

Appendix 3: List of the 14 interview questions, which were grouped by subject matter into 11 "question codes" generated during the qualitative analysis of the data, aided by Atlas-ti.

Interview questions		Question codes	
1	I should like to start by asking which policy attributes you think contribute to the success of (this policy)?	1	Contributes to success
2	Do you consider that any obstacle or obstacles exist to the successful implementation of (this policy)?	2	Obstacles to success
3	In reference to (this policy), what has been most effective in articulating between sectors and/or tiers of government? 3a) To what do you attribute this?	3	Mainstreaming (this) policy
4	Considering the environment sector as a whole, in your opinion which public policies have been most effective at articulating between sectors and tiers of government? 4a) To what do you attribute this?	4	Mainstreaming (other) policies
5	What is your perception of environmental policy based on integrated drainage basin management in Mexico?	5	Integrated basin management
6	What do you understand by "environmental governance"?	6	Environmental governance
7	Environmental governance can be considered as the capacity of institutions, laws and coordination arrangements, both governmental and non-governmental, to articulate the polycentric implementation of the policies of environmental management across different spatial and temporal scales, in the social and natural spheres. Thus understood, how relevant do you consider environmental governance to be for the implementation of (this policy)? 7a) Why?		
8	What measures might improve environmental governance in Mexico?	7	How to improve governance?
9	What do you understand by "adaptive management", as it relates to environmental policy?	8	Adaptive management
10	Adaptive management can be considered a process of policy implementation based on feedback from (social, environmental, economic, etc.) indicators relevant for sustainable development generally, and for achieving the specific objectives of policies. If the monitoring of these indicators suggests a deviation, in the medium- or long-term, from sustainability goals or criteria, adjustments can be made to how a policy is implemented, so as to reorient it towards the most feasible of desirable outcomes. Thus understood, how relevant do you consider adaptive management to be for the implementation and effectiveness of (this policy)? 10a) Why?		
11	What do you understand by the concept of socioecosystem or social-ecological system?	9	Socioecosystem approach
12	The concept of the socioecosystem recognizes that human beings are agents of change integral to ecosystems, and not external to them as is generally considered, and that social systems are totally dependent on ecosystems. Traditionally, environmental public policies are formulated based on the natural sciences, while social and economic policies are based on the social sciences. The concept of the socioecosystem posits an interdisciplinary contribution to the formulation of public policies which address sustainable development and environmental management simultaneously. The socioecosystem approach requires several policy attributes, including scientific interdisciplinarity, full public participation, and environmental governance jointly achieved by all tiers of government together with civil organizations. It should also incorporate adaptive management based on the monitoring of sustainability indicators, in order to adjust policy implementation measures when necessary, taking into account both the objectives of policy and the responses of the socioecosystem to management. It is suggested that such an approach to policy can improve the resilience of socioecosystems to sources of disturbance, such as climate change. Thus understood, what are the similarities between the socioecosystem concept and (this policy)?		
13	Do you consider that the socioecosystem approach offers advantages or disadvantages for environmental public policies in Mexico? 13a) Why?	10	Socioecosystem offers advantages or disadvantages?
14	Before concluding the interview, would you like to share any other ideas about Mexico's environmental policy, in terms of improving its effectiveness, comprehensiveness, contribution to sustainable development, etc.?	11	How to improve environmental policy?