

Reflection

Historical analysis has led me to conclude that the development patterns of Mexico City are often driven by economic growth that does not incorporate sustainable practices for managing the area's limited natural resources. Furthermore, the social landscape in Mexico is characterised by inequality, which affects decision-making processes that tend to prioritise immediate relief for vulnerable populations over long-term strategies.

While water has historically played a crucial role in supporting the Basin of Mexico, the lake ecosystem now exists primarily as a concept in the collective memory of the Mexican people. This disconnection from natural water sources contributes to a significant challenge: a lack of environmental awareness.

During the course of this thesis, I faced several significant challenges in the decision-making process. One of the main difficulties was narrowing down my focus within the broader scope of water-related issues in Mexico City. The complexity of the water crisis means that there is no single solution, resulting in slower-than-expected progress, as I needed additional time to refine my focus.

This may have been more effective if I had worked within my design framework and defined my scales in a timely manner, but I believe it was more due to project complexity than a lack of planning.

Reflecting on the two years I spent studying the Dutch landscape, I learned about various methods and technologies for water management. Despite the differing contexts, I noticed similarities in certain elements, such as dikes, levees, and the construction of polders. What I hope to replicate in Mexico is making water more visible through landscape strategies rather than just through pipes.

Ultimately, I aimed to centre my work on indigenous cosmovision and its ecological perspective, which extends beyond human considerations. I sought to reintroduce this worldview through spatial elements. My goal was to integrate a water treatment infrastructure within a culturally rich landscape, thereby creating a meaningful connection between ecological practices and the heritage of the area.

As a landscape designer, my perspective after completing this project emphasises the importance of understanding water systems on a regional scale. This requires a systematic vision that encompasses interconnected spaces. It is equally essential to develop experiences that resonate with people, promoting an approach that extends beyond human-centred perspectives. I envision this project as a stepping stone rather than an endpoint, and I am looking forward to continuing my exploration of decentralised alternatives in my professional journey.