

## Dear Friends,

Hello! Spring is here and we would like to update you on what the Perú Fund has been doing over the past year. First, we want to thank all of you for your generous donations in 2023, making it possible for us to raise a total of \$34,255, the most we have ever raised in a single year. Thank you so much for your continued support. The donations were divided to support two clean-water projects in the communities of Huallpapacana and Nueva Galilea.

Despite the recent political unrest in Peru, stemming mainly from issues of inequality and deep-seated corruption, the Perú Fund's partnership with Wings of Hope and *Alas de Esperanza Perú* continues to be successful in bringing clean water to underserved rural communities in various regions of Peru.

The Perú Fund supports the construction and upkeep of water projects through a partnership with the Canadian organization Wings of Hope and its Peruvian team *Alas de Esperanza Perú*.

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# Perú Fund: news. March 2023

## News from our past projects

The new water systems in Huaroccopampa and Santa Luz de Maranquieri were both completed and inaugurated in August of 2022. Your donations helped build these projects.

The project we had plans to support in Choccoro, however, never came to fruition. When the Choccoro residents were informed that the regional government has plans to build a dam that will flood nearly half of their valley, they decided the future of their land is too uncertain to take on the water project. As a result, the Perú Fund shifted those funds to the water project being built in the community of Huaroccopampa.



Santa Luz
There is much excitement over having
running water in each home. This
project was completed in 2022.





*left*: Before the new water system was built the only source of water was rain water collected from puddles like this one. *right*: Supplies for the new project arriving by boat from Atalaya.

## Huallpapacana

The work on the water project in this Andean community started in September of 2022 and will be completed in April 2023 when the solar panels that power its pump are installed. The Perú Fund contributed \$17,127 to this work in 2022.





above: These two women are members of the village's water committee. They will soon have running water in their homes. left: Standing under the solar panels that will power the well pump, some villagers admire the new well.

#### Nueva Galilea

Starting in 2022 the well was dug, an elevated water tower constructed, and the network of pipes bringing water to the spigots of the concrete sinks built at each home was completed. Then, in December, the rainy season brought the work to a halt. The project will be completed with the installation of the solar panels and pump in April of 2023. The Perú Fund contributed \$17,128 to this project in 2022.

## **Condor Pagcha**

This year the Perú Fund is supporting the building of a new water project in the community of Condor Paqcha, located in the Andes—11 hours by car from Lima—at an altitude of 12,000 feet above sea level.

The village is home to 234 adults and children. The families make their living from subsistence farming. They raise cows, sheep and poultry in addition to growing potatoes, corn, beans and other vegetables. There is an elementary school in the village, and access to internet and electricity, but for medical care, people must go to the *Posta Medica* in another village. Currently, the only source of water comes from rain.

The water system in the nearby community of Cuchoquesera, completed in 2015 and supported by the Perú Fund, is what brought the people of Condor Paqcha to *Alas de Esperanza*. When the villagers agreed to carry out the manual labor for the project and form a water committee, *Alas de Esperanza* agreed to partner with them. The required work consists of excavating for waterlines and water tanks and represents thousands of hours of work. It will be overseen and assisted by the technical team from *Alas de Esperanza*.



**Santa Clara:** Unloading rebar and bags of cement for the new water project being built this year.



**Nueva Galilea:** Having clean running water at home makes everyday life a lot easier for this woman.

Construction of the project started at the end of January this year, with completion expected in November, 2023. Two villagers, chosen by the community, will be trained to maintain the system. The projected cost of the project is \$125,250. With the contribution in labor from the community—valued at \$18,877—and materials which the local municipality is providing, the assistance needed from *Alas de Esperanza* is \$100,420.

### Santa Clara

The second project the Perú Fund is contributing to in 2023 is in the village of Santa Clara located on the Urubamba River, 1½ hours north of the city of Atalaya in the Peruvian Amazon. The population of 295 adults and children consists of Asháninka natives along with some families of Yine heritage.

The community sustains itself through fishing and raising crops such as cassava, bananas and cacao. Any surplus crops are sold at market in Atalaya.

Luis Felipe Ruiz Vasquez is a member of the *Alas de Esperanza Perú* team, and lives in Atalaya. He is the skipper of the motorboat that the team rents when they travel along the Urubamba River, to visit or deliver supplies to the many communities there they have worked with over the years.

It was Felipe whom the people of Santa Clara went to in trying to get a water project going in their village. *Alas de Esperanza* agreed to partner with the people of Santa Clara on the project with the usual understanding that the villagers would provide the manual work and maintain the water system, while *Alas de Esperanza Perú* would contribute the technical expertise and the supplies needed. The project is budgeted for \$86,427. The manual labor contributed by the community and the supplies donated by the municipal township reduces the cost of the project to \$62,273. The project is expected to be completed in June, 2023.



**Shenontiari:** *above*: Attaching the rebar before casting the concrete top to finish off the well. *below*: Community planning meeting for the new water project. This project was completed in 2021.



Please join us in supporting the Perú Fund. Along with the benefits of clean water for drinking, washing and providing water for crops and livestock, these projects encourage sustainable community growth in underserved areas of Peru. *Alas de Esperanza* empowers community members to take responsibility for the implementation and maintenance of the water systems. This allows them to experience that they have the capability of improving their lives in truly important ways.

*Gracias y con mucho cariño,*Evie and Dorthe

Please make your tax-deductible donation payable to **Perú Fund** and send it to either of the addresses below, or donate through our website at **www.perufund.org**. You can contact us through the website with any questions about the Perú Fund or to receive this yearly newsletter by email.

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Are you interested in offering some of your time to help support the health and well being of these Peruvian rainforest and mountain communities? Please contact us through our website for suggestions of ways to become involved! We would love your help.



Donations to the Perú Fund are tax-exempt. As a 501(c)(3) public charity, the Perú Fund is also eligible to receive matching gift donations from your company or employer. We urge you to take advantage of this option if it is available to you.