

# Project “Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biodiversity in the Mexican Caribbean”

## Context

Biodiversity in the Mexican Caribbean is currently threatened by overexploitation, pollution and the degradation of its ecosystems, and with it also the well-being of the coastal population and important economic sectors such as tourism and fisheries. Therefore, the region’s natural resources must be protected and sustainable activities promoted, particularly in the Mexican Caribbean Biosphere Reserve and the 15 additional marine-coastal protected areas in the region.

## Objective

The state, private sector and civil society work more closely together to improve the protection and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in the Mexican Caribbean.

## Approach

The project contributes to the implementation of Mexico’s National Biodiversity Strategy (EnBioMex 2016-2030) as well as its National Policy of Seas and Coasts (PNMC – 2018). As a result, national efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda are encouraged, focusing specifically on SDGs 13, 14 and 15.

The project is focused on strengthening the capacities of authorities at all levels, with an emphasis on the organizational development of the National Commission of Protected Natural Areas (CONANP) and on network building. Moreover, it seeks to improve cooperation between CONANP and other stakeholders, such as the National Commission of Aquaculture and Fishing (CONAPESCA), the Ministry of Marine Affairs (SEMAR), civil society organizations and local surveillance committees, among others.

Furthermore, the project fosters the importance of marine ecosystems in governmental policies and programs, as well as in private sector decision-making, through networking expansion and communication.

Additionally, it is expected to strengthen social participation in the region by raising awareness among other actors such as the local population and tourists regarding the importance of protected areas’ biodiversity and the necessity of establishing alliances to protect and preserve the Mexican Caribbean’s natural resources.

Project name	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biodiversity in the Mexican Caribbean
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Mexican Caribbean, 16 Protected Natural Areas which cover 6,9 million hectares in total
Executing agency	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Duration	From 2020 to 2024
German contribution	4,5 million EUR
Contribution to SDGs	    

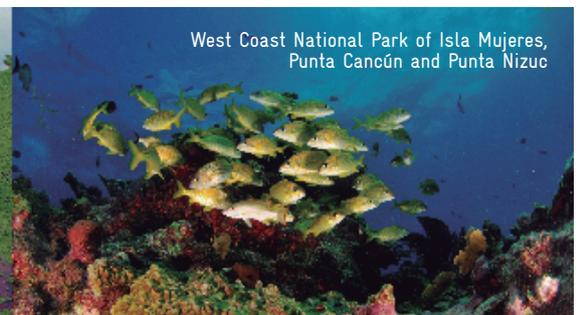
Whale Shark Biosphere Reserve



Yum Balam Protection Area of Flora and Fauna



West Coast National Park of Isla Mujeres, Punta Cancún and Punta Nizuc



## Components

The project comprises four components:

- 1) Strengthening the management skills of the National Commission of Protected Natural Areas (CONANP) in the region.
- 2) Improving cooperation between actors in coastal and marine area planning and management.
- 3) Implementing productive pilot projects related to the sustainable use of biodiversity.
- 4) Promoting the value of ecosystem services so they are taken into account in the planning processes and policies of relevant sectors.

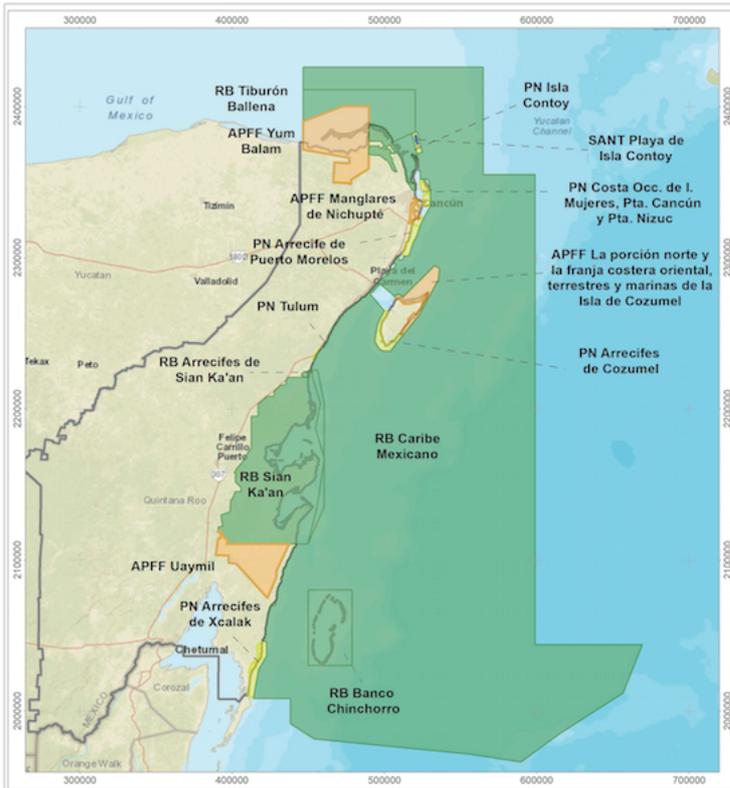
## Expected results

Decision makers recognize the need to use marine biodiversity sustainably as a key element for sustainable development and take it into account in high-level strategic decision-making.

Further national and international donors are willing to support the identified model projects in order to strengthen the resilience and well-being of particularly vulnerable groups.

Information systems to improve management effectiveness of protected natural areas in different regions (including the Mexican Caribbean) are designed in such a way that the compatibility of parameters and indicators at the national level can be ensured.

Federal funds for the conservation of nature remain constant or increase so that CONANP and other stakeholders are able to continue conducting their activities and performing their functions.



Simbología		Localización	Información Cartográfica
<b>Proyecto Caribe Mexicano</b> <b>Áreas Naturales Protegidas Federales</b>	<b>ANP Federales</b> Parques Nacionales (PN) Reservas de la Biosfera (RB) Áreas de Protección de Flora y Fauna (APFF) Santuarios (SANT) Límite Estatal	Mapa de México con una recuadro rojo que indica la zona de estudio en el Caribe Mexicano.	Sistema de coordenadas: WGS 84 UTM Zona 16 Proyección: Transverso Mercator Datum: WGS 84 Falso Este: 500,000,000 Falso Norte: 0,000 Escala: 1:2,300,000 Unidades: Metros Fuente: Marco Geoestadístico Nacional, 2018 (INEGI) Elaboró: Estefanía Medina Bastarrachea Fecha: Julio, 2021
	0 15 30 45 60 75 80 Kilómetros		

Area of intervention of the Mexican Caribbean Project in 16 marine-coastal Protected Natural Areas