

MEXICO AND THE NETHERLANDS WILL JOINTLY WORK ON FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT

- CONAGUA and the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment of the Netherlands signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
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- It is an opportunity to use international experience and develop programmes for Guerrero and Tabasco, said the Director General of CONAGUA.
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- Mexico obtained knowledge on flood control with Ingrid and Manuel phenomena, emphasised the Foreign Trade and Cooperation Development Minister of the Netherlands.

The National Water Commission (CONAGUA) and the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment of the Netherlands signed a Technical Assistance and Cooperation MoU on water resources, aimed at exchanging scientific and technological knowledge in strategic areas on flood management and care, generating early warning systems, and security of dams and levees.

During the MoU signing ceremony, David Korenfeld, Director General of CONAGUA, and Lilianne Ploumen, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation Minister, agreed that one of the main objectives is the coordination in the field of water management towards contributing to the economic and social development of both countries.

Since one of the key features of the technical assistance to be developed, will focus on flood protection, planning and care, David Korenfeld stressed that for President Peña Nieto this topic is a priority in Tabasco and in any other area of the territory vulnerable to flood impact. Therefore he emphasised the importance of sharing the experiences that the Netherlands has developed in this field.

Dutch minister Lilianne Ploumen recognised the work of Mexico on early warning and flood control implemented in September 2013, derived from the impact of Ingrid and Manuel in the country, which left the experience of how to live with water, and it is important to share it in order to prevent the social impact in other countries that could be at risk, with the aim of preserving the well being of populations and ensure sustainable development, she said.

The Technical Assistance and Cooperation MoU on water resources provides the development of emergency plans and risk reduction measures to prevent and mitigate the adverse impacts of hydrometeorological phenomena. Collaboration is

aimed at the exchange of experience and capacity building for the development, management and protection of water resources.

To do this, specialists will be trained on flooding contingency prevention as well as on new technologies through pilot programmes and reciprocal invitations to seminars and technical workshops in both countries on water themes.

It is noteworthy that the Netherlands promotes international principles on Integrated Water Resources Management, a focus to ensure that social, economic, environmental and technical aspects are considered through actions to maximise economic and social well being without compromising the sustainability of ecosystems.

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