



Arizona/Sonora Regional Workgroup

2019-2020 Action Plan Summary

On-going activities*

June 8, 2020

The purpose of the Arizona/Sonora 2019-2020 Action Plan is to report, track and assess progress towards achieving Border 2020 Goals and Objectives. The Action Plan includes program commitments, timeframes and outputs for activities undertaken by Border 2020 Program partners working to improve environmental conditions in border communities of the Arizona-Sonora region.

Summary of 2019-2020 Action Plan

The 2019-2020 Action Plan summarized 36 projects and initiatives. Eleven projects have been completed and 23 efforts are on-going (see Table 1). Assessment of progress made showed nearly 53% of the projects achieved *significant progress or were completed*.

On-going Activities

Below is a brief summary of new, on-going, and completed efforts funded through several USEPA resources and programs including Border 2020, Clean Air Act 105 funding, Solid Waste Disposal Act, and other resources from Border 2020 partners.

Goal 1 – Air

- Establish the “Site Access Agreement between State of Sonora Ecology and Sustainable Development Commission (CEDES) and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)” that will allow ADEQ staff to access the site to install and operate a NO_x Monitor in San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora. The monitor will lead to a better understanding of NO_x pollution in the binational airshed of Arizona/Sonora border region.
- Develop the Nogales PM_{2.5} maintenance State Implementation Plan (SIP) which is needed to classify the area as attaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and will help ensure the area will continue to have clean air to protect the communities of Ambos Nogales.
- Develop the Douglas/Paul Spur PM₁₀ control measure State Implementation Plan (SIP), which includes an Attainment Analysis; a Base Emission Inventory and a Control Analysis, to help decrease emissions for the Douglas/Agua Prieta region to protect human health.

*Note: Due to COVID-19 some projects might have challenges and may change deliverables on a case-to-case basis. <https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus>

Goal 2 – Water

- Implement Arizona State University’s water quality project that will produce a binational and sustainable strategy to address stormwater control, urban flooding and water quality concerns in the Ambos Nogales area. The project will use digital mapping to identify optimal location of GI (Green Infrastructure) interventions in the watershed to evaluate stormwater runoff reduction in each city. ASU staff will also conduct two workshops and school-based programming (two demonstration projects) to share project information at local middle schools in Nogales, Sonora and Nogales, Arizona.

Goal 3 – Materials Management and Clean Sites

- Initiate practices to safely dismantle scrap (end-of-life) vehicles, plan and promote educational workshops, provide compliance assistance, and enforcement in Nogales, Sonora.
- Adapt Arizona Department of Environmental Quality’s (ADEQ) e-waste collection guidance for cities to organize e-waste collection in three cities bordering the state of Arizona.
- Conduct trash characterization assessment (web-based application) hosted by Nogales, Sonora for citizens to report trash. Collected information will help identify and prioritize trash sites in Nogales, Sonora and help conduct over 30 trash cleanup efforts.

Goal 4 – Emergency Preparedness and Response

- Update Sister City Emergency Plans in several of the Arizona/Sonora border communities by the end of the calendar year 2020. Sister City Plans establish the policies, responsibilities, and procedures required to protect the health and safety of the populace, environment, public and private property from the effects of any incident.

Fundamental Strategy: Environmental Health

- University of Arizona and other local partners will collaborate on pest related pollution prevention and emergency preparedness through integrated pest management education with three tribal communities Tohono O’odham Nation, the Cocopah Tribe, and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Effort will identify capacity building/training needs and conduct workshops focused on the specific environmental health priorities as identified by each tribal community.
- Healthy Places for Healthy People Program in Nogales, AZ will be led by Mariposa Community Health Center to identify a location for a new health center for the community of Nogales, Arizona. This is in coordination with the Appalachian Regional Commission, U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and Human Health Services (HHS). Grantee will look for further support by applying for a Brownfield grant <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/overview-epas-brownfields-program>.

Table 1:

**Summary of active and on-going projects
Arizona-Sonora Action Plan 2019-2020**

Goals	Air	Water	Waste	Emergency	Health	Total
Deliverable Achieved	3	2		2	4	11
Significant Progress	2		1	1	4	8
Moderate Progress			1		5	6
Initial Progress	3	1	1		3	7
No Progress			1			2
*Cancelled		1	1			2
TOTAL	8	4	5	3	16	36