

Lake Tota - How to harmonize interests?

Knitting governance. A formula born of experience.

It is over-studied, and it does not change. All are covered with the same blanket. The Government does not do anything. Faults come and go, but no one is applying to. From these phrases indicative of an imaginary that has accompanied Lake Tota for decades, how to harmonize interests and dialectics?

First of all, scrutinize the problem thoroughly, and understand that it is not foreign. Undress it and see it without appearances. Secondly is to design a governance and management framework that integrates the human condition, without labels (people, not groups or sectors), and connects it sensitively and proactively with its environment. Thirdly, simple but substantial, do not give up, because those are long-term tasks.

To understand the problem, let us accept that it is our own, our common heritage. *It is the State and the people*, the responsibility to protect the cultural and natural wealth of the Nation (Article 8, CN). To undress it, we apply several *why* to the visible and known consequences, until touching the bases. Take any of lake's issues as a starting point. Personally, I come to think the real problem of this territory is an interconnected pentagon, of which is transversal the little sensitivity and affection for our environment, the distance and oblivion of feeling ourselves *part of*. These 5 pillars are (i) lack of protection, (ii) internal economic injustice, (iii) poor governability and governance, (iv) poor overall human formation, and (v) disconnection from the context.

The governance framework to address and try to solve each of those pillars of the situation, from experience we perceive that it is created with *ethics and commitment*. So simple it seems, but it is difficult and challenging to exercise it. Ethics with 3 basic elements (management based on knowledge, knowledge put into practice, and attachment to human values), and commitment to 4 in turn (open communication -transparency-, education -creating sensibility and harmonious culture among people and from these with their environment-, awareness -connected with examples of coherence-, and constant participation and initiative -in activities, as in debate and decision-making scenarios-).

The hypothesis that we have been exercising and testing is that, pluralist governance understood in this way, facilitates an integrated management of the territory, and allows us to harmonize interests and dialectics. If it is fully exercised, the results are perceived. If we remove one or more of those elements from the formula, the purposes weaken, deteriorate or do not prosper. It has been the result of practice. They are already seven years committed and practiced with a cause (Causa Tota), having multiple edges and innumerable situations and issues, which allow us to expose (<http://bit.ly/ctb-fm>).

Let's learn from observing harmony in diversity & differences of the natural world. Without giving up.

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