

# Operational Plan 2011-2012

Presentation to JPAC  
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# Strategic Plan 2010-2015

February 2010	Three scoping meetings (one per strategic priority)
March 2010	Parties and Secretariat prepared 1 <sup>st</sup> draft SP
April-June 2010	Parties reviewed and finalized draft SP
29 July 2010	Final draft SP sent to JPAC
17 August 2010	Council discussed final draft SP and “kick-off” projects
13 October 2010	JPAC provided advice to Council
February 2011	SP approved by the three Parties



## **New strategic initiatives (“kick-off” projects)**

**Approved by Council, August 2010, started September 2010**

- Improving Comparability of Emissions Data, Methodologies and Inventories in North America (project 9)
- Intelligence-led Enforcement for North American E-Waste Activities (project 8)
- Environmental Management of Electronic Wastes (project 8)



## **North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action (NAPECA)**

**Pilot grant program initiated April 2010, three grants awarded**

- Red Lake Band Monitoring Program in Support of the Lake of the Woods Multi-agency International Arrangement
- Implementation of Programs to Reduce/Eliminate Mercury in Hospitals in the State of Sonora, Mexico
- Lake Chapala's Paediatrics Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU)

**Council directed establishment of a NAPECA grant program in 2011**

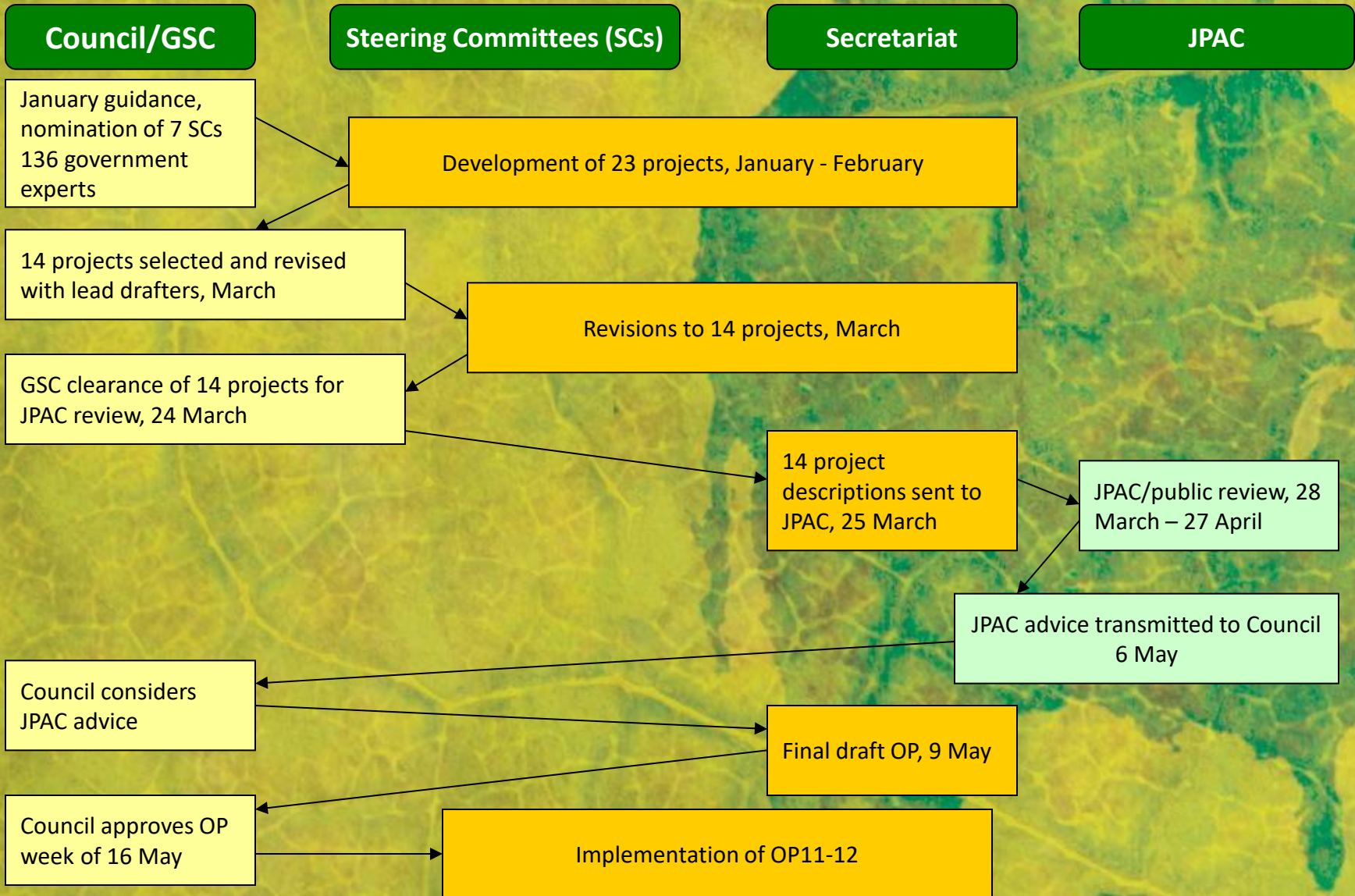
**NAPECA RfP to be launched in near future**



# Project Selection Criteria OP 2011-12

1. Strategic Plan
2. North American scope
3. Results - clear and tangible
4. Agency - CEC most effective
5. Timeline - clear & sunset
6. Identify:
  - a. Links with other projects
  - b. Target audience and application
  - c. Beneficiaries
  - d. Stakeholder involvement

# Operational Planning Process for 2011-2012





## Project 1: Capacity Building to Improve the Environmental Health of Vulnerable Communities in North America

**Outcome: Framework document** for building capacity for individuals and communities throughout North America (focus on vulnerable populations such as children and indigenous communities); possible final outcome might be a web-based tool

**Purpose:** Identification of potential health risks posed by environmental contamination, and actions to mitigate them

**Approach:** Tri-national collaboration with stakeholders, building on existing tools and resources (e.g., EPA's Community Action for Renewed Environment (CARE) Resource Guide, CEC's Taking Stock Online, SMOC monitoring initiatives)



## **Project 2: Improving Indoor Air Quality to Reduce Exposure to Airborne Contaminants Including Fine Particulates and Chemical Compounds in Alaskan Native Populations and Other Indigenous Communities in North America**

**Outcome:** Improved indoor air quality: 30 percent reduction in the concentrations of selected airborne contaminants that affect the health of children in indigenous communities in Alaska

**Purpose:** Reduce the need for respiratory medical care in severely impacted children in Alaska Native populations

**Approach:** A combination of education, no-cost/low-cost and light home modifications (e.g., wood-stove change over, improvements in ventilation)



## Project 3. North American Grasslands: Management Initiatives and Partnerships to Enhance Ecosystem and Community Resilience



### Past CEC work:

- North American Grassland Conservation Strategy 2003
- Species of Common Conservation Concern 2003 (*9/17 grassland species*)
- North American Conservation Action Plans (NACAPs) 2004 (*3/8 grassland species black-tailed prairie dog, burrowing owl, ferruginous hawk*)
- Grassland Priority Conservation Areas 2005/ updated 2010
- *Alianza Ecoregional para la Conservación de Pastizales del Desierto Chihuahuense*





## Project 3. North American Grasslands: Management Initiatives and Partnerships to Enhance Ecosystem and Community Resilience (cont' d)

**Outcome:** Enhance ecological integrity and sustainability of North American grasslands by engaging communities, developing partnerships and sharing sustainable management practices with producers

### **Approach:**

- Develop and share best management practices on sustainable production
- Link regional partnerships
- Monitor bird recovery
- Undertake research on the socio-economic benefits of sustainable conservation practices





## Project 4. Big Bend-Rio Grande Collaboration for Transboundary Landscape Conservation

### Past work:

- Big Bend-Rio Bravo Conservation Cooperative MOU 2010
- Action Plan for the Big Bend-Rio Bravo Protected Areas 2010



### Outcome:

Improve ecosystem functioning and increase the resiliency of the Big Bend-Rio Bravo region

### Approach:

- Expanding existing conservation partnerships
- Develop a binational Conservation Strategy for Rehabilitation of the Rio Grande-Rio Bravo
- Study environmental flows from the Rio Conchos to the Rio Grande-Rio Bravo
- Expand strategic planning and implementation of exotic and invasive species management (*Tamarix ramosissima*, *Diorhabda elongat*, *Sus scrofa*)
- Sustainable economic and social tools for local communities



## Project 4. Big Bend-Rio Grande Collaboration for Transboundary Landscape Conservation – North American Invasive Species Network Component

### Past CEC work:

- Aquatic Invasive Species Risk Assessment Guideline 2009
- Aquatic Invasive Species in the Rio Bravo/Laguna Madre Ecological Region 2010
- North American Invasive Species Network (NAISN) Workshop 2010



### Outcome:

Reduce the risks and impacts from invasive species in North America.

### Approach:

- Enhance network collaboration with NAISN
- Implement community-based prevention and management of invasive species



# Sound Management of Chemicals

## Outcome:

Improved trilateral capacity to manage risks posed by chemicals of mutual concern

## Approaches:

- Establishing **compatible approaches for identifying and tracking chemicals** in commerce in North America
- Implementing **risk reduction strategies** to reduce the exposure to chemicals of mutual concern
- Using a **regional monitoring approach** for health and environment



## Project 5. Approaches for Identifying and Tracking Chemicals in Commerce in North America

### Past work:

- Analysis of regulatory framework for chemicals management prepared in 2008
- Financial support from the UK government to develop chemicals inventory in Mexico in 2009
- Inventory of chemical imports into Mexico prepared in 2010

### Next Steps:

- Complete work on the Mexican National Chemicals Inventory
- Enhanced compatibility of national inventories for more informed risk management decisions and increased transparency
- Develop the North American Chemicals Conference



## Project 6. Risk Reduction Strategies to Reduce the Exposure to Chemicals of Mutual Concern

### Past work:

- North American Regional Action Plans (NARAP) completed or near completion: Chlordane, PCBs, DDT, Mercury, Lindane
- Dioxins/Furans strategy approved
- Brominated Flame Retardants (BFRs) were examined

### OP 2011-12:

- Continue risk evaluation and management work on dioxins and furans
- Create a mercury strategy based on Mercury Task Force recommendation and conduct risk reduction activities as deemed appropriate
- Finish risk evaluation work on BFRs in Mexico, and as appropriate expand to trilateral risk reduction work on flame retardants
- Conduct pilot studies and actions on identified communities and ecosystems at risk from dioxins
- Effectiveness evaluation of past NARAPs (mercury, PCBs, DDT, chlordane, lindane)



## Project 7. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment of Chemicals of Mutual Concern

### Past work:

- 3 environmental monitoring sites (PRONAME) now operating in Mexico: Valle del Yaqui, Ría Celestún and Manantlán
- Trinational biomonitoring studies for POPs and integrated blood/milk data from Mexico

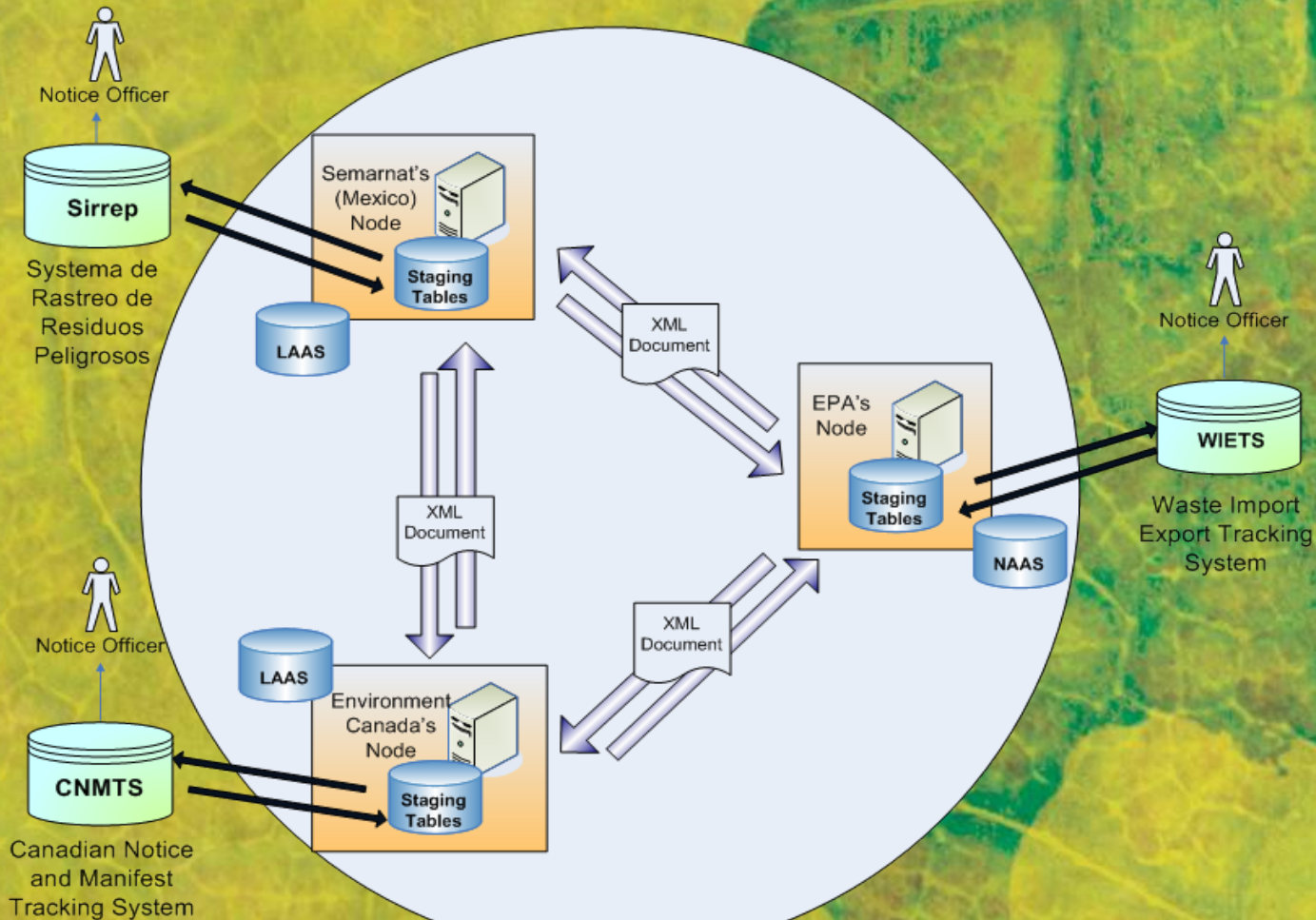
### OP 2011-12:

- Enhance the coverage of PRONAME in Mexico by adding three monitoring sites
- Assure the production of high-quality information, compatible and comparable
- Establish a Mexican network of laboratories with reliable and proven analytical capacity for POPs
- Develop a human biomonitoring Program in Mexico
- Develop environmental indicators at a regional level



# Project 8. Enhancing Environmental Law Enforcement in North America

## Hazardous Waste Notice Exchange





## Project 8. Enhancing Environmental Law Enforcement in North America (cont'd)

### Activities in 5 core-areas:

- E-waste
- Ozone-layer depleting substances
- Non-compliant imports
- Hazardous wastes and hazardous materials
- Wildlife

### Avenues for cooperation:

- Information and intelligence sharing
- Sharing of expertise and best practices
- Use of technology to monitor, intercept and deter non-compliance in the region





## Project 9. Improving Comparability of Emissions Data, Methodologies and Inventories in North America

**Outcome:** Comprehensive Assessment of the Comparability of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and Black Carbon Emissions Inventories in North America (in progress)

**Purpose:** Advance climate change mitigation objectives

**Approach:** Sharing of information and methodologies to strengthen capacities in the collection and management of data

RFP posted on the CEC website, closes April 14



## Project 10. Ecosystem Carbon Sources and Storage: Information to Quantify and Manage for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions



### Past CEC work

- *North American Environmental Atlas*
- North American Land Cover Monitoring System
- North American Land Cover 2005





## Project 10. Ecosystem Carbon Sources and Storage: Information to Quantify and Manage for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions (cont'd)

### **Outcome:**

Provide and share best information available on landscape-level carbon sources and storage

### **Approach:**

- Trinational networks to develop methods, assess, monitor, and pilot use of data generated on land cover changes and landscape-level carbon changes
- Methodologies and assessment protocols to measure and monitor land cover changes and landscape-level carbon changes
- Platform and framework for the management of relevant data



## Project 11. North American On-line, Interactive Informational Platform on Climate Change

### **Outcome:**

Advancement of the three countries' abilities to achieve climate change mitigation objectives, through improved access to climate change information of all types

### **Approach:**

- Review of current platforms
- Recommendations for a complementary, cutting-edge, interactive, and secure on-line platform
- An actively managed site



## Project 12. Improving Conditions for Green Building Construction in North America



### Past CEC work:

- 2008: Article 13 report *Green building in North America: Opportunities and Challenges*
- 2010: CEC hosted three workshops with participation from several government agencies on the potential benefits, opportunities and challenges of developing the application of regional green building rating systems (particularly ENERGY STAR® for buildings)





## Project 12. Improving Conditions for Green Building Construction in North America (cont' d)

### Outcome:

- Identify changes needed to better support the construction of green buildings in NA

### Approach:

- Establish a trilateral taskforce to promote green buildings and green building products
- Task force to develop two to three workshops on priority areas





## Project 13. Improving the economic and environmental performance of the North American Automotive Supply Chain

### Past work:

- 2008: CEC carried out a pilot program Green supply chains in Mexico. Almost 150 companies in 14 different supply chains successfully developed eco-efficiency projects (representing direct benefits of millions of dollars in direct costs as well as savings in water, paper and cardboard, hazardous waste, solvent emissions and CO2 emissions)
- 2009: program extended to the automotive sector however abruptly severed due to the economic downturn



## Project 13. Improving the Economic and Environmental Performance of the North American Automotive Supply Chain (cont' d)

### Outcome:

Improved environmental and economic capacity of small and medium sized enterprises in the automotive supply chain

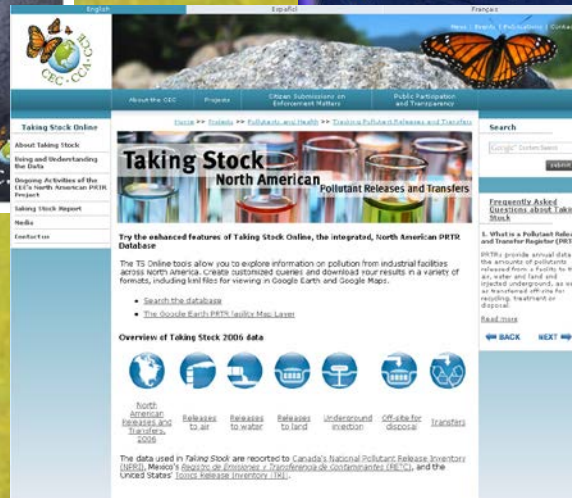
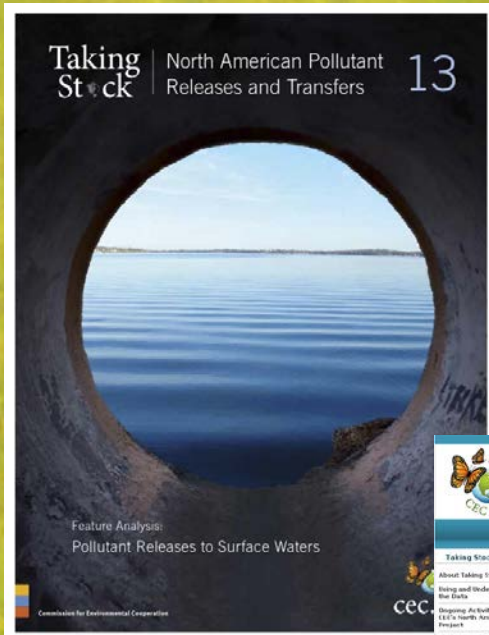
### Approach:

- Develop, and implement a self-sustaining automotive supply chain program across North America
- Engage Canada and Mexico on the current US initiative, the *Suppliers Partnership for the Environment*  
<http://www.supplierspartnership.org>



# Project 14. Tracking Pollutant Releases and Transfers in North America (North American PRTR Project)

## Current Work





## Project 14. Tracking Pollutant Releases and Transfers in North America (North American PRTR Project) (cont' d)

### Outcomes:

- Enhanced access to information and increased public awareness on sources, amounts and management of pollutants of mutual concern across North America
- Increased comparability of North American data, particularly in relation to sector pollutant profiles and pollution prevention efforts

**Purpose:** Support decision-making at all levels (communities, industry, governments) relative to pollution prevention and reduction

### Approach:

- Development of an integrated online North American PRTR dataset and tools; and publication of the Taking Stock report with analyses addressing North American health and environmental issues
- Outreach and development of relationships with stakeholder communities, via Taking Stock and the annual public meeting
- Tri-lateral collaboration on comparability and consistency in the areas of data reporting, collection, and quality assurance of PRTR data





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# Strategic Plan 2010-2015

Sets the strategic priorities and objectives of the CEC for the next five years

## ***Healthy Communities and Ecosystems***

1. Improved environmental health of vulnerable communities
2. Increased resilience of shared ecosystems at risk
3. Enhanced regional approach to sound management of chemicals
4. Strengthening regional environmental and wildlife law enforcement

Tracking pollutant releases and transfers in North America

## ***Climate Change – Low-Carbon Economy***

5. Improved comparability of emissions data, methodologies and inventories
6. Strengthened engagement of experts and information-sharing

## ***Greening the Economy in North America***

7. Improved private sector environmental performance