

Short Bio

Founders – Fundación Montecito



Felipe Velasco

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Director, Fundación Montecito

Felipe graduated as Civil Engineer, however he introduces himself as just an “apprentice of a good citizen”. With his wife Juanita he founded NGO Fundación Montecito in 2010, and it’s been their field of endeavour since, mainly on Lake Tota (largest high-Andean lake in Colombia). Their mission is to work on benefit of Andean mounts and wetlands, it’s been mostly at Lake Tota and highland *páramos*. They take a governance and an integrated approach, highlighting a variety of CEPA activities, considering this work mainly as a long-term and complex process. A recent achievement was to lead an international award on sustainable tourism as part of the Top-100 Global 2017 Green Destinations for Lake Tota.



Juanita Arango

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Deputy Director, Fundación Montecito

Juanita graduated as Art Restorer, and cannot find easy to introduce herself in a specific manner, although his husband Felipe could say “if there’s someone sensible with art and nature, someone creative and with superior abilities of observation to understand her environment, plus an outstanding artisan, then she is Juanita”. She is also the family attachment, the balance and the ground pole for their NGO work, always ready to support, find solutions and add new initiatives to improve their activities as a complementary team.