As a group, we came together because we all wanted to stay abroad for some time. We came in contact with our supervisor and his enthusiastic counterpart across the pond. During many hours of planning, some Skype-conversations and looking through the Multidisciplinary Project outline, everything was settled: We were going to México.

We could stay at a research facility near to our area of subject: a sub-tropical lagoon. Only requirement was that we bought our own airconditioning, as this exempted us from having to pay rent. Arranging this gave some unexpected problems, though with everyone’s willingness to help us out, no critical ones. At the ‘station,’ we lived together with students of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, the biggest university of Mexico City.

Some of them spoke English, some of them did not. None of us spoke Spanish beforehand, thus communication took some time to develop fluently. (Google translate helped a lot.) They were eager to share their cultural habits and help translate, very useful for obtaining a taxi.

As for the project, we worked diligently during Dutch office hours (9.00AM-1800PM), which our Mexican friends admired very much. With our project we collected and handled all data ourselves, from a large variety of sources. In this, we benefited greatly from having four different Msc-tracks shared between the five of us. Through the weekends, we went out to different places: other provinces, state capitals, beaches. Most often beaches, which were always closeby (the station was placed on an slim island).

Mexico is a beautiful country with lots to offer, Mexicans are some of most kind and fun we have ever encountered. Would we do this project again if possible? 10/10 Yes!