GLOBE praises nation for carbon-emissions law

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MEXICO CITY – Mexico and other developing countries that have passed national climate-change legislation are examples for the rest of the world.

This is according to GLOBE International, a non-profit organization dedicated to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which said in a report that Mexico “is perhaps the standout country in 2012” for passing climate-change legislation.

On June 6, Mexico became the second nation, and the first developing country, to pass a national climate-change law. Mexico’s law requires it to reduce its greenhouse gases 30 percent by 2020 and by 50 percent by 2050, compared to 2000 emission levels.

The report, “the GLOBE Climate Legislation Study,” also cited preliminary decisions in Mexico’s Congress to implement REDD, a United Nations program that aims to reduce greenhouse gases by stopping deforestation and forest degradation.

Now Mexico just needs to implement the law.
“My message to those countries that already have flagship legislation: implement, implement, implement,” said Christiana Figueres, executive secretary of the United Nations framework convention on climate change, at the GLOBE Summit in London.

“Mexico is doing very well because it has a climate-change law. This is a great advance in the world,” said Andrés Avila, director of Globe International in Mexico, in a phone interview. “Now a lot of work for the Mexican government will be to see if the law is implemented. In Mexico, we have so many laws. They don’t necessary work in harmony, so we need to work on that.

“In emerging countries like Mexico one of the biggest challenges is not only making the legislation but also implementing the law.”

GLOBE said Canada’s withdrawal from the Kotoyo Protocol made it the first country to have regressed in the fight against climate change since Globe published its first report in 2010. The report said other countries, including Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia and El Salvador also made progress last year.