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The Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperative- Mexico's perspective

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DLCC

It is an excellent initiative framed in a new way of working to overcome sectorial or territorial complex barriers that are present at landscape scale.

INECC has been involved in this initiative since 2010 – (Trilateral Meeting in Oaxaca)

Since 2010 we have collaborated identifying:

- ✓ Information gaps
- ✓ Available information (publications, federal strategies, Mexican legislation)
- ✓ Research needs
- ✓ Regional institutions
 - ❖ Telephone conferences
 - ❖ Aguascalientes Meeting (Whose objective was to present and involve regional institutions)
 - ❖ Washington DC



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Mexico Working group meeting – Dec 2014

- [Andrew Rhodes Espinoza](#), Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas (CONANP)
- [Patricia Koleff Osorio](#), Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad (CONABIO)
- [Margarita Caso](#), Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático (INECC)



Photo: Alejandra Domínguez

Proposal to enhance bilateral collaboration for the DLCC: CONABIO, CONANP, INECC.



Revision of the implementation Plan 2014-2016" draft.

Letter to the coordinators of the DLCC January 2015.

8 Points



1. Linking to other forums

It is necessary to nest the DLCC initiative in an established forum recognized by both countries – such as the Trilateral Committee for the Conservation and Management of Wildlife and Ecosystems. This would give us a framework for action as public officials. We believe these actions would strengthen the initiative and facilitate our participation in various meetings.



2. Participation in committees

Considering the representation of Mexico in the Steering and Scientific Committee, we recommend to balance the number of representatives of both countries in the two committees to address working issues more equitably and in a binational way.

3. Objectives clarity



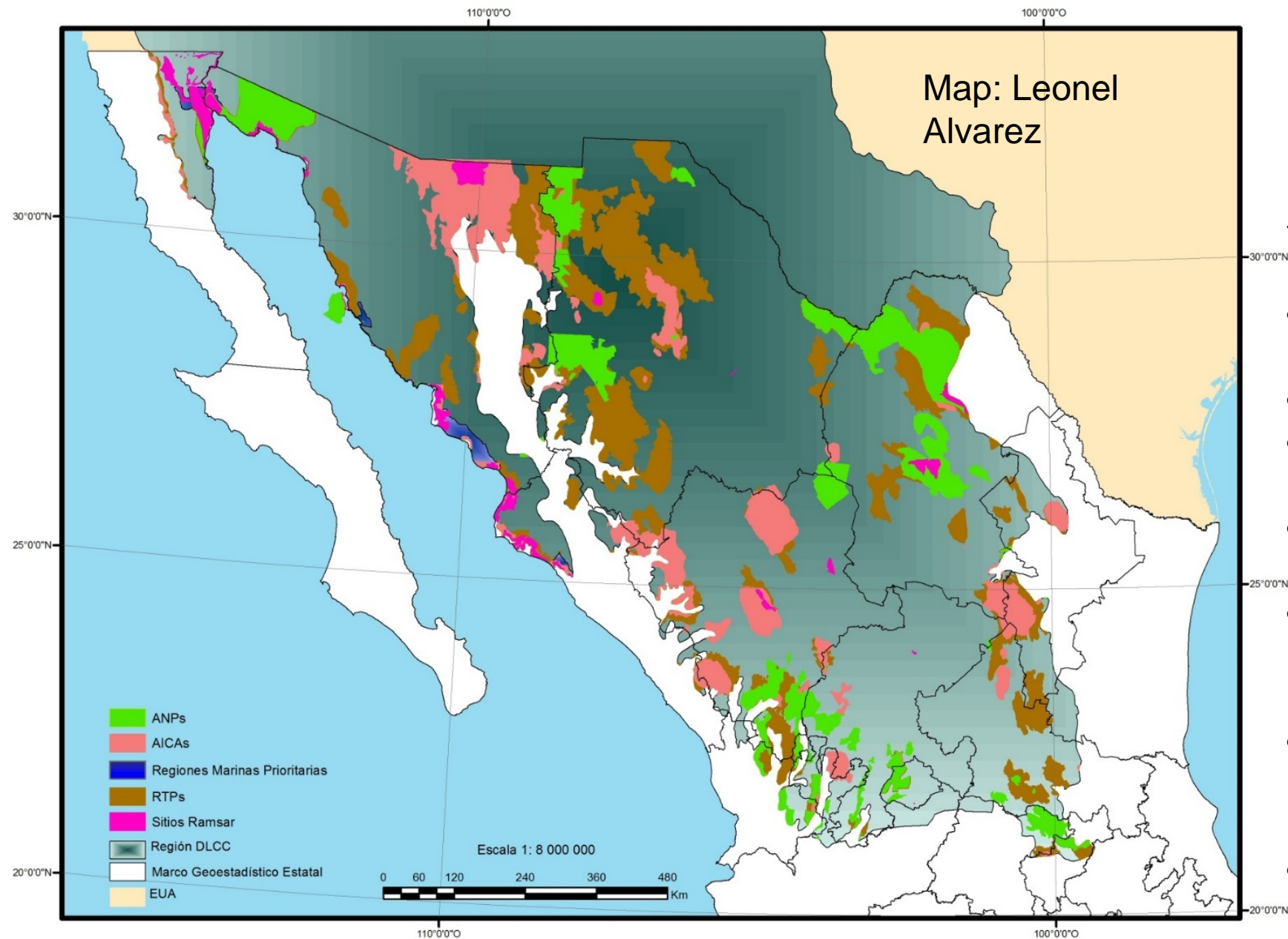
The "Implementation Plan 2014-2016" draft establishes some general guidelines that work very good as a set but, we would like to know in more detail what is expected from Mexico's participation in the DLCC.

- ✓ Research
- ✓ Environmental assessments
- ✓ Design/implementation of adaptation measures to climate change impacts
- ✓ Common data bases
- ✓ Gap analysis
- ✓ Vulnerability identification
- ✓ Risk analysis



4. Consider the complexity of the territory.

Because the DLCC region belongs to two different countries, there is a great diversity, heterogeneity and complexity of the territory within this ecoregion that includes very diverse ecosystems and notable differences in social and cultural aspects (as well as institutional, political and economic). We believe that for the successful achievement of the goals, it will be necessary to consider these differences, from the planning stage to the implementation of actions.



In the designed DLCC area there are important sites like:

- Natural Protected Areas (CONANP)
- Ramsar sites (CONANP)
- Managements units for wild life conservation (UMA)
- Relevant watersheds (CONAGUA, INECC)
- Sites where there is over exploitation of water resources (CONAGUA, IMTA)
- Identified areas for fauna crossing on the border zone (INECC)
- Marine and terrestrial priority areas (CONABIO)



5. Inclusive approach

It is necessary to combine both “top –down” and “bottom-up” approaches in order to propose /implement effective adaptation measures. In Mexico, consideration, bonding, coordination, and direct participation of the social sector is essential, particularly for the local population, for the design and implementation of strategies and management plans for conservation and management of natural resources.



6. Avoid duplication efforts

There are a number of products, existing information and data from different institutions that should be compiled.

We consider to favor the use of information from official sources whenever this is possible.

Products that are going to be formulated must be aligned to those officially approved to enhance their use. Otherwise, its scope and lifetime will be reduced.

Mexico has a number of data and products that can be used for decision-making at several scales that the DLCC initiative could use as inputs.

Explore how we can maximize the exchange of information between the two countries to achieve a better integration (an archive).



- In the north of Mexico there are several institutions that can be part in a near future of the Mexican group apart from the ones that are already involved.





7. Resources

Currently, there are no mechanisms to seek or pursue funding for research which are necessary to fill information and knowledge gaps. We do not have a proper staff that can provide adequate follow-up to the DLCC and dedicate regularly to follow and review the agreements, documents and calls for consultancies.

Find a way to have people who can help coordinate the Mexican working group.



8. Communication

Our busy agendas as officials do not allow us to attend regularly the conference calls in the framework of the DLCC and its different groups. We consider it would be important to have a small group for a more direct communication and try to be aware of the results of telephone conferences where more people are involved and decisions are taken.



Interests

During the last five years we have identified several topics related to the aims of the program and Mexican interests like:

- Impact of climate change on vulnerable ecosystems like grasslands, wetlands
- Aquatic habitats and riparian ecosystems
- Ecosystem services (pollinators)
- Invasive species
- Endangered and endemic species



Thank you!

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