

## New legislation on Climate Change requires action by the NSO in Mexico

It is not just statistical laws that are relevant to climate change-related statistics. In Mexico, other laws pertaining to climate change provide the legislative framework for producing climate change-related statistics.

### Table: The new General Law on Climate Change requires action by the NSO in Mexico

The new *General Law on Climate Change* of Mexico entered into force in October 2012. The law defines the roles of different government agencies in climate action and sets the institutional mechanisms for coordination of the work. The law aims at regulating greenhouse gas emissions, providing direction to climate change mitigation and adaptation and thus reducing the vulnerability of the population and ecosystems to the adverse effects of climate change. The overall objective is to promote the transition to a competitive and sustainable low-carbon emission economy.

The law also assigned new tasks to the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) for the measurement of climate change; namely, defining indicators for climate policies; monitoring the progress and results of the climate policies; and coordinating the development and maintenance of a new Climate Change Information System.

The new Climate Change Information System will integrate a set of key indicators to monitor the impacts of climate change and the efficiency of climate change policies. The system will include at least the following topics:

1. GHG emissions as measured by the national inventory
2. GHG emission reduction projects
3. Atmospheric conditions, including short-term climate predictions, long-term projections and characterization of climate variability
4. Vulnerability of human settlements, infrastructure, islands, coastal zones and river deltas, impacts on economic activities and environment attributable to climate change
5. Average sea level
6. Costs attributable to climate change, to be included in the calculation of the environmentally adjusted Net Domestic Product
7. Soil quality, including its carbon content
8. Protection, adaptation and management of biodiversity

The key indicators of the Climate Change Information System will be integrated into a geographic information system providing public access through a website. The website will include descriptive material, such as inventory reports and assessments of the national climate change policy. INEGI is currently developing the system following guiding principles of accessibility, transparency, objectivity and independence of data production. Analysis of climate change-related issues requires linking data from a number of sources, surveys, registers, administrative sources, research data, etc. The ability of statistical offices to get access to administrative data is not self-evident in all countries.