

Appendix 1: Outline profile of the experts consulted

Twenty experts were consulted, four experts for each of the five policies, each sub-group of four being selected for optimum similarity of composition and expertise. Five of the experts consulted were women, fifteen were men, and all have held mid to high-ranking positions in government institutions in the environment sector of Mexico's federal government for at least two years, with most having over a decade of experience. Three had recently left government with the change of administration (December 2012), and one had just moved to a new agency within the Environment Ministry. Each expert agreed to respond to questions presented via semi-structured interviews, most of which were conducted in the interviewees' office, after first having answered a questionnaire, via email.

A further ten experts were consulted exclusively via questionnaires sent by email. This group of experts, comprising two women and eight men, have held very senior decision-making positions in the environment sector of the Mexican government (although most are retired from government), and/or have held senior positions in the regional offices of international conservation NGO's in Mexico, and/or in Mexican NGO's dealing with natural resource conservation and management. Almost all have doctoral level degrees and teach university undergraduate and postgraduate students in environment-related studies. This group was consulted, in the context of this analysis, to "triangulate" the responses of the larger group of 20 experts.