

# Presentation

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**WORLD**  
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**WEEK**

# Prospects and challenges in the Water and sanitation sector in Latin America and the Caribbean

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## The National Water Commission Mexico

- CONAGUA is the Mexican Water Authority in charge of the water and its inherent public goods
- It is a decentralized agency from the Environment and Natural Resources Ministry (SEMARNAT)
- It was established through Presidential Decree on January 1989 and has 13 regional offices and 20 state offices
- Its mission is to “manage and preserve Mexico’s water and its inherent public goods to achieve a sustainable use of these resources, with the co-responsibility of the three levels of government and society-at-large”



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## Water in Mexico at a glance

### ○ In Mexico:

- The renewable freshwater per capita is 4,312 m<sup>3</sup>/year (2007), as compared to 17,742 m<sup>3</sup>/year in 1950
- 1,471 river basins and 653 aquifers
- Water uses: 77% agriculture, 14% public supply, 4% self-supplying industry & 5% thermoelectric
- Water sources: 64% superficial water, 36% groundwater



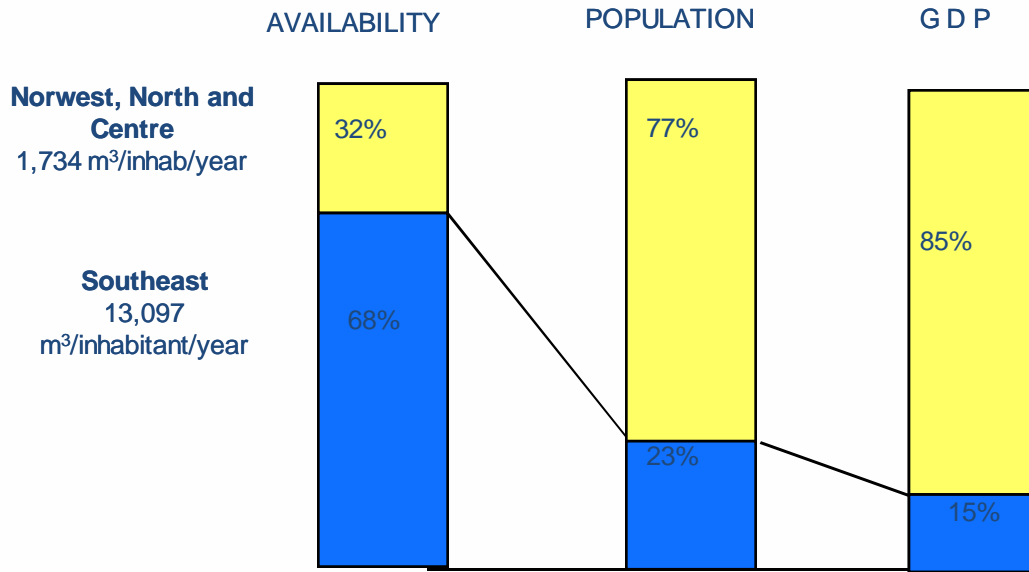
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# Water in Mexico at a glance



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# Main water management tools in Mexico

## Legal Framework:

- Constitution:
  - Article 27. The water in national territory is national property
  - Article 115. The water and sanitation service provision is a municipality's responsibility
- National Water Law (2004). Gives CONAGUA the responsibility to manage and preserve the national waters
- International Treaties for transboundary river basin management

## Legal Tools:

- Water Allocation and Concession Titles
- Public Registry of Water Rights (REPDA)
- Regulations, Prohibitions and Reserves



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# Main water management tools in Mexico

## **Command and control tools:**

- Inspection and Measurement
- Sanctions

## **Economic tools:**

- Payments for exploitation and use of water
- Transference of water rights and Water Banks

## **Participation tools:**

- Users associations (Irrigation Districts and Units)
- River Basin Councils (CCs) & other auxiliary organizations
- Technical Groundwater Committee (COTAS)

## **Planning and execution tools:**

- National Development Plan
- National Water Program
- Different Water Programs:
  - Five Water and Sanitation Programs



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## Main water challenges in Mexico

- There are 10.8 million mexicans without drinking water and 14.5 millions without sewage (2007)
- In the cities, the water exploitation represents between 50 and 70%
- Preserve the quality of water for future generations
- Provide safe water to dispersed rural communities
- According to the National Population Council, by 2030 there will be 121 millions of inhabitants in Mexico, which would reduce the mean natural per capita availability to 3,783 m<sup>3</sup>/inhabitant/year
- Mexico City Valley presents a very high degree of water stress (155%) with only 3,008 million m<sup>3</sup> of renewable freshwater against 4,665 million allocated for different uses
- 101 overexploited aquifers (out of 653)



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## Main water actions to face the challenges

- CONAGUA has the major investment budget in the history to keep constructing water infrastructure
- By means of its water programs, CONAGUA is creating incentives for the improvement of water efficiency, for studies and projects, for increasing the wastewater treatment and its reuse in urban areas, and for attending marginal rural areas
- Mexico has continued to take actions to protect its water bodies, reduce water demand, and keep providing the water and sanitation services to the entire population
- With the Agenda 2030, it is promoted a long-term vision for the future of water resources in Mexico
- CONAGUA created the Mexico City Valley Water Sustainability Program to address its problem in a coherent and holistic manner and it is preparing another one for substituting bathroom furniture



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## Opportunities for synergies and collaboration

- CONAGUA has planned several major water infrastructure projects where international private participation is possible
- CONAGUA has a long standing tradition of joint collaboration with International Organizations as World Bank, IADB, JICA and governments
- There are open opportunities for joint collaboration and synergies with NGOs, civil society and other stakeholders in the improvement of the safe water access to the poor and marginal rural communities
- In the urban areas, the opportunities are related to the monitoring and appraisal of the water utilities performance



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# Thank you very much

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