



NEWSLETTER



A message from our Executive Director for Mexico

It is a pleasure to address you on behalf of the TNC Mexico team.

In this issue we will be sharing our team news and main achievements of the last 12 months, with the understanding that 2020 has been an extremely complex year.. In future editions we will continue to disseminate and share everything we do to fulfill our mission to **"Conserve the water and the land on which life depends."**

We celebrate that Mexico is a signatory and has adopted the Paris Agreement on climate change. Five years after the adoption of the Agreement, let us remember its essence and what we, as a society, and government have committed to: ***"Maintain the global average temperature increase well below 2 ° C with respect to pre-industrial levels and continue efforts to limit this increase in temperature to 1.5 ° C with respect to pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this will significantly reduce the risks and effects of climate change"***.

Why stay between 1.5 and 2 ° C?

This is what science tells us we need to do to avoid drastic and irreversible changes in rainfall patterns, winds and temperature in all regions of the planet. 2020 has shown us, once again, the unequivocal link that exists between biodiversity and our health, food, water, air and survival as inhabitants of this planet.

In this sense, we celebrate Mexico's adhesion to the Coalition of High Ambition for Nature and People, which aspires to conserve 30% of the planet's land and sea surface by 2030 [1]. This is excellent news that we will support in coordination with government and strategic partners

From the TNC Mexico team we wish you a 2021 in which we apply what we have learned in 2020 by putting our energy, passion and commitment to a better world for present and future generations.

In the words of our CEO, Jennifer Morris:

"The next decade of conservation will look different as society focuses on rebuilding our economies and communities in the wake of the pandemic, and this period ahead will be critical for determining the trajectory of our planet's health. As we chart a new course forward, nature will matter more than ever—and we have the opportunity to highlight its crucial role in sustaining our health, our livelihoods and our well-being".

[1] Gobierno de México, Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, diciembre 2020
<https://www.gob.mx/sre/prensa/mexico-se-compromete-a-impulsar-la-conservacion-del-30-del-planeta-para-el-2030?idiom=es>

NEW POSITIONS AT TNC



Jennifer Morris, CEO of The Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy has named Jennifer Morris as its next Chief Executive Officer (CEO). For the past 25 years, Jenn has been dedicated to protecting the environment for people and nature. Her decades of leadership as well as management skills will propel the organization to deliver on its ambitious mission: conserving the lands and water on which life depends.



Celia Pigueron, Mexico Executive Director

With a trajectory of more than 20 years in the areas of environmental policy and climate change, Celia leads the TNC Mexico team as Executive Director as of July 2020. Aligned with the mission of TNC, Celia focuses her vision on solutions based on nature that achieve transformational impact and benefits for people and the environment in strategic regions such as the Mayan Forest, the Mesoamerican Reef, the Gulf of California as well as key sites in the north, center and south of Mexico. She recognizes the importance of integrating biodiversity and climate change both in public policies and in decisions of the private sector and society in general, based on alliances with authorities, communities, civil society, academia and the private sector.



Meredith de la Garza, Mexico Conservation Director

She started at TNC as director of the Oceans program for Mexico and North Central America in 2018. For her extensive experience and achievements throughout her professional career as well as the Gulf of California and Mesoamerican Reef projects during her time at TNC, she has been named as Director of Conservation for Mexico as of October 1, 2020. She integrates her experience and knowledge to lead the conservation team guiding towards the three priorities of TNC; protect terrestrial and marine spaces, provide water and food in a sustainable way and face climate change. To do this, she works with the oceans, sustainable territories and water security team, motivating and supporting each member of the team.

2020 Big Wins



Grupo de Trabajo de Gobernadores sobre Clima y Bosques (GCF-TF)

From 2018 and 2020, TNC Mexico's sustainable territories team worked with five Mexican states (Jalisco, Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatan and Quintana Roo), to reduce and prevent deforestation through the creation of different public policies and decision making systems. 3 regional investment plans, 2 state investment plans, 5 zoning plans were created, and 2 state forest laws were improved. Four of the five states now have a reference map to measure subsequent changes in their forest cover. These projects were made possible by funding from the Norwegian International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI) and in coordination of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). [Learn more](#)



RITERS

The main mission of the Territorial Innovation Networks (RITERS for its acronym in Spanish) is to promote sustainable food production that allows the Maya Forest to be conserved. For this reason, we have worked for the last two years to form networks of knowledge, collaboration and training that empower local communities to drive changes towards Comprehensive Landscape Management. So far, more than 1000 producers have joined through forums, fairs and knowledge exchanges. Check out other RITER achievements from the voice of their leaders and join us in our future actions! [Learn More.](#)

Institutional Capacity Building Program

One of the great challenges of the world's oceans is achieving sustainable management of fish. Mexico is no exception. Good fisheries management would allow our country to guarantee the incomes of more than 290 thousand fishermen and the coastal communities where they live, nurture and sustainably feed millions of Mexicans and generate foreign exchange in the export market. To do this, at TNC we have a program to strengthen institutional capacities aimed at the National Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture (INAPESCA) and the National Commission on Aquaculture and Fisheries (CONAPESCA). Our most recent course, "The Importance of Monitoring and Evaluating Fisheries Resources to Climate Change", was emergingly adapted to a virtual format, to continue the plans of this course despite the contingency of COVID-19. We have received good acceptance from participants and see great potential in that this training method can be replicated and successful in the future. [You can learn more about this initiative and access online courses here.](#)

We thank the authorities and partners for their trust and support to make better decisions towards the sustainability of Mexico's fishing resource.





Protection against storms and hurricanes with a systematic approach

During the most intense hurricane season ever recorded, the Yucatan Peninsula was impacted by three climatic phenomena, starting with Tropical Storm Gamma, Hurricane Delta, and more recently Hurricane Zeta in October, causing severe flooding, as well as significant damage to coral reefs, which sustains the tourist economy of the Mexican Caribbean. Likewise, there are added impacts from evacuations and losses in the agricultural sector, services and especially in vulnerable communities in the region.

In order to reduce risks and damages such as those mentioned above, we are proud to share that TNC is part of the solution to face climate change by protecting coral reefs that form the first line of natural defense against weather-related events. .

TNC, in collaboration with the Government of Quintana Roo, the National Commission of Protected Areas (CONANP) and local partners, built the storm response capacity for the protection of the reefs. Response capacity comprises four components: a Response Protocol, a response governance system, a group of brigades to repair damage to reefs, and a set of financial instruments to fund these activities. The parametric insurance contracted by the Government of Quintana Roo from Grupo Financiero Banorte is the key instrument of this response capacity, and is the first in the world of its kind. Read more here: [link 1](#), [link 2](#), [link 3](#)



TNC supports an organized group of women leaders to improve the water cycle in their community

In the community of Laguna de Sánchez, a group of women entrepreneurs lead a unique initiative to combat forest loss by producing plants in a community nursery. The Nature Conservancy and Mary Kay worked hand in hand with this group of women to strengthen their capacities and empower their initiative by restoring their nursery's irrigation system, training the women's group and supporting them with inputs needed for the production of quality plants.

TNC Mexico wishes you Happy Holidays and a great 2021



Here are some faces of TNC Mexico representing our great team.

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The Nature Conservancy México

www.tncmx.org