

ENVIRONMENTAL



Environmental

Environmental legislation is constantly increasing the demands and scrutiny on businesses that affect the environment and international obligations under various environmental treaties are compelling businesses to take a rigorous approach to environmental planning and compliance. To successfully meet these demands, companies must integrate environmental management into their business strategy and policies.

Clients look to Sanchez Devanny for advice on federal, state and municipal environmental laws; to evaluate and manage environmental issues in real estate and business transactions including due diligence review, and design of regulatory strategy for mergers, acquisitions and financing transactions; compliance issues, environmental assessments, waste management and disposal and transportation of dangerous materials.

The main area of expertise is advising, assisting, preparing, processing, obtaining permits, authorizations, registration, concession related to the establishment and operation of manufacturing plants in Mexico, as well as those related to the mining activity, in land, water, air and waste matters. This requires a preventative approach to environmental compliance and liability issues, as well as an understanding of the evolving regulatory landscape. Our Environmental Practice's experience supports this approach and assists our clients implement environmentally responsible activities and policies in their operations in Mexico in a reasonable and cost-effective manner.



Industries we serve

The Environmental team serves to companies in the following industries: Automotive, Tourism and Hospitality, Manufacturing, Chemical, Metal-Mechanics, Paper, Renewable Energies, Hydrocarbons, Retail, Environmental Service Providers, Furniture, Textile, Real Estate, among others.

SERVICES WE OFFER

- » Assistance in environmental matters related to the setup of Mexican subsidiaries in México.
- » Assistance in regulatory matters, including obtaining federal, state or municipal permits
- » Assessments to determine technical and legal compliance with environmental obligations in order to identify and minimize environmental risks.
- » Legal advice in regulatory compliance and permitting before the National Water Commission (CONAGUA).
- » Implementation of management models and environmental monitoring programs for the adequate distribution of environmental responsibilities among all areas involved in an operation.
- » Legal advice in matters related to the issuance and renewal of mining and water concessions, and proceedings before federal, state and municipal authorities
- » Assistance in environmental matters related to the setup of Mexican subsidiaries in México.
- » Advice and perform compliance audits on existing operations for transactions such as mergers, spin-offs, asset acquisitions, real estate sales, transfer of rights, concessions, authorizations, licenses or environmental permits
- » Conduct and analyze environmental site studies (phase I and II), oversee remediation programs for contaminated sites (Phase III) and other relevant technical aspects of environmental compliance.
- » Legal advice in matters related to the issuance and renewal of mining and water concessions, and proceedings before federal, state and municipal authorities.
- » Assistance on legal environmental matters from the site selection phase to the operation phase with respect to but not limited to water availability assessments.
- » Assistance in the implementation of sustainable energy projects, including regulatory and environmental aspects, as well as obtaining federal, state or municipal permits for their execution.
- » Legal support in environmental due diligences and regularization procedures, as well as assistance during inspections and review of compliance from federal, state or municipal environmental authorities.
- » Assistance in development and management of sustainable forest projects for the exploitation of timber, non-timber and commercial plantations.
- » Assistance with Sustainability Programs and preparation to obtain Environmental Certificates and Corporate Social Responsibility Accreditations.
- » Assistance in self-environmental auditing programs and site remediation procedures and their implications.
- » Assistance in environmental and operational health and safety regulations' compliance.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- » Environmental Compliance Evaluation, implementation of a regularization program and training to comply with environmental obligations.
- » Assisted in the establishment of Mexican companies aiming to obtain concessions in order to exploit and explore mines, and concessions to exploit, enjoy and use water.
- » Helped an international glass manufacturer in the relocation of its extraction water points and volumes under certain water concession titles and assistance with several administrative procedures before CONAGUA.
- » Assisted Mexican companies in the transfer of water concessions, payment of governmental fees, drafting agreements related to the assignment of concession rights, and registration and recording of concession-related contracts.
- » Advised and assisted a heavy vehicle-manufacturing client in obtaining environmental permits (land, water, air, waste) for the setup of a Mexican subsidiary in the Bajío area of Mexico. Client assistance included representation before environmental federal, state and municipal governmental agencies, and municipal urban development authority; advice determining environmental legislation of the Mexican subsidiary's particularity air emissions requirements; legal advice on matters related to securing water concessions; and handling procedures before the federal, state and local authorities. It is important to highlight that this Client's process is new to the Bajío area. Our client is the first of its kind in said area which allows the firm to grow along with it as the world business and technologies are ever changing.
- » Advised one of the most important automobile brake assemblers in Japan and the US with the obtaining environmental permits (land, water, air, waste) for setting up of a Mexican subsidiary in Lagos de Moreno, Jalisco, Mexico. Client support included representation before environmental federal, state and municipal governmental agencies and the municipal urban development authority. It is worth mentioning that the industrial park where this plant will be located on is the 288th presidential commitment of President Enrique Peña Nieto. This presidential commitment will provide the Lagos de Moreno municipality more job opportunities, foreign investment and economic growth of this municipality.
- » Represented a client from the United Arab Emirates on environmental due diligence and environmental regularization (permitting) before environmental federal, state and municipal governmental agencies for a Hotel Project in Mazatlan, Sinaloa.
- » Advised a mayor automotive industry client in obtaining environmental permits (land, water, air, waste) for setting up a Mexican subsidiary in the State of Nuevo Leon, Mexico.
- » Advised a client on setting up a Mexican subsidiary in Lagos de Moreno, Jalisco, Mexico. Client support included representation before environmental federal, state and municipal governmental agencies and the municipal urban development authority to assist in obtaining environmental permits for land, water, air and waste.
- » Advised an imported vehicle dealer to comply with Mexican Official Standards on CO2 emissions from the exhaust and its equivalent in terms of fuel efficiency applicable to motor vehicles. Assisted through the process of compliance before PROFEPA.
- » Representation of several clients though inspection visits initiated by the Federal Office of Environmental Protection in various states, advice and assist during these process while proving compliance with environmental.
- » Analysis, advice and assist an imported vehicle dealer before the environmental and tax authorities to obtain written confirmation of mid hybrid vehicles clasification to access tax breaks on import of new vehicle.



Who we are

Sánchez Devanny is a leading Mexican law firm that provides full-service legal advice both to Mexican and international clients.

More than attorney-client services

We build enduring client relationships that go beyond individual service contracts because we make every effort to understand our clients' businesses and expectations, to serve as an ally, and to provide complete, accessible and personalized advice. As a testament to these efforts, we continue to advise clients today who have trusted us with their legal matters since the firm was founded in 1996.

Experience and creativity

Throughout the firm, we take pride in serving our clients with a combined approach of experience and creativity because we recognize that when you know how things are done it is easier to think outside the box. Our partners offer a wealth of experience, including in prior roles as in-house counsels at global companies and government agencies, and key roles within international law firms.

With offices in Mexico City, Monterrey, and Querétaro, as well as several strategic alliances worldwide, the firm is well-positioned to quickly and efficiently represent and respond to clients' needs, shortening the distance between us and our clients. Our services are delivered in an efficient, professional, cost effective and timely manner, keeping always in mind that, as lawyers, we are business facilitators for our clients and must maintain a proactive and preventive approach.

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Sánchez Devanny provides legal services in the areas of Corporate and M&A; Corporate and Project Finance; International Trade and Customs; Real Estate, Infrastructure and Hospitality; Tax; Labor, Social Security and Immigration; Corporate Governance and Regulatory Compliance; Energy and Natural Resources; Environmental; Life Sciences; Intellectual Property, Entertainment and Sports Law; Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution; Antitrust; Capital Markets; Private Wealth Management and Estate Planning; Administrative Strategic Litigation and Data Privacy and Information Technology to both public and private clients, especially in the automotive, retail, pharmaceutical, manufacturing, real estate and energy industries among others.