

Environmental Law and the Challenges of the Decades Ahead: Promoting Transformative and Recovery Responses to the Planetary Emergency

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PANEL 1. The context and status of Environmental Law in raising the planetary emergency

THE ROLE OF FORESTRY LAW AND POLICY IN PROMOTING ACTIONS TO MOTIVATE THE REDUCTION OF FOREST DEGRADATION IN WESTERN MEXICO

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Based on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, REDD+ is proposed as an international policy instrument that seeks to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conservation and sustainable forest management, and improvements in carbon stocks. Promoting that various countries join efforts to overcome the tipping point and recover their forests. The objective of this study was to identify the role of forestry law and policy in Mexico based on the actions that have been promoted to reduce forest degradation, mainly in an area of western Mexico that has participated in early actions and where support has been requested for: forest harvesting; governance, capacity building, and studies; restoration and reforestation; conservation through payment for environmental services; and environmental compensation. To achieve the objective, an exploratory, descriptive and comparative analysis of the support granted from 2011 to 2020 to ejidos, communities, and people (individual and collective) belonging to the Intermunicipal Environmental Board for the Management of the Lower Ayuquila River Basin (JIRA for its acronym in Spanish) in the state of Jalisco, which is made up of ten municipalities and, an analysis was made of the scope of the General Law for Sustainable Forestry Development and its Regulations. The main findings have identified 104 ejidos, 6 communities, and 119 individuals, noting that ejidos have received 61% of the support; individuals (individual and collective) have received 33% of the support granted in the period analyzed and communities only 6%. From the analysis of the laws, areas of opportunity were observed in social participation; forest ownership and possession; legal ambiguities in forest authorizations; content and centralization of functions.