

# Conagua to refill depleted aquifers

## THE NEWS

Over the past 40 years more than 100 aquifers in the Mexican Republic have been overexploited by the unbridled population growth.

An aquifer is an underground layer of water-bearing permeable rock or unconsolidated materials (gravel, sand, silt, or clay) from which groundwater can be usefully extracted using a well.

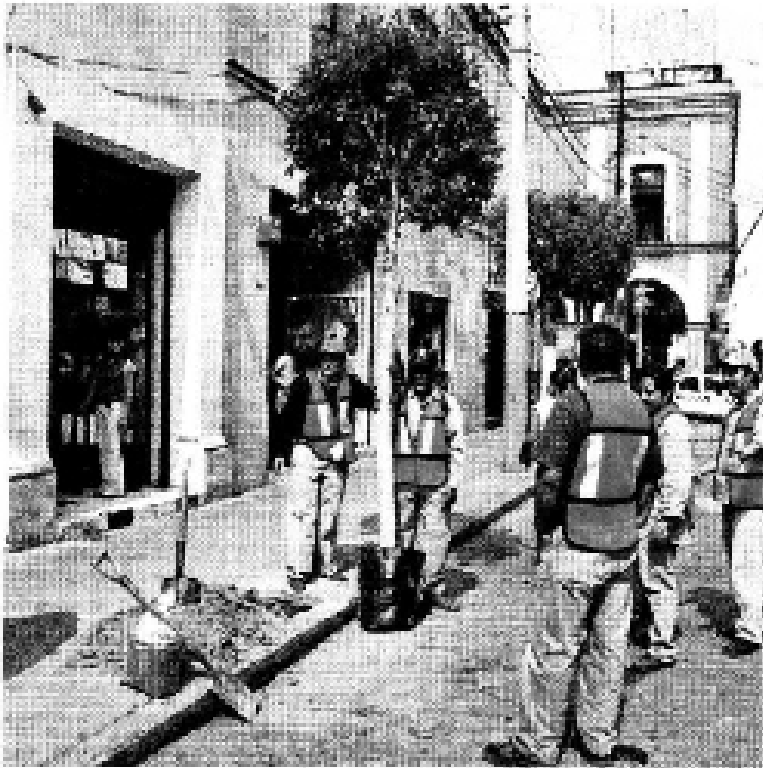
In a press conference entitled "Artificial refill of overexploited aquifers" held by the National Water Commission (Conagua), Felipe Arreguín Cortez, the Technical Subdirector, informed that of the 653 aquifers in the country, 104 are overexploited.

Conagua revealed a new plan to

renew the depleted aquifers throughout Mexico with runoff rainwater collected during the rainy season. The artificial refills will be an attempt to mitigate the effects of overexploitation like, low water levels, erosion and high levels of ground settlement.

Arreguín revealed that two rainwater absorption wells will be built in the Ajusco area of the Federal District by the beginning of 2010.

The subdirector of the Potable Water, Drainage and Sanitation department of Conagua, José Ramón Argabín Ituarte, said that in addition to the artificial refilling the overused aquifers with rainwater, other measures should be taken in order to stop further damage.



Conagua discloses that 104 aquifers are overexploited throughout the country

