U.S. Mexico Border 2012
Texas, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas
Environmental Health
Regional Workgroup

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Meetings Held:

- Laredo
- Matamoros
- Eagle Pass
- Reynosa
Regional Demographics:

- Population: 75,000 – 300,000 - Increase daily by 50,000 - 100,000
- All Sister Cities in Mexico are larger
- Age: 40-50% is less than 18 years old
- 40% of nations commerce’ (Laredo)
- 11,000 Commercial trucks (Laredo)
Pollution Sources

- Water Pollution
- Air Contaminants
- Car Tire Problem
- Pesticides
- Warehouses (hazardous material)
- Railways
Existing Health Problems

- Access to Health Care, Health Professions Shortage Area, some don’t have Community Hospital, >50% = Uninsured

- Infectious Disease (TB, Hepatitis, Emerging and New – WNV, environmental contaminants)
Environmental Health Objectives

Objective 1---- Air
○ Objective 2---- Water
○ Objective 3---- Pesticides
○ Objectives 4---- Capacity Building
AIR

Air monitoring systems

- Carbon monoxide, Nitrogen oxides, Sulphur dioxide, Ozone, PM
- Air quality public information
- Mandatory vehicle inspection
- Modify Air emission policies
- Environmental education
Water

- Inadequate filtering, and treatment plants,
- Arsenic, Haloacetic acids, Trihalomethane
- Sewage treatment and waste water re use
Pesticides

- Recognition of Pesticide Poisoning - Binational
- Institutional Network
- Scientific Research
- Recycling
- Promotion and Education
Capacity Building

- Environmental Health Academy
- Post Graduate Education
- Technological Challenge
Associations with Various Groups:

Public Health, SEDESOL, SAGARPA, SEMARNAT, EPA, CCEPA, IBWC, NASA, AFMES, etc.....
Next Steps:

- Disseminate Air Monitoring Information
- Environmental and Outreach Education
- Promote technology
- Scientific Research
- Advance Training
- MOUs
Projects

- Evaluation of Infrastructure Impacts on Rio Grande River Water Quality, $45
- Measure & Reduce Childhood Exposure to Pesticides in the TX/MX Border Region, $29
- Environmental Health Prevention and Control, $70
Priorities FY05

- Gastrointestinal Illnesses Prevention
- Reduce Pesticide Exposure
- Binational Programs
- Data Exchange
Future Activities

- Health Hazard Assessment
- Environmental Health Training
- Training Providers
- Risk and Cumulative Risk Analysis
- Partner with other agencies