Community Forestry in Mexico

Next Generation of Forestry Agency Leaders.
Global Issues in Governing Natural Resources

CONAFOR, RRI, MegaForestais.

Gerardo Segura

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Forests and Biodiversity

- Country area: 1.97 km²
- Area under natural vegetation: 141.7 M ha (72%)
- Area under natural forest: 56.9 M ha (29%)
- High biodiversity and endemism (world rank: 4°)
Forestland ownership

Communal 80%
Public 5%
Private 15%

Community Forestry in Mexico
Forestlands under community ownership or reserved for communities

- Papua New Guinea
- Mexico
- China
- Bolivia
- India
- Brazil
- Australia
- USA
- Indonesia

% of forest land cover
Natural forests and rural communities

- 12-16 M people in forested areas
- 28% in extreme poverty
- 43 indigenous groups (5 M people)

Natural forests with commercial value: 21.6 M ha
Natural forests under commercial production: 8.6 M ha
National timber production: 6.2 M m3
Sectoral contribution to GNP: 0.34%
### Typology of Community Forest Enterprises (CFEs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Potential Producers</strong></td>
<td>Owners of forestlands with capacity for sustainable commercial production but not currently logging.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Stumpage Communities</strong></td>
<td>Producers who sell timber on the stump.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Round wood Communities</strong></td>
<td>Producers of forest raw materials.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sawmill Communities</strong></td>
<td>Producers with capacity for processing and marketing sawn wood products.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Indigenous and non-indigenous (Ejidos) forest communities: 8,400 (45 Mill. ha)

- 45% indigenous;
- 65% in forests with commercial potential;
- 20-25% with forest management plans (1,800 social units);
- 5-9% with developed CFEs (600)
- Producers organizations (170)
## Poverty indicators (1995-2010)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poverty (national, %)</td>
<td>62.1</td>
<td>48.1</td>
<td>47.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty (rural, %)</td>
<td>75.3</td>
<td>61.2</td>
<td>58.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme poverty (national, %)</td>
<td>31.6</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme poverty (rural, %)</td>
<td>49.2</td>
<td>31.4</td>
<td>28.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GINI coefficient</td>
<td>0.488</td>
<td>0.470</td>
<td>0.478</td>
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Government support to forest communities (1995-2010)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal budget of CONAFOR (Mill US$)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>446 (540 in 2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest communities assisted by CONAFOR programs (Cumulative)</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>4,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agrarian communities regularized (RAN, cumulative)</td>
<td>22,087 (70%)</td>
<td>27,490 (87%)</td>
<td>29,069 (93%)</td>
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## Forest Sector Indicators (1995-2010)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deforestation (× 1000 ha/yr.)</td>
<td>−354 (−0.52%)</td>
<td>−235 (−0.35%)</td>
<td>−155 (−0.24%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest production (M m³/yr.)</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sectoral contribution to GDP (%)</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>0.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest trade balance (Mill US$)</td>
<td>1,152</td>
<td>−3,309</td>
<td>−5,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apparent consumption (×1000 m³/yr.)</td>
<td>14,136</td>
<td>22,933</td>
<td>37,759</td>
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</table>
Major achievements

- Two decades of continuity of forest policies and programs that focus on forest communities as the main sectoral stakeholder

- Recognition of the forest sector as one of the highest strategic importance

- Evolution of forest institutions (e.g. creation of CONAFOR)

- Federal budget and assistance to forest communities increased exponentially

- World leader in community forestry
Important challenges

- Efficiency of public expenditure
- Overregulation
- Forest policies and programs continue to be centralized
- Monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs: the adaptive management approach
- Inter-sectoral coordination (e.g. agriculture and livestock, environment)
- Law enforcement and illegal logging
Competitiveness of CFEs in a changing world

Access to new market niches (e.g. certified products, PES)

Landscape level approaches to management and production (e.g. Agencies de Desarrollo Local)

Infrastructure (e.g. forest roads)

Access to financial services

Forests and climate change (e.g. REDD+, adaptation/mitigation)