

Amantani

2020 MONITORING REPORT





REFLECTIONS DURING COVID-19



We started this year with the intention of reinforcing and growing many of our programmes and projects. However, when COVID-19 hit the country, we had to create new strategies that could ensure the integral well-being of our participants and of our team, all while keeping in mind this year's goals and objectives.

When the quarantine was imposed, the majority of our young people decided to leave the City of Cusco and head to their communities in the Ccorca and Huanquite region to be

with their families. Most of them had to pause their studies, and only a minority were able to continue studying remotely. At the moment, we have confirmed that some of our young people will be able to return to their studies in the second half of the year, whilst others will do so in 2021. These decisions have required maturity and resilience from the young people, who are looking forward to resuming their studies as soon as possible.

"At the moment, we have confirmed that some of our young people will be able to return to their studies during the second half of the year, whilst others will do so in 2021."

Regarding the Ethical Trade Project, we decided to pause the production of bracelets until the end of the year. We are exploring new shops both in Peru and in the United Kingdom, in order to make up for those who unfortunately had to close

their doors either temporarily or permanently during the pandemic. Our aim is to carry on with the production as soon as possible.

Our team is being very careful and staying safe by working from home in Oxford (United Kingdom), Cusco and in Lima (Peru). Thankfully, technology allows us to carry on with our work and have virtual meetings in order to keep moving forward. Nonetheless, we still face challenges related to connectivity, which become more acute in the rural communities our participants live in.

We are very excited for the upcoming second half of the year. Even though COVID-19 cases keep rising in Peru, at Amantani we feel more secure and able to face the challenges that lie ahead. Our new strategies are adapting to the needs of the young people and team whilst following the sanitary protocols required to ensure their overall well-being.

We are particularly proud of our young people, who during the past few months, have been demonstrating their willingness to adapt to the situation and have been showing support to each other and towards the team.

Lastly, but most importantly, I want to thank all the generous supporters who have remained by our side during these difficult times. It is thanks to your trust, commitment and encouragement that we can continue to face the challenges ahead in the best way we can.

I'm sure we will soon be able to continue with the growth we had planned for Amantani at the beginning of the year.

Rodrigo Bustos
Executive Director



PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES



TRANSITIONS PROJECT

Our greatest changes during the pandemic took place in our Transitions Project. When the national quarantine was imposed, 90% of our 105 participants went back to their communities to be with their families. Unfortunately, most of them were unable to carry on with their studies as they lacked the technological resources necessary to access their institutes' and universities' virtual platforms.

Moreover, at the beginning of the year we decided that we were not going to run the Pathways Programme; which normally takes places over the course of 15 intensive residential weekends in which young people participate in different courses that prepare them for higher education and formal employment. Instead, we wanted to focus on and improve the strategies of our Leavers Programme. Nonetheless, we will keep working hard to carry on with the Pathways Programme as soon as possible.

The digital divide: one of the greatest challenges of the Transitions Project

These last few months have seen a notable trend towards a more digitalised education. The lack of proper technological resources and the challenges in connectivity have become the new obstacles when trying to study remotely.

In response to this, we launched a fundraising campaign with a target of £39,050 to purchase 71 laptops for our young people. We are extremely grateful to all the donors who have supported the campaign. So far we have reached 70% of our

goal, which represents 49 laptops! The response to this campaign has been unprecedented and our young people are extremely excited to be able to return to their studies.

Without these laptops, the risk of young people dropping out of their further education courses is incredibly high, so any donations would be hugely appreciated as the campaign is still open. If you are willing and able to donate, please go to: [justgiving.com/campaign/Amantani-LaptopsForEducation](https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/Amantani-LaptopsForEducation).



"I currently study Chemical Engineering at UNSAAC. For me, this laptop is extremely important, because it allows me to do homework and access my university's virtual platform. I feel happy and extremely grateful to be able to study and carry on with my goals."

- Olga, 24



RESILIENT YOUNG PEOPLE

There are many examples of how the young people have supported one another and shown great resilience throughout these difficult times. Here are just a few of them:

Abelardo

Abelardo, who is currently studying Metal Construction Mechanics, got together with other young people, at the beginning of the quarantine, to control the vehicles that were coming in and out of the community making sure that safety protocols were followed.



Lidia Martha

Lidia Martha, who studies Food Industries, continued studying virtually during the pandemic whilst facing several challenges related to connectivity. On occasions, she had to walk up to two hours to find Wi-Fi signal and be able to download documents from her virtual lessons.

A few weeks ago, a relative lent her a laptop and this has allowed her to be more efficient in her studies. Lidia has demonstrated great resilience and capacity to adapt during these challenging times.

Hector Raul

Hector Raul, who currently studies Environmental Engineering, has been helping all those who have been struggling to obtain their savings from the AFPs (Pension Funds). He personally took care of registering his peers in the corresponding virtual platforms and taking them to Cusco to receive the money whilst following sanitary protocols.





ETHICAL TRADE

The Ethical Trade Project was severely impacted by COVID-19, since many of the shops we partner with were forced to close their doors in both Peru and the United Kingdom.

As a result, we had to pause the production of bracelets and generate new strategies that would allow us to sell our current stock. We are doing everything we can to continue with the project and resume production as soon as possible.

Nonetheless, we are extremely proud of the 47 resilient artisans that participate in the project and are currently facing different challenges with responsibility and commitment.





BOARDING HOUSES MONITORING PROGRAMME

During the first few months of the year, the Boarding Houses Monitoring Programme was carried out as planned. However, communication between the team and the participants became increasingly challenging when the pandemic reached Peru. To make it easier, team members were assigned to different communities and made sure to carry out the following:



Regular conversations with the directors of Primary and Secondary schools to confirm the sanitary procedures and the new strategies based on Government protocols.



Support in the use of Smartphones to all the participants who now have access to cellphones.



Regular conversations with parents in order to supervise the time their children invested in schoolwork.



Provide assistance to the parents in need of accessing the Government's financial subsidy provided during the pandemic.

MEET MY WORLD



At the beginning of the year, 29 participants took part in 4 workshops given by photographer Gustavo Vivanco. The workshops included Introduction to Photography and Photographic Composition.



Prior to the quarantine, 13 participants (6 from Huanquite and 7 from Ccorca) took the cameras to their communities over the weekend and brought back wonderful photographs to share with the class.



Prior to the quarantine, 4 young people took part in 1 photography workshop in the field, in Huanquite.

At the moment, some young people continue taking photos during quarantine. Meanwhile, our Meet My World team is analyzing new strategies in order to carry on with the project in the best way possible for the remainder of the year.



VOLUNTEER
WOKRSHOPS



CAPOEIRA

In January, Maurizio Jimenez, Capoeira instructor, ran Capoeira workshops for our young people, with the intention of teaching them a discipline that would help them feel empowered and continue developing their own self-esteem.



“When I’m sad, I dance. You have to find the melody. If you do, you can build a new world for yourself.”

- Aldair, 17



ENGLISH ACADEMY

Our English Academy was born as a need to support our young people expand their knowledge and understanding of the world by getting familiarized with the universal language. As a result, and with the support of 'Maximo Nivel' Institute, this year the young people continued with their English lessons given by voluntary teachers.

We are extremely proud of our young people, for whom this has become an extraordinary challenge, given that, in most cases, Quechua is their first language, and they have already become fluent in Spanish as a second language.



IMPORTANT
EVENTS



ANNIVERSARY

On May 20th, we celebrated our 12th anniversary. Usually, on this special day, we love to spend time with the team and participants carrying out different activities. This year, however we had to celebrate remotely. Instead, we decided to launch an internal contest called: 'Celebrate Amantani's Anniversary from home.' Despite the challenges and difficulties, many families sent us celebratory photos with the available resources they had. The 'panel of judges' (team members) were selecting their favourite entries based on creativity, originality and representation of Amantani's essence.



We received over 120 photos.



We chose 4 overall winners and awarded them with cash prizes.

We are extremely proud and grateful of all the participants and their families who joined us in celebrating Amantani's anniversary!





WE SHARED OUR CAMPUS

During quarantine, a group of people from Ccorca that were based in Lima had to return to their communities due to the new challenges imposed by COVID-19. After several conversations with Ccorca's Municipality and other key community members, we decided to offer our Campus in Ccorca so that the 27 individuals returning from Lima could quarantine safely. This allowed these individuals to follow the corresponding sanitary protocols and protect other members of the community.

The DIRESA (Regional Health Coordinators) implemented the health plan that was followed inside the campus, while the Municipality of Ccorca made sure all safety procedures were followed. Also, the community of Ccorca took charge of the cooking and made sure everyone received proper nutrition.

We are very grateful for the incredible hard work put in by the community, the Municipality of Ccorca and the members of our team!



WEBINAR



El camino hacia una resiliencia transformativa

Los RETOS de una ONG en tiempos de COVID-19

Conversatorio gratuito

Jueves, 02 de julio
a las 11:00 a.m.



Dr. Thilo Böck
Director del Proyecto Transición



Sara Mitchell
Directora de Comercio Ético

In June we offered our first, free webinar, titled: "The Journey towards a Transformative Resiliency: The Challenges of an NGO in Times of COVID-19." In this webinar, Dr. Thilo Böck, Director of the Transitions Project and Sara Mitchell, our Ethical Trade Director, discussed the subject and answered participants' questions. We look forward to sharing more informative webinars such as this one over the course of the year.

We have also launched Peru's first 'Resilience Network' with the objective of sharing information related to NGOs fighting for social justice. At the moment, we are sharing free content at www.redresiliencia.com with everyone who is interested in supporting and learning more about these initiatives.



Amantani

www.amantani.org.uk

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Thank you so much for your support!