

# **Interactive Map to promote the information of the environmental services provided by Chapultepec Forest derived from i-Tree Eco adapted to Mexico**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Chapultepec Forest has been a strategic place for Mexico City for more than seven centuries. The periurban forest role that Chapultepec played changed to an urban park in the late XIX Century and for more than a century this park has, in addition to its historic significance, a cultural, recreational and environmental importance to the city and its inhabitants. Until recently the information of the tree cover of Chapultepec was limited, based on guesstimates or rounds and never were determined the environmental services, despite its long standing and transcendence. A pioneer project in the country was done with updated tree inventory data from Chapultepec recorded in 2018, using the recently version of i-Tree Eco adapted to Mexico City in 2017-2018. The derived information of tree data, environmental services and economic value has been displayed for the general public in an interactive map located in the web page of Mexico City's Secretary of the Environment (<http://www.data.sedema.cdmx.gob.mx/arboloadochapultepec/>); using free and open source softwares (QGIS and Open Street Maps). The map has an introduction where the research project is described and a guide to use the map. Non technical vocabulary was used although a glossary was added to facilitate the comprehension of the information. A summary of the data is displayed for every inventoried zone/subzone, as well as the information for every tree (height-diameter-canopy-environmental services-value), and its picture. This interactive map is the first one designed in Mexico for the regular citizen and we are confident that it will facilitate the accessibility of them to this new kind of information.

## **BIOGRAPHY**

**Héctor M. Benavides-Meza** - I received my M. Sc. in Botany from Colegio de Postgraduados and a Ph. D. in 2000 from Cornell University in the Department of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture. I was a Forest Researcher in the National Institute of Forestry, Agriculture and Cattle Research (INIFAP) since 1981 and have been working in urban forestry since 1987. After I studied biology and I began to work in forest research, and almost immediately I knew about urban forestry and I found this discipline very interesting to work and I have been working in this field for more than 30 years. I have been working in the last years at the most important urban parks in Mexico City: Tlalpan (2003-2004); Chapultepec (2007-2009, 2011 to 2015 and nowadays); San Juan de Aragón (2010-2011). My research group and I did the characterization and diagnosis of these areas as well as tree inventories, which were used to obtain basic information to develop the methodology for urban forest management programs.

**Fabiola López** is an Urban Forestry Consultant of International Programs, US Forest Service that worked in the adaptation of i-Tree Eco tool for Mexico. She provides training and technical assistance in

designing and implementing urban tree inventories with i-Tree Eco to Mexican institutions. Since 2009 she has collaborated with INIFAP in several urban forestry research projects and her focus is to develop applied research to understanding how urban forest structure affect environmental benefits generation to improve urban forest management. Fabiola is a biologist of UNAM, México and has a M.S. in Forestry from the COLPOS, Texcoco, México.

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