Programs and Projects Related to Mexico in California State Government — 2017 Update

November 2017
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Produced by
Chris Berger, Carley Herron, Katherine Koulouris, Jason MacCannell, Pamela Martin, Maeve Roche, Sean Smith, and Lydia Wang

Requested by
The Office of Senator Ben Hueso

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Introduction

Mexico, California’s largest export market, is the homeland of our largest ethnic group and our partner in the stewardship of a 140-mile border, including the lands and communities that surround it. State agencies maintain close communication with both the national and subnational governments of Mexico on issues as diverse as climate change, waste management, transportation, agriculture, public health, education and economics. Recent years have seen efforts to expand on this long-standing tradition of cooperation, including Governor Brown’s trade and investment mission to Mexico in 2014.

In 2004, the California Research Bureau published the report *Inventory of Mexico Related Projects Conducted by California State Agencies*. This publication is an update to the 2004 report, tracking which projects are still in existence, which are no longer active, and any new projects that have been added since then. The update combines public information found on state and other websites with information provided by state agency staff. Following the format of the 2004 report, we have defined “projects” very broadly, using either advice from agency staff or web presence to identify which programs, initiatives and other activities were significant enough to be included in the inventory.

Air Resources Board

Heavy-Duty Vehicle Inspections
Status: Active

Tijuana Smog Check Pilot Program
Status: Active

Agricultural Labor Relations Board

Status: Active
The Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) has an informal practice of seeking assistance from the Consul General of Mexico in locating witnesses in Mexico who are asked to testify in ALRB evidentiary hearings and in locating missing persons who may be entitled to back pay and/or “make-whole” awards.

Coastal Commission

Non-Point Source Issues
Status: Active
The California Coastal Commission is a participant on the advisory council for the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, which includes local, state and federal agencies as well as the cities of Tecate and Tijuana.

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California Community Colleges

Cal-Mex-Net Project
Status: No longer active

Citrus Center for International Trade Development
Status: No longer active

Small Business International Collaborative Program
Status: No longer active

2017 Update: Prior to 2001-2002, California operated 17 Mexican Trade Centers at community colleges throughout the state. The
trade centers offered training in Mexican business practices, language and culture to California business people to help them expand their opportunities in Mexico. Currently, services formerly provided by the Mexico International Trade Centers have been absorbed by the California Community College Centers for International Trade Development (CITD). Eight of the existing 14 CITDs continue to have a focus on Mexico (San Diego, Long Beach, Orange County, Los Angeles (2), Riverside, Fresno, and Sacramento). Some examples of these trade centers and projects are listed below.

Sacramento Center for International Trade Development
The center conducts regular seminars on doing business with Mexico in the Sacramento region and assists California companies in conducting trade with Mexico. A Memorandum of Understanding with Mexico allows the community colleges to facilitate and coordinate trade missions, sourcing of products and services, and contacts for California companies looking to do business in and with Mexico, as well as Mexican companies looking to invest or do business in California.

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Orange County Center for International Trade Development
The Orange County Center has jointly opened business development offices within Mexican educational institutions in order to facilitate and coordinate trade missions, sourcing of products and services, and contacts for California companies looking to invest or do business in Mexico.

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Riverside Center for International Trade Development
The Riverside Center for International Trade Development (CITD) has conducted “doing business with Mexico” seminars and “border familiarization tours” with the government and nonprofit agencies in Baja California, Mexico. This event was organized with the Tijuana Economic Development Corporation and the Tijuana Secretaría de Desarrollo Económico Baja California. These seminars help California companies conduct trade with Mexico.

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San Diego Center for International Trade Development hosted by Southwestern College
The San Diego Center for International Trade Development (CITD) serves San Diego and Imperial counties. It has a long history of collaborating and promoting binational education, export and importing assistance, small business development and international trade projects with Mexico. The following are some recent examples of current projects and activities with Mexico:

Binational International Logistics Workforce Program in the Cali-Baja Mega-Region
In recent years, the San Diego CITD and Southwestern College (SWC) have been supportive of several activities that culminated in the establishment of a binational program between Southwestern College and the
Universidad Tecnológica de Tijuana (UTT). UTT is part of the national system of Universidades Tecnológicas (UT) in Mexico.

The Binational International Logistics Workforce Program is sponsored by the 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund. This initiative is aimed at enhancing hemispheric competitiveness, increasing prosperity, and preparing a more globally competent workforce. Participating students from UTT and SWC will study abroad at the partner university.

The study abroad program allows students from both universities to:

- attend a part of their curricular courses at the partner university without having to stay during a complete period abroad;
- take courses specific to the partner university’s program without conflicting with the attendance of mandatory courses at their home university, thus giving them the opportunity to obtain a double degree; and
- participate in a binational internship in one of the supporting companies, under the condition of having attended the required courses at both universities.

This innovative program helps both countries by:

- taking advantage of the geographical proximity to reduce the cost and make it accessible to students who couldn’t otherwise afford a traditional study abroad;
- linking the program’s content to the regional companies’ needs to give a strong incentive for both students and companies;
- directing the program at U.S. community colleges, whose students are underrepresented among the global U.S. student population studying abroad; and
- presenting a strong potential of growth through the extension of the program among the Mexican technological universities.

Suppliers Export Program

The San Diego CITD has an established program in supporting small and medium companies interested in becoming suppliers to major international manufacturers operating on both sides of the border. The program is designed to take advantage of the $1 billion supplier’s market in the international manufacturing industry along the U.S.-Mexico border. The San Diego CITD helps small- and medium-sized companies interested in tapping into this international market through its Suppliers Export Program.

The program brings representatives from major international manufacturers in the Southern California/Baja California region to events organized in conjunction with other regional partners and through matchmaking sessions between buyers and California companies. The goal is to match small- and medium-sized businesses with the manufacturers that are looking to source services, components, raw materials, and other commodities regionally.

The San Diego CITD works closely with the San Diego Export Assistance Center California/Mexico Border Trade Office. The office has a similar goal as the CITD Suppliers Export Program: to increase California companies’ worldwide competitiveness to many of the international manufacturers that are aggressively seeking local suppliers from
Southern California and the border region. The Supplier Export Program and the Border Trade Office collaborate to provide U.S. firms with market analysis and business matchmaking support, and a wide range of other export-specific services to help access this market.

Cross-border Manufacturing and Trade Activities
The San Diego CITD has integrated its Supplier Export Program with many other cross-border manufacturing and trade activities: examples are participation in manufacturing trade shows, organized trade missions for California companies to explore the suppliers market, promotion of cross-border Manufacturing Day, work with organizations from both sides of the border and well-established relationships with Mexican public and private organizations. A highlight of this relationship is the strong collaboration with the Secretaría de Desarrollo Económico Baja California (Ministry of Economic Development for the State of Baja California).

City of Chula Vista and Irapuato Sister Cities Program
The San Diego CITD has supported the City of Chula Vista and Irapuato Sister Cities Program. This relationship has explored economic, educational and cultural activities between both cities and regions. In August 2017, the program sponsored the San Diego/Chula Vista Sister Cities Friendship Mission to Guanajuato and Queretaro, Mexico. A subgroup of the Irapuato’s Sister Cities Committee of Jóvenes Empresarios Emprendedores (Young Business Entrepreneurs) has been interested in forging closer ties to Southwestern College San Diego CITD Youth Entrepreneurship Program. In addition, the City of Queretaro educational institutions are interested in forming a university-to-university relationship with colleges in San Diego County. The City of Irapuato is also exploring how to ratify the Chula Vista-Irapuato Sister Cities agreement, which is expected to take place during the mission later this year.

Mexican Companies Looking to Invest in California
The San Diego CITD has facilitated and hosted Mexican companies looking to invest or do business in California. This has been done and supported by the California public and the private sector. Particularly, Economic Development agencies, state and city agencies, developers, and other private companies have participated in many interactions of these activities.

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Southwestern College Small Business Development and International Trade Center
Southwestern College Small Business Development and International Trade Center (SBDITC) serves San Diego and Imperial counties. It promotes collaborative small business development and international trade projects with Mexico. The SBDITC continues marketing and offering its primary service, which is counseling to clients that want to trade
with Mexico. Businesses are able to increase their presence in Mexico through the following resources:

- industry-specific trade missions to Mexico;
- attendance at industry-specific trade shows in Mexico;
- qualified lead generation and identification of material and supply needs of Mexican businesses via internet database;
- one-on-one business counseling with Mexico export/import specialists;
- training seminars on opportunities for doing business in Mexico; and
- access to a “consulting team” of cross-functional specialists and organizations for companies needing a broad array of resources. (Organizations include World Trade Centers, Mexican Consulates, U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Centers, among others.)

The SBDITC has played a role of coordinating multiple statewide trade missions to Mexico and has specialized in the border familiarization and maquiladora tours in Baja California.

The SBDITC currently has a collaborative agreement with the San Diego Greater Chamber of Commerce Mexico Business Center. The objective is to collaborate with the proposed mission and goals of assisting clients with business and trade opportunities between San Diego and Mexico.

The SBDITC has strong contacts with multiple public and private organizations in Mexico such as the Secretariat of Economic Development in Baja California, (Lic. Roberto Reyes), in the State of Michoacán, (Lic. Jesus Melgoza), and in

Nacional Financiera Baja California, (NAFIN) (Lic. Jorge Dueñas).

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California State Trade Expansion Program (STEP)
Status: New

The Centers for International Trade Development of the California Community Colleges, lead the California State Trade Expansion Program, with funding, in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, which provides export promotion assistance for qualified California small businesses. Since 2011, STEP has assisted over 1,000 companies, leading over 400 to participate in overseas trade shows that have generated $160 million in exports for small businesses. STEP has sponsored multiple export promotion and trade exhibition events in Mexico in the food and agricultural, safety and security, aerospace, and health and beauty industries.

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Dental Board

Foreign Dental School Licensure
Status: Active

De La Salle University (Mexico) was approved by the Board to allow its students, upon
graduation, to take a licensure examination to practice in California. The Board was authorized to do this by AB 1045.

**Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation**

**High School Diploma**

Status: No longer active

This was a pilot program and is no longer in effect.

**Department of Education**

**Visiting Teachers Program from Mexico**

Status: Active

For over 20 years, the California Department of Education (CDE) has sponsored hundreds of visiting teachers from Mexico to work in California school districts and charter schools. Teacher applicants go through rigorous screening requirements, and must pass a basic skills exam and demonstrate English-Spanish bilingual proficiency. The CDE ensures applicants meet the requirements for both the J-1 Visa in the “teacher” category and a California teaching credential in accordance with California Commission on Teacher Credentialing regulations. Teachers who meet all of the program requirements are approved for interview by a participating school district or charter school. Selected teachers receive a full, one-year teaching contract from the school district/charter school. The contract may be renewed for a maximum of five years. Also, in accordance with J-1 Visa guidelines, the visiting teachers must engage their host school communities in cross-cultural activities through which they share aspects of the culture of Mexico. These teachers are especially needed to teach in dual-language and other English-Spanish bilingual programs, as well as for secondary-level Spanish language instruction and mathematics in Spanish for developing English learners.

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**Binational Teacher Migrant Education Summer Program**

Status: Active

Over the years, the CDE has sponsored hundreds of teachers from many states in Mexico for Migrant Education summer programs throughout California. The duration of the summer programs varies from region to region, but generally are between four and six weeks. Binational teachers do not receive a teaching salary; rather, they receive a weekly food and lodging stipend from the migrant
regions. These teachers serve as instructional assistants to the American classroom teacher during the day, and in the evenings provide parent engagement workshops to migrant parents. Summer Binational teachers are also required to engage their host school communities in cross-cultural activities through which they share aspects of the culture of Mexico, in accordance with J-1 Visa guidelines.

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The following program listed in the 2004 report is not under the authority of the California Department of Education.

Projecto California
Status: Unknown

It is a joint collaborative effort on the part of the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE), the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC), two Mexican government agencies, Instituto Nacional para la Educación de Los Adultos (INEA) and a division of INEA, the Consejo Nacional de Educación para la Vida y el Trabajo (CONEVyT).

California Energy Commission (CEC)

Energy Technology Export Program
Status: No longer active

Program promoted international export of energy technology products.

California-Mexico Border Energy Report Section
Status: Active

Every year, the California Department of Energy drafts the energy section for this California-Mexico Border relations council report.

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California-Mexico Energy Memorandum of Understanding
Status: Active

The agreement, signed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. and Mexico’s Minister Pedro Joaquin Coldwell in 2014, encourages and promotes technical bilateral cooperation and joint implementation of programs and activities in the fields of low carbon energy, clean technologies, biofuels, and energy efficiency, on the basis of mutual benefit, equality and reciprocity. The agreement aims to implement a solid and future cooperation that will boost sustainable economic development in Mexico and California in a manner that incorporates best practices and lessons learned and
enhances diversity, reliability and affordability of energy supplies.

**CEC-Jalisco Memorandum of Understanding**
*Status: Active*

The agreement, signed by Chair Weisenmiller and Governor Aristóteles Sandoval in 2016, will support cooperation in areas of mutual interest, including energy efficiency, renewable energy development and grid integration, low and zero-emission vehicles, and clean energy technology.

**CEC-Aguascalientes Memorandum of Understanding**
*Status: Active*

The agreement, signed by Commissioner Hochschild and Governor Orozco in 2017, will support cooperation in areas of mutual interest, including energy efficiency, renewable energy development and grid integration, low and zero-emission vehicles, and clean energy technology.

**Under 2 Memorandum of Understanding**
*Status: Active*

CEC supports the Governor’s office to negotiate and secure signatories for the Under 2 Memorandum of Understanding. This is a pact that seeks to enhance cooperation to achieve the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent to 95 percent below 1990 levels by 2050, or achieve a per capita annual emission target of less than two metric tons by 2050. The states the CEC helped secure include Yucatán, Quintana Roo, Hidalgo, Estado de México, Tabasco, and México City.

**The UC-Mexico Initiative**
*Status: Active*

CEC participated in this energy working group in 2015. CEC’s portion of initiative ended on February 2017. For more information, see University of California, below.

**Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment**

**Lead Contaminated Candies Project**
*Status: No longer active*

**Children’s Exposure to Lead Study**
*Status: No longer active*

**Training in Lead Poisoning Prevention**
*Status: No longer active*

**CalEnviroScreen Tool**
*Status: New*

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is using traffic and chemical-release data from Mexico in its California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen), which identifies California communities with the highest pollution burdens and vulnerabilities. The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) uses this environmental justice tool to identify disadvantaged communities that are eligible for beneficial projects funded from the state’s Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. CalEPA’s boards and departments use it to prioritize its activities and allocate resources. CalEnviroScreen generally uses California-specific environmental, public health and socioeconomic information. However, CalEnviroScreen 3.0, the latest version of the tool released in January 2017, used additional information on environmental releases in Mexico to better account for their impact on California’s border communities. This
information included data on toxic releases to
the air from facilities in Mexico within 49
kilometers of the border, obtained from
Mexico’s Registry of Emissions and Pollutant
Transfer; traffic volumes at California’s six
border crossings obtained from the U.S.
Department of Transportation; traffic levels in
Tijuana within 150 meters of the border
obtained from the San Diego Association of
Governments; and modeling of diesel-
particulate emissions by the Air Resources
Board to better account for impacts from
Mexico in San Diego and Imperial
counties. Future versions of CalEnviroScreen
are expected to also use this data, as well as
data from community air quality studies taking
place in San Ysidro and Imperial County.

https://oehha.ca.gov/media/downloads/calenvi
roscreen/report/ab1059borderlegreportmarch2
017.pdf

Environmental Protection Agency
(CalEPA)

CalEPA Border Affairs Unit
The following programs listed in the 2004
report are no longer active:

Transfer of Surplus Computers Pursuant
to the California-Mexico Environmental
Protection Act of 2002 (AB 2317)
Status: No longer active

Signing of Environmental Education
Agreement
Status: No longer active

Implementation of the Pretreatment and
Wastewater Monitoring Agreement
Program
Status: No longer active

Environmental Technology and Service
Opportunities Conference
Status: No longer active

Agreement of Cooperation Between
California and Baja California
Status: No longer active

Assistance to Tijuana for the Siting of
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants
and a Replacement Landfill
Status: No longer active

Agreements of Cooperation on
Environmental Issues
Status: No longer active

New programs since 2004 include:

California-Mexico Border Relations
Council
Status: New

Existing law established an Office of California-
Mexico Affairs in the Trade and Commerce
Agency, which is no longer in existence. In 2004,
no organizing entity existed to coordinate
interagency cooperation. Assembly Bill 3021
(2006) was created to fill a need for statewide
oversight and coordination of multi-agency
involvement with Mexico. AB 3021 creates an
independent Council, the California-Mexico
Border Relations Council, mandated to:

• coordinate cross-border programs,
initiatives, projects and partnerships
within California state agencies;
• establish California state agency policies
for the collection and sharing of cross-
border data;
• identify and recommend changes in the law needed to achieve the goals of the Council; and
• provide an annual Council activities report to the Legislature.


Solid Waste Working Group
Status: New

In 2015, Senate Bill 83 appropriated $300,000 to CalEPA to support the Border Relations Council and Created the Solid Waste Working Group within the Council. In 2015, the Council directed the Working Group to develop spending recommendations for this appropriation, and in February 2016, the Working Group recommended funding two waste tire and solid waste clean-up projects in Mexico that benefit California:

1. WILDCOAST was awarded $100,000 to conduct a one-year demonstration pilot project to clean up tires in Tijuana. The project objectives are to demonstrate the financial effectiveness of investing resources in Mexico, and to prevent tires from crossing the border and impacting the sensitive riparian and estuarine habitat of the Tijuana River Watershed. The project began in May 2016 and will conclude by December 2017. WILDCOAST intends to recover up to 100,000 tires from areas in close proximity to the border and adjacent to tributaries of the Tijuana River, and will work with a private company to collect and shred the waste tires, and sell them to companies that can use the shredded material for tire-derived products such as asphalt, light bricks, and other options.

2. The Sonoran Institute was awarded $200,000 to conduct a one-year a pilot project with the objective to reduce the illegal disposal of solid waste in drains in Mexicali, Mexico, that contribute to the pollution of the New River. The project intends to eliminate public health risks, improve the urban landscape in Mexico, and improve water quality of the New River as it flows into California. The project began in March 2016 and concluded in May 2017.

Other activities that CalEPA has participated in with Mexico since 2004 include:

• The 26th Border Governors Conference hosted by California and held at Universal Studios Hollywood in 2008. (This event has not taken place in the past five years).
• The Governors Global Climate Summit (2008 to present).

Contact:
Christine Hironaka, Deputy Secretary for Legislative Affairs
(916) 324-8425
Christine.hironaka@calepa.ca.gov

Department of Food and Agriculture

Background on 2004 Projects: The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), in conjunction with other state and federal agencies, participates in projects aimed at protecting and promoting agriculture in California and around the U.S./Mexico border area. These projects include matters of mutual interest such as agriculture security, sanitary, phytosanitary and food safety issues. The endeavors not only help ensure a safer and abundant food supply, but aim at creating a region free from major pests and diseases.

Animal Health & Food Safety Services

Status: Active

Due to the constant movement of livestock and people across the California border with Mexico, veterinarians at CDFA have a longstanding commitment to work cooperatively with their counterparts in Mexico to prevent the spread of serious animal diseases. In 2016, CDFA participated in meetings with animal health officials from Baja California and other states of Mexico to maintain communication about livestock and poultry health issues.

https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/

Border Governors Conferences

Status: No longer active

This is the largest bi-national venue to discuss/resolve important border issues affecting the United States and Mexico. The program convened the Governors of the 10 border states, Secretaries, directors, commissioners, and designated staff to address issues including agriculture and livestock, border security, sustainable development, education health and emergency management logistics, border crossings, and competitiveness. (See also under Caltrans below.)

http://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/financial-accountability-compliance/international-affairs

Tuberculosis Epidemiology Training

Status: Active

From 2004 through 2009, Dr. Andrea Mikolon from CDFA, Animal Health & Food Safety Services, participated with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) reviews of the Mexican states of Baja California, Sonora, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Durango, Veracruz, Aguascalientes, Puebla, Nayarit, Chiapas, Guerrero, Yucatan, and Campeche. In 2015 and 2016, CDFA participated in Mexican bovine TB status reviews of Sinaloa, Chihuahua, and Coahuila, and a bovine brucellosis status review of Sonora. These reviews are important to understanding and mitigating the risks from feeder cattle imported from Mexico. The reviews determine the federal testing
requirements for cattle imported from these states.

From 2003 to 2009, CDFA participated in binational meetings with Mexico on TB, Brucellosis, and Cattle Fever Ticks. From 2015 to 2017, CDFA participated in binational meetings with Mexico on these cattle diseases in Tijuana, Rosarito, Veracruz, Guadalajara, and Durango, Mexico, as well as similar meetings in Weslaco, Texas, and Las Cruces, New Mexico. The goal of these meetings was to facilitate trade while mitigating disease risks. The meetings were attended by representatives from USDA, Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, Desarrollo Rural, Pesca y Alimentación (SAGARPA), U.S. and Mexican Cattle industries, and U.S. and Mexican State Animal Health Officials.

In 2017, Dr. Mikolon is assisting the USDA with a binational project on surveillance and laboratory harmonization in Baja California to understand the molecular epidemiology of bovine tuberculosis in the Baja California dairy industry. This involves reviewing sample submissions and data collection with a Mexican veterinarian contracted by the USDA, in addition to performing site visits to gather epidemiological information. This work is essential to understanding how our infected cattle herds in the United States are epidemiologically related to infected herds and humans in Baja California.

Mexican feeder cattle are the primary foreign cattle imported into California. California has special entry requirements for foreign cattle, and requires TB tests to enter the state. California is committed to continuing a high level of surveillance for bovine TB throughout the state due to large imports of cattle from other states and Mexico. Importing Mexican cattle poses a threat for introducing bovine TB. California provides slaughter surveillance for several other states that depend on the CDFA’s large packing plants.

**Avian Health**

**Status: Unknown**

The Baja California Fomento Agropecuario (Department of Agriculture) provided teams of veterinarians to assist the Exotic Newcastle Disease Task Force with outreach—including communication at commercial poultry facilities—and with work on epidemiology. The Baja California veterinarians played a significant role in the eradication effort.

The Governor of California declared a State of Emergency, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) declared an Extraordinary Emergency, and local emergencies were declared in San Diego, Riverside, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino counties. A USDA and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Task Force was formed that involved over 7,000 individuals rotating in and out over the course of the outbreak. Trade restrictions resulting from the disease had negative impacts on California and U.S. poultry and egg producers. The outbreak, from discovery to eradication, lasted 11 months. The outbreak response led to the depopulation of 3.16 million birds at a cost of $161 million.

[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Newcastle_Disease_Info.html](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Newcastle_Disease_Info.html)

**Exotic Newcastle Disease**

**Status: Active**

Exotic Newcastle Disease was eradicated from California in 2003. It was replaced by the California Avian Health Program, a cooperative CDFA/USDA program that focused on...
surveillance for detection of Newcastle Disease and Avian Influenza as well as biosecurity education to prevent catastrophic poultry diseases such as Exotic Newcastle Disease and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. The Avian Health Program developed a bilingual DVD to train commercial poultry farmworkers in biosecurity. The Fomento Agropecuario of Baja California participated in production of this training DVD by providing a Baja California state veterinarian to serve as the principal actor in the video. This DVD proved to be a useful tool to prevent the spread of avian diseases. From 2005 through 2017, this DVD has been reproduced many times and shared with Baja California, Durango, and many other Mexican states, and numerous other U.S. states. (It has also been translated into Armenian and Georgian and shared with those former Soviet Republics.) In addition, the Avian Health Program began developing bilingual chicken calendars with educational biosecurity messages from 2004 through 2017. In the past, CDFA, Animal Health Branch has distributed some of these calendars to the Fomento Agropecuario of Baja California, in addition to distributing them each year to a feed store that is frequented by people from both sides of the border. In 2016 and 2017, Dr. Andrea Mikolon distributed bilingual avian health materials at the AgroBaja Fair in Mexicali, including hundreds of CDFA Avian calendars, bilingual biosecurity handouts, bilingual Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease fact sheets, the Avian Health Program’s bilingual Commercial Poultry biosecurity training DVD, and bilingual USDA backyard poultry biosecurity DVDs. Also, in 2016 and 2017 Dr. Andrea Mikolon answered questions (in Spanish) about poultry diseases while manning a booth at the AgroBaja Fair.

Since June of 2012, an outbreak of the highly pathogenic strain of avian influenza H7N3 has spread within five Mexican states. The Mexican states affected are considered major layer and broiler production states; consequently, the outbreak has had a major effect on the Mexican commercial poultry industry. Control measures, including depopulation and vaccination, are ongoing. According to the World Organization for Animal Health’s (OIE) website, the majority of the outbreaks have been "resolved." However, the OIE reports one continuing outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in the state of Jalisco.

https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/pdfs/BiosecurityGuidelinesforBirdOwners_END_CDFA-USDA.pdf

Fairs & Expositions
Status: No longer active

Agro-Baja
Status: Active

AgroBaja is an annual agricultural and fishery exhibition of regional and national importance, held in Mexicali, the capital of Baja California, Mexico. It is the only agricultural exhibition of its kind that takes place on the border between Mexico and the United States. In 2015, there were 737 exhibitors from various states of Mexico, with 65,000 people in attendance. For over 15 years, AgroBaja has been a showcase for major agro-industrial companies in Mexico. AgroBaja is organized by a nonprofit committee seeking to promote more interaction and exchange of knowledge between Baja California and California, including Imperial County.

The 2004 report refers to the feature fair tour put on by Western Fairs Association – in 2002, it took place in Mexicali.
Organics Conferences
Status: No longer active

Plant Health & Pest Prevention Services
Status: Active

Plant scientists from CDFA’s Division of Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services have a longstanding relationship with their Mexican counterparts to work cooperatively on exotic pest surveys and regional insect control measures.

Current health and pest prevention measures emphasize the importance of increased surveillance for pests in neighboring San Diego County.

Sterile Mexican Fruit Flies Lab
Status: No longer active

Pink Hibiscus Mealybug
Status: Active

The Pink Hibiscus Mealybug (PHM) was detected in the Coachella Valley (Riverside County) in 2008. Surveys in 2014 and 2015 showed an increase in densities and area-wide expansion, particularly in the urban centers of Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage, Palm Desert, Indian Wells, and Indio. Dates, grapes, and citrus are all known hosts of PHM. The CDFA’s goal is to control the current infestation in the Coachella Valley in the urban centers before PHM become firmly established in the agricultural regions. Biocontrol is the suppression of pests through production and release of parasitoids, their natural enemies. The CDFA has worked to establish the parasitoid colony in California. Beginning in November 2016, Mexico provided the parasitoid, Anagyrus kamali, to be released in the Coachella Valley. To date, there have been 238,334 parasitoids from Mexico released at 218 sites. Surveys indicate that the CDFA’s goal of a 95 percent reduction in the PHM population will be achieved.

The CDFA Entomology Laboratory is currently the supporting unit for the state’s eradication, control, survey, and biological programs involving injurious pests, including the Mexican fruit fly and the pink hibiscus mealybug.

The primary objectives of the Entomology Laboratory are to:

- provide identification to the division’s pest prevention programs, other government agencies, and the public in an accurate and timely fashion;
- act as a reference repository for insect specimens and any associated data available for arthropods and other invertebrates of the state and region;
- conduct biosystematics research; and
- assist personnel in other agencies with problems related to insects and other arthropods and invertebrates.

Pink Bollworm
Status: Active

In cooperation with the USDA and Mexico federal and state officials, a pink bollworm eradication program was developed in 2002 for Arizona, California, New Mexico, west Texas, and northern Mexico. The regional eradication program is comprised of mapping all cotton acreage, placing pheromone-baited detection traps, planting Bacillus thuringiensis cotton in
high risk regions, using sterile pink bollworm and pheromone ropes for mating disruption and maintaining a host-free period by having mandatory plow down dates and mandatory planting periods. Pink bollworm is a major pest of cotton, a crop that is grown throughout the region. USDA staffs the CDFA pink bollworm rearing facility in Phoenix, Arizona and in collaboration with the CDFA provides sterile moths as needed for the regional eradication program. At the end of the 2016 cotton growing season, the region was poised to declare eradication of pink bollworm.

https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/ipc/pinkbollworm/pbw_hp.htm

The program is now entitled Pink Bollworm Control Program under the California Cotton Pest Control Board.

Citrus Leprosis
Status: New

Citrus Leprosis is a viral disease of citrus spread by mites in the genus *Brevipalpus*. Because of recent expansions of Citrus Leprosis into two new states in Mexico (Vera Cruz and Quintana Roo), the scientists and regulators from USDA and CDFA were invited to participate in a tour with Mexican federal and state officials. The Mexican officials hosted the CDFA and USDA at their state-of-the-art laboratory in Tecamac, Mexico, and their Headquarters in Mexico City, as well as providing field tours of Citrus Leprosis-infected citrus groves and treated groves in Huimanguillo, Tabasco. Mexico has provided California (which has native *Brevipalpus* mites, including *Brevipalpus californicus*) with a clear understanding of the Citrus Leprosis/*Brevipalpus* mite disease vector complex, as well as pesticide and cultural control methods. California is using the information to conduct surveillance for the virus in residential and commercial citrus plantings, and will continue to work collaboratively with the USDA and Mexico on this disease.

Asian Citrus Psyllid and Huanglongbing
Status: New

In 2008, California was alerted by the USDA that the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) had been detected in Tijuana, Mexico. This created an opportunity for CDFA, USDA and Mexico federal and state officials to collaborate on ACP detection and control strategies. The CDFA and Mexico have set up equivalent detection and control programs on their respective sides of the border and share updates on ACP and Huanglongbing (HLB) detection, treatment activities, and biological control agent releases. Biocontrol rearing programs in Texas, Mexico and California communicate to exchange production, release, and monitoring protocols. Scientists from California have visited production facilities and scientists near Merida, Mexico, and have held multi-agency meetings to discuss biocontrol activities in the two countries. The CDFA also releases California-reared biocontrol agents along the border. In 2016, the CDFA, USDA and Mexico federal and state officials met in Mexicali to visit a site where HLB had been detected and removed. Scientists and regulators from both countries collaborate on the appropriate response to HLB on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Department of Forestry (Cal Fire)

Border Agency Fire Council
Status: Active

A multi-agency consortium working together to facilitate fire suppression and rescue operations
in San Diego County, near the border of Mexico, this council consists of 24 member agencies, including the U.S. Border Patrol, Office of the Governor, the U.S. Attorney, Cal Fire, county and local fire agencies and the Bureau of Land Management. The Mexican fire service and the Mexican Consulate are also active participants.

Contact:
Tony Mecham, Unit Chief
(619) 590-3100

Las Californias Binational Conservation Initiative
Status: Active

Formerly Tecate Peak Bi-national Partnership, this initiative began in 2004 and was renewed in 2014 after a meeting between President Nieto of Mexico and Governor Brown of California. The partnership focuses on cross-border coordination in development, transportation, and the environment, providing a blueprint for binational cooperation in conservation. There is a special emphasis on the contribution of open-space protection to enhance regional conservation efforts and overall quality of life.

Contact:
Eric Just, Unit Forester
(619) 590-3100

Wildfire Suppression Program
Status: Active

Contact:
Tony Mecham, Unit Chief
(619) 590-3100

Highway Patrol

Mexico Liaison Unit
Status: Active

Since the CHP has no jurisdiction in Mexico, officers from this San Diego-based unit work closely with Mexican authorities in the recovery of stolen vehicles and assisting with other law enforcement issues. The Mexico Liaison Unit provides a formal line of communication with Mexican officials. Maintaining these lines of communication and cooperation are essential to the CHP in performance of its role as statewide vehicle theft coordinator, including assisting in the recovery of vehicles stolen from California and taken into Mexico.

Contact:
Sergeant Octavio Sanchez
(858) 650-3600 or (858) 650-3690

Department of Justice and Office of the Attorney General

Office of the Attorney General, Executive Division Programs
Status: Active

On an ongoing basis, the Attorney General works with state and county district attorneys, as well as federal and state agencies, to address issues pertaining to Mexico and California. Topic areas include drugs, human and firearms trafficking, transnational gangs, financial crimes and cybercrimes.

Foreign Prosecutions and Law Enforcement Unit
Status: No longer active

https://oag.ca.gov/bi/fpleu

Child Abduction Unit
Status: Active

This unit serves as a liaison with officials from the U.S. and foreign Central Authorities, Consular Officials, judges, local prosecutors and
investigators, as the circumstances of particular cases require.

In cases involving children abducted to and from Mexico, the Deputy Attorneys General of the Unit regularly work with U.S. and Mexican government officials, including officials in the Mexican Central Authority, the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City, the Mexican federal Attorney General’s Office, Mexican child protective services agencies, and others.

Contact:
Elaine Tumonis
(213) 897-2278
https://oag.ca.gov/ca-mexico/child-abduction

Medical Board

Licensing of Mexican Physicians
Status: No longer active

The funding for this never came to be, so the project was never implemented.

Contact:
Jennifer Fimoes, Chief of Legislation
(916) 274-6251

California Anti-Money Laundering Alliance (CAMLAA)
Status: Active

A specialized, multi-agency team of financial forensic investigators that provides technical and logistical support to combat transnational criminal organizations’ (TCO) financial crimes along the California-Mexico border, CAMLA conducts complex financial investigations to support the prosecution of money laundering activities related to the various criminal enterprises in which the TCOS engage, including human trafficking and the trafficking of drugs, firearms, and counterfeit goods in California. CAMLA also increases operational capacity to combat money laundering activities in the immediate California-Mexico border region by utilizing existing state-based criminal intelligence information systems and coupling them with sophisticated financial data-mining software programs.

Contact: California Anti-Money Laundering Alliance, California Department of Justice, Division of Law Enforcement (858) 495-3631

Department of Pesticide Regulation

Residue Tracking Project
Status: Active

The Pesticide Episode Response Project
Status: Active

Contacts:
Claudia Villacorta
Ricardo Martinez
(707) 576-2069

Department Of Public Health

(Known as Department of Health Services in 2004)

Note: descriptions for continuing projects will be the same as in the 2004 report unless otherwise stated.

Diabetes Prevention and Control Program
Status: No longer active

Partnership between CDC, Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization U.S.-Mexico Border Office, U.S. public health agencies, and Mexican ministry of health (Secretaría de Salud) represented more than
100 government agencies, NGOs, health care providers. Limited availability of resources and infrastructure limited full implementation of the project, but continual binational communication ensured most goals were reached, including:

- **Phase I**
  - Household prevalence survey of a random sample of 4,027 adults (18+ years) living in U.S.-Mexico border region
  - About 1.2 million (15.7 percent) of 7.5 million target population found to have diabetes
  - 500,000 in Mexico and 700,000 in the United States
  - Obese individuals had 2.8 times higher risk in the United States and 2.2 times higher risk in Mexico to develop diabetes
  - Development of communication plan (news articles, radio and TV interviews, local presentations, telecommunications network, and website) to spread awareness of diabetes prevention and control
  - First community forum held in El Paso, Texas in 2004 to discuss preliminary findings
  - Training series titled Diabetes Today (*Comunidad en Acción*) conducted among health care professionals and community members to mobilize and engage communities into diabetes awareness and prevention

- **Phase II**
  - Published results from prevalence survey
  - Selected seven border sites to provide English/Spanish training for community health workers and health care professionals
  - Diabetes forums to educated participants on health needs, specifically emphasizing diabetes (targeted to policymakers, health care professionals, media, community organizations, and individuals with diabetes)
  - Publications by border institutions, California State University, and University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center to be distributed to policymakers and community leaders

Source:

**California Center for Infectious Diseases:**  
**Office of Binational Border Health**

The Office of Binational Border Health (OBBH) has programs that focus on border and binational communities throughout California and Baja California by sustaining partnerships and enhancing communications between state and federal officials in California and Mexico. Each year, their Annual Border Health Status Report to the Legislature presents important health indicators for border and binational communities in California and describes the border region experiences in terms of public health challenges and issues that are distinctive to the region. Health issues that impact the region’s 3.5 million residents are important to
California statewide. Significant geographic and ethnic disparities exist for each of the health issues covered in this report, including demographics, access to health care, obesity, diabetes, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, immunizations, and vaccine-preventable diseases.

The mission of OBBH is to facilitate cooperation between health officials and health professionals in California and Mexico, to reduce the risk of disease in the California border region and in those areas directly affected by border health conditions.

Priority issues:

Infectious and chronic diseases, environmental health issues that affect border and binational communities in the California-Baja California border region and statewide.

Projects:

**Border Infectious Disease Surveillance**

OBBH focuses on enhancing the detection and response capabilities to infectious disease incidents and threats in the border region. Staff monitors and investigates binational infectious disease cases and outbreaks in the border region and works collaboratively with state, local, and federal partners in the United States and Mexico. As part of these efforts, OBBH works closely with public health professionals to facilitate exchange of information and cross-border investigation activities and conducts surveillance for syndromic and virologic influenza in the border region. Results of this surveillance are published weekly during the influenza season in the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Influenza Surveillance Program report. OBBH manages and coordinates the California Border Infectious Disease Program (CA-BIDS) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CA-BIDS is a collaboration between CDPH, CDC, the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, and the Imperial County Public Health Department. CA-BIDS’ activities focus on enhancing surveillance, laboratory testing, and reporting of urgent and routine infectious diseases in the border region.

**U.S.–Mexico Border Health Commission**

Through OBBH, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission (Commission) is a federal program that works in coordination with the other U.S. and Mexico border states and both federal governments on priority topics of both countries, such as tuberculosis, obesity/diabetes, access to care, research, and strategic planning. The Commission’s community-based healthy border initiatives were implemented by CDPH throughout the California-Baja California Border Region to improve capacity-building to health professionals and local community members in border and binational communities throughout the State of California. Since 2011, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Commission have worked to identify joint priorities and possible areas of collaboration. A collaborative agreement was officially adopted by EPA and the U.S. Section of the Commission in August 2014. Key actions within the agreement include intra-agency collaboration during Border Health Month each October, a State of the Border Environmental Health Report (on status and trends), collaborative support for the new Healthy Border 2020 Initiative within the Border Health Commission, and the development of a Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit along the border. An accomplishments report is provided on the USEPA website that highlights successes...
that were achieved under the collaborative agreement.

**Border Health Consortium of the Californias**
The Consortium aims to facilitate communication, knowledge, and best practices amongst groups, organizations and people that perform public health work in the California Border Region. In addition, they try to work together and bring resources to the Border Region, and to educate and advocate with local, state, and federal policymakers regarding public health issues affecting our Border Region. In partnership with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, and the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission (Commission)-Baja California Section, the Border Health Consortium of the Californias (BHCC), consists of public, private and academic representatives to improve health along the California-Baja California border region. The goals of the BHCC are to:

- Identify the common challenges and align with the Commission’s Healthy Border 2020
- Optimize articulation and the three Cs (Communication, Coordination, and Collaboration)
- Train and develop public health professionals

The BHCC has developed small work groups to address specific health issues (initial topics selected: obesity (along with CDPH-Chronic Diseases and Injury Control), tuberculosis (along with CDPH-TB Control Branch), mental health, and HIV/AIDS (along with the CDPH-Office of AIDS)); and hold two binational meetings each year to report out and focus on specific binational health issues.

### San Diego County Promotores Coalition

The San Diego County Promotores Coalition (SDCPC) aims to advance, value, and recognize the work of Promotores and to support organizations that work with Promotores to increase access and services to residents of San Diego County. The SDCPC started as the Promotores Education Committee (PEC) in 2009 and is comprised of employers, researchers, governmental agencies, educators, community-based organizations and Promotores/Community Health Workers (CHWs). To widen the scope of the PEC, the SDCPC was formed to include all partners working with Promotores/CHWs in San Diego County and create a space for agencies and Promotores/CHWs to come together and inform each other’s work. The SDCPC coordinates the annual Adelante Promotores Conference, and other events regarding the Promotores/CHWs. These events provide opportunities for professional development and increase capacity in emerging health issues for Promotores as well as opportunities for engaging with other community members and organizations. The SDCPC also provides resources for Promotores through its website ([www.sdcpromotores.org](http://www.sdcpromotores.org)).

### San Diego Border Health Collaborative

**Status: Active**

In partnership with the County of San Diego, Public Health Services, aims to promote a healthy California-Baja California border region by working together with public, private, and academic partners to address the needs of our shared community in San Diego County. The collaborative is now a division under the Center for Infectious Diseases.

California Center for Infectious Diseases: 
Division of Communicable Disease 
Control, TB Control Branch

M bovis Project 
Status: New

Outreach for newly developed infographics on M bovis in English and Spanish to educate binational persons and communities at risk through a partnership with County of San Diego Public Health Services Queso Fresco workgroup. Infographics also distributed to California local TB programs with high rates of M bovis and to promotores/community health workers’ groups working in the California-Baja California border region.

TB Prevention activities: 
Status: New

Engaging with healthcare providers serving binational patients to increase latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) testing and treatment to prevent TB disease. This includes collaboration with local community clinics such as San Ysidro Health Center, Office of Binational Border Health and their advisory committee, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop TB prevention strategies for the binational population.

CureTB 
Status: Active

Funded by CDPH TB Control Branch, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, CureTB is a referral and continuity of care program for tuberculosis patients and their contacts who travel between the United States, Mexico and Central America. In 2013, CDPH TB Control Branch and CureTB, along with other partnering agencies, developed a protocol for the implementation of “meet and greets” for certain high-risk patients with active TB that move to Mexico prior to completion of their TB therapy. This program is now under Health and Human Services Agency of San Diego County.

http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/cure_tb.html

Contact: 
April Fernandez, M.H.S., Chief 
april.fernandez@cdph.ca.gov

Ten Against TB
Status: No longer active

Ten Against TB Strategic Plan: 
Status: No longer active

Plan outlined goals of the “Ten Against TB” initiative (started in June 1995) for 2005-2010, including:

- raising awareness of TB among the public;
- sharing information about border health activities;
- stimulating new ideas about prevention, treatment, and management of TB;
- guiding project implementation by fostering partnerships;
- providing feedback to healthcare providers on practical implementation of TB projects;
- mediation;
- removing barriers to access; and
- advancing progress of Healthy Border 2010 goals. 
(http://www.borderhealth.org/files/res_63.pdf)
See plan: 

Office of AIDS
Status: Active

(Now a division under Center for Infectious Diseases; also a priority issue for Office of Binational Border Health)

California-Mexico Epidemiological Surveillance Pilot Project
Status: No longer active

A product of the California-Mexico AIDS Initiative (collaboration between the University of California Office of the President and Secretariat of Health Mexico), studies conducted under this pilot project indicated potential for increased spread of HIV infection due to migration from Mexico to California. See report: 

Report on HIV/AIDS Epidemiology in California and Mexico
Status: No longer active

Migrant populations are particularly vulnerable to HIV infection due to poor conditions, barriers to medical care, high drug and alcohol use, and risky sexual practices. This report proposes to enhance binational communication to supplement existing HIV/AIDS prevalence data. See report: 

Transborder Latino Women Study
Status: No longer active

The objectives of this study are to determine prevalence of HIV, HBV, HCV, and other STDs among Latinas from San Diego, California, and Tijuana; to assess HIV-related perceptions, attitudes, and risk behaviors among target populations; and to assess the extent to which these perceptions put the target population at risk for HIV infection. Study highlights:

- 163 San Diego and 350 Tijuana participants;
- higher HIV rate among San Diego women (4.9%) than Tijuana women (0.3%);
- higher STD rate among Tijuana women than San Diego women;
- similar HBV and HCV rates between populations; and
- significant associations between disease prevalence and histories of homelessness, multiple sex partners, compensation for sex, and intravenous drug use.

See report: 

Division of Communicable Disease Control (other than TB Control Branch)
Status: Active

(now a division under Center for Infectious Diseases; also a priority issue for Office of Binational Border Health)

National Workgroup with the Bureau of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement
Status: No longer active

Binational Report
Status: Active

Included as part of Border Health Status Report to the Legislature (under Office of Binational Border Health)
Vaccination Weeks in the Americas
Status: Active

Now in its 15th year, this initiative aims to strengthen national immunization programs across the Americas.

http://www.paho.org/vwa/

Binational Health Week
Status: Active

Now in its 17th year, this program conducts a series of health promotion and education activities targeted towards the Latino population. Partners include the Secretariats of Health and Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, and Peru, as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, several Departments of Public Health, the Council of Mexican Federations in North America, and the Health Initiative of the Americas, a program of the University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health.

http://www.binationalhealthweek.org/

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Project ECHO
Status: New

Using this established platform for binational case management through videoconferencing, monthly videoconferences are held to review complex TB cases among public health professionals in the border region. U.S.-Mexico case reviews via Project ECHO funded by the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission.

Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control
Status: Active

(now a division under Center for Infectious Diseases; also a priority issue for Office of Binational Border Health)

Division of Food, Drug, and Cannabis Safety
Status: Active

( previously Division of Food, Drug, and Radiation Safety; now a division under Center for Environmental Health)

The Food and Drug Branch
Status: Active

(now a division under Division of Food, Drug, and Cannabis Safety)

Office of Binational Border Health: Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program
Status: New

The Infectious Disease Epidemiology (IDE) Program within the Office of Binational Border Health (OBBH) focuses on enhancing the detection and response capabilities to infectious disease incidents and threats in the border region. During 2015, OBBH-IDE monitored and investigated binational infectious disease cases and outbreaks in the border region. OBBH-IDE worked collaboratively with state, local, and federal partners focused on surveillance and monitoring of infectious diseases, developed routine and emergency binational communication protocols, facilitated the cross-border exchange of information, investigated binational infectious disease cases and outbreaks, and facilitated communications
between public health officials in California and Baja California on infectious disease matters of binational interest. As part of these efforts, OBBH-IDE worked closely with public health professionals in Baja California and California to facilitate exchange of information and cross-border investigation activities. OBBH-IDE also conducted surveillance for syndromic and virologic influenza in the border region. Results of this surveillance are published weekly during the influenza season in the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Influenza Surveillance Program report.

OBBH-IDE also continued monitoring all binational infectious diseases cases throughout the State of California via the California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CalREDIE) system at CDPH. CalREDIE is a computer-based application that CDPH has implemented for web-based disease reporting and surveillance. The purpose of CalREDIE is to improve the efficiency of surveillance activities and the early detection of public health events through the collection of more complete and timely surveillance information on a statewide basis.

OBBH-IDE continues to manage and coordinate the California Border Infectious Disease Program (CA-BIDS) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CA-BIDS is a collaboration between CDPH, CDC, the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, and the Imperial County Public Health Department. CA-BIDS activities focus on enhancing surveillance, laboratory testing, and reporting of urgent and routine infectious diseases in the border region.

During 2015 OBBH-IDE convened quarterly binational California-Baja California epidemiology meetings to enhance situational awareness as it relates to infectious disease matters in California and Baja California. More specifically the meetings provided a platform for sharing information on current infectious disease cases and/or outbreaks and other matters of public health concern. Participants included key local and state public health officials from both states.


Office of Binational Border Health: United States-Mexico Border Health Commission
Status: New

Through OBBH, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission (USMBHC) works in coordination with the other U.S. and Mexico border states and both federal governments on priority topics of both countries, such as tuberculosis, obesity/diabetes, access to care, research, and strategic planning. The USMBHC’s community-based healthy border initiatives were implemented by CDPH throughout the California-Baja California Border Region to improve capacity-building such as Safety Pesticide Trainings for Promotores in several California counties. In partnership with the California Department of Health Care Services-Office of Rural Health, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Pesticide Regulation, these workshops were intended to train Promotores or community health workers on pesticide illness and safety to educate farmworkers and local community members in border and binational communities throughout California.

Environmental Health Investigations Branch
Status: New

The rapid industrial and population growth has created poor environmental health conditions for the residents on both sides of the California/Baja California border, specifically in the Imperial Valley region, where air and water quality have been significantly affected. Imperial County has historically had the highest rates of asthma hospitalization among children in California. Elevated ozone readings and air particulate matter levels, due in part to increased cross-border traffic, have also impacted this region greatly. The increase in industrial, pesticide, and raw sewage runoff has polluted the New River, a cross-boundary waterway, to levels that endanger public health.

To address these public health issues, Environmental Health Investigations Branch (EHIB) has conducted studies and health education activities over the last decades, centered on pesticide use surveillance and biomonitoring, environmental monitoring, public health consultation, asthma and birth outcome surveillance, and geographic information system development.

California Breathing analyzes asthma data from a variety of sources to better understand the burden of asthma in California. While Asthma in California combines findings from all available data sources, over the years, California Breathing has produced more detailed and targeted fact sheets focusing on specific asthma indicators or populations. Many fact sheets are available as downloadable PDFs under resources, while others are web-view only. For more information, visit https://www.cdph.ca.gov/EHIB and www.californiabreathing.org.

State Water Resources Control Board/Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Industrial Wastewater Monitoring
Status: Active

Wastewater Infrastructure Projects
Status: Active

Environmental Infrastructure Problems
Status: Active

2017 Update: In general, efforts have focused primarily on improving water quality within watersheds which bisect the U.S./Mexico border. The transport of sediment, trash and other pollutants across the border is a significant concern. Two Regional Water Quality Control Boards which serve the border region each have developed a program to address water quality within shared watersheds. In both cases, there are strong partnerships with Mexican government officials, U.S. federal agencies, other state agencies, and local officials and community members.

Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team (San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board)
Status: New

The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board established the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team, a collaboration of more than 30 federal, state and local agencies and other interested parties from both sides of the border focused on addressing sediment, trash, and associated environmental issues. The collaborative stakeholder-led approach to integrate the diverse scientific, environmental, regulatory and private stakeholder perspectives is intended to reduce the impacts of
anthropogenic (human-caused) sediment and trash on the Tijuana River Valley’s resources.

The team adopted a recovery strategy in 2012 and a five-year action plan in 2015. The strategy includes seven Priority Action Areas with 27 specific projects focused on successfully reducing the sediment and trash currently degrading water quality, exacerbating flooding, affecting sensitive habitat and impacting recreation. Those Priority Action Areas include:

- partnering with Mexico to implement optimum, watershed-based solutions;
- understanding how water, sediment and trash flow;
- reducing sources of sediment and trash;
- implementing sediment and trash capture in watershed;
- funding and performing ongoing operations and maintenance;
- involving and informing communities in Mexico and the United States; and
- protecting and enhancing natural resources.

Binational projects identified in the five-year plan include the Tijuana River, Estuary, Offshore, and Watershed Monitoring and Assessment Project, partnering with Mexico on source reduction of sediment and trash, and channel improvement and trash interception in Stewart’s (Puerta Blanca) Drain. The Recovery Team meets approximately every quarter, inviting more than 30 federal, state and local agencies and other interested parties from both sides of the border focused on addressing sediment, trash, and associated environmental issues.

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New River/Mexicali Sanitation Program
(Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board)
Status: Active

The New River carries urban runoff, treated municipal wastes, untreated and partially treated industrial wastes, and agricultural runoff from the Mexicali Valley into the United States. After it crosses the International Boundary at Calexico, California, the New River travels about 60 miles through Imperial County before it discharges its entire flow into the Salton Sea. The Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board has worked to address New River pollution for several decades. The Regional Board has monitored the water quality of the New River since 1975. In 1995, the United States Environmental Protection Agency provided funds to the Regional Board to monitor and document the water quality at the International Boundary on a monthly basis. The main purpose was to assess to what degree sanitation projects improve water quality of the New River at the boundary. Since 2002, and as resources have allowed, the state has been funding the monitoring. Monitoring data indicate the New River is polluted by bacteria, silt, nutrients (e.g., nitrate and phosphate), pesticides, and trash.

In 1992, the United States and Mexico adopted Treaty Minute No. 288, which established a long-term sanitation strategy for the New River at the Border and divided the sanitation project into Immediate Repairs (a.k.a. “quick fixes”), the Mexicali I and Mexicali II projects. The Quick
Fixes and Mexicali I and II binational projects eliminated the 10 to 20 million gallons per day of raw sewage that were historically present in the New River at the Border. Mexico’s regulatory efforts have also eliminated untreated and partially treated industrial discharges of waste into the New River in Mexico. All of these have resulted in significant, measurable improvements in water quality of the New River at the Border, particularly as it relates to pathogens, nutrients, bacteria, and dissolved oxygen.

The Regional Board is a member of the Binational Technical Committee (BTC) for the New River/Mexicali Sanitation Program. The charge of the BTC is to identify pollution problems, oversee development and implementation of the binational sanitation projects agreed upon by Mexico and the United States and make project and policy recommendations to address overall New River pollution from Mexico. The BTC now meets and conducts the Observation Tour of the New River every three months, in Mexicali. The Regional Water Board uses its BTC membership to advocate that Mexico implements the recommendations of the California-Mexico Border Relations Council New River Improvement Project Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan includes, in relevant part, a series of recommendations to address New River pollution in Mexico:

- municipal wastewater treatment;
- consideration of converting open agricultural drains into vegetated drains to uptake nutrients and other pollutants;
- cover urban open storm drains to minimize and eliminate trash dumping; and
- development and implementation of a Watershed Management approach to comprehensively address pollution.


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Department Of Toxic Substances Control
Border Office
Status: Active

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) regularly attends the California/Baja California Waste and Enforcement Task Force Meetings (biannual), and actively interacts with Mexico’s PROFEPA (Federal Enforcement Agency), SEMARNAT (Federal Permitting Agency) and SPA (State Environmental on Protection). DTSC is currently coordinating with PROFEPA/SEMARNAT Training Workshops to be held in the Cities of Tijuana and Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico. DTSC also provides annual updates to USEPA/Mexico Consultative Mechanism and conducts Port of Entry Inspections for trucks carrying hazardous waste across the border (either entering or leaving California). In 2015-16, DTSC inspected 3,009 trucks. Of those, 239 trucks were carrying hazardous waste. In addition, DTSC pursued 30
investigations and had 20 enforcement cases between 2007 and 2015.

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Department Of Transportation

Binational Planning Activities
Status: Active

Business plan:

Border Technology Exchange Program
Status: Active

Within the Global Technology Exchange Program, BTEP provides flexibility in helping meet the unique institutional and technical needs in the U.S./Mexico border region. The program is a collaboration among local, state, and federal transportation entities and academia in undertaking activities related to training, technology transfer, and information exchange for transportation professionals. It serves to increase communication coordination, harmonization, and technical information exchange among transportation entities and organizations on the U.S./Mexico border. BTEP is implemented in conjunction with the U.S./Mexico JWC on Transportation Planning and in support of the committee’s work-plan activities.

https://international.fhwa.dot.gov/gtep/mexico.cfm

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Border Governors Conference
Status: Active

This conference is the largest bi-national venue to discuss/resolve importance border issues affecting the United States and Mexico, with representation from the Governors of the 10 border states, Secretaries, Directors, Commissioners and designated staff. Issues addressed include agriculture/livestock, border security, sustainable development, education, health and emergency management, logistics and border crossings and competitiveness.

http://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/financial-accountability-compliance/international-affairs

U.S./Mexico Joint Working Committee (JWC)
Status: Active

The JWC is a binational group whose primary focus is to cooperate on land transportation planning and the facilitation of efficient, safe, and economical cross-border transportation movements. The group is comprised of transportation professionals from FHWA and the Mexican Secretariat of Communication and Transportation. The JWC promotes effective communication concerning transportation planning between U.S./Mexico border states and works to develop a well-coordinated land transportation planning process along the border.

Current working plan through the JWC is dealing with Transportation Planning from
Programs and Projects Related to Mexico in California State Government – 2017 Update

2016-2018. This Work Plan outlines 17 topic areas that will guide the work of JWC for 2016-2018 including:

- Border Wait Time Studies;
- Wait Time Data Integration and Dissemination;
- Regional Border Master Plans;
- ITS Capacity Building and Standards Coordination; and
- Border Finance Workshops.
- Binational Corridor and Multimodal Freight Management Strategies
- Economic Impacts on Border Trade on Border Regions and Other Parts of North America

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/border_planning/us_mexico/


https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/border_planning/us_mexico/work_plans/

U.S./Mexico Binational Bridges and Border Crossings Committee
Status: Active

(Now the Binational Bridges and Border Crossings Group)

Topics of discussion include planning and operations for existing and proposed international bridges, border crossings, ports of entry, views on technical and policy information.


General Services Administration and Comision De Avaluos Y Bienes Nacionales Technical Committee
Status: No longer active

This was a project to plan for the construction of a new land port of entry with state of the art technology for security and enforcement.


Border Liaison Mechanism
Status: Active

A local binational meeting between the United States and Mexico addressing cross-border issues, the Border Liaison Mechanism came into existence in 1993 as a result from bilateral agreement between the United States and Mexico and convenes cross-border meetings of federal, state, and local authorities.

http://www.tamiu.edu/binationalcenter/BLM.shtml

Bi-State Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (BTTAC)
Status: No longer active

BTTAC was created in 1992 to allow the integration of binational transportation corridor planning.


The Borders Committee of SANDAG
Status: Active

The Borders Committee of SANDAG (San Diego Association of Governments) provides oversight
for planning activities that impact the borders of San Diego Region and advises the SANDAG Board of Directors on major interregional planning policy-level matters. Recommendations from committee are forwarded to Board of Directors for actions.

http://www.sandag.org/index.asp?committeeid=54&fuseaction=committees.detail

The Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (SANDAG)

Status: Active

Formally established in 1996, the Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities began serving as a workgroup for SANDAG Borders Committee in 2002. This committee facilitates better understanding of binational border-related issues and needs of the California-Baja California region, advising the SANDAG Borders Committee on short and long-term binational related activities, issues and actions and binational border-related planning and development.

http://www.sandag.org/index.asp?committeeid=34&fuseaction=committees.detail

Binational Planning Studies

Status: Active

The Binational Planning Studies unit is now known as International Border Studies Branch (IBSB). Its mission is to reduce congestion and to improve mobility in California’s international transportation network and ports of entry. Services provided by IBSB include:

- coordination among regional transportation partners;
- policy advocacy for border study issues;
- transportation planning studies and initiatives;
- integration of goods movement needs into system planning studies;
- support to other governmental entities involved with U.S./Mexico border transportation issues, such as U.S. Federal Highway Administration and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; and
- participation on binational coordination planning working groups.

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ogm/international_border_studies.html

Binational Transportation Infrastructure Needs Assessment Study

Status: No longer active

The purpose of this study was to identify major transportation corridors along the border region, develop a quantitative procedure to evaluate need of corridors, and identify transportation projects to meet the needs of corridors and funding sources. California’s Integrated Border Approach Strategy has been built upon border-related and bottleneck studies including the 2004 Binational Transportation Infrastructure Needs Assessment and the 2008 California-Baja California Border Master Plan and its 2014 update. The Binational Transportation Infrastructure Needs Assessment Study assisted in leading Caltrans and the Joint Working Committee to recognize the needs for the implementation of U.S./Mexico Border Master Plans for each border state.


http://www.sandag.org/services/service_bureau/projects/binational_needs_assessment.asp
Transportation Infrastructure and Traffic Management Analysis of Cross-Border Bottlenecks

**Status: Active**

This study addresses the alleviation of congestion in the highway system to enhance movement of people and goods. The Transportation Infrastructure and Traffic Management Analysis of Cross-Border Bottlenecks assisted in leading Caltrans and the Joint Working Committee to recognize the needs for the implementation of U.S./Mexico Border Master Plans for each border state.


[http://149.136.36.5/hq/tpp/offices/ogm/CFMP/Fact_Sheets/Regional/California_Mexico_Border.pdf](http://149.136.36.5/hq/tpp/offices/ogm/CFMP/Fact_Sheets/Regional/California_Mexico_Border.pdf)

Economy and Security at the Border

**Status: Active**

A 2010 study conducted to further research done in 2004.


Impacts of Implementation of “US VISIT” Program

**Status: Active**

The United States Visitor and Immigration Status Indicator Technology (US-VISIT) Program has been replaced by the Office of Biometric Identity Management (OBIM). OBIM supports the Department of Homeland Security’s responsibility to protect the nation by providing biometric identification services that help federal, state, and local government decision makers accurately identify the people they encounter and determine whether those people pose a risk to the United States. OBIM supplied the technology for collecting and storing biometric data, provides analysis, updates its watch list, and ensures the integrity of the data.

[https://www.dhs.gov/obim](https://www.dhs.gov/obim)

Implementing NAFTA Trucking Regulations

**Status: Active**

The Tecate Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility was completed in 2008. This facility provides safety inspections and regulatory compliance for vehicles at international border and increases California’s ability to inspect safety violations and licensing requirements via the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Rules implemented meet the terms of the Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002.


New Port Of Entry Facilities

**Status: Active**

New Port of Entry (POE) facilities provide travelers opportunity to pay a fee and cross the border more quickly. This reduces wait times. POEs include Otay Mesa East and SR-11 Road connector. Remaining phases of new border freeway will be completed when funding is available.

Rail Connection between California and Baja California
Status: No longer active

Portions of the railway are being rehabilitated in order to increase trade between the United States and Mexico. The primary goal is to help reduce trucking on freeways and to provide a substitute for transportation of goods.

Otay Mesa East Port of Entry
Status: New

The project is to be built by Caltrans District 11 and SANDAG.

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http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ogm/international_border_studies.html

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ogm/international_border_docs/D-11_Border_FactSheet_021512.pdf

California State University

CSU Academic Programs in Mexico
Status: Active

The California State University (CSU) System maintains a longstanding partnership with the Tec de Monterey, Campus Queretaro. Students study Spanish language and enroll in courses in Mexican culture, business, social sciences, and the Humanities. Most recently, engineering faculty from the CSU and our partner created a program to allow students to learn Spanish and take engineering courses that count toward their major so that they do not lose time to graduation.

CSU Summer Arts
Status: New

The CSU Summer Arts program is developing collaborations with the Tec De Monterey in Queretaro in the areas of animation and video mapping. This summer four students and a faculty member from Mexico participated in a Summer Arts course in animation in California. Summer Arts is developing a program in Mexico for summer 2019.

Proyecta 100,000
Status: New

The CSU System was pleased to participate in this project to increase student exchange between the United States and Mexico. Fourteen CSU campuses have students through the program. In addition, the CSU campuses have established a variety of partnerships with institutions of higher education in Mexico. These partnerships include the following institutions:

- Benemerita Universidad Autonomo De Puebla
- CESUN (Centro de Estudio Superiores del Noroeste)
- CETYS (Centro de Ensenanza Tecnica y Superior)
- CEUX (El Centro de Estudiios Universitarios Xochicalco)
- CIBNOR (Centro de Investigaciones Biologicas del Noroeste)
- CICESE (Centro de Investigaccion Cientifica de Educacion)
- COLEF (El Colegio de la Frontera Norte)
- Escuela de Trabajo Social de Tijuana, BC
- Universidad de Colima
- Universidad Juarez Autonoma de Tabasco
• INAH: Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia
• Instituto Politecnico Nacional
• Instituto Tecnologico de Oaxaca
• Instituto Tecnologico de Tijuana
• Instituto Tecnologico de Monterrey
• ITESM (Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios Superiores)
• La Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro
• UABC (Universidad Autonoma de Baja California)
• UABCS (Universidad Autonoma de Baja California Sur)
• UDEM (Universidad de Monterrey)
• UDLA-P (Universidad de Las Americas Puebla)
• UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico)
• Universidad Autonoma de Aquascaliente
• Universidad de Celaya
• Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara
• Universidad de Guanajuato
• Universidad Autonoma del Estado de Hidalgo
• Universidad del Sur-Chiapas
• Universidad Iberoamericana
• Universidad Iberoamericana Tijuana
• Universidad de Monterrey
• Universidad Benito Juarez de Oaxaca

University of California
Note: descriptions for continuing projects will be the same as in the 2004 report unless otherwise stated.

House of California (Casa de California)
Status: Active
This University of California (UC) “mini-campus” in Mexico City has a mission to expand the university’s academic research and outreach in Mexico and to serve as a meeting space for the exchange of ideas by scholars and students from both sides of the border. It also houses UC Education Abroad Programs (UCEAP) in Mexico.

https://casa.universityofcalifornia.edu/

UC MEXUS
Status: Active
UC MEXUS was established in 1980 to develop and sustain a coordinated, University-wide approach to Mexico-related studies. UC MEXUS has had a role in agreements between universities and institutions both at the University of California and in Mexico.

UC MEXUS promotes education, research, public service, and other scholarly activities in five principal areas:

• Mexican Studies as related to Mexican history, society, politics, culture, arts, and economy;
• United States-Mexico Relations in contemporary and historical context, in terms of the economic, political, demographic, and cultural interactions between Mexico and the United States;
• Latino Studies related to the history, society, culture, and condition of Mexican-origin populations in the context of American society and institutions, including their interactions with other U.S. immigrant groups;
• Critical Issues in terms of urgent public policy or academic topics affecting Mexico, the United States and Mexico, the U.S.-Mexico relationship, or Mexican-origin populations in the United States; and
• UC-Mexico Collaboration between U.S. and Mexican scientists in all disciplines,
including the basic and applied sciences, humanities, and the arts.

UC MEXUS provides fellowships and grant funding under the two categories listed below:

- **Academic Programs.** In the area of Academic Programs, UC MEXUS administers and directs the following programs:
  - **UC MEXUS-CONACYT Graduate Student Fellowships.** This program, funded in equal parts by the Mexican Federal Government and the University of California, supports Mexican doctoral students in the UC System,
  - **UC MEXUS-CONACYT Postdoctoral Fellowship.** This program, also funded in equal parts by Mexico and the University of California, supports Mexican and UC young researchers who want to spend a year doing research in the other country,
  - **Scholars in Residence and Faculty Exchange Programs** are developed for visiting researchers studying issues related to Mexico or to the interaction between Mexico and the United States.

- **Research Programs.** Within this area UC MEXUS oversees binational and focused research initiatives. Projects are accepted in all disciplines for research activities related to Mexico, Mexico collaboration, or Latinos in the United States.
  - **UC MEXUS-CONACYT Collaborative Research Grants.** This program, funded in equal parts by the Mexican Federal Government and the University of California, supports collaborative research by teams of UC and Mexican researchers,
  - **Small Grants for UC Faculty.** This program is offered monthly and supports special, one-time, short-term needs of researchers undertaking projects related to UC MEXUS goals.
  - **Small Grants for UC Doctoral Students and Postdoctoral Researchers.** This program is a monthly competition to support early stage research and academic development for students and postdoctoral researchers starting their academic or research careers. Proposals are accepted in all disciplines.

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UC MEXUS-CONACYT Collaborative Grants
**Status: Active**
https://ucmexus.ucr.edu/funding/

UC MEXUS-CONACYT Postdoctoral Research Fellowships
**Status: Active**
https://ucmexus.ucr.edu/funding/
UC MEXUS-CONACYT Faculty Fellowships  
**Status: Active**

This program was temporarily suspended in 2010 when funding from UCOP was reduced. UC MEXUS is actively seeking funding sources to re-open it. Alternatives offered include UC MEXUS-CONACYT Collaborative Grants Program and UC MEXUS Small Grants Program.

https://ucmexus.ucr.edu/funding/grant_faculty.html

UC MEXUS-CONACYT Sabbatical Fellowships  
**Status: Active**

See “Faculty Fellowships” above. As an alternative, UC offers the UC MEXUS Scholars in Residence Program.

https://ucmexus.ucr.edu/funding/resident-scholars-program.html  
https://ucmexus.ucr.edu/funding/fellowship_visiting_scholar.html

Internet2  
**Status: No longer active**

This was a 3-year project to promote rapid digital communication with Mexican Universities during the experimentation phase of the Internet2 initiative.

UC MEXUS Publications  
**Status: Active**

The UC MEXUS News, which was printed in paper, was replaced in 2010 by the paperless digital newsletter “La Monarca.” UC MEXUS also supports a research journal “Mexican Studies.” (UC Press)

UC MEXUS – California Migration & Health Issues (CMHI)  
**Status: No longer active**

This was a joint initiative between UC MEXUS, CMHI, CPAC, UCOP, SSA, CONACYT, FUMEC, and TCE to create a binational network of researchers and institutions from California and Mexico who can inform policy decisions on health and migration issues. CMHI is still being funded by UC MEXUS, but not as a separate initiative; rather, the projects have now been merged into the larger UC MEXUS-CONACYT collaborative grant system.

http://ucmexus.ucr.edu/results/results_ucmcmhi.html

UC MEXUS Conferences, Workshops, Symposiums  
**Status: Active**

These small grant programs may be used for support of a portion of a conference or workshop.

http://ucmexus.ucr.edu/resources/faqgeneral.html#g13

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California-Mexico Commission on Education, Science and Technology  
**Status: No longer active**

This project formed in 2002 under the California Council on Science and Technology with the goal of providing a high-level forum to determine vital areas in Mexico and California where joint investments could be made in research and education. The project developed a framework for joint collaboration, addressed professional development of in-service teachers
in California and Mexico, presented data on research and education programs in California and Mexico and provided further recommendations on how to foster collaboration and funding for research.


The Border Water Project
Status: No longer active

University Of California, Office of The President

The California Policy Research Center
Status: No longer active

Established in 1977, the California Policy Research Center applied university-based expertise to the development, implementation and evaluation of state, federal and international policy issues affecting California.

California-Mexico Health Initiative
Status: No longer active

Established in 2001, this initiative was a binational project sponsoring research, training and outreach to improve the health status of Mexican immigrants and their families.

US-Mexico Binational Education Initiative
Status: No longer active

This was a comprehensive effort to improve education on both sides of the border.

The Mexican/Mexican-American Dialogue
Status: No longer active

University of California was one of three U.S. institutions to participate in this project, which promoted a binational exchange of ideas focused on Mexican immigration to the United States.

UC-Mexico Initiative
Status: New

UC President Janet Napolitano launched this initiative in January 2014, with UC Riverside as the lead campus. The objective of the initiative is to create a sustained, strategic, and equal partnership between UC campuses and Mexican institutions to identify common areas of interest, address critical issues and educate the next generation of leaders.

https://ucmexicoinitiative.ucr.edu/

Mexican Migration Field Research Program
Status: New

The Mexican Migration Field Research Program (MMFRP) at UC San Diego is a unique, three-course offering for students seeking hands-on field research experience focused on international migration. The program is based at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies at the School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS) and is a collaboration with two universities in Tijuana: the Colegio de la Frontera Norte (COLEF) and the Faculty of Economics & International Relations at the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California. The specific research questions examined by the program shift over time, but in recent years research has focused on the ways in which migration between San Diego and Tijuana impacts the educational trajectories and professional aspirations of youth.

The Health Initiative of the Americas
Status: New

Established in January 2001 as the California-Mexico Health Initiative, the re-named Health Initiative of the Americas (HIA) is a collaborative effort between the California and Mexican governments, California universities, and private organizations. HIA promotes collaborative health research, training, and public health initiatives aimed at improving the health of people across the U.S.-Mexico border region.
Initiative of the Americas (HIA) is a binational project hosted by the UC Berkeley School of Public Health that sponsors research, training, and outreach activities focused on improving the health status of Mexican immigrants and their families. HIA has created a number of bi-national partnerships to conduct health promotion campaigns, train professionals, facilitate the coordination of health services, and inform the development of policies and programs related to immigrant health. With matching support from the California Endowment, the California Program on Access to Care, UC MEXUS, and Mexico’s Health Secretariat, HIA conducts a special research grant program for UC faculty working with Mexican counterparts on issues of immigrant health in the California-Mexico context. HIA is co-sponsored by the Mexican Secretariat of Health, the California Department of Health Services, the U.S.-Mexico Binational Working Group on Health, and the University of California, representing an unprecedented partnership among U.S. and Mexican officials, health providers, and academics.

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