





Peace Corps in the world





Words from our Country Director

I am pleased to report that, after an absence of more than two years due to the pandemic, we again have Peace Corps Volunteers in Peru. At the end of 2022, there were 36 Volunteers: 32 are serving in our regular two-year projects in Ancash, La Libertad, Cañete and Chincha; and four Volunteers are in the one-year project of Peace Corps Response, serving in Lima. We also continue to support our partners with the Virtual Service program, a successful initiative which came to be during the pandemic, and allowed us to support our partners virtually when there were no Volunteers present in Peru. Now we are taking advantage of the success of this program by having our Virtual Service Participants work in coordination with our in-country Volunteers to support our partners even more in reaching their objectives.

Beginning in 2024 we plan to have 200 Volunteers in Peru, which was the number present each year before the pandemic. In 2023 we hope to receive approximately 115 PCVs, taking us to nearly 150 PCVs by the end of the year. We are also planning to return to regions where PCVs lived and served before the pandemic, which is to say that in addition to the regions already mentioned, in 2023 we plan to return to Amazonas, Cajamarca, Junin, Piura and Iquitos.

At the beginning of 2022 I had the privilege of visiting communities in Ancash and Iquitos where our Volunteers served before the pandemic. I met with counterparts in several communities which gave me a great appreciation for the work their organizations are doing and the gratitude they have for the Volunteers supporting the mission. Keep up the good work!

I hope to do more of these visits in 2023 to see our partners and Volunteers in action.

Sincerely,

Stuart Jablon
Country Director of Peace Corps Peru



**Peace
Corps**
PERÚ

Peace Corps in the World

The Peace Corps is a network of international service made up of Volunteers, community members, organizations in the host country and Peace Corps personnel, all who are motivated by the mission of this organization to promote peace and friendship around the world.

At the invitation of governments worldwide, Peace Corps Volunteers work together with community members on local priority projects in the sectors of education, health, environment, agriculture, community economic development and youth development.

By way of their service, members of this Peace Corps network develop abilities to transfer and develop intercultural competencies that position them to be the next generation of world leaders

From the time President John F. Kennedy created the Peace Corps in 1961, more than 240,000 citizens of the United States of America have served in 142 countries around the world.

The Peace Corps works in more than 60 countries and sends an average of 7000 Volunteers per year.

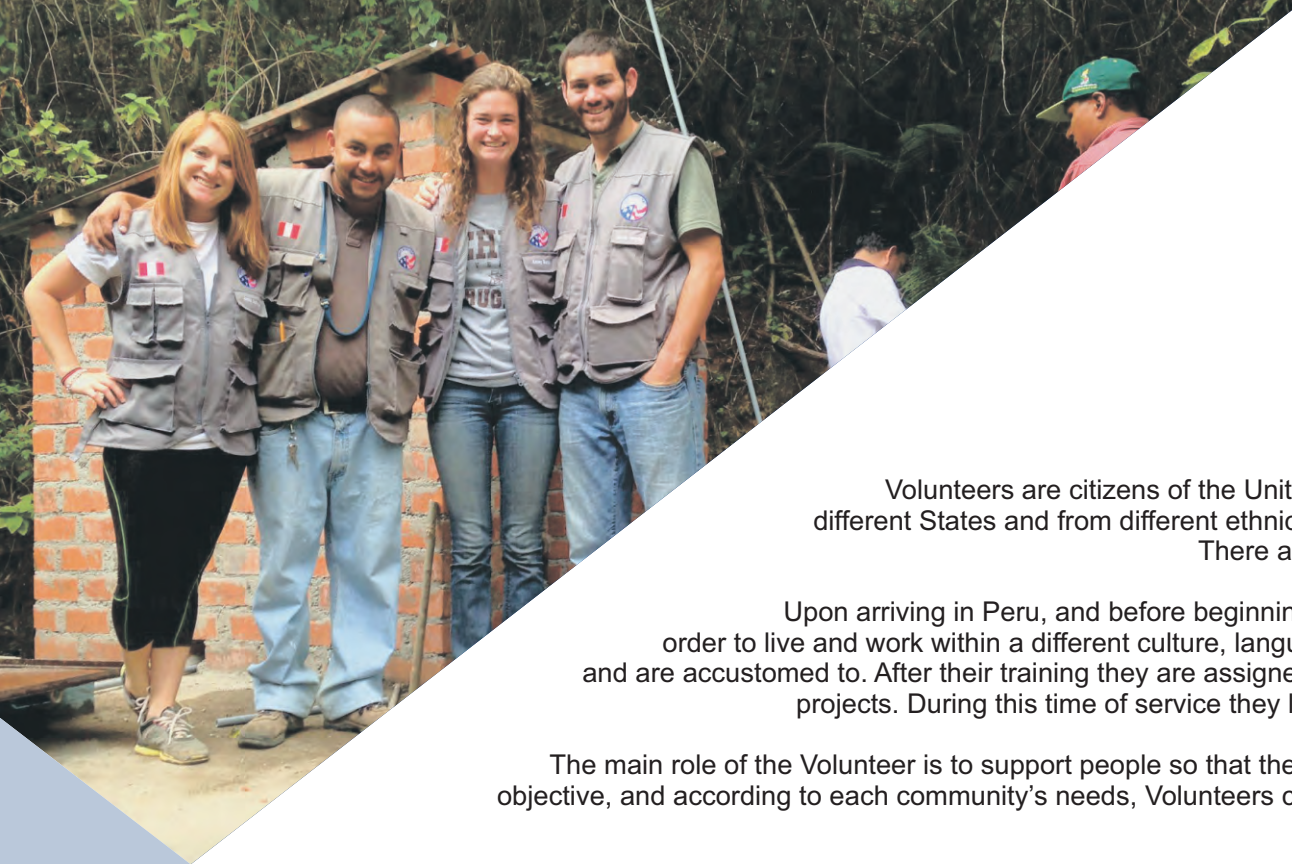


Mission and goals of Peace Corps

Promote world peace and friendship by way of the following:

- Support people in interested countries to satisfy needs through developing their capabilities
- Promote better understanding of the culture of the United States on the part of citizens of the host country
- Promote better understanding of host country realities and cultures on the part of people of the United States





Who are the Peace Corps Volunteers?

Volunteers are citizens of the United States, graduated from United States universities, coming from different States and from different ethnic origins, religions, sexual orientations, and socio-economic levels. There are Volunteers of all ages, varying in range from 20 to 85 years old.

Upon arriving in Peru, and before beginning service at their assigned sites, the Volunteers receive training in order to live and work within a different culture, language and environment, in some cases very unlike what they know and are accustomed to. After their training they are assigned to different communities in the host country to serve on different projects. During this time of service they live with the people they work with as a member of the community.

The main role of the Volunteer is to support people so that they can be proactive in their own community development. With this objective, and according to each community's needs, Volunteers carry out activities together with community members, according to the requests of the organizations with which the Volunteers serve.

Another essential part of their role is to live within the host country culture and acquire the experience necessary for their activities to be culturally appropriate, respecting the cosmovision of the communities where they serve.





Peace Corps in Peru

At the invitation of the Peruvian government, Peace Corps was in Peru from 1962 until 1975, when they withdrew due to the political and social instability during that time. During this first stage more than 2,600 Volunteers worked in the areas of education, agriculture, small businesses and infrastructure.

Once again at the invitation of the Peruvian government, Peace Corps returned to Peru in 2002, signing an agreement of cooperation between the two governments in March of that same year. Since that time Peace Corps has renewed its commitment to Peru's community development and it continues working to strengthen the ties of friendship between people in the two countries.

During this second stage more than 1,300 US citizens have come to Peru to serve as Volunteers in Corps eight regions: Loreto, Ancash, La Libertad, Junin, Pasco, Cajamarca, Piura and Amazonas.

Peace Corps Peru volunteers work in five different projects: Community Health Promotion, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Community Economic Development, Youth Development, and Peace Corps Response.

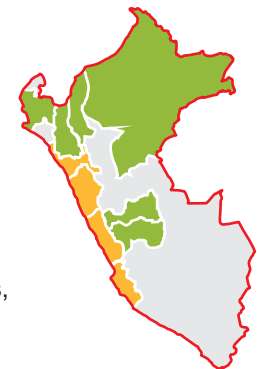
In addition to their work in our programs, Volunteers promote activities for gender equity, women's empowerment, and a social development where youth can be actors and resources for their own communities.

The work and support of the Peace Corps Volunteers over the years has made a significant contribution to the development of important social sectors in Peru.

Where we work

During 2022 we returned to the regions of Lima, Ica, Ancash and La Libertad

We expect to assign Volunteers in 2023 to the regions of Amazonas, Cajamarca, Junin, Pasco, Piura and Loreto



Projects in Peru:



Youth
Development



Community Economic
Development



Community
Health Promotion



Water, Sanitation
and Hygiene



Peace Corps
Response

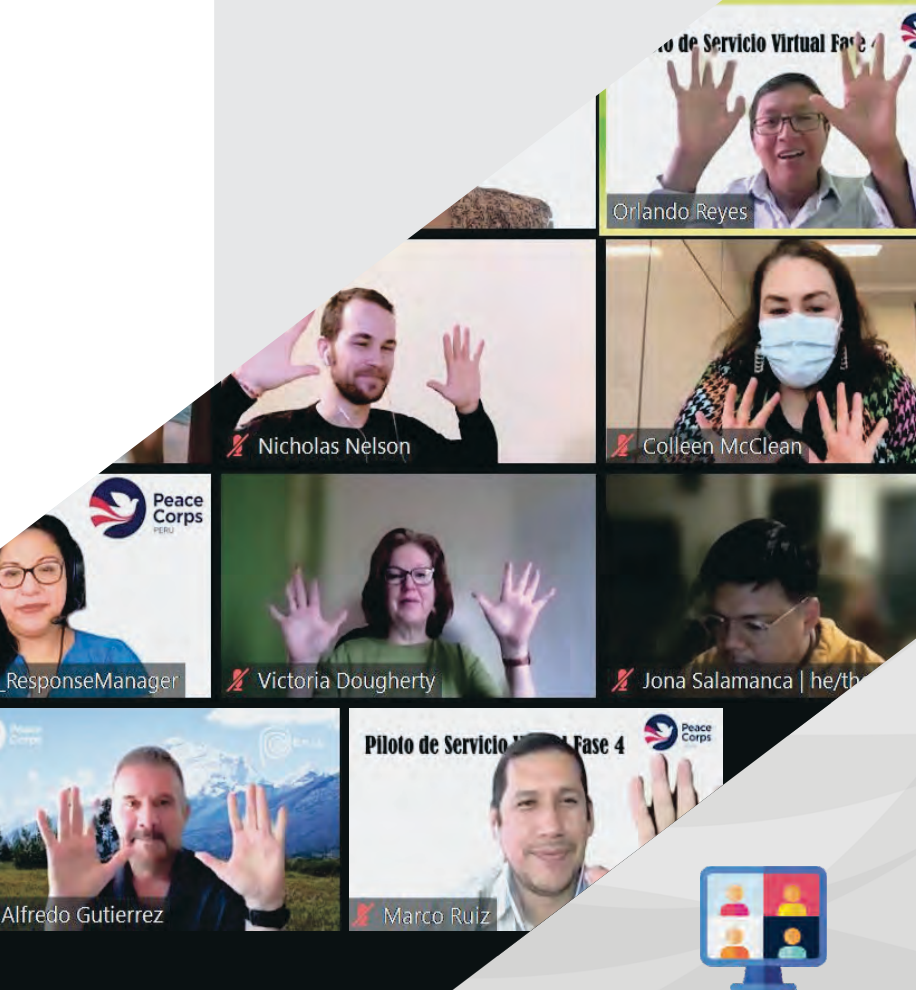


The return of Volunteers

- Thanks to a greater availability of vaccinations in the USA and Peru, Peace Corps headquarters initiated the plan for returning Volunteers on a global level, and the first Volunteers are returning little by little to their host countries.
- In June of 2022, we officially returned to having Volunteers present in Peru, with two Volunteers assigned south of Lima.
- In August we assigned 10 PCVs to the Community Economic Development and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene projects to the south of Lima and Ica.
- In September we assigned four Volunteers in the Peace Corps Response project to serve with MINGA Peru and residential centers operated by INABIF (The National Program for Family Welfare) in Lima.
- In December, 20 PCVs were assigned to the Ancash and La Libertad regions, working in the Community Health Promotion and Youth Development projects. With this group, each of our five projects has Volunteers serving in person in Peruvian communities and organizations.
- Peace Corps Peru has worked hard to assure that the return to in- person service would be appropriate and safe, for the Volunteers as well as for the host community members.
- During 2023 we plan to reintegrate into the Ancash, Cajamarca, Junin and Pasco regions with our 2-year service programs, and in Piura and Loreto with Peace Corps Response, which is one year of service.



Virtual Service (Pilot)



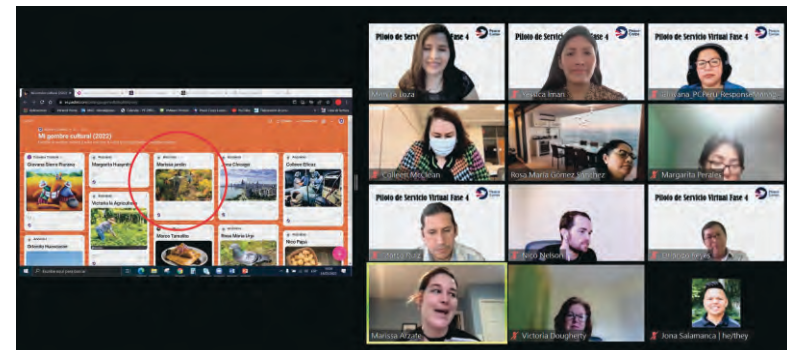
What is Peace Corp's virtual service?

This is a new modality for cooperation offered by the Peace Corps to Peruvian counterpart organizations to count on virtual support from a professional US citizen who can collaborate with accomplishing the organization's objectives.

Currently this mode of service is in an experimental phase, and Peru is one of the participating countries in this pilot program, allowing us to co-design together with our partners for the future of this online virtual volunteer experience.

Characteristics of the Service

- Government organizations and NGOs in Loreto, Piura, La Libertad, Ancash, Junín, Pasco y Lima are participating in this initiative.
- This mode of service at present can last from 3 to 6 months of joint work, with a commitment on the part of the Virtual Participants to dedicate between 5 to 15 hours a week.
- The host organization should assign a team of at least 2 to 3 people to work with the Virtual Participant.
- The virtual participants are known as VSPP (Virtual Service Pilot Participant)
- By December 2022, 36 VSPPs had collaborated with 28 Peruvian organizations in reaching common goals to benefit the target populations served by our partners.





Maureen Puga

Stephany Guach...

Suni Su, PCMO



jorge delgado



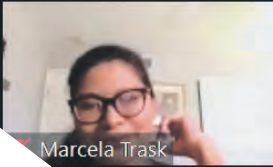
Kate Raftery



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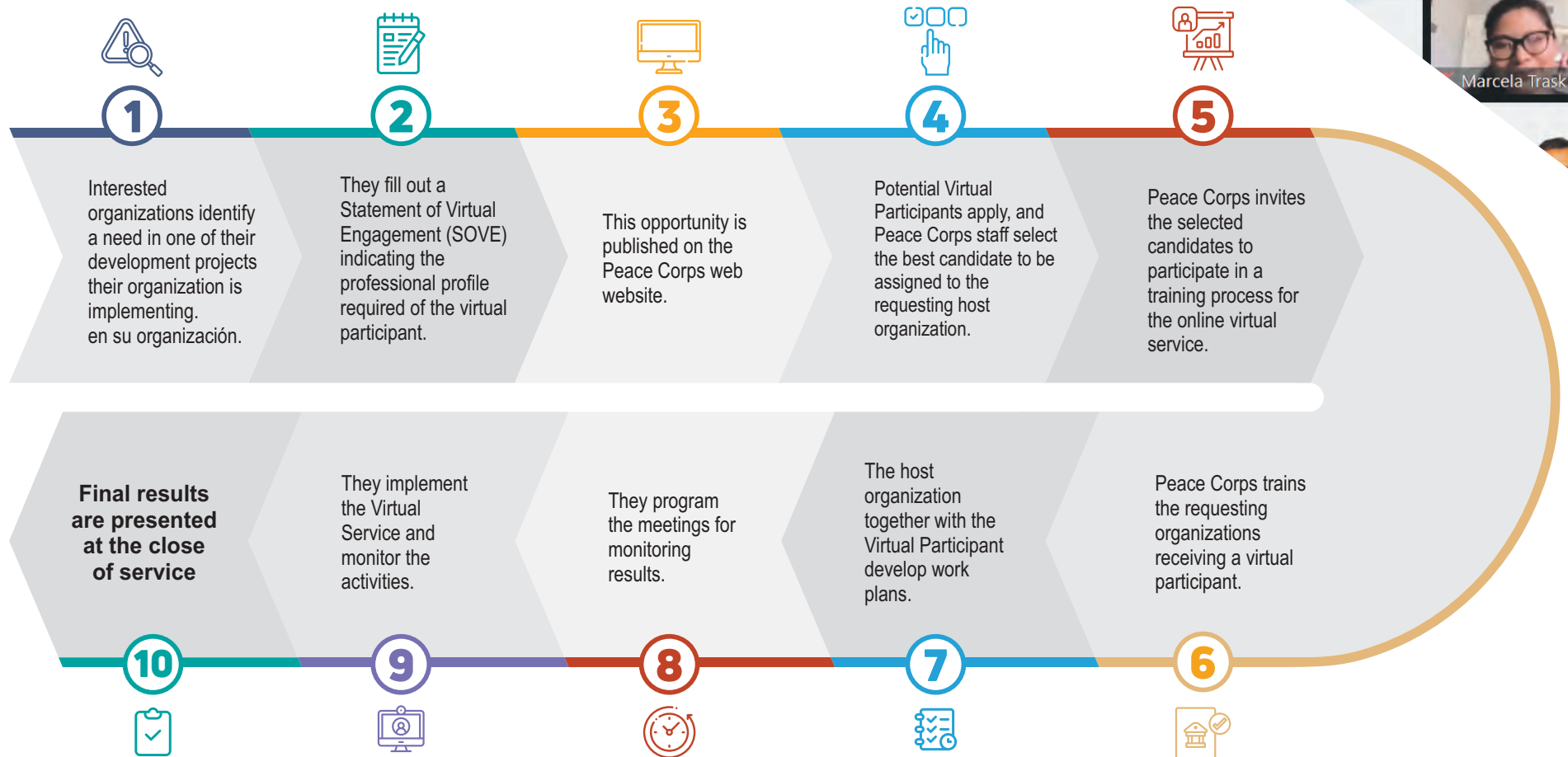


Camille Smith



Marcela Trask

How does it work?



The Youth Development Project



On December 9, 2022, we restarted operations of the project with the first 11 Volunteers to work with youth from the regions of Ancash and La Libertad. During 2023 we plan to assign Volunteers to the regions of Cajamarca, Amazonas, Junin and Pasco.



Focus of the Project

With the support of Youth Development Volunteers we plan to

- Strengthen the implementation of the Ministry of Education's national strategy for student participation "We are peers", as well as the initiatives "In High School you do it", Student City Hall, and "Ideas in Action"
- Train 9,000 youth in vocational orientation during homeroom sessions in the schools, hold 300 vocational fairs and panel discussions with professionals
- Train 750 tutors from educational institutions in project design and management for youth projects
- Train 2,250 parents in how to better communicate with adolescents, during sessions of "Schools for Parents"



Achievements from 2014 to 2020:

- **9,812 youth trained** in life skills, 6370 in job employability and 2226 in financial education.
- **48 job fairs, 32 panels of professionals in schools and a 5% increase** in students having access to technical institutions and university.
- **4 workshops** for project design and management led by youth, **80 community partners** trained who carried out **505 replicas** leading to the implementation of 61 youth projects. One of these achieved a year of **0 adolescent pregnancies** in the community.
- **1,391 parents** were trained in effective communication skills for their adolescent children.
- **5 Community Youth Development committees** implemented and integrated by local authorities committed to solving problematic situations for youth.



Main Partners

- The Ministry of Education (MINEDU): The team responsible for the national strategy for student participation "We are peers"
- The Regional Governments of Amazonas, Ancash, Cajamarca, Junin, Pasco, and La Libertad
- The National Police (PNP)
- The National Commission for a Drug-free Life - DEVIDA



A story of success in the Virtual Service program for Youth Development



Vocational orientation with an intercultural focus

Our partner, Professor Enrique Ordoñez, who is the Director of the Colegio Divino Maestro de Agocucho in Cajamarca, felt the need to motivate students to continue their studies instead of looking for work, and to give more emphasis to economic topics.

Professor Ordoñez presented his proposal to work on vocational orientation with an intercultural focus related to Competency 5 in the national curriculum: “Critical appreciation for artistic cultural manifestations” to then combine it with Competency 27: “Manage social or economic start-up projects” which they had been working on with Peace Corps.

To carry out this project it was necessary to find a professional with a specific profile to collaborate with the project. So it was that our Virtual Participant, Kevin LeQue, was accepted and offered his knowledge as a graduate of the University of Wichita with a Master’s Degree in Education, and his ample experience as a Volunteer in Environmental Education in Panama.

The work plan included (1) the identification of artists in the community with knowledge and experience in the cultural traditions of Agocucho (music, dance, storytelling and others); (2) teaching classes for making musical instruments; (3) transmitting oral traditions with stories from native communities; (4) developing a panel of national and international professionals invited by Kevin.

The results of this vocational orientation program are evident in the pride shown by students in sharing their traditions and cultural values with other members of the community who were not known to them before. The students also value the information they can obtain about scholarships in Peru and abroad.

The Regional Office of Education of Cajamarca awarded special recognition to this innovative proposal for a cultural focus in vocational orientation and is planning a replica of the program in other educational institutions of the region.



Community Economic Development



During 2022, we restarted operations in the project with the first six Volunteers in the southern zone of the department of Lima, and in Ica. During 2023 we plan to assign Volunteers to the regions of Ancash, La Libertad, Cajamarca, Amazonas, Junin and Pasco.



Focus for the Project

Main Goal: Develop capacities in members of Peruvian rural and peri-urban communities in order to expand their economic opportunities inclusively and with gender equity, thus bettering the quality of life and reducing poverty by way of the following three objectives:

- Manage personal finances through financial education and the promotion of savings by way of community banks or savings clubs.
- Youth entrepreneurship through the Education for Work courses in high schools and other centers of education (CEBAs and CETPROs), and courses coordinated by municipal authorities to develop business skills in students and teachers.
- Economic empowerment for women through personal development workshops and the use of business skills to start a business or improve an existing one. This is directed to women belonging to social programs and grass root organizations (Mothers' Clubs, Milk Programs, community food kitchens, neighborhood committees and others).



Achievements from June 2014 to March 2020

- **1,063 small businesses** received consultant help according to need, in order to improve the business.
- **7,558 Peruvian youth were trained** in developing business plans that promoted competencies for entrepreneurship and offering business skills for the future.
- **5,375 participants**, the majority being women from grass root organizations and youth, learned how to manage personal finances with courses in Financial Education.
- **3,817 people**, mostly women, saved a total of S/. 1,997,046.00 (Peruvian currency) in 306 community banks they themselves formed.



Main Partners

- The Ministry of Education (MINEDU)
- The Superintendence of Banking, Insurance and Pension Funds (SBS)
- The Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations (MIMP)
- The Ministry of Exterior Commerce and Tourism (MINCETUR)
- The Ministry of Production (PRODUCE)
- The social development programs "JUNTOS" and "FONCODES"
- Regional governments of Ancash, Amazonas, Cajamarca, Junin, Pasco and La Libertad

A story of success in the Virtual Service program for the Community Economic Development program



The empowerment of teachers in High Achievement Schools - COAR

The network of High Achievement Schools - COAR, from the Ministry of Education had the need of strengthening the capacities of their teachers on a national level under the area of Technology and Business Management with regard to developing business plans and the management of productive and social start-up projects.

Economist Victoria Dougherty, a specialist in the management of family finances and a graduate of Cornell University, was the person who responded to this need and came with ample experience in the field of education.

She and the COAR team analyzed the business scene to propose a curriculum in accord with the Peruvian National Education Program, identified the main learning objectives, and designed the workshop “Strengthening Capacities for Entrepreneurship” for the teachers of the COAR network.

The workshop was successfully carried out online with 25 teachers from various regions of Peru who formed four work teams. Victoria helped with the review of the work presented by the teachers, giving them the necessary feedback and answering their questions so that they could achieve the learning objectives.

The workshop made a significant impact, and several units of the course were included in the curriculum for 2023.



Community Health Promotion



On December 9, 2022, we restarted operations for this project with the first 9 Volunteers to work with youth in the regions of Ancash and La Libertad. During 2023 we plan to assign Volunteers to the regions of Cajamarca, Amazonas, Junin and Pasco.



Focus of the Project:

With the support of Community Health Volunteers we expect to develop capacities in Peruvian rural community health providers, focusing on

- Motivating coordination between the health and education sectors in order to achieve effective results for family health
- Promoting activities of prevention and promotion that involve the active participation of health personnel along with the education sector to generate sustainable changes
- Supporting the national strategy to counter chronic childhood malnutrition through training activities for community health workers and first level health personnel
- Carrying out coordinated activities with the education sector to join the efforts of the national strategy for sex education and planning



Project Achievements 2014–2021:

- **2,337 Mothers and care givers learned** how to use the CRED card to verify that 1562 children improved their early development and acquired abilities that corresponded to their age level.
- **2,672 sessions for the preparation of nutritious balanced meals** were offered, making 1813 mothers and care givers aware of how to give children healthy meals, starting from six months on.
- **291 children under the age of five** gained weight appropriate to their age and 342 grew to the appropriate height after interventions in the promotion of health and coordinated actions with health workers in training processes and follow up of healthy feeding practices.
- **9,385 adolescents were trained** in sex and reproductive education along with teachers and health personnel. Of these, 7551 demonstrated knowledge of ways to prevent pregnancy.
- **1,889 youth were trained** in the program of peer educators, and of these, 1120 finished the process of facilitation in the classroom along with the assigned teacher.



Main Partners

- The Ministry of Health (MINSA)
- The Ministry of Education (MINEDU)
- The social program “Cuna Mas” from the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion (MIDIS)
- Regional governments of Ancash, Amazonas, Cajamarca, Junin, La Libertad and Pasco



A story of success in the Virtual Service program for the Community Health project



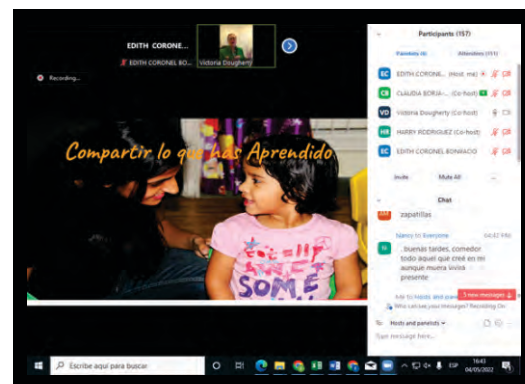
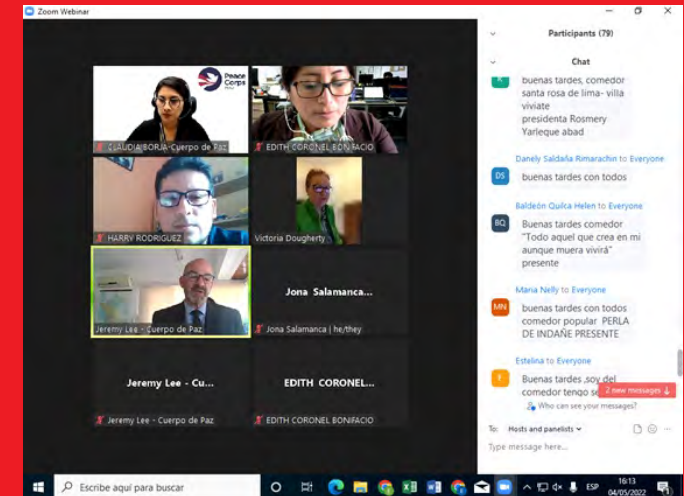
Empowering members of the community soup kitchens

Our partners from the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion (MIDIS) in the Office of Complementary Social Services needed support in empowering the people who ran the soup kitchens in the prevention of food contamination, and to improve the quality of service during the launching of this program in 2022.

We sought the support of professionals with experience in non-formal adult education and in the safe handling and preparation of food. Two people responded: Victoria Dougherty and Jonathan Salamanca, bringing with them their experience in the education field and the food industry.

Together with personnel from the Office of Complementary Social Services from MIDIS, they developed an online training course for the members of soup kitchens in Lima, Huanuco, Arequipa, Amazonas, Piura and San Martin. 777 members of almost 100 soup kitchens from seven regions strengthened their capacities in handling food, hygiene, and service to the public.

We are proud of making a contribution along with the Office of Complementary Social Services in their efforts to serve the most needy populations through their social programs.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



During 2022 we restarted operations in this project with the first six Volunteers assigned to the south part of the department of Lima and Ica. During 2023 we plan to assign Volunteers to the regions of Ancash, La Libertad, Cajamarca, Amazonas, Junin and Pasco.



Focus for the Project

The aim of this project during this new time period is the development of capacities in rural populations to better manage water resources and sanitation services, focusing on the following priorities:

- **Plans for Water Security**
Strengthen the capacities of community –level leaders for identifying areas of risk, for establishing mitigation strategies among sectors, thus assuring water quality and adequate sanitation services
- **Administration, Maintenance and Operation of Water and Sanitation Services**
Empower the providers of rural sanitation services (Water Committees, etc.), improving their technical, leadership and organizational skills to guarantee adequate services.
- **Sanitation Education and Assessment of Water and Sanitation Services**
Strengthen the capacities of local authorities to develop facilitation skills for sanitary education at all levels, promoting hygiene and safe water practices.

The program will promote the assessment and sustainability of the sanitary services with a focus on gender and capacity building.



Project Achievements 2014 - 2020

- **7,051 families trained** in methods of proper hand washing and for treating water for drinking
- **1,404 Water Committees improved** their abilities in the administration, operation and maintenance of water systems and services for the community
- **41,988 people were benefitted** with access to chlorinated water upon installing 383 rural chlorination systems



Main Partners

- The Ministry of Health (MINSA)
- The National Water Authority (ANA)
- The Ministry of Housing, Construction and Sanitation (MIDAGRI)
- The National Program for Rural Sanitation (PNSR)
- The National Superintendence of Sanitary Services (SUNASS)
- General Management of Environmental Health from the Ministry of Health
- Water for People
- Regional governments of Ancash, Amazonas, Cajamarca, Junin, Loreto, Pasco and La Libertad



A story of success in the Virtual Service program for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



Alert for water safety promoting the participation of public officials and good governance

The Office of Health for the Ancash region has been reporting on the quality of water for rural populations in the region, discovering low levels of chlorination and turbidity in the water which could put the population at risk. Local authorities were being notified, but this was not resulting in prompt action to resolve the problem.

As a consequence, the team for Environmental Health (DESA) from the Ancash region was seeking ways to improve the process of reporting about water quality by using social networks and the media. It was important to communicate these problems so that authorities and the general population could know about the problems and join forces to improve water delivery and chlorination.

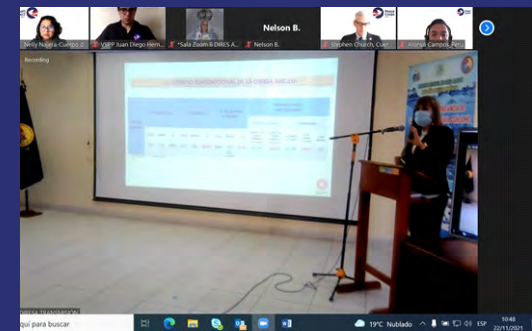
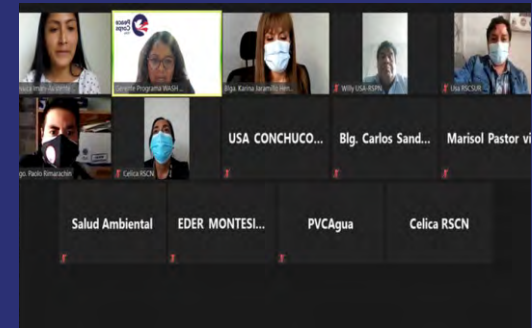
Biologist Karina Jaramillo Henostroza, Director of DESA, took advantage of the opportunity being offered by the Peace Corps program of Virtual Service in order to improve this process and to implement the regional pilot program “Alerta del Agua”—Water Alert. To help with this project, two Virtual Participants were recruited: Juan Diego Hernandez and Mayra Garcia, both former PCVs from the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene project in Peru, with experience in rural areas in Ancash and Piura.

This project considered specific steps such as (1) establish a map of areas of risk, identifying places with the critical problems of water quality, (2) identify mass media in rural areas, (3) select the media and the contents and finally (4) establish a flow chart with information to generate the alerts.

Thanks to these alerts, this topic of water safety was a part of the agenda for local authorities, and they took more immediate action. This process is being continued until now.

Furthermore, the team for environmental health from DIRESA in Ancash understood the importance of promptly communicating the results of monitoring water quality for human consumption so that local authorities could take necessary action in chlorination and water delivery, thus contributing to the public health of the community.

We are proud to have collaborated with DIRESA Ancash in helping to improve water quality for their region.



Peace Corps Response

In August of 2020, Peace Corps Response restarted operations with the assignment of four Volunteers to work with the NGO MINGA, and The National Program for Family Welfare, INABIF, in the city of Lima. In the summer of 2023 we plan to assign Response Volunteers to Ancash, Piura and Loreto.



Focus of the Project

Peace Corps Response works with organizations that seek to increase the impact of social programs by improving internal processes and by strengthening the professional and technical capacities of their collaborators

- Identify areas for growth in organizational management
- Design and implement tools for internal management
- Design strategies to effectively reach the target population
- Develop alliances and organizational networking
- Strengthen personnel technical capacities according to the given project
- Strengthen professional capacities such as project management, strategic planning, written and oral communication skills, among others



Project Achievements 2017 - 2021

26 Peace Corps Response Volunteers served with 22 public decentralized organisms and NGOs for a term of one year, in the sectors of Environmental Conservation, Youth Development, Community Economic Development and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene. They were able to train host organizations in the following:

- Eco-tourism plans and strategies for positioning in order to promote sustainable tourism in highland and jungle communities
- Marketing tools to increase sales for 20 local businesses managed by women
- Coaching techniques in crisis situations, working with more than 200 children and adolescents
- Sustainable management of natural resources and assessment of services in eco systems to raise consciousness of the people living in natural reserve buffer zones
- Review and revision of radio programs for community health and wellness which transmit daily to more than 50 communities in the Amazon jungle



Main Partners

Volunteers are assigned to two kinds of organizations:

1. Public Organisms:

- The National Service of Natural Protected Areas SERNANP from the Ministry of the Environment
- The National Institute of Glacier and Mountain Ecosystem Research from the Ministry of the Environment
- The Regional Governments of Ancash, Loreto and Piura
- The National Program for Family Welfare - INABIF from the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations
- The National Superintendence of Sanitary Services - SUNASS from the Presidential Council of Ministers
- The Technological Institute of Production - ITP from the Ministry of Production

2. NGOs:

- MINGA Peru in Loreto
- Peru Dignity in Loreto
- Care Peru in Piura
- CIPCA - Center for Research and the Promotion of "Campesinos" in Piura
- Progreso: The Association of the Promotion of Rural Economic and Social Management in Piura





A story of success in the Virtual Service program for Peace Corps Response



The Friendly Doctor of the Peruvian Amazon

The MINGA organization's team needed to communicate specialized information about COVID-19 to the river communities in the Peruvian Amazon region. They especially wanted to dispel myths about the vaccines, and reduce fears and mistrust among the population strongly resisting the vaccines.

The production team for the educational radio show **"Bienvenida Salud"** (Welcome, Health) was experiencing difficulties in scheduling interviews with specialists in COVID and other health topics that interested the listeners. So the team contacted Peace Corps to ask for a health professional who could help.

We developed a profile according to their needs, published it, and was answered by Doctor Colleen McClean, a researcher and bio medic from Duke University, who is also a specialist in Public Health and epidemiology. Coincidentally, Doctor Mclean, who speaks advanced level Spanish, had worked before in the Peruvian Amazon region, and was enthusiastic about helping MINGA with this initiative.

Despite the geographic distance, they established excellent communication by using tools for remote work, and also thanks to the understanding and empathy of Doctor Colleen in the online meetings. She shared her childhood experience in a native community in Canada, and how this experience helped her connect with communities in the Peruvian Amazon; this was a positive factor in achieving the objectives for the radio programs with a cultural focus.

The radio production team has benefitted by better understanding topics concerning the COVID-19 vaccines, which has facilitated the development of scripts with the scientific and specialized knowledge offered by "The Friendly Doctor". The model for the radio programs about the COVID vaccines has been developed, with 20 programs in Spanish and one translated into the native language of Kukama.

The programs are being transmitted by local radio stations and through a network of speakers in 30 communities, reaching a total of 120,000 listeners in the Peruvian Amazon. Focus groups, with youth and adults, validated the programs and demonstrated their understanding of the messages. In addition, they identified with and felt comfortable with the character of the Friendly Doctor, interpreted by Dr. Colleen, who with charisma and plain speaking explained topics related to the vaccinations.





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