

# Medium Term Work Plan

Following the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in the field of biodiversity, climate change vulnerability, risk assessment, adaptation and mitigation signed in Rome, on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, between the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of the Republic of Italy and the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of the United Mexican States, the Signatories agree to implement the following medium term Work Plan (WP).

## 1. Objectives

The objectives of the present Medium-term Work Plan have to be identified and selected along with the general objectives of the MoU, that are, amongst others specified in its Article 2, as follows:

- to strengthen and coordinate the efforts for mainstreaming biodiversity in key sectors;
- to combat global climate change and address its adverse effects;
- to support mechanisms for regional climate change vulnerability and risk assessment;
- to stimulate and disseminate the economic and technological transformation to low emissions;
- to implement adaptation actions;
- to enhance management effectiveness of natural protected areas;
- to implement opportunities to protect the environment, ecosystems, biodiversity and ecosystem services in Mexico.

## 2. Activities

In accordance with Article 4.3 of the aforementioned MoU, in the course of the implementation of the programs, projects and activities consideration will be given to the participation of the public, private and non-profit sectors, including, where appropriate, universities, scientific and technical research bodies and non-governmental organizations, as well as other institutions on both sides.

Following Article 2 of the MoU, and taking into account the indications provided by the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) submitted in March 2015 by the United Mexican States, this WP aims to focus on the following areas of interest:

- Enhancement of capacities for the implementation of Mechanisms under the UNFCCC and its related instruments (i.e. Paris Agreement);
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation in biodiversity, forestry and natural protected areas;
- Further areas of interest might be envisaged in waste and water sectors.

### **3. Biodiversity, forestry and natural protected areas**

Also according the outcomes of the 13<sup>th</sup> CBD COP, under this sector the main focuses will be:

- role of biodiversity in adaptation policies, with a special attention to coastal and marine biodiversity;
- forestry contribution especially to mitigation policies (REDD+);
- management of natural protected areas as instrument for both adaptation and mitigation;

To this end, cooperation will be focused on the following possible activities:

- strengthen the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity, particularly through the increase of the Programs of Action and Conservation of Species as well as through the integration of biodiversity protection practices in other relevant sectors;
- improve contrast actions against illegal logging and trade of species;
- conserve and restore ecosystems in order to increase ecological connectivity of all Natural Protected Areas and other conservation schemes, through biological corridors and sustainable productive activities;
- enhance the governance of the system of protected areas also through an improved participation of all stakeholders;

- support afforestation and reforestation programs in high, medium and low watersheds, with special attention to riparian zones and taking into account native species in the area;
- address the drivers of deforestation, with the objective of reaching the target established by the Government of the United Mexican States of 0% deforestation rate by 2030;
- adopt an ecosystem-based approach for all adaptation measures (Ecosystem based Adaptation – EbA);
- increase carbon capture and strengthen coastal protection with the implementation of a scheme of conservation and recovery of coastal and marine ecosystems such as coral reefs, mangroves, sea grass and dunes;
- improve assessment of ecosystem services, both in monetary and non-monetary terms;
- scaling up finance for biodiversity also through instruments of payments for ecosystem services and involvement of business community.

#### 4. **Measures**

The activities under the aforementioned sectors will be implemented through the following measures:

- Capacity building:
  - Collection, analysis and dissemination of meteorological data relevant to the observation of climate change and the measurement of its impact on the potentially vulnerable sectors such as: agriculture, fisheries, forestry and tourism, as foreseen for the upcoming CBD's COP-13;
  - Improvement of the system for evaluating and assessing mitigation and adaptation measures;
  - Ensuring participation of the society, local communities, indigenous peoples, women, men, youth, civil organizations and private sector in national and subnational climate change planning.
- Sharing of resources, technologies and information.
  - Organization of workshops, presentations and meetings (also b2b) for technology transfer;
  - Exchange of experiences and best practices.
- Exchange of experience, trainees and personnel.

The activities might be developed also within triangular cooperation frameworks.

## 5. Implementation

Each funded activity will include a budget for missions and travels, that will cover also travel expenses of both sides of experts and officials, according to the UN regulations and/or specific agreement between both sides.

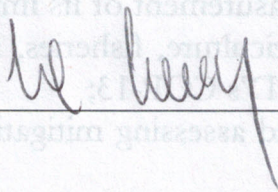
## 6. Entry into force

This Work Plan will come into force after signature by the Signatories.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed the present document in two copies in English, in Mexico City on March 3, 2017.

For the Ministry for the  
Environment, Land and Sea of  
the Republic of Italy

*The Director General*  
Mr. Francesco La Camera



For the Ministry of the  
Environment and Natural  
Resources of the United  
Mexican States

*The Head of the International  
Affairs Coordination Unit*  
Mr. Enrique Lendo Fuentes

