

Tec to implement methodology for waste management in Mexico



In order to contribute to achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, the [Tec School of Engineering and Sciences \(EIC\)](#), will be analyzing the status of **waste management in Mexico** in collaboration with the [University of Georgia](#), the **FEMSA Foundation**, and [Ocean Conservancy](#).

It will do so by **implementing a methodology** known as the *Circularity Assessment Protocol (CAP)*, developed by the [University of Georgia](#), which has been tested successfully in **10 different countries**.

In the words of [University of Georgia](#) professor **Jenna R. Jambeck**, who is also the **lead author** for this methodology: “*CAP is a collaborative data-gathering process to enhance decision-making on the management of sustainable materials.*”



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In Mexico, CAP will be **launched** simultaneously **for the first time** in **four different centers**: Mexico City, Monterrey, Querétaro, and Chiapas.

Jenna R. Jambeck added that the initiative **will have a direct impact on several [SDGs](#)**, from Number 11: **[“Sustainable Cities and Communities”](#)** to Number 12: **[“Responsible Production and Consumption”](#)** and Number 14: **[“Life Below Water”](#)**.

For her part, **Gabriela Ortiz Martínez**, professor of sustainable technologies and civil engineering at the **Tec’s Monterrey campus**, said that the study will allow them **to determine behavioral patterns** and information that will help improve waste management.



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The aim is to **reincorporate these into the value chain** and favor the principles of the circular economy, while also preventing much of this waste from **ending up in the oceans**.

“By applying this methodology, we can evaluate the traceability of the waste that forms part of our everyday lives and make a diagnosis.”

Based on this analysis, new strategies can be designed that prevent inappropriate disposal of waste and identify recovery options by means of a circular economy,” said **Gabriela Ortiz**.

She added that as the **Tec** will be the institution **leading implementation** of the methodology in Mexico, **one academic leader has been designated from each campus** where the project is to be carried out.

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These are the professors who have been designated: for Monterrey campus, **Mónica Delgado** and **Yasmany Mancilla**; **Carlos Ortiz** at Santa Fe; **Emilio Clark** at Querétaro; and **Mario Alberto Trujillo** for Chiapas.

Ortiz Martínez acknowledged the work of the **FEMSA Foundation** and its sustainable development manager, **Carlos Hurtado**, who has worked to **bring** the organizations taking part together.



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She added that the idea of a circular economy is gaining ground on the agenda of the **Tec School of Engineering and Sciences**, as a commitment to sustainability **forms part of its academic goals**.

“The CAP methodology is for us an example of how to implement effective solutions for preventing waste from going into the ocean,” said **Érica Núñez**, a manager at **[Ocean Conservancy](#)**.

She affirmed that this method of evaluating what is really happening at local level in terms of waste management can provide communities with a **useful tool for taking specific steps** in accordance with their needs.



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What's more, **Karina Ledesma**, a sustainable development analyst at the **FEMSA Foundation**, said that the issue of waste management **depends on the characteristics of each city**, so they aim to use this methodology to close gaps in understanding of the problem and **generate highly valuable information**.

"It's an important opportunity for collaboration, as it allows us to set the standard in Mexico on how to address a global problem," she explained.

For implementation, the project will have the support of the **EIC Water Center** through its director, **Alberto Mendoza Domínguez**.

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