

**Valuation of Water Resources**  
**in Guatemala.**

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Oceňování životního prostředí.  
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Jizerké Hory



Mexico

Petén Itzá

Belize

Caribbean Sea

Honduras

Amatitlán

El Salvador

Pacific Ocean

# Amatitlán Lake

- The fourth largest lake in Guatemala .
- Located aprox. 25 km south of the capital city.
  - Was populated already since 2000 BC.
- The city of Amatitlan was founded in 1536 and grew rapidly.
  - At the Colonial time was a “fishing center”.

## Amatitlan Lake . 1996<sup>[1]</sup>

Area: 15.11 Km<sup>2</sup>

Depth: 18 m

Volume: 271 980 000 m<sup>3</sup>

Daily Incoming Waste and Rainwater: 60,275 m<sup>3</sup>

Daily Incoming Sediments: 1550 tons

Annual Surface Loss of Water: 1.25 mt

Annual Fishing production: 45 ton

Volume of Water for Power Generation: 3.03 m<sup>3</sup>/second

<sup>[1]</sup> Autoridad para el manejo sustentable de la cuenca y del lago de Amatitlán 1996.

## **Amatitlan Lake.Ecological Problems.**

500.000 tons of sediments per year.

Disturbing change in the aquatic life.

Photosynthesis capacity has been severely reduced.  
Each year, 75,000 tons of solid wastes in suspension  
are carried into the lake,causing eutrophication.

### **Main Threatens**

High levels of population growth.

Afforestation.

Intensive agricultural practices nearby the shores.

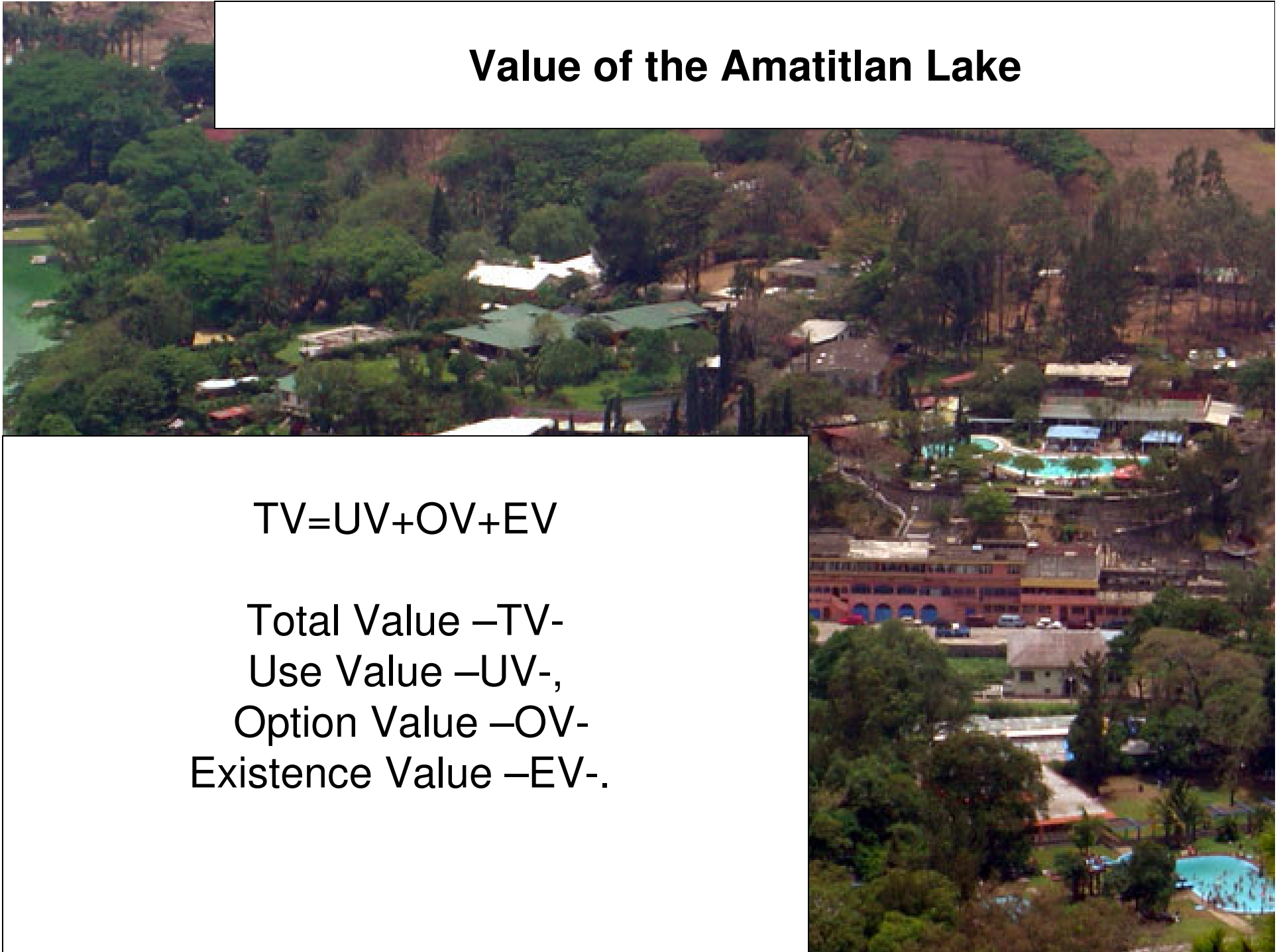
Industrial waste water.

Overfishing.

## Value of the Amatitlan Lake

$$TV=UV+OV+EV$$

Total Value –TV-  
Use Value –UV-,  
Option Value –OV-  
Existence Value –EV-.



Amatitlan Lake. Use Value. Current Prices. 1996

Q= Quetzales/year.[\[1\]](#)

Power generation	Q 1,550,000
Treatment against gastrointestinal deseases	Q 41,841
Irrigation	Q 100,000
Recreation	Q 2,911,200
Comercial Acitvities	Q12,600,000
Fisheries	Q 960,000
Water for Industrial Use	Q 6,937,920
Waste Water Bank	Q11,005,000
Drinking Water	Q11,757,200
<b>Total Use Value</b>	<b>Q47,863,161</b>

[\[1\]](#) By 1996 US \$1.00=Q.6.11

# Contingent Valuation Method CVM

## Stakeholders:

- Industry (35/678)
- Hotels and Cottage owners (32/439)
- Fishing Sector and Small Entreprises (30/700)
  - Visitors (150/>2000)
  - Local Residents(200/>2000)

The quality of the water was classified into 4 categories

- Navigation
  - Fishing
- Swimming
- Drinking



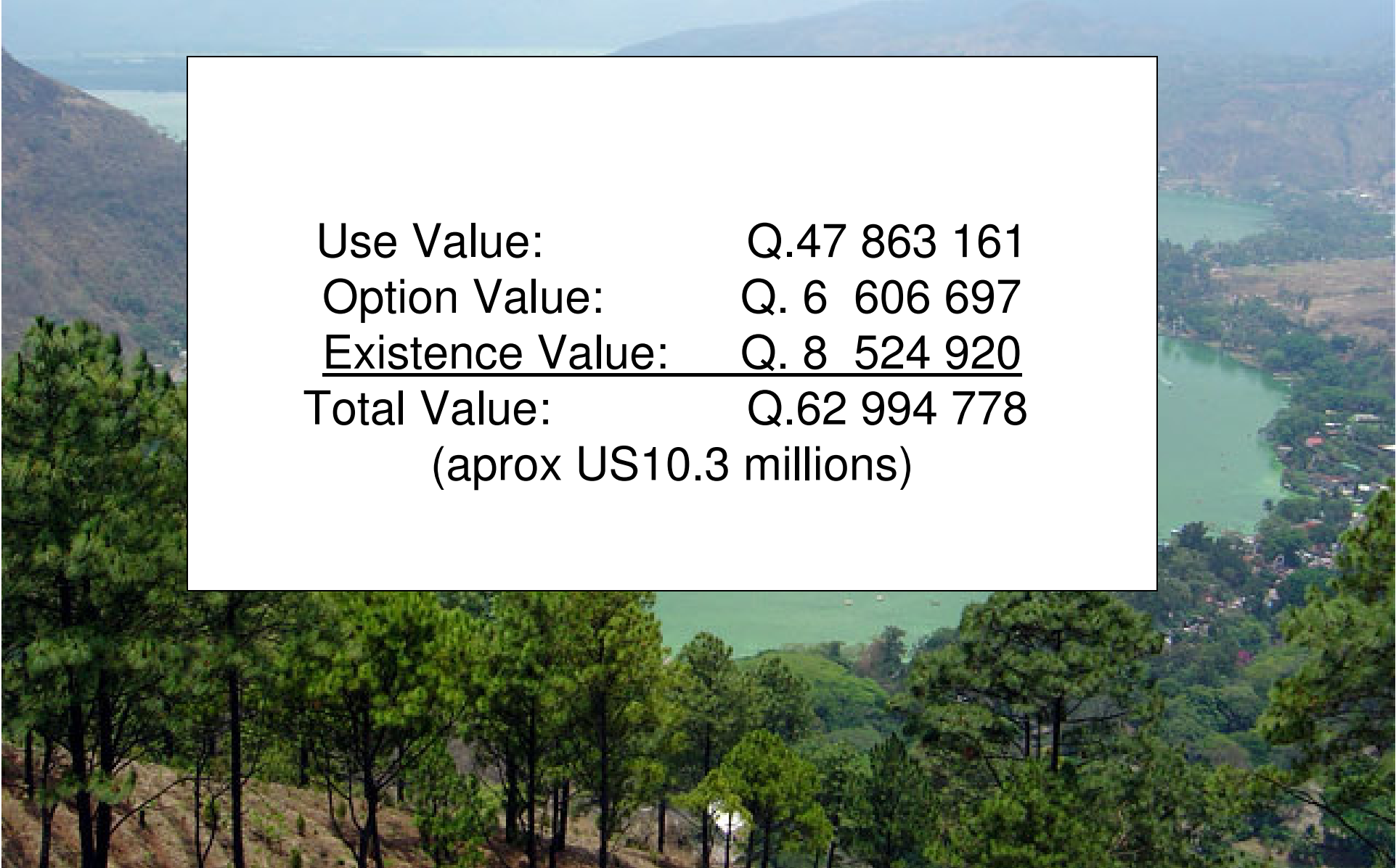
## Willingness to pay-Real Demand of the Lake. Relative Numbers

Stakeholders	Yes	No	Do not know
Industry	70%	11%	19%
Hotels	59%	23%	18%
Small enterprises	71%	10%	19%
Visitors	68%	23%	9%
Residents	71%	22%	7%

**Marginal Willingness to Pay .Monthly average payment.  
Quetzales. Current Prices 1996**

	Industry	Hotels	Small Entreprises	Visitors	Residents
Navigation	100	107	25	5	5
Fishing	20	50	35	5	5
Swimming	50	100	45	5	5
Drinking	50	100	100	5	10
Total Acumulated	220	357	205	20	25

Amatitlan Lake. Total Value 1996.  
Quetzales. Level:Swimming



Use Value:	Q.47 863 161
Option Value:	Q. 6 606 697
<u>Existence Value:</u>	<u>Q. 8 524 920</u>
Total Value:	Q.62 994 778

(aprox US10.3 millions)

# Lake Recovery: Cost Benefit Analysis

Real Contributions. Quality Level:Swimming.  
Quetzales 1996. Current Prices

<b>Value</b>	<b>Industry</b>	<b>Hotels</b>	<b>Small Entreprises</b>	<b>Visitors</b>	<b>Residents</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Option</b>	935.340	798.787	626.220	1.999.200	2.247.150	6.606.697
<b>Existence</b>	652.380	711.180	129.360	3.234.000	3.798.000	8.524.920
<b>Total</b>	1.587.720	1.509.967	755.580	5.233.200	6.045.150	<b>15.131.617</b>

# Lake Recovery: Cost Benefit Analysis

Potential Contributions. Quality Level:Swimming.  
Quetzales 1996. Current Prices

<b>Value</b>	<b>Industry</b>	<b>Hotels</b>	<b>Small Entreprises</b>	<b>Visitors</b>	<b>Residents</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Option</b>	1.336.000	1.353.876	882.000	2.940.000	3.165.000	9.677.076
<b>Existence</b>	786.000	790.200	168.000	5.880.000	6.330.000	13.954.200
<b>Total</b>	2.122.000	2.144.076	1.050.000	8.820.000	9.495.000	<b>23.631.276</b>

## Expenditures

Environmental education programmes:	Q.	15.000.000
Urban planning:	Q.	1.500.000.000
Operation:	Q.	350.000.000
Quality control and management:	Q.	12.000.000
<u>Total:</u>	Q.	<u>1.877.000.000</u>

## Income Generation. -25 Years-

	Year
Use Value	1-25
Contributions – 70%-	2-5
Contributions – 100%-	6-25
30% benefit increment	9-25
Residual Value	25

# Recovery Programme Cost-Benefit Analysis Results

The final results showed that the investment  
can be recovered  
in the proposed period of time –25 years–  
(benefit-cost ratio = 1.02)  
at a IRR of 5.76%.



“Lago Peten Itza”, the largest lake in the region,  
(the second largest in the country).  
is some 32 km long and 5 km wide.  
Peten Itza Lake has the island town of Flores,  
capital of the Department of the Peten,

High levels of migration.  
Existence of natural resources :  
wood, chewing gum, oil,  
and agricultural and pasture activities.  
Archeological richness .  
About 150000 tourists  
pass through the region yearly.



Petén Itzá Lake

## **Methodology for Valuation.**

It was assumed  
the use value  
of the lake  
to be mainly touristic.

The methodology  
is concentrated  
on a double-purpose survey.

**Estimation of:  
Lake's demand and  
the willingness to pay for its  
use and/or recovery  
by local and foreign tourists.**

**Use value :  
Touristic means  
Cost Travel Method –TCM-.**

**Option and existence value:  
Reflected from the survey  
to tourists  
and local stakeholders  
Contingent Valuation Method  
–CVM- .**

## The Travel Cost Method

Household production method  
which combines market goods  
–travel costs-  
with a nonmarket good  
– recreation at the lake side-.

It can be estimated  
the demand of the lake,  
and therefore its value.  
The Total Value equals  
the Travel Cost  
and the Opportunity Cost  
(it was assumed one visit yearly).

$$Y=P+T$$

Opportunity cost:  
income proportion  
not perceived by the tourist  
during his or her stay at the lake.

Travel cost(\*):  
transportation costs,  
and average expenditures  
during the stay.

(\* )adjusted according to the  
real duration of the stay  
at the lake.

**Touristic Value of the Lake . Travel Cost Method.  
Adjusted Values to the Peten Itza Lake.  
US dollars -if not specified-.(1)**

Origin	Daily expenditures	Opportunity cost	Daily transportation cost	Duration of the stay	Total
US	58.31	79.33	51.83	1.86	352.41
Mexico	31.67	40.16	86.33	1.30	211.70
Central America	35.00	35.00	65.00	2.30	310.00
South America	80.20	40.16	135.36	1.15	294.08
Europe	52.93	44.7	119.96	1.60	348.14
Asia	55.00	66.66	126.81	1.21	300.65
Canada	65.83	44.43	107.08	3.27	710.7
Average					358.81
Tourists/year					102 150

**Touristic Value of the Lake . Travel Cost Method.  
Adjusted Values to the Peten Itza Lake.  
US dollars-if not specified-.(2)**

Origin	Daily expenditures	Opportunity cost	Daily transportation cost	Duration of the stay	Total
National Tourists	31.92	28.59	21.55	2.30	188.75
National Tourists per year					48 500
Total Adjusted Value Foreign Tourists(millions)					36.65
Total Adjusted Value National Tourists(millions)					9.15
<b>Total Adjusted Value (millions)</b>					<b>45.80</b>

# Lake's Value at Local Level

Absorbption value of the tourism into the local region:

The value was adjusted by excluding opportunity and transportation costs.

The aim was to estimate how much aggregate value absorbs the local economy due to the recreative characteristics of the lake.

It was estimated at US \$13.82 millions  
which is about 30%  
of the total touristic value of the lake reflected by the TCM

## Contingent Valuation Method

<b>Stakeholders</b>	<b>Willingness to pay</b>	<b>Decontamination</b>	<b>Conservation</b>	<b>Decontamination Total</b>	<b>Conservation Total</b>
Households	80%	21.00-Monthly	19.00-Monthly	2 419 200	2 188 800
Comercial Sector	88%	38.00-Monthly	31.00-Monthly	642 048	523 776
Local Tourists	82%	--	30.00-Yearly	--	1 180 800
Foreign Tourists	79%	--	65.00-Yearly	--	5 250 537
<b>Total</b>				<b>3 061 248</b>	<b>9 143 913</b>

# Results

The Option and Existence Value presented by the CVM shows an amount of Q12.2 millions which is equivalent to US 1,55 millions.

The total Value of the Peten Itza Lake was estimated at US \$47.3 millions.

The total Value of the Peten Itza Lake at local level is US \$15.35 millions.



# Conclusions

The first case presents multiple use values of the Amatitlan lake.

The second case presents mainly touristic value which made possible to apply the Travel Cost Method to the Peten Itza Lake.

The absolutely differences in the monetary value of the lakes can be partly explained by the different income levels of stakeholders.

The Amatitlan Lake presented more sources of existence value since its use is linked more to local stakeholders.

For the case of the Peten Itza Lake it is evident that there is a lack of information and therefore of consciousness about the value and problematic of the lake. It makes foreign tourists somehow indifferent on conservation issues.

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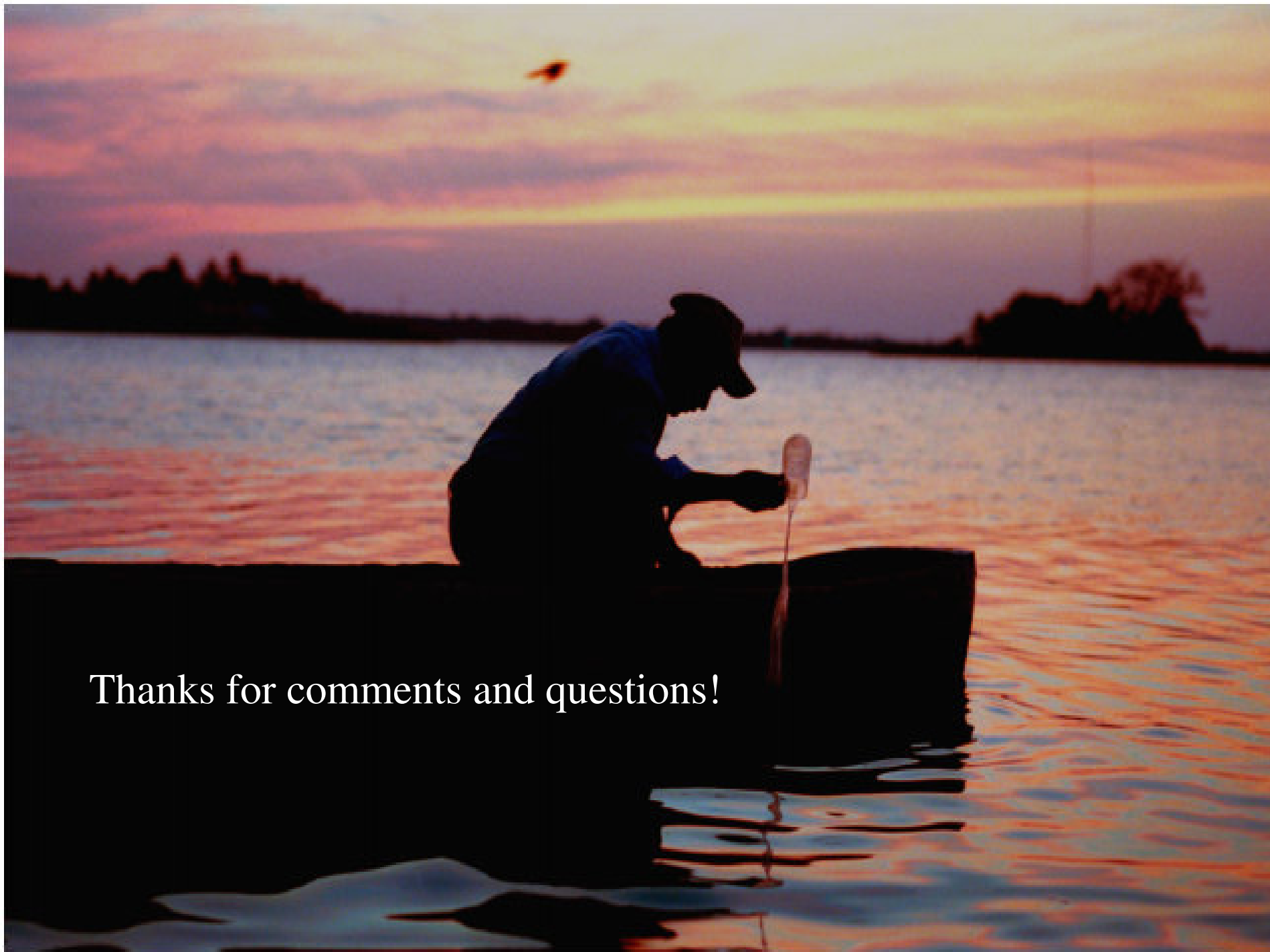
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Thanks for comments and questions!