



Implementing the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals in Mexico



Implementing the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals in Mexico

Proposals for achievement: from commitments to results

July 2016



Enrique Peña Nieto

President of the United Mexican States

Francisco Guzmán Ortiz

Chief of Staff

Luis René Martínez Souvervielle Gorozpe

Technical Secretary of the National Security Council
and President of the CTEODS

Adolfo Ayuso Audry

Deputy General Director of International Affairs
in the Head of the Office of the President

Mario Chocoteco Hernández

Deputy General Director
in the Head of the Office of the President

The Head of the Office of the President of Mexico thanks the following institutions:



*Al servicio
de las personas
y las naciones*



We also thank the civil society organizations that participated in the conversations regarding the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda in Mexico.



What were the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals?

In the year 2000, the 189 member countries of the United Nations committed to implement the Millennium Development Agenda. Its purpose was to reach eight goals by the year 2015, which originally included 18 targets and 48 indicators. The outline of this Agenda was a milestone for promoting development, including education, gender equality, infant and maternal mortality, eradication of poverty, limiting the advance of HIV/AIDS, and contributing to environmental sustainability, among others.



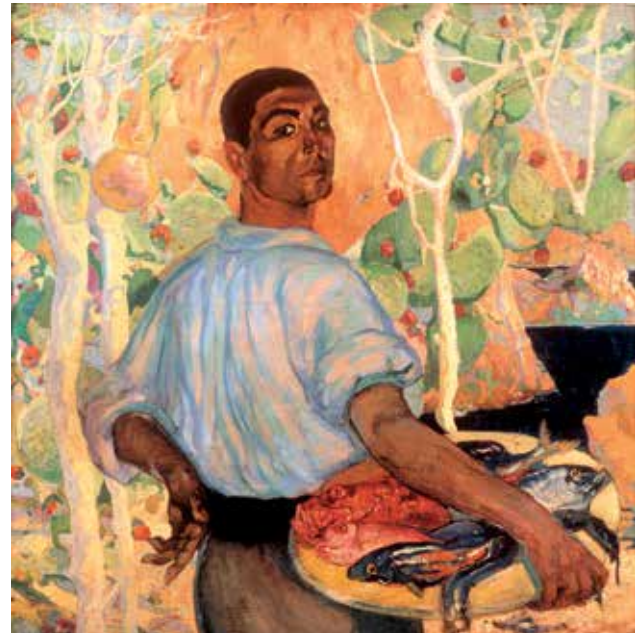
Jorge González Camarena
The parakeet
Oil on canvas, 90 x 122 cm
National Art Museum, INBA

For Mexico, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were a central element for strengthening institutional capacity, targeting resources, and addressing priority areas. The MDGs helped to develop a multidimensional measurement system and to improve the inter-sectorial coordination of development policies.

With these efforts, Mexico set up in 2010 the Specialized Technical Committee of the Millennium Development Goals Information System (CTESIODM, for its acronym in Spanish). The Committee was led by the Office of the President of Mexico, the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Information Technology of Mexico (INEGI, for its acronym in Spanish), and the National Population Council of Mexico (CONAPO, for its acronym in Spanish).

Thanks to these efforts, as of the year 2015, our country had met 37 indicators of the Millennium Agenda, and almost reached five others. Thus, for example, the population living with less than 1.25 dollars a day was reduced to less than a half; progress was made in health issues, and more children are attending primary school. Achievements in gender equality were also reached, by increasing the proportion of seats held by women in Congress. Nevertheless, many challenges remain in various sectors, such as the need to reduce maternal mortality and to limit our carbon dioxide emissions, among others.

During the Sustainable Development Summit, held in September 2015 at the United Nations, more than 149 Heads of State and Government adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. 17 goals, 169 targets and 230 indicators were set. The definition of the latter was finalized in March 2016. The purpose of the new Agenda is to go beyond, overcoming social challenges of developing countries and to have a more universal approach that includes developed nations.



Roberto Montenegro
Fisherman of Mallorca
Oil on canvas, 102.8 x 99.7 cm
National Art Museum, INBA

In order to endorse the 2030 Agenda as a State commitment, and taking into account the experience acquired by the CTESIODM, at the end of 2015, the Office of the President of Mexico requested INEGI to create a new Committee equivalent to its



predecessor: the Specialized Technical Committee of the Sustainable Development Goals (CTEODS, for its acronym in Spanish) was thus created. The new approach to work includes eight additional government agencies, in addition to the 17 included in the former arrangement. On February 5 2016, this Committee held its first meeting, during which the preparation of a program of work focused on the monitoring of the 2030 Agenda was announced.

The level of ambition of the 2030 Agenda surpasses the commitments made in the framework of the MDGs and considers cross-cutting approaches for the integration of public policies with respect to the three dimensions of sustainable development (social, economic, and environmental) throughout its goals and targets.

Additionally, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) encompass access to global public goods, also known as inclusive goods, with transcendence in time and with free open-border access, having the capacity to improve the life quality of all human beings. Examples of this are the promotion of biodiversity, the fight against climate change, access to new technologies, information and the use of the internet, among others.



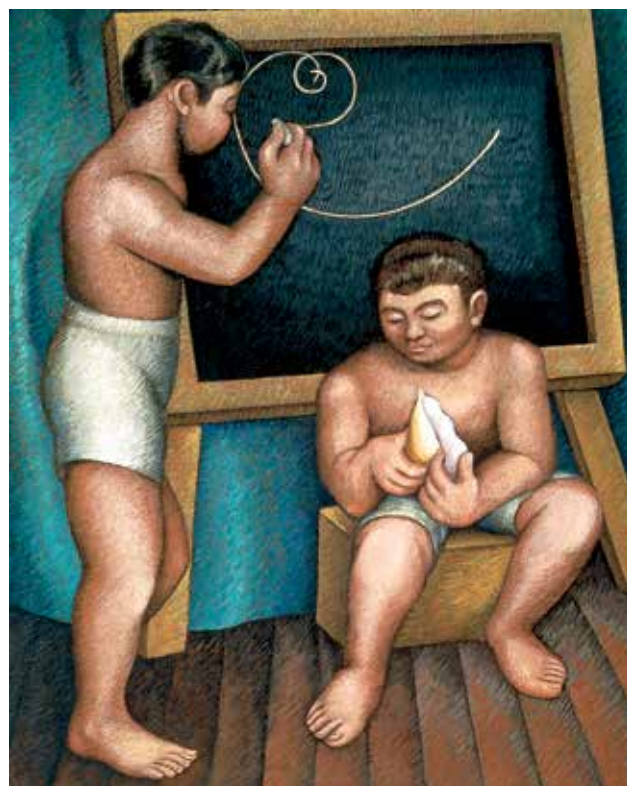
David Alfaro Siqueiros
Peasants (1913)
Oil on canvas, 100 x 189 cm
National Art Museum, INBA

This requires the mobilization of resources and the engagement of all different government levels, as well as international organizations and society stakeholders as a whole.

What were the lessons learned?

During the implementation of the MDGs, we adopted tools that currently put us in a better position to face

the implementation of the SDGs. As President Enrique Peña Nieto recently stated, Mexico recognized the importance of including human rights and human dignity as one of the cross-cutting topics of the new Agenda.



Agustín Lazo
At school (1943)
Oil on canvas, 121 x 97 cm
Modern Art Museum, INBA

In order to ensure that the SDGs will be implemented by 2030, it is necessary to increase the attention to our strategies in an integrated framework that includes strengthening the rule of law, transparency, accountability, access to information, public participation, and solid institutions. These elements generate value, promote investment, create jobs, and increase competitiveness.

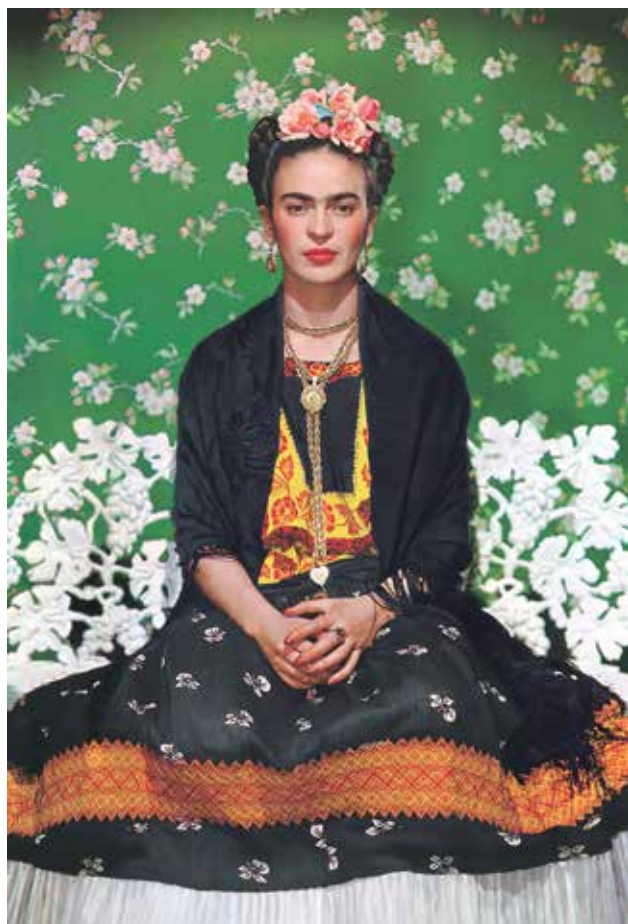
Gender equality, non-discrimination, economic and social inclusion, the youth and vulnerable groups, and positioning resilience at the core of our actions are essential elements to consider during the preparation of new public policies.



What can be measured, can be improved

The Office of the President of Mexico, along with INEGI, developed an online platform of the MDGs that became a benchmark in the inclusion of high quality, transparent and accessible information, with the possibility to present data by age, gender, place of residence, etc. The platform <http://www.objetivosdesarrollodelmilenio.org.mx> receives 16 thousand visitors per month, on average.

The SDGs' National Platform developed in partnership by the National Digital Strategy Office and INEGI, will be an open source tool fed with open data to enable greater collaboration towards an accountable monitoring and effective delivery of the goals.



Nickolas Muray
Frida on white bench (1939)
Image courtesy of
© Nickolas Muray Photo Archives

Thanks to the MDGs, it was learned that the monitoring and fulfillment of the SDGs must transcend changes

of government. Thus, the importance of building solid institutional structures that stand up over time.



Diego Rivera
Water: the origin of life (detail) (1951)
Mural, National History Museum
Mexico City © Banco de México

Additionally, Mexico co-chairs, along with the Philippines, the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDGs Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), which is integrated by 28 members and belongs to the United Nations Statistics Division. As a result, Mexico is on the cutting edge of the international scene in relation to the periodic measurement of the global indicators of the new Agenda.

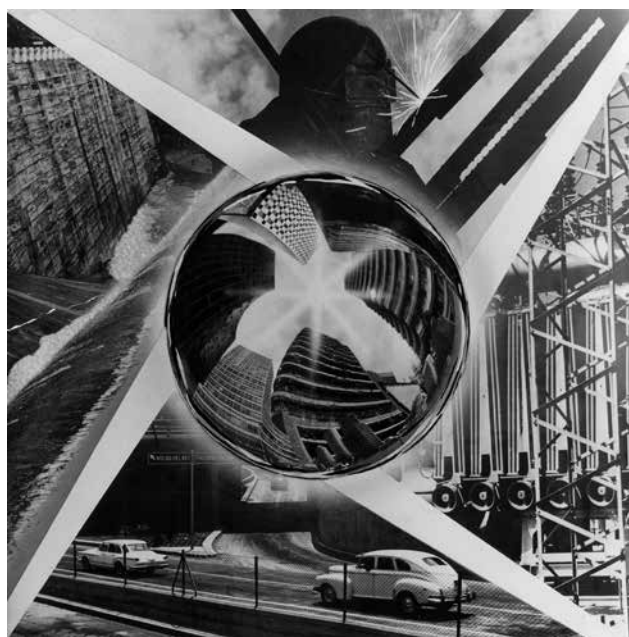
Participation of academic institutions and the civil society

Through the negotiating process of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda, it was possible to establish a constructive dialogue with civil society organizations involved in the process of implementing the



Sustainable Agenda. They have contributed to the official position of Mexico at the international level, and some of their members attended, as part of the Mexican Delegation, the negotiations of the 2030 Agenda.

Academic institutions and civil society have a fundamental role in disseminating the SDGs at the state and municipal levels. Mexico was one of the countries with the greatest participation in the survey <http://myworld2030.org> launched by the UN. Likewise, these stakeholders participated in the national integration of the 2030 Agenda, when involved in disseminating and raising awareness of the new goals. Perhaps, even more important, is to recognize that the SDGs create rights but also obligations: sustainable development is a responsibility of the society as a whole, and it can only be achieved with its full participation.



Nacho López
Mexico builds (photomontage) (1962)
Gelatin silver print, 25.2 x 20.4 cm
Ministry of Culture
Nacho López Collection

In addition to the efforts of the Office of the President of Mexico to draft a strategy to implement the 2030 Agenda at the national level, we held two meetings sponsored by the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico to have a discussion with civil society organizations, during the first semester of 2016. The purpose was to design together a dialogue mechanism that allows us to maintain the exchange of ideas and the work that has been achieved so far,

and to expand the ways to communicate and reach consensus on the position of Mexico in multilateral fora in this regard.



Francisco Eppens Helguera
Builders (1935)
Crayon on paper, 101 x 151 cm
National Art Museum, INBA

Finally, it should also be noted that with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), a meeting was held with a group of academics to discuss the same challenges.

Path to implement the 2030 Agenda

The strategies and actions undertaken to implement the 2030 Agenda should take into account various aspects. First of all, it is necessary to keep the CTEODS as a technical tool for the measurement and reporting on the indicators, in addition to clearly identifying what are the different agencies responsible for each of them.

By June 2016, INEGI mapped out the 230 global indicators and matched 180 of them with the different government agencies responsible for each. This was done taking into account that many of them are the result of sectoral programs from one or more Mexican



Secretariats of State. It is still necessary to establish the baseline for each, as well as the definition of short, medium, and long term progressive targets.



José María Velasco
Citlaltepetl (1897)
Oil on canvas, 104 x 160.5 cm
National Art Museum, INBA

Having completed the mapping of the global indicators, during the second half of 2016, INEGI will organize working groups to define national indicators. In this effort, the participation of civil society, academic institutions, and the private sector is expected. One of the challenges will be to take into account the commitments undertaken in the various international conventions, such as the Protocol of San Salvador, and the Operational Guide for the implementation and follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus, in order to include complementary methodologies that aid us in this exercise.

Mexico participates actively in the definition of the regional indicators that will be adopted in the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (SCA-ECLAC). Our country was chosen as a Latin American member of the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals indicators (IAEG- SDGs), along with Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, and Jamaica.

What elements do we have?

The *National Development Plan* (PND, for its acronym in Spanish), prepared by this administration for the period 2013-2018, includes various sustainability elements that are compatible with the 2030 Agenda. The PND is the public policy document that serves as a guide for government action. In addition, during the last three years of the current administration, our

country established the Pact for Mexico as a forum for dialogue and discussion that, together with the approval of 13 transforming reforms, contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.

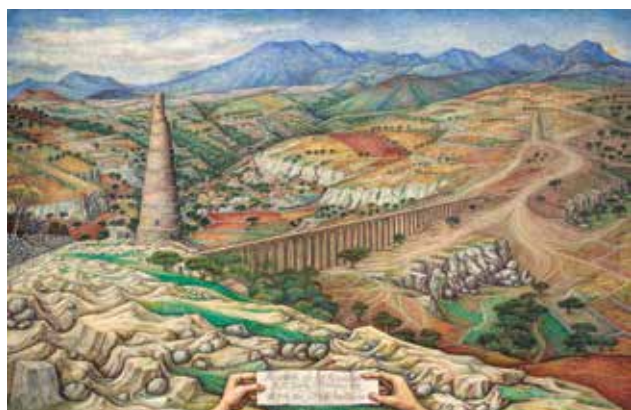
In this first stage of the implementation of the new Agenda, also with the support of UNDP, an analysis of the PND, the national and specialized programs, and the structural reforms, was conducted to align them with the SDGs: the goal has been to identify areas of opportunity between the 2030 Agenda and the public policies of the government.

Likewise, an analysis of the current coordination mechanisms for starting the SDGs was done. The Office of the President of Mexico has five Specialized Cabinets that were designed to address each of the core areas of the PND: *Mexico in Peace*, *Inclusive Mexico*, *Mexico with Quality Education*, *Prosperous Mexico*, and *Mexico with Global Responsibility*. These Cabinets are composed by the Secretariats of State that address the national priorities of every item of the Plan.



Tina Modotti
Hands of the puppeteer (ca. 1929)
Gelatin silver print, 20.3 x 23.8 cm
National Art Museum, INBA

In the framework of the strategic plan that the Office of the President is defining, priority activities have been identified, such as coordination, communication, location of resources, and key stakeholders, as well as the monitoring and evaluation of the roadmap. In addition, an alignment was made with the SDGs and 18 Inter-Secretariat Commissions that meet periodically to develop integrated policies that address very specific issues.



Juan O'Gorman
Memory of Remedios (1943)
Oil on canvas, 102.5 x 75.8 cm
National Art Museum, INBA

Open Data

Mexico is part of the Open Government Partnership (OGP), a multilateral initiative to create more responsive and efficient governments through the creation of National Action Plans. This includes commitments to promote transparency, accountability, citizen participation, and innovation. During the preparation of its Third Action Plan, Mexico conducted a public consultation that identified six priority topics directly linked to the SDGs.

The budget...

The Performance Evaluation System (SED, for its acronym in Spanish) of the Secretariat of Finance of Mexico is key to assure an adequate budgetary allocation that will allow SDGs to be turned into reality. For this purpose, we are also aligning the over 400 indicators that this Secretariat measures with the 230 global indicators of the new Agenda. Once this is concluded, it will be possible to consider modifying the effectiveness of public expenditure in the framework of the evaluation of the mid-term of the administration that will be conducted in September 2016.

... and the legal instruments

The Senate of Mexico has also been actively involved in the process of implementing the 2030 Agenda and is aware of the new challenges. For that reason, at the end of 2015, 12 United Commissions agreed to establish a parliamentary mechanism to reform the existing laws and regulations that contribute to achieving the SDGs. In addition, they are revisiting

the Planning Law to assess the need to reform it according to the requirements of the new Agenda. Finally, lawmakers will be key to ensure accountability of the executive branch.

The state and municipal levels

Local governments influence sustainable development and help advance towards more just and prosperous societies. They also promote integrated approaches in the planning and development of cities and urban settlements. It is essential to involve the municipal authorities, and promote citizen engagement in the decision-making process.

Local authorities contribute to ensure affordability and to provide services. This begins with the smallest units of government, who help those living in the most remote populated areas and in need of assistance. These places are where the implementation of the 2030 Agenda will take the greatest importance to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, by promoting economic growth and the sustainable management of natural resources.



Armando Romero
The hobby (La Afición) (2011)
Oil on canvas, 120 x 150 cm
Private collection

Mexico has 31 states and 2 thousand 456 municipalities, as well as Mexico City (and its 16 delegations). The states of the Republic are represented in the National Governors' Conference (CONAGO, for its acronym in Spanish), and the municipalities in the National Conference of Municipalities of Mexico (CONAMM, for its acronym in Spanish). Both promote local development through policy and institutional transformation. For this reason, they represent the



appropriate spaces for promoting the implementation of the SDGs in all areas of government.



Gerardo Murillo (Dr. Atl)
The cloud (1931)
Oil on canvas, 92.8 x 100.2 cm
National Art Museum, INBA

According to the above, if we take into consideration that, starting this year, 12 states of the Republic will have new administrations, each with its respective state development plan, it will be essential that they consider the goals of the 2030 Agenda with an integrated perspective.

In Mexico, we already have several examples of these efforts. For instance, Jalisco has its own development indicators associated with the SDGs, and conducts a thorough follow-up through the Development Indicators Monitoring system (MIDE, for its acronym in Spanish). The Mexican state of Chiapas, in 2009, included the SDGs in its local Constitution, in addition to having already integrated the SDGs in its *State Development Plan*.

The importance of ownership

Ownership involves all dimensions and stakeholders. First of all, it is necessary to train government officials, especially the ones involved in operations, on the goals, targets and indicators of the new Agenda. In this process, it is essential to bring together all levels and branches of government, as well as citizen organizations: it is through collective action that transformations are accomplished. Thus, ownership means generating capacity in the population to impact and raise awareness through the dissemination of the 2030 Agenda.

Participation of the private sector

The success of the 2030 Agenda depends largely on the active participation of the private sector. We need to consider entrepreneurs not only as “objects” of development, but fundamentally as “subjects” who actively participate in the fulfillment of the new commitments.

In Mexico, different processes that consider businesses as partners have been initiated to overcome the challenges of the 2030 Agenda. For example, the International Economic Cooperation Bureau of the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID, for its acronym in Spanish), established the Sustainability Alliance as a platform for dialogue and action that includes 80 Mexican and multinational companies in Mexico, to exchange information on the integration of the SDGs into business models, and to design international cooperation projects around the 2030 Agenda. The challenge is collaborating with the civil society, and the local and state governments, aiming to support development banks, foundations and other funds, in addition to developing tools to monitor results.



Joaquín Clausell
Late afternoon by the sea (1910)
Oil on canvas, 101 x 151 cm
National Art Museum, INBA

AMEXCID has also developed collaboration links with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, promoting the use of business tools, such as the *SDGs Compass*, and the *United Nations Global Compact*, through its regional office in Latin America.

Initiatives such as *Business Call to Action*, promoted by the UNDP, confirm that inclusive businesses galvanize



innovation and competitiveness, strengthening value chains, discovering new profit sources, and linking business strategies and technologies with global priorities and challenges.

been adopted by 52 countries, and more than 90 civil society organizations.

*"If your world is all you have, you have nothing.
If the world is all you have, you have everything".*

Patrizio Paoletti



Alejandra López-Yasky
Sensus #5 (2012)
Oil and wax on canvas, 149 cm of diameter
Private collection

Partnerships for the goals and international cooperation

Mexico, as an actor with global responsibility, is a key player for achieving the 2030 Agenda. Our country is a signatory of 13 free trade agreements with 51 nations, which contain sections dedicated to international cooperation. Other International agreements have also been signed, such as the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* on financing for development and the eradication of poverty; the *Paris Agreement* on climate change to achieve the transition to zero fossil fuels; the *International Open Data Letter*; the Open Government Partnership, in addition to political and immigration agreements with Central American countries. All of these instruments strengthen Goal 17, about to the application and the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

Socializing the 2030 Agenda at the highest level

Efforts have been made to include the new Agenda in the dialogue of high government officials and socialize it from the highest levels. For example, during the 36th Session of ECLAC, held in Mexico City in May 2016, President Enrique Peña Nieto endorsed the commitment of the Government of Mexico to implement the 2030 Agenda before Secretaries of State, state authorities, delegates of ECLAC member States, representatives of international organizations, and the civil society. The agreement on a common language and reaching consensus on the way forward among all participants will be fundamental for achieving success.

In the framework of the 70th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Mexico promoted the adoption of the Joint Declaration on Open Government for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This declaration establishes commitments to meet the SDGs with transparency, accountability, civil society's participation and innovation. The Declaration has



Géza Maróti
Apollo and the Muses (1908)
Stained glass window, Palace of Fine Arts
Mexico City, INBA



With the support of the Bureau of Global Affairs of the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, there has been constant participation in multilateral, regional and global fora. In July 2016, in the framework of the High Level Political Forum under the sponsorship of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations, Mexico will be one of the 22 countries that will present a voluntary national report on the national strategies for implementing the 2030 Agenda.

The AMEXCID contributes following up on the collaboration projects with the agencies of the United Nations System based in Mexico, in addition to having sponsored collaboration projects in countries of Latin American and the Caribbean. For example, in 2015 a call was launched for capacity building in Mesoamerica with a network of experts that can replicate our experience on sustainability practices at the local level. This Agency is currently working on a proposal to strengthen Latin American governments with infrastructure that will help them fulfill the SDGs.

Efforts already linked with sustainable development

Different actions have been undertaken during the current administration to strengthen sustainable development. For example, the National Crusade Against Hunger was launched to benefit the population in need; we have a National Program for Social Prevention of Crime and Violence; the National Climate Change Strategy was articulated, and also the National Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Obesity and Diabetes. We also have a new Universal Social Security System, and the General Law of Rights of Children and Teenagers. Currently, the Congress is considering a reform to the Constitution of Mexico and the Federal Civil Code to permit equal marriage.

Other examples include the creation of the National System of Integrated Protection, which Mexico pioneers in the strategy against violence towards minors; an Accusatory Criminal Justice System; a National Anticorruption System; the *National Strategy for the Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy*; Special Economic Zones to promote development in the south of the country; the *Special Immigration Program*; the Unique Identification for personal IDs

and for access to basic services, and an Assistance Program for Indigenous Education, in addition to a National Coordination of Teachers' Professional Service, among others.



Pedro Friedeberg
"Lección de elegancia y sofisticación" (2015)
 Hand knotted rug manufactured by Odabashian
 11 knots per cm², semi worsted New Zealand wool
 and art silk, 300 x 300 cm. Photo: Fernando Etulain

Next steps

Mexico is considering the creation of a National Strategy to implement the 2030 Agenda, aligned with the already existing national strategies, as well as installing a coordination mechanism to implement the 2030 Agenda, created from a global and integrated vision that allows a dialogue among different government sectors.

The new approach should be sufficiently institutionalized to keep functioning in the subsequent governments. The enactment of a decree of a quinquennial preparation and review of the national strategy adopted would help to guarantee its transcendence. Finally, a national awareness campaign of the 2030 Agenda will be essential to achieve its goals and commitments.



*"We are the first generation that can end poverty,
the last that can end climate change".*

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

