

Legal framework



CBD. Mexico is a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity which, states in its Article 10 "Sustainable use of components of biological diversity"

Each Contracting Party shall, as far as possible and as appropriate:

- Integrate the consideration of conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making;
- Adopt measures relating to the use of biological resources to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity;
- Protect and encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with the requirements of conservation and sustainable use;
- Provide assistance to local populations to develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biological diversity has been reduced; and
- Encourage cooperation between governmental authorities and the private sector in developing methods for sustainable use of biological resources.

Environmental Laws

In Mexico there are several laws related to the use of resources such as:

General Law of Ecological Equilibrium and Environmental Protection (LGEEPA 2007)

General Law on Sustainable Forest Management (LGDFS 2002)

General law of Wildlife (LGVS 2000)

Law of Biosecurity (2005 LBS)

Federal Law of Rights (2005 LFD)

Law for Sustainable Rural Development (LDRS)

Law of Fisheries (1992)

And a large amount of related rules

Legal framework



The General Law of Ecological Equilibrium and Environmental Protection (LEEGEPA, 2007), Chapter III. Wild Flora and Fauna, includes the criteria for the preservation and sustainable use of wild flora and fauna (Art. 2 BIS 79-87).

"The exploitation of natural resources in areas that are the habitat of wild species of flora or fauna, especially those which are endemic, threatened or in danger of extinction should be carried out so as not to alter the conditions necessary for the survival, development and evolution of said species. The Secretariat should promote and support the management of wild fauna and flora, based on traditional biological knowledge and technical, scientific and economic information, for the purpose of making a sustainable use of species." (Art. 83)

Management Units. Since 1997, Mexico has had the System of Management Units for the Conservation of

Wildlife. A Management Unit (UMA) is a privately owned, community or ejido in which it is permitted to use some wildlife resources.

The aim of the UMAS is to provide alternatives uses to small landowners, communities and ejidos so that they may benefit economically through sustainable use. The UMAS are based on a Management Plan.

In UMAS is possible to use extracted resources, for food, ornament, pets, supplies for industry and crafts, exhibition, hunting or collecting, and also non-extractive uses such as ecotourism, research, environmental education, photography, video and film.

The activities of the UMAS must be carried out according to the General Law of Wildlife. The UMAS must be registered with SEMARNAT and incorporated into the National System of Management Units for the Conservation of Wildlife.