

What should the world know about Mexico's Future Issues and Mexican Experts' Views on the 15 Global CHALLENGES

Méxican Node's survey for the Millennium Project Nodes' session at the WFS Conference held in June/July 2005 invited 53 people with a 41% response rate.

Participants: 59% women and 41% men
41% government; 32% private sector; 14% scholars & 13% NGO's

Background: Economy, Urbanism, Actuary, Architecture, Social Communication, Medicin, Business Administration, Foreign Relations, Philosophy and Engineering: civil, electric and chemistry.

Population

- ❖ **2050:** 130 millions: 17% less 15 years; 55% between 16 and 59 and 28% older tan 60.
- ❖ **2025:** 50% more than 30 years.
- ❖ **2015:** 30% older than 60 years.
- ❖ **Now:** 106.5 million: 30 %, 62% and 8 %. **Life expectancy 75.4**

Urban vision:

- ❖ **2030:** 7 out of 10 mexicans living in cities bigger than 15,000 , 31% in cities of 100,000 up to 1 million people and 57% in cities of more than 1 million
- ❖ **Now:** people live in 196,000 places with less than 2500 people.

What should the world know about Mexico's Future Issues?

1. Mexican immigration to USA should be faced more like a regional development vision, than a short term problem.
2. National security, economic development and protection of immigrants rights are issues that affect us seriously.
3. We want to be part of a global world, keeping our identity and treated with equity. Our millenary cultures give us a strong identity.
4. We are a country in its development process, open to the future and building it's political system. We will become a more democratic State.
5. We will become a more feasible and solid country for foreign investments, with laws to give more certainty and security.

*Méxican Node's survey for the Millennium Project Nodes' session at the 2005 WFS Conference. .
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6. Even if we're the 10th economy in the world, half of our population lives in poverty and in extreme poverty conditions.
7. All Mexican problems are interlinked: water, energy, education, policies, work, health, financial, etc...
8. The breaking State alliances with the narcos (*drug dealers*) are creating violent reactions, mainly in the border.
9. There is an increasing trend of respect for law.

15 CHALLENGES EXPERTS VIEWS FOR MEXICO.

1. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. How can sustainable development be achieved for all?

- ❖ Limiting excesses from corporations and countries that concentrate power, economic resources and decisions vs. the weakness and fragility of most of the population.
- ❖ To use more renewable resources, look for more renewable resources and support scientific and technological research.

2. WATER. How can everyone have sufficient clean water without conflict?

- ❖ Having a precise inventory and clear property rules.
- ❖ Harnessing rain water and treating and recycling residual waters before turning them back to it's beds or ditches.
- ❖ Developing and applying technologies to save irrigation and house waters.
- ❖ Paying what it really costs.

3. POPULATION AND RESOURCES. How can Mexico reach its future balance between population growth and resources?

- ❖ Providing incentives and rewarding fertility control.
- ❖ Strengthening domestic economy and sustainable growth through better public policies.
- ❖ Implementing more rational natural resources management.

4. DEMOCRATIZATION. How can democratic participation be more active in Mexico?

- ❖ Mexico wants a more efficacious social democracy.
- ❖ Mexico is advancing in second generation policies: more transparency and supervision of political parties' finances, and introduction of public referendum and initiatives.

5. LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVES. How can Mexican policymaking be made more sensitive to global long-term perspectives?

- ❖ Promoting State visions without political overtones and views.
- ❖ Developing public information or awareness campaigns on political and urban issues.
- ❖ Recognizing that global long term perspectives depend on particularities recognition and the global support to diminish inequalities.
- ❖ Generating an eclectic movement with long term vision.
- ❖ Formalizing a wide agreement among the different political forces in order to ensure continuity and preserve the long-term policies that would not be early changes by changes in national power.

6. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY. How can the global convergence of information and communications technologies work for everyone in Mexico?

- ❖ Being a real world window, that freely provides feedbacks to all for their for their personal, social, institutional, etc. decisions, so anyone can choose the best way to use or not use it.

7. RICH-POO GAP. How can ethical market economies be encouraged in Mexico to help reduce the gap between rich and poor?

- ❖ Developing an entrepreneur culture with social sense and vocation.
- ❖ Capital resources coming from the intern and extern savings.
- ❖ Taxes help little for income redistribution; public expenses policy is the key to reduce poverty and richness.
- ❖ Public resources in Mexico are not enough to diminish the gap between poor and rich people.
- ❖ There should be a UNO proposal to rescue the emergent world through world productive projects.
- ❖ The government should fiscally stimulate those enterprises that:
 - Donate social sponsorships to reduce social marginalization and poverty.
 - Are hiring people with different capacities,.
 - Are working with vulnerable groups: Indians, old people and women.
 - Are investing in regions with major marginalization and sustainable development.
 - Are using clean technologies and sustainable production processes.
- ❖ To increase the growth rate to 5%.

8. HEALTH. How can the threat of new and reemerging diseases and immune microorganisms be reduced?

- ❖ Mexico needs to reorganize the health services because of it's demographic transition. Needs more specialized doctors in older people.
- ❖ Women life expectancy is more than 75 years.

- ❖ Hepatitis B and C and depression are increasingly, despite chronic illness as cancer, diabetes and arterial hypertension.
- ❖ New illnesses are reappearing as tuberculosis, measles and sharp breathing.
- ❖ Obesity and depression are silent illnesses. 56% of women are obese in urban areas and 70% in the rural areas.
- ❖ The Human Genome research is helping to identify the main causes for the persistence of some illnesses and other chronic sicknesses.
- ❖ The Popular Insurance will help the 30% of the population, which is actually spending the 38% of its income in drugs and medical services.

9. CAPACITY TO DECIDE. How can the capacity to decide be improved as the nature of work and institutions change in Mexico?

- ❖ Through education and training towards an institutional service culture on time and not under authority.
- ❖ Mexican people's character by nature doesn't allow to take fast and definitive decisions.
- ❖ Creating smaller enterprises.
- ❖ Managing less religious ideology and more progressive, rewarding success and not poverty.

10. PEACE AND CONFLICT. How can shared values and new security strategies reduce ethnic conflicts, terrorism, and the use of weapons of mass destruction?

- ❖ North America needs a higher security perimeter, that could allow all of us a better communication, instead of isolating us from risks further than the common border.

11. STATUS OF WOMEN. How can the changing status of women in Mexico help improve the human condition?

- ❖ Continuing with social programs giving money to women.
- ❖ Mexican women should be freer in taking their own decisions about: sexuality, reproduction, settlement, transit, keeping the environment and natural resources, etc.
- ❖ Developing women's awareness about her capacity, so can feel more confident and less devaluated.
- ❖ Mexican women identified themselves as children's raisers, and the communicators and preservers of role and values in the family.
- ❖ Mexican women's perception is that they are not doing it well, but they are looking for her own equilibrium.
- ❖ "Machismo" is still present in the Mexican society, especially in the rural areas. In the cities, women are facing more men's mistreatment through the national and international public and civil organizations.
- ❖ Mexican women should be empowered with health and education to develop their skills.

- ❖ In Mexico women earn in urban areas 24% less than men. They have access only to the 9% of all executive jobs and the 23% of all public jobs.
- ❖ In the labor force, women older than 15 years old have 9.6 education years.

12. TRANSNATIONAL CRIME. How can transnational organized crime networks be stopped from becoming more powerful and sophisticated global enterprises?

- ❖ Through an international cooperation, multilateral (UNO) and other international organizations.
- ❖ Mexico's violence is due to its proximity to the major consumption drug market in the world, the USA.

13. ENERGY. How can growing energy demand be met safely and efficiently?

- ❖ Increasing renewable sources as hydropower, geothermal, solar and wind.
- ❖ For 2012 wind turbines will supply 5% of the electric energy consumed by residential customers.
- ❖ Developing more compact cities, with automobile's circulation restrictions, and using natural conditions for building illumination en ventilation.

14. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. How can scientific and technological breakthroughs be accelerated to improve the human condition?

- ❖ We have to specialize to be leaders in 2 or 3 branches in the region.
- ❖ Giving support and improving education quality as well as scientific, humanistic, and technological research all levels.
- ❖ Changing our recognition social patterns in favor to scientific and inventors.

15. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS. How can ethical considerations become more routinely incorporated into global decisions in Mexico?

- ❖ Teaching ethics as a new generation's value, so in the future it will become part of Mexican's decisionmaking. Children should learn it at elementary schools, so it can become part of its future's rule and attitude in life.
- ❖ Creating a better legal system for indictments without repressing people.