

BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR'S COMMUNITY-BASED OPPORTUNITIES

ARTS & CULTURE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION

ENVIRONMENT

HEALTH

& NEEDS



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BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR'S COMMUNITY-BASED OPPORTUNITIES & NEEDS

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COVER PHOTOS:

Front cover: Niños del Capitán daycare center, Cabo San Lucas **Back cover (clockwise from upper left):** Dentist at Niños del Capitán medical clinic, Cabo San Lucas; Girls at community center operated by Fundación Ayuda Niños La Paz, La Paz; Child at Niños del Capitán; *Mammillaria* in bloom; Volunteers and children at Liga MAC, Cabo San Lucas; Fishing family, Agua Verde.

P R E F A C E

By all accounts, the state of Baja California Sur is one of the most ecologically diverse and beautiful places in the Western Hemisphere with diverse, arid terrain and aquamarine water containing an abundance of marine life. It was for this reason that the famed late oceanographer, Jacques Cousteau, once called the Sea of Cortez “the aquarium of the world.” The late author, John Steinbeck, was similarly captivated by the region's uniqueness inspiring him to write two of his classic works, The Log of the Sea of Cortez and The Pearl.

Because of its remoteness and scarcity of water, Baja California Sur – with the notable exception of Los Cabos and La Paz – has historically remained under-developed. It is also the least populated state in the Republic of Mexico with just over 450,000 people extending over 73,475 km or 28,369 square miles – an area roughly the size of Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont combined. Because of the state's low population density, Baja California Sur has evolved over the years to provide its residents with a relatively high quality of life with a relatively low crime rate, healthy environment, ample recreational opportunities and economic opportunities in the tourism, services, fisheries and mining sectors. Yet, today the state is at an important crossroad in its history with recent demographic changes beginning to permanently alter the traditional character of communities across the state.

While Baja California Sur has long been a draw for North American tourists, a growing demand by American second home buyers and expectant “baby boomer” retirees has sparked a renewed interest in the region, resulting in an accelerated level of urbanization and development in recent years. This growth has been accompanied by a marked increase in the domestic immigration of workers and their families from the interior of Mexico in search of employment.

There is no question that this inevitable growth will bring with it economic opportunity, an expanded tax base, improved infrastructure and health care services, which are in real demand. The expanded population growth, particularly among American and Canadian expatriates, also brings with it the promise of increased philanthropy and volunteerism which could over time translate to an expanded capacity of the state's nonprofit organizations to better respond the growing societal needs across the state.

In spite of the opportunities for growth, the state's fragile desert environment and water resources raise questions about the sustainability of planned future growth; the degradation of Baja California Sur's ecological, visual and recreational landscape could have potential adverse consequences on the future prospects of the state as a major tourist and second home buyer destination. Growth brings with it other unintended consequences as evidenced by the noticeable recent increase in the incidence of pulmonary cancer, homicides, drug related crimes and suicides and impending groundwater shortages across the state over the past five years.

In an effort to better assess the current and future needs of Baja California Sur and expand charitable giving across the state, the International Community Foundation (ICF) is proud to release ***Baja California Sur's Community-Based Opportunities and Needs***. This volume follows the release of a similar publication in 2003 by ICF of opportunities and needs in the state of Baja California which contributed to expanding the level of the foundation's overall grantmaking in Baja California border region.

As with our prior publication, ICF hopes that with this volume policymakers, civic leaders, potential donors and volunteers are better informed about the opportunities for making a difference across the state of Baja California Sur in the areas of education, health, community and economic development, the environment, and arts and culture.

Baja California Sur's assets and human capital are great but so too are its growing needs. Over the next twenty years, disparities are expected to emerge between the economically and geographically isolated *ejidos* and fishing villages across the state and the fast-growing cities of Los Cabos, Todos Santos, La Paz, and Loreto. These disparities will bring new challenges for policymakers and civic leaders.

With limited public resources, it is evident that Baja California Sur needs a strong and vibrant civil society. Where known community-based gaps exist – such as in the need for special education programs, drug prevention and rehabilitation facilities – nonprofits from elsewhere in Mexico or other social entrepreneurs need to be encouraged to invest the state. Similarly, local and foreign residents need to do their part.

ICF believes that philanthropy can play a catalytic role in shaping a stable economic and environmentally sustainable future for Baja California Sur. Much of its fate will rest on not just how growth is managed across the state, but what type of civil society emerges as a consequence. Here, promoting a strong a vibrant civil society will be absolutely critical but this can not be accomplished without also expanding the level of charitable giving to nonprofit organizations across the state.

Through the publication of this guide, it is ICF's hope that we can help to better inform readers like you to discover how your passions or deep-seeded interests in making a difference can be catalyzed across the state of Baja California Sur, along with the collective efforts of other likeminded people, to improve the quality of life in the communities that you care about, leaving them better and more economically and environmentally sustainable than ever before.



Richard Kiy
President and CEO
International Community Foundation
February 2006

TABLE OF CONTENTS

BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR'S COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES AND NEEDS

Acknowledgements	2
Preface	3
Executive Summary	5
Needs & Opportunities at a Glance	
Arts & Culture	5
Community Development	7
Economic Development	8
Education	9
Environment	10
Health	11
Emerging Philanthropic Opportunities	12
Research Methodology	14
Introduction to Baja California Sur	15
Arts & Culture	25
Key Findings	25
Needs by Municipality	31
Community Development	33
Key Findings	33
Needs by Municipality	37
Economic Development	40
Key Findings	40
Needs by Municipality	44
Education	47
Key Findings	48
Needs by Municipality	51
Environment	54
Key Findings	55
Needs by Municipality	59
Health	62
Key Findings	62
Needs by Municipality	66
Nonprofits in Baja California Sur	
Introduction to NGOs	69
List of NGOs	74
Reference Material	
List of Figures	81
Acronyms	82
List of Meetings	84
Maps	90
Bibliography	91
Endnotes	100
Photo Credits	107
Website Information	107

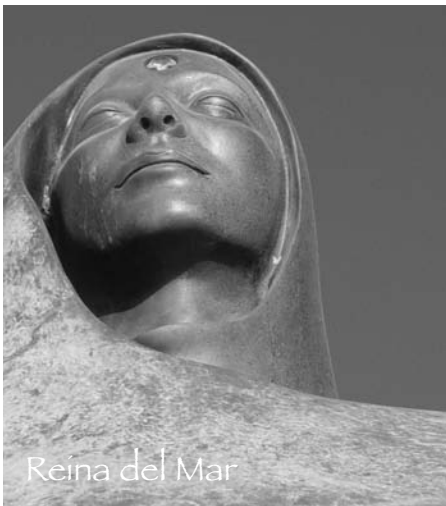
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Needs and Opportunities at a Glance

ARTS AND CULTURE

Needs

- Creation of a state Council for Culture and the Arts.
- More programs geared towards artistic development in elementary schools that are not tied to the budget of the Secretary of Public Education
- Art teachers and cultural educators for rural communities' elementary schools.



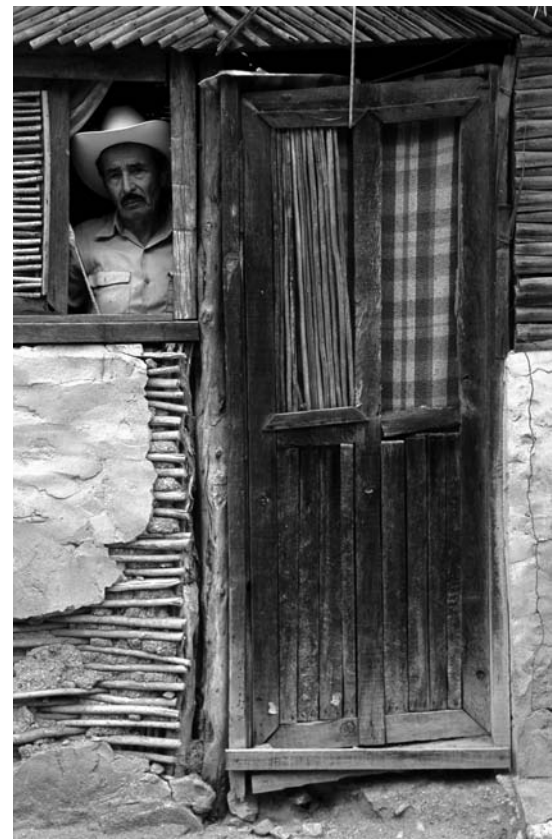
- Agreements between culturally- focused nonprofits and government agencies to open up management opportunities.
- New cultural projects on oral history and hand-made craftsmanship (*artesanía*).
- Building restoration projects that have historical value, as well as to protect works of art that date back to the missionary period, with special emphasis on Santa Rosalía, which has a unique history in Baja California Sur relating to its architecture and the mines
- Renovation of the Library of the Californias and CONTUMEN, as well as new facilities, such as an interactive children's museum and an arts school.
- Restoration of a mirror room and the roof for the Cabo San Lucas Culture House.

- Scholarship programs for artists and cultural promoters, as well as a program for promising talented students.
- Hire local artists for public service campaigns on health and education.
- Instruments for the Youth Philharmonic Orchestra.
- Art and trade schools for the most distant communities, including the creation of reading rooms.
- New audiovisual halls and open air venues for theater, environmental education, and films.
- Equipment for cultural centers, museums, and art galleries, including interactive technology and a bus for traveling cultural exhibits.
- More options for recreation, leisure, artistic creation, and cultural events to counteract the negative effects of television, drugs, and alcohol.
- Nonprofits that specialize in arts and culture.
- Increase library activities for young people.
- Create parent-child reading programs to promote library use.

Giving

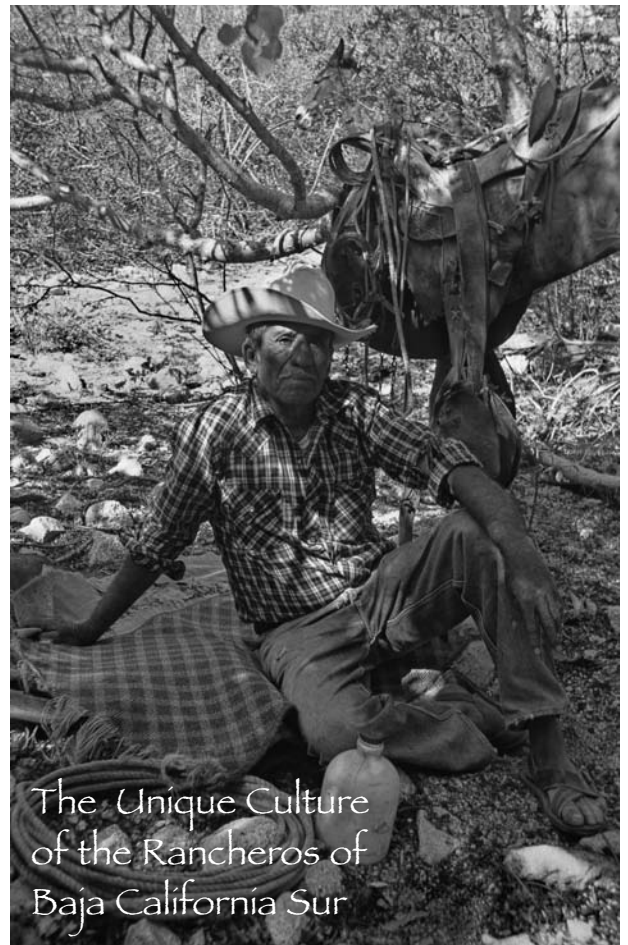
- Funds for the creation of boarding schools for the arts and trades for students that come from distant communities.
- Funding of scholarship programs for students in the arts and for the members of the Youth Philharmonic Orchestra, including an exchange program.
- Donation of musical instruments to the Youth Philharmonic Orchestra.
- Funds for renovation, restoration, and new cultural and arts facilities, including equipment and exhibits.
- Restoration programs for deteriorating historical buildings, as well as for works of art dating back to the missionary period.
- Funds for the hiring of art teachers for rural and urban schools.
- Funds for the creation of public spaces to carry out cultural diffusion projects.
- Sponsorship of music and drama productions.

- Sponsor a youth theater group.
- Funds for the creation of a distribution network and outlets for exporting regional arts and crafts.
- Sponsor museum exhibition exchanges between the U.S. and Mexico.
- Promote agreements for collaboration between museums in California and Baja California Sur to implement joint research and diffusion projects on Jesuit Missions.
- Funding to implement training and research on art and art history at higher learning institutions (diploma studies, courses, visit by students from both countries, etc.).
- Sponsor transportation, customs fees and taxes for importing equipment and materials for schools, culture centers, theater houses and other cultural assets.
- “Adopt a work of art” for the restoration of the 17th century works found in the old missions.
- Donate books in English or Spanish to local libraries.
- Promote locally-produced public art in communities around the state.



Volunteer Opportunities

- Some musical groups, dance clubs, and theatrical groups accept volunteers for artistic education programs.
- Opportunities exist for young people to achieve their “social service compliance” by volunteering at artistic and cultural events.
- Opportunities abound for retired people or second-home residents with artistic talents to hold art classes for children and youth.
- Informal groups of artists, musicians, dance and drama clubs are usually led by volunteers. These volunteers could train other neighborhood leaders with artistic talents to form additional clubs in other parts of their community.



The Unique Culture
of the Rancheros of
Baja California Sur

Photos courtesy of Miguel Angel de la Cueva - Peninsula Planeta

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Needs

Infrastructure

- Research and public forums aimed at catalyzing public sector investment at the local and state level for improvements in basic infrastructure including, but not limited to, clean water, sewage treatment, electricity services, public transportation, mail delivery, telephone service, paved roads in urban and rural municipalities and sanitary facilities for garbage disposal, recycling and waste handling services.
- Decent, affordable housing for incoming migrant populations.

Social

- Support services for abused women and children.
- Recreational activities such as sports teams and investment in community recreational spaces such as soccer fields.
- Create sports promotion councils.
- Programs to promote greater public participation and civic engagement.
- Coordination and communication among nonprofits, government agencies, and private sector actors to comprehensively address community priorities.
- Professional training for local nonprofits to improve management capacity.
- Community development programs that in rural and urban communities on the benefits of conservation and sustainable exploitation of their natural resources.
- After-school programs in communities where children are at a high risk of becoming involved with drugs and gangs.
- Programs designed to create awareness for the growing drug problems in the state, as well as to provide rehabilitation services to addicts.
- Create neighborhood watch groups.
- Expand nonprofit and civil society capacity to better assess long term impacts of planned future growth on available water resources, environment, economy and urban landscape.
- Develop quality of life indicators to better assess progress in the areas of education, health and environmental quality over time.

Giving

- Community centers and programs targeted to senior citizens, children and youth, families with disintegration problems, people with disabled

siblings and women and children that are victims of violence.

- Funding to support research, expanded public participation and improved government transparency regarding financing for public infrastructure projects.
- Develop programs for communities that are situated near oases, as well as the design of sustainable economic projects.
- Funding for municipal plans for affordable housing, land use, and water management.
- Capacity-building to improve nonprofit management, board development, and fundraising.
- Funding and in-kind support for drug rehabilitation centers and programs in drug-prone areas.
- Encourage nonprofit organizations from other regions of Mexico to leverage best practices and their experience to provide low-cost housing solutions for Baja California Sur's growing migrant workforce.
- Nonprofit exchange and training between groups in Baja California, the interior of Mexico, and those in Baja California Sur.
- Support expanded public participation by electronically publishing reports, plans and maps.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Volunteer leadership to encourage greater public participation and civic engagement.
- Sister City technical exchange of best practices in the area of municipal finance and best in class public infrastructure (including desalinization facilities).
- Volunteer home building projects.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Needs

- Modernized irrigation systems and improved technology for the agricultural and livestock industries.
- Modernized technology and training for fishery industry (boats, 4-stroke engines, processing, sanitation).
- Expansion of micro-credit, vocational training, and employment programs, especially for women and the elderly.
- Create new sources of employment to deter emigration of local young people.
- Marketing assistance for productive employment products, without the use of middlemen.
- Technical and professional advice for the tourism industry, especially in marketing alternative tourism (such as ecotourism or adventure tourism).
- Technical consultation/advice on how to most productively use ejido land, including the introduction of crops that require less water, less land, and that could be exploited with modern and accessible technology.
- Improved transportation and distribution systems for people and goods, including better roads.
- Expand technical and marketing investments to the nascent cactus industry, which has great potential in response to the world demand for natural foodstuffs and alternative medicine.
- Desalinization technology and additional research on environmental impacts of desalinization and best practices.
- Market-based incentives for best practices in fishing and aquaculture.
- Regulation and monitoring of aquaculture projects in

the Gulf of California and along the Pacific coast of Baja California Sur.

- Decentralization of municipal funds and programs to promote community-led development.
- *Ejidors* need to organize more to collectively lobby the government and nonprofits for economic development assistance.
- Coordination among government agencies and community members in deciding where/how to direct development funds.

Giving

- Training on how to utilize technology or how to be more efficient in top three industries.
- Funding that provides *ejidos* with access to loans in order to expand the market access of their products.
- Investments in modern technology in the three top industries (fisheries, farming, livestock raising)
- Create a coordination mechanism so that government economic development endeavors and community initiatives are in synch, such as a Community Development Corporation or Community Development Financial Institution.
- Research on how to best utilize the region's resources in a way that is productive and sustainable.
- Programs to promote community organization and collaboration for marketing, distribution and reinvestment.
- Promotion for sustainable economic development projects, such as alternative tourism, organic farming, integrated ranch management, sustainable forestry, and fisheries management.

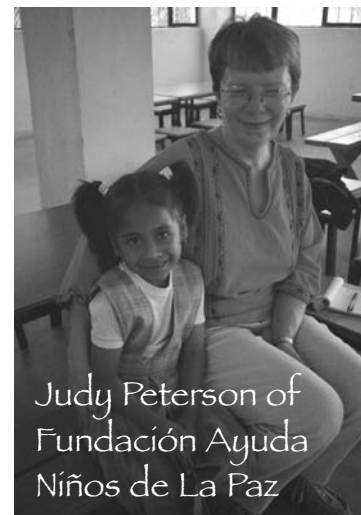
EDUCATION

Needs

- Improvements in number of and training for teachers at all levels, especially in rural areas.
 - New school construction, especially in rural areas, with sufficient equipment, such as electricity, air conditioning units, computers, libraries, and furniture.
 - Continued maintenance of school infrastructure, including sports fields and community spaces.
 - Transportation for middle and high school students to distant schools.
 - Dormitories for children and youth from rural, otherwise isolated, communities.
 - Scholarships for low-income youth to attend university and technical schools.
 - Design of professional and vocational training programs that can cover specific regional necessities, including courses on cattle raising and fishing.
 - Increased availability of culturally-appropriate education for agricultural migrant workers and residents of rural communities.
 - Support for students with learning disabilities through extracurricular classes.
 - Increased availability of courses for sexual education for teenagers and youth.
 - Educational enrichment programs in English, Computer Science, Music and the Arts.
- Purchase equipment, teaching materials, and technical training for the hearing and visually impaired.
 - Purchase of transportation vehicles and orthopedic equipment for the physically impaired.
 - Support the construction of dormitories (*Internados*) to permit rural children and youth to attend school.
 - Creating daycare centers with flexible hours to benefit working mothers.
 - Providing courses on craftsmanship, cooking, recreational, and cultural events for rural communities.
 - Endow or sponsor higher learning programs aimed at covering regional economic specializations, such as programs at the Technology Institute and UABCS.
 - Support for ongoing sexual education programs targeting youth to prevent pregnancies, sexual violence, and sexually-transmitted diseases.

Giving

- Help create parent teacher associations (PTAs) and parent/community managed trust funds fideicomisos to facilitate charitable giving for public schools.
- Help students stay in school by providing scholarships, transportation fees, tutorial and mentoring programs, and/or financial incentives for achieving academic excellence.
- Teacher training and scholarships for exemplary teachers.
- “Adopt-A-Bus” – purchasing buses and providing maintenance costs for local school transportation.
- Equipping existing schools with updated computers, software, and library reference materials in Spanish.
- Support for nonprofits that provide meals, school materials, uniforms, and scholarships, up to 100% of academic expenses.
- Constructing Special Learning Centers and workshops for the disabled to provide professional and vocational training.



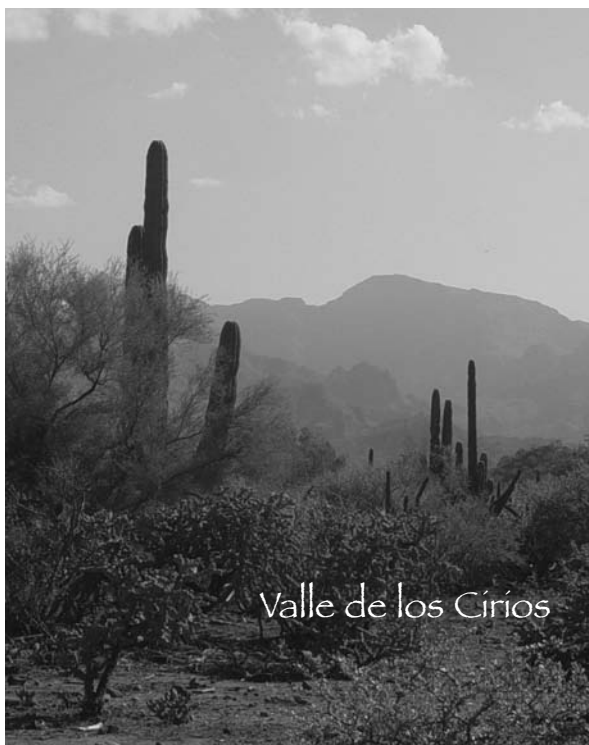
Volunteer Opportunities

- Reading tutors to assist adults enrolled in elementary education classes.
- Extracurricular tutoring for elementary school students with learning disabilities.
- English and computer science instructors to offer ongoing classes and enrichment programs at public schools for children, youth and adults.
- Sexual health educators to work with women from rural areas.
- Professional instructors with knowledge of new, more efficient techniques to teach workers, including fishermen and ranchers, how to improve their operations, as well as basic vocational training.

ENVIRONMENT

Needs

- Expanded emphasis on marine protected areas, no-take zones, and coastal ecological zoning in the Gulf of California and the Pacific coast.
- Promotion of ecotourism and fisheries certification programs to provide financial incentives for sustainable resource use.
- Prioritize private lands conservation programs on ejidal and privately-held lands to bring financial benefits to landowners in exchange for restricting development rights.
- Creation of new environmental education curriculum, projects, and campaigns.
- Training for and professionalization of nonprofits so that they can improve the management and operational capacities of their resources.
- Expansion of island protected areas to include surrounding marine zones.
- Programs designed to raise awareness about the scarce water resources available in the state.
- Ecological and economic development studies on the unique environment of oases in Baja California Sur.
- Regulation and monitoring of coastal aquaculture projects, as well as additional research on the environmental impacts of these projects.
- Improved vigilance and monitoring systems for marine and terrestrial protected areas.
- Market based incentives for best practices in fishing and aquaculture.
- Build endowments for local environmental nonprofits.



- Renewed focus on trash, coastal pollution, and recycling.
- New programs to promote alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar.
- Research on noise pollution from boat diesel engines, desalination plants, and unmuffled engines.

Giving

- Support for conservation, restoration, research, and sustainable use projects that benefit natural resources.
- Funding of environmental education programs to support teachers and students in all levels.
- Constructing new venues for environmental education, such as the Aquarium in La Paz and the eco-center for the Desert and the Sea in Loreto.
- Support for the conservation of species and the marine ecosystems through the promotion of marine protected areas.
- Funding for the promotion of sustainable ecological and rural tourism.
- Funding of recycling orientation programs for municipalities and homes.
- Support programs aimed at building a culture of water conservation.
- Funding of the construction of sanitary landfills in the *ejido* communities and waste disposal for fishery industry.
- Initiate program for curbside recycling and improvements in trash disposal.
- Promote loan programs through banks that support sustainable practices – organic agriculture, “green” development, alternative energy, or upgrades in equipment.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Volunteer opportunities in environmental education
- Beach, island and bay clean ups.

HEALTH

Needs

- Capable personnel: accredited doctors and nurses permanently placed to assist Health Centers in rural, widely dispersed areas.
- Medical supplies: antibiotics, snake-bite kits, rabies vaccines, medication for elderly, as well as for the treatment of diabetes and HIV.
- Medical equipment for disabled individuals (wheelchairs, neck braces, walkers, etc.).
- Ambulances to transport inhabitants from isolated rural communities to Health Centers to receive medical attention.
- Comprehensive promotion of campaigns for preventative health screenings and wellness strategies such as: pelvic exams and mammographs for women; the use of condoms and contraceptive methods to prevent premature pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases; an accident prevention campaign; physical exercise (e.g. walk to school/work day), balanced nutrition; programs to support emotional and psychological illness among at-risk populations; prevention of diseases such as AIDS, dengue, and substance addiction; adequate consumption of water and food to prevent infectious diseases.
- Extension of the capacity of rehabilitation centers (alcohol and drug addiction) with established programs and counseling personnel, as well as participatory programs aimed at drug awareness and prevention.
- Improve attention and care for those suffering from physical disabilities and mental illness.
- Improved care and assistance to elders.
- Distribution of information on prevention and adequate management of illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease.
- Creation of dog shelters/humane societies with the goal of controlling infections or illnesses that stray animals may cause.
- Creation of nonprofits to combat drug use with an emphasis on prevention.
- Need for improved pediatric care across the state.
- Occupational health education and outreach with particular emphasis on agricultural workers and fishermen.
- Additional research on air and water pollution and links to human health.

Giving

- Donations of medical supplies and equipment specifically for handicapped patients (wheelchairs,

- orthopedic collars, baby walkers, prosthesis).
- Donation of ambulances.
- Funding for centers dedicated to mental and emotional health, as well as therapy programs focused on the rehabilitation of mental health patients.
- Support for the creation of nonprofits dedicated to assisting vulnerable groups (young drug addicts, alcoholics, AIDS victims, women and children victims of violence, the elderly, the disabled).
- Create local/regional capacity in the area of environmental health and occupational health education, outreach and public advocacy.
- Financing of campaigns such as the heart disease prevention program and the program aimed at providing activities for diabetic patients.
- Creating canine shelters to sterilize cats and dogs, as well as the practice of euthanasia for ill animals.
- Creating a children's hospital in La Paz.
- Providing support for new academic research on air and water pollution and links to human health.



Volunteer Opportunities

- Health professionals able to develop and participate in preventive campaigns.
- Participation in orientation campaigns aimed at children and youth, regarding the issues of drug addiction, contraceptives and prevention methods.
- Donations of time by health educators for prevention and rehabilitation programs in community centers.
- Donations of space and time for therapy sessions for the elderly the disabled, and youth with emotional problems.
- Assistance by medical and paramedic personnel to carry out preventative and emergency medicine workshops in rural communities.
- In-kind donation of medical care by trained medical professionals with an emphasis on rural areas.
- Participation in raising awareness in schools about the damage that drugs create with the aim of preventing more drug use.
- Visiting elderly or sick patients when they are alone in a clinic or hospital.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Emerging Philanthropic Opportunities

Opportunity #1:

US/Canadian Retirees and Second Homebuyer Market:

- Baja California Sur has a growing number of retired, part-time and permanent residents from the U.S. and Canada. With an aging baby boomer population in North America and the rising cost of retirement in the US, there is a growing trend toward retirement overseas. Baja California Sur is well positioned to receive its share of this market. How Baja California Sur's nonprofits leverage this unique opportunity is a big question.
- A number of retirees and second home buyers do not speak Spanish and have limited knowledge of how to do business in Mexico but have a real desire to make a difference.
- Most are very familiar with the US model of charitable giving and want to help.
- Many retirees have experience in running businesses, serving on boards of nonprofits, or giving in the US; the key is to leverage this for the benefit of Baja-based nonprofits.
- Baja nonprofits need to explore how to expand boards to include more volunteers and/or create advisory boards or working groups for special projects.
- U.S. retirees could be especially effective in the area of marketing and fundraising with other US potential donors back in the US.

Opportunity #2:

U.S. Sister City Opportunities and other U.S. service clubs (Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Optimists)

There are several California cities with sister city relationships in Baja California Sur and the potential exists to do more in communities across the state in collaboration with local nonprofits. Existing sister city relationships include:

US Sister Cities	BCS Sister City Pair
Hermosa Beach	Loreto
Newport Beach	Los Cabos
El Cajon	Comondú (includes Bahía Magdalena)
Manhattan Beach	Santa Rosalía
Redondo Beach	La Paz
Seal Beach	Todo Santos

Opportunities exist to create new sister city relationships for Mulegé, Guerrero Negro, as well as at an individual *ejido* level.

As more Canadians and U.S. residents move to Baja California Sur and bring their club affiliations with them, an opportunity exists to expand existing relationships beyond California, to include British Columbia, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Arizona.

Opportunity #3: US Convention/Annual Meeting and Cruise Line Market – Los Cabos, La Paz, Loreto.

A growing number of US companies are organizing annual meetings in Los Cabos. Los Cabos is also now a regular stop for many cruise line companies, as are La Paz and Loreto. The question is how to tap into this market for charitable giving in Baja California Sur.

Opportunity exists to leverage lessons learned from the border region to develop tour packages which would provide nonprofit organizations with the ability to raise additional earned income for their operational budgets by leading tours. Here US volunteers or docents could be a real help.

Nonprofits with potential to leverage this opportunity include:	
Los Cabos:	
Niños del Capitán, A.C.	Tour of Mesa Colorado and day care/health center at Niños del Capitan.
Liga MAC	Tour of community center, visits with Los Cabos families
ASUPMATOMA	Turtle tour
La Paz:	
Fundación Ayuda los Niños de La Paz, A.C.	Morning tour to provide breakfast to kids and tour of schools, community
Ciudad De los Niños, A.C.	Vocational tour
Loreto:	
Grupo Ecologista Antares (GEA)	Visits to Eco-Center for the Desert and the Sea and field trips to spot marine mammals

Opportunity #4: Creation of homegrown nonprofit capacity or Mexican nonprofit expansion to service growing social needs in Baja California Sur.

As Baja California Sur expands, so too grows the need for expanded social services, which existing nonprofits are simply incapable of delivering at this present moment. Just as other migrants (US/Canadian and Mexican) are coming to BCS to work or retire, so too lies the opportunity for Mexican nonprofits from other parts of the Republic to expand their services. Here, a representative, but not conclusive, sample of opportunities exist in the following:

Program Area:	Mexican Nonprofits with potential for BCS Expansion:
Housing and Community Empowerment	Esperanza International (Tijuana) Los Niños (Tijuana)
Urban & Regional Planning	Planificación, A.C. (Tijuana)
Drug Prevention programs for schools	Fundación NEMI, A.C. (Mexico City)
Micro-Credit & productive employment	Procampo (Mexico City)
Migrant community empowerment & NGO capacity building	Rostros y Voces (Mexico City)
After School Programs	Boys & Girls Club of Mexico (Tijuana) Fdn para La Protección de la Niñez (Tijuana)
Cultural Enrichment and the Arts	Mainly Mozart (Tijuana) ProMúsica, A.C. (Ensenada)

Opportunity #5: Expand US Nonprofit Relationships Beyond the Environment.

Environmental nonprofits in Baja California Sur have enjoyed tremendous philanthropic support, technical assistance, training, and institutional development from U.S.-based partners and funders. Other programmatic areas have not received this targeted support and because of that, these issue areas contain substantial gaps in service provision and nonprofit capacity.

There is an opportunity to leverage lessons learned in environment to promote more sustainable communities in areas of education, health, community development and arts and culture. This includes seeking U.S. and Mexico-based partners to provide support, as well as additional financing for new initiatives.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

ICF contracted the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur (UABCS) to identify the community-based needs in Baja California Sur in the areas of education, health, community development, economic development, environment, and art and culture, using a two-pronged approach. First, the team looked at community-based needs in the six areas mentioned above. Second, UABCS analyzed the capabilities of the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that work in each of the six areas; UABCS also assessed their capacity in that issue and identified additional institutional needs. Four methodological lines of action were established to obtain the most comprehensive and up-to-date information:

Personal interviews

UABCS carried out surveys and interviews to local and regional experts in each field. The object of these interviews was to collect these experts' contributions on the needs of the communities, along with broader challenges and solutions. The consulted experts were: public officials from the three levels of government; professionals linked to the nonprofits; opinion leaders, and the legal representatives of the *ejido* managing boards. These interviews were carried out during personal meetings, site visits, and follow-up phone conferences.

Community-led participatory meetings

UABCS organized six meetings with institutional experts from civil organizations, citizens from the host regions and municipalities, and persons interested in the subjects approached in the analysis. The hosts and dates of the meetings were:

La Paz	May 15th, 2004 <i>(exclusively for the members of the state NGOs)</i>
Cabo San Lucas	May 29th, 2004
La Paz	June 1st, 2004
Loreto	June 10th, 2004
Guerrero Negro	June 12th, 2004
Santa Rosalía	June 14th, 2004

Literature Review

UABCS consulted reference material related to the regional analysis and targeted issue areas. Publications included books, articles, and official documents. Document research included expert publications, development programs both at the state and municipal levels, reports presented by government agencies, and any published analyses by international organizations. UABCS also considered the press releases broadcast in the local radio newscasts, as well as the news items published in the state periodicals. Finally, UABCS included any material published on works in progress and the achievements of civil organizations, and miscellaneous laws and regulations. The full bibliography can be referenced at the end of this publication.

Rural Site Visits

Following the community-led meetings in June, the UABCS team discovered that there was very little information about the rural areas of Baja California Sur, especially the *ejidos*. Therefore, an additional 26 site visits were added to ensure that this analysis encompassed the full economic, social, and environmental landscape in the state. Twenty-four *ejido* leaders and two female UAIM (organized women's groups in the *ejido*) were interviewed during October 2004 about the basic needs of their community. Each person interviewed was asked the same questions to ensure consistency. This information is incorporated throughout the document, but a more detailed analysis of the 26 *ejidos* can be found on ICF's website (<http://www.icfdn.org>).

Introduction

Both residents and visitors, domestic and foreign, agree that Baja California Sur is one of the last existing paradises on earth. The pure sky and seas, the pristine beaches and arid coastal vegetation, and the kind people who radiate grace and tranquility all justify this idyllic feeling.

Ironically, isolation and aridity, the two geographic factors that have allowed for environmental health and social harmony in the region, are also the causes of slow progress in Baja California Sur's socio-economic development. People living in remote communities and those dwelling in poor neighborhoods are trapped in a cycle of poverty exasperated by a desert climate that, with the absence of modern technologies, limits economic prosperity.

Fortunately, many decision-makers and civic leaders are aware of this dichotomy. As this study highlights, there are almost 90 non-governmental organizations working to improve the quality of life for residents of Baja California Sur, to protect its natural resources, and to promote sustainable economic development. Another 40 international nonprofit organizations are also actively working in the state. To date, 40% of the territory in Baja California Sur is under some kind of protection scheme, as part of six protected natural areas. Within each of these, ecotourism, fishing, livestock raising, wildlife hunting (with strong permits and monitoring programs in place), and crafts production are actively pursued for economic benefit.¹

This investigation reviews both the community-based needs and the resources of the non-governmental sector in these issue areas. An additional objective of this research is to develop the necessary synergy to optimize the existing momentum toward improving the quality of life in Baja California Sur and to respond properly to the challenges of preserving this beautiful region.

1. Geography of Baja California Sur

Baja California Sur is located in the northwest corner of Mexico,² and occupies slightly more than the southern half of the Baja peninsula, which is the longest peninsula in the world. Surrounded almost entirely by sea, Baja California Sur is very isolated. It is separated from the continent by a sea that is difficult to sail and two deserts that are difficult to cross. Air traffic is still limited.

The state covers 45,655 square miles (including the islands), accounting for 3.7% of the country's total area. In

the north, the Vizcaino desert is adjacent to the state of Baja California; in the east, it is bordered by the Gulf of California, and in the west and south, by the Pacific Ocean. It is the longest coastal state, with 1,367 miles of coastline, which is 22% of the country's total.³

Baja California Sur is divided into four geographic sub-provinces: the desert of Vizcaino, the Sierra de la Giganta, the plains of Magdalena, and the region of Los Cabos. Along the peninsula, parallel to the coastline of Sonora and Sinaloa across the Gulf, runs a mountain range of up to 9,842 feet above sea level in the northern part and up to 6,562 feet in the southern part. Several volcanic mountain complexes form this mountain range, including La Sierra de San Francisco, Guadalupe, La Giganta, and La Laguna.

The state's climate is primarily arid, although some tropical and sub-tropical conditions occur. The weather is warm and dry, with temperatures in the summer that can reach 122^o Fahrenheit (50^o Celsius). The average annual rainfall is 9.84 mm³. This rainfall usually occurs during winter hurricanes (accounting for 20% of total rainfall) and summer tropical storms. Since winter rain is less violent, it recharges groundwater more easily. Rainfall is the only source of water in the entire state.⁴ The abundance of these groundwater recharge areas has created 171 oases, sustaining life for people, plants, and animals. In these oases, there is a magnification of cultural patterns dominated by isolation, endemics, and the existence of relict species, which give the oases an exceptional value.

The weather in Baja California Sur has a huge impact on travel and commerce and puts enormous pressure on aging infrastructure in municipal and rural areas of the state. From 1949 to 1997, 667 cyclones formed in the Mexican Pacific Ocean; an average of fifteen touched land every year. Between 1954 and 1997, 45 depressions and tropical cyclones affected Baja California Sur, mainly in the southern half of the state. Tropical storms (or hurricanes) affect the Gulf of California region every year. These storms may be beneficial for agriculture because they refill the aquifers, but they also represent major hazards for the state. Strong winds and intense rainfall cause impassable water channels that destroy river and stream beds, paralyze highways, roadways, and airports, flood homes and businesses, and damage power lines and other important infrastructure. Economic repercussions are inevitable, since damage to housing, infrastructure, production means, transportation, and the natural environment has short and long-term consequences.⁵

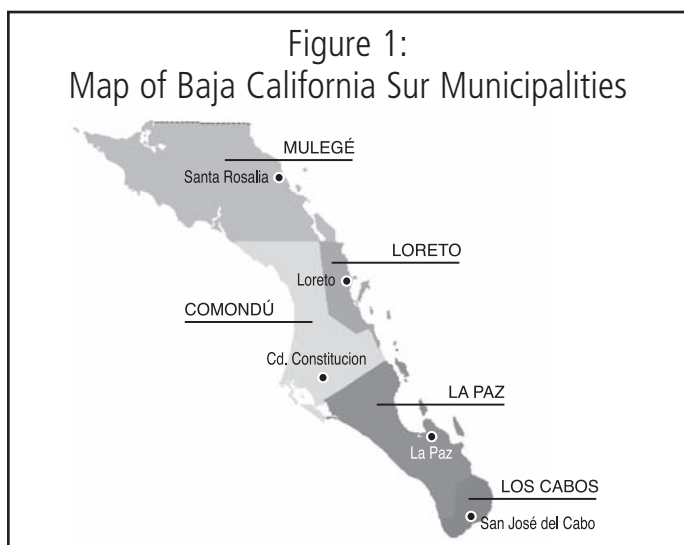
Geographic characterization of municipalities

Baja California Sur is divided into five administrative municipalities; from south to north, they are Los Cabos, La Paz, Comondú, Loreto, and Mulegé.

The Municipality of Los Cabos is in the southernmost extreme of the peninsula of Baja California Sur. It has an area of 2,175 square miles, which is 5% of the state's total territory. The relief is relatively mountainous with several large ranges: la Trinidad range reaches 2,690 feet above sea level; San Lázaro reaches 5,217 feet; and la Laguna reaches 6,857 feet. Water streams are sporadic, only formed after intense rainfall and hurricanes; the San Lázaro dam retains water to feed aquifers.⁶

The Municipality of La Paz accounts for 20% of the total area in the state.⁷ The head of the municipality and the state is the city of La Paz, but the municipal territory extends to the coastal town of Todos Santos on the Pacific side of Baja California Sur. The city of La Paz is considered mainly urban, although it is surrounded by vast stretches of undeveloped beaches, mangroves, and inland areas that are currently being targeted for tourism developments (Balandra Beach and El Mogote are examples). The city of La Paz is buffered by El Mogote and the nearby islands of Espíritu Santo, Cerralvo, and San José, which protect the city and the Bay of La Paz from most heavy storms.

The Municipality of Comondú is in the central part of the state and has an area of 7,444 square miles, with thirty localities. The head of municipality is Ciudad Constitución. Magdalena Bay is a well-known destination in Comondú, with substantial mangroves, beaches, and fishing grounds and is popular as a birthing ground for the California Grey Whale that comes to its tranquil waters during the winter months.⁸



The Municipality of Loreto includes the historical capital of the Californias, the city of Loreto, which was founded on October 25, 1697. The municipality is located in the central part of the state of Baja California Sur, along the coast of the Gulf of California. Loreto has 110 miles of coastline, three small islets, and seven islands, much of which is protected as part of the Loreto Bay National Marine Park.⁹

The Municipality of Mulegé is located in the northern part of the state, neighboring the state of Baja California; the head of the municipality is Guerrero Negro. The municipality of Mulege covers an area of 20,563 square miles, which accounts for 44.9% of the state area; it is the second largest municipality in México after Ensenada in Baja California.¹⁰ Within the municipality, there are thirteen fishing and cattle ranching communities in the region of Laguna San Ignacio, which control property and natural resource rights to some of the most important conservation and tourism areas in the state (Laguna San Ignacio is one of the most popular destinations for whale watching along the Baja California peninsula).¹¹

General data on land tenure and its impact on economic development

The land tenure situation in Baja California Sur is complex and varies among municipalities because the state has no centralized cadastral system. Each municipality has an independent system, lending itself to duplicity of ownership and sometimes even corruption. These recurring issues lead to title disputes, confusion, and a chaotic bureaucracy that further hinders the state's economic development and investment.

Land has traditionally been abundant in this sparsely-populated territory. From the mid-19th century to the beginning of the 20th century, land values were closely linked to the load capacity of the pasture, or in other words, the number of cattle the land could support. Later on, by digging deep wells and launching intensive agriculture in the state's alluvial valleys, property owners were able to value their land in relation to the potential of obtaining high agricultural yields in fertile, virgin soils, with water extracted from groundwater aquifers. This situation lasted for six decades and left behind a devastated landscape with saline intrusion in the exhausted wells.

In the 1960s, when FONATUR, the Mexican federal tourism development agency, began to develop the region, land was valuable because of its landscape beauty, particularly within the coastal strip between La Paz and Cabo San Lucas. In fact, the quick progress of tourism infrastructure (including golf courses and second-home residential developments) resulted in very high land values. Today, the coastal areas have become particularly valuable with land speculators anticipating future resort and tourism development as part of

the proposed Escalera Nautica project (now renamed the Proyecto Mar de Cortéz). This situation is not restricted to the above-mentioned zone, but extends to all land lots along the coast and adjacent properties, particularly between Cabo San Lucas and Todos Santos, and around Loreto, Bahía Concepción, and Mulegé.

This evolving scenario is further complicated by Mexico's distribution of land, which began in 1919 and ended in 1993.¹² According to the last *ejido*¹³ census, carried out in 1991,¹⁴ the state has 100 *ejidos*, occupying 13,398,657 acres, amounting to 73.6% of the state's total area.¹⁵ Private property owners control only an area of 1,935,646 acres, equal to 10.6%. The rest of the territory in the state is divided into national plots (6.4%); 75 *colonias* [neighborhoods] (1.9%); and legal estates, urban areas, and federal areas (7.5%).

Only 0.37% of the *ejido* area is sub-divided into parcels, worked by six thousand *ejidatarios* of whom almost 50% have an individual plot of land. According to a 1993 study of agricultural development from 1960-1991, of the ninety *ejidos* with over 6,178 acres, forty have more than 61,776 acres. The study found that only nine *ejidos* have less than 6,178 acres. Seventy-five percent of the surveyed *ejidos* and agrarian communities were involved in agricultural and livestock activities. Other activities account for the remaining 25%.¹⁶

It is important to mention that these data are constantly changing due to the reform¹⁷ to Article 27 of the Mexican Constitution. In that civil code, the *ejido* ownership structure was radically modified. Previously, land under *ejido* control was inalienable and indivisible. The above-mentioned reform allowed *ejido* owners to sell their land through a process of certifying *ejido* rights and title deed (PROCEDE¹⁸). This situation explains why the *ejido* area in 2004 decreased by 1,442,591 acres (or almost a 9% decline), compared to the figures in 1991.

The distribution of *ejidos* varies among municipalities. The prevalence of *ejido* land in the two northern municipalities is explained by economic characteristics — mainly agricultural — and by the lack of urbanization, but especially by low population density. Since these were always the least populated areas in the territory, they were most eligible for government land distribution to rural people during the early 20th century. Furthermore, agrarian authorities also equated the flat topography with future agricultural development zones.

Large *ejidos* suffered both social and natural impacts from agrarian land reform. The process resulted in a change in the size and composition of the population because land was distributed to farmers coming from other regions of the country, thereby altering traditional farming and ranching methods. When these new techniques failed to yield substantive products, *ejido* members began to seek employment in the cities or left the state altogether. Today, these formerly productive agricultural regions are now desolate and abandoned, populated by the elderly, women, and children.

Thus, even *ejido* owners who have complete ownership of land were unable to establish a strong bond to that asset. There are very few *ejidos* that have not sold land and, of those interviewed for this study,¹⁹ 64% (16 out of 25) have the intention to sell or to continue selling their land. In addition, large extensions of *ejido* areas with low population density hamper the permanent surveillance necessary to check legal ownership or *posesionarios*. Consequently, land invasion is common, creating land tenure conflicts.

Of those *ejidos* that have sold land, several have done so to parties interested in establishing agricultural or aquaculture companies. Agribusiness is attracting a large number of day laborers and increasing pressure for municipal and state governments to introduce public services in rural areas (including water). Only parts of the region are naturally endowed with water, which in arid zones are known as *oases*. Oasis areas are under new threats from emerging tourism developments that require water resources for golf courses, residential housing, and resort services. Aquaculture and agribusiness also require infusions of fresh water, which mainly come from groundwater sources.

Figure 2:
Ejido Land by Municipality
in Baja California Sur in 2004

Municipality	Total area (mi)	<i>Ejido</i> area (acres)	<i>Ejido</i> area/total	No. of <i>ejidos</i>	<i>Ejidos</i> without PROCEDE
Los Cabos	1,333	217,176	25.46%	18	-
La Paz	7,828	855,857	17.08%	32	-
Comondú	4,625	4,602,765	115.48%*	19	1
Loreto	1,884	181,121	15.02%	2	-
Mulegé	12,777	6,099,147	74.58%	29	4
Total BCS	28,447	11,956,066	73.6%	100	5

* This percentage is explained by the fact that several *ejidos* are located in more than one municipality; this study places them in the municipality where the main village is located. *Source:* Compiled by the author from data provided by the delegation in BCS of Mexico's National Land registry, updated on September 30, 2004.

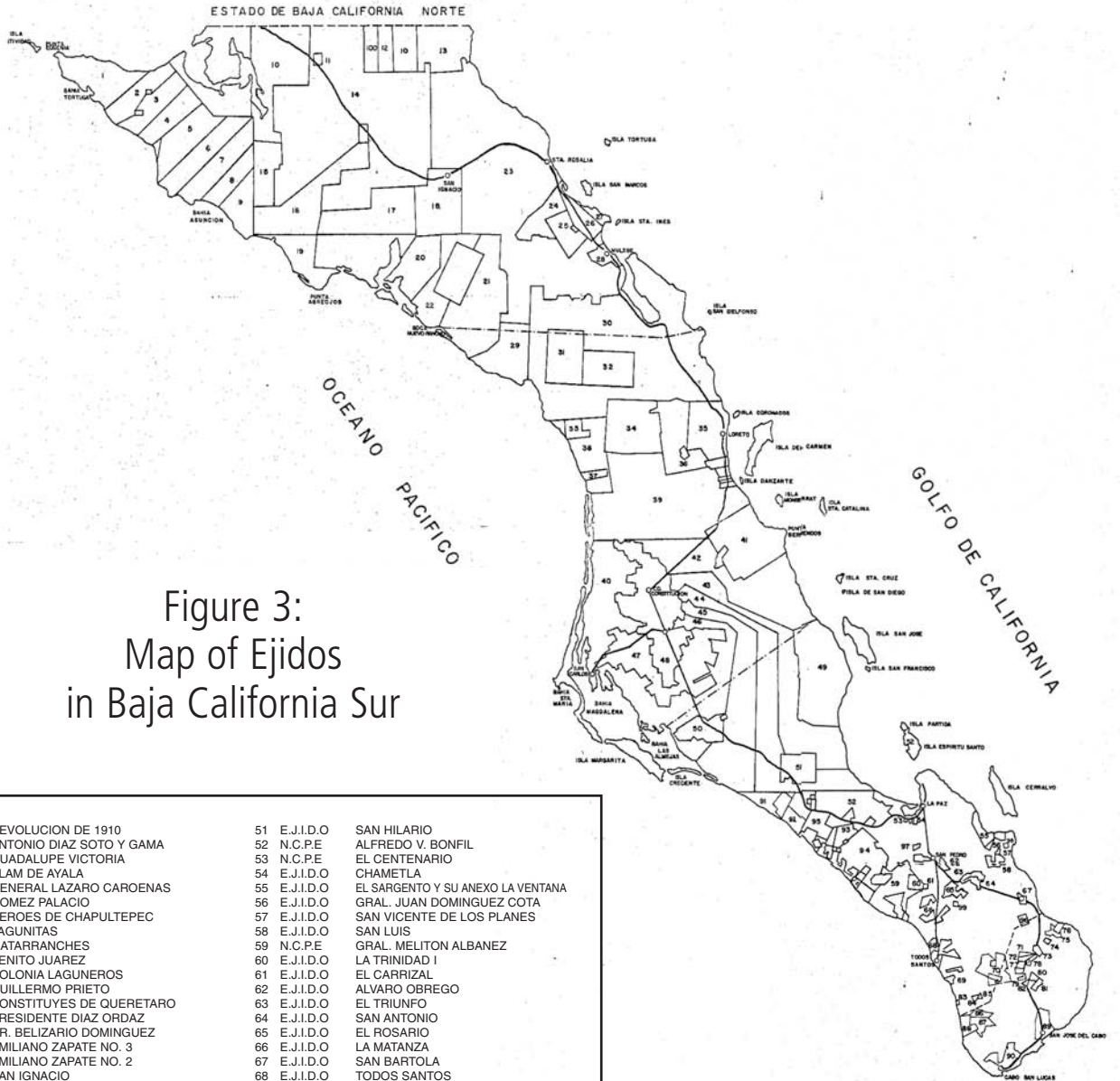


Figure 3:
Map of Ejidos
in Baja California Sur

1	N.C.P.E	REVOLUCION DE 1910	51	E.J.I.D.O	SAN HILARIO
2	N.C.P.E	ANTONIO DIAZ SOTO Y GAMA	52	N.C.P.E	ALFREDO V. BONFIL
3	N.C.P.E	GUADALUPE VICTORIA	53	N.C.P.E	EL CENTENARIO
4	N.C.P.E	PLAM DE AYALA	54	E.J.I.D.O	CHAMETLA
5	N.C.P.E	GENERAL LAZARO CAROENAS	55	E.J.I.D.O	EL SARGENTO Y SU ANEXO LA VENTANA
6	N.C.P.E	GOMEZ PALACIO	56	E.J.I.D.O	GRAL. JUAN DOMINGUEZ COTA
7	N.C.P.E	HEROES DE CHAPULTEPEC	57	E.J.I.D.O	SAN VICENTE DE LOS PLANES
8	N.C.P.E	LAGUNITAS	58	E.J.I.D.O	SAN LUIS
9	N.C.P.E	MATARRANCHES	59	N.C.P.E	GRAL. MELITON ALBANEZ
10	N.C.P.E	BENITO JUAREZ	60	E.J.I.D.O	LA TRINIDAD I
11	N.C.P.E	COLONIA LAGUNEROS	61	E.J.I.D.O	EL CARRIZAL
12	N.C.P.E	GUILLERMO PRIETO	62	E.J.I.D.O	ALVARO OBREGO
13	N.C.P.E	CONSTITUYES DE QUERETARO	63	E.J.I.D.O	EL TRIUNFO
14	E.J.I.D.O	PRESIDENTE DIAZ ORDAZ	64	E.J.I.D.O	SAN ANTONIO
15	N.C.P.E	DR. BELIZARIO DOMINGUEZ	65	E.J.I.D.O	EL ROSARIO
16	N.C.P.E	EMILIANO ZAPATE NO. 3	66	E.J.I.D.O	LA MATANZA
17	N.C.P.E	EMILIANO ZAPATE NO. 2	67	E.J.I.D.O	SAN BARTOLA
18	E.J.I.D.O	SAN IGNACIO	68	E.J.I.D.O	TODOS SANTOS
19	N.C.P.E	BATURI	69	E.J.I.D.O	EL PESCADERO
20	N.C.P.E	LIC. LUIS ECHEVERRIA	70	E.J.I.D.O	GRAL. MELITON ALBANEZ
21	N.C.P.E	SAN JOSE DE GRACIA Y SUANEXO VICENTE G.	71	E.J.I.D.O	SAN JORGE
22	E.J.I.D.O	LOS CUARENTA	72	E.J.I.D.O	AGUA CALIENTE
23	E.J.I.D.O	LIC. ALFREDO V. BONFIL	73	E.J.I.D.O	SANTIAGO
24	E.J.I.D.O	EMILIANO ZAPATA NO. 1	74	E.J.I.D.O	LAS CUEVAS
25	E.J.I.D.O	SAN JOSE DE MAGDALENA	75	E.J.I.D.O	SANTA CRUZ
26	E.J.I.D.O	SAN LUCAS	76	E.J.I.D.O	LA RIVERA
27	E.J.I.D.O	SAN BRUNO	77	E.J.I.D.O	BOCA DE LA SIERRA
28	E.J.I.D.O	MULEGE	78	E.J.I.D.O	EL ZACATAL
29	E.J.I.D.O	CADEJE	79	E.J.I.D.O	MIRAFLORES
30	E.J.I.D.O	LA PURISIMA	80	E.J.I.D.O	EL RANCHITO
31	E.J.I.D.O	SAN JOSE DE GUAJEDEMI	81	E.J.I.D.O	LAS CASITAS
32	E.J.I.D.O	LOS NARANJOS	82	E.J.I.D.O	CADUANO
33	E.J.I.D.O	EL PORTON	83	E.J.I.D.O	PLUTARCO ELIAS CALLES
34	E.J.I.D.O	COMONDU	84	E.J.I.D.O	SALTITO DE LOS RIOS
35	E.J.I.D.O	LORETO	85	E.J.I.D.O	SAN VICENTE
36	E.J.I.D.O	SAN JAVIER	86	E.J.I.D.O	LA TRINIDAD
37	N.C.P.E	FRANCISCO VILLA	87	E.J.I.D.O	LA CANDELARIA
38	E.J.I.D.O	LA POZA	88	E.J.I.D.O	MIGRINO
39	E.J.I.D.O	STO. DOMINGO	89	E.J.I.D.O	SAN JOSE DEL CABO
40	E.J.I.D.O	SAN JUAN DE MATANCITAS	90	E.J.I.D.O	CABO SAN LUCAS
41	E.J.I.D.O	SAN JOSE DE LA NORIA	91	N.C.P.E	FLOR DE CALIFORNIA
42	N.C.P.E	LEY FEDERAL DE AGUAS NO. 1	92	N.C.P.E	IGNACIO ZARAGOZA
43	N.C.P.E	LEY FEDERAL DE AGUAS NO. 2	93	N.C.P.E	CONQUESTA AGRARIA
44	N.C.P.E	LEY FEDERAL DE AGUAS NO. 3	94	N.C.P.E	LEY FEDERAL DE REFORMA AGRARIA NO. 1
45	N.C.P.E	LEY FEDERAL DE AGUAS NO. 4	95	N.C.P.E	LEY FEDERAL DE REFORMA AGRARIA NO. 11
46	N.C.P.E	LEY FEDERAL DE AGUAS NO. 5	96	N.C.P.E	EL CORO
47	N.C.P.E	JOSEFA ORTIZ DE DOMINGUEZ	97	E.J.I.D.O	SAN PEDRO
48	E.J.I.D.O	LA GRANADA	98	E.J.I.D.O	AGUA AMARGA
49	N.C.P.E	TEPENTU	99	N.C.P.E	SAN SIMON
50	E.J.I.D.O	EL QUEMADO	100	DIVISION	ANGEL CESAR MENDOZA ARAMBURO

2. Demographic Summary

General demographic data

The 2000 census reported that Baja California Sur has 424,041 inhabitants, or less than half a percent (<0.5%) of Mexico's total population. It is the least-populated state in the country, both in number of inhabitants and population density. However, it has one of the highest growth rates in Mexico (3% in 2000), surpassed only by the states of Quintana Roo (5.2 %) and Baja California (3.9%).²⁰ The attractiveness of the tourism and agribusiness sectors may explain this phenomenon.

Spatial distribution of the population in Baja California Sur is characterized by the fact that it is polarized, with 81.3% of

the population living in a handful of towns of 2,500 inhabitants or more, and most of the remaining 18.7% living in tiny villages of less than 100 inhabitants.²¹

The population of the state has traditionally been very young, with 32.1% of the population under the age of 15, 63.9% between the ages of 15 and 64, and only 3.9% older than 65.²² However, recent data shows some demographic changes. Decreasing fertility is reflected in the decrease in the youngest portion of the population (infant through 19 years), while the number of people 20 years of age and over has increased.²³ This situation will force the state to modify its education and health planning and programming.

Baja California Sur has the second highest percentage of people 15 and over that stay in school in the country, with a state average of 8.2 years of schooling. The national

Figure 4:
Distribution of the number of locations, relative to number of inhabitants

Municipality	15,000 inhabitants or more	2,500 – 14,999 inhabitants	100 – 2,499 inhabitants	1 – 99 inhabitants	Population concentration in towns	% of population concentrated in towns
LOS CABOS Pop. 105,469	3 locations	3 locations	30 locations	419 locations	San José del Cabo (31,102 inhabitants) & Cabo San Lucas (37,984 inhabitants)	65.5%
	79,245 inhabitants	10,429 inhabitants	11,544 inhabitants	4,251 inhabitants		
LA PAZ Pop. 196,907	1 location	2 locations	41 locations	913 locations	La Paz	82.8%
	162,954 inhabitants	7,412 inhabitants	18,186 inhabitants	8,355 inhabitants		
LORETO Pop. 11,812	—	1 location	5 locations	115 locations	Loreto	84.7%
		10,010 inhabitants	753 inhabitants	1,049 inhabitants		
COMONDÚ Pop. 63,864	1 location	2 locations	28 locations	699 locations	Ciudad Constitucion (35,589 inhabitants) & Villa Insurgentes (7,654 inhabitants)	67.7%
	35,589 inhabitants	11,644 inhabitants	12,608 inhabitants	4,023 inhabitants		
MULEGÉ Pop. 45,989	—	4 locations	32 locations	444 locations	Santa Rosalía (10,609 inhabitants) & Guerrero Negro (10,235 inhabitants)	45.3%
		27,452 inhabitants	15,135 inhabitants	3,402 inhabitants		
BCS TOTAL POP. 424,041	5 locations	12 locations	116 locations	2,590 locations		

* Relative to the total population in the municipality
Source: Compiled by the author, taking as a basis 17, pp. 143-148 and INEGI, XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda, 2000. Tabulados Básicos. Aguascalientes, Ags. 2001, web page, updated June 2003.

Figure 5: Distribution of the population by number of minimum wages earned

MONTHLY MINIMUM WAGES	EAP	%
Less than 1	44,299	26.21
From 1 to 2.5	45,211	26.75
From 2.5 to 3.5	37,555	22.22
From 3 to	34,783	20.58
More than 10	7,166	4.24

Source: Compiled by the author with data from INEGI, *Tabulados Básicos Estados Unidos Mexicanos*, [Basic Statistics for the United States of Mexico] Tomo III, XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda, Aguascalientes, Mexico, 2001, p. 1131 and 1134.

average is 7.3 years, with the highest average (8.5 years) in Nuevo León.²⁴ In Baja California Sur, the largest number (69%) of highly-educated people 12 years old and over live in the municipality of La Paz, with a school level equal to or above secondary school, followed by Los Cabos (57%). The remaining municipalities show a lower grade of ranking: Comondú, 53%, Loreto, 52% and Mulegé, 50%. For the entire state, this indicator averages 61%.²⁵

Regarding income, data taken from the 2000 census shows that the majority of people earn at least Mexico's minimum wage or at least US\$4.32 a day.²⁶ The income percentages among the economically active population (EAP) are shown in Figure 5 which considers a working population of 169,014.

Population growth, distribution, and migration in Baja California Sur

As mentioned previously, in spite of its scarce population, Baja California Sur has the third-highest population growth rate in Mexico.²⁷

The slowing of the internal population growth in the state has been the result of a pronounced decrease in birth and fertility rates in the population. However, the positive migration to the region has offset this decrease.²⁹ This phenomenon was strongest in the municipality of Los Cabos, with a total growth rate of 9.6%, of which 6.98% was growth from migration. Thus, in spite of the fact that in this municipality there was a decrease in the natural growth rate (it went from 2.8% in the 1990-1995 period, to 2.65% in 1995-2000), migrants seeking jobs in the tourist sector have continued to populate the area.

In spite of the fact that Baja California Sur is farther from the U.S. border than Mexico City, the state has many features characteristic of a border region, among them being a migrant-receiving state. In 2000, migration accounted for 11.3% of the state's total population. Of these migrants, 95.6% came from other states in Mexico and 4.4% from other countries; Baja California Sur was ranked third as a destination for domestic migration.³⁰

Another common feature for a border region is the migrants' lack of connection to their eventual destination. For example, migrants living in Tijuana rarely call it "home"; in fact, they still relate much more closely to the region where they were raised, maintaining language, culture, and traditions from that location. This situation is replicated daily in Baja California Sur, where a citizenry is emerging that has no historical, cultural, social, or familial links to the state, with the consequent lack of civic pride and sense of belonging.

Migration flows have been an essential element of demographic dynamics in the state since 1960. When migrants began arriving in larger numbers, it was due to agricultural development in the municipality of Comondú (40.3%); later, tourism-related activities in Los Cabos attracted the majority of the migrants (35.7%).

The growth rate in Los Cabos is even higher than that of other renowned tourism centers, such as Cancún. The

Figure 6: Population Distribution in Baja California Sur²⁸

Municipality	Population 1950	Population 1970	Population 1990	Population 2000	% of the state in 2000
Los Cabos	17,622	20,442	43,920	105,469	24.87
La Paz	21,515	54,667	160,970	196,907	46.43
Comondú	7,340	33,262	74,346	63,864	15.07
Loreto	—	—	—	11,812	2.79
Mulegé	14,487	19,648	38,528	45,989	10.84
Total BCS	60,964	128,019	317,764	424,041	100.00

Source: "Baja California Sur Demográfico, Breviario 1985" CONAPO-CONEPO de BCS; INEGI, Baja California Sur XI Censo General de Población y Vivienda, 1990; INEGI, *Baja California Sur, XII Censo general de Población y Vivienda 2000*, Tabulados Básicos, México 2003, p.44.

primary migration flows to Los Cabos originate from the states of Guerrero (24.3% of the total migrant population), Sinaloa (14.6%), and Mexico City (9.7%), but people are also coming from abroad; in the 2000 Mexican census, 46.7% of the population declared that they had been born in a different state or country.³¹

The municipality of La Paz owes much of its population increase to natural growth, since there was a balance between emigration and immigration during the periods of 1990-1995 and 1995-2000. In contrast, Mulegé and Comondú have shown significant decreases in their growth rates, something that may be explained by the exodus of rural residents following agricultural failure.

Although Baja California Sur’s overall population growth rate is decreasing, a closer analysis indicates a variation in the northern zone, where the growth rate is practically nonexistent. For example, Mulegé experienced a mere 0.01% growth from 1995-2000 and Loreto’s growth rate remained practically static, with 1.6% of total migration in the year 2000.³² This trend may change substantially with planned urban expansion in Loreto, which could potentially bring upwards of 110,000 new residents to the Loreto region over the next twenty years including many from the United States and Canada. In contrast, however, the southern zone growth rate is rising very rapidly. For example, the growth rate in Los Cabos rose from 8% in the period 1980-1990, to 9.7% in 1995-2000.

The state’s urban system is dominated by one central city: La Paz. This is the capital city and concentrates political and administrative functions, as well as the main equipment and service facilities for the state, such as higher education and health institutions, communications, and the state’s main power distributor. Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo are also melding into one big urban center. It is likely that the linear town that is forming on both sides of the highway will link the two cities and will give rise to irregular settlements.³³

3. International context

One measurement of human development that is consistently used in sustainable development work by government, civil society organizations, and the private, academic and social sectors is the Human Development Index (HDI), the parameters of which were set forth by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The HDI evaluates the average progress of a country or region in three basic aspects:

1. Enjoying a long and healthy life, which is measured through life expectancy at birth.
2. Having an adequate education rate, which is measured through the adult literacy rate (weighted as two-thirds of the total) and the gross combined

- enrollment ratio in elementary, secondary, and tertiary schools (weighted as one-third of the total).
3. Having a decent standard of living, which is measured through GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity in the United States).³⁴

Complementary concepts are added to these criteria and indicators, concepts that reflect the level of development and social well being of a country or region. For example, measuring a long and healthy life may include reducing infant mortality, improving maternal health, and fighting major diseases; measuring an adequate education may include achieving universal education and independence of women through gender equality in education; and measuring an appropriate standard of living may include reducing poverty and hunger.

In 2003, Baja California Sur registered an HDI score of 0.817, exceeding the Mexican national score of 0.791. For this reason, Baja California Sur registered *High* in the scale of human development, as compared to the “emerging country” average, which is rated *Medium High*.³⁵ In addition, the UNDP announced in the Millennium Declaration that human development requires two fundamental conditions: environmental sustainability (ensuring sustainable development) and equity (particularly promoting gender equity and independence of women and enabling a global economic environment that reinforces partnerships between rich and poor countries).³⁶

For the World Bank’s social well-being and human development indicators, Mexico finds itself in a relatively optimistic situation. In 2000, the per capita income in Mexico was one of the highest in Latin America (US\$5,070), and life expectancy had increased to 73 years. Between 1990 and

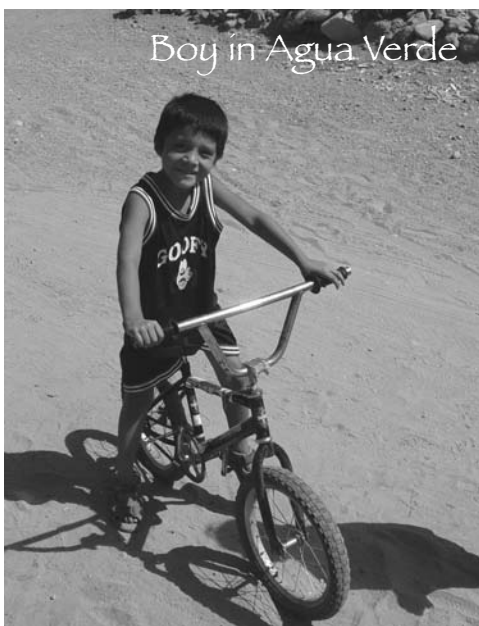
Figure 7:
Human development indicators
comparing BCS to the nation

Human development indicators	BCS	National average
Life expectancy at birth (in years)	76.3	75.3
GDP per capita in adjusted US\$	8722	7495
Life expectancy index	0.855	0.839
Literacy rate	0.958	0.905
Enrollment ratio (6 to 24 years old)	0.632	0.628
Education level index	0.849	0.813
Per capita index	0.746	0.721

Source: Prepared by the author based on data from the CONAPO
Webpage www.conapo.gob.mx.

2000, the mortality rate of children below five years of age declined from 46 to 29 per 1,000; 86% of the population has access to potable water; and the country's literacy rate exceeds 90%.³⁷

Within this world context and according to Mexico's National Population Council (CONAPO) estimates, Baja California Sur ranks as the ninth state nationwide in terms of human development (first place is the Federal District or Mexico City and last is Chiapas). It is clear that the residents of Baja California Sur are currently enjoying a higher standard of living than many other Mexican citizens. Undoubtedly, these favorable conditions explain why the state is the third most-preferred destination for Mexico's internal migration, and also why it is one of the sites that most attracts the international community.



Yet, these seemingly favorable living standards do not tell the full story of Baja California Sur. As this study's chapters on Health, Education, and Community Development will highlight there are numerous rural areas in Baja California Sur and a growing number of urban poor, where the referenced optimistic indicators do not reflect current living conditions. Also, Baja California Sur's recent increase in migration has brought it a decline in the quality of life, including the state's environmental quality, health indices and public safety. As a case in point, in 2003 Baja California Sur had the largest net growth rate of homicides in Mexico between 1998 and 2003 even though in total numbers the incidence of homicides is far below the national average.³⁸ Baja California Sur also ranks as the state with the highest mortality levels among males due to lung cancer in Mexico with 35 cases per 100,000 versus 14.7 nationally.³⁹ The number of women with lung cancer is also higher than the national average. In the case of deaths due to breast cancer, Baja California ranks second behind Mexico City.⁴⁰

4. Challenges

Given the potential negative consequences of unmanaged urban growth on Baja California Sur's quality of life, the state's key policymakers and civic leaders need to be mindful of future decisions that they will make. The challenges facing the state are complex; some have been referenced in the different sections of this executive summary and will be analyzed in detail in later chapters. It is nonetheless worthwhile to show that the work undertaken by the government, nonprofits, and community-level grassroots efforts is not superfluous; rather, quite to the contrary, this work must continue, and, better yet, be dramatically expanded to address the state's long-term needs.

Ejidos, land sales, and speculation

Baja California Sur residents in general, and its environmental sector in particular, need to be aware of the risks involved if *ejido* lands—which account for over 60% of the state's overall surface area—are sold. Priorities for developers and conservation organizations often overlap in Baja California Sur, as the pressure to acquire coastal lands, water sources, and residential zones increases. Opportunities for sustainable development of these landscapes still exist, and partnerships could certainly be developed to address multiple goals. It will also be important for nonprofit organizations and government agencies to monitor the rural land tenure situation with respect to the *ejidos* to ensure that fair prices are established, and that rural communities are not pushed out of their traditional lands forever.

Population distribution and growth per municipality

The different regions of Baja California Sur register significantly different population growth rates. The northern municipalities are emigration areas (Comondú and Mulegé), the southern municipalities (La Paz and Los Cabos) are immigration areas (from other regions of the state, country, and from abroad). Consequently, in the south, pressure on the environment due to land speculation, commercial land use, and demands for consumer goods and services are very strong; whereas in the north, problems are due to abandonment of regions and economic activities, leading to hardship and more transient populations.

In the southern region, Los Cabos registered a demographic growth rate of 9.7% from 1995 to 2000. According to estimates, if this trend is maintained, the municipality's population will double in approximately seven years. Presently, the southern urban areas that are growing at an

accelerated pace are Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo, including their adjacent settlements, such as Colonia del Sol. Although the facilities along that corridor are currently tourism-related, in the future, residential and commercial settlements may be created further inland to provide services to these resorts and gated communities. If these settlements are not anticipated and planned for by the municipal government, irregular settlements could occur instead.⁴¹ This dramatic and potentially unplanned demographic growth raises extraordinary challenges for the municipalities' and the state's public administration to provide services and infrastructure to the population. In the end, it is the public treasury that must pay the cost of economic growth.

The situation in the northern municipalities is very different as population and economic opportunities decrease. To discourage current residents from seeking employment elsewhere, productive alternatives must be made available. In addition, it is urgent that municipal agencies develop programs that incorporate young people into activities that lead to a more promising future in their region. The State Territory Regulation Program (PEOT) recommends that rural communities work together and form networks to create or take advantage of existing opportunities to strengthen their bonds. Merging together, these dwindling towns can form larger, stronger communities that can support the needs of its population, and even build a burgeoning economy.⁴² Another PEOT recommendation is to abandon the most isolated and least populated settlements "through a coherent development policy linked to tourism potentials (rural, natural, and cultural) and a reevaluation of traditional agrarian practices as more environmentally-friendly and higher quality production methods."⁴³

5. Reasons for optimism

Because of its social and natural traits, Baja California Sur is one of the few regions of the world where there is a chance to maintain a relatively high standard of living and protect existing natural resources for future generations. From the time of the explorer Hernan Cortés through the period of agrarian reform, the Jesuits, and the Bourbons, this region has inspired people to achieve things that are simply unattainable elsewhere. In today's world, this would be a state with a strong economy, high quality of life, and a healthy natural environment.

Although this report will clearly demonstrate the often desperate needs of Baja California Sur, we hope that it has also shown that there are many reasons for optimism. Baja California Sur is enriched by the following strengths:

- A wide variety of people and organizations who are committed to conservation and sustainable

development, such as nonprofits, civil servants, artists, academics, business people, and environmental instructors.

- Scientists and academicians with high levels of training who do not only work in the state but also for the state.
- A climate of peace and social safety that, although eroding, prevails throughout the entire state.
- A relatively high Human Development Index.
- High quality and progress in educational attainment.
- A high quality of life in the city of La Paz (ranking third in the country after Colima and Aguascalientes).⁴⁴
- The highest level of environmental sanitation of all the states in the country.⁴⁵

Finally, one great reason for optimism is that several sectors—including the growing number of US and Canadian citizens who have taken up permanent or temporary residence in Baja California Sur—have become sensitive to the needs of the communities in which they live, work, and visit and beginning to get more engaged as both donors and volunteers with a growing number of the state's nonprofits. In this regard, understanding how these expatriate residents approach and become part of the state's social spaces, how they become aware of the concerns of a society and make them their own concerns, could be a first step to guiding their philanthropic goodwill toward meeting the needs of their newfound home.

6. Participation of civil society in addressing community needs in Baja California Sur

Participation of Baja California Sur's civil society has become more specialized over time as nonprofit organizations have gained training, external partnerships, and the ability to finance their various programs and projects. This is due as much to the search for alternatives to remedy problems, as to having established long-term substantive solutions to meet complex needs. The arrival of external organizations and foundations has considerably favored the maturing process of civil organizations in the state by bringing financial resources to implement longer-term projects. Nonetheless, the state still has a large number of under-capitalized organizations that have no access to sources of international financing, many of which lack the most basic infrastructure such as computers, archives, office space, and Internet access. Without this critical operating support, these nonprofits can stagnate

or disintegrate, even if they are addressing a real need in the community.

The conditions under which the majority of local nonprofits operate are further aggravated by the still incipient culture of philanthropy that prevails in the country. Although history shows that Mexicans have undertaken extraordinary feats of solidarity and volunteerism, the mechanisms for effective

philanthropy have not been concretely established in Mexico. Many donations are thwarted by complicated fiscal procedures and insufficient tax incentives. Under such conditions, nonprofit organizations depend on scarce government resources to attempt to solve large and complex problems, as well as on their own ability to encourage interested individuals to work voluntarily.

Figure 8:
Mexican Federal Budget Heading 33 by State in 2004

State	Total Population 2000 ⁴⁶	Heading 33 in Billions of Pesos ⁴⁷	Heading 33 Equivalent in US \$ ⁴⁸	Heading 33 Per Capita US \$
OVERALL: MEXICO	97,483,412	251.201	22,731,122,171	233
BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR	424,041	2.090	\$189,140,271	\$446
Campeche	690,689	2.962	\$ 268,054,298	\$ 388
Guerrero	3,079,649	12.444	\$ 1,126,153,846	\$ 365
Oaxaca	3,438,765	13.223	\$1,196,651,583	\$ 347
Colima	542,627	2.060	\$ 186,425,339	\$ 343
Nayarit	920,185	3.444	\$ 311,674,208	\$ 338
Quintana Roo	874,963	3.179	\$ 287,692,307	\$ 328
Chiapas	3,920,892	14.170	\$ 1,282,352,941	\$ 327
Zacatecas	1'353,610	4.780	\$ 432,579,185	\$ 319
Durango	1'448,661	5.101	\$ 461,628,959	\$ 318
Hidalgo	2'235,591	7.649	\$ 692,217,194	\$ 309
Tlaxcala	961,646	3.055	\$ 276,470,588	\$ 287
San Luis Potosí	2,299,360	7.153	\$ 647,330,316	\$ 281
Aguascalientes	944,285	2.921	\$ 264,343,891	\$ 279
Tabasco	1,891,829	5.772	\$ 522,352,941	\$ 276
Tamaulipas	2,753,222	8.102	\$ 733,212,699	\$ 266
Yucatán	1,658,510	4.751	\$ 429,954,751	\$ 259
Michoacán	3,985,667	11.323	\$ 1,024,705,882	\$ 257
Querétaro	1,404,306	3.992	\$ 361,266,968	\$ 257
Morelos	1,555,296	4.312	\$ 390,226,244	\$ 250
Veracruz	6,908,975	18.845	\$ 1,705,429,864	\$ 246
Sonora	2,216,969	5.983	\$ 541,447,953	\$ 244
Coahuila	2,298,070	6.119	\$ 553,755,656	\$ 240
Baja California	2,487,367	6.450	\$ 583,710,407	\$ 234
Sinaloa	2,536,844	6.328	\$ 572,669,683	\$ 225
Chihuahua	3,052,907	7.093	\$ 641,900,452	\$ 210
Puebla	5,076,686	11.737	\$ 1,062,171,945	\$ 209
Guanajuato	4,663,032	9.964	\$ 901,719,457	\$ 193
Jalisco	6,322,002	12.725	\$ 1,151,583,710	\$ 182
Nuevo León	3,834,141	7.537	\$ 682,081,447	\$ 177
STATE OF MEXICO	13,096,686	24.562	\$ 2,222,805,429	\$169
FEDERAL DISTRICT	8,605,239	4.696	\$ 424,977,375	\$ 49

Arts & Culture

Introduction

There are tremendous artistic and cultural resources in Baja California Sur, yet inadequate funding and public interest to move beyond basic programming and infrastructure. The advent of a state Council for Culture and the Arts (similar to those in other Mexican states) would encourage potential partnerships and funding that could benefit cultural activities.

In Baja California Sur, the National Council for Culture and the Arts (CONACULTA) holds most of the responsibility for coordinating cultural activities. The present state administration has created financial funds for cultural projects, including the State Fund for Culture and the Arts, Programs to Support Municipal and Community Culture, Special Program for Children's Culture, "Wings and Roots for Boys and Girls in Baja California Sur," and program to train art promoters and artists.

Key Findings

1. Museums/Cultural Centers

With a total of ten museums, Baja California Sur is considered one of the states in Mexico with the least

number of museums, together with Quintana Roo (11) and Campeche (5).² However, the national mean of inhabitants per museum is 92,139 while in Baja California Sur it is 42,404³ inhabitants per museum. Using the criteria of population per facility, Baja California Sur appears to be relatively well off. Thirty out of the thirty-two state capital cities in Mexico have four or more museums;⁴ La Paz has six, plus it enjoys more museums than all other cities in the state.

One of the main challenges for museums in Baja California Sur is a lack of financial resources for the conservation, restoration, and acquisition of collections and individual pieces. Hurricanes have caused severe damage to buildings, as well as to collections. In addition, access to museums is difficult for those in rural areas; extension services and traveling exhibits would be welcome for these audiences.⁵

In addition to museums, Mexico has close to 1,600 cultural houses and cultural centers, managed and funded by both public and private institutions. These institutions are dedicated to cultural dissemination, informal art education, cultural promoter training, and art workshops for students of all levels.⁶ Activities include regular and summer workshops, festivals, "Thursdays for Children" book readings, tele-classroom courses, concerts, and shows. At

Figure 9: List of Museums in Baja California Sur

Museum	Location	Program Focus
Regional Museum of Anthropology and History (INAH)	La Paz	History of the state from pre-Columbian times to the first decades of the 20 th Century.
Natural History Museum (UABCS)	La Paz	Geology, paleo-botany local wildlife, plus an exhibit on paleo-anthropology containing replicas of skulls of hominids.
Regional Museum of Telecommunications	La Paz	Communication, radio and television devices from 1929 to the present day.
Music Museum	El Triunfo	History of music in Baja California Sur. Housed in a renovated 19 th century building with musical objects and instruments that belonged to famous musicians.
Community Whale Museum	La Paz	57 works of art; also contains the conserved skeletons of a gray whale and a fin-back whale, the only one in Mexico.
Museum of Jesuit Missions (INAH)	Loreto	History of Jesuit-built missions in Californian territory in the 17 th and 18 th centuries.
Unit of INAH services	Mulegé	Mining history of Santa Rosalía located in the former Boleo mining headquarters.
Museum on cave painting (INAH)	San Francisco de la Sierra	Samples of cave art of the Sierra de San Francisco and information about the sierra region.
Museum of the Californias	Cabo San Lucas	History of pre-Columbian and mission times, with artifacts from the Cape region.
Community Museum	Todos Santos	History of pre-Columbian, mission, and revolution eras for Todos Santos.

the state Culture House in Baja California Sur, over 15,000 people took advantage of these programs during 2003.⁷

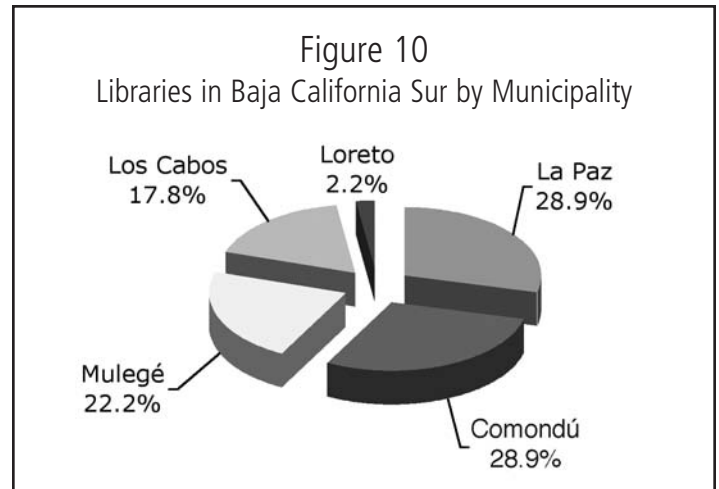
Baja California Sur has 18 cultural houses and is considered one of the best-equipped states in Mexico. The municipal distribution is as follows: La Paz (6), Los Cabos (4), Loreto (1), Mulegé (5), and Comondú (2). However, most of them do not have sufficient financial resources to provide quality cultural services. Increases in wages and training might provide incentives for qualified artists to bring their talents to the staff.

2. Libraries

The total number of libraries in Baja California Sur is 51, holding a total of 413,649 books. These libraries, including Baja California Sur's central library, were initially given 10,000 volumes in 1988.⁸ One library was founded in each state capital city in Mexico; "Filemon C. Pineda," is the main library in La Paz. Of the 6,610 libraries in the Public Library National Network,⁹ 45 are in Baja California Sur – 15 in cities and 30 in rural areas.

The state is considered among those with the least number of libraries in the country, together with Quintana Roo (47), Colima (51) and Campeche (53).¹⁰ If we take into account the number of inhabitants per library of the best and worst equipped states, Baja California Sur is in the middle – Baja California Sur has 10,096 inhabitants per library, while Baja California has almost 30,000 residents per library. Library coverage is limited to urban areas; many rural communities do not even have access to any existing library. Furthermore, existence of a library does not predict quality or quantity of its holdings. Finally, most public schools do not have a library, placing further stress on an inadequate system.

Interestingly, in 2003, there was a drop in the total number of books taken out from the state's public libraries, both in the general and the children's collection compared to 2002. It is encouraging that a new library in Comondú opened in 2003; in fact, the number of users in Comondú surpassed those reported in the same period in Los Cabos, the second most populous municipality in the state.



Most activities to promote reading are targeted toward children, thanks to the coordinated efforts of primary and secondary school teachers during holidays and the Centers of Basic Education. The Special Fund to Promote Reading in Baja California Sur – with an annual budget of MX\$100,000 – carried the first module in February 2004 to train reading hall coordinators. Twenty-six reading hall projects in DIF social development centers were approved for various neighborhoods in La Paz. There has been no evaluation about the population that has benefited from these reading halls.¹¹

The least number of activities to promote reading is among

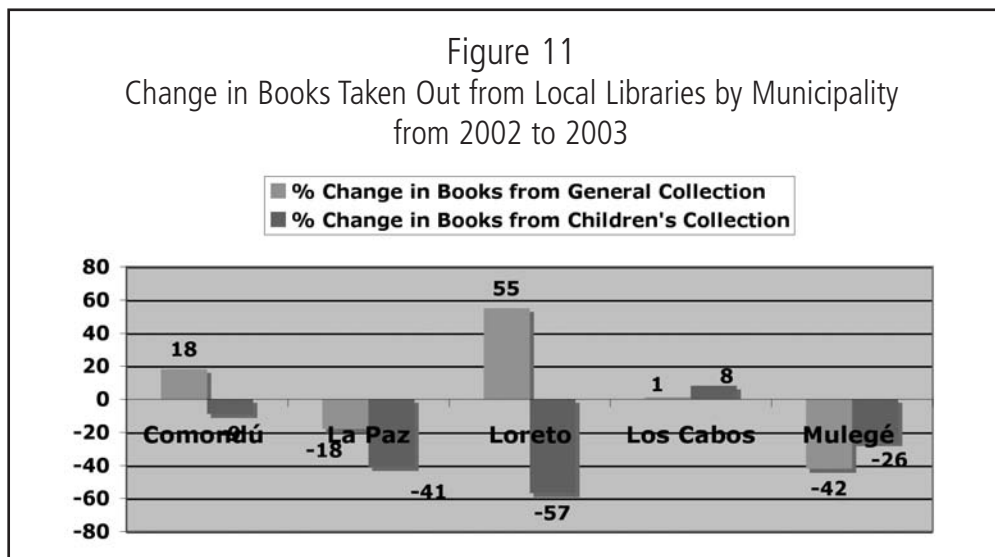


Figure 12: Theaters in Baja California Sur in 2003

Name	Location	Performances	Other Notes
Teatro de la Ciudad	La Paz	174	
Teatro Juarez	La Paz	No regular performances	Recently renovated
Teatro-Auditorio Ricardo Chato Covarrubias	Comondú	No regular performances	
Teatro General Manuel Marques de León	Todos Santos	No regular performances	
Profra. Rosaura Zapata Cano Outdoor Theater	La Paz	No regular performances	
Teatro Prof. Manuel Torre Iglesias	La Paz	No regular performances	
Teatro de la Casa de la Cultura	Los Cabos	No regular performances	Folkloric dance

young people, although the new internet services are targeted toward this audience. Most libraries in the national network do not have computers with access to the Internet. In 2001, Baja California Sur's central library was given equipment for five Internet computing stations. In 2002, only 522 users were able to use the service because of a problem with the central server. In 2003, there were 1,519 users, and at the beginning of 2004 another fifteen computers were added.¹²

During the second stage of the program in early 2004, Cabo San Lucas' libraries were given three computer stations, San Jose del Cabo's was given six and Ciudad Constitucion's received three.¹³ It would be beneficial to assess the impact of this service. Unfortunately, the program to improve this infrastructure has been postponed because of a lack of resources.

Public and private resources supplement the public library system. Higher education institutions in the state have libraries, research centers, and bibliographic collections, including the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur (UABCS), the Technological Institute of La Paz (ITLP), the Center of Biological Research of the Northeast (CIBNOR), the Interdisciplinary Center of Marine Science (CICIMAR), the Urban Teachers' School, and the Higher Teachers' School of the State of Baja California Sur.

Commercial and nonprofit bookstores are also good sources for reading, yet good information on bookstores is limited. The national Cultural Information System shows 1,146 bookstores across Mexico, of which just eight are in Baja California Sur. These eight shops serve three municipalities and over 80% of the state's population. Furthermore, purchasing books is expensive and the bookstores often have low inventory for popular titles.

Assuring adequate library facilities and reference materials should be a priority in the coming years. Aging buildings are still in use with the same space originally designated, while the need for additional children's rooms and programming is growing. Book scholarships for students to help with

textbook expenses will encourage further study; affordable bookstores throughout the state would also help achieve that goal.

3. Drama and Theater

Baja California Sur has seven theater houses, while Baja California has 21. Of these, only three have the minimum equipment for performances and three are outdoor theaters.

Although facilities for cultural events are available when financing is in place, public interest in theater is lacking. Drama productions are generally quite expensive to execute, and there are few educational opportunities for promising actors, directors, or stage staff. Public financing is rarely available, and is not sufficient to address those needs. The presence and concentration of most theater groups in La Paz, combined with high production costs, have restricted drama performances to that city alone, further reducing the potential audience for theater.

In Baja California Sur, there are several theater groups: Altaira, the IMSS theater workshop, La Hostería, A Camanchi, Cóndor, La Prisa de Cronos, the Traveling Theater (Teatro Itinerante), Colectivo Chunique, and La Raza. Each of these is made up of ten to twenty people, mostly teenagers and young people. The number of participants varies depending on the time of school year because most participants are students. Educational institutions that host theater groups are UABCS, la Preparatoria Morelos (Morelos Senior High School), and Baja California Sur's Escuela Normal Superior.

The Baja California Sur Institute of Culture (ISC) maintains a roster of drama professionals, as well as musicians. There are 27 individuals who are dedicated to the theater and 63 musicians that have registered with ISC for performances, most of whom are concentrated in the city of La Paz.¹⁴ In 2002, the ISC organized the State Theater Show, the Region's Theater festival and the State's Theater Competition, with the participation of 11 companies in the

city La Paz. The ISC later arranged training courses for cultural promoters and actors to improve coordination and institutional organization.

4. Music

In Baja California Sur, the State School of Music offers workshops on music appreciation, and formal courses in guitar, piano, double bass, trumpet, drums, French horn, violin, electronic bass, and viola. In early 2003, 441 students enrolled, but by the end of the year, there were only 214 active students. The State School of Music is also the seat of the Baja California Sur Youth Orchestra, which after just three years in operation, was classified by the National System for the Promotion of Music as the orchestra with the greatest growth in number of performances in 2003. This resulted in nine children being chosen to be part of the National Children and Youth Orchestra. Baja California Sur Youth Orchestra tours throughout the state giving concerts.

Unfortunately, resource challenges are pervasive in music education. For instance, there is no formal musical education in rural communities, due to a dearth of promoters, local art education centers, or cultural bureaus. Likewise, despite its success, it has been difficult to keep up the activities of the Baja California Sur Youth Orchestra, due to high expenses for this and other classical music projects around the state. Furthermore, customs procedures have hindered donations and purchases of musical instruments,

directly affecting both the development of the orchestra, as well as the diffusion of interest in classical music.

The ISC yearbook does not keep good records for musicians and actors outside of the city of La Paz. The lack of data about musicians in the municipality of Loreto is remarkable, since this community has a strong tradition of musical performance, especially of *ranchera* music. It is also difficult to engage musicians for ISC performances because many musicians perform at bars and restaurants, which is more lucrative.



5. Dance

Dance is becoming more popular in Baja California Sur, especially folkloric dance, both as regional dance and as a national symbol. Among the most important dances, and as evidence of the cultural wealth of the state, are “*la Danza de los Cañeros*” and “*La Flor de la Pitahaya*.” Folkloric dancing is usually taught in elementary schools as part of school festivals. Upper grades have more intensive dance training workshops, including most senior high schools and higher education institutions in the state.

The other dancing genres that are taught in the state are ballet, modern, Polynesian, Hawaiian, Spanish, and Arab. These dance forms are mainly taught in private schools, and are neither free nor open to the public; the same is true regarding their performances.

6. Art

Mexico has 570 public art galleries, of which 12 are in Baja California Sur and 34 in Baja California. However, it is possible to visit more than 12 art galleries in Todos Santos alone, for both art exhibits and purchase of artwork by Mexican and foreign artists. According to experts and art

Figure 13:
Cultural Festivals in
Baja California Sur in 2003

Name	# Attendees
Festival Amar la Danza (Dance)	1,709
Festival del Dia de Muertos (Day of the Dead)	3,000
Festival de la ballena gris (Gray whale)	2,128
Concert by the B.C.S. Orchestra	2,000
Festival of San Jose del Cabo	1,000
Festival for the founding of La Paz	6,000
Art Festival of Todos Santos	1,700
Whale Festival (Puerto Lopez Mateos)	1,500
XXIV Anniversary of AHPLM	350
Presentation of the National Dance Company	1,062
TOTAL	20,449

Source : Instituto Sudcaliforniano de la Cultura



culture events, including patron saint festivities. To a large extent, this situation is due to the monopoly held by large beverage corporations, which organize and sponsor traditional dances and festivities.

7. Prehistoric Rock Art

Among Baja California Sur's most important cultural assets are the various sites of historic and cultural significance, in particular the prehistoric rock art found throughout the State. This important cultural heritage can be promoted sustainably for the benefit of local communities across Baja California Sur. The most noteworthy site is Sierra de San Francisco in the Municipality of Mulegé which was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1994 and constitutes one of the largest concentrations of rock art on earth. Its worth noting that Sierra de San Francisco is considered one of the five most important such sites in the world.

and culture promoters, art education for children and young people, as well as their parents, would add tremendously to art appreciation in the state.

"Mtro. Carlos Olachea" Gallery in La Paz is dedicated to younger, less experienced artists, as well as state and national artists, with exhibits that range from cartoons to conceptual art. In 2003, there were 79 shows; three were collective and the rest were individual shows. There are four other public galleries in La Paz.

Public art had not been promoted by the state government prior to the recent pier beautification program in La Paz city. This project included placing several sculptures along the Paseo Alvaro Obregón. In August 2005, Wyland, an internationally-recognized artist, painted a marine mural on the tax bureau (*Hacienda*) building, which is visible from most vantage points along the *malecón* in La Paz. Aside from the fact that these sculpture and mural projects are important for promoting public art, local artists have not welcomed it. They are not pleased with priority for artists outside the region or the selection process.¹⁶

Providing income for professionals in the creative arts is a key element to a vibrant arts scene. For example, linking art to health and environmental educational programs has not been sufficiently explored. Poster contests, photo exhibits, and public murals are all examples of public campaigns that could benefit artists and promote awareness of these issues. "Artist-in-residence" programs could also provide scholarships and revenue.

Public art is usually present in festivals, founding celebrations, carnivals, and patron saint festivities. Art festivals in Todos Santos and Los Barriles draw both tourists and residents, providing an income stream for local artists. Also common in these events are outdoor presentations of art pieces, different genres of music, folkloric, and other dance groups, including Hawaiian, Polynesian, or Tahitian. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is often linked with folk

At Sierra de San Francisco, there is a management plan in place which not only protects the painted sites but the environment as well. The local population participates as guides, outfitters, service providers, custodians and the first and most effective line of defense for this fragile artistic manifestation because they have seen a direct, personal economic benefit in this sustainable activity. An added value to this has been to reduce the economic dependence on large herds of goats (for the production of cheese) that severely overgrazed and eroded the landscape until recently. This model of sustainable development and management is being replicated in the Sierra de Guadalupe further south.¹⁷



Photo: Miguel Ángel de la Cueva / www.planapeninsula.org (R)

Ranchero at Home

8. Artesanía and Crafts

Baja California Sur has no handicraft traditions that may be defined as native. However, there is a deeply rooted craft tradition originating from ranch owners in Baja California Sur. The ranch culture absorbed both Western forms of

Figure 14: Funded projects that contributed to the Route of the Missions

Year	Project	Expected product	Amount (pesos/USD)
2000	Baja California Sur en concierto	Four piano concerts in four . different missions	\$24,000/ US\$2,270
	Internet site of the Missions in Baja California Sur ²¹	A web page with historic information, photographs.	\$25,000/ US\$2,365
2001	Audio book for children telling the story of the missions.	Publication of CDs telling stories about the missions; 1,000 copies	\$55,000/ US\$5,203
	Book in Braille about the history of the missions for for children	Publication of 1,000 copies of the book in the Braille system.	\$45,000/ US\$4,257
2002	“Testamentos del Sol” [Testament of the Sun]	Poetry book, including 45 poems about the rebellion of Californians in the year 1743.	\$37,200/ US\$3,519
	“Una Mirada a Baja California Sur” [A view of Baja California Sur]	Internet Multimedia page including photographs, historic data and reports of history publications. It includes a map of the Route of the Missions	\$37,000/ US\$3,500
	Internet page with cartoons about the Missions	Interactive page in Internet about the missions in Baja California Sur, for children, including historic data, photographs, and cartoons.	\$37,000/ US\$3,500
2003	Stories about Baja California Sur	Three stories about Baja California Sur in different times.	\$30,000/ US\$2,838
	Esthetic and historical analysis of buildings in La Paz and proposals for their restoration and use.	Ten paintings in watercolor and acrylic with images of the buildings eligible for restoration	\$30,000/ US\$2,838
	“Ruta de las Misiones: laberinto del tiempo” [Route of the Missions: Time labyrinth]	A CD documentary including historical and graphic information about the missions of Baja California Sur.	\$30,000/ US\$2,838

Source: Instituto Sudcaliforniano de la Cultura

Challenges for the Route of the Missions Program are mainly financial; the annual budget is not enough to implement restoration and cultural projects in and around the historic mission sites. The loss of some historic monuments has, regrettably, already occurred. The main goals of the program include the restoration of mission architectural complexes and works of art that date back to the seventeenth century.

subsistence, as well as the lifestyles and ways of the ancient people of Baja California Sur. This synthesis resulted in residents' use of resources provided by the environment. They created leather pieces, wicker works (mainly palm), rudimentary pottery, and the use of regional woods (*palo de arco, choya, pitaya, cardon, palo fierro, palo adan, palma*, etc.). To make the best use of available materials and to decrease waste, other elements were added: bovine bones and horns, remains of animal hide, stones, sand, coral, conch shell, abalone, clams and mother of pearl.

Currently, the state government and several civil organizations are in charge of dissemination, preservation,

and recovery of crafts. There are other programs that encourage crafts manufacturing as an alternative economic activity, mainly in remote communities. Training courses in manufacturing techniques and marketing encourage *artesanía* as a feasible means of community development.¹⁸ This statewide program has a registry of 451 craftsmen.

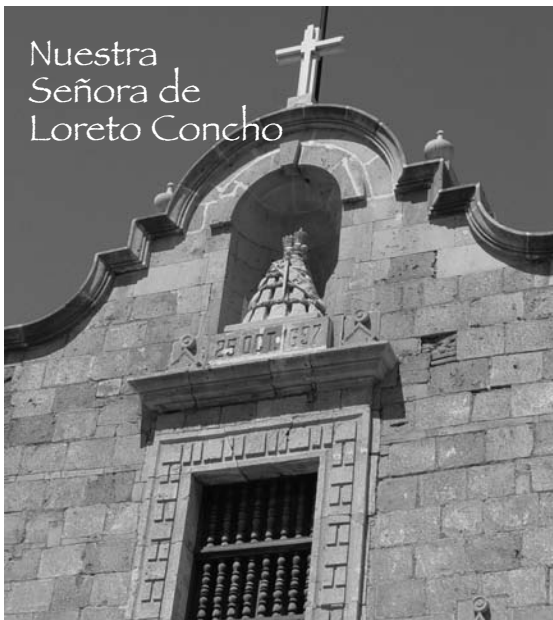
In 2003, the Association of Baja California Sur Craftsmen and the state government created the House of the Baja California Sur Craftsmen, whose role is to bring products closer to potential consumers. By July 2004, this marketing house had received items from 220 craftsmen from all five

municipalities, including 20 inmates of the center of social re-adaptation in the city of La Paz and Ciudad Constitución. In that one month alone, a total of 2,256 items were sold.

9. The Route of Missions

The Jesuits founded 15 missions along the coast in Baja California Sur. Each mission consisted of churches, chapels, and other buildings where clergymen and lay people lived. This system of architectural complexes is one of the main cultural icons in the state. The first mission was Nuestra Señora de Loreto Concho, founded in 1697 by Father Juan María de Salvatierra.¹⁹ Accordingly, Loreto is considered to be the municipality with the most important historical heritage in the state.

Missions established in the Californias generated a set of economic and cultural activities that need to be cataloged and restored. Archeological sites, handwritten documents, paintings, sculptures, original plans, crafts, fruits, and vegetables growth, livestock ranch exploitation, as well as an intangible heritage including beliefs, oral traditions, and religious festivities are just some of the important legacies of the missions' history in the state.²⁰



Two main institutions safeguard this cultural heritage: the Coordinating Office of the State Program Route of the Missions (CPERM) and INAH, both federal institutions. Together with the Secretary for Tourism, these agencies are promoting tourism to architectural and cultural sites in the old Jesuit missions, and creating a corridor called the "Route of the Missions." This route also corresponds to historic districts in Loreto, El Triunfo, and San Javier that contain important buildings and plazas from that era that

also contain important examples of sculpture and artwork.

Needs by Municipality

1. La Paz

Some of the challenges for the La Paz municipality have been mentioned above, but probably the main challenge is to disseminate the cultural life of La Paz beyond its boundaries, using traveling exhibits; culturally-focused radio and television shows; art, music, and dance appreciation courses; and training for art and music teachers in rural areas. In addition, there is a need to better utilize existing facilities – cultural centers, theaters, school buildings, and libraries – to hold cultural events, art exhibits, community theater, and festivals. Affordable and regular performances for the general public will increase the audience, which is currently lacking interest.

The community also needs programming and facilities targeted to children and young people. Increased internet access in public facilities, environmental education centers, interactive exhibits, and an arts/drama school, would bring talented professionals to the region.

Because La Paz is the state capital and it has the highest number of performers and artisans, a proposed State Council for Culture and the Arts should be located there. Not only would the council focus on cultural promotion and marketing performances, but it could also help achieve better communication and coordination between government agencies, nonprofit groups, and schools to pool available funding, facilities, training opportunities, and materials. The council could also focus on statewide programs, such as the Route of the Missions, the restoration of the Library of the Californias, and the House of Baja California Sur Craftsmen.

2. Loreto

Loreto suffers from a lack of available facilities. The town has only one library for the entire municipality, one museum/cultural center, and no theaters. Yet, Loreto has the most recognized historical and cultural heritage among the five municipalities in Baja California Sur.

Libraries in outlying areas should be prioritized, with targeted materials for children and young people, including internet and computers. Training for art, music, ceramics, theater, and dance teachers in the schools could provide after-school activities, as well as possible professional career tracks.

The architectural and historical buildings, artwork, and

adjacent archaeological sites need to be restored and conserved. San Javier's mission, the *Cuevas Pintas* (cave painting) sites, and the Jesuit missionary Juan de Ugarte have been identified as priorities. In addition, altarpieces, historical archives, and artwork should be restored.

Oral history and folk tales are a dying tradition in Loreto and should be kept alive through recordings and catalogs. The *ranchera* traditions that meld ancient California with the West need to be preserved, including their unique music.

3. Los Cabos

Despite the relative wealth of Los Cabos, the residential community is relatively migratory and does not invest in local cultural activities or facilities. Civil society groups have not emerged in the municipality to promote or create festivals, public art projects, drama or dance productions, or concerts. Nevertheless, there is a growing need to provide children and young people with opportunities for recreation and leisure to counteract the lure of drugs, alcohol, and television.

Existing facilities need to be upgraded. The Cabo San Lucas Culture House is a focal point for potential activities, but it needs substantial renovation. The roof leaks and the space is not designed well for giving classes or large groups. Theater and dance workshops; a puppet theater; and an audiovisual hall for films, video, and documentaries are several ideas for redesigning the Culture House. The San José del Cabo library needs internet services.

New facilities should also be considered. Culture houses for Miraflores and Santiago are needed, with

programming, infrastructure, and trained staff. An arts school for Los Cabos, along with a theater house or open-air amphitheatre for performances, would enhance the cultural opportunities for local residents. Reading rooms for rural areas and low-income communities would bring small-scale libraries to these eager audiences.

Funding should be allocated to support the existing artistic community. Scholarships for emerging artists, art education programs in schools, and research on the missions are several opportunities for preserving artistic and cultural heritage, as well as encouraging new appreciation and talent.

4. Mulegé

Santa Rosalía is a target for cultural preservation because of its unique architecture and history. Oral history, additional historical research, and published information would be important additions to protecting the legacy of this interesting city. In addition, a trust fund to reconstruct and rehabilitate buildings that have historical value should be established, both those that belong to the mission complex and those in the mines historical zone.

Guerrero Negro's temperate climate, which prevails most of the year, is prohibitive for outdoor festivals, recreational events, and theater. The city needs indoor venues, where cultural and sports events could take place, which would help provide activities for youth and families.

Art education is needed throughout the municipality, including trained school teachers, materials, and dedicated facilities. A cultural center with art courses and workshops, an audiovisual hall, and a theater house would augment the school-based program.



Community Development

Introduction

Probably the most dramatic impact on community development and urban growth in Baja California Sur is migration. In-migration from foreign tourists, ex-patriates, and seasonal visitors, mainly from the U.S. and Canada, is accelerating the growth rate and bringing cultural changes to many urban areas in the state. This surge in tourism-related economic growth is also bringing a second type of migration to the state – workers from other parts of Mexico seeking a better economic future. Not all of these migrants flock to the coast for construction and tourism services jobs, however; migrant workers also labor in the fertile valleys near Todos Santos and in Comondú for up to eight months of the year.

In Baja California Sur, migrants accounted for less than 1% of the total population in the 1950s; in the 1960s, this rose to 6.7%, to 11.8% in the 1970s; and to 21.6% in the 1980s. In 1992, 30.5% of the state population consisted of migrants. Today, Baja California Sur has neither the public infrastructure nor the capacity to absorb and serve all migrant laborers coming to the state. Illiteracy has increased in the state, and large slums and shantytowns have sprung up in San José del Cabo, Cabo San Lucas, Loreto, and La Paz, increasing the pressure on the state to meet demands for public utilities, education and health services.¹

Overall, the state calculates the arrival of between 20,000 and 25,000 workers and their families during the high seasons – roughly 5% of its population. In 2004, the Agricultural Day Workers Service Program (PROAJAG) of the Ministry of Social Development (SEDESOL) estimated a total of between 28,000-30,000 agricultural day-workers in the state. Of these, PROAJAG works in twenty-seven locations (crop fields located in the municipalities of La Paz and Mulegé, and communities of day-workers living in the valleys of Vizcaíno and Santo Domingo), reaching about half to two-thirds of this needy population.

Indigenous workers comprise an unknown portion of the migrant population although the National Commission for Human Rights calculates that there are some 3,468 speakers of indigenous languages in the state (almost one percent of the population). Thirty-two indigenous languages were identified, with the highest concentration of speakers in La Paz and Mulegé.² Education and labor relations are severely affected by this language barrier, further isolating this transient population.

Key Findings

Attention to communities for social services is correlated to their proximity to the state highway network. The network of paved highways increases accessibility, and thus, the distance from this network affects the ability of social service providers, government officials, and nongovernmental organizations to attend to community needs on a regular basis. For example, in the areas in the mountains and valleys of Los Cabos and La Paz, the need for resources is greater in localities ranging from 6 – 20 km (3.7 – 12.4 miles) away from the highway than in localities ranging from 0 – 5 km (0 – 3.1 miles) away. Localities that are up to 120 km (74.6 miles) from the road are severely limited in their development options.³

The state government has identified water scarcity and increased demand as a statewide problem, as 18% of the most important aquifers are already overexploited. The main problems include the deterioration in the quality of underground water (saline intrusion and pollution), the insufficiency of water management infrastructure for replenishing the aquifers, insufficient enforcement of laws and regulatory policies governing resource use, and underutilization of seawater as an alternative water source.⁴

The Comisión Nacional de Agua (CNA)'s state manager, Mr. Lorenzo Arrillaga, points to infrastructure improvements as a necessary solution, but consumers at the municipal level must be willing to pay for them. Mr. Arrillaga reported debts in each municipality as: 4,000,000 pesos (approximately US\$378,340) in Mulegé, 2,000,000 pesos (approximately US\$189,170) in Loreto, 4,500,000 pesos (approximately US\$425,633) in Comondú, and eleven million pesos (approximately US\$1,040,435) in La Paz. Only Los Cabos had no outstanding debts. If these debts were cleared, the funds could be channeled into water management infrastructure, for which the CNA would contribute 50% of the cost.⁵

1. Housing and urban planning issues

Baja California Sur is experiencing a housing deficit – the result of lack of land available for building lots at reasonable prices, the shortage of funds to address urban zoning, and the insufficiency of loans to obtain a decent dwelling.⁶ State and municipal urban development plans need to be updated and the Housing Institute of Baja California Sur (INVI) needs to be better coordinated with the federal

Saving and Subsidy for Progressive Housing Program (VivAh). At the present time, VivAh's investment in Baja California Sur is less than other states with similar populations.

Private companies have been invited to participate by entering into agreements with the property owners to sell vacant lots to INVI. INVI has a "build-it-yourself" program to release federal financing, using services of technical experts to negotiate the INVI debt, as well as programs that promote access to credit. In addition, the state is considering creating a "land bank" for houses and lots, accompanied by technical services provided by companies that construct low-cost housing.⁷

For existing housing, Baja California Sur exceeds the national average with regard to dwellings with sewer, water, and electricity connections. Of the 105,229 dwellings recorded in Baja California Sur by the INEGI census in 2000, 89.34% of dwellings presently have sanitation services, including 85.77% with running water and 79.27% with drainage. Only 2% of residents in the state do not have any services at all.⁸ As of 2003, 96% of the population has electricity, putting the state above the national mean of 93%.⁹ The proportion of dwellings with floors and roofs made of solid, durable materials is also above the national average. However, the state has a greater proportion of dwellings with roofs made of light, makeshift materials, which is problematic during hurricane season.¹⁰

Recent migration to urban areas has led to uncontrolled settlements on the outskirts, creating dangerous social and health conditions, principally in Los Cabos. Similar problems are beginning to emerge in Loreto which has only begun to experience increases in the level of urban development.

In La Paz, the uncontrolled growth comes from the strong attraction of migrant population to the capital. The resulting disorderly expansion is mainly in areas unsuitable for human habitation, including arroyos and flood plains, generating not only a negative impact on the environment and on living conditions but also creating otherwise preventable public safety risks to those ultimately living in these squatter settlements.¹¹

As migration continues, pressure for additional land, especially in coastal areas is increasing, particularly in La Paz, Loreto and Los Cabos. This situation is problematic as it increases the demand for property, often resulting in conflicts over ownership of communal and private parcels of land.¹² The state delegate of the Land Ownership Regularization Commission (CORETT), Pedro Aguilar, commented that CORETT operates the *Suelo Libre*, or "Free Soil," program throughout Baja California Sur. The program creates land reserves for urban growth by expropriating the lands of *ejido* communities, with the consent of the *ejidatarios*, converting them

into federal lands, and regularizing them by giving deeds to the owners.¹³

"Alternative Futures" projects in La Paz and Loreto

Led by Harvard University's Graduate School of Design, in collaboration with the University of Arizona, UABCS, San Diego State University, CIBNOR, and Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the Alternative Futures research projects evaluated the advantages and disadvantages of different development scenarios in La Paz and Loreto, using a timeframe of 10-25 years. Special consideration was given to the impacts that urban development would have on the natural environment, especially on each city's hydrological system.

The main goal of the two Alternative Futures studies, was to assist local/regional decision-makers with their economic projections, land-use planning, and infrastructure investments for La Paz and Loreto, since otherwise "...there is the risk of damaging its economy, hydrology and environment and its landscape on which it depends."¹⁴ Sufficient drinking water, public access to beaches and shores, increases in per capita income and the regional economy, and protection of marine and terrestrial ecosystems were some of the objectives that civic and elected leaders identified as important factors to future urban development in these areas.

The La Paz mayor at the time of the report's release, Victor Guluarte, said that the project "will help create a more attractive city, which will benefit local trade."¹⁵ In La Paz, the study was carried out in 2004 with UABCS, emphasizing municipal water and sewer infrastructure, as well as public amenities, such as the *malecón*, Balandra Beach, El Mogote, and the historic core of the city. These issues continue to drive civic participation in La Paz as local citizens and elected officials weigh the pros and cons of future large-scale resort development, municipal treatment facilities, and expanded tourism.

In Loreto, a proposed urban development plan for the city provided the context for the Alternative Futures research in 2005. With five academic partners from the U.S. and Mexico, the Harvard team focused on groundwater resources, tourism, real estate, and visual corridors to the islands and the mountains. Desalination emerged as a key predictor of any future population growth, as the city's available water supplies will not sustain a population beyond 30,000 people. Therefore, impacts on energy use, marine resources, and existing residents must be considered before further growth is contemplated. Local citizens have become increasingly engaged in this discussion.

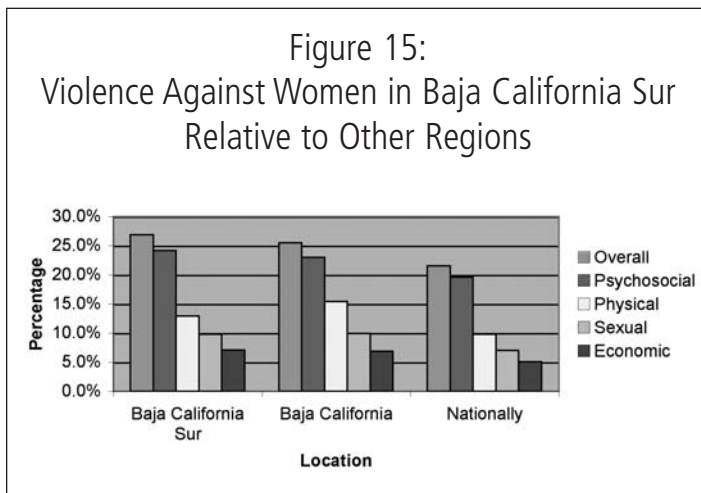
2. Domestic Violence

According to the Deputy General Attorney's Office, one of the main causes of violence against women and minors is the rise in alcohol and drug addiction in Baja California Sur. In addition to physical violence, psychological abuse is increasingly common. Also on the rise is violence against young women, which commonly occurs during dating.

According to data from the National Survey on Violence against Women (ENVI) 2003, Baja California Sur's rate of domestic violence (26.9%) is much higher than the national mean (21.5%). Domestic violence in this context is defined as psychological, physical, economic or sexual violence by the victim's fiancé, spouse, or companion. This situation is even more serious than in Baja California, which records a rate of 25.5%.¹⁶

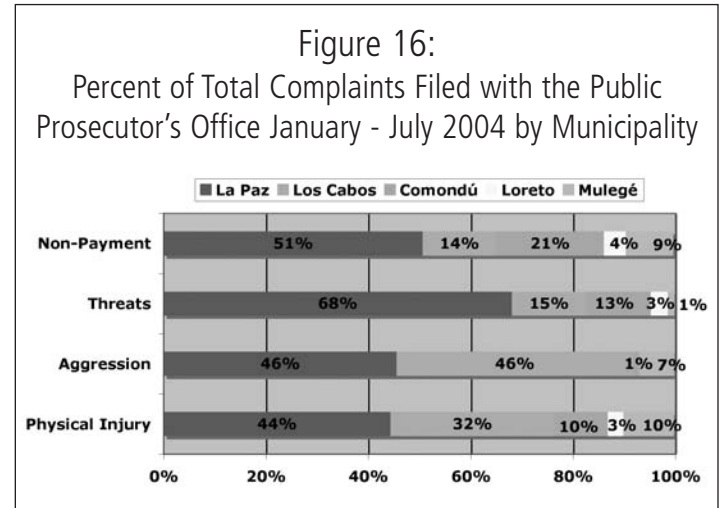
Psycho-social violence, or emotional battery, is defined as humiliation, contempt in front of others, jealousy, blows or kicks to objects or furniture, destruction of belongings, threats of blows, threats with a sharp weapon or firearm, and threats of killing directed against women, men or underage children. Physical violence occurs when a person intentionally pushed, pulled, twisted an arm, punched or slapped, kicked, or beat with a stick, belt or other household object. Sexual violence is defined as demanding sexual relations, threatening to go with other women if sexual relations did not occur, or using physical violence to have sexual relations. Economic violence occurs when a partner controls all access to money, or uses the victim's belongings against their wishes.

The following graph shows violence against women by category:



During the first half of 2004, there was a slight increase in the percentages of complaints for physical injury and aggression in comparison to the total percentages recorded

for 2003. On the basis of these records, it is clear that physical injury and aggression are the principal forms of domestic violence against women and minors, followed by the non-payment of family assistance obligations.



3. Prisons and prisoner re-entry issues

Baja California Sur's prison infrastructure is overburdened. For example, in 1998, the rehabilitation center (CERESO) of La Paz showed an excess population of 50%; with construction and remodeling, this was reduced to 33%. A little under half of the inmates of state penitentiaries are under federal jurisdiction, and of those less than 60% have sentences. The funds sent by the federal Ministry of Interior for their maintenance are entirely insufficient.¹⁷ In 2003, according to the Ministry of Interior, the five CERESOs in Baja California Sur have a total capacity for 896 prisoners. Of the 410 minors in the system, 23.6% are repeat offenders (29.7% fewer than in 2002).¹⁸

Robbery is the most reported crime, hovering between 43% in 1998 and 40% of the crimes investigated by the public prosecutor's office in 2003. Minor offenses, such as property damage, and injuries, such as sexual assault, are next with between 12-25% of the reported cases. Violent crime is a very small percentage of cases, with homicides at just 0.5% of all reported crimes for 1998, 2002, and 2003.

4. Public places

Although the state has an abundance of natural protected areas that provide the visual backdrop for most of Baja California Sur's largest cities, these areas are largely inaccessible because of their rugged terrain, harsh conditions (heat, lack of water, and wind), as well as a lack of infrastructure to visit them (transportation, interpretive trails, and rangers). Public beaches are also popular with the state's residents, but private tourism-related facilities, such as hotels, golf courses, and marinas, compete for

these prime locations, and often restrict public access.

The town square is still the nexus for most public activities, even if it is not very large. Dances, concerts, and *lotería* games are common during the evenings and weekends. Most coastal communities also have a *malecón*, a seaside walkway for strolling families and couples, although they are often the first target during hurricanes or other natural disasters, taking years to repair.



There is a distinct lack of sports and recreational facilities around the state that serve the needs of the young population. This is critical for combating obesity, as well as providing organized, after-school activities for schoolchildren. Without community centers, sports fields, tennis and basketball courts, and gymnasiums, the young are turning to drugs and alcohol. Sports Promotional Councils have been suggested to encourage more civic participation in creating these public amenities.

5. Attention to the elderly population

One of every 20 Mexicans nationwide is in the 65 and over age group, growing to one of every eight inhabitants by the year 2030. This will represent a challenge for the pension system, and will draw attention to the emerging patterns of mortality, formerly characterized by infectious and contagious illnesses, but increasingly dominated by chronic, degenerative complaints.¹⁹ The ISSSTE in Baja California Sur provides social security and services for a total of 16,299 individuals whose ages range between 50 and 75. The “Aging Successfully” program gives the elderly special counseling on how to improve their nutritional habits, as well as how to preserve their quality of life over 55.

This population contains a substantial part of the nation’s experience and knowledge, yet this braintrust is often under-utilized because of misconceptions about an individual’s ability to work and contribute after retirement. This social

expectation has led to a tendency toward loss of self-esteem, as well as exclusion and segregation of the elderly, resulting in discrimination and labor restrictions toward the elderly. Consequently, employment opportunities appropriate to their circumstances, experience and skills are limited, straining income and self-sufficiency.²⁰

Faced with this situation, the state government is working to build a system of training and transmission of knowledge from the elderly to the young, through schools, community service clubs, culture, sport, and other fields of social activity. A state system of incentives and compensations for the over-sixties is envisioned that will enable them to earn a decent income and give them open access to social security (ranging from health services to cultural programs).²¹

6. Addressing the needs of the disabled

Very little has been done with regard to the infrastructure that is needed to provide adequate access for the disabled in Baja California Sur. As in many countries, the physically and mentally challenged population is cared for by family, rarely educated, and has little social interaction beyond their immediate neighborhood. A recent increase in the number of suicides among the disabled community due to a lack of adequate mobility and rehabilitation equipment (such as crutches, wheelchairs, neck braces, canes, prosthetics, etc.) reflects this disconnect with society.

With job training programs in place, transportation, and infrastructure improvements, these individuals could be contributing to household income as well as their own sense of well-being. Since 2003, U.S.-based organizations have been slowly introducing orthopedic equipment, assistive technology, adaptive playgrounds, and ramps in La Paz and Cabo San Lucas municipalities to begin the process of bringing recreation, schools, clinics, and other community facilities to the disabled.²²

7. Addressing rural community needs

On the basis of information supplied by the twenty-five *ejido* authorities interviewed,²³ ten (40%) stated that the *ejido* population has a good quality of life, 56% fair, and only one *ejido* considered it poor. However, despite substantive progress with basic utilities (water and electricity), local authorities and the state government are faced with the inability to provide *ejidos* with more services.

Most *ejidos* have problems with alcohol and drug addiction. Sixty-eight percent consider alcoholism a problem, and 64% acknowledge increased drug use. In all cases, the younger population (between eighteen and thirty years of age) is the target, with marijuana, cocaine, and crystal meth as the main drugs in use. The absence of leisure activities and

sports facilities, and the lack of sports promotion, as well as the relative isolation and scattering of the localities and migration are considered to be the main causes of addiction.

Trash and pollution are also major rural issues. The majority of *ejidos* have no sewer systems; in others the system is unfinished or does not cover the entire population. In fact, *ejidos* use septic tanks or latrines; the latter are often open-air. Lack of garbage service is an issue for most *ejidos*. Most *ejidos* have no landfill, and all have open-air garbage dumps. Many of the inhabitants deposit their garbage outside of the dumps; many burn their trash at home. The great majority of these *ejidos* have no regular garbage pickup service, restricting their ability to deposit large items, like cars.

8. Civic Engagement

Recent changes to the Mexican federal transparency laws to allow greater access to formerly confidential documents have accelerated civic participation in Baja California Sur. In addition, U.S. and Canadian ex-patriates are forming organizations that mirror the vibrant civil society network in those countries, providing a new model for Mexican public participation.

Neighborhood committees, urban and rural organization councils, social welfare committees, and beneficiaries' committees are just some of the emerging civic-government advisory groups in Baja California Sur. New nonprofits in almost every sector – health, education, environment, community development, arts and culture – seek board members and volunteers to lend their expertise and networks.

However, as the state's larger cities continue to expand due to in-migration and natural population growth, civic and quality of life issues struggle for prioritization. Temporary and permanent agricultural workers are forced to focus on maintaining basic needs that are not provided by their employers, such as adequate housing and medical care. These workers are disenfranchised from regional values and civic pride, affecting their political and social decision-making for themselves and the next generation.

9. Stray Dogs

There are approximately 32,000 dogs without owners in the state. These animals are a serious problem, particularly in rural areas, since they can become wild and potentially dangerous. In the urban environment, dog feces are deposited in public thoroughfares, causing serious health concerns from parasites. There is no system to control these animals, although several nonprofits are beginning to organize animal shelters, as well as spaying and neutering programs in the cities. No municipality has a dog pound.²⁴In the case of the city of La Paz, for example, stray dogs, rip up garbage bags and scatter the contents, causing pollution.

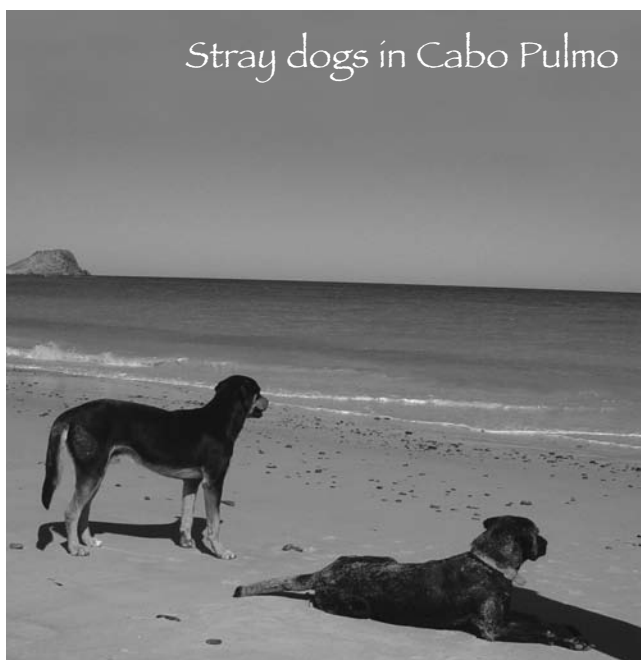
Needs by Municipality

1. Comondú

In the municipality of Comondú, the cities and towns have no planned urban development, and are not involved with processes of regulation, conservation, improvement or growth of population centers. In the absence of an up-to-date set of regulations, shantytowns proliferate, even in vulnerable areas (areas prone to flooding for example). Without a plan in place, the coverage of basic services in cities such as Constitución, Insurgentes and Villa Morelos is at risk because of under-investment in infrastructure. In addition, the ports of San Carlos, Adolfo López Mateos, Alcatraz, Cortés and San Juanico, as well as rural areas, should have an urban development plan in place. Puerto San Carlos, a deep-water port, is experiencing higher population growth than the rest of the municipality, and the lack of an urban development plan threatens its wealth of marine species, as well as its industry, tourism, and port installations (through which agricultural production leaves).²⁵

2. La Paz

The migration of temporary workers into Baja California Sur, created by the lack of job opportunities in their home communities, has complicated the municipal services that are available in the state capital. Water and sewer



infrastructure needs to be upgraded. Investments in land-use planning point to a lack of services to outlying communities in the city of La Paz that must be corrected before future growth can proceed.

The insufficiency of public transportation leads to the irrational use of private vehicles. The municipal government has not made capital investments in modernized public vehicles, nor have they studied the problem, despite a growing and diffuse population base. Therefore, it is necessary to promote studies on the road system and transportation for the authorities to discuss and, if appropriate, authorize new spending for this purpose.

Security is also an issue, with more gated communities emerging in the municipality. Parallel to this, there is a mistrust of the police, which is manifested in fewer reports of offenses and the lack of follow-up when they are filed. Neighborhood watches could be one opportunity for reducing low-level crimes.

Despite efforts to create sports areas, the lack of support for sports and recreation continues to be a problem in La Paz. This gap is linked to increases in drug and alcohol addiction, especially among young people, as well as prostitution. Municipal attention to sports and recreational facilities and programs is needed, as well as nonprofit involvement in programming.



3. Loreto

Urban planning problems in the city of Loreto derive fundamentally from a recent population boom, low-income and temporary workforce housing needs, the lack of budget to provide basic utilities to new human settlements, and building in high-risk areas, such as hurricane-prone areas and steep slopes.²⁶

Public housing constructed by the government for low-income families is inadequate – only 45 square yards for each home. A minimum size of 60 square yards with another 120 square yards of grass or open space would alleviate crowding and increase the quality of life for impoverished residents.²⁷

Tourism and second-home development has increased land speculation in Loreto. This limits the ability of the local population to buy housing, especially considering the financial constraints on mortgages and access to credit within the Mexican banking system. The high costs of capital and the limited buying power of the population do not encourage affordable home building, creating a housing shortage as well as shantytowns.²⁸

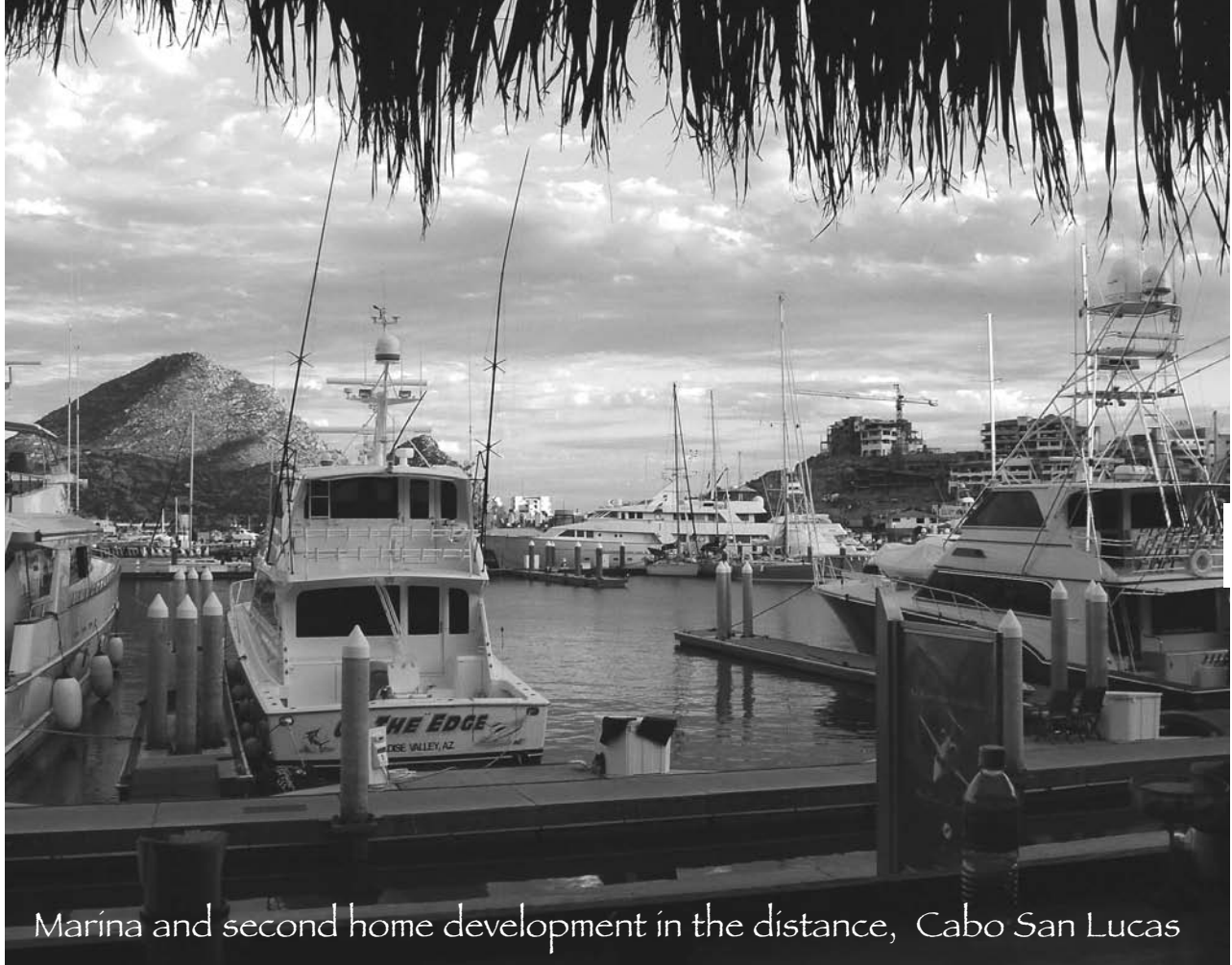
The deficiency in street lighting must be resolved as soon as possible, since the growth of temporary and low-income neighborhoods that have little regular police protection is leading to an increase in vandalism. In 2002, twenty new street lamps were purchased for one *colonia*, benefiting a total of 1,200 people, in addition to the provision and installation of lighting with branches and underground cable in a main avenue.

The conservation and maintenance of rural roads, which stretch across around 125 miles (the 98 miles of federal highway are maintained by the government), is a major operational expense for the municipality of Loreto.²⁹ As mentioned above, this directly affects access to service provision from state agencies and nonprofits.

4. Los Cabos

The municipality of Los Cabos experienced a 9.7% population growth between 1995-2000, rising from 27,111 permanent inhabitants to 34,438. In fact, San José del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas' combined growth rate was 56.3% higher than the national average and one of the highest in the country. This high population growth rate derived from constant and accelerated migration and is leading to problems such as unsustainable water use, land tenure conflicts, and unplanned shantytowns.³⁰ The Urban Development Plan for San José del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas should be updated, including a provision to renew the urban center of Cabo San Lucas.

Public utilities are lacking throughout the municipality, although electricity is generally available to most areas. Three of the four administrative districts of the municipality (Santiago, Miraflores and La Ribera) have no sewer system, while in the high-growth areas of Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo, a high number of drinking water users (15,807 of 28,091) do not have drainage (figures are as of May 2002).



Benefits, such as parks and recreational facilities, are an essential part of creating a sustainable community. Open space and recreational areas are not considered economically viable and, therefore, are low on the municipal priority list. Neighborhood committees that work directly with municipal authorities and elected officials could work to prioritize these community benefits and allocate funds accordingly from the taxes available.

The shortfalls in road surfacing is also growing (75% of the streets are unpaved), as well as in sidewalks and street lighting.³¹ The municipality should create a trust to construct and administer urban public parking lots, which could be a funding source for road paving.³² Finally, the municipality needs to design a Master Plan for the Municipal System of Roads and transportation for the Los Cabos corridor, as well as for Cabo del Este.³³

5. Mulegé

Designing urban development plans for the cities in Mulegé municipality, particularly those included in the large-scale tourism project, “Mar de Cortés,” should be a top priority. In Villa Alberto Alvarado Arámburo, Guerrero Negro, and Bahía Asunción, high immigration (4,000 agricultural

day laborers are imported to work in produce-exporting companies annually) requires a land-use plan that can accommodate permanent residents from this population. The municipal authority must strengthen the public safety system by training and equipping the police.³⁴

As the North Pacific Region does not belong to the state electricity generating network,³⁵ it is necessary to introduce new technologies, such as wind power, solar energy, and energy based on tides and water motion.³⁶ With regard to drinking water, Comisión Federal de Electricidad studies point out that the water-bearing strata in the valley of El Vizcaíno are in the process of becoming exhausted. It will be necessary to build modern desalinization plants with reverse osmosis technology and better collection systems, including brackish wells.

On the public services front, the lack of adequate and sufficient sewer systems is evident, as is the need for a wastewater treatment plant. Sewage often overflows through grates (a source of infection), and sewers open directly into the sea. There is also no sanitary landfill, though there is an open-air garbage dump. It is also necessary to define suitable areas for waste disposal from squid processing plants.

Economic Development

Key Findings

While there are a wide range of societal needs throughout the state of Baja California Sur, these cannot be adequately addressed without the creation of new and better jobs, as well as economic growth. Nevertheless, these priorities need to be balanced with the environment, social justice, and community-building in mind. Currently, 60% of the state's territory is in protected areas, putting a great deal of pressure for development on the remaining 40% of land.

Baja California Sur has the seventh-largest state economy in the country.¹ The state GDP showed an annual average growth of 3.5% between 1993 and 1998. However, because of insufficient federal funds and the need to address the growing demand for public services and infrastructure, the state government needs to increase its own revenues to continue its impressive growth rates. In addition, health and education issues must be addressed at the same time as job creation to ensure a well-trained and healthy workforce.

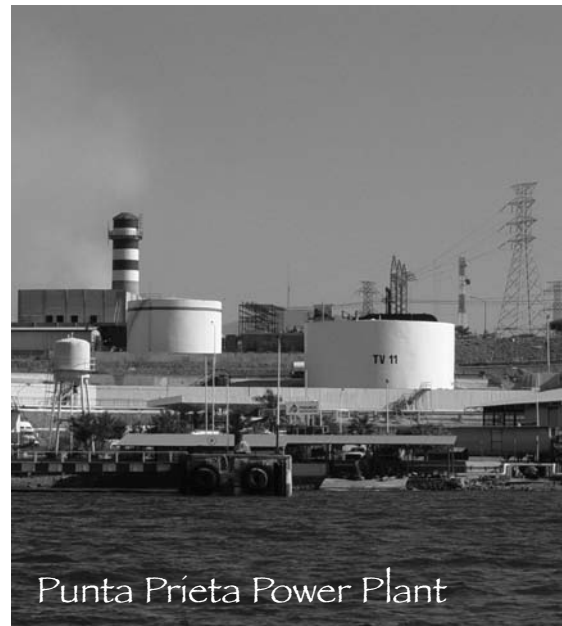
Why has the state experienced economic growth without an equally impressive investment in economic development? The evolution and structure of the state's GDP over the past several decades reflect natural, historic, economic, and land use conditions, as well as the main economic trends in Baja California Sur, which includes a growing tertiary sector (financial services, insurance, community, social and personal services, and trade, restaurants and hotels) that is linked to economic forces outside of the state's economy. The current pattern is characterized by a declining share of the primary (agriculture, livestock, fishing, and mining) and secondary (construction and manufacturing) sectors in the GDP, and growth in the tertiary sector. By 2000, the majority of the state's economically active population (EAP) was centered in the tertiary sector (68.32%), and the primary sector had declined to 14.94%.

The resulting social consequences of this trend have included increased participation in the labor market, particularly by women.² Accordingly, women's increased participation in the workforce has brought social challenges, including a need for an increased number of day care centers.

During this same timeframe, Baja California Sur attempted to develop through the modernization of agriculture, growth in tourism, and the development of an extensive fishing and marine commerce sector. Unfortunately, these efforts were not undertaken in a sustainable manner, and neither environmental nor regional social dynamics were taken into consideration. Modernized agriculture occupied and

devastated the state's valleys; tourism was associated with irreversible changes to the coastal landscape; and extensive fishing and marine commerce depleted resources and endangered local species.

Economic development in Baja California Sur continues to be dependent on availability of renewable natural resources, primarily water. Tourism, agriculture, and fisheries are all affected by the diminishing groundwater resources in Baja California Sur. Desalination is being considered as the next solution, but water distribution infrastructure must be repaired and upgraded to ensure that additional resources are not wasted.



There are other energy issues to consider if Baja California Sur is to grow sustainably. First of all, natural energy sources, such as oil, natural gas and hydro, which are abundant in other states in Mexico, are not found within the state. Therefore, there are no distribution systems (i.e. pipelines), making production and distribution very expensive. Second, Baja California Sur is the only part of the country that is not connected to the main electricity grid,³ which has forced a reliance on local power stations at Punta Prieta in La Paz. A geothermal electricity plant is planned for Santa Rosalía, but there is no estimated timeframe for its completion.⁴ Growing demand for electricity – from industrial, commercial, and residential sectors – will quickly challenge the state's available resources. Finally, the necessary desalination facilities mentioned above will require substantial energy to operate; existing infrastructure will not be sufficient in the short or medium term.

In the coming years, Baja California Sur faces a number of unique challenges as it confronts the need to diversify its economy to adjust to new economic realities and changing market conditions. Avoidance of “Cabosanlucazation” is a major concern among some residents to alleviate the possibility of overcrowding and the creation of new slums, the destruction of natural habitat, and shortages in natural resources. Migration issues are also of particular concern to the region, as over 30% of the population is migrants, with an additional 5% of the population consisting of transitory migrant labor during the high season. Promoting small-to mid-sized enterprises (SMEs) would allow the state to make the most of its human and natural capital, including better distribution of wealth among diverse sectors in the local population.

Foreign direct investment (FDI) has become an important part of the state’s economy, most notably for the tourism sector. From 1994-2001, Baja California Sur received approximately 0.4% (US\$262.5 million) of Mexico’s total FDI. Of the 987 enterprises that invest in the state, 74.3% are from the US. Most of this foreign investment is in the service sector, which represents 75.4% of FDI, the majority of which is directed toward tourism-related accommodations and services. Not surprisingly, foreign investment is focused primarily in the municipalities of La Paz (34%) and Los Cabos (63%)⁵, although Loreto is a future target for foreign investment. Recent articles in the USA Today, Christian Science Monitor, San Diego Union-Tribune, Arizona Republic, and in Canadian news publications acknowledge a “Baja housing rush” focused on Loreto.⁶

Although Baja California Sur has a booming tourism sector, as long as the state continues to have a steady inflow of migrant labor willing to work for extremely low wages, employment opportunities will continue to be scarce and poorly paid. Statewide, 54.9% of the population over the age of twelve is economically active, and the unemployment rate is just 2.3% on average.

Wages in Baja California Sur are higher than the national average. There are three tiers of minimum wages for Mexico, and areas are placed into one of the tiers based upon the cost of living in that area. Baja California Sur is in the top tier, along with Mexico City and other large cities, where the average wage is \$48.67 pesos per day (US\$4.59), as opposed to \$47.16 (US \$4.44) or \$45.81 (US\$4.32) per day in other geographic zones, as of January 1, 2006. Most people in the state earn between one and two times the minimum wage.^{7 8}

The cost of living in Baja California Sur is significantly higher than in many parts of Mexico. The fact that the area depends highly on the supply of goods and inputs from the rest of the country and from the United States results in higher market prices.⁹ Additionally, the insufficient and high cost of infrastructure, basic services, and utilities (water,

electric power, and roads) as well as high transportation, freight, and fuel costs affect individual consumers as much as businesses.¹⁰



Baja California Sur ranks low in access to financial services, especially banking in rural areas. The state has the third fewest number of bank branches in Mexico and only 0.31% of all credit card accounts.¹¹ Volatile interest rates, bank consolidations, and peso devaluations have caused instability in Mexico’s banking sector, yet there is still a high degree of confidence in banks. Mexico has improved its financial infrastructure since the 1980s crises by revising its bank investment and ownership regulations, creating a federal deposit insurance program, and revising regulations on credit union and savings cooperatives.¹² Yet, banks have not invested in Baja California Sur for reasons of cost (US\$400-600,000 to open a bank branch), transportation (bringing currency to the region by armored car, ferry, or plane), and lack of population (returns on investment are not high enough to justify opening a branch).¹³ This lack of investment has caused economic losses for the state’s residents and businesses, as they experience missed sales, transportation cost and lost time, and missed money transfers.

Remittances are one of the largest sources of foreign income into Mexico – after petroleum and before tourism. Approximately US\$14.5 billion was sent by Mexican family members living in the U.S. to communities in Mexico. These transfers can be up to 30-50% of household income in many cases. Innovative financial transfer mechanisms are emerging, such as debit cards, phone transfers, and cross-border mortgages to help facilitate remittances, far beyond the expensive wire transfers that have dominated the market in the past. In the case of Baja California Sur, only 1.7-2% of the households in the state received remittances in 2000. This may, in fact, be due to lack of access to banking services, rather than lack of family members working in the U.S. This also affects emergency funding during natural disasters (such as Hurricane Marty in 2003), when family members were not able to send money locally, and roads to banking centers were damaged and unpassable.¹⁴

1. Tourism

Tourism is a highly-visible and powerful economic driver in Baja California Sur. Since 1988, the tourism sector has maintained a 20% average annual growth rate.¹⁵ In particular, tourism that is focused on natural areas, also known as adventure tourism or ecotourism, is quickly evolving because of growing global demand.¹⁶ Los Cabos is the most popular tourism destination in the state, with La Paz and Loreto close behind.

Tourism has also positively influenced infrastructure improvements and job creation as well. There are two ports dedicated to receiving cruise ship traffic; hotel, resort, and second home developments rely on seasonal tourist inflows; the three major airports in the state (La Paz, Los Cabos, and Loreto) have adjusted their flight schedules to accommodate visitors. From 1999 to 2003, service and tourism firms have created 3,706 permanent and 3,063 temporary jobs.¹⁷



Building on this early success, the Mexican government's national tourism agency, FONATUR, is aggressively promoting the "Proyecto Mar de Cortés," which will generate private investment for hotels, marinas, resort complexes, and adjacent infrastructure, such as roads, desalination plants, and other facilities that benefit the public. However, based on an assessment of the potential tourism landscape, Baja California Sur was considered to have a medium rating, with 66.5% of the entire territory rated as unfit for tourism; this places intense development pressures on the remaining 33%, mainly on the coast. Furthermore, the tourism potential in Baja California Sur is directly related to its high ecological values, which assumes that the development of tourism is essentially linked to nature, especially in the sierras, the coastline, and the islands.

These are the region's competitive advantages at the national and international levels.¹⁸

In addition, a better distribution of economic benefits from tourism is needed. State programs for small and mid-sized businesses would allow local entrepreneurs to participate at a higher level. For example, if FONATUR's proposed urban development plan is accepted in Loreto, which extensively expands the developable coastal zone north and south of town, local businesses in the town's center will suffer, as tourists seek services closer to their accommodations. In contrast, locally-owned businesses in Laguna San Ignacio are seeking language and natural history training, as well as business loans, to improve their service, provide additional jobs to fellow residents, and enhance overall quality of life in their communities.

State-funded marketing campaigns, such as the proposed "Route of the Missions" promotion, would be a welcome addition to encourage nature and adventure tourism. As one of the fastest-growing tourism sectors in the state, public funds could play a big role in solidifying Baja California Sur as a destination for nature tourism, much like the advertising campaigns for Costa Rica. Currently, public funds are only expended for traditional tourism – golf, hotels, sportfishing, and cruises.

2. Agriculture

In direct contrast to the tourism and construction industries, the agricultural sector in Baja California Sur is in decline. Over the past thirty years, both product volume and the surface area harvested have notably dwindled, although organic agriculture has increased. The main causes of this decline include misguided federal economic policies that prioritize certain crops over others, the scarcity and inefficient use of water, low levels of irrigation technology, and an inadequate rural infrastructure. Additionally, low market prices for basic food items, as well as an overabundance of commercial middlemen,¹⁹ has exacerbated the problem. Over-exploitation of fresh water aquifers and agrochemical contamination are two results from the continued use of an outdated agricultural model.²⁰

Currently, corn is the most widely planted crop in the state in terms of area. However, it is likely that other more technologically-intensive crops will soon displace corn in the region. The crop selection has changed as a consequence of limited water supplies, from highly-subsidized export products such as cotton – which in the seventies consumed a great amount of water in the Santo Domingo Valley – to other more profitable crops aimed at other markets (chickpeas, orchards and vegetables). The products consumed domestically (wheat and safflower among others) were changed to sorghum and alfalfa, which prevail to date. Although exotic crops demand excessive water, their

commercial value are high in the international market, and therefore, they continue to be grown, despite limitations in water resources.

As of the year 2000, approximately 12% of the state's permanent population works in the agriculture sector,²¹ with an additional 20,000-25,000 migrant workers adding to that total during the high season.



3. Other industries

Construction

A strong component of the state's economy is the construction industry, resulting from its close links to the tourism and service sectors. The construction industry's contribution to state GDP has been on a constant incline in recent years, increasing from 0.05% of state GDP (approximately US\$26.9 million) in 1993 to 0.09% of state GDP (approximately US\$133.6 million) in 1999.²² While this is so, construction workers earn some of the lowest wages in the state, as many of the laborers have been driven out of local agricultural areas or have migrated from other areas of Mexico and Central America. The workers are an inexpensive labor force for the industry as they are willing to work for wages that do not allow for a decent standard of living.²³

Manufacturing

The manufacturing sector of Baja California Sur has experienced only modest development in recent years. Although manufacturing is not in direct decline, it has not developed significantly due to a lack of raw materials, as well as increased market specialization. The manufacturing sector contributed 6.08% of state GDP in 1993 (US\$35.2

million), while its contribution in 1997 was of 7.13% (US\$106.3 million).²⁴

Almost half of the manufacturing sector is concentrated in the municipality of La Paz, with 553 of 1,340 registered manufacturing units. The sector consists mainly of small businesses, 91.5% of which have less than ten employees, and 55% have less than two. The number of larger *maquiladoras* has actually decreased in recent years, shrinking from eleven to eight between 1990 and 1999. However, the number of jobs within the sector during the same time period actually increased from 959 to 2,695, peaking at 2,703 in 1997.²⁵

Mining

Presently, Baja California Sur is involved in a large number of mining operations, as the state is rich in a variety of natural resources. These include the largest salt mines in the world in Guerrero Negro, as well as the largest deposits of world-class quality calcium sulfate in the country.²⁶ Presently, the state is not a significant producer of metal ores, although in the past it was the country's most important copper producer,²⁷ and provided a significant contribution to economic development in the region and country by generating jobs and providing raw materials for other industries.²⁸ Santa Rosalía and La Paz both experienced mining booms during the early part of the 20th century that fueled economic growth.

Recently, however, the mining sector has suffered proportionate reductions as a percentage of state GDP, most notably between 1988 and 1993 (see Table 12).²⁹

Figure 17: Mining Sector in Baja California Sur and Nationwide from 1988–1993

Year	State GDP *in thousands of pesos	%	National GDP *in thousands of pesos	%
1988	\$231,008	12.7	\$6,234,506	3.7
1993	\$299,636	5.7	\$10,891,325	2.8

Source: National Accounts System, 1993-1999, INEGI, pg. 258

Cattle raising

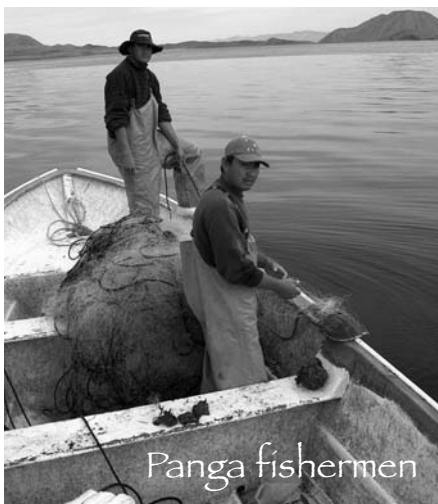
Cattle raising is a relatively common line of work for people living in the rural areas of the state, and is boosted by immigrants from other parts of Mexico and Central America who are willing to work for low wages. The main products of

the agricultural and cattle raising industries are pasteurized milk (fresh and packaged), various kinds of cheese (*cotija*, *asadero* and *panela*), yogurt in different presentations, corn and wheat flour in different presentations, chick peas, beans and packaged tomatoes, sweets and preserves, juices, tortilla and purified water, as well as feed and grains for meat- and milk-producing cattle.³⁰

A recent development in this sector is dairy production, primarily from goats, which is boosting locally-generated livestock products. Seventy percent of these products are currently imported from other parts of Mexico. In addition, the state is well-suited for goat herding, which is more sustainable than cattle production because of the inputs needed for cattle.

4. Fisheries

Baja California Sur is one of the Mexican states where fishing activities have one of the greatest natural advantages. The state's coastline accounts for 22% of the national total, as well as 14% of the country's total amount of protected waters. The state offers a large amount of freshwater crab, lobster, squid, abalone, clam, conch, sardines, mackerel, and oysters, among others, for both commercial and recreational uses. Baja California Sur's share in the country's fishing production is one of the highest. It is mainly comprised of lobster and abalone that have high commercial value, accounting for 30% and 9%, respectively, of the total income generated by fisheries in the state.



During 2003, fishing was a significant source of food, jobs, and foreign currency for the state. Over 200 cooperatives and 393 companies (with a combined 2,490 small boats and 43 mid-sized vessels) participated in the industry, while just 687 permits for commercial fishing were issued. Authorities also issued 10,739 individual permits for recreational fishing and 1,192 permits for boats, primarily for sport fishing,

another revenue source for local fishermen. Statistics on artisanal fishing are not easily available, but it is important to note that fish provide a critical food source for coastal villages that have little access to roads.

Despite the wealth of the state's marine resources, the fisheries sector has not re-invested its profits in training or technological upgrades that could make operations more economically efficient and environmentally sustainable. This is due to a combination of factors, including social impacts of production (i.e. disorderly growth), an increased supply of fishermen migrating to the area, the inability of fishing co-ops to market their products abroad, overabundance of middlemen in coastal fishing, a lack of research related to the field, illegal trafficking of fishing resources, as well as Mexico's financial situation, which has led to extensive bank financing difficulties.³¹

According to a 2000 diagnosis of fisheries in the state, the major prevailing deficiencies are the deterioration of infrastructure, obsolete equipment, and a lack of a best practices program for processing.³² Additionally, Baja California Sur shares a productive marine region with Baja California, Sonora, and Sinaloa, whose fishing fleets are in better operating conditions and are made up of a larger number of vessels. The result is that other states are able to extract resources from areas close to Baja California Sur's coastline. Furthermore, illegal fishing and poaching practices do occur along the state's coastline, which will inevitably lead to a further deterioration of natural resources.

Not all fishermen are so short-sighted. Nine fishing cooperatives, which include 500 fishermen in ten villages in the municipality of Mulegé, have been certified by the Marine Stewardship Council for their sustainable practices related to the Pacific Red Rock Lobster (*Panulirus Interruptus*) fishery. Highly valuable, this commodity has a global market, including Europe, which is more sensitive to eco-labeling. The certification process took three years to complete, but because 90% of the product was exported, it was important to local fishermen to add the certification to their marketing program. As of July 2005, the cooperatives were regulating their catch, sending results to government agencies, and enforcing size limits and poaching rules.³³

Needs by municipality

1. Comondú

Comondú's economy consists largely of agriculture and cattle-raising activities. To foster economic development in the municipality, educational and training opportunities need to be made available to workers so that they can learn technologies and techniques for increased efficiency, as well as ways to make production more sustainable.³⁴

Reorientation of agricultural activities is crucial to reduce water consumption and to make agricultural activities profitable.

Comondú's vast coastline enjoys a wealth of sea life. Unsuccessful government efforts to create aquaculture businesses for shrimp, fish, and giant Pacific oysters have led to local attempts to cultivate native pearl oysters instead. Many coastal communities depend on the sardines, shrimp, squid, red crab, and abalone fisheries for revenue; rockfish, swordfish, and tuna fisheries are in decline in the area.³⁵

With regards to tourism, a historical, cultural, and ecological model could be developed by creating a corridor that makes the most of the region's semi-desert biodiversity and characteristics.³⁶ Unregulated ecotourism and recreational use are on the rise, highlighting the need for a tourism plan for the area.

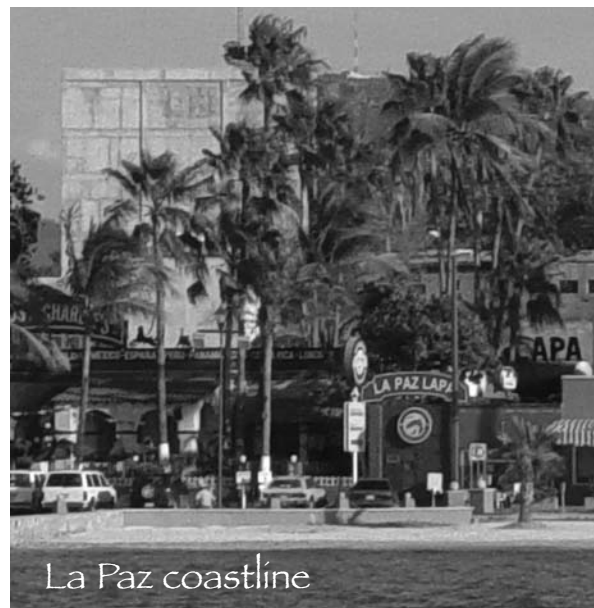
2. La Paz

The municipality enjoys an extensive coastline along the Sea of Cortez where aquaculture, ecotourism, and adventure tourism activities, such as trekking, sport fishing, kayaking, and camping, are possible. Coastal fishing must be subjected to rigorous fisheries management, and the resources available could foster projects for farming some species.

The natural landscape that exists in the city of La Paz contains significant potential for additional tourism development. Ecotourism projects that take advantage of the desert landscape, virgin beaches, marine fauna, and cave paintings could be an effective development tool. Also, fixing up and promoting historical and cultural sites (such as the missions, mines, and towns with age-old traditions and customs) could help La Paz to attract new tourists, and hence create jobs for its growing population. Additionally, the region is suited to and has experience working in high-quality handicrafts.

Fishing has been one of the most important industries in the past. From the late 1800s to the mid-1900s, pearl fishing dominated the regional economy. In 1940, when this fishery collapsed, local fishermen switched to shark, but by 1950, this fishery had also collapsed. It was only after 1950, that La Paz became the tourist destination that it is today.³⁷ As to the city's fishing activities, the city's scientific and technological infrastructure, its human capital, and 37.3 miles of coastline are well able to support expanded aquaculture activity. However, native aquaculture species must be fostered as an alternative to crops such as pearls, but only if adequate environmental impact assessments and monitoring programs are in place.

Financing and micro-credit programs are also needed to



support the financial needs of development projects. Additionally, the area between the city's *malecón* and its historic core needs to be visually integrated and redeveloped, with a balance among buildings, roads, green areas, and La Paz Bay. Remodeling of the coastal *malecón* must also continue, while other works need to be undertaken to restore and preserve buildings deemed to be historical monuments in the city (including *Teatro Juárez*, the *Palacio Municipal* [City Hall], and historic homes), which will, in turn, help to enhance cultural activities.³⁸

In rural areas of La Paz, poverty, marginalization, and scarce job alternatives trigger the migration of the young population to urban centers, limiting the feasibility of carrying out alternative productive projects in rural areas. In view of these problems, local productive projects that add value to primary production should be supported. Designing and operating technological and financial tools that are accessible to the population will bring educational and training possibilities to the region.

Rural communities need better information and training, exacerbated by poor communication between institutions and residents when devising development strategies. Further, the lack of a cohesive development strategy has led to a lack of productive opportunities for job and revenue creation. The obvious result is increased poverty, high rates of migration, and damage to the local ecosystem.

3. Loreto

Although the population currently hovers around 15,000 people, the municipality of Loreto is at an economic crossroads – with “boom or bust” pressure for land speculation and development. The city of Loreto currently houses the most northern airport in the state, making it a

hub for tourism for northern Baja California Sur. In order to take advantage of this, the municipality has the potential to develop local tourism by breathing new life into the area's historical and cultural facets, modernizing its tourism infrastructure, and strengthening training for service providers.³⁹

Training continues to be one of the major obstacles blocking the creation of small and medium enterprises, which represents a limitation to community development. Financing should be made readily available to the population to foster the creation of jobs, as well as micro-enterprises. Further, Loreto should be marketed as an attractive location for business investors who want to expand their operations or franchise, as there is a permanent need for jobs during low fishing and tourism seasons.⁴⁰

Sport and recreational fishing are the foundation of the local tourism industry for Loreto. As stated by Harvard University researchers and local academics in late 2005, "The growth of tourism and resident populations in Loreto will increase the number of fishermen plying the waters of the region. Increased fishing effort will put additional pressure on fishing stocks that are already displaying signs of overexploitation...the current level of fishing effort is already putting resident communities of fish in jeopardy."⁴¹ By diversifying into whale-watching and other alternative tourism opportunities, these fishing outfitters can decrease pressure on local fisheries and avoid a crash.

4. Los Cabos

The economic development of Los Cabos is built on hotel, resort, time share, and second home construction and sales, marketed to U.S. and Canadian ex-patriates and other seasonal foreign residents. These new residents are used to a certain level of service, which has opened new markets for "big box" retail stores, as well as a host of tourism-related businesses, such as restaurants, bars, and retail shops.

With that in mind, the municipality of Los Cabos could further improve its regional economy by further developing tourism opportunities that take advantage of its landscape along the coastline, including sport fishing and ecotourism. Foremost among the potential for ecotourism are such areas as the National Park at Cabo Pulmo, the thermal waters at Agua Caliente, and the Sierra de la Laguna Biosphere Reserve.

Beyond excellent weather conditions and pristine beaches, the area has notable experience in herb production, fresh produce, and organic fruit production, all of which are in high demand in the international market, but these products must be marketed properly to imbue them with greater value.

Furthermore, development of artisan activities would help to alleviate unemployment as well as to encourage additional tourism.⁴²

5. Mulegé

Mulegé is a diverse region with a multi-faceted set of needs and attractions. The North Pacific region is considered the area with the highest production of commercially-valuable fisheries resources. Its lengthy 168-mile coastline and pollutant-free ecosystems are well-suited to strengthening and diversifying the region's fisheries and aquaculture activities. The region would benefit from modernizing its fleet through technological upgrades to nets and tracking systems. As illegal fishing continues to be a problem in the Gulf of California (attributed to a lack of institutional coordination combined with scarce enforcement resources and institutional corruption), channeling of additional funds for monitoring and enforcement activities would be effective methods of combating current problems.

On the Pacific side, abalone, Pismo clam, and spiny lobster are key fisheries for local fishing cooperatives; clam aquaculture is a new enterprise in the municipality as well as FEDECOOP, one of the largest fishing cooperatives in Laguna San Ignacio, received a Marine Stewardship Council certification for its sustainable practices related to spiny lobster; this is the first certification of a Mexican fishery.

The region also offers resources perfectly suited to the development of ecotourism, and historical and cultural tourism activities, possibly centered in Santa Rosalía. The tourism sector could be boosted through the building of hotels and bungalows, training of the local population in English, French, German and Japanese so that they can work as tourism guides, travel agents, and tour promoters.

For ecotourism, and the Vizcaíno Biosphere Reserve specifically, Green Globe 21 has certified local outfitter, Ecoturismo Kuyima, for its whale-watching and cave painting tours. This certification references Ecoturismo Kuyima's energy and natural resource conservation, its recycling and pollution prevention programs, its adherence to Green Globe's tourism standards, and sustainable practices that benefit the local community. Although the certification has not automatically increased revenue, it has increased the visibility of Ecoturismo Kuyima as a local tour outfitter in a competitive market in Laguna San Ignacio.

In order for any of the aforementioned programs to be successful, it is necessary that financial services be sufficient in the region to supply enterprises, both large-scale and micro, the necessary funds to finance their projects. Also, basic services (water, electrical power, sanitation) need improvement in order to be sufficient.

Education

Introduction

The most important educational goals in Mexico are to improve academic achievement and access to higher education, as well as to narrow the gap between urban and rural areas, as well as between public and private schools.¹ Baja California Sur faces some unique challenges due to the high influx of migrant families from the interior of Mexico who bring children facing malnutrition, illiteracy, and parental pressure to work, instead of attend school. Transportation to secondary and higher education is particularly problematic for children and youth in rural and outlying urban areas.

According to Baja California Sur's State Ministry of Education (SEPE), during the 2002-2003 school year, the rate of failure and student drop outs (mainly at the middle and high school levels) was proportionately high, taking into account that Baja California Sur is considered one of the Mexican states with a high degree of educational attainment, with 8.74 years on average, and with the seventh lowest rate of education marginalization.²

Although there is broad coverage for all levels of education in the five municipalities, student learning shows deficiencies, especially in middle school and high school, mainly due to a lack of teaching resources. Schools have not adequately addressed the availability of educational materials, including school libraries, the correlation between the student population's socio-economic/geographic situation and the quality of education that they have access to, and the inadequate levels of training that teachers receive.³

Education in Mexico: Overview

Mexico still has enormous inequalities in the area of education, where over 2.1 million children and young people do not attend school. This group includes the handicapped, members of some indigenous ethnic groups, agricultural workers (who live in conditions of extreme poverty), and street children. Among the biggest gaps in Mexico's educational system are at the preschool and secondary school levels.⁴ Mexico also has a problem with dropouts, specifically among the lower income sectors where over 30% of the poorest population does not finish primary school, compared with only 3% of the highest income population. Nationally, almost 8% of children between twelve and fourteen years of age are already working, and, of those, almost 80% belong to lower income households.⁵

In the coming years, the challenge for the Mexican education system will be to develop strategies that encourage students to stay in school, especially at the junior high and high school levels because, in spite of a four-fold increase in investment, 85% of Mexico's young people still do not finish high school. Consequently, the percentage of Mexico's population that is achieving a level of higher education is minimal.



Public Education

In Mexico, an overwhelming majority of students receive primary and secondary education in public schools. In the case of primary schools, 94% of all Mexican students attended public institutions in 2001. Similarly, 93% of enrolled students attended a public *secundaria* (lower-secondary school, or middle school), and 78% of enrolled attended public *preparatoria* (upper-secondary schools, or high school).⁶

Further, the Mexican government allocates a much higher share of its budget to higher education than primary and secondary education. According to the World Bank, in 2003, 14.3% of GDP per capita was dedicated to primary education, 15.2% to secondary education, and 47.4% to higher education. Given the high dropout rates at the primary and secondary education levels, coupled with the disproportionate amount of funding going to higher



into building 214 structures, renovating 80 structures, and equipping an additional 64 spaces dedicated to educational purposes. Further, in December 2003, US\$2.84 million was allocated for additional programs (with an additional \$785,176 being spent on pencils, notebooks, and teacher training) to improve educational equity and infrastructure.¹⁰ According to SEPE's former administrator, Prof. Víctor Castro Cosío (current Municipal President of La Paz), the federal government must pay for 500 teaching positions that the state government is currently covering to ensure that each classroom has a teacher. The annual impact of this federal unfunded mandate is US\$2.78 million.¹¹

The state government's response to students dropping out for financial reasons has been to increase the number of scholarships for the 2004-2005 year. During that year, there were 23,718 scholarships (up from 23,102 scholarships in 2003-2004), and one out of every ten students had a scholarship. There is also a special scholarship program for pregnant women and girls who have not completed their general education. Thirty-three percent of the state's population is part of the education system, ranging from primary education to the graduate level.

education, one could make the case that the Mexican government should reconsider how it is currently spending the 5.3% of GDP being spent on education (as of 2003).⁷

When compared to other Mexican states, Baja California Sur offers a full range of educational opportunities from primary school to post-graduate education. Baja California has more university-level researchers than the national mean (0.67 researchers for every 100,000 inhabitants vs. Baja California Sur at 1.4).⁸ Public education accounts for 80% and private education accounts for the remaining 20% of the population's schooling.⁹

However, there are still major gaps in transportation and accessibility for potential students, despite the availability of educational opportunities. Primary schooling can usually be obtained at the local level in rural areas, but for a secondary and/or high school education, students are often required to travel to the municipality's largest city, which can be cost-prohibitive for most families.

Key Findings

1. Resource allocation

A high percentage of Baja California Sur's budget is allocated to education, reflecting its status as a top priority for the state government. In 2003, a variety of government-sponsored sources invested approximately US\$5.25 million

2. Areas overlooked by the current educational system

Both public and private *secundarias* and *preparatorias* in the state have developed curricula that are attempting to respond to the demands of the changing economy in Baja California Sur. Some *preparatorias* offer courses geared toward the tourism sector (i.e. scuba diving technician) and the manufacturing sector (computer or industrial engineering). However, according to reports by the former SEPE official, Prof. Víctor Manuel Castro, the state's middle school curriculum has not been updated in fifty years.¹²

In fact, all levels of education need to be re-oriented to meet the current societal needs. Skills that respond to economic trends are not being prioritized in Baja California Sur; migrants from Mexico City and elsewhere are competing favorably for jobs in the state, including for small and medium-sized business opportunities.¹³ Furthermore, local history and traditions are poorly represented or absent altogether in school curricula at all levels.

Higher education offers degrees in Administration and Social Sciences, including education, law, business, political science, communications, marketing, literature, tourism development, hotel management, accounting, language, history, and philosophy. Other degrees are related to science and research, natural resource use, and engineering, which are aimed at the specific needs of the state's economic development.

Figure 18: Total number of Students Registered in Special Education, School Years 2002 - 2004, by Grade Level and Municipality

Municipality	Primary year 2002	Secondary year 2002	Primary year 2003	Secondary year 2003	Primary Year 2004	Secondary Year 2004
Comondú	477	0	545	0	545	56
Mulegé	326	0	698	2	698	81
La Paz	1142	46	1263	42	1263	57
Los Cabos	711	3	858	1	858	77
Loreto	91	0	167	1	167	73
BCS	2,747	49	3,531	46*	3,531	344**

Source: Secretary of Public Education in BCS. Department of Information Systems and Statistics.

* -Corresponds to a pilot program based in La Paz that was expanded to other municipalities in 2004.**-Information validated by the State Information Center.

Environmental education has not been a priority for primary schools and *secundarias*, despite the fact that Baja California Sur is known throughout the world as a unique collection of ecosystems that are still relatively intact. This lack of understanding is manifest in such actions by local children as throwing trash on the street, in town, and on the beach. Although SEPE has incorporated environmental education into the formal system, the curriculum does not contain sufficient information on this topic. Hopefully, this will be updated as the recently-published SEMARNAT/Centro de Educación y Capacitación para el Desarrollo Sustentable (Center for Sustainable Development Education and Training-CECADESU) environmental education plan for Baja California Sur is implemented.¹⁴

3. Needs of children with disabilities

Educational attention to children with disabilities varies due to the lack of well-defined services. According to information from the 2000 national census, the number of people in Baja California Sur with some kind of handicap was 6,835, of which 66.7% are children and young people.¹⁵ The main handicaps are motor, visual, mental, auditory, and language disabilities.

Special education is provided in four types of educational facilities. In regular school and in an integrated manner, services are provided to: 969 students in pre-school; 3,531 in primary school; and 344 students attend secondary school (these special education units are registered under 273 primary schools or 46.3% of public schools). In multiple care centers throughout the state, there are fourteen educational establishments where 680 students are registered that due to their specific conditions, cannot be registered in a regular school. 132 students with disabilities attend pre-school courses in the Centers of Psycho-Pedagogical Care. Finally, the Resource Information

Centers are the backbone of Special Education. Their role is to guide parents through the special education system and help support each family regarding their specific disability. At the beginning of the 2003-2004 school year, 1,300 students were looked after at these centers.¹⁶

As seen in the table above, services are currently concentrated in La Paz and in primary schools. This will change with the advent of a statewide contract to accelerate the process for services to the disabled. Training, orthopedic equipment, and infrastructure improvements, such as bars, ramps and adaptive playgrounds, will be prioritized through a new state-sponsored program. Nonprofit organizations are taking the lead, with assistance from state agencies and the Family Development Agency (DIF) in each municipality; a new association of social service organizations will help coordinate activities. In addition, job training workshops, clinics, and medical services will be incorporated.¹⁷



Private schools do not have the capacity to respond adequately to students with special education needs, particularly the mentally disabled. Only a single private institution in the city of La Paz tackles integrated education for the mentally challenged or disabled, applying the Montessori System; this school has had significant results in stimulating the abilities of these students. Nevertheless, because of the method (Montessori only serves small groups) and the high cost, this system is only affordable to a very small sector of the special-needs population and for that matter, it is only available in La Paz. This situation must be addressed so that families with special needs can access appropriate education, training, and care for their children.

In order to integrate special education students into mainstream social and working life, it is critical to increase their academic success before introducing them to a working atmosphere that may be hostile and discriminatory. The Baja California Sur Institute for Attention to Disabled Persons (*Instituto Sudcaliforniano de Atención a Personas con Discapacidad*) promotes recruiting handicapped people for employment, as well as informing families about government programs that offer productive employment to this segment of the population. Still, a lack of opportunities remains for disabled people who want training to become effective in the workplace.

4. Needs of the indigenous population

In Baja California Sur, there is no native indigenous population, although a large portion of the migrant workforce is from diverse indigenous groups from the central and southern parts of Mexico. The Migrant Child Program (PRONIM) works to recruit teachers and purchase educational materials for these often impoverished students.¹⁸ This strategy does not fully address those students' needs for a number of reasons, including: a lack of government regulations forcing owners of agricultural fields

to dedicate a place for PRONIM to build a school; language barriers for students who speak indigenous languages and do not understand Spanish; the lack of books designed for teaching children in languages other than Spanish; and the high level of illiteracy among the migrant indigenous population.

Under these circumstances, the learning process is inefficient for both teachers and students. Presently, PRONIM has six schools in the Vizcaíno area; in Loreto, there is only one school, which has no electrical power (they use candles for lighting) and the building is in poor condition. In the La Paz municipality there are just seven PRONIM schools.

5. Continuing education

Twelve thousand adults have no access to any kind of educational services, even though a significant portion of the population has not finished *preparatoria* or primary school.¹⁹ Approximately 137,290 adults over fifteen years of age have not attained a basic education, accounting for 42% of the total population of the state. The main reason for this is general apathy, as many people do not see any social or economic advantage to further their education. Another factor is drastic budget cuts within the State Institute of Adult Education (IEEA), the organization which provides continuing education services in the state.

Additional areas of need pertaining to continuing education are adult work training and on-the-job training. The Secretary for Labor and Social Benefits and the state government have implemented a set of training and employment support programs to promote a new labor standard that is certified by the ISO 9000 quality system. These programs focus on decreasing unemployment and underemployment with short courses, followed by a scholarship. The current programs include skilled labor

Figure 19: Estimate of Educational Attainment Among People Over 15 Years of Age as of December 31, 2003

Municipality	People over 15	Total number lacking a formal education	Illiterate	%	No primary school	%	No Secondary school	%
Comondú	52,578	24,210	3,070	5.84	10,150	19.53	10,990	20.90
Mulegé	39,509	17,920	1,620	4.10	6,930	17.80	9,370	23.72
La Paz	163,300	55,630	4,480	2.74	18,730	11.60	32,420	19.85
Los Cabos	63,801	23,850	1,680	2.66	11,010	19.23	17,860	31.28
Loreto	7,972	4,680	380	4.77	1,600	20.37	2,700	33.87
B.C.S.	327,168	137,290	12,330	3.8	49,520	15.1	76,440	23.1

Source: State Institute for Adult Education. Planning Under directorate.

training, on-the-job labor training, training for self-employment, productive sector training, training vouchers (pilot program), training for unemployed professionals and technicians (pilot program), and training for workers in defunct companies (pilot program).



6. Preschool/childcare

The largest demand area in the state's education system is, without a doubt, preschool education. The prevailing need among working mothers for safe and professional places to look after their children during the work day, particularly in the more urban municipalities, has not been solved by the government or private sectors. Day care centers are managed by the Mexican Institute for Security and Social Services for Government Workers (ISSSTE), and service is provided to women who work for the federal government. The Mexican Institute of Social Security (IMSS) focuses on children whose mothers work in the private sector. The municipal DIF oversees the general population in local community centers and Multiple Attention Centers. Presently, the DIF takes care of 5,997 children (forty-five days old to four years) throughout the state. Finally, several nonprofits, especially in Los Cabos, have opened daycare centers to accommodate working mothers in the tourism sector.

Although private education has a larger geographic reach than public education for pre-school, results for infant development are erratic, since many of these private centers are not regulated by SEPE, and do not have an accredited child stimulation program, nor do they have highly trained workers.

7. Government response to education needs

According to the Secretary for Economic Promotion and Development, investments in educational programs have shown sustained progress. However, in 2003-2004, federal

investment was reduced significantly. The state has secured financial resources from other programs, but they are not sufficient to match population growth and complexities relating to migrant workers, special education, and rural education.

The state government's strategy has been to prioritize programs, such as the Normal Federal Program, the Fund for Education Contributions, High School and Technical Education, Science and Technology, and the Social Services Program, to satisfy 100% of the demand for education. However, according to INEGI, projections for the coming school year show a demand for education services that will be higher than the supply.

Finally, to preserve and maintain school infrastructure, SEPE has launched the state "Dignified School" project where every peso that the school contributes through parent associations, education authorities, etc., the government will contribute two pesos.

8. Significance of schools and natural disaster preparedness

In Baja California Sur, a school is not limited to the education of a student population, but it also often functions as a de facto community center. It serves as a home for social gatherings, sports and cultural events, as well as a shelter in case of natural disasters. Authorities from the state system for civilian protection and SEPE assigned 64 school buildings to accommodate geographically and socially vulnerable people in case of hurricanes, a frequent phenomenon in the state during the second half of the year. In each school there is a sign indicating the number of people it can accommodate, as well as the corresponding surrounding neighborhoods.²⁰

This is particularly important when recognizing that many educational facilities are not up to standards for earthquake standards. Recent tremors of 6.7 magnitude near Santa Rosalía are reminders that Baja California Sur is an earthquake-prone zone.

Needs by Municipality

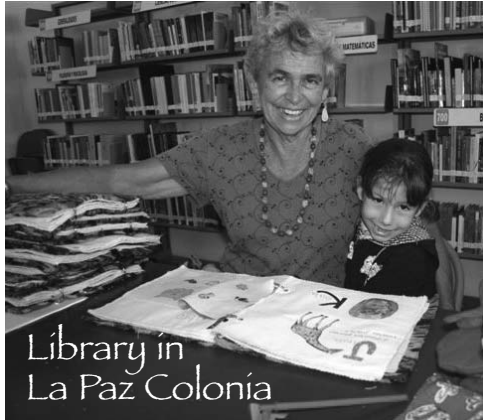
1. Comondú

In the rural municipality of Comondú, education authorities, agricultural field owners and managers, and civil society all agreed that the educational needs of migrant children and adult migrants were the number one education priority. The migrant situation is complicated in Comondú because of the large number of agricultural workers who reach the Valle de Santo Domingo, yet stay there only temporarily (this valley

has 90% of the agricultural and livestock activities in the state). Education services provided by “Education Programs for Migrants” are not sufficient because of a lack of infrastructure and capability (as to material and human resources), a scattered migrant population, and the lack of sensitivity on the part of the owners of agricultural fields who facilitate access to education for the migrant population.

Another vulnerable group is children living in very poor, rural areas who, because of economic conditions, do not have access to schools. This group has the highest level of illiteracy in the municipality, resulting in unemployment or under-employment, drug addiction, violence, or further marginalization. There is a need to increase the presence of IEEA’s literacy and primary education programs for young people, as well as to increase the number of boarding schools and dormitories for students.

Furthermore, teachers of the Higher Institute of Ciudad Constitución said that it is very important that Comondú’s schools respond to the particular needs of the business/employment sector, thereby improving efficiency in the region’s industry. To this end, residents consider it important to enter into national and international agreements with other institutions to generate meeting places for technological and scientific exchange regarding agricultural and livestock activities.



2. La Paz

Because La Paz is the capital of Baja California Sur, it has more educational facilities than the other municipalities, but it also has a bigger strain on its educational resources. In addition, there are a large number of low-density rural areas with an insufficient population justify building a school, according to education regulations. For this reason, many students end up in La Paz on scholarships to continue their studies.

An overt need of the community of La Paz is for day care centers for the children of working mothers, as almost half

the women in the municipality work.²¹ All day care centers in the municipality need to be regulated by SEPE, and have the adequate personnel to look after the children. There are many private day care centers, but they can be expensive. More centers should be constructed and staffed, in addition to providing subsidies for private day care centers so that they can provide services at a more affordable cost.

Another area of concern is with vulnerable groups and those to whom the education system does not provide adequate spaces in quality and quantity. Among them are the handicapped, the rural population, migrants, and at-risk youth.

Agricultural workers in the La Paz municipality are one of the groups most in need, not only for education, but also health, housing, social security, labor security, etc. Many factors affect their access to education, including the existence of an education program in the camp they work in, their knowledge of the Spanish language, and a place in the camp where they can do their homework.

Another major need is to better equip schools in marginal rural and urban areas with furniture, libraries, and school supplies. Finally, school authorities must have stronger control over schools where teachers’ absenteeism is high.

3. Loreto

Civic leaders in Loreto recognize that the four preschools available are not sufficient for the number of children who need to attend. The two *secundarias* and *preparatorias* are insufficient both in quantity and quality because students who finish *secundaria* are not well-trained and find it very difficult to enroll in *preparatoria* because they are unable to pass the entrance exams. The result is that many students receive only a basic education. Clearly, teachers must be better trained, and more secondary schools must be built because student groups are very large, resulting in less individual attention for each student.

Working mothers are in need of additional preschool and daycare services, wherein daycare centers adopt more flexible hours as many women work doing service jobs for hotels. Their working hours are subject to change according to the seasonality of the tourism sector, and hence many women have problems finding a daycare center that is able to accommodate.

4. Los Cabos

High population growth in the municipality of Los Cabos, specifically in Cabo San Lucas, has resulted in insufficient educational services vis-à-vis demand. The priority educational need in the municipality, therefore, is school construction, as well as teacher recruitment. The need for

additional preschools is even higher, with a 50% increase in the registration of students in 2004-2005 over the previous year.²² The demand for preschools is expected to continue to increase, as 47.4% of the total population of the municipality is job-seeking and working women, and day care is a critical component of their successful hunt for employment.



Addressing the domestic and foreign migration phenomenon is another important issue for the municipality's educational services, as the 2000 census showed that almost half of the municipality's population is originally from outside of the state. There is a clear need for informal education to accommodate the diverse social groups in the region so that people can better face social, economic, cultural, and labor issues.

Another interest is to improve the management of "volunteer fees" that parents contribute at the beginning of the school year to help with expenses to maintain the school. Not only are the fees mismanaged due to a lack of community oversight, but parents have expressed their discontent because some schools require these contributions in order to register the child and to deliver school reports, when such contributions are supposed to be voluntary. Because these are now matched by state programs, it is even more important to monitor these investments.

Continuing education for adults is also a main priority for Los Cabos. Residents want more job training centers to help workers update their skills. Concurrently, residents also want to expand access to courses for high school diplomas or equivalencies as a direct result of the high dropout rate, which is not always driven by monetary concerns. In fact, a focused approach on technical courses might redirect

students toward productive employment, rather than pure academics.

Even though the Los Cabos municipality is mainly urban, there are several *ejidos* that comprise the rural areas of the municipality. One hundred percent of *ejido* leaders said that although they have a piece of land dedicated to a school, the property does not function as a school as it is lacking in teachers, training, materials, and often even a building.

5. Mulegé

Civic leaders in Mulegé have suggested that education is not important to young people, so much so that they would rather work than study. According to the 2000 census, the municipality was in last place for levels of professionalization, as 93% of people eighteen years and over had no professional or technical training.²³ This lack of motivation may be due to the fact that there are not enough professional jobs; therefore, education sector must provide technical and professional careers better suited to the economic activities of the region, such as those in tourism and the hospitality sector.

The city of Guerrero Negro has several key areas that need improvement in the local educational system, including teacher training, access to libraries and scholarships, professional mentoring, and adult education. Adult education is also not meeting the needs of the city's population.

The city of Santa Rosalía is combating drug trafficking and substance abuse by minors, the lack of middle and high schools relative to the demand, and the nonexistence of special education schools.

Civic leaders in the rural areas of the municipality are asking for additional schools, especially preschools.



Environment

“ Growing at the expense of the environment is not sustainable, nor is it fair for future generations. We must thus perceive priority conservation regions and the natural protected areas as implementation zones for alternate models that are able to reconcile and harmonize conservation and social goals. As it is both our responsibility and advisable to do so, we have renewed our commitment to conservation of the natural protected areas to make them the pride of Mexico. ¹ ”

Mexican National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP)

Introduction

When seen through the lens of economic development, the dramatic landscapes and marine environment in Baja California Sur can be viewed as one of the state's major obstacles or as one of its most important assets. The state's rugged coastline and mountainous terrain exacerbates connectivity and infrastructure problems for its isolated rural populations; yet it is those very same qualities that have enabled the diverse and fragile ecosystems to maintain their integrity and beauty.

Baja California Sur contains pristine and diverse plant and animal life throughout its coastal, mountain, marine, and desert ecosystems. Recognizing this, the federal government, through the National Commission for Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), agreed to protect and manage 41% of the territory of Baja California Sur by declaring six Natural Protected Areas (ANPs). These ANPs presently occupy 8.7% of Mexico's protected territory, representing over 65,637 mi².

As a result, the state ranks second only to Baja California as the state with the greatest amount of territory under protected status. One of the significant challenges facing the ANPs is to overcome the perception that conservation is an opponent of development, and indeed to show that conservation is indispensable to maintaining a continual source of natural resources for future economic growth and development.

Despite the federal interest in protecting these unique resources, federal agencies are out of synch with their municipal and state counterparts, some of which do not even exist. Because so much territory is already devoted to protected areas, the state government is reluctant to embrace new protected areas, especially in the state's coastal zone. For this reason, models of sustainable

development projects need to be given high visibility and promotion.²

Although the six ANPs located in Baja California Sur are outstanding examples of the unique biodiversity of the Baja California peninsula, they all suffer from insufficient financial resources and external pressures from land speculation and coastal development.³ The World Bank's Global Environment Facility (GEF), other multilateral organizations, private businesses, and international nonprofits are currently supporting conservation, restoration, sustainable usage, and scientific research projects; funding is channeled through CONANP or through third parties that support the ANP management programs.⁴ New donors and funding partnerships must emerge to continue to preserve these diverse and globally significant ecosystems. The good news is that efforts are now underway on this front through the leadership of Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (FMCN) and the Guaymas-based nonprofit, Comunidad y Biodiversidad (COBI).

The role of the natural protected areas and their management policy is to provide a sustainable orientation to development in Baja California Sur. There is still, however, a great lack of knowledge regarding the natural wealth offered by the ANPs at the local, regional, national, and international levels. The management programs considered to be the guiding documents for each ANP have not been well-circulated, and tools to orient and inform the public in general as to the programs' existence, such as signs, are scarce or non-existent in some ANPs.⁵

Consequently, there are areas in the state that still lack protection and that are unique because of their ecological values. However, before increasing the protected area under management in the state, sustainable opportunities must be pursued on the ANPs that *already* exist so that decision-makers can see the true value of these resources.

Figure 20:
Size, Declaration Date, and Data for Natural Protected Areas in Baja California Sur

Name	Size	Date Declared	Ecosystem/Other data
<i>Cabo San Lucas Natural Protected Area</i>	3,996 hectares (9,874.3 acres)	1973 (re-categorized in 2000)	Underwater sand waterfall; rocky and marine habitats
<i>Vizcaíno Biosphere Reserve</i>	2,493,091 hectares (6,160,562 acres)	1988	Pine forest; coastal dunes and mangroves; microphyllous desert; UNESCO (1993);
<i>Sierra La Laguna Biosphere Reserve</i>	112,437 hectares (277,837.9 acres)	1994	Coniferous forest; tropical jungle; palm oases; desert scrub; and pine forests.
<i>Cabo Pulmo National Park</i>	7,111 hectares (17,571.7 acres)	1995	Coral reef
<i>Loreto Bay National Marine Park</i>	206,581 hectares (510,472.8 acres)	1996	Mangroves and spiny desert scrub; coastal dunes; xerophyllous scrub; two marine no-take zones.
<i>Islands of the Gulf of California Flora and Fauna Protected Area</i>	244 islands in the Gulf of California; 321,631 hectares (794,767.5 acres)	2000	Sarcocaulous desert; microphyllous desert; desert scrub; received UNESCO World Heritage status in July 2005

Source: CONANP website <http://www.conanp.gob.mx/anp/anp.php>, 2005.

By the same token, it is important to highlight the leadership role that promotes sustainable development in the ANPs and other fragile areas.

Key Findings

Baja California Sur has insufficient water, forest, pasturelands, and fertile soil resources to support its existing and future population growth. Foremost among the major threats are: marine influence (e.g. abrasion, corrosion, saline intrusion, sea penetration); occasional intense fluvial phenomena (e.g. flooding, erosion, migration of water courses and streams, water freshets); slumping (e.g. landslides, inadequate drainage, unstable slopes); wind effects; and problems caused by pollution, dumping, over-exploitation of aquifers, disorderly construction development, extraction of materials, and grading or leveling fragile areas.⁶

Another extremely fragile element in Baja California Sur is its landscape. Many poor households are forced to cut down trees and vegetation in the surrounding rural areas because they lack the money to produce goods or services for self-consumption or for the market. This practice often creates dangerous conditions in times of fire or flood when natural vegetation would otherwise mitigate these disasters.⁷

The desert characteristics of the islands in the Gulf of

California, their isolation, and scarce fresh water have all protected the islands from adverse uses, thus turning them into some of the most protected island ecosystems in the world. However, human activity on the islands and in their adjacent waters is on the rise, and consequently, threats to the island ecosystems have also multiplied. The state's vast coastline, in general, and the coastline between the municipalities of Los Cabos and La Paz, in particular, are exposed to a risk of deterioration caused by the ever-increasing commercial development over the past two decades.⁸

Finally, we cannot exclude the 171 oases that occur in Baja California Sur. These isolated ecosystems (relics of tropical environments now in arid zones) play an important role in bio-geographical mix of flora and fauna. The oases account for less than 1% of the state's geographic territory, yet an important proportion of the biodiversity are concentrated in them, as well a number of endemic species, which co-exist with abundant human activities and population centers.⁹ Some oases have been affected by the drainage of the aquifers, palm and reed cutting, and introduction of exotic species; these have lost structural complexity and biological diversity.

1. Water

Perhaps the most critical environmental problem facing the

state is the depletion of its aquifers. Simply put, the aquifers have been over-exploited; the sparse and random rainfall inherent in an arid climate cannot keep pace with the region's water usage. In addition, the depleted wells often result in saline intrusion, which occurs when the water level in those wells falls below sea level.¹⁰ Fully 60% of the state's surface area has either limited or no possibility whatsoever of using surface or groundwater resources. Only 35% of the state's surface area has usable groundwater resources; however, the aquifers in those areas are in serious danger of depletion. It is worth noting that the state has a mere 4% of its territory where water might be extracted. In addition, what little water that does exist has not been actively investigated in terms of its quality.



In addition, there is evidence that fecal and arsenic contamination is occurring in groundwater wells, mainly in small, rural communities in Baja California Sur. Arsenic, when consumed over a period of 5-10 years can cause cancer and diabetes. During 2004, "Engineers for a Better World" at the University of California-Berkeley conducted tests in 24 communities, finding that 34% were contaminated above the federal drinking water standards.¹¹ This study was expanded to include 500 groundwater wells throughout the state in 2005; to date, 34 communities have arsenic-contaminated groundwater. Floride and saline contamination are also significant in terms of negative human health impacts.¹² Clearly, it is crucial that the water quality and water supply crisis be addressed.¹³

Finally, there is statewide concern about the high level of wasted water in the densely-populated urban areas, as well as in the large hotel zones. In the former, water needs exceed water supply by 20% or more in Comondú and Los Cabos.¹⁴ Aging infrastructure, poor distribution networks, and irresponsible water use are the main culprits behind wasted water.¹⁵ In the hotel zones, which are much newer, proliferation of golf courses and swimming pools in hotel developments (and those under construction) is a prerequisite, despite limited water supplies. It is particularly noteworthy that in Los Cabos, water distribution tends to

favor tourist resorts, while supply is not enough to meet the local population's demand. According to the Municipality of Los Cabos, the city's water deficit is close to 30% - the highest in the state.¹⁶ Accordingly, absent the construction of new desalinization facilities and/or the adoption of proactive water conservation, Los Cabos will be unable to sustain its current rates of urban growth.

2. Marine Resources

While agro-industry and the tourism industry depend on available fresh water, the fishing sector depends on a healthy marine environment.¹⁷ The marine areas near Baja California Sur are considered the most productive zones in Mexico and among the most bio-diverse zones in the world.¹⁸ Coastal upwelling, water mass surges, and tidal circulation help create a marine environment that supports a large-scale primary productivity zone that feeds a whole array of species.¹⁹

As a consequence of the high marine productivity, Baja California Sur enjoys the largest volume of fishing resources in Mexico, and represents one of the four most important fishing regions of the world. The state's fleet – made up of approximately 4,000 vessels – however, accounts for just 3.5% of the national total and most of them are small boats (*pangas*) for small-scale coastal fishing, an activity that supports almost all of the small villages on both coasts. 650 species that can be used for human consumption and industrialization have been identified. 122 of them are currently being exploited; among them are pelagic fish (tuna, sardines, anchovies, shrimp, and giant squid). Near-shore fishing relies on abalones and other medium and large gastropods (Cortez conch and panocha), lobster, clams (e.g. catarina, *mano de león*, hachet clam, Mule's paw), rock oysters, octopus, crayfish, flake fish, sharks, and rays. Overall, fishing activities generate numerous jobs; production is estimated to be 9% of the national gross domestic product.²¹

According to local fishermen, over the past twenty years the major high commercial value resources (red snapper, leatherback bass, grouper, clams, and shark) have been over-exploited and depleted. The causes of this depletion can be traced to several prevalent practices: the use of "*chinchorro*" nets during bottom trawling in enclosed areas, and the use of small mesh nets that catch juveniles when sailing adrift; illegal fishing, using spear guns and scuba diving equipment; incidental catches of juveniles of species that are of interest to coastal fishing (sea bream, leatherback bass, grouper, sole, etc.); and the arrival of fishermen from other states who want to maximize their earnings in the least amount of time possible.

If carefully managed, aquaculture could be an attractive and

economically viable option in Baja California Sur. The state has native species with high socio-economic potential, including 18 species of shellfish with high commercial market value (e.g. oyster, scallops, *mano de león* oyster, abalone, pearl oyster, nacar shell, medium and large snails).²² The paradox is that during the last five years, initiatives to install white shrimp farms (Magdalena-Almejas and La Paz Bay) have been submitted by private businessmen, disregarding available native species that might be better suited to local environmental conditions. In addition, the state government and its research consultants are promoting the installation of yellowfin tuna, jurel, and sea bass farms in La Paz Bay, with foreign companies that have restrictions on aquaculture in their home regions and are looking for investment opportunities in Mexico.

Other species also depend on healthy fisheries in the Gulf of California. The Gulf of California hosts more than one dozen cetacean species, including eight of the eleven known whale species that occur in the world.²³ Sea turtles, dolphins, seals, and sea lions are just some of the other species that have resident and migratory populations in the Gulf of California.

3. Biodiversity

Endemic species are found in almost all of the families that make up Baja California Sur's flora. The families of cactae, agave, and tree and bush mimosas (e.g. Willard's acacia, Desert Ironwood, Cat's Claw, *tabardillo*) are eye-catching because of their variety and high degree of endemism. Almost 75% of cactus species are endemic.²⁴ Other less diverse groups also have numerous endemic species such as the *Burseras* (Red Elephant Tree), palms, flowering plants, figs, and several other species associated with the oases.²⁵

Among the terrestrial mammals, the Peninsular Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadiensis*) and the Pronghorn Antelope (*Antilocarpa Americana*) are the emblem species in the terrestrial ecosystem. Other terrestrial and flying mammals²⁶ as well as the herpetofauna and insects have been the recent focus of population studies, bringing to light new facts about endemism, geographic range, or special limits.²⁷

The islands in the Gulf of California are particularly high in endemism and biodiversity. Isla Espíritu Santo has been a focus for conservation because of its proximity to La Paz and its tourism potential. The owners, *Ejido* Alfredo Bonfil, decided to begin residential development there in 2000, sparking a fundraising effort to purchase the island. In 2002, the island was purchased and immediately expropriated by the federal government for the national park system.²⁸ An endowment for conservation management

was established at the Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza in Mexico City and additional funds were raised by ICF and the United Nations Foundation for early infrastructure needs, eradication of non-native species, and the pursuit of UNESCO World Heritage status for the island. In July 2005, all 244 islands in the Gulf of California were declared as UNESCO World Heritage sites – a designation that was 25% terrestrial and 75% marine, the first formal recognition of the importance of the islands' adjacent marine areas. In October 2005, Sociedad de Historia Natural de Niparáj delivered a justification study to SEMARNAT formally requesting a marine extension of the protected area at Isla Espíritu Santo, as well as upgrading that site to a national park.



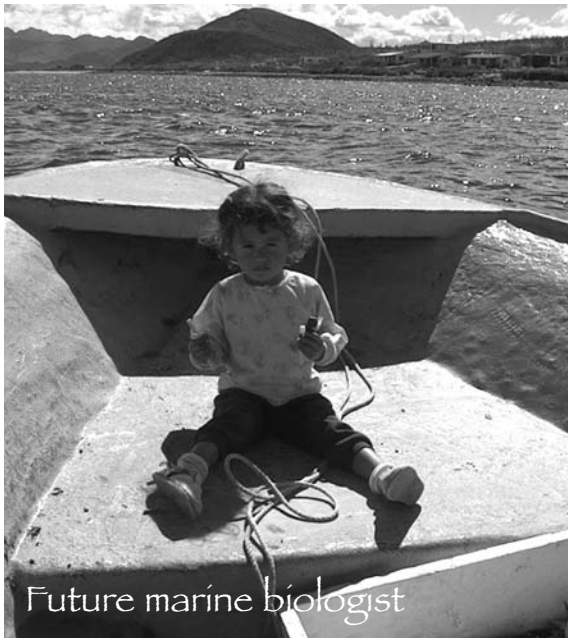
4. Land Use and Conservation

With changes to Article 27 in the Mexican constitution that provide ownership to *ejiditarios* of their communally-held lands, land speculation is growing in Baja California Sur. Indiscriminate coastal development is affecting large parts of the landscape, while at the same time, closing access to other development and recreational assets available to the community. Gradual privatization and the growing exclusivity of coastal land in what is now known as "tourism corridors" has created tension in Los Cabos, La Paz and Loreto.

Forestry has not been well-regulated either, and is intensifying due to demand for construction. Mangrove trees, mesquite, fig, ditch reed, palm trees (both the trunk

and palms), lapacho, desert ironwood, and highland grove are the target resources sought by real estate developers. In addition to reducing the number of native trees, the gardens of these tourism complexes have non-native flora, transplanted without any kind of quality control.

With the changes to Article 27 in mind, the daily practices and behavior of the rural population, who live and work in the most vulnerable environments, should be a statewide priority for conservation. The responsible use of the natural resources, rejection of practices that have a negative impact on the environment, and improved living standards are indicators of the success of this awareness-raising and outreach process. Increasing these communities' voice in environmental decision-making is another critical component to conservation success in Baja California Sur.



These communities' adaptation to the conservation process should largely be pursuant to the accrued benefits reflecting a behavior shift on their part. For instance, if a community is granted a permit to take a certain number of Peninsular Bighorn Sheep (*Borrego cimmaron*) in exchange for habitat management (known as an UMA), subsequent management of the species and its habitat should improve local environmental conditions.

In Baja California Sur, there are forty-eight UMAs, as of October 2003. Their number has increased considerably since 2001, which reflects the increasing importance granted to the sustainable use of regional wildlife. These UMAs handle fourteen species of plants and fourteen species of animals, the purpose of 8% is conservation, 35% for commercial use, and 57% for hunting. Among them are two cactus nurseries, a recreational serpentarium, and a

therapeutical dolphinarium. The UMAs for commercial use breed and sell deer, quail, ostriches and reptiles. Hunting activities target Pronghorn antelope, hares, puma, and Peninsular bighorn sheep.²⁹

In another example, if a community establishes a *servidumbre ecológica*, or conservation easement, they should be financially compensated for giving up transferable development rights on their land. For example, in October 2005, *Ejido* Luis Echeverria Alvarez signed an historic conservation easement that zones the 120,000 communally-owned acres of the *ejido* into conservation areas, economic development areas, and buffer zones. In return, a local nonprofit, Maijañuí, will receive an annual payment to implement community development activities on behalf of the *ejido*.

5. Waste Management

In the coastal zones and the marine environment, pollution occurs around the urban settlements, in the areas for commercial fishing and tourism, and near industrial plants to a lesser degree. Improvements to garbage and sewage disposal would tremendously improve the state's waste management. Privatization of collection services could be one opportunity to manage this more efficiently.

Urban Waste

Despite the impact on coastal and marine environment (and individual health) from other types of water contamination, garbage on the beaches is a very public and prevalent nuisance (used tires, casings, mechanical pieces, flexible plastic waste, miscellaneous containers, pieces of branches, and solid waste in general). The large municipal landfills also continue to be a high priority — the plagues of flies, mosquitoes, rats, and domestic and street animals are visible public health threats.

Pollution that has resulted from increased tourism is more of an indirect problem that could potentially be solved through improved urban planning, regulatory enforcement, and updated infrastructure. For example, in the marinas of Cabo San Lucas and La Paz, oil, cleaning products, paint, and sewage are dumped overboard; these practices also occur offshore near the islands and in the secluded bays that are commonly used for anchorages and coastal fishing.

There are approximately nine million used tires in and around La Paz, located in official and unofficial dumps. Regulations to the contrary aside, tires are imported on a daily basis from the U.S. that have been used and discarded. Sometimes, fires break out, creating toxic plumes that must burn themselves out because the local fire department does not have the proper equipment to extinguish them. They are also a breeding habitat for

mosquitoes, the vector for dengue and hemorrhagic dengue.³⁰ Examples exist in many place for recycling used tires, using them for playground surfaces, as a replacement for asphalt, and for recreational facilities and schools.

Hazardous and Industrial Waste

Waste from the fishery slaughterhouses is frequent in coastal zones throughout the state, but its volume is small because it coming mainly from small-scale, riverside fishing. However, in the shellfish fisheries (catarina scallop and *mano de león* oyster) in the Pacific Ocean and in the squid fishery in the Gulf of California, the waste is disposed of directly on the beach and into the sea. In addition, trawl and flake fishing contribute considerably to organic contamination even though the fleet is relatively small. This practice is called “bycatch disposal”, defined as non-target fish, reptile, and marine mammal species that are thrown dead back into the sea. Although the Upper Gulf of California Biosphere Reserve is generally cited as the main area threatened by “bycatch disposal”, this could be a problem in areas such as the Magdalena-Almejas lagoon complex, which contains 90% of the Baja California Sur’s shrimp fishing.³¹

Industrial liquid waste is also visible to the general public³², mainly from spent oil waste in mechanical and private shops.

Wastewater

The state government signed the Agreement for the Prevention, Control and Combating of Contamination of the Marine Environment due to waste water and other discharges into the sea, which four coastal states along the Gulf of California took part in after an initiative from the Navy. Inspection and surveillance actions are a major part of this agreement. As a result, agreements have also been signed with UABCS, CIBNOR, and the Interdisciplinary Marine Science Center (CICIMAR) to focus on sea bird and sea lion protection.³³

The greatest threat is to the San José del Cabo estuary, which has been affected by nearby construction and water pollution to the maximum extent.

Needs by Municipality

1. Comondú

The considerable impact of intensive agriculture undertaken in the municipality of Comondú since the 1960s, and the later abandoning of that activity, has fueled erosive processes, saline soil intrusion, severe degradation of natural plant life, and over-exploitation of aquifers. As described more fully in the community development chapter, these impacts have triggered population migration

and other social challenges.³⁴

The lack of employment in mountain areas has resulted in excessive felling of trees and other plant species, which has a serious effect on the ecological equilibrium of the area. A large number of trees are also felled for carbon production. The impact is twofold: soils are destabilized as trees are removed, which causes landslides and flooding during natural disasters; and wildlife habitat for Peninsular bighorn sheep is affected by logging roads and the increased human presence. Because there are several UMAs in the region for this endangered species, habitat management and illegal logging must be addressed.



Environmental challenges from the thermo-electric plant and canneries at Puerto San Carlos continue. Five of the seven sea turtle species that exist in the world arrive in this area for reproduction, but poaching, habitat destruction (mangroves and wetlands), and coastal contamination affect this important cycle.³⁵

2. La Paz

The municipality of La Paz is composed of hills and mountains that surround the tectonic-erosive La Paz valley. The municipality possesses significant solar energy, fishery resources, and tourism resources particularly associated with its coastline and nearby islands. It is, however, in this area that a series of environmentally-degrading processes are accumulating, associated with uncontrolled growth of urban areas and roads, over-exploitation of aquifers, inadequate waste disposal, coastal pollution, and degradation and substitution of natural plant life.

The population of La Paz in general, and the environmental sector in particular, is monitoring existing and proposed coastal developments, such as the planned “Paraíso del Mar” tourist development on the Mogote peninsula and another planned for Balandra Bay, as well as Costa Baja, Bahía de Los Sueños, Tecolote, Caleritas-Coyote, and Todos Santos. The destruction of mangrove swamps and vegetation, reduction in public access to fishing and

recreational areas, as well as the high level of impact on water consumption in the city, are several issues that local citizens are watching.

Environmental planning and ecological ordinance³⁶, efficient administration³⁷ and environmental conservation³⁸ instruments, along with the control and prevention of pollution³⁹, should be the foundation for decision-makers to improve the quality of life for the inhabitants of the city and the municipality.⁴⁰ For example, the “Alternative Futures for La Paz” study in 2004 showed that 25% of the region’s wells were at risk for saline intrusion, especially those providing municipal drinking water. With improvements to water and sewer infrastructure, conservation measures, and good planning, the municipality could relieve the pressure on its taxed groundwater system.

Environmental education is also a priority. There are few communication campaigns, although some school programs are teaching an environmental ethic. The *Ocean Oasis* movie has been a wonderful tool for describing the marine resources that lie just offshore of many of the populated urban areas but more remains to be done as many of La Paz’s children, particularly those living in the city’s poorer neighborhoods, remain disconnected to the Sea of Cortez and its biodiversity. Audiences such as housewives, businessmen, and government officials could also benefit from targeted environmental training and awareness campaigns.



Young artist in La Paz

3. Loreto

The municipality of Loreto, with its very small surface area, is almost completely made up of hills and mountains. The municipality registers high solar energy values; Loreto also has substantial fishery and tourism services associated with

its coastline and nearby islands, which are part of the Loreto Bay National Marine Park and Gulf of California Islands National Park. As for other natural resources, the municipality registers very low values, with the possible exception of its wind energy, although this resource has still to be definitively assessed. Likewise, the valley of San Juan Londó experiences degraded natural plant life, loss of agricultural areas, erosion, and over-exploitation of soils.⁴¹

Most current ecotourism activities on the islands do not create direct benefits for conservation. This situation is exacerbated by private boats and yachts that anchor in local bays without contributing to park maintenance and upkeep. The presence of independent tourists, and tourists accompanied by untrained guides, generates a potential damage to the islands; this is worsened by the presence of “pirate” companies that carry out trips without the corresponding permits.

An example of this is illicit recreational fishing activities, which are either organized by a tourist service company or carried out independently. This leads to a lack of knowledge of the extractive capacity of the fleet and actual catch levels, which means it is impossible to enforce effective regulatory measures of fishing practices. Another problem (noted by commercial fishermen) is that current legislation does not establish closed season periods for recreational fishing activities, which means species are caught during pregnancy.

The upcoming decision regarding Loreto’s urban development plan will also have substantial environmental impacts. If a proposed plan to bring the population to 120,000 over the next 20 years is passed, Loreto’s regulatory and enforcement networks will be severely strained, in addition to the impacts on the local aquifer. Recent groundwater modeling studies by the University of Arizona have indicated that Loreto has less than 15 years before its aquifers are empty or contaminated with saline intrusion at current population levels.

4. Los Cabos

The Cabo Pulmo reef is threatened by coral bleaching, coastal development on adjacent land, which increases sediment in the area, and a lack of enforcement of fishing and snorkeling regulations. The park has always suffered a shortage of financing, a management plan, and personnel. The beaches of the Cabo Pulmo National Park are used for nesting purposes by five of the seven marine turtle species in danger of extinction, which are threatened by furtive hunting and unrestricted vehicle transit.⁴²

In the municipal urban areas, contamination caused by garbage (solid waste) is mainly found in beach areas,



streams, streets, freeways and dumps, while water pollution is considered a serious problem in the marine and coastal environment, such as the San José marshland area and Enlatadora beach in Cabo San Lucas.

Sand removal from river beds, illegal fishing, and illegal tree-cutting are a few notable results of increased construction and population growth along the Los Cabos coast.

The lack of resources and support for environmental programs means it is impossible to carry out environmental education programs, surveillance, monitoring, conservation, information campaigns, etc. Supporting environmental education programs and campaigns often results in action at the individual level, without intervention from government. Building awareness of the above-mentioned issues is critical in this growing metropolis. The need for training programs for authorities and nonprofits was also expressed by community residents.

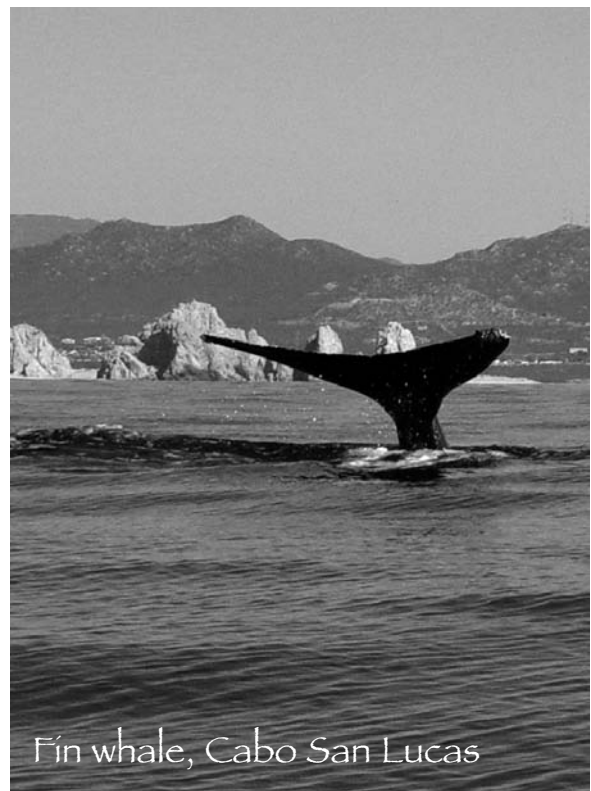
5. Mulegé

The elaboration of a municipal hydraulic plan with the federal and state governments, and a comprehensive sustainable agriculture and productive re-conversion plan in areas of recurring drought, are major priorities for Mulegé. These plans will help identify sites to store water for animal use (construction of dikes, rubblework walls and water basins) and develop plans to recharge the aquifers. In accordance with the state water law, the Town Hall will propose that the Potable Water and Drainage System define more precise and strict rules regarding volumes of potable

water for industrial use, including tourist service companies such as hotels, marinas, port services, etc.⁴³ In the municipality of Mulegé, the state Governor has reported that eight desalination plants have already been built.⁴⁴

The Ministry of the Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries, the El Vizcaíno Biosphere Reserve, local nonprofits, and the Ford Motor Company launched the “Peninsular Pronghorn Antelope Recovery Plan” by means of a campaign entitled “Save the Pronghorn”. The aim of this plan was reproduction in semi-captivity, elimination of furtive hunting, increase of knowledge of the behavior of the species and environmental education among local inhabitants.⁴⁵

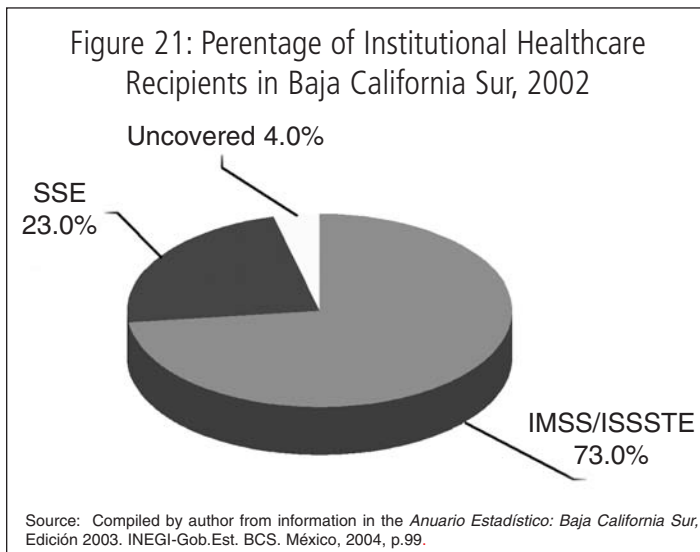
One environmental challenge for Mulegé is marine contamination, caused by solid waste and other waste products emptied into the coastal area during the squid fishing season. There is also a lack of sanitary landfills or drainage in many communities, nor is there a garbage management program (added to the fact that the local population has a lack of education in this matter). Management of waste water does not guarantee sanitation and potable water supplies, of which there are little, are badly used. Surveillance and enforcement by environmental authorities is extremely limited. Abandoned land and water vehicles, often with badly-kept engines, also generate a great deal of pollution.



Health

Introduction

Although there have been significant improvements in the provision of basic health care in Baja California Sur, more needs to be done to meet residents' ongoing preventative, emergency, and acute healthcare needs. Luckily, most residents have access to basic healthcare; only 3.8% of the population, located mainly in rural areas, is without regular access to health services.¹ The state's health system is comprised of medical institutions supported by the federal and state governments, and private institutions. These offer health care at three levels: primary care (initial consultation and preventative medicine); secondary level of care (consultation and diagnosis with a specialist); and tertiary care (medical intervention).



According to the National Population Council, Baja California Sur has one of the lowest infant mortality rates in Mexico (13.95 in 2002) and life expectancy is 75.89 years. The universal vaccination program covers 99.5% of the population between one and five years of age. Prenatal and obstetric healthcare coverage is at a rate of 99%, which is much higher than the national average of 85%. Since 1998, Baja Sur has consistently ranked highly in national indicators of health infrastructure and available human resources; the state ranks first nationwide in number of consultations and available facilities, and second in hospital occupancy, behind the *Distrito Federal* (Federal District of Mexico City).²

As income and quality of life in the state rise, other health issues are emerging. A lack of education about nutrition and

exercise have led to problems associated with obesity, with types 1 and 2 diabetes becoming the third highest cause of death in the state. Lack of attention to the diabetes problem has also led to kidney problems throughout the state, including kidney stones and kidney failure. Teen pregnancy, alcoholism and drug addiction among youth, chronic degenerative diseases among senior citizens, and the lack of attention to the disabled community are recurring health challenges for Baja California Sur. While still low in absolute terms, Baja California Sur had Mexico's largest net percentage increase in homicides between 1998 and 2003 according to Mexico's Secretariat of Health.³

The incidence of cancer in Baja California Sur is also on the rise. In 2003, the Baja California Sur had the highest mortality rate related to lung cancer in Mexico among men; for the female population, the state was well above the national average.⁴ Baja California Sur's mortality rate among women with breast cancer was also well above the national average, with the state ranking second in documented cases behind Mexico City.⁵

Key Findings

1. Dengue

Dengue is considered an endemic illness, as the mosquito transmitters reproduce year-round, with the highest reproduction rate occurring during the annual hurricane season. In 2003, 470 cases of classic dengue, and 423 cases of hemorrhagic dengue were registered in July alone. The disease could easily become a major problem if appropriate control measures are not taken, considering the wide range of people affected, as well as the number of undiagnosed and un-hospitalized cases that occur.

Steps have been taken by sanitation authorities to initiate prevention and information campaigns, and larvicides have been distributed for use in the water supply. The ultimate goal is to considerably reduce the reproduction of the transmitter mosquitoes, and future steps include the spraying of insecticide in streets throughout the state.

2. Tuberculosis (TB)

Although not considered to be an area of critical concern, 1,820 new cases of TB were detected in 2002, mainly in La Paz, Mulegé, and Los Cabos, of which only two-thirds were treated and controlled.⁶ The morbidity rate for tuberculosis

Figure 22: Primary Causes of Mortality
in 2003- Baja California Sur

Illnesses	Rate per 100,000 inhabitants
1) Heart Disease	67.6
2) Malignant Tumors	62.1
3) Diabetes	38.2
4) Suicides	35.9
5) Pneumonia and Influenza	18.7
6) Vascular Brain Complications	18.3
7) Perinatal Complications	16.8
8) Liver Disease	15.5
9) Congenital Deformations	7.8
10) Accidents	6.9

Source: State Government of BCS, *V Informe de Gobierno 2003-2004*, Lic. Leonel Cota Montaño p. 33

is above the national average, but below that of Baja California.⁷ In 2003, health authorities initiated a control program, where 100% of the detected cases were subjected to treatment with strict supervision; 88% resulted in remission, putting the state among the top ten in Mexico in terms of TB illness control.

Dr. Eduardo Rodríguez Pulido (Former BCS Secretary of Health) commented that the principal challenge facing the control of tuberculosis is that patients abandon treatment as soon as they start to feel better. If treatment is not completed, the disease can develop a resistance to medications within the affected population.

3. Respiratory Problems

The category of respiratory problems includes such illnesses as pneumonia, which in 2002 was the fifth leading cause of mortality throughout the state,⁸ as well as chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and asthma, which were all among the top twenty leading causes of death. Asthma primarily affects children, and in 2003, it was identified as the eighth leading cause of death amongst the infant population.⁹

The high incidence of respiratory illness in the state is likely due to high levels of environmental pollution, especially from airborne sources such as dust laced with chemicals used in agricultural production, particulate matter from unpaved roads, and power plant emissions. The Comisión Federal de Electricidad (Federal Electricity Commission-CFE) has a legally-binding agreement with SEMARNAT to control emissions from its power plants (especially for PM-10 and PM-5 which are hazardous to human health)¹⁰, but there is insufficient enforcement, which has led to lax oversight of La

Paz and Puerto San Carlos facilities, as well as postponed infrastructure upgrades. A recently-approved investment of US\$18 million for pollution control equipment in Punta Prieta in La Paz should improve the air pollution nearby.¹¹

4. Diabetes

Diabetes is one of the most prevalent diseases in Baja California Sur; during 2002, 10,885 new cases were diagnosed in the state. Diabetes can compromise vital organs, such as the kidneys, provoking visual disability, inhibition of blood circulation, problems with blood coagulation, and the loss of extremities, in addition to high blood pressure.

In Baja California Sur and throughout Mexico, diabetes is the result of a basic diet that is rich in carbohydrates and sugars, combined with a general lack of physical activity. Diabetes is also linked to long-term arsenic ingestion, which has been located in groundwater wells in 34 communities around the state (also discussed in the environment section). The state health sector covers diabetes treatment, but an emphasis on prevention could be an effective way to curb the high incidence of new cases in the state. Considering its health impacts, prevention of diabetes, could be seen as prevention of a host of other health-related problems.

Programs have been implemented by the IMSS, as well as through nonprofits, including training courses on cooking and baking for diabetics, disease characteristics, arterial hypertension, first aid, and sexual health, so that family members will be able to offer in-home support and more integrated attention to patients.¹²

5. Malnutrition/Obesity

Malnutrition and obesity are also common problems related to diet and exercise in the region. A high percentage of children between the ages of five and eleven are overweight (18.8% of boys and 19.6% of girls),¹³ suggesting that in the future weight problems in adults will be even more severe, resulting in an increase in illness related to obesity. Currently, Baja California Sur is ranked second in the nation in obesity,¹⁴ likely due to factors that include high calorie diets associated with fast food, a rise in recent years of bottled soda consumption,¹⁵ and a reduction in community levels of physical activity.

Preventative measures are the best method for combating obesity, which could include: promoting physical activity and a reduced calorie diet, most notably for schoolchildren and adolescents who are in the process of defining their activity and dietary habits; distributing information to communities about obesity and associated chronic diseases; regulating

Figure 23: Packets and Food Rations Distributed to Children in DIF Programs
 "Attention to Children Under 4" and "School Breakfast" by Municipality

Municipality	Packets (Attention to Children Under 4)	Rations (Attention to Children Under 4)	Packets (School Breakfast)	Rations (School Breakfast)
Comondú	1,680	29,400	26,512	245,472
Mulegé	2,156	37,730	29,288	283,920
La Paz	12,600	231,000	59,466	852,500
Los Cabos	1,316	23,030	32,738	703,976
Loreto	672	12,320	13,384	252,288
BCS	18,424	333,480	161,388	2,638,156

Source: State Government of BCS, *V Informe de Gobierno 2003-2004*, Lic. Leonel Cota Montaña, tomo II, p. 36.

public sector promotion of high calorie foods; and enacting strategies to help identify risk factors and encourage early diagnosis of illnesses related to obesity.

Poverty is a major factor in malnutrition. Nationwide, 30% of children between the ages of one and five from poor households have moderate to severe malnutrition, while only 5% of children in the same age range from homes with higher incomes are malnourished.

In Baja California Sur, problems related to malnutrition and obesity are mainly concentrated in urban areas.¹⁶ The municipality with the highest malnutrition index for children is La Paz and the lowest index corresponds to Mulegé. In 2003, nutritional deficiencies occupied the seventh highest cause of mortality in the child population less than five years of age.

Tending to this public health concern, the Integral Family Development (DIF) agency in each municipality works to abate malnutrition and poor dietary habits through two primary programs: "Attention to Children Under Four" and "School Breakfast." Nonprofits focused on education have also adopted the school breakfast program in various urban areas to enhance learning potential in young students.

6. Substance Abuse

Alcohol and substance abuse are persistent problems in Baja California Sur when compared to the rest of the nation, although it is consistently below that of the state of Baja California, further to the north. The most commonly abused substances are marijuana, cocaine, alcohol, crystal methamphetamines, sedatives, and inhalants.

According to the former State Secretary of Health, Dr. Eduardo Rodríguez Pulido, addictions are related "directly to the principal causes of death: heart disease, accident, cerebral pathology, suicides, hepatitis, cirrhosis, homicides and kidney lesions."¹⁷ In addition, substance use and abuse is often an instigator of domestic violence against

women and children, with social instability as a frequent result.

The current state prevention and support programs do not have sufficient resources to address, inform, and influence the population, most notably the youth, about the inherent risks that accompany the use of these substances. There is also a need for additional rehabilitation centers to reach the high number of addicts in the state – there are just two juvenile facilities for the entire state. This gap in available facilities has resulted in rehabilitation "pseudo-centers", which often exacerbate addiction problems rather than treat them. For example, treatments at some centers result in dependencies on different drugs; at others, treatments could result in patient dropout or relapse.

Factors that promote the growth of addiction can be attributed to the ease with which drugs and alcohol can be acquired. Stronger enforcement is needed, especially now that the state is considered a major thoroughfare for trafficking illegal drugs to foreign markets. Other factors that promote addiction include the lack of recreational options catering to the interests of the youth, unemployment pressures, and domestic abuse and violence.

7. Mental Health

In Baja California Sur, there is a need for greater service coverage related to mental health, including prevention and treatment, outpatient consulting, family counseling, and group and individual therapy. The incidence of domestic violence in the region is alarmingly high (discussed more fully in the section on community development), as are cases of suicide and drug dependency where the only option for care is the psychiatric hospital in the municipality of La Paz, a long journey for much of the state.¹⁸

According to INEGI, the state registered the highest frequency of suicides in youth ages 18 to 25 on a per capita basis nationwide.¹⁹ Among men of all ages, Baja California Sur ranked sixth in the nation in suicides in 2003.²⁰ To

combat this, the state initiated a telephone “hotline” in 2004 to provide suicide, drug, and domestic violence counseling. Clearly, there is a need to create and expand institutions and civil organizations that serve those affected by psychological and physical ailments, as well as to address the causes of suicide and suicide attempts.

8. HIV/AIDS

While the incidence of HIV/AIDS in Baja California Sur is lower than Baja California to the north, the disease is a growing problem across the state. In 2003, the number of men dying of HIV/AIDS in Baja California Sur exceeded the national average. Among women dying from HIV/AIDS, Baja California Sur had the highest incidence rate in Mexico.²¹

The stigma of HIV/AIDS in the state has resulted in a backlash against lifestyles popularly associated with the illness, such as homosexuals. Unfortunate consequences have resulted including, denial of medical services and unjustified firings of people infected with the disease. This situation complicates the delivery and potential impact of awareness and prevention campaigns, though a concerted effort has not been made to educate the public about the disease. The “safe sex” campaign encouraging the use of condoms has not had the desired result, and transmission rates continue to rise annually.

The primary means of infection are 92.7% sexual transmission and 6.4% intravenous transmission. Interestingly, the most vulnerable groups are not necessarily homosexuals and drug addicts – statistics show almost 29% of sexually-transmitted cases are heterosexual.²² Additionally, pediatric AIDS remains a problem.

9. Worker Wellness

The Mexican legislature recently decreed a series of workplace standards relating to safety, hygiene, and the occupational environment. The implementation of these standards, as well as their consistency, varies from business to business.

In Baja California Sur, groups of workers continue to cope with significant health risks, most notably those in the agricultural and fishing sectors. Reasons for this situation include a lack of knowledge about regulations by both the employee and employer, and a lack of human resources to ensure workplace compliance to safety standards. Specifically, both short- and long-term consequences of exposure to chemicals in pesticides are often ignored, as well as the risks of scuba diving without adequate equipment.

10. Preventative Medicine

One of the most efficient ways of combating disease is through the practice of preventative medicine. Physical exercise is recognized as the key way to combat high levels of heart disease, obesity, and diabetes. Reduced consumption of alcohol and other harmful substances will also decrease disease levels.

Vaccination campaigns are another important way to prevent illness. Baja California Sur has treated 99.5% of children ages one through five with polio, measles, mumps, and TB injections, ranking the state fifth nationally. To avoid atypical outbreaks of adult whooping cough and other epidemiological outbreaks, a program has been implemented to administer vaccinations to people between the ages of 13 and 49 who have not been vaccinated during the last four years.



Nationwide, the health sector has implemented a systematic campaign to detect cervical, uterine, and breast cancer in women. Baja California Sur has experienced a decreased rate of cervical/uterine cancer in recent years; the national incidence ranking in 2002 of 28th decreased to eighth in 2003. This can be directly traced to the success of the detection program, though the mortality rates from these diseases continue to be high.²³

Traditional or alternative medicine is re-emerging as a form of preventative medicine. Although migrant day laborers in rural agricultural areas where medical attention is scarce

tend to seek treatment by means of traditional medicine, alternative medicine is not in reality an option for the prevention or cure of illness due to the scarcity of practitioners. This is likely due to naiveté about the benefits of alternative medicine by the general population, as well as to the high costs of consultation and treatment required.

Health institutions and a few nonprofits have initiated actions to promote a culture of prevention, including the IMSS cooking for diabetes program, and the *Teddá Belmacú* “Heart Week” campaign. The impact of these programs would undoubtedly be greater if a culture of prevention among the state’s population prevailed.

11. Resource Allocation

Financial investment in public health is relatively high in Baja California Sur, and recent increases have been channeled toward improving the sector’s infrastructure, assistance with insurance programs, and for women’s health. There has been a 40% increase in funds being used for medical infrastructure since 1999, allowing for much needed new space at the state’s hospitals in addition to the building of new centers. A much smaller amount of funding is allocated to the State Center Against Addictions (Centro Estatal Contra las Adicciones [CECA]).²⁴

The 2005 gubernatorial election brought new staff to the Secretary of Education and Health that have strengthened public-private partnerships, specifically with nonprofits. For example, services for the disabled had not been adequately addressed by the state; a new nonprofit-DIF-state agency arrangement will bring training, orthopedic equipment, surgeries, job training, and recreational and school infrastructure to this target audience.²⁵

12. Access to Healthcare

Approximately 96% of the state’s population has access to public health programs and facilities through the IMSS, ISSSTE, and other government health networks. Workers and the private sector are covered by the IMSS, while federal government employees are covered by the ISSSTE. State government employees are covered by state-sponsored ISSSTE programs, and the uninsured are covered through the SSE.

However, the public health sector in Mexico is in severe financial crisis, principally the IMSS and ISSSTE. As their constituents are the majority of the population, the situation is having a direct impact on the quality and quantity of services offered. Here, it is interesting to note that the quality of medical service and overall use does vary from state to state across Mexico. According to Mexico’s Secretary of Health, Baja California Sur had the lowest



number of consultations per facility in Mexico and was, as such, considered among the least productive in the country.²⁶

Beyond these shortcomings, a third of the state’s rural population is located at least thirty minutes from a location offering health service (compared to 15% of the urban population), and as mentioned above, 3.8% of the rural population do not have access to any medical attention. However, the government has the intent of providing sufficient health services through the implementation of popular insurance coverage, which is currently in a pilot phase, offering preventative, medical, and hospital attention to 4,700 families that meet an annual quota of US\$320. However, additional assistance is still needed to improve healthcare accessibility for this segment of the population.

Needs by Municipality

1. Comondú

The rural municipality of Comondú has the lowest rate of cancerous tumors in the state. One area of concern is the increase in deaths from complications associated with AIDS, as it did not appear amongst the principal causes up until 1998, and then appeared as the fifteenth highest mortality indicator in 2000. This may be caused by in-migration from mainland Mexico and Central America, but no confirming studies have been completed to date.

Comondú also has high levels of infant mortality (ranking

second in the state in deaths of children under five) mainly from preventable diseases and resulting from issues with sanitation, high levels of diabetes types 1 and 2, hypertension, prenatal complications, and car accidents (ranking first in the state with 24.7 for every 100,000 inhabitants).

Due to the small, dispersed population of the Comondú municipality, improving health services will require participation by voluntary health advocates, nonprofits, and community associations. This will be critical as rural leaders are concerned with the lack of access to healthcare in the form of doctors, medicine, equipment, and health centers. Drug and alcohol addiction programs are also a priority in Comondú. Finally, there is interest in nutrition awareness programs because, according to one community leader, “it is one thing to eat; it is another thing to know how to eat.”²⁷

2. La Paz

As 45% of the state’s overall population lives in the municipality of La Paz, and the city of La Paz is the locale of the state’s government seat, La Paz has the best health infrastructure and human resources in the state.²⁷ In the municipality, the SSA has twenty health centers, a general hospital, a psychiatric facility, and four mobile units; the IMSS has one primary care hospital and one secondary care hospital; and the ISSSTE has three primary care hospitals and one secondary care hospital. As mentioned above, however, financial constraints at ISSSTE and IMSS are compromising the quality and quantity of care. To assist government programs, community leaders seek coordination between the government, and nonprofits, which can disperse primary health care resources, provide educational materials on prevention, and help identify emerging health problems.

La Paz municipality has the highest occurrence rates for a number of diseases in the state, including heart-related illness,²⁹ cancerous tumors,³⁰ sicknesses related to the kidneys (such as kidney failure or kidney stones),³¹ and nutrition-related illnesses.³² There are also serious issues with traffic accidents, mental health, and sexual and reproductive health awareness. Prevention efforts are few and far between, and though they are beginning to have an effect, more can and should be done to address these issues.

In some areas, it is necessary to fumigate periodically during the rainy season, especially in February to avoid coetaneous and eye infections, as well as dengue and respiratory and intestinal illnesses in children. An insufficient drainage and garbage collection system, lack of potable water, and poor animal management also contribute to water-borne and respiratory illnesses. Women’s sexual and

reproductive health education may alleviate HIV/AIDS and sexually-transmitted disease transmittal.

Despite healthcare accessibility, there are still vulnerable populations in La Paz municipality. Rural areas suffer from lack of transportation, specifically ambulances, available in case of emergency. Additionally, small children with special needs, such as children of single mothers, are a highly vulnerable health sector. Currently, a private day care facility is being built to tend to children with special needs because there are no public facilities available.



3. Loreto

The lack of attention to mental health issues for the residents of Loreto is of primary concern, since the high levels of violence and depression have placed the municipality first in the state for mortality related to suicides and homicides. Other major health concerns in the region are respiratory illness (Loreto has the highest mortality rate due to TB in the state), gastrointestinal complications, teen pregnancies, the rising incidence of drug and alcohol addiction, and life-style related illnesses (such as cardiovascular illness and diabetes types 1 and 2 where Loreto has the highest mortality rate in the state³³), with children and young people being the hardest-hit groups. There is the need to improve the cleanliness of public areas, to encourage healthy dietary and exercise lifestyles, to implement drug rehabilitation and prevention programs, and to provide sexual health and contraceptive information to residents.

The prevalence of health centers in the region is insufficient, and patients that require secondary level care must be transported to cities outside of the municipality, which can be very costly for the institutions as well as for family members. The problem is even worse for rural communities, as the services that they do receive are administered by a mobile unit, which is supported by six volunteers who often do not have adequate training to handle emergency situations. There has also been a recent increase in the number of suicides within the disabled community due to a lack of adequate mobility and rehabilitation equipment.

The municipality lacks a culture of prevention, which can be seen through the sparse attendance and community participation at awareness events, and in the general apathy toward vaccination campaigns for children and animals. Nonprofit groups could work to fill this gap by helping to motivate members to resolve or avoid health problems. Approaches could include the purchase of rehabilitation equipment for the disabled, acquisition of medical equipment (x-ray, dental, mobile medical units, etc.), and overall programs aiming to help sensitize the community at large to the importance of preventative measures.



4. Los Cabos

As the primary tourist destination of the state, Los Cabos municipality has a number of serious health care concerns and needs that are specific to the area, including lack of enforcement related to substance abuse, with the highest levels of illegal drug consumption in the state. Death and disability from automobile accidents have also increased because of this problem.

For its size, Los Cabos has an acceptable level of medical infrastructure and human resources. Awareness campaigns have resulted in the municipality having the highest rate of early detection for diabetes, family planning, maintenance of child health and nutrition, and for management of hypertension. However, Los Cabos is in need of education

and prevention programs focused on AIDS and dengue. There is also a need for an informative campaign to help control the population of homeless dogs and cats, as well as the benefits of vaccination and sterilization of pets. A clinic and shelter for stray animals is needed.

The deficiencies in healthcare in rural areas are exacerbated by the lack of medical personnel, supplies, and equipment in the health centers, as well as in the building of new medical centers.

5. Mulegé

Because of the vastness of the territory of Mulegé, and the dispersion of communities throughout it, there is a limitation to the amount of knowledge that the population has about basic sanitation, diet, exercise, and preventative health measures. The region has an inadequate waste collection system, infected potable water sources, uses obsolete measures for the treatment of waste water, and even has open air feces exposure in rural locales.

There is a high frequency of respiratory illnesses, hypertension, diabetes, and cancer. Many of the recurring respiratory illnesses and gastrointestinal infections affecting children can become life-threatening if not given the appropriate attention, and Mulegé has the highest mortality rate for children under the age of five in the state.^{34,35}

A serious health care issue in Mulegé is mental illness, as the municipality has the highest rate of attempted suicides and second highest rate for suicide deaths in the state. Failure to address this problem can cause further resource drains on the state, as failed suicide attempts often result in disability. Another indicator of insufficient mental health care in the state is the high occurrence of domestic violence affecting women and children. Although a difficult situation to rectify, a study to identify the breadth of cases, as well as the causes that provoke them would help health sector personnel to address the problem in an appropriate manner.

To improve health care in rural areas, it is necessary to increase the capacity of medical attention to isolated communities, particularly toward vulnerable populations and the provision of quality health services. Strategies include improved distribution of basic medications, increased visits to rural areas by mobile health units, construction of health stations in clinics, intensive first-aid classes, and substantial vehicles to transfer patients to other areas when needed.

Some nonprofits have focused on providing optical and surgical assistance to localities, such as San Ignacio and Santa Rosalía. Expansion of these services to other geographic regions, as well as additional medical services would augment inadequate government care in those areas.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR

As evidenced by the previous sections of the “Baja California Sur’s Community-Based Opportunities and Needs,” this region has wide-ranging opportunities and needs among its various urban and rural communities. Responding to those needs are dozens of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) across the state and at least 40 U.S.-based nonprofit organizations committed to improving the quality of life, as well as protecting and preserving the state’s natural resources for future generations. The work of these NGOs is far-reaching and includes projects and initiatives in the areas of education, health and human services, the environment, community and economic development, as well as arts and culture.

This survey was undertaken to better inform the U.S. and Mexican donor community of the important work being undertaken by NGOs across Baja California Sur. Of the almost 140 estimated organizations now operating in Baja California Sur, UABCS was able to identify 48 that have a community service orientation¹ and are comparable to U.S.-based nonprofit organizations, as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. tax code. For these 48 groups, ICF and UABCS staff undertook thorough due diligence to validate the following:

- Current legal status with the Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público (SHCP) and the Servicio de Administración Tributaria (SAT) to determine that a group is, in fact, a registered public charity in Mexico or a nonprofit entity that is a 501(c)(3) equivalent organization.
- Tax Identification number or Clave del Registro Federal de Contribuyentes (RFC).
- Articles of incorporation (Acta Constitutiva).
- Current board of directors.
- Description of programmatic activities.
- Annual operating budget and funding sources.
- Number of staff (paid and volunteer).
- Formal affiliation with US or other nonprofit group (convenios).

An exhaustive outreach effort was undertaken by UABCS in all five municipalities of Baja California Sur to identify qualified nonprofits, which included on-site interviews, media advisories, and follow up communications by phone, fax, and email.

For a variety of reasons, not all groups were in a position to provide the documentation required as a pre-condition for inclusion in this survey. In some cases, NGOs were not legally constituted or did not have a valid Registro Federal de Contribuyentes (RFC). In other cases, because of a group’s small size and limited volunteer staff, they were unable to fulfill the requirements set forth to participate in this survey (20 groups). Some groups simply could not be reached due to having moved or having become fiscally dormant or inactive (60 groups).

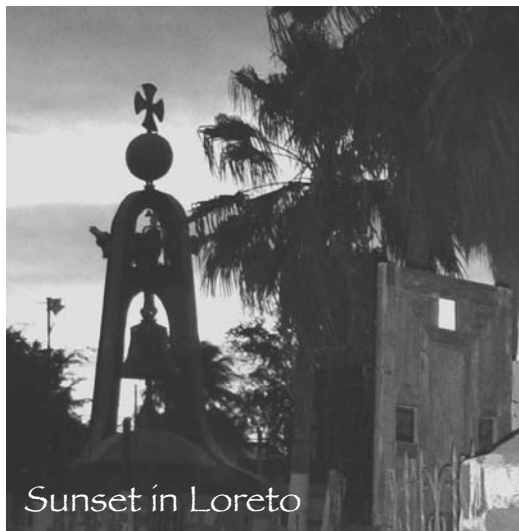
It is likely that there is somewhat of a response bias in favor of larger, more long-standing organizations, and those that have closer affiliations with U.S. organizations. Many of the smaller, more grassroots and protest-oriented organizations are less likely to be legally constituted, and may not have responded.

Where a nonprofit’s legal status could not be verified but where contact information was available, this has been included in an accompanying list of other organizations working on community-based needs. UABCS located 45 groups in this category. Also included is the contact information of U.S. organizations working with partner organizations in Baja California Sur, or on their own projects; 41 U.S.-based groups fall into this category.

As the non-governmental sector is among the most dynamic and ever-changing sectors in Baja California Sur, we hope that in future editions of this document more NGOs will be included. Also, because ICF is committed to ensuring that U.S. and Mexican donors have the most current information available on Baja California Sur nonprofits, we encourage each and every NGO to submit their group’s supporting documentation along with details of their budget and programmatic activities. Participating nonprofits will be added to our approved listing of nonprofits eligible to receive financial and in-kind support from our institutions.

Laws and regulations governing nonprofits in Mexico

Nonprofit organizations in Mexico can take one of several forms. Almost all are constituted as Civil Associations [*Asociación Civil* (A.C.)]. In addition, many groups also have the legal definition of Private Assistance Institution [*Institucion de Asistencia Privada* (I.A.P.)] or Private Charity Institution [*Institución de Beneficencia Privada* (I.B.P.)]. Most traditional charity work, including direct services, disaster relief, health care, and distribution of food and clothing, is carried out by organizations constituted as one of the latter two legal entities. These entities are federally regulated, and have requirements to report on activities as well as donors and other sources of income. Historically, it has been much easier for these kinds of organizations to receive government approval to be both tax exempt, and to be authorized to give Mexican donors a tax deductibility receipt.



In recent years, there has been tremendous growth in the number of organizations constituted as *Asociaciones Civiles*, which can encompass a much broader range of activities – literally any civil association of citizens organized for the public good or for the benefit of its members. Most of the organizations listed in this report and profiled on ICFXchange are constituted as *Asociaciones Civiles* (A.C.). While A.C.s have federal reporting requirements similar to those required by the U.S. government for 501(c)(3) corporations, the I.A.P.s and I.B.P.s are more closely regulated at the state and federal level. As recently as ten years ago, it was extremely difficult for many A.C. organizations to obtain tax exempt or tax-deductible status from the Mexican federal government. As a result, these organizations had to pay up to 30% of their income in taxes.

Moreover, it was very difficult for them to attract donations, as they could offer no tax benefits to donors.

Recently, the government's definition of organizations that can receive tax-deductible donations has broadened somewhat. In fact, in late 2005, the Mexican Congress expanded deductibility to include human rights advocacy organizations that had previously been prohibited in receiving tax deductibility.

The historic limitations on tax deductibility have meant that many A.C.s do not fully understand the law, or even try to attain tax-deductible status, which severely limits their ability to raise funds. As the philanthropic sector in Mexico evolves, one of its most important goals will be to work with the government, to try to simplify and broaden the definition of activities that can be tax-deductible. CEMEFI is already working at the federal level toward that end.

For Baja California Sur NGOs, a key concern remains securing support for administrative expenses, especially when a group is just starting out. Tax laws and responsibilities for NGOs in Mexico are so ambiguous that different offices of Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público (Mexico's tax agency) and private accountants all have different ideas about what they are. This is a huge problem for a nonprofit organization that cannot spend a lot of time and resources trying to get accurate information, and it is especially demoralizing when a group is trying hard to stay focused on its cause or issue. Opportunities exist for leadership in providing technical assistance in accounting and fiscal affairs for area nonprofits.

Tax considerations for U.S. individual donors

For individuals as well as private, family, and public foundations, regulations governing U.S. contributions to Mexican organizations are fairly straightforward and set out in the U.S.-Mexico Tax Treaty of 1994. According to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, a U.S. donor (individual or corporation) may make a charitable gift to a Mexican registered nonprofit in direct proportion to their Mexican sourced income. As such, U.S. expatriates working and living in Mexico can qualify for making charitable gifts that would be deductible against their U.S. taxes relative to their Mexican earned income. On the other hand, a U.S. retiree living in Mexico with U.S. sourced income (retirement or pension) could not deduct such a gift from their U.S. taxes.

While the U.S. IRS does restrict a U.S. individual donor's ability to give directly to a Mexican nonprofit, such gifts may be made through a registered U.S. public charity like the International Community Foundation (ICF), which serves as an intermediary for the purpose of making charitable gifts

abroad. For this reason, many individual donors, including those currently living in Mexico, find it useful to work with a philanthropic organization such as ICF for their Mexican charitable giving needs.

In the case of a charitable gift through an intermediary like ICF, the foundation in question must assure themselves that the grantee organization is equivalent to a 501(c)(3) organization in the United States, meaning that the organization has a charitable or educational purpose, it is legally constituted with a board of directors, that no organizational profits are distributed among board members, and that upon dissolution, all assets will revert to another 501(c)(3) organization. Since these requirements are almost identical to the Mexican legal requirements for an *Asociación Civil*, it is not difficult to establish this equivalency in most cases. Where this requirement cannot be fully met, a grant may be made so long as the organization is pursuing a charitable intent and the intermediary public charity in the United States exercises “expenditure responsibility.”

Ways to give

This review of NGOs in Baja California Sur reveals a number of ways that those interested and committed to making a difference in Baja California Sur can help to strengthen the nonprofit sector so it can better meet community needs.

Contribute Financially

In ICFXchange, each individual NGO profiled lists their most important future needs, and they vary considerably, however, the one common issue is that all are in need of operating funds to pay for basic expenses as they work to fulfill their mission.

Lend Expertise as a Volunteer

Great opportunities exist to provide technical assistance to NGOs on a broad range of topics, including legal and tax issues, financial management, fundraising, strategic planning, information technology, and public relations. Only half of the groups profiled have websites, for example, and these represent the most well-established NGOs in the state.

Collaborate

Many of the groups profiled could benefit from professional collaboration and technology transfer with their neighbors to the north – both in Baja California and the U.S. Areas that offer the most opportunity for international collaboration include technical and adult education, drug and alcohol treatment, and animal care.

Opportunities To Give Through ICF

Through ICF, U.S. donors have a variety of ways that they can make a difference in Baja California Sur. Up-to-date information can also be found on ICFXchange.

ICFXchange

Full profiles for each of the 48 organizations that have completed UABCS and ICF’s due diligence process can be found on ICFXchange – <http://www.icf-xchange.org>; contact information for the other 86 groups can also be found there. ICFXchange is a web-based, multilingual donor-grantee management system matching donors with worthwhile grantees, projects and critical needs in the regions served by ICF.

ICFXchange has several advantages for both donors and nonprofit grantees. First, nonprofit profiles list past project success, with ICF recommendations and previous due diligence available online. Second, ICFXchange lists community needs, with updated media articles and geographic and programmatic references. Finally, ICFXchange features new project opportunities that grantees can update on a regular basis for donor consideration. In this way, ICFXchange provides direct and timely information to donors that addresses current community needs and encourages charitable giving and volunteerism.

ICFXchange is a transparent and timely way for donors to learn about potential grantees before they actually make a grant.

For donors that wish specific information on a particular organization, ICF can undertake research to obtain detailed information about potential grantees.

Field of Interest Funds

Additionally, ICF maintains several targeted field of interest funds, permitting donors at any level to support nonprofit organizations in Baja California Sur and throughout the Baja California peninsula. These funds include the:

Sea of Cortez Fund:

Support nonprofit organizations focused on the conservation of marine and coastal environments of the Sea of Cortez.

International Children’s Fund:

Supports nonprofits that work on improving the lives of children and families.

San Ignacio Lagoon Whale Conservation Fund:

Provides critical support private land conservation efforts in this remote lagoon, which contains the most pristine gray whale habitat in the world.

Baja Land Fund:

Supports acquisition and protection of biologically-important properties along the Baja California Peninsula's coastline.

Baja Disaster Relief Fund:

Provides direct assistance to nonprofits for emergency aid during a natural disaster or crisis.

Community Specific Funds:

Promotes charitable giving for nonprofits, projects, and campaigns in specific communities. Funds exist for the following communities: San Ignacio, Loreto, La Paz, and Los Cabos.

"Friends Of" Funds

ICF has opened 16 "friends of" funds for nonprofits based in Baja California Sur that are interested in accessing U.S. financial contributions. These can be found on www.icfdn.org (click "donate online") or www.active.com/donations/campaignpublic.cfm?key=icf.

- Asociación de Artes del Mar de Cortez, A.C. (Los Barillos)
- Centro Mexicano para Derechos Ambientales (CEMDA) (La Paz & Mexico City)
- Comunidad, Vision y Desarrollo (COVYDE)
- Comunidad y Biodiversidad (COBI) (Loreto & Guaymas)
- Friends of Wild Baja (FOSANP)
- Fundación Ayuda Los Niños de La Paz
- Grupo Ecologista Antares (GEA) (Loreto)
- Guadalupe Shark Fund (Guadalupe Island, Loreto)
- La Paz Community Foundation
- Liga MAC, A.C. (Los Cabos)
- Los Niños del Capitán, A.C. (Los Cabos)
- Maijañuí (San Ignacio)
- Niparájá (La Paz)
- Palapa Society (Todo Santos)
- Siempre Semillas (La Ribera)
- Yo Soy Mulegé

Give2Baja

Gifts may be made during your lifetime on a non-endowed basis or through a bequest or trust (endowed gift). Benefits to you, as the donor, include tax advantages, flexibility, fiscal stewardship and management, programmatic accountability and immediate impact in the communities across the Baja California peninsula that you care about.

Donor Advised Gifts:

- Choose your favorite charity and make an endowed or non-endowed donor-advised gift to support a specific institution, project or need. (\$5,000 initial gift to establish a donor advised fund):
- Endow a charity or project of your choice leaving a permanent legacy that will make a difference for a lifetime.
- Make a non-endowed gift to receive maximum impact with your social investment today.

Options for Giving:

- Charitable gifts of cash;
- Gifts of appreciated property (publicly traded or closely held stock, real estate, etc.)
- Life insurance
- Private foundations (can be converted into a donor advised fund)
- Employee Gift Matching Program (Check your company for details)
- In-kind, volunteer and pro-bono services

Deferred and planned giving options:

- Baja Bequests: Allows you to leave a legacy without giving up current assets.
- Life income arrangements including Charitable Remainder Trusts or Charitable Lead Trusts
- Life Estate or real property
- Other gifts (trusts, interests in business entities, stock options)



Opportunities to Give through Mexican organizations

The Center for Mexican Philanthropy (CEMEFI) is a membership organization that works to promote philanthropy and social responsibility in Mexican corporations, foundations, and individually. CEMEFI is an excellent source of information in Spanish for Mexican donors seeking guidance on philanthropic opportunities. <http://www.cemefi.org>.

In addition to using CEMEFI as a resource, there are several organizations in Mexico that can already accept U.S. donations and provide grants to Mexican charities in Baja California Sur (most of these cannot provide a U.S. tax deduction however):

Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (FMCN):

FMCN works with public agencies in Mexico, such as SEMARNAT and CONANP to provide financial resources for protected areas management. <http://www.fmcn.org>

Fondo Sudcaliforniano para las Áreas Naturales Protegidas de Baja California Sur (FOSANP):

FOSANP collects donations for protected areas in Baja California Sur – Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve, Islas del Golfo de California Flora and Fauna Reserve, Cabo Pulmo National Park, Loreto Bay National Park, Sierra La Laguna, and Cabo San Lucas Flora and Fauna Reserve. <http://www.fosanp.org>

La Paz Community Foundation:

Although this group is just one year old, they are focusing on renovation in the historic district of La Paz and various civic projects throughout the city.

Fundación Internacional de la Comunidad (FIC):

FIC is located in Tijuana, but it has at least two donor-advised funds that can accept donations for organizations in Baja California Sur – Yo Soy Mulegé and La Paz Community Foundation. <http://www.ficbaja.org>.



Viejo del Mar sculpture

NONPROFITS IN BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR

Organizations with full documentation:

Name	Location	Program Area
Amigos para la Conservación de Cabo Pulmo	Cabo Pulmo	Environment
Amigos de los Niños de Cabo San Lucas, A.C. (ADLN)	Statewide, Los Cabos	Health and Human Services
Asesoría Social Integral, A.C.	La Paz, Los Cabos, Mulegé	Community and Economic Development
Asistencia y Educación Superior en Liguí-Ensenada Blanca, A.C. (AsistEd)	Loreto and nearby rural communities	Education
Asociación de Artes de Mar de Cortéz, A.C.	Los Barriles	Arts and Culture
Asociación de Diabéticos en B.C.S., A.C. (ADIBACALS)	La Paz, Statewide	Health and Human Services
Asociación de Familiares y Amigos de Personas con Enfermedad Mental, A.C. (AFAPEM)	La Paz	Health and Human Services
Asociación de Oaxaqueños Radicados en Baja California Sur, A.C.	La Paz, Mulegé, Agricultural Areas Statewide	Arts & Culture, Community and Economic Development
Asociación de Usuarios de Aguas Residuales en el Ejido El Centenario, Municipio de La Paz, B.C.S., A.C.	La Paz	Community and Economic Development
Asociación Náutica de La Paz, A.C. (AVIVA)	La Paz	Environment
Centro Mujeres, A.C.	La Paz, Statewide	Community and Economic Development, Education, Health and Human Services
Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental, A.C. (CEMDA)-La Paz	La Paz	Environment
Colectivo Sierra de La Laguna, A.C.	La Paz	Community and Economic Development, Environment
Colegio de Licenciados en Ciencias de la Comunicación de Baja California Sur, A.C.	Statewide	Community and Economic Development

More information available on <http://www.icf-xchange.org>

Organizations with full documentation / continued:

Name	Location	Program Area
Comité de Apoyo Ciudadano al Hospital Psiquiátrico de B.C.S., A.C.	La Paz	Health and Human Services
Comunidad Visión y Desarrollo, A.C. (COVYDE)	La Paz	Community and Economic Development
Comunidad y Biodiversidad, A.C. (COBI)	Loreto, San Ignacio, La Paz	Environment, Community and Economic Development
Conservación del Territorio Insular Mexicano (ISLA)	La Paz, Loreto	Environment
Defensores de la Bahía de Cabo San Lucas, A.C.	Cabo San Lucas	Environment
Dolphin Human Care Foundation	La Paz	Environment
Federación Estatal de Propietarios Rurales, A.C.	Statewide, La Paz	Community and Economic Development
Fundación de Apoyo para Niños Especiales, "Reinaldo Araiza Juárez", A.C.	La Paz	Education
Fundación Ayuda de los Niños de La Paz	La Paz	Education
Fundación Comunitaria de La Paz, B.C.S., A.C.	La Paz	Community and Economic Development, Arts & Culture
Fundación Deborah Wayne, A.C.	San Ignacio	Health and Human Services
Fundación Mexicana para la Educación Ambiental, A.C. (FUNDEA)	La Paz	Environment
Grupo Ecologista Antares, A.C. (GEA)	Loreto	Environment
Grupo Tortuguero de Todos Santos, A.C.	Todos Santos	Environment
Hogar del Anciano, A.C.	La Paz, Mulegé	Community and Economic Development, Health and Human Services
Liga MAC, A.C.	San José del Cabo	Community and Economic Development, Education, Health and Human Services

More information available on <http://www.icf-xchange.org>

Organizations with full documentation / continued:

Name	Location	Program Area
Los Ángeles del Estero, A.C.	Los Cabos	Environment
Los Niños del Capitán, A.C.	Cabo San Lucas	Education
Maijañuí, A.C.	San Ignacio	Community and Economic Development
Museo Ballenero de Baja California Sur, A.C.	La Paz	Arts & Culture, Environment
Patronato de la Ciudad de los Niños de La Paz, A.C.	La Paz	Arts & Culture, Education
Patronato de la Cultura de Baja California Sur, A.C. (Teatro Juárez)	La Paz	Arts & Culture
PROBEA—La Paz	La Paz	Environment, Education
Pronatura Noroeste, A.C.	La Paz, Magdalena Bay, Laguna San Ignacio	Environment, Community and Economic Development
Pumitas UNAM de La Paz, B.C.S., A.C.	La Paz	Community and Economic Development
Senda de Vida, A.C.	Cabo San Lucas	Health and Human Services
Siempre Semillas	La Ribera	Environment, Education
Sistemas Naturales y Desarrollo, A.C. (SINADES)	La Paz	Community and Economic Development, Environment
Sociedad Filarmónica de La Paz, A.C.	La Paz	Arts & Culture
Sociedad de Historia Natural Niparajá, A.C.	Statewide	Environment, Community Economic Development
The Palapa Society of Todos Santos, A.C.	Todos Santos	Arts & Culture, Community and Economic Development
Tierra, Mar y Desierto, A.C.	Statewide	Community and Economic Development, Environment
Vigilantes de Bahía Magdalena	Puerto San Carlos	Environment
Yo Soy Mulegég, A.C.	Mulegég, Santa Rosalía,	Art & Culture, Community and Economic Development, Education

More information available on <http://www.icf-xchange.org>

Organizations with contact information only:

Name	Location	Program Area
Alianza para la Sustentabilidad del Noroeste Costero Mexicano (ALCOSTA)	Statewide, Gulf of California Region	Environment, Economic and Community Development
Amigos del Museo Regional de Antropología e Historia de Baja California Sur, A.C.	La Paz	Arts & Culture
Amigos Internacional de los Animales, A.C.	La Ribera	Health and Human Services, Environment
Animalandia Municipio Loreto	Loreto	Community Development, Health, Education
Artesanos Mar y Desierto, A.C.	La Paz	Arts & Culture
Asistencia Médica en Loreto, A.C.	Statewide, Loreto	Health and Human Services
Asociación de Artesanos Sudcalifornianos	La Paz	Arts & Culture
Asociación de Músicos y Amigos	La Paz	Arts & Culture
Asociación Sudcaliforniana de Protección al Medio Ambiente y la Tortuga Marina de los Cabos, A.C. (ASUPMATOMA)	Los Cabos, Todos Santos, La Paz	Environment, Education
Bomberos Voluntarios	San José del Cabo	Community Development
Centro de Recuperación y Rehabilitación para Enfermos de Alcoholismo y Drogadicción, Zona Uno, A.C. (CRREAD)	Statewide	Health and Human Services
Ciudadanos Preocupados, A.C.	La Paz	Environment
Ciudades Hermanas de Santa Rosalía, A.C.	Santa Rosalía, Mulegé	Arts & Culture, Community and Economic Development, Environment
Centro de Estudios Costeros para Humedales	Puerto San Carlos	Environment
Club Cruceros de La Paz	La Paz	Health and Education
Colegio de Médicos y Cirujanos de Baja California Sur	La Paz	Health
Colonias Unidas para el Progreso, A.C.	La Paz	Community and Economic Development
Comité Pro-Museo de Mulegé, A.C.	Mulegé	Arts & Culture
Comité Abreojero para la Defensa de los Recursos Naturales de la Bahía de las Ballenas (CADERNABB)	Laguna San Ignacio	Environment

More information available on <http://www.icf-xchange.org>

Organizations with contact information only / continued:

Name	Location	Program Area
Cruz Roja Mexicana	Statewide	Health and Human Services
Eco-Amigos de Mulegé	Mulegé	Environment
Escritores Sudcalifornianos, A.C.	La Paz	Arts & Culture
Escualos de México, A.C.	Statewide	Environment
Espacios Naturales y Desarrollo Sustentable, A.C. (ENDESU)	Guerrero Negro	Environment, Community and Economic Development
For Pete's Sake	Cabo San Lucas	Health and Human Services
Fundación PRODUCE de BCS, A.C.	Ciudad Constitución	Economic Development
Grupo Aprendiendo a Vivir	La Paz	Community Development
Grupo Ecologica y Tortuguero de Pescadero	Pescadero	Environment
Grupo Tortuguero	Statewide	Environment
Guardianos del Mar	Statewide, La Paz	Environment
Humane Society	Cabo San Lucas	Community Development
Iemanya Oceánica, A.C.	La Paz	Environment
KidSmart	Los Cabos	Education
Loreto 2025	Loreto	Community Development
Movimiento Buena Voluntad La Paz	La Paz	Community Development
Mulegé Alerta, A.C.	Mulegé	Environment
Mulegé Student Scholarship Program, Inc.	Mulegé	Education
Patronato del Asilo de Ancianos San Vicente de Paul, A.C.	La Paz	Health
Planeta Peninsula	Statewide	Arts & Culture, Environment
Tedda-Bemalcú, A.C.	La Paz, Ciudad Constitución, Statewide	Health and Human Services
Unión Nacional de Productores de Ganado, A.C.	La Paz	Community and Economic Development
Unión Protectora Eco-Turística de la Biósfera del Vizcaíno, A.C.	Guerrero Negro	Environment
Visión Familiar Internacional, A.C.	Loreto	Health and Human Services, Community and Economic Development

More information available on <http://www.icf-xchange.org>

US-Based Nonprofits Working in Baja California Sur:

Name	Location	Program Area
AeroMedicos	Goleta, CA	Health and Human Services
Alcoholics Anonymous	Cabo San Lucas	Health and Human Services
California Institute of Public Affairs	Sacramento, CA	Environment
Conservation International-Noroeste Sustentable (NOS)	San Diego, CA	Environment, Community and Economic Development
Conservation International	Washington, D.C.	Environment
EcoLogic Finance	Boston, MA	Community and Economic Development
Ecology Project International	Missoula, MT	Education, Environment
Flying Samaritans	Glendora, CA	Health and Human Services
Harvard University-Graduate School of Design	Cambridge, MA	Community and Economic Development
Institute of the Americas Development	La Jolla, CA	Community and Economic
Island Conservation and Ecology Group	Santa Cruz, CA	Environment
Mobilize Mankind	Eugene, OR	Health and Human Services
Natural Resources Defense Council	New York, NY	Environment
Pro Peninsula	San Diego, CA	Environment
Rare Center for Tropical Conservation	Philadelphia, PA	Community and Economic Development, Environment
Rotary Club of Bellingham, WA	Bellingham, WA	Education
Rotary Club of Coos Bay, OR	Coos Bay, OR	Education
Rotary Club of Redondo Beach	Redondo Beach, CA	Arts & Culture
San Diego Natural History Museum – PROBEA	San Diego, CA	Education, Environment
San Diego State University	San Diego, CA	Education

More information available on <http://www.icf-xchange.org>

US-Based Nonprofits Working in Baja California Sur / continued:

Name	Location	Program Area
School for Field Studies	Salem, MA	Education, Environment
Scripps Institution of Oceanography	La Jolla, CA	Environment, Education
Sea Turtle Restoration Project	Forest Knolls, CA	Education, Environment
SeaWatch	Portland, OR	Environment
Sister City Club of Hermosa Beach (Loreto)	Hermosa Beach, CA	Education
Sister City Club of Manhattan Beach (Santa Rosalia)	Manhattan Beach, CA	Health and Human Services, Community and Economic Development
Sister City Club of Redondo Beach (La Paz)	Redondo Beach, CA	Arts & Culture
Sports for the World's Children Foundation	San Francisco, CA	Community Development
Terra Marine Research and Education Fund (Loreto)	Santa Barbara, CA	Environment
The Nature Conservancy	Arlington, VA	Environment
University of Arizona-Hydrology Department	Tucson, AZ	Environment
Vagabundos Del Mar Boat and Travel Club	Rio Vista, CA	Community and Economic Development, Health and Human Services, Environment
Volunteer Optometrist Services for Humanity (VOSH)/California	Beverly Hills, CA	Health and Human Services
Wildcoast	Imperial Beach, CA	Environment
Wilderness Conservancy	Los Angeles, CA	Environment
World School	San Diego, CA	Education, Environment
World Wildlife Fund	Washington, D.C.	Environment
Wyland Foundation	Laguna Beach, CA	Arts & Culture, Education, Environment

More information available on <http://www.icf-xchange.org>

REFERENCE MATERIAL

List of Figures

Figure 1	Map of Baja California Sur Municipalities
Figure 2	Ejido Land by Municipality in Baja California Sur 2004
Figure 3	Map of Ejidos in Baja California Sur
Figure 4	Distribution of the Number of Locations, Relative to Number of Inhabitants
Figure 5	Distribution of the Population by Number of Minimum Wages Earned
Figure 6	Population Distribution in Baja California Sur
Figure 7	Human Development Indicators Comparing Baja California Sur to the Nation
Figure 8	Mexican Federal Budget Heading 33 by State in 2004
Figure 9	List of Museums in Baja California Sur
Figure 10	Libraries in Baja California Sur by Municipality
Figure 11	Change in Books Taken Out from Local Libraries by Municipality from 2002-2003
Figure 12	Theaters in Baja California Sur in 2003
Figure 13	Cultural Festivals in Baja California Sur in 2003
Figure 14	Funded Projects that Contributed to the Route of the Missions
Figure 15	Violence Against Women in Baja California Sur Relative to Other Regions
Figure 16	Percentage of Total Complaints Filed with the Public Prosecutor's Office in January – July 2004 by Municipality
Figure 17	Mining Sectors in Baja California Sur and Nationwide from 1988-1993
Figure 18	Total Number of Students Registered in Special Education, School Years 2002-2004, by Grade Level & Municipality
Figure 19	Estimate of Educational Attainment Among People Over 15 Years of Age as of December 31, 2003
Figure 20	Size, Declaration Date, and Data for Natural Protected Areas in Baja California Sur
Figure 21	Percentage of Institutional Healthcare Recipients in Baja California Sur, 2002
Figure 22	Primary Causes of Mortality in 2003 in Baja California Sur
Figure 23	Packets and Food Rations Distributed to Children in DIF Programs "Attention to Children Under 4" and "School Breakfast" by Municipality

Acronyms

Acronym	Spanish	English
AHPLM	Archivo Historico Pablo L. Martinez	Pablo L. Martinez Historical Archive
ANP	Áreas Naturales Protegidos	Natural Protected Areas
ANUIES	La Asociación Nacional de Universidades e Instituciones de Educación Superior	National Universities Association and Institutes for Higher Education
BANAMEX	Banco Nacional de México	National Bank of Mexico
CAN	Comisión Nacional de Agua	National Water Commission
CBTIS	Centro de Bachillerato Tecnológica Industrial y de Servicios	Baccalaureate Center for Industrial Technology and Services
CEBATA	Centro de Bachillerato Tecnológico Agropecuario	Baccalaureate Center for Technology, Land and Cattle
CECA	Centro Estatal Contra las Adicciones	State Center Against Addictions
CECYT	Los Colegios de Estudios Científicos y Tecnológicos	Colleges for Scientific and Technological Studies
CERESO	Centro de Readaptación Social	Rehabilitation Center (penitentiary)
CETMAR	Centro Tecnológico del Mar	Technological Center of the Sea
CFE	Comisión Federal de Electricidad	Federal Electricity Commission
CIBNOR	Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas del Noroeste	Center of Biological Research of the Northeast
CICIMAR	Centro Interdisciplinario De Ciencias Marinas	Interdisciplinary Marine Science Center
CONACULTA	Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes	National Council for Culture and the Arts
CONAFE	La Unidad Coordinadora del Programa Compensatorio	Coordinated Union Compensation Program
CONALEP	El Colegio de Educación Técnica del Estado de Sonora	Technical Education College of Sonora State
CONANP	Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas	National Commission for Natural Protected Areas
CONAPO	Consejo Nacional de Población	National Population Council
CORETT	Comisión para la Regularización de la Tenencia de la Tierra	Land Ownership Regularization Commission
CPERM	Coordinación del Programa Estatal Ruta de las Misiones	Coordinating Office of the State Program Route of the Missions
DIF	El Desarrollo Integral de la Familia	Integral Family Development
EAP	Población Economicamente Activa	Economically Active Population
EDUSAT	Educacion Satelital	Satellite Education
ENVI	Encuesta sobre Violencia Intrafamiliar	National Survey on Violence Against Women
FDI	Inversión Extranjera Directa	Foreign Direct Investment
FEDECOOP	Federación de Cooperativas Pesqueras de Baja California Sur	Fishing Cooperative in Laguna San Ignacio
FMCN	Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza	Mexican Nature Conservation Fund
FONATUR	Fondo Nacional de Fomento al Turismo	National Fund to Promote Tourism
GDP	Producto Interno Bruto	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Medio Ambiente Mundial	World Bank-Global Environmental Facility
GGG	Informática Grafica	Graphic Information
HDI	Indice de Desarrollo Humano	Human Development Index
HIV	Virus Humano de la Inmunodeficiencia	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IDH	Informes de Desarrollo Humano	Human Development Reports
IED	La Inversión Extranjera Directa	Direct Foreign Investment
IEEA	El Instituto Estatal de Educación Para Adultos	State Institute for Adult Education
IES	Los Institutos de Educación Superior	Institutes for Higher Education
IMAC	Iniciativa Mexicana de Aprendizaje para la Conservación	Mexican Initiative for Conservancy Learning
IMSS	El Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social	Mexican Institute for Social Security
INAH	Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia	National Institute of Anthropology and History

Acronyms

Acronym	Spanish	English
INEE	Instituto Nacional para la Evaluación de la Educación	National Institute for Education Evaluation
INEGI	Instituto Nacional de Estadística Geografía e Informática	National Institute of Geography and Information Statistics
INVI	Instituto de Viviendo de Baja California Sur	Housing Institute of Baja California Sur
ISC	Instituto de Cultura del Sur de California	Southern California Institute of Culture
ISSSTE	El Instituto de Seguridad y Servicios Sociales par los Trabajadores del Estado	Institute for Security and Social Services for State Workers
ITLP	Instituto Tecnológico de La Paz	Technological Institute of La Paz
ONG	Organizaciones No Gubernamentales	Non-Governmental Organizations
PAE	El Programa de Apoyo al Empleo	Employment Support Program
PEA	La Población Económicamente Activa	Active Economic Population
PEOT	Programas Estatales de Ordenamiento Territorial	State Territory Regulation Program
PIB	Producto Interno Bruto	Gross National Product
PIP	Los Proyectos de Inversión Productiva	Projects for Productive Investment
PNCP	Programa Nacional de Combate a la Pobreza	National Program to Combat Poverty
PNUD	Programa de Naciones Unidos para el Desarrollo	United Nations Development Program
PROCEDE	Programa de Certificación de Derechos Ejidales y Titilación de Solares	Certification Program for Common Rights and Noble Entitlements
PROAJAG	Programa de Jornaleros Agrícolas	Agricultural Day Workers Service Program
PRONAP	El Programa Nacional para la Actualización Permanente de los Maestros de Educación Básica	National Training Program for Basic Education Teachers
PRONIM	Programa para el Niño Migrante	Migrant Child Program
SAEBE	Sistema de Apoyo Económica a Buscadores de Empleo	Economic Support System to Job-Seekers
SEDESOL	Secretaría de Desarrollo Social	Ministry of Social Development
SEE	El Servicio Estatal de Empleo	State Employment Service
SEMARNAT	Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales	Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources
SEP	Secretaría de Educación Publica	Secretary of Public Education
SEPE	Secretaría de Educación Publica del Estado	State Secretary for Public Education
SICAT	El Subprograma Sistema de Capacitación para el Trabajo	Subprogram System for Job Qualification
SIDA	Síndrome de Inmuno-Deficiencia Adquirida	Auto Immune Deficiency Syndrome
SMEs	Pequeña y Mediana Empresa	Small- to Medium-sized Enterprises
SSA	Secretaría de Salubridad y Asistencia	Secretariat for Salubrity and Assistance
SSE	Secretaría de Salud Estatal	State Health Secretariat
STPS	Secretaría del Trabajo y Previsión Social	Labor and Social Security Secretariat
TB	Tuberculosis	Tuberculosis
TPCA	Tasa Promedio de Crecimiento Annual	Average Annual Growth Rate
UABCS	Universidad Autónoma Baja California Sur	Autonomous University of Southern Baja California
UMAs	Unidades de Manejo Ambiental	Habitat Management Areas
UNDP	Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD)	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia, y la Cultura	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
UPN	Universidad Pedagógica Nacional	National Pedagogy University
USAER	Unidades de Servicio y Apoyo de la Educación Regular	United Services and Support for Regular Education
VivAh	Programa de Ahorro y Subsidios para la Vivienda Progresiva	Saving and Subsidy for Progressive Housing Program

List of Community Meetings

Meeting-Workshop with NGOs

La Paz, May 15th, 2004

Panel on Education

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Judith Peterson: Presidenta de la "Fundación para los niños de la Paz, A. C."
2. Jorge Luis Ruiz: Vicepresidente de "Asociación de Oaxaqueños Radicados en B. C. S., A. C."
3. Rodrigo Rocha: integrante de "Grupo Con - Ciencia"
4. Teresa Shields: Co-Directora del "Centro Mujeres, A. C."

Panel on Health

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Ramona García Orantes, Presidenta de la Asociación de Familiares de Personas con Enfermedad Mental (AFAPEM, A. C.).
2. Dra. Mónica Jasis, Co-Directora del Centro Mujeres, A. C.
3. Isabel Sánchez Ramírez, Vicepresidente de Teddá Bemalcú, A. C.
4. Mireya Soto Sánchez, Secretaria del Patronato del Asilo de Ancianos San Vicente de Paul.

Panel on Community Development

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Maryló Mandujano: SINADES, A.C.
2. Felipe Morales: Grupo Conciencia, B.C.S.
3. Gabriela Saúl: Yo Soy Mulegé, A.C.
4. María Delgado Molina: Colonias Unidas para el Progreso
5. Pedro Juárez Mejía: Frente Único de Chilangos Radicados en B.C.S.
6. Ramiro Serna Castillo: Punitas UNAM-B.C.S., A.C y Asesoría Social Integral, A.C.
7. Robert Stant Diller: Asilo de Ancianos de San Vicente de Paul
8. Gil Simeón Martínez: Asociación de Oaxaqueños Radicados en B.C.S., A.C.
9. Emmanuel Ruíz Acosta: Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur

Panel on Economic Development

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Sinuhé Olvera: Federación Estatal de Propietarios Rurales de B. C. S.
2. Alejandro Leyva Hernández: AVE
3. Carlos Villavicencio: Squalos de México, A. C.
4. Nedda Toledo: Asociación de Oaxaqueños Radicados en BCS, A. C.
5. Aarón Eslimán: Sociedad de Historia Natural Niparajá

Panel on the Environment

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Dawn Pier, Amigos para la Conservación de Cabo Pulmo, A. C
2. Griselda Lorena Sotelo Amaya, Grupo Ecológico y Tortugero de Pescadero
3. Alfredo Gutiérrez Barreras, Instituto de Estudios Ambientales, A. C.

Panel on Art and Culture

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Dora Burgoin Márquez / Directora de la Casa del Artesano- Artesanos Sudcalifornianos, A.C.
2. Silvestre Lucero Amador/ Artesanos Socalifronianos, A.C.
3. Luis Aranda / Artesanos Sudcalifornianos, A.C.
4. Gustavo Silva Ledesma/ Asociación Filarmónica de La Paz. A.C.
5. Alfredo Navarro Obersohn/ Asociación Filarmónica de La Paz. A.C
6. Esperanza Gain/ Club Músico Amigos A.C.
7. Alejandra López Tirado /Artesanos Mar y Desierto, A.C.
8. Ernesto Adams Ruiz/ Escritores Socalifronianos A.C.
9. Silvano Ordaz Torraz / Asociación de Oaxaqueños radicados en B.C.S. A. C.

List of Community Meetings

Community Meeting-Cabo San Lucas

May 29th, 2004

Panel on Education

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Norma del C. González Perea: Presidenta del comité de Padres de Familia.
2. Ma. Herminia de Losada: Directora de Los Niños del Capitán. A-C.
3. Javier Eduardo Davis Rodríguez: Director Municipal de Educación H. Ayuntamiento de los Cabos.
4. Cathie Smith: Presidenta electa del Club Optimista Cabo San Lucas, A.C.
5. Juan Ordóñez Huerta, Padre de Familia.

Panel on Health

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Francisco Rincón, Vocal de AVE.
2. Gail L. Weaver, Tesorero de Los Amigos de los Animales.
3. Charlene D. Wenger, invitada East Cape Community Urgent Care Clinic.

Panel on Community Development

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Alejandro Ramírez Cabañas: Inmobiliaria San Antonio de Los Cabos, S.A. de C.V.

Panel on the Environment

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Francisco Alcocer, Club de Leones San José del Cabo.
2. Janeth Martínez González, Ángeles del Estero.
3. Ricardo Zaragoza Gubert, Defensores de la Bahía.
4. Martha Moctezuma, Defensores de la Bahía.
5. Carlos Villela M., Grupo Ecológico de Cabo San Lucas.
6. Ana Bertha Sandoval, G. Grupo Ecológico de Cabo San Lucas.
7. Griselda Lorena Sotelo Amaya, Grupo Ecológico y Tortuguero de El Pescadero.
8. Ma. Del Rayo Duarte Martínez, Programa para la Protección de la Tortuga Marina del Municipio de Los Cabos.
9. Luis Klein, Defensores de la Bahía.
10. Norma Sánchez, Ángeles del Estero.

Community Meeting-La Paz

June 1st, 2004

Panel on Education

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Magdalena Juárez A. Directora de la Fundación de Apoyo para Niños Especiales.
2. Manuel Portela Zúñiga. Coordinador de Jóvenes CONAFE en el Estado.
3. Sara Tuchmann. Secretaria de la Fundación de Apoyo para Niños Especiales.

Panel on Community Development

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Ignacio Cárdenas Chávez: Secretaría de Desarrollo Social
2. Pía Santelias Letelier: Colectivo Sierra de la Laguna
3. Mario Alberto Rodríguez Rodríguez: Director de la Reserva de la Biosfera Sierra de la Laguna (CONANP-SEMARNAT)
4. Ramiro Gamboa: Patronato Pro-ciegos

Panel on Economic Development

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Jesús Jiménez Izabal: Jefe de Programa SAGARPA
2. J. Ariel Valdez Valdez: Jefe de Programa SAGARPA

List of Community Meetings

3. Ma. Elena Martínez: Conservación del Territorio Insular Mexicano, A.C.
4. Luis Aranda: Coordinación del Programa de Fomento Artesanal (Gov. del Edo)
5. Miguel Ángel Martínez: Dirección de Desregulación Económica (Gov. del Edo.)
6. Carlos Villavicencio: Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur

Panel on the Environment

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. J. Gabriel Díaz Uribe, Centro Regional de Investigación Pesquera - La Paz. Instituto Nacional de la Pesca.
2. Manuel Francisco Álvarez A., APFF Islas del Golfo de California, Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas
3. Fernando Aceves, Delegado Estatal Secretaria del Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales.
4. Ramón Álvarez Laraduai, Delegado Estatal, PROFEPA.
5. Vicente Bracho, Observadores de América A.C.
6. Dennis Noemí de la Toba, SEMARNAT BCS.

Panel on Art and Culture

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Guillermina Sáinz S./ Patronato de la Cultura de B.C.S., A. C
2. Arq. Ulises Rodríguez L./ Grupo QUATTRO
3. Sandra Jefrog/ Asociación de Artistas Profesionales de La Paz, A.C.
4. Rosa Ma. Mendoza Salgado/ Patronato de la Cultura de B.C.S., A. C.
5. Samantha Rangel L / Asociación de Artistas Profesionales de La Paz. A.C.
6. Luis F. Gómez Cota / Cultura Municipal (DCAyS)
7. Armando Cos Monroy / Dirección de Cultura Municipal de La Paz.

Community Meeting-Loreto June 10th, 2004

Panel on Education

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Álvaro Aguilar Rosas. Maestro del Centro Regional de Educación Normal "Marcelo Rubio Ruiz" (CREN).
2. Darlene Hester. Presidente de Asistencia y Educación Superior en Ligüí y Ensenada Blanca, A. C.

Panel on Health

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Enfermera Gabriela de F. Baeza H. Promotora de Salud de la Secretaría de Salud.
2. Enfermera Diana I. Baltazar Olivares, Promotora de Salud, Secretaría de Salud.
3. Virginia Carmichael, ciudadana interesada en la salud de la comunidad.
4. Alexandro Castellanos A., socorrista de la Cruz Roja Mexicana.
5. Dr. Estanislao Collins Cota, presidente de Asistencia Médica en Loreto, AC
6. Carmen Leticia García, Coordinadora de Asistencia Social y Atención a Personas con Discapacidad, del Sistema Integral para la Familia (DIF municipal).
7. Paulita Gochú , integrante de Asistencia Médica en Loreto, AC.
8. Oscar Green Davis, Director de la Secretaría de Salud en Loreto
9. Dra. Silvia M. Ibarra P., odontóloga de la Secretaría de Salud.
10. Cándido Romero, socorrista de la Cruz Roja Mexicana.

Panel on Community Development

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Carlos Núñez Ruiz: Subdelegado del Instituto Nacional de Migración
2. Alejandro Trejo Fragoso: Visión Familiar Internacional, A.C.
3. Juanita Kosinski: Residente en Loreto

List of Community Meetings

Panel on Economic Development

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Celso Alaníz Chávez: Turismo Municipal
2. Roberto López G. : Parque Nacional Bahía de Loreto
3. Joaquín Arce Romero: Oficina de Pesca de la SAGARPA
4. Mario Cristerna Davis: Visión Familiar Internacional, A. C.

Panel on the Environment

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. J. Alfredo González Barreros, Instituto de Estudios Ambientales A.C.
2. David Maldonado Días, Instituto de Estudios Ambientales A.C.
3. Samuel J. Salinas, Director del Campus Loreto de la Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur.
4. Baltasar González Perales, Instituto de Estudios Ambientales A.C.

Panel on Art and Culture

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Sra. Isáis V. De Vázquez Ceja / Concertista
2. José Luis Vázquez Ceja /Director del Museo de las Misiones -INAH

Community Meeting-Guerrero Negro June 12, 2004

Panel on Education

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Sonia Palafox Silva: docente de La Universidad de Baja California Sur Campus Guerrero Negro y del Centro de Estudios Tecnológicos del Mar (CET mar) 21.
2. Carlos Saucedo S.: Subdirector del Centro de Estudios Tecnológicos del Mar (CET Mar) 21.

Panel on Health

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Elías Ávila Murillo, Trabajador Social de la Unidad de medicina Familiar No. 35 del Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social (IMSS).
2. Octavio Chaparro González, Médico Legista del IMSS.
3. Ma. Elena Moreno Cornejo, Encargada de Medicina Preventiva de la Unidad de Medicina Familiar no.35 IMSS.
4. Ana Esperanza Tobías Morales, Directora de la Unidad de medicina Familiar No. 35 IMSS

Panel on Economic Development

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. María S. Madueña: Docente de la Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur
2. Agustín López González: Secretario de la Delegación Municipal

Panel on the Environment

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Marco Antonio Flores Ojeda, Coordinador de Fomento Pesquero Municipal.
2. Enrique Achoy López, Pdte. de la Unión Protectora Eco turística de la Reserva del Vizcaíno A.C.
3. Francisco Solórzano Hernández, Representante en la mesa de Exportadora de Sal S.A. de C.V.
4. José Rodrigo Aguilar, Delegación municipal de Gro. Negro, Servicios Públicos.
5. Beatriz Bremer Hernandez, UPET-BiVi A.C.
6. Antonio Martín García Aguilar, Exportadora de Sal S.A. de C.V.

List of Community Meetings

Community Meeting-Santa Rosalía

June 14, 2004

Panel on Education

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Berenice Adam integrante de "Yo soy Mulegé" A. C.
2. Rafael Estrada A. Coordinador del H. Ayuntamiento de Mulegé.
3. Rosa Keplin integrante de "Yo soy Mulegé" A. C.
4. Marge Summers integrante de "Yo soy Mulegé" A. C.

Panel on Health

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Roy González, integrante de "Yo soy Mulegé".
2. Ana Silvia Peralta Padilla, estudiante de preparatoria.
3. Lynne Weiser, integrante de "Yo soy Mulegé".

Panel on Economic Development

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Oscar Cuesta Rosas: Pescador
2. Cutberto Sandoval: Director General de Desarrollo del Municipio
3. Alfonso Acosta Álvarez: Subdirector de Fomento Agropecuario del Municipio
4. Jorge Luis Zúñiga Leeré: Director de Desarrollo del Municipio
5. Humberto Rodríguez Tortoledo: Presidente del CEM del Partido Verde Ecologista de México
6. Jesús Hernández Romero

Panel on the Environment

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. MVZ Fortunato de Jesús Cota Aguilar, Partido Acción Nacional, Organización Ciudades Hermanas de Santa Rosalía.
2. Elizabeth Alejandra Pérez Avilés.
3. Estudiante de Preparatoria "Hnos. Flores Magón"
4. Denno Gardner, Empresario Retiro Punta Chivato.
5. Marcos C. Santyesteban García, UMA "El Boleo" SEMARNAT-032-BCS.

Panel on Art and Culture

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

1. Myra Herrmann / "Yo Soy Mulegé", A. C.
2. Gilberto Girón Soto / Director de la Preparatoria "Hermanos Flores Magón"
3. Mario Benson / Director de Comunicación Social- H. Ayuntamiento de Mulegé
4. José Andrés Cota Sandoval / Director- Centro del Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH-Mulegé)
5. Luis Ernesto Rouzaud / Asociación Ciudades Hermanas A.C.

List of Ejido Representatives and Interview Dates

La Paz Municipality

1. **El Sargento and its Anexo La Ventana:** Víctor Manuel Manzano (Mayor). October 5th, 2004.
2. **Agua Amarga:** José González (Mayor). October 5th, 2004.
3. **Todos Santos:** Antonio Avilés (Mayor). October 6th, 2004.
4. **Gral. Melitón Albañez:** Rodrigo Márquez Arellano (Mayor). October 6th, 2004.

Mulegé Municipality

5. **Díaz Ordaz:** Álvaro Zapién Castro (Mayor). October 6th, 2004.
6. **San José de Gracia:** Ángel López (Legal Representative). October 6th, 2004.
7. **Mulegé 20 de Noviembre:** Álvaro Padilla (Mayor). October 8th, 2004.
8. **Benito Juárez:** Carlos Arévalo Razo (Mayor) and Alfonso Durán Luján (President of the Auditing Committee). October 8th, 2004.
9. **Gral. Emiliano Zapata II:** Manuel Aguilar Torres (Officer in charge), Ramona Altagracia Murillo, Jorge Ramírez Hernández, Elenea del Carmen Aguilar Murillo, José Carlos Guzmán Ruiz and Mario Monroy Durán (Ejidatarios). October 9th, 2004.
10. **Gral. Emiliano Zapata III:** Raúl Saldaña Alonso (Mayor). October 9th, 2004.
11. **San Ignacio:** Rodrigo Martínez Zapién (Mayor). October 9th, 2004.

Loreto Municipality

12. **Loreto:** José Alfredo Murillo Murillo (Mayor). October 10th, 2004.
13. **San Javier:** Marco Antonio Martínez Delgado (Mayor). September 27th, 2004.

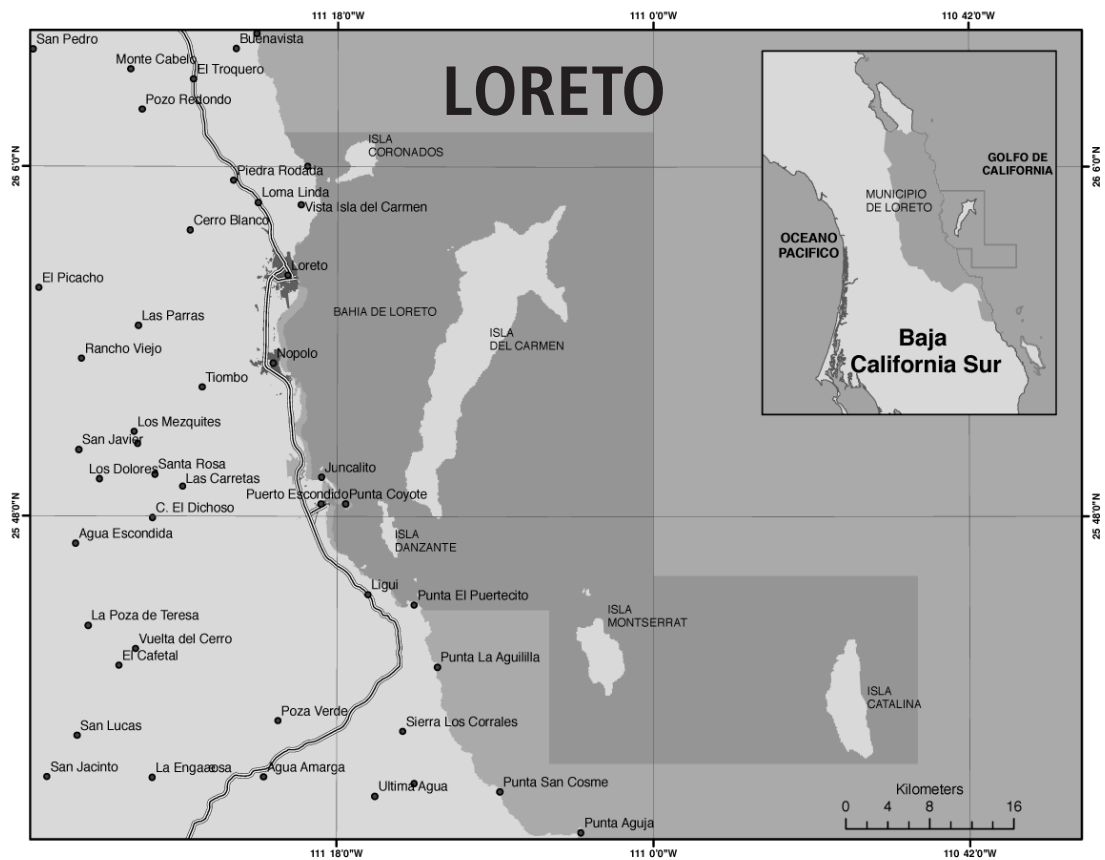
Comondú Municipality

14. **Ley Federal de Aguas No. 2:** Froylán Reyes Flores (Mayor). October 10th, 2004.
15. **Ley Federal de Aguas No. 3:** Luis García Solorio (Mayor) and Tobías González Aguilar (Secretary). October 10th, 2004.
16. **Ley Federal de Aguas No. 4:** Federico Franco (Secretary). October 11th, 2004.
17. **Ley Federal de Aguas No. 5:** Vidal Saldaña García (Mayor). October 11th, 2004.
18. **Santo Domingo:** Heleobardo Higuera (Mayor). October 11th, 2004.
19. **Matancitas:** José Miguel Cano Lagunas (Mayor). October 12th, 2004.
20. **La Purísima:** José Jesús Arvizu Herrera (Secretary). September 24th, 2004.
21. **Tepentú:** Rodolfo Alcántar Juzaino (Mayor). October 12th, 2004.

Los Cabos Municipality

22. **Cabo San Lucas:** Héctor Essau González Arvizu (Legal Advisor). October 14th, 2004.
23. **Boca de la Sierra:** Román Lucero Rosas (Mayor). October 15th, 2004.
24. **La Rivera:** Enrique Avilés (Mayor). October 15th, 2004.
25. **San José del Cabo:** Ángel Salvador Ceseña Burgoin (Mayor). October 15th, 2004.

Additional Maps



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ENDNOTES

INTRODUCTION (pages 15-24)

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- ³ Gob. Del estado de BCS, Dir. De Planeación, *Programas de Desarrollo Regional 2001*, [Regional development Programs 2001], La Paz, BCS., pp. 1-3.
- ⁴ Comisión Nacional de Areas Naturales Protegidas [National Commission of Protected Natural Areas] (CONANP), *Programa de Manejo Complejo Insular del Espiritu Santo Mexico* [Program of complex insular management of Espiritu Santo], SEMARNAT, Mexico D.F. 2000, p. 51.
- ⁵ Gob. Del Estado de BCS, *PEOT*, Op. Cit., p. 18.
- ⁶ H. VIII Ayuntamiento de Los Cabos, *Plan Municipal de Desarrollo 2002-2005* [Municipal Development Plan], p.44.
- ⁷ H. XI Ayuntamiento de La Paz, *Plan Municipal de Desarrollo, 2002-2005* [Municipal Development Plan], p. 12.
- ⁸ H. Ayuntamiento de Comondú , *Plan Municipal de Desarrollo, 2002-2005* [Municipal Development Plan], p.24.
- ⁹ H. IV Ayuntamiento de Loreto , *Plan Municipal de Desarrollo, 2002-2005* [Municipal Development Plan], pp 3-7.
- ¹⁰ H. XI Ayuntamiento de Mulegé , *Plan Municipal de Desarrollo, 2002-2005* [Municipal Development Plan], p.8.
- ¹¹ Gob. Del Estado de BCS, Dir. De Planeación, *Programas de Desarrollo Regional 2001* [Regional Development Programs], Op. Cit., p..
- ¹² Data provided by the delegation in BCS of Mexico's National Land Registry (Registro Agrario Nacional), official publication SRAJ/930/2004, September 8th, 2004.
- ¹³ An *ejido* is a parcel of communally-owned land (see further explanation on next page).
- ¹⁴ Instituto Nacional de Geografía y Estadística [National Institute of Geography and Statistics] (INEGI), *Resultados definitivos, VII Censo Ejidal* [Definitive results of the seventh Ejido Census], Baja California Sur 1991.
- ¹⁵ As seen by the numbers in Figure 2, between the 1991 *ejido* census and the 2004 research, almost 1.5 million acres of *ejido* lands were sold as private parcels.
- ¹⁶ José Urciaga Garcia, *El desarrollo de la agricultura en Baja California Sur (1960-1991)*[Development of Agriculture in Baja California Sur], UABCS, La Paz, BCS 1993, pp.68-69.
- ¹⁷ Occurred on January 6th 1992.
- ¹⁸ PROCEDE: Program for the certification of ejido rights and title decrees of urban lots.
- ¹⁹ 25% of the total 100 "ejidos" in Baja California Sur were interviewed. Those "ejidos" where UABCS researchers did field work are shown in the corresponding map.
- ²⁰ Antonina Ivanova-Boncheva; Manuel Ángeles-Villa (eds.), *Diagnóstico Estratégico de Baja California Sur*, [Strategic Diagnosis of Baja California Sur], UABCS-SEP, Mexico 2003, p. 127-129.
- ²¹ Antonina Ivanova-Boncheva; Manuel Ángeles-Villa (eds.), Op. Cit. p. 141.
- ²² INEGI, *Anuario Estadístico: Baja California Sur*, [Statistics Yearbook] 2003, INEGI-Gob. Del Estado de BCS, Mexico 2003, pp 43-49.
- ²³ Gob. Del Estado de BCS, *PEOT*, Op. Cit., p. 50.
- ²⁴ INEGI, *XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda, 2000*. [12th General Population and Housing Census]. Database of the census sample, web page, updated June 2003.
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- ²⁶ Mexican minimum wage for BCS was the equivalent of US\$4.32/day during the 2000 census. Effective January 1, 2006 it has been raised to US\$4.50/day.
- ²⁷ Antonina Ivanova-Boncheva ; Manuel Ángeles-Villa (eds.), *Op. Cit.*, pp.127-129.
- ²⁸ La Paz and Todos Santos municipality figures are combined here during 1950-1970 to replicate current geographic boundaries for the La Paz municipality; the same is true for San Antonio, San Jose del Cabo and Santiago for the current Los Cabos municipality. Loreto was not made its own municipality until 1992.
- ²⁹ Antonina Ivanova-Boncheva ; Manuel Ángeles-Villa (eds.), *Op. Cit.*, p. 131.
- ³⁰ H. VIII Ayuntamiento de Los Cabos, *Plan Municipal de Desarrollo, 2002-2005* [Municipal Development Plan] pp. 48-49.
- ³¹ *Nuestra Ciudad*, Medio informativo de los sucesos más relevantes de La Paz y del Municipio. [Information on the most relevant events in La Paz and the municipality]. XI H. Ayuntamiento de La Paz. Gaceta bimestral
- ³² H. XI Ayuntamiento de Mulegé, *Plan Municipal de Desarrollo [Municipal Development Plan], 2002-2005*, pg. 19.
- ³³ H. XI Ayuntamiento de La Paz, *Plan Municipal de Desarrollo [Municipal Development Plan], 2002-2005*, p.15.
- ³⁴ UNDP Webpage: www.undp.org/hdr2003/español (CD).
- ³⁵ Idem.
- ³⁶ Idem.
- ³⁷ World Bank Webpage: <http://www.worldbank.org/depweb/spanish/modules/economic> World Bank: World development indicators, April 20, 2002.
- ³⁸ Secretaría de Salud, *Salud Mexico-2004* [Mexico-Health 2004], page 50.
- ³⁹ Ibid, page 203.

ENDNOTES

⁴⁰ Ibid, page 201.

⁴¹ Gob. Del Estado de BCS, *PEOT*, Op. Cit., pg. 44.

⁴² Idem., pg. 91.

⁴³ Idem.

⁴⁴ Nuestra Ciudad, pg. 7.

⁴⁵ H. XI Ayuntamiento de Mulegé, pg. 19.

⁴⁶ INEGI. Census Year 2000.

⁴⁷ Treasury – Federal transfers to States and municipalities. Consolidated by state. Calendar year 2004. Diario Oficial de la Federación

⁴⁸ Ibid.

ARTS & CULTURE (PAGES 25 - 32)

¹ Mainly federal and state resources create these funds, municipal participation is usually based on materials and logistics, and financial contribution from the municipality depends on the kind of activity or cultural promotion to which funds are destined. By and large, municipalities receive the benefits from federal and state funds.

² Atlas de Infraestructura Cultural, Op. Cit. p, 137

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⁷ Instituto Sudcaliforniano de Cultura.

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⁹ This figure does not include libraries belonging to higher education institutions.

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- ³² H. VIII Ayuntamiento de Los Cabos, *Plan Municipal de...*, Op. Cit., pp. 117-122.
- ³³ *Idem*.
- ³⁴ H. XI Ayuntamiento de Mulegé, *Plan Municipal de...*, Op. Cit., pp. 27-30.
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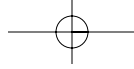
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NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (PAGES 69 - 73)

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