ASSESSING CLIMATE PROTECTION PERFORMANCE: G20 COUNTRY PROFILE

Mexico

This Country Profile assesses Mexico’s past and present actions to help mitigate climate change, and its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) towards future global action. The profile summarises the respective findings of the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) and Climate Action Tracker (CAT)\(^2\).

COUNTRY CHARACTERISTICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEY INDICATORS*</th>
<th>MEXICO</th>
<th>G20</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population [million]</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>4,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP per capita (PPP [US$])</td>
<td>13,423</td>
<td>14,505</td>
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<tr>
<td>Share of global GHG emissions**</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>74.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Share of global GDP</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>80.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Share of global population</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>64.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GHG per capita [t CO₂e/cap]**</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy intensity of the economy (TPES/GDP [MJ/US$])</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon intensity of energy supply (CO₂/TPES [t CO₂/TJ])</td>
<td>55.3</td>
<td>63.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon intensity of the economy (CO₂/GDP [kg CO₂/US$])</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of fossil fuels in primary energy supply</td>
<td>90.2%</td>
<td>83.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of coal in electricity production</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of renewables in primary energy supply</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*year 2012 (unless stated otherwise)  
**year 2010  
GDP = gross domestic product  
GHG = greenhouse gas emissions (net emissions including sinks from agriculture, forestry, and other land uses)  
TPES = total primary energy supply  
PPP = purchasing power parity in prices of 2005

EMISSIONS AND EMISSIONS TRENDS

COMPOSITION OF GHG – MEXICO 2010

ENERGY-RELATED CO₂-EMISSIONS – MEXICO

Source: IEA 2014; **CAT 2015

Total CO₂ in Mt

Total CO₂ Emissions  
CO₂ per capita  
G20 CO₂ per capita

Source: IEA 2014
Energy-related carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions account for some 60% of Mexico’s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The share of emissions from deforestation and land use is below that of many other Central and South American countries. Mexico’s overall CO₂ emissions and per capita CO₂ emissions are rising, but are still below the G20 average. The CCPI evaluation therefore ranks the country’s emissions level as good, with a negative trend, pushing the country towards the medium range.

**CCPI EVALUATION OF MEXICO’S EMISSIONS**

Decarbonisation of the global economy will be a crucial element for staying below the 2°C threshold. Two important steps towards achieving such decarbonisation are a shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources, and a reduction in carbon and energy intensity.

**RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Mexico’s share of renewables in the primary energy supply fell to 8.8% in 2012, from more than 10% in 1990, and is below the G20 average. The total amount of renewable energy has stagnated over the assessment period. The CCPI evaluation ranks Mexico as poor, with a negative trend.

**CCPI EVALUATION OF MEXICO’S RENEWABLE ENERGY**

The measurement of carbon and energy intensity uses macroeconomic data. A country’s progress towards decarbonisation is indicated by decoupling of its GDP growth from growth in carbon and energy intensity. The latter are measured as CO₂ emissions per unit of Primary Energy Supply (CO₂/TPES) and Primary Energy Supply per unit of GDP (TPES/GDP) respectively.
The CCPI evaluates a country’s performance in national and international climate policy through feedback from national energy and climate experts. The experts assess the country’s performance in international negotiations, national policy making and in the implementation of climate policies.

EVALUATION OF RECENT CLIMATE POLICY

The CCPI evaluates a country’s performance in national and international climate policy through feedback from national energy and climate experts. The experts assess the country’s performance in international negotiations, national policy making and in the implementation of climate policies.

MEXICO’S CLIMATE POLICY

Mexico’s international climate policy performance is judged better than at the domestic level. Overall, country experts assess Mexico’s policy performance as good. Experts highlighted proposals to phase out fossil fuels, at the G20 summit hosted by Mexico in 2012. At the national level, experts appreciate ambitious emissions reduction targets, but state that Mexico has to improve policy implementation.

ENERGY- AND CARBON INTENSITY IN MEXICO

While the energy intensity of Mexico’s economy (primary energy/GDP) is declining, the country’s carbon intensity of energy supply (CO₂/Primary Energy) is rising. Since the two indicators are developing in different directions, a clear trend cannot be detected. The level of energy and carbon intensity is therefore rated medium.

CCPI EVALUATION OF MEXICO’S CLIMATE POLICY

CCPI EVALUATION OF MEXICO’S ENERGY AND CARBON INTENSITY

CLIMATE POLICY PERFORMANCE

EVALUATION OF RECENT CLIMATE POLICY

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CCPI EVALUATION OF MEXICO’S ENERGY AND CARBON INTENSITY

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Mexico’s Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) was submitted on 28 March 2015 and proposes unconditionally to reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and black carbon by 25% below baseline levels in 2030, equivalent to an increase of 35.8% above 1990 levels (including Land Use and Land Use Change and Forestry – LULUCF). Based on this target, CAT rates Mexico as “medium”. In other words, Mexico’s ambition level is not yet consistent with limiting warming below 2°C, and would require other countries to make much deeper reductions and comparably greater effort.

Current policies imply emissions levels some 8–17% above the INDC target in 2030.

Mexico’s has shown strong recent progress in policy planning and institution building, including its adoption in 2012 of the General Law on Climate Change (LGCC in Spanish). This was one of the world’s first laws on climate change, and the first in a developing country. Under the law, Mexico aims to reduce its emissions by 50% from 2000 levels by 2050. The INDC is consistent with this objective.