

Mexico: Nuestro Barrio Resiliente - Our Resilient Neighborhood

Background

Today, 80 per cent of all Mexicans live in cities. The concentration of large populations in highly dense urban areas brings about critical issues for Mexican cities and their citizens; traffic jams, air and noise pollution, lack of sufficient green infrastructure and inclusive public spaces are just some to mention. The effects of climate change compounded by the overexploitation of natural resources have left many rapidly growing urban areas in Mexico threatened by water scarcity. Los Cabos, a coastal municipality in Baja California Sur with the highest urbanization rate in Mexico, which is closely linked to tourism, needs solutions to these challenges. Due to the concentration of infrastructure on the coastal strip in this region, neighborhoods further away from the coast are confronted with intensified social, economic, and environmental issues. Women, youth and children suffer more vulnerability, and therefore their perspective needs to be specifically addressed.

Project Intervention

In order to improve the resilience of a neighborhood in the coastal city of Los Cabos and enhance the citizen's quality of life, this project aims to develop and rehabilitate a multifunctional, safe, and inclusive public space. The aim is to bring together the municipality, the local community and allied organizations for a co-creation process with a special focus on gender and climate. Through volunteer groups that include women and youth, it is planned to develop a multifunctional green space as well as a



- 108 million** people live in urban areas
- 25** Per cent of Mexico's population is concentrated in three cities: Guadalajara, Mexico City, and Monterrey
- 70** Per cent of Mexico's water bodies are affected by contamination, and many cities are experiencing overexploitation of renewable groundwater and overuse of environmental flows
- 15** per cent of Mexico's urban population live in informal settlements
- 32** Per cent of the population in Los Cabos lives in poverty, which shows a great inequality

community pavilion using local low-emission materials. The proposed green infrastructure promotes biodiversity and addresses the water and climate issues in the area by providing watersheds, soakaways, infiltration, runoff areas and native vegetation. Furthermore, the residents will be encouraged to appropriate the public space through tactical urbanism. The planned measures will foster the economy, food self-sufficiency, and educational, cultural and sports activities.



Building Vibrant and Resilient Neighbourhoods

Expected Results

The inhabitants of the neighborhood, especially the youth, women and girls, are empowered by appropriating public space and transforming it into an inclusive multifunctional place for recreational activities, learning and coexistence. They value the importance of green infrastructure and its role for enhancing their quality of life. The community's overall resilience has been increased by strengthening risk management in the neighborhood. The activities contribute to achieve SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 5 (Gender Equity), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). The principle of leaving no one behind (LNOB) shapes the basis, promoting participatory decision-making and social inclusion of vulnerable groups, specifically women, youth, and children of the selected neighborhood in Los Cabos.

Implementation Partners

Urbanería, together with Niparajá and Ecology Project International (EPI), are the key implementers of the project, providing methodological and technical solutions with broad experience in implementing successful projects in La Paz, Baja California Sur.

The **Municipality of Los Cabos** provides the project with an adequate strategic public space. In collaboration with a **Local Citizen Participation Committee**, it will contribute to the coordination and maintenance of the public space.

SEDATU brings in methodological guidance, for example regarding the inclusion of women's needs and perspectives as well as the implementation of participatory processes. The **Alliance for Food Security** and **Philantropiece** will implement community risk management and financial education training.

Lastly, contacts with **ICLEI** and **Cities Alliance** will be established to promote the dissemination of the experiences of the project both regionally and globally.

Financing

The project implementation takes place from October 2021 to September 2022. BMZ provides around EUR 96.000 through the GIZ sector project "Cities"; the BMZ-funded GIZ programme "BIOCITIS" contributes approx. EUR 30.000 for the planning and preparation of the green infrastructure, whereas the municipality participates through contributions such as the donation of native plants. The Municipality of Los Cabos will provide the project's site.

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