

December 16th 2025

International Call to Halt the Topolobampo Ammonia Plant in Mexico

We, 112 organisations from multiple regions of the world, write to express our deep concern regarding the severe human rights violations and environmental harms occurring in Topolobampo, Sinaloa, Mexico. These violations were formally brought to your attention by eleven United Nations Special Rapporteurs on September 19th 2025. These independent experts issued [formal communications](#) to the German, Swiss and Mexican governments, as well as to KfW-IPEX-Bank, Proman and Gas y Petroquímica de Occidente (GPO), warning of serious risks associated with the ammonia plant under construction by Thyssenkrupp Uhde for GPO (a subsidiary of Proman) in Ohuira Bay. To date, these concerns have not been addressed.

Topolobampo is a region whose economy and cultural identity depend on its mangroves, fisheries and the ecological integrity of the Gulf of California. The ammonia plant, enabled through European financial and technical backing, poses an irreversible threat to this landscape, placing ecosystems, livelihoods and human lives at unacceptable risk. The project's continuation, despite repeated alerts from local residents, scientists and UN experts, demonstrates an alarming disregard for human rights.

The information cited in the letters details the severe impacts that the ammonia plant would have, such as "the destruction of more than 500 tons of shrimp larvae annually," which is more than half of the reported production in Ohuira Bay. Such loss would collapse the livelihoods of thousands of fishermen in the area, undermining food security and destabilizing the local economy. In addition to being a critical source of income, the Santa María-Topolobampo-Ohuira lagoon system is recognized as a wetland of global importance (Ramsar) for conservation and includes islands belonging to the UNESCO World Heritage Site "Islands of the Gulf of California". The advancement of this ammonia plant directly endangers protected ecosystems and the lives of communities that steward them.

These concerns are made even more urgent by GPO's own data. In its Environmental Risk Study, the company acknowledges that even a 5-minute ammonia leak could render the entire Ohuira Bay a zone of "immediate danger to health or life". Experts warn that, given the scale of ammonia to be processed at the plant, an explosion could generate a toxic cloud large enough to reach the city of Los Mochis, Sinaloa. This would impact more than 400,000 people. This risk alone demonstrates that the project is incompatible with basic human rights obligations.

We also draw attention to the serious security crisis unfolding in the region. The UN letters document threats, intimidation and violence against members of the affected communities. The letters recount testimonies of serious attacks, including the attempted kidnapping and disappearance of one of the defenders. These acts are

directly linked to those who publicly oppose the project. It is urgent that the German, Swiss and Mexican governments ensure accountability for these abuses and address the role played by KfW-IPEX-Bank, Proman, Thyssenkrupp Uhde and GPO in enabling a project that has already generated harm even while still in construction.

Indigenous Mayo-Yoreme and local communities have repeatedly expressed their concerns and non-consent for this project and their warnings about their health and safety have consistently been ignored. When those most affected refuse their consent and when evidence shows catastrophic environmental and human risks, all actors involved have a legal, ethical and political responsibility to cease construction and guarantee human rights.

We therefore join the UN Special Rapporteurs in expressing our deep concern and call for the immediate suspension of construction of GPO's ammonia plant in Topolobambo, Sinaloa, Mexico. We further demand that the safety of environmental and community defenders be guaranteed, and that a full re-evaluation of the project and its damages be conducted before any further action.

Respectfully,

— INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Blue Planet Project
Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
Corporate Europe Observatory
European Water Movement
Food & Water Action Europe
Global Atlas of Environmental Justice
Re-Earth Initiative
RESAMA – Red Sudamericana para las Migraciones Ambientales
Resource Justice Network

— ORGANIZATIONS BY COUNTRY

Argentina

Asociación Argentina de Abogados/as Ambientalistas
Cooperativa Audiovisual Lawen
Multisectorial Golfo San Matías

Australia

Jubilee Australia Research Centre

Bolivia

Plataforma Boliviana Frente al Cambio Climático (PBFCC)

Colombia

Asociación de Pescadores Artesanales del Golfo de Morrosquillo (ASOPARGOLMO)
Movimiento Cesar Sin Fracking y Sin Gas

Democratic Republic of Congo

Climate Clock

Dominican Republic

Comité Nacional de Lucha Contra el Cambio Climático (CNLCC)
Instituto de Abogados para la Protección del Medio Ambiente (INSAPROMA)

Germany

Andy Gheorghiu Consulting
Bürgerinitiative gegen CO2-Endlager e.V.
Deutsche Umwelthilfe / Environmental Action Germany
Leave it in the Ground Initiative (LINGO)
Netzwerk Energiedrehscheibe
Urgewald

Guyana

Justice Institute Guyana

Netherlands

ASEED - Action for Solidarity, Equality, Environment and Diversity

Nigeria

Renevlyn Development Initiative (RDI)

Panama

ADOPTA Bosque Panamá
Centro de Incidencia Ambiental (CIAM)

Paraguay

Unión Juvenil Indígena del Paraguay (UJIP)

Portugal

Climáximo

Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico Clinicians for Climate Action

Switzerland

Direkte Solidarität mit Chiapas
SOLIFONDS
Secretariado de Centroamérica

United Kingdom

Landworkers' Alliance
Mothers Rise Up

United States

Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility
Clinicians for Climate Action New Jersey
For a Better Bayou
Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility
Idaho Clinicians for Climate and Health
Periodismo para Elevar la Conciencia Ecológica (PECE)
RiSE for Environmental Justice
Texas Campaign for the Environment

— ORGANIZATIONS BY MEXICAN STATE

Baja California

GBAL - Grupo Ballena Azul Loreto
Mexicali Resiste
Nosotras y el Mar

Baja California Sur

BCSicletes, Colectivo de Ciclismo Urbano, A.C.
Centro de Energía Renovable y Calidad Ambiental

Chiapas

Siuat Yoltechikatli por los Derechos Humanos

Chihuahua

Agua y Bosques para la Vida de la Sierra Tarahumara
Colectivo Sierra de Juárez
ESE-ERRE, A.C.
Pastoral Indígena de la Diócesis de Tarahumara

Coahuila

Movimiento Ciudadano Lagunero Colectivo
Organización Familia Pasta de Conchos
Sí a la Vida

Guerrero

Espacio Cultural Educativo Tikosó

Jalisco

Colectivo Coa, A.C.
Conexiones Climáticas
GDL en Bici, A.C.

Nayarit

Nuiwari, A.C.

Mexico City

Alianza Mexicana Contra el Fracking

Asamblea Ecologista Popular

CartoCrítica

Central de Organizaciones Campesinas y Populares, A.C.

Centro Científico Sustentable

Centro de Estudios para el Cambio en el Campo Mexicano (CECCAM), A.C.

Centro de Investigación y Capacitación Rural (CEDICAR)

Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA), A.C.

Clínica Jurídica para la Justicia Ambiental Berta Cáceres de la Universidad

Iberoamericana en Ciudad de México

Consejo de Guardianes de la Naturaleza desde la Jurisprudencia de la Tierra

Espacio de Coordinación de Organizaciones Civiles sobre Derechos Económicos, Sociales, Culturales y Ambientales (Espacio DESCA)

Faro y Defensa Ambiental, A.C.

Federación Indígena Empresarial y Comunidades Locales de México, A.C. (CIELO)

Huerto Urbano Acatitlán

Latinoamérica por una Política Sensata de Drogas

Migala

Movimiento Mexicano de Ciudadanía Positiva, A.C.

Nuestro Futuro

Ollin Quetza, A.C.

Red de Mujeres por la Transformación de Tlalpan

Redes del Agua

Unidad Profesional Interdisciplinaria de Ingeniería y Ciencias Sociales y Administrativas del Instituto Politécnico Nacional

Nuevo León

#UnRíoEnElRío

Viaje al Microcosmos de Nuevo León

Oaxaca

Centro de Derechos Humanos Tepeyac del Istmo de Tehuantepec, A. C.

Colectivo Ixtepec Diverso

Grupo de Apoyo para el Desarrollo de las Comunidades Mixes del Estado de Oaxaca, A.C

Maderas del Pueblo del Sureste, A.C.

Servicio para una Educación Alternativa (EDUCA), A.C.

Unión de Comunidades Indígenas de la Zona Norte del Istmo (UCIZONI), A.C.

Puebla

Jna Tsjo

TimoPatla Intercultural, A.C.

Radio Social Indígena Zacatepec

Quintana Roo

Grupo Ecologista del Mayab (GEMA), A.C.

Sinaloa

Centro de Atención para la Alimentación de las Familias, A.C.

Ciudad y Naturaleza en Armonía, A.C.

No a la Planta de Amoniaco en la Bahía de Ohuira

Red de Medio Ambiente del Instituto Politécnico Nacional

Sinaloa Despierta ¡AQUÍ NO!

Sonora

Ciudadanos por el Cambio Democrático

Diversidad Funcional Hermosillo

State of Mexico

Engenera, A.C.

Veracruz

Alianza de Comunidades en Defensa de los Ríos Bobos-Nautla y Tecolutla, A.C.

Centro de Derechos Humanos de los Pueblos del Sur de Veracruz “Bety Cariño”, A.C.

CORASON, Coordinadora Regional de Acción Solidaria en Defensa del Territorio Dejando Huella, A.C.

Proyecto de Reintroducción de la Guacamaya Roja en Los Tixtlas

Red del Corredor Arrecifal del Golfo de México

Additional information

Letters by United Nations Special Rapporteurs

<https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TmSearch/RelCom?code=OTH%20102/2025>

Coalition of Human Rights Development’s report on The Topolobampo Ammonia Plant, published September 2025

<https://rightsindevelopment.org/wp-content/uploads/securepdfs/KfW-Irresponsible-Banking-Mexico.pdf>