MAWAC-ENA WORKSHOP

PARIS

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FROM EAUMEGA2015 TO THE MAWAC ALLIANCE

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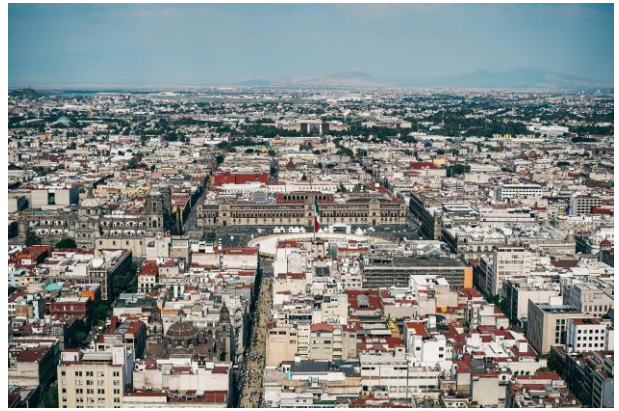
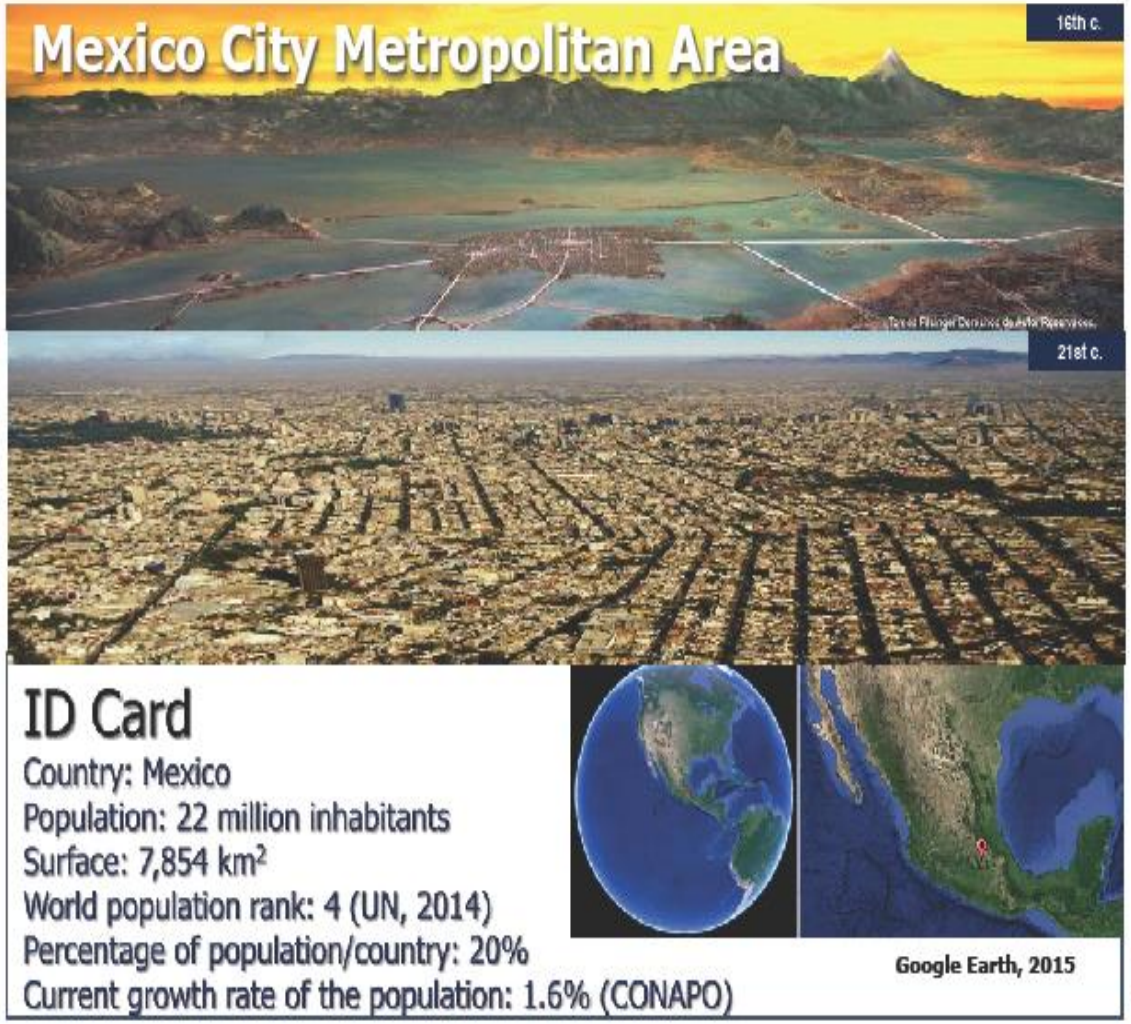
CONTEXT: Why “Water and Megacities”?

- **Rapid urbanization**: increased pressure on water resources and infrastructure
- **12 megacities studied** (Tokyo, Mexico City, Paris, Lagos, etc.)
- Most cities located **near rivers or coasts** -> vulnerable to floods, droughts, and pollution
- **Goal**: link urban growth, water management, and climate adaptation



Case Study: Mexico City, 2015



– Main issues in Mexico City Metropolitan Area –

- Born as a "small island", it expanded to fill all the flat land and mountain flanks of a basin which was closed in its natural state.
- Its population multiplied 20 times during the twentieth century: growing demand for services in the fields of water supply, drainage and sanitation.
- Modification of the hydrological cycle as a consequence of artificial drainage and urbanization of the basin: disappearance of wetlands, lakes and springs; increased surface runoff and drastic reduction in infiltration; diffuse pollution of the aquifer.
- 65% of the water supplied to the MCMA comes from the aquifers, partly at the expense of overexploitation, at a rate of about 28 m^3/s.
- Overexploitation has caused: land subsidence, damage to drainage and distribution networks, damage to hydraulic and urban infrastructure in general.
- 35% of the water volume supplied to the MCMA is lost through leakage in the distribution networks, dislocated and fractured by differential land subsidence.
- The importation of water to supplement supply faces high costs, energy demand and growing social and political opposition.
- Land subsidence creates serious frequent flooding, despite the large capacity drainage infrastructure.
- Lack of large scale sanitation infrastructure has resulted in serious water pollution of the basin which receives the effluent from the MCMA.
- Population growth demands more water, not allowing to reduce aquifer overexploitation and the development of new water sources is increasingly costly and complicated.

Case Study: Paris, 2015

PARIS

ID Card

Country: France
Population:10,5 millions
Surface: 2,845 km2
World population rank: 25
Percentage of population/country: 16%
Current growth rate of the population: 0,5%
Contribution to National GDP : 30%

Google Maps, 2015

– Main issues in Paris –

Management of stormwater for improving the quality of the river Seine.

Sustainable management of runoff in new development areas.

Valuation of wastewater as a resource: water-food-energy nexus.

Development of a high performance, safe, reliable and resilient drinking water and sanitation management.

Implementation of a new organization of local authorities and water policy governance.

Adaptation to expected climate change at mid century: 15% to 50% reduction of flows in the rivers.

Re-discovering of water in the megacity by its habitants.

WATER, MEGACITIES AND GLOBAL CHANGE

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EAUMEGA2015: A UNESCO Initiative

- **First international conference** on *Water, Megacities, and Global Change*
- **Date**: 1-4 December 2015, Paris (UNESCO HQ)
- **Participants**: mayors, city planners, hydrologists, and climate experts
- **Main themes**: urban water management, resilience to floods and droughts, urban planning, and climate adaptation
- **Goal:** create a bridge between scientific knowledge and urban governance

Key Findings

- Aging water systems in older cities (Paris, London, etc.)
- Unequal access and informal systems in developing megacities (Lagos, Manila, Mumbai)
- Water scarcity in inland cities (Beijing, Mexico city)
- Need for integrated urban water management across sectors

From EAUMEGA to MAWAC

- The conference resulted in the creation of the **Alliance of Megacities for Water and Climate (MAWAC)**.
- Its mission: to **share experiences**, **develop solutions**, and **strengthen cooperation** among megacities facing water challenges.
- **Initial member cities**: Paris, Tokyo, Mexico City, São Paulo, etc.

Legacy and Impact

- MAWAC continues to **connect cities and experts worldwide**.
- The Alliance contributes to **SDGs (SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation; SDG 13: Climate Action**; **SDG11: Sustainable Cities and Communities**)
- UNESCO continues to support and collaborate with **mayors and technical institutions**.
- **MAWAC ENA 2025 workshop** is a direct continuation of that legacy.

Thank you for your attention

NAME : H.E. Ms Blanca E. Jiménez Cisneros

INSTITUTION : Mexican Government

MEGACITY : Mexico

MAWAC- ENA PARIS 2025