

U.S.-Mexico Environmental Program: Border 2012

A Mid-Course Refinement (2008-2012)



Dear Border Colleagues, Partners and Stakeholders:

During 2007 the Border Environmental Program, U.S.-Mexico Border 2012, reached its 10-year mid-point.

Since its signing, in 2003, we have made significant progress in achieving the goals that our two countries adopted within the framework of Border 2012. Examples of these achievements are reflected in the Border 2012 Implementation and Mid-Term Report: 2007, presented at the Fourth National Coordinators Meeting in May 2007.

As previously envisioned, the Border 2012 program is a reflection of the border communities' needs along the U.S.-Mexico border. In that sense, along with your active engagement, we embarked in a brief, but comprehensive program review (and re-

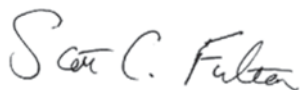
viewed each and every objective in the Border 2012 program). Through this brief process, and in coordination with the program partners, we sought more aggressive commitments in cases where we have reached our intended targets and we identified key actions to fulfill those that we've yet to achieve; all with the principal goal of protecting human health and the environment for the border region.

After several months of hard work, we are pleased to present this document which was developed based on the critical needs identified and includes refinements to the original objectives in Border 2012. We anticipate that this work will become the new framework that we'll use to continue developing measurable actions and efforts in the shared border between both countries.

As the National Program Coordinators, we reiterate our continued support of all the work you are doing and to continue close coordination with our state and local government partners, as well as U.S. Border Tribes and Mexican indigenous communities and the public, as we anticipate the successful conclusion of the Border 2012 program.

We wish to thank all of you for your unconditional support, invaluable comments and contributions and we especially acknowledge the excellent work of the Drafting Committee, whose dedication and commitment made the creation of this document possible.

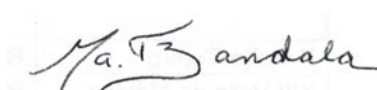
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BORDER 2012 MISSION

To protect the environment and public health in the U.S.-Mexico border region, consistent with the principles of sustainable development.¹

¹Sustainable development is defined as “conservation-oriented social and economic development that emphasizes the protection and sustainable use of resources, while addressing both current and future needs and present and future impacts of human actions.”

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Introduction and Background



BORDER REGION FACTS

■ 10 States:

- California
- Baja California
- Arizona
- Sonora
- New Mexico
- Chihuahua
- Texas
- Coahuila
- Nuevo Leon
- Tamaulipas

■ 15 pairs of Sister Cities:

- San Diego-Tijuana
- Calexico-Mexicali
- Yuma-San Luis Colorado
- Nogales-Nogales
- Naco-Naco
- Douglas-Agua Prieta
- Columbus-Las Palomas
- El Paso-Sunland Park- Ciudad Juárez
- Presidio-Ojinaga
- Del Rio-Ciudad Acuña
- Eagle Pass-Piedras Negras

■ 25 U.S. Counties

■ 35 Mexican Municipalities

■ 26 U.S. Federally recognized Tribes

- Laredo-Nuevo Laredo
- McAllen-Reynosa
- Weslaco-Rio Bravo
- Brownsville-Matamoros

Border 2012 Guiding Principles

The Border 2012 Program will continue to follow the original Guiding Principles designed to support the mission statement, ensure consistency among all aspects of Border 2012, and continue successful elements of previous border programs.

- Reduce the highest public health risks, and preserve and restore the natural environment.
- Adopt a bottom-up approach for setting priorities and making decisions through partnerships with state, local and U.S. tribal governments.
- Address disproportionate environmental impacts in border communities.
- Improve stakeholder participation and ensure broad-based representation from the environmental, public health, and other relevant sectors.
- Foster transparency, public participation, and open dialogue through provision of accessible, accurate, and timely information.

- Strengthen capacity of local community residents and other stakeholders to manage environmental and environmentally-related public health issues.
- Achieve concrete, measurable results while maintaining a long-term vision.
- Measure program progress through development of environmental and public health-based indicators.

The United States recognizes that U.S. tribes are separate sovereign governments, and that equity issues impacting tribal governments must be addressed in the United States on a government-to-government basis.

Mexico recognizes the historical debt it has with its indigenous peoples. Therefore, appropriate measures will be considered to address their specific concerns, as well as to protect and preserve their cultural integrity within the broader environmental purposes of this program.

Introduction

For decades, the United States and Mexico have enjoyed productive diplomatic and cooperative efforts to protect the environment along the U.S.-Mexico border. Various binational agreements have been implemented over time to formalize our mutual priorities and commitments to address critical problems facing communities on both sides of the border. Perhaps the most ambitious and far-reaching of these agreements is the most recent binational environmental framework known as the U.S.-Mexico Environmental Program: Border 2012, which was signed in April of 2003. The Border 2012 Program was launched with the expectation that it would bring about tangible and measurable environmental benefits to border communities. Its core mission and guiding principles strongly support binational efforts that actively engage communities and local stakeholders and that encourage collaboration, partnerships, and projects that result in sustainable and tangible environmental benefits.



Since its inception, the Border 2012 Program has lived up to its intended mission and has facilitated impressive accomplishments and outcomes along the border. The U.S.-Mexico Environmental Program: Border 2012 Implementation and Mid-Term Report: 2007 captures many of the key efforts and accomplishments that have been achieved by border communities, stakeholders, and partners.

Background

The U.S.-Mexico Border Region

The U.S.-Mexico Border Region (as defined in the La Paz Agreement) is the 2,000-mile border between the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico that extends 100km (62.5 miles) on either side of the U.S.-Mexico border. Approximately 12.5 million people call this region home (~90% of the population reside within the 15 pairs of sister cities along the border). Many of the sister city pairs share common water sheds and air basins, are economically interconnected and share strong familial and cultural ties, making this geographic area a remarkably complex and unique part of two sovereign nations.

The border region has experienced dramatic growth over the past 30 years. In 2000, the estimated population of the entire border region was 11.8 million (currently about 12.5 million) and projections indicate the population is expected to double by the year 2020. Rapidly-growing metropolitan areas exist within the U.S.-Mexico border. While the border region has seen tremendous growth, it has not seen proportionate prosperity. This growth has exceeded the existing infrastructure capabilities of the region, leading to severe air quality problems, inadequate sewage treatment and hazardous waste infrastructure, reduced drinking water supplies, and

dramatic impacts to habitats and the biodiversity they support.

To help Border 2012 improve its understanding of border environmental and health conditions, the National Coordinators created the Border Indicators Task Force in 2003. The Task Force helps Border 2012 achieve concrete, measurable results and measure its progress. Led by EPA and SEMARNAT co-chairs, the Task Force has developed a Strategy for Indicator Development and the inaugural State of the Border Region 2005 indicators report. The Task Force's co-chairs, coordinating body liaisons, and other members work to improve existing border indicators and inform Border 2012 decision-making. These indicators help policymakers and the public identify environmental and public health trends in the border region and fulfill the mission of Border 2012.

Mid-Course Refinements

As envisioned by the initial Border 2012 Drafting Committee, at the mid-point of this 10-year Program, the program partners conducted an evaluation on how well the program was performing and areas where improvements or changes were needed to better serve border communities. The evaluation also considered new and/or emerging issues that could be incorporated into the existing six Goals of the Program. The purpose of this report is to capture and formalize these new areas of focus allowing both countries to work together to accomplish these efforts by the year 2012. As such, this report summarizes the original 23 Objectives (under each of the six Border 2012 Goals) and annotates the new Sub-Objectives, based on the mid-term refinement described above.

The program goals and objectives were revised to reflect changing needs along the border and to acknowledge emerging issues, based on input from program partners and border communities and stakeholders. The existing and new objectives found in this document will guide future program implementation under Border 2012 until the program sunsets in the year 2012.

To accomplish its objectives—and these refined sub-objectives—Border 2012 will remain organized based on coordinating bodies, with guidance and oversight from EPA and SEMARNAT National Coordinators. These coordinating bodies include both border-wide workgroups and policy forums for each Border 2012 goal, as well as regional workgroups that more directly address environmental and health conditions in the border region. Each of these groups is led by co-chair representatives from both the U.S. and Mexico. These coordinating bodies or the National Coordinators may create binational, issue- or location-specific Task Forces to address specific border environmental or health issues.



Goal #1: Reduce Water Contamination

Inadequate sanitation and treatment facilities in U.S.-Mexican border cities directly threaten the health and ecosystems of U.S. and Mexican communities. In 1993, the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC) and the North American Development Bank (NADBank) were created as a result of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

to support the planning, development and financing of projects, including drinking water supply and wastewater treatment, in the U.S.-Mexico Border region.

As of January 2008, BECC has certified 72 water and wastewater infrastructure projects for a total cost of \$2.25 billion. Funding has been provided by the US-EPA, the Mexican Federal

Water Commission (CONAGUA), as well as local, state, and international agencies. The program is providing clean water to over 7 million people on the U.S.-Mexico border.

Other funds provided through the Border 2012 program have been used to address non-point source water pollution, monitoring and assessment of shared transboundary waters, and

environmental education programs related to water quality. Finally, the Border 2012 Water Task Forces along the border provide a forum in which local residents can meet with government officials and academicians on both sides of the border to share information and to collaborate on projects that improve water quality.

ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES (2003)	NEW/REVISED OBJECTIVES OR SUB-OBJECTIVES	NOTES
OBJECTIVE 1 By 2012, promote a 25 percent increase in the number of homes connected to potable water supply and wastewater collection and treatment systems.	REVISED Sub-Objective 1A: Promote the increase in the number of homes connected to a potable water supply beyond the original Border 2012 objective of 25%.	It was estimated that 98,575 homes in the border region lacked access to safe drinking water in 2003. The original Border 2012 Objective was to reduce this number by 25% by 2012. By the end of 2007, 23,726 homes were connected to safe drinking water, representing an achievement of 96% of the the original objective.
	REVISED Sub-Objective 1B: Promote the increase in the number of homes connected to wastewater collection and treatment systems beyond the original Border 2012 objective of 25%.	It was estimated that 690,723 homes in the border region lacked access to adequate wastewater sanitation in 2003. The original Border 2012 Objective was to reduce this number by 25% by 2012. By the end of 2007, 106,675 homes were connected to a wastewater treatment plant, which represents an achievement of 60% of the original objective.
OBJECTIVE 2 By 2012, assess significant shared and trans-boundary surface waters and achieve a majority of water quality standards currently being exceeded in those waters.	REVISED Objective 2: Implement 4 projects that improve water quality in transboundary waters.	Because many of the water quality problems result from non-point sources (sediment, trash, agricultural and stormwater runoff, etc), and because the population growth in the border region continues to add to those sources, the original objective was determined to be unachievable.
OBJECTIVE 3 By 2006, implement a monitoring system for evaluating coastal water quality at the international border beaches. By the end of 2006, establish a 2012 objective toward meeting coastal water quality standards of both countries.	REVISED Sub-Objective 3A: Strengthen communication and coordination between U.S. and Mexico on coastal water quality monitoring and beach advisory/closure protocols.	The U.S. has established protocols for beach monitoring and posting of beach closures when necessary. The U.S. and Mexico will work together to ensure comparability in monitoring and posting of beaches on both sides of the border.
OBJECTIVE 4 By 2005, promote the assessment of water system conditions in 10 percent of the existing water systems in the border cities to identify opportunities for improvement in overall water system efficiencies.		ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE: ACCOMPLISHED Under the Safe Drinking Water Act and related State regulations pertaining to inspection and permitting, community water systems are evaluated at least once every three years. In México, the National Hydric Program 2007-2012 includes an indicator related to the increase of 80 water utilities in the country (including 5 in the border region, which represents more than 10% of the border cities). Overall efficiency may be evaluated annually.

Goal #2: Reduce Air Contamination

Pollutants from a number of sources including motor vehicles, power plants, industrial facilities, agricultural operations, mining, dust from unpaved roads, and open burning of trash have affected urban and regional air quality along the U.S.-Mexico border. The most common and damaging pollutants from these sources include suspended particulate matter (PM-10 and PM-2.5), ground-level ozone, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and carbon monoxide. Emerging issues include greenhouse gases, emissions associated with the growing power sector, increasing concern with diesel emis-

sions and health-based standards for ozone and fine particulates.

Since 1985, the United States and Mexico have collaborated to help safeguard the health of border residents by protecting and improving border air quality. The two governments, in partnership with border tribal, state, and local governments, have worked collaboratively to increase knowledge about pollution sources and their impacts on both sides of the border, establish monitoring networks in several key areas, conduct emissions inventories, demon-

strate the benefits of retrofitting diesel vehicles, and build local capacity through training.

Through these efforts, the two countries have established a foundation for binational air quality planning and management programs. The overall program goals are to:

- determine ambient concentrations of pollutant emissions;
- assess contributing emission sources and their relative impacts; and
- develop and implement cost-effective control strategies.

Although substantial gains have been made, air quality is still a major concern throughout the border region. The pressures associated with industrial and population growth, the increase in the number of old vehicles, differences in governance and regulatory frameworks, and topographic and meteorological conditions combine to present a challenging context in which to address air quality management. These same factors also present many opportunities for binational cooperation.

ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES (2003)	NEW/REVISED OBJECTIVES OR SUB-OBJECTIVES	NOTES
OBJECTIVE 1 By 2012 or sooner, reduce air emissions as much as possible toward attainment of respective national ambient air quality standards, and reduce exposure in the border region, as supported by the following interim objectives:		
Interim Objective 1 By 2003, define baseline and alternative scenarios for emissions reductions along the border, and their impacts on air quality and human exposure.		ORIGINAL SUB-OBJECTIVE: ACCOMPLISHED Mexico's National Emissions inventory completed in 1999. Inventory is being updated using improved methodologies and data from 2005.
Interim Objective 2 By 2004, based on results from interim objective 1, define specific emission reductions strategies and air quality and exposure objectives to be achieved by 2012.		Air Policy Forum will complete the Border Air Quality Management Strategy in 2008.
	NEW: OBJECTIVE 2 By 2012, build border greenhouse gas (GHG) information capacity using comparable methodologies and expand voluntary cost-effective programs for reduction of GHG emissions in the border area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2010, estimate GHG emissions in at least eight border states, to identify the sources and locations from which reductions may be achieved. • Promote and/or expand voluntary energy efficiency and other GHG reduction programs (i.e., Methane to Markets, Smartway, others) in at least two border States, and track the emissions reductions associated with those programs. 	

Goal #3: Reduce Land Contamination

Annex III of the La Paz Agreement establishes the importance of cooperation between the United States and Mexico on hazardous waste and substances in the border region. The Waste Policy Forum (WPF), in collabora-

tion with the Regional Workgroups, continues to assess and address the border's hazardous and solid waste problems and has made great strides in reaching the objectives of Goal #3: To Reduce Land Contamination. Sub-objectives

have been created to more clearly define the tasks the WPF and Regional Workgroups plan to implement before 2012.

ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES (2003)	NEW/REVISED OBJECTIVES OR SUB-OBJECTIVES	NOTES
OBJECTIVE 1 By 2004, identify needs and develop an action plan to improve institutional and infrastructure capacity for waste management and pollution prevention as they pertain to hazardous and solid waste and toxic substances along the U.S. Mexico border. Starting in 2005, the plan will be implemented and conducted by 2012.	REVISED Sub-Objective 1A: By 2012, develop or identify capacity building materials for source reduction, recycling and management of selected waste streams, for example: electronics waste and spent lead acid batteries. Sub-Objective 1A-a: By 2012, implement 2 capacity building activities for selected waste streams. Sub-Objective 1B: By 2012, develop or identify capacity building materials for source reduction, recycling and management of municipal solid waste. Sub-Objective 1B-a: By 2012, implement 2 capacity building activities for solid waste.	ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE: ACCOMPLISHED The action plan to improve institutional and infrastructure capacity for waste management and pollution prevention as they pertain to hazardous and solid waste and toxic substances along the U.S. Mexico border has been completed. It defines four areas of focus: selected waste streams, municipal solid waste, tire pile prevention and hazardous waste management capacity.
OBJECTIVE 2 By 2004, evaluate the hazardous waste tracking system in the United States and Mexico. During the year 2006, develop and consolidate the link between both tracking systems.	REVISED Sub-Objective 2A: By 2010, pilot an electronic exchange of export and import notice and consent data between U.S. and Mexico databases with assistance from the Commission for Environmental Cooperation. By 2012, complete the electronic data exchange between EPA and SEMARNAT databases.	The evaluation of hazardous waste tracking systems has been completed. The U.S. and Mexico have completed a number of steps toward electronic data exchange of exports and imports notice and consent data through an initiative of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Hazardous Waste Task Force.

ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES (2003)	NEW/REVISED OBJECTIVES OR SUB-OBJECTIVES	NOTES
OBJECTIVE 3 By 2010, clean up three of the largest sites that contain abandoned waste tires in the U.S. Mexico border region, based on policies and programs developed in partnership with local governments.	NEW Sub-Objective 3A: By 2012, develop capacity building materials for scrap tire pile prevention and scrap tire management. Sub-Objective 3B: By 2012, address recommendations from the 2006 U.S.-Mexico Border Scrap Tire Integrated Management Initiative which defines the principles and actions necessary for sustainable scrap tire management, one of which is market development. Sub-Objective 3C: When practicable, clean up small tire piles, at least once in each of the four regional work-group geographic areas.	Two of the largest tire piles in the border region, Centinela and Innor, have been cleaned up. Clean-up is under way at a third large site in the eastern half of the border. The new objectives will focus on scrap tire pile prevention and management.
OBJECTIVE 4 By 2004, develop a binational policy of clean-up and restoration resulting in the productive use of abandoned sites contaminated with hazardous waste or materials, along the length of the border, in accordance with the laws of each country. By 2007, apply this policy at least once in each of the four geographic regions.	REVISED Sub-Objective 4A: By 2012, apply a binational framework on clean-up/remediation and restoration of sites contaminated with hazardous waste or materials at least once in each of the four regional workgroup geographic areas.	One clean-up/remediation is near completion. The Waste Policy Forum agreed that the term, “abandoned” created unexpected limitations on achieving Objective 4 so the term has been removed. A binational framework was deemed more relevant than a binational policy .

Goal #4: Improve Environmental Health

Protection of public health is a key element of the Border 2012 program and it is an integral part of all program activities. Border environmental health efforts focus on reducing the risk to border families, especially children, that may result from exposure to air pollution, drinking water contaminants, pesticides and other toxic chemicals. If successful, there should be improvements in border health such as reduc-

tions in air-related respiratory diseases, decreases in water-borne illnesses and markedly fewer pesticide-related poisonings.

Environmental health efforts under Border 2012 improve capacity to conduct surveillance, monitoring, and research on the relationship between human health and environmental exposures; deliver environmental health interven-

tion, prevention and educational services; and enhance public awareness and understanding of environmental exposure conditions and health problems. Program activities focus on strengthening data gathering (including the development/application of indicators to assess changes in specific human exposure and health conditions), training and education to build infrastructure; and provision of critical informa-

tion to decision makers to achieve improved environmental health in the border region.

ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES (2003)	NEW/REVISED OBJECTIVES OR SUB-OBJECTIVES	NOTES
OBJECTIVE 1: AIR By 2006, evaluate various measures of respiratory health in children that might be tracked to assess changes that may result from actions to improve air quality in border communities.		The EHWG will continue evaluating various respiratory health measures in children that might be tracked to assess changes that may result from actions to improve air quality in border communities. In 2008 and 2009 COFEPRIS professionals will conduct an expert's workshop with COFEPRIS epidemiologist and state epidemiologists, along with colleagues from United States, to discuss relationships between air quality, asthma and IRAS.
OBJECTIVE 2: WATER By 2006, evaluate various measures of gastrointestinal illness that might be tracked to assess changes that may result from actions to improve water quality in border communities.		The EHWG will continue evaluating various gastrointestinal illness measures that might be tracked to assess changes that may result from actions to improve water quality in border communities. In 2009 the Environmental Health workgroup will organize a mini -symposium with gastrointestinal sickness experts from CDC, SS, HHS, and their counterpart in the United States in order to discuss relationships and diagnoses of these illnesses.
OBJECTIVE 3: PESTICIDES OBJECTIVE 3A By 2006, an assessment and pilot program will be completed that explores the feasibility of harmonizing a binational system for reporting acute pesticide poisonings.		COBBH and ISESALUD are currently implementing a project which includes establishing a protocol and system for binational collaboration on pesticide illness reporting. This project also involves piloting and evaluating a binational pesticide illness surveillance system.

ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES (2003)	NEW/REVISED OBJECTIVES OR SUB-OBJECTIVES	NOTES
OBJECTIVE 3B By 2007, reduce pesticide exposure by training 36,000 farm workers on pesticide risks and safe handling, including ways to minimize exposure for families and children.	NEW Sub-Objective 3B-a: By 2012, implement two pilot projects to reduce exposure to surplus and obsolete agricultural pesticides in border communities. Sub-Objective 3B-b: By 2012, implement one pilot project to change agricultural practices, resulting in the increased use of less toxic pesticides. Sub-Objective 3B-c: By 2012, implement one pilot project to reduce exposure to household pesticides for families in agricultural communities.	ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE: ACCOMPLISHED 36,000 farmers were trained on pesticide risks and safe handling. Obsolete Pesticides are: Surplus pesticides that are no longer used for their original purpose. Cancelled agricultural pesticides in the U.S. or Mexico, or severely restricted for agricultural use.
OBJECTIVE 4: CAPACITY BUILDING OBJECTIVE 4A By 2006 establish a distance learning post graduate degree program to support advanced training on environmental health in conjunction with Pan American Health Organization regional offices and academic institutions.		ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE: ACCOMPLISHED A distance learning post graduate degree program has been established in Mexico. Nationwide, 17 professionals obtained a Public Health Master Degree through Mexico's INSP / COFEPRIS distance learning program. Additionally more than 136 professionals obtained a Post-Graduate diploma in sanitary risk assessment The distance learning graduate degree program will continue offered by Mexico's National Institute of Public Health, in coordination with the Pan-American Health Organization and Indian Health Service Offices, to leverage on existing U.S. institutions' distance learning programs such as the University of Houston School of Public Health Graduate Program, in El Paso, TX.
OBJECTIVE 4B By 2004, extend current efforts in binational environmental health training for 100 health care providers each for pesticides and water.		ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE: ACCOMPLISHED 100 health providers were trained along the Border.

Goal #5: Enhance Joint Readiness for Environmental Response (Revised Goal Title)

Annex II of the 1983 La Paz agreement establishes cooperative measures for preparing and responding to oil and hazardous substance incidents along the Mexico-United States (U.S.) inland border. The La Paz Agreement also requires a Joint Contingency Plan (JCP) which was developed in 1988, signed in 1999 and currently being reviewed. The Mexico-U.S. JCP has provided the foundation for the 15 Sister City Binational Emergency Response Plans that have been developed over the last several years. The Emergency Preparedness and Response

Border-Wide Workgroup (BWWG) was created to coordinate and implement Border 2012's Goal #5 and its three objectives.

The Emergency Preparedness and Response workgroup is co-chaired by U.S. EPA's Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Mexico's Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente (PROFEPA-Office of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection), and Secretaría de Gobernación, Dirección General de Protección Civil (Mexico's Office of Civil Protection). The Joint Response Team (JRT),

another La Paz Agreement requirement, is also co-chaired by Mexico's PROFEPA, Protección Civil, and U.S. EPA's OEM. Additional JRT partners include representatives from other U.S. and Mexican federal agencies, including state, Tribal and local offices responsible for emergency prevention, preparedness, and response in the border area. The BWWG essentially functions as the steering committee of the Joint Response Team (JRT).

Both countries have agreed to enhance Goal 5 and its objectives midway through the Border 2012 program because of recommendations by the U.S.-Mexico regional, state, Tribal and local emergency preparedness and response counterparts during the last National Coordinators and JRT meetings. EPA and PROFEPA agreed to jointly strengthen emergency preparedness and response capabilities at all management levels based on the Border-wide workgroup achievements to date.

ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES (2003)	NEW/REVISED OBJECTIVES OR SUB-OBJECTIVES	NOTES
OBJECTIVE 1 By 2004, a chemical emergency advisory/notification mechanism between Mexico and the United States will be clearly established.	REVISED Sub-Objective 1A: By 2012, on an annual basis, continue to test and update the emergency notification mechanism between Mexico and the United States.	ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE: ACCOMPLISHED
OBJECTIVE 2 By 2008, joint contingency plans for all 14 pairs of sister cities will be in place and operating (including exercises), with the establishment of binational committees for chemical emergency prevention (or similar border forums).	REVISED Sub-Objective 2A: By 2012, four sister city joint contingency plans will be updated to include preparedness and response activities of all hazardous incidents.	ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE: ACCOMPLISHED 15 Sister City plans are in place. EPA is evaluating the possibility of including other rural communities or areas that are not located near any of the existing sister cities, such as some Tribal Governments. This will ensure their participation in emergency planning and preparedness as well as in emergency response activities.
OBJECTIVE 3 By 2012, 50 percent of sister city joint contingency plans will be supplemented with preparedness and prevention related efforts, such as risk and consequence analysis, risk reduction, and counter-terrorism.	REVISED Sub-Objective 3A: By 2012, 75% of sister city joint contingency plans will be supplemented with preparedness and prevention related efforts, such as certified training, risk analysis, and capacity building.	ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE: ACCOMPLISHED 50% of sister city plans were Supplemented with preparedness and prevention related efforts. The EPRWG will continue ongoing work at local and regional levels, will provide national support to ensure greater consistency across the sister city plans and will help coordinate regional support. The Emergency and Preparedness Work Group agreed that the term, "counter-terrorism" needed to be deleted due to jurisdictional limitations in SEMARNAT.

Goal #6: Improve Environmental Performance through Compliance, Enforcement, Pollution Prevention, and Promotion of Environmental Stewardship

Prior enforcement coordination focused on co-operation around specific enforcement cases as well as targeted training and information-sharing. Compliance assistance efforts consisted of seminars, workshops, training and

dissemination of materials to help businesses understand and comply with environmental requirements. Pollution prevention efforts were led by a workgroup and resulted in increased exchange of information on technologies via

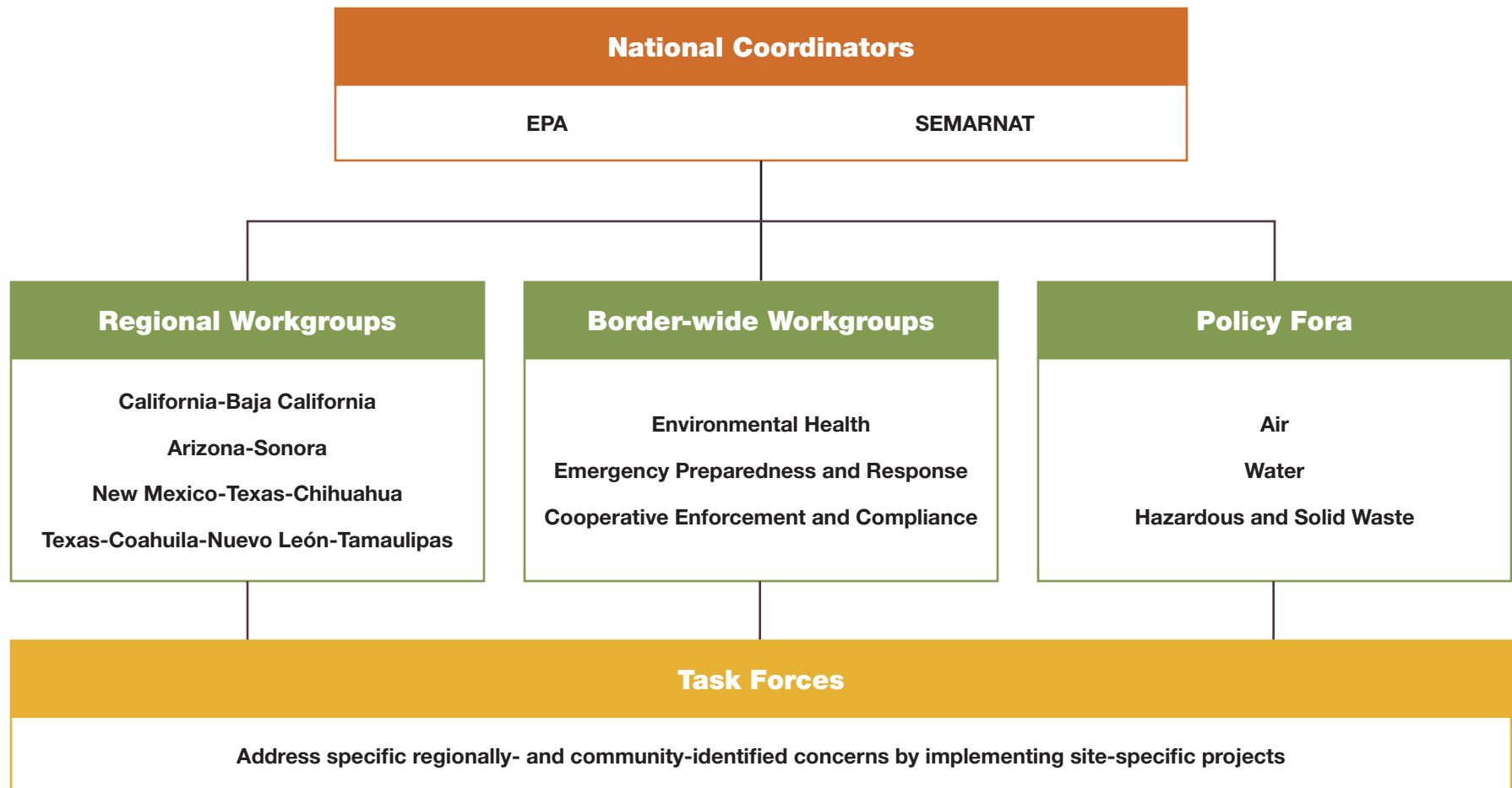
workshops and training and multiple voluntary programs with measurable waste reductions from individual participants. Ongoing border-wide efforts will rely upon regional enforcement task forces to continue these efforts to achieve

the following objectives:

ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES (2003)	NEW/REVISED OBJECTIVES OR SUB-OBJECTIVES	NOTES
OBJECTIVE 1 By 2006, increase by 50% the number of industries along the U.S.-Mexico border implementing voluntary compliance and/or self-audits (such as the development of an Environmental Management System [EMS] or participation in voluntary assessment programs), using 2003 as a baseline year.	REVISED Sub-Objective 1A: Continue promoting adoption of voluntary programs and pollution prevention by industry and in other sectors in both countries. Federal, state, and local initiatives may include: Industria Limpia program and others, and projects to green the supply chain.	ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE: ACCOMPLISHED By 2006, participation in the voluntary compliance program, Industria Limpia, was increased by 50% over the number certified in 2003. In addition 36 companies were trained to develop and implement an EMS.
OBJECTIVE 2 By 2006, determine the pollution sources in the border area that present high risks to human health and the environment that are subject to regulation and set priorities for actions to lower the risk.	REVISED OBJECTIVE 2 By 2009, determine the pollution sources in the border area that present risks to human health and the environment that are subject to regulation and set priorities for actions to lower the risk.	
OBJECTIVE 3 By 2012 increase compliance in the priority areas determined in Objective 2 by assessing and responding to citizen complaints, compliance assistance, compliance incentives, compliance monitoring, and enforcement to reduce the risks from non-compliant facilities and encourage voluntary pollution prevention.	REVISED OBJECTIVE 3 By 2012 increase compliance in the priority areas determined in Objective 2 by applying regulatory and/or voluntary tools.	These are activities that will be done to accomplish the goal: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Conduct binational training to strengthen compliance assistance programs and enforcement practices. 2) Increase capacity to conduct inspections at border crossing. 3) Assess and respond to citizen complaints. 4) Public reporting of the U.S. Toxics Release Inventory and Mexico's Pollutant Release and Transfer Registry.

Organized For Continued Success

EPA and SEMARNAT National Coordinators will continue providing guidance and oversight to the coordinating bodies under Border 2012: Regional Workgroups, Border-wide Workgroups and Policy Forums, and to their respective Task Forces.*



**To further develop Border 2012's organizational structure, the co-chairs created the Border Indicators Task Force in 2003 to measure environmental conditions and program progress by developing border environmental and performance indicators.*

Border 2012 Model of Binational Cooperation and Partnership



**Campo Band of
Kumeyaay Indians**



**Tohono O'odham
Nation**



**Mexico's Federal
Attorney General
for Environmental
Protection**



**Ewiiapaayp Band of
Kumeyaay Indians**



**Mexico's Federal
Commission for the
Protection against
Sanitary Risks**



**Good Neighbor
Environmental Board**



**Mexico's National
Institute of Ecology**



"The goals achieved by Border 2012 illustrate the commitment of our two countries in fulfilling the ongoing mission of promoting environmental protection and developing strategies of cooperation that, with a local and regional focus, promote the development of sustainable infrastructure in the border region. In this regard, the work of the NADBank is complemented and facilitated greatly."

**North American
Development Bank**



"The Border 2012 Program advances sound environmental principles through financially-responsible financial investments for environmental success... Environmental conditions along the U.S.-Mexico border are a shared concern among all states that benefit from international trade and economic development between the U.S. and Mexico...ECOS strongly supports the Border 2012 Programs and the progress it has made improving public health and the environment in the U.S.-Mexico Border region."

**Environmental Council of
the States**



"In 2001, the 10 Border States drafted the initial framework for what is now the U.S.-Mexico Border Environmental Program Border 2012. Since then, in partnership with USEPA, Mexico's Environment Ministry (SEMARNAT), and the U.S. border Tribes, we have made tremendous progress in accomplishing most of the goals and objectives of the program."

10 Border States



"The National Water Commission has made progress in one of its fundamental goals: to provide drinking water and sewage services to a greater amount of users located within the border region, within a frame of inter-institutional cooperation, sustainable development and mutual benefit for both countries. This effort has been achieved thanks to the support and cooperation from the diverse governmental institutions and tribes from United States of America and Mexico, involved in Border 2012."

**Mexico's National Water
Commission**



"Pala is committed to helping bring clean water and improving the health of fellow tribal members in Mexico, insuring they're able to improve their quality of life and better care for their community members, while continuing to live on their ancestral lands."

**Pala Band of
Mission Indians**



"The Border 2012 U.S.-Mexico Environmental Program has proven to be a very effective and well structured model for supporting the implementation of sustainable solutions to the environmental and health problems facing the border region, through the committed and direct involvement of federal, state and local stakeholders. For BECC, continuing to support the implementation of special projects identified through the program remains a high priority."

**Border Environment
Cooperation Commission**



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List of Acronyms

BECC

Border Environment Cooperation Commission

CEC

North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation

CONAGUA

Nacional Water Commission

EPA

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EMS

Environmental Management System

GNEB

Good Neighbor Environmental Board

HHS

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

IBWC

International Boundary and Water Commission

NADB

North American Development Bank

NAFTA

North American Free Trade Agreement

PROFEPA

Mexico's Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection

SCERP

Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy

SEMARNAT

Mexico's Secretariat for the Environment and Natural Resources

SS

Mexico's Secretariat of Health