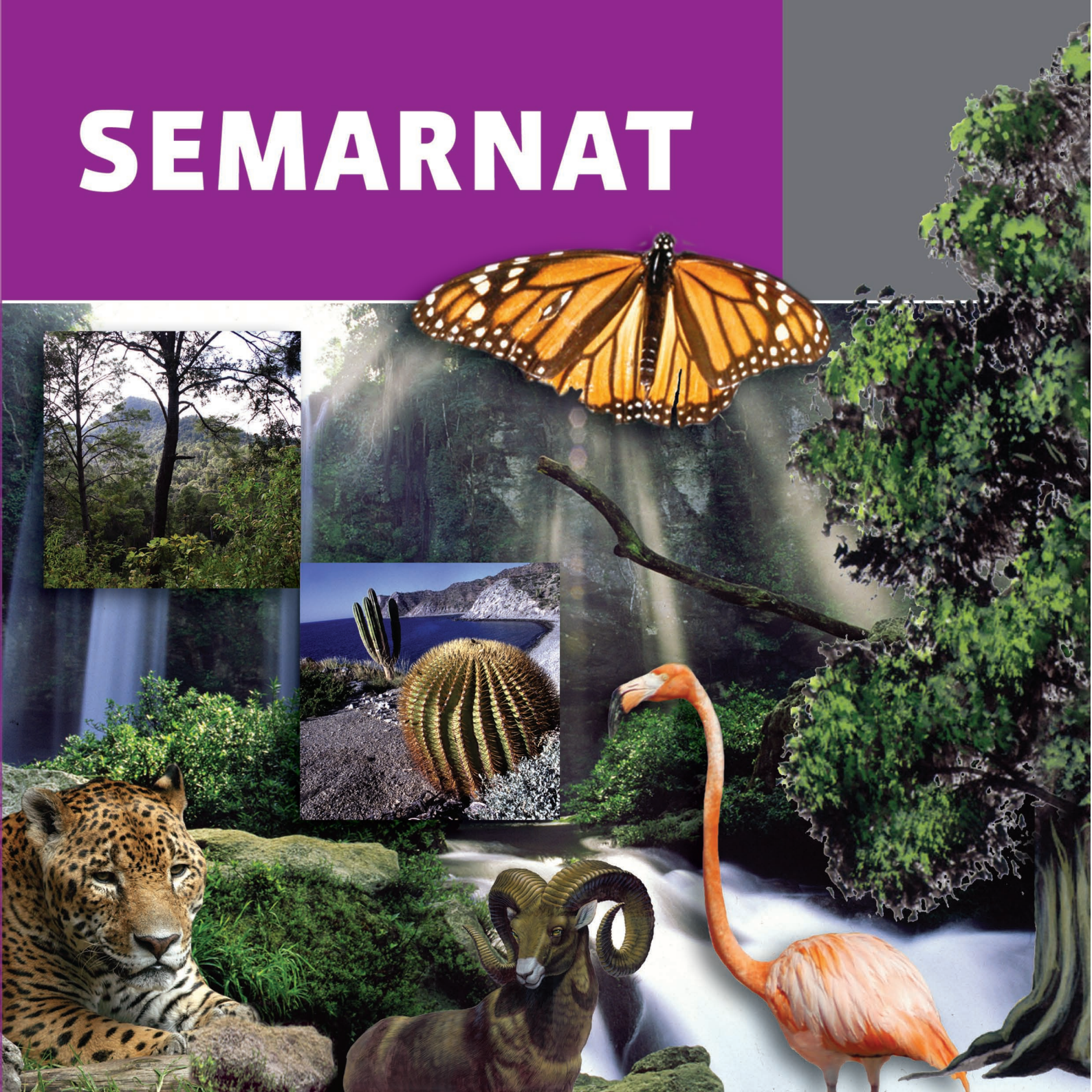
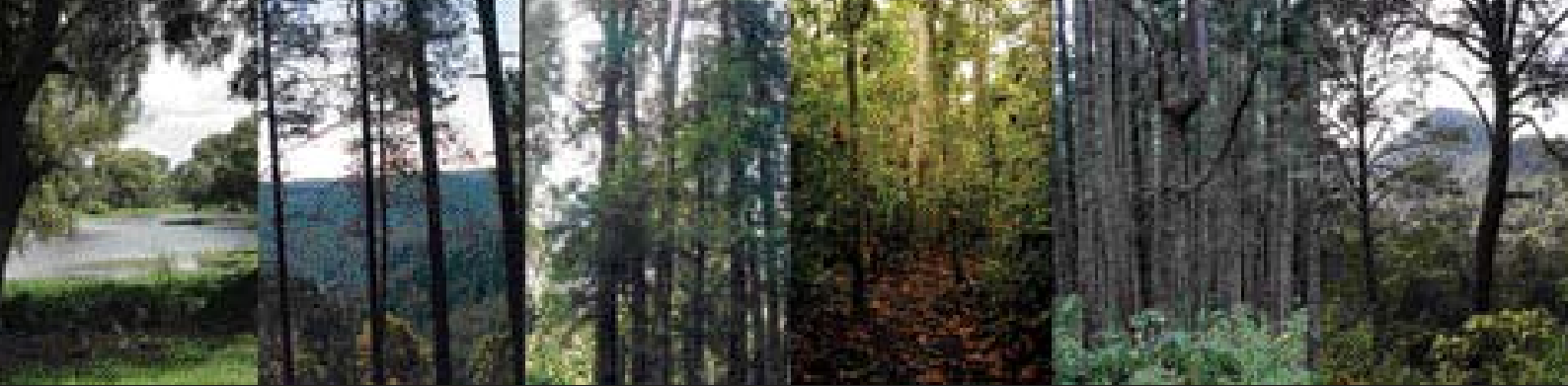


SEMARNAT





What is Semarnat?

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Semarnat) is a federal government agency whose main purpose is to promote the protection, restoration and conservation of ecosystems and natural resources, as well as environmental goods and services, in order to promote their sustainable use and development.

Vision

A country where everybody embraces deep and sincere concern for protecting and preserving the environment and sustainably uses its natural resources, conciliating economic development, harmonious coexistence with nature and cultural diversity.

Mission

Incorporate in every field, both social and governmental institutions, criteria and instruments to ensure the optimal protection, conservation and use of our natural resources, in order to have an integrated and inclusive environmental policy within the framework of sustainable development.





Objectives

- Conserve Mexico's ecosystems and biodiversity, especially of those which their species are under a protection category, with a responsible participation of all social sectors.
 - Halt and reverse the loss of natural capital and pollution of life sustaining systems (water, air and soil), with the shared participation of society.
- Encourage and promote compliance with environmental and natural resources legislation, through enforcement and surveillance instruments, promotion of voluntary participation and a prompt and expeditious justice.
- Manage and preserve national waters with the participation of society, in order to achieve the sustainable use of this resource.





Undersecretary of Planning and Environmental Policy (Subsecretaría de Planeación y Política Ambiental)

Its mission is to formulate and conduct the strategic environmental planning, regional and local environmental policies, as well as strengthening coordination among the three levels of government.

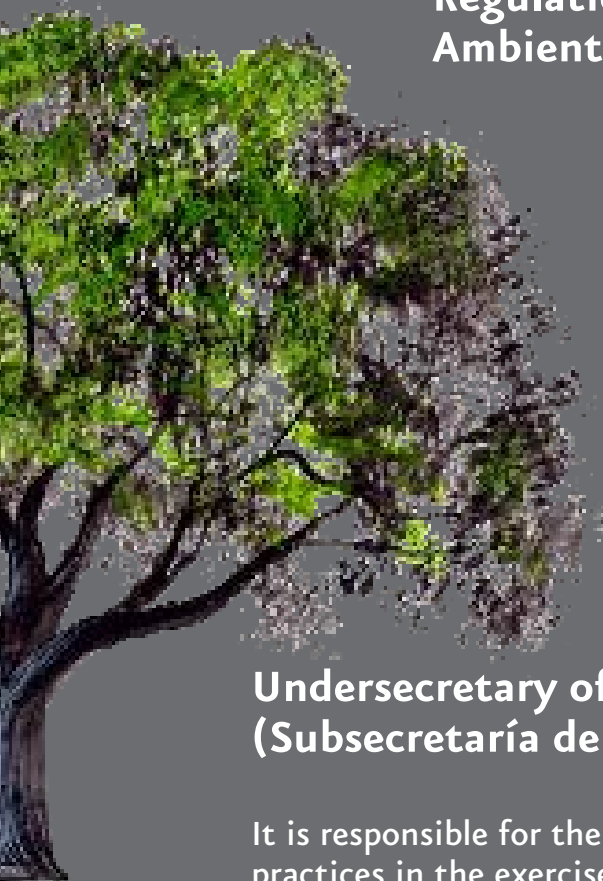
In addition, it is responsible for implementing processes and creating instruments to provide information to the government and society on the status of the environment and natural resources, in order to make managerial decisions.





Undersecretary of Public Works and Environmental Regulation (Subsecretaría de Fomento y Normatividad Ambiental)

Its main objective is to establish a regulatory framework and to design mechanisms and instruments to promote coherence between development of economic activities, environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources.



Undersecretary of Management for Environmental Protection (Subsecretaría de Gestión para la Protección Ambiental)

It is responsible for the establishment of mechanisms that encourage healthy practices in the exercise of civil service, including its own activities and those of the Ministry. It also monitors the full compliance of the legal framework in issues under its responsibility.



CONANP

The National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas, Conanp) is a decentralized agency of Semarnat. It is responsible of the administration and operation of the Natural Protected Areas (NPAs). These regions represent different ecosystems and natural capital, which haven't been largely affected by human activities.

The NPAs are not parks or closed areas. They are bounded by an imaginary protection polygon based on its biological value and its ecosystems and biodiversity. Nevertheless Conanp's actions benefit those who live beyond those lines.

In Mexico there are different types of NPAs: biosphere reserves, national parks, protected areas of flora and fauna, protected natural resources areas, natural monuments and sanctuaries. The category is established according to their characteristics.



CONAGUA

The National Water Commission (Comisión Nacional del Agua, Conagua) is a Semarnat's decentralized agency, created through a presidential mandate on January 16, 1989. Its main task is to manage and preserve national waters and its inherent benefits, in order to ensure its sustainable use with the shared responsibility of the three government levels and the society.

Its vision is to collaborate in having a nation with enough quantity and quality of water; that recognizes its strategic value, uses it efficiently and protects water bodies, in order to ensure sustainable development and environment conservation.







CONAFOR

The National Forest Commission (Comisión Nacional Forestal, Conafor) is a public decentralized agency, dependent from Semarnat. Conafor is responsible of formulating plans and programs that ensure the implementation of a sustainable forest development policy.

It was created through a presidential mandate on April 4, 2001, and it aims to develop, encourage and foster productive activities of forest conservation and restoration in jungle, forest, arid and semi-arid areas, including the sustainable use of their products.

Special attention should be given to ProÁrbol, a program that is not only a reforestation mechanism, but a design for poverty and marginalization reduction in forest areas through proper management and use of natural resources. ProÁrbol gathers economic, technical and in-kind supports.



IMTA

The Mexican Institute of Water Technology (Instituto Mexicano de Tecnología del Agua, IMTA) is a decentralized agency, dependent from Semarnat, which has the task of producing and propagate knowledge and technology for sustainable development and integrated resources management of water in Mexico.

This work is carried out through oriented research; technology development, adaptation and transfer; management of water resources innovation; human resources training and updating; technological services provision; strengthening of institutional capacities; and the practice of water ethic and the stimulation of its adoption by the society.

INE

The National Institute of Ecology (Instituto Nacional de Ecología, INE) is a Semarnat's decentralized agency.

Its mission is to generate integrate and propagate scientific and technological information and knowledge on environment, to train human resources in order to inform society, to help in decision-making processes, to promote environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources, as well as to support the Ministry in the fulfillment of its objectives.

Its work represents a great opportunity of contribution to Mexico's sustainable development, and sets the foundations of environmental protection actions on the best available scientific and technical information.

Its work is based on four lines or agendas:

Green Agenda

Gray Agenda

Socioeconomic Agenda

Experimental Research and Training Agenda.



PROFEPA

The Federal Attorney of Environmental Protection (Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente, Profepa) was established in 1992 and is a decentralized agency, with technical and operational autonomy under Semarnat.

Its main task is to increase environmental regulation compliance, in order to contribute to sustainable development. Its vision is that of a society in which each member is the guardian of a friendly coexistence between man and nature.

Before imposing sanctions, Profepa seeks to promote a true ecological culture and achieve the highest legal compliance rates.

Its mission is to ensure environmental justice through strict law enforcement, in order to eradicate impunity, corruption, procrastination and authority gaps, as well as to engage all sectors and all three levels of government under the principles of fairness and justice .

CONABIO

The National Commission for the Use and Knowledge of Biodiversity (Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad, Conabio) was established in 1992 as an inter-agency body, chaired by the President of Mexico and constituted with 10 heads of the following federal Secretariats: Environment and Natural Resources; Health; Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development and Fisheries; Foreign Affairs; Education; Social Development; Tourism; Economy; Energy; and Treasury. Its main functions are:

- To create and update the National Information System on Biodiversity (SNIB); to support research activities needed to elaborate the SNIB; and to advice the public, private and social sectors on matters related to biodiversity.

To serve as a bridge institution among academia, government and society; generate knowledge on the national natural capital to be applied at the local level; and to conserve and manage biodiversity based on local actions.

Conabio is conceived as an organization for applied research, collecting and generating national and international information on biodiversity; and as a public information and knowledge source for all members of society.

