

JPAC Meeting in Cancun: 7-8 Nov 2006

Public Comments

- There is an enormous amount of work to be done in North America. The CEC should prioritize its activities and concentrate on areas that others cannot address.
- Since Kyoto was not ratified by the three countries, we recommend a carbon sequestering mechanism be included in the workplan.
- University [educational] structures should be used to talk about sustainable development. Efforts should be coordinated among the three countries' leading universities, working from the ground up to teach basic principles and promote their applications.
- Draft agreements between universities and local institutions, generating reports while building capacities. The program should be grounded at the local level, effectively applying elements of local capacities.
- Promote new educational models and innovations leading to social benefits. Propose sustainable development projects for specific regions.
- The program should include timelines and data goals.
- Water is an ever more important topic. It should be regarded as a financial resource.
- Use complementary approaches [in dealing with freshwater]. Urge North America to create assessment or watershed units and to continue planning and action.
- Promotion of renewable energy alternatives. Most energy [sources, i.e., fuels] are consumed by mobile sources. We should consider measures to make vehicles more efficient. Analyze transportation issues and the use of biofuels.
- We urge the CEC not to abandon the substantial work on biodiversity, particularly that on marine and terrestrial protected areas. Concerning the map of Mexican watersheds: urge the use of this as a succinct unit. With assessment of watershed units: triage those that are not at risk and pick the ones where the CEC can make a difference. Move towards planning and action.