

to address those environmental problems already apparent in the border area, over the long term it is intended to protect the border environment not only from existing sources of pollution, but also from those sources likely to be attracted to the border area in the future.

The single most noteworthy aspect of this plan is the spirit of cross-border cooperation that infuses it. And that cooperative spirit underlies the firm belief -- held by both SEDUE and EPA -- that this plan is helping both Mexico and the United States achieve an important common goal: the long-term protection of human health and natural ecosystems in the border area.