



GLOBAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACCELERATOR PLATFORM

Municipal Engagement in International Forums to Advance Energy Efficiency in Buildings: The Case of Mexico City

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1. OVERVIEW

Mexico currently relies on Official Mexican Standards (NOMs) (*Normas Oficiales Mexicanas*) to ensure efficiency of buildings:

- Almost 30 efficiency standards for products and systems
- Federation: each of the 31 states adopts standards for implementation; many lack institutional capacity
- Other efficiency programs: energy efficiency measures in federal buildings and National Energy Efficiency Project for Municipal Lighting
- June 2016: the Mexico Conservation Code for Buildings presented—the first model energy code

At the municipal level: Mexico City Government engaged with international forums on building energy efficiency and is spearheading the country's implementation of building efficiency measures.



2. COMMITMENT

September 23, 2014 UN Climate Week, NY

- Mexico City Government engaged with the Building Efficiency Accelerator (BEA) project of the United Nation's initiative Sustainable the Sustainable Energy for All.
- Mexico City became the first city in Mexico, and one of inaugural cities globally, to officially join the BEA platform, making a commitment to work on improving building efficiency.

March 19, 2015 Mexico City Workshop

- Mexico City hosted BEA's kickoff activities. About 100 policymakers, business leaders, and representatives of civil society joined to shape a new partnership aiming to improve building efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the City.
- Three working groups were formed; working group 1 was in charge of codes, norms, and regulations.



3. ASSESSMENT

June 05, 2015 – Working Group Meeting & Advisory Group Meeting

- Reviewed the Mexico City BEA partnership's goals, structure, and work plan.
- Aimed to develop recommendations for city government and to mobilize action to deal with barriers in implementing building efficiency projects.
- Finalized Complementary Technical Norm for Architectural Projects for the updating of the Mexico City Construction Regulation (June 16) with funds from the Danish Energy Agency.

August 6, 2015 – Finance & Retrofit Working Groups Stakeholders Internal Meeting

- Developed solutions for the financial and technical implementation of building efficiency retrofits, with particular focus on public buildings. Mexico's Secretary of Environment Tanya Müller hosted the workshop.
- Over 90 policymakers, representatives from the federal and local government, business leaders, energy services providers, finance-sector professionals, and civil society members attended.



4. DEVELOPMENT

September 9, 2015 – Specific recommendations from the working groups

- Working groups meet to finalize recommendations to the government.

October 15, 2015 – Mexico City’s Ministry of the Environment (SEDEMA) meeting to discuss recommendations

- The City Government convened to review and approve the final recommendations from the working groups.

November 30 – December 11, 2015 – COP 21 Paris

- In the first-ever “Buildings Day” at the COP21, the new Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction was established.
- Mexico City Mayor Miguel Mancera announced plan for energy code implementation in Mexico City and stressed on the importance of buildings.



**United Nations Framework
Convention on Climate Change
(COP21)**

5. IMPLEMENTATION

January 28, 2016 – Working Groups meeting

- Working groups meet to plan for next steps and summarize the BEA's achievements in the past year.

June 17, 2016 – Publication of the updated Regulation for Construction in Mexico City; energy audits for public buildings approved

- Mexico City's Ministry of Environment (SEDEMA), headed by Secretary of the Environment Tanya Müller García, announced the final publication of updated construction regulations for the city.

October 18, 2016 – Procurement and energy audits for four public buildings

- The energy audits were funded by the Mexico City's Climate Change Fund. The city's Ministry of Environment established this fund by taking a percentage of the tax from vehicle registration.



Tanya Muller, Mexico City's Secretary of the Environment, discussing her cities efficiency actions and commitments, at the launch of BEA activities in Mexico City.

NATIONAL ADVANCES IN BUILDING ENERGY CODES: INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE – MEXICO

- WRI MEXICO raised Prosperity Funds for CASEDI to develop the IECC-Mexico. The concept includes a guide for the municipalities to adapt and adopt the code.
- **March 8, 2016** – The Ministry of Energy of Mexico (SENER) and the National Commission for Energy Conservation, (CONUEE) formally presented the new the Energy Conservation Code for Mexico
- The Code establishes minimum regulations for energy efficient buildings using prescriptive and performance-related provisions. It is founded on broad-based principles that make possible the use of new materials and new energy efficient designs.
- WRI MEXICO will keep on working with the government of Mexico on the adoption of the code at national level.



ADDITIONAL EFFORTS IN MEXICO CITY: DEEP DIVE CASE STUDY

- New action plan underway with GEF funds, the Deep Dive 2016-2017: 3 working groups chaired by Mexico City Government staff and an SE4All partner, project managed by WRI and WRI MEXICO
 - Deep Dive Program implementation phase 2: January 2016-October 2017
 - Technical workshop on building retrofits and finance
 - Four public building have been audited in 2016 and retrofitted in 2017
- In 2017, Building Challenge Initiative, a Mexico City Program supported by the National Commission for the Efficient Use of Energy. The initiative targets public and private sectors encouraging building owners/managers to subscribe and accept the challenge to retrofit buildings of 50,000 square meters (or above) and achieve energy savings of 10% in two years.



6. NEXT STEPS AND CONCLUSIONS

Additional scale-up activities to advance building energy code implementation in other cities:

- Engage other cities in Mexico.
 - The State of Jalisco signed a MoU with BEA this year
 - The municipalities of Guadalajara and Merida will sign MoUs soon
- Engage cities internationally
 - Bogota, Colombia, held a workshop to launch the BEA initiative in November, 2016. WRI MEXICO and the City of Mexico aim to collaborate and share experience of working with BEA to advance building energy codes.

In the absence of a strong national code or a gap between code adoption and implementation, cities can take initiative. One option is to engage with international platforms and forums.

