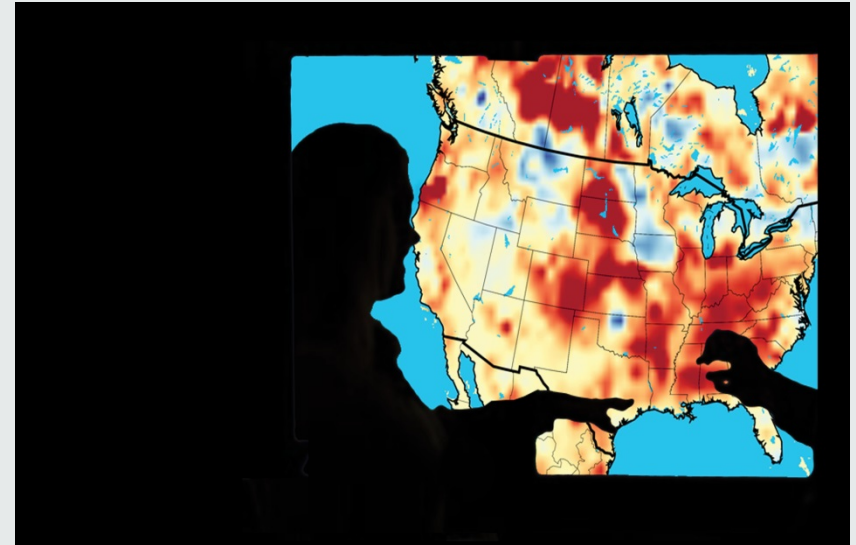
University of British Columbia

University of Maryland

North American On-line, Interactive Informational Platform on Climate Change

Developed tools providing efficient access to up-to-date information to support decisions on climate change mitigation initiatives

- ✓ Helped advance climate change mitigation objectives
- ✓ Shared information to strengthen capacities in addressing climate change
- ✓ Completed needs assessment and platform design
- ✓ Developed the Platform's database and Web services structure



Improving Conditions for Green Building Construction in North America

Highlighted best practices in the areas of green building financing, policy and workforce training; suggested steps needed to foster a North American shift towards a more sustainable and low impact built environment

- ✓ Completed reports on financing, policy and workforce in the North American green building sector
- ✓ Increased capacity in Mexico to harmonize indicators of energy efficiency in commercial buildings
- ✓ Conducted work on an online repository of green building information and a review of green building systems and programs
- ✓ Hosted CECTalks event to share project information (23 May 2013)



Partners

Academics and technical experts
Private-sector developers
Builders
Financial advisors
Governments

Improving the Economic and Environmental Performance of the North American Automotive Industry Supply Chain

A network of industry partners came together to share best practices and innovation on ways to lower the environmental impact of the supply chain, and thereby creating economic opportunities throughout the manufacturing process

- ✓ Established a new North American Suppliers' Partnership platform/website
- ✓ Increased information sharing and best practices between partners
- ✓ Held Summit on Accelerating Innovation to Drive Sustainable Automotive Manufacturing Growth across North America (Detroit, Michigan)
- ✓ Hosted CECTalks event on increasing sustainability in the auto sector (26 June 2013)



Partners

Private sector automobile manufacturers
Parts/components suppliers
Chemicals manufacturers
Automotive trade associations
Governments

Sound Management of Electronic Wastes in North America

Raised awareness and shared information on areas pertinent to environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life electronic products; created a forum for understanding the transboundary movements of used and end-of-life computers and monitors in and from North America

- ✓ Completed a needs analysis for training in small and medium-size recyclers and refurbishers
- ✓ Delivered training materials on environmentally sound management
- ✓ Brought together around 100 enterprises for environmentally sound management training
- ✓ Completed the report on flows of used and end-of-life computers and monitors in/from North America



Partners

Environment Canada

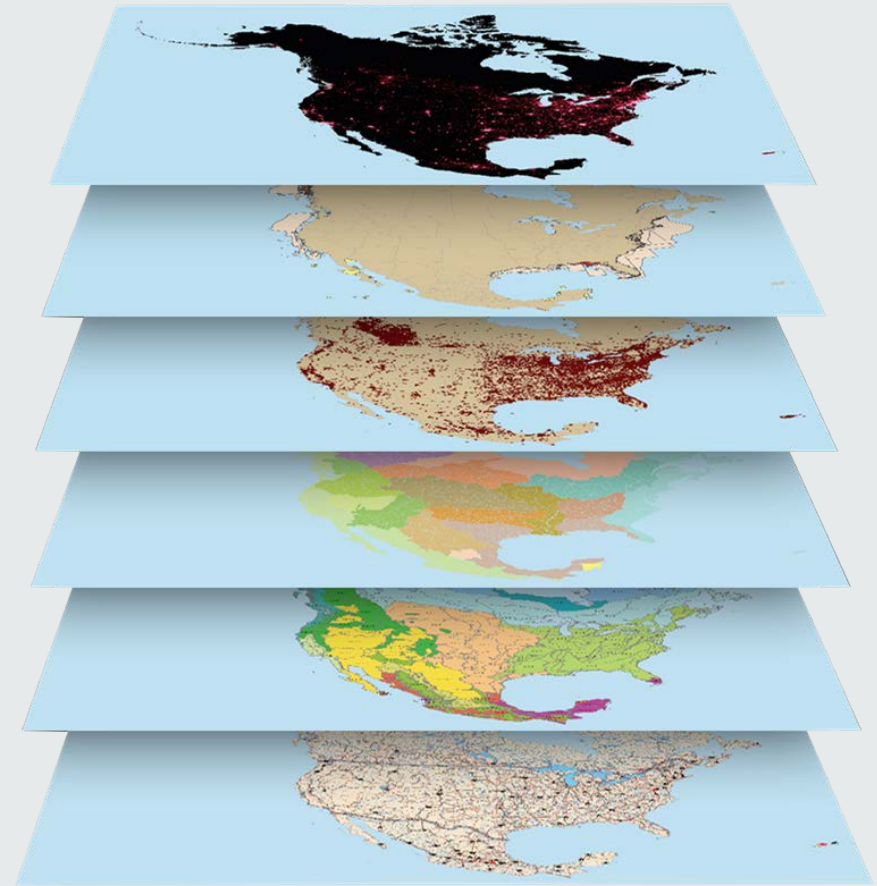
INECC

US EPA

North American Environmental Atlas

Visualizing continental environmental issues and trends through maps and data contributes to solving North America's environmental challenges

- ✓ Added several new map layers and datasets that depict the status and trends of cross-cutting environment issues; over 35,000 page views/downloads
- ✓ Participated in three outreach events
- ✓ Presented tools to map and identify vulnerable systems and estimate future change at JPAC meeting in Mérida (December 2012)



Partners

NR-CAN

Inegi

USGS

Article 13 Report:

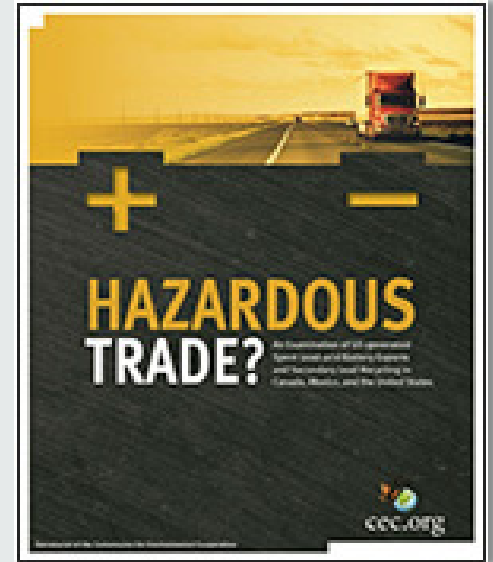
Hazardous Trade? An Examination of US-generated Spent Lead-acid Battery Exports and Secondary Lead Recycling in Mexico, the United States and Canada

✓ FINDINGS INCLUDE:

1. Uneven functional levels of environmental and health protection in Canada, Mexico and the United States
2. Gaps in the regulatory framework, notably in Mexico
3. Data reliability and compliance issues for transboundary shipments of SLABs across North America

✓ RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE:

1. Even the functional levels in environmental and health protection across North America
2. Improve trade compliance efforts – effectively track SLABs trade in North America
3. Close information and performance gaps – e.g., licensing, monitoring emissions, and reporting performance data
4. Ensure accurate and comparable information on lead emissions
5. Support the adoption of best practices
6. Foster regional cooperation and technical assistance through the CEC, or any appropriate venue to foster cooperation



SEM Accomplishments

- ✓ Secretariat initiated the new Online Portal and collaborated on its completion with the Parties
- ✓ Improved the timeliness of determinations and is now issuing determinations in accordance with target deadlines
- ✓ Processed four new submissions
- ✓ Published two factual records; completing work on three more
- ✓ Provided critical support to the Parties in their SEM modernization efforts
- ✓ Issued numerous determinations since last Session: two Article 14(1)(2) requests for a response from the Party; two Article 14(1) requests for revision; one Article 14(1) dismissal
- ✓ Improved outreach to introduce the process to new communities, and is increasing resource efficiency and effectiveness



NAPECA



North American Partnership for
Environmental Community Action

Alianza de América del Norte
para la Acción Comunitaria Ambiental

Partenariat nord-américain pour
l'action communautaire en environnement

- ✓ Council launched first Call for Proposals in June 2011; received 500 applications
- ✓ Awarded 19 grants in early 2012, totaling C\$1.4M
- ✓ New Call for Proposals to be launched at this Council session
- ✓ C\$1.2M are available for grants in this second round

Questions?

