Project Green Challenge 2023 – Day 19 Greener Category

Los Aprendices – Conrado Manuel Guzmán Flores, Conradogf, (ASU Masters in Sustainability Leadership Program), Mexico City.

As you've read, countries like New Zealand and Ecuador already have rights of nature laws and legislation in place. First, compare your region or country to the rest of the world and think about how the rights of nature movement in your region can evolve and follow examples to grow.

Today, Mexico's Constitution doesn't consider Nature Laws beyond human rights to a healthy environment. It works similarly to the US Constitution in that it can't be modified other than the laws that derive from it. According to this group of lawyers, such a proposal must come from a group of people that are affected by the impact on any given landscape, ecosystem, or region through the process of a protection trial. Mexico's Constitution would have to be amended to include nature laws. However, some legislators have made those proposals, and some groups are taking the protection trial mechanism to secure nature laws of rivers in Mexico.

Next, identify how the rights of nature movement is already affecting your country or region. You'll find interesting policies or policy proposals by looking at environmental nonprofits that specialize in this, like Earth Law Center, NRDC or Earthjustice.

This <u>article</u> details the chronology of nature laws in Mexico. Earth Law Center has been involved in three legal processes to give Nature Laws to three rivers in Mexico. However, these processes started in 2017 and it's unclear if they continue or have stopped.

While I wish there was more about the last river of Mexico City, Río Magdalena, that I've visited while hiking. There's another project for a river east of Mexico City in the State of Puebla, Río Atoyac, and the NGO Dale La Cara al Atoyac was pursuing legal mechanisms to guarantee either through nature laws or social laws, the river is protected, but it seems this initiative has stopped.

Finally, introduce us to the team, person or organization pushing for this policy. Consider how communities around the globe can learn from the examples of bold, innovative policy makers.

Earth Law Center developed a whole case for both rivers, and while the Nature Laws aren't fully real in Mexico, there's growing pressure to amend laws to give nature this legal status. There's this legislator from a new political party that I've found to have some affinity with, so I'll be learning more about him and maybe support him. These laws are demonstrable actions towards fighting the climate and environmental crisis because they give rights to the environment forcing society to truly consider the natural capital and cost behind our unsustainable lifestyles.

Post: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cymx-JKNAIP/?img index=1





