

TALANOA DIALOGUE SUBMISSION YOUTH STATEMENT - PERU

INTRODUCTION

The Talanoa Project Peru is organized by a group of young people who have previous experience in climate change, participants in the climate negotiations and students related to the subject. The project seeks to generate a space for dialogue regarding the situation of Peru and climate change through the Talanoa Dialogue. We have observed since the reception of the Paris Agreement, there has been a lag of the involvement of the new generations in issues of participation and incidence in policies and actions in climate change. Therefore, we seek to gather young people for making a new call for climate action.

The Talanoa Project Peru already organized the first Talanoa Dialogue with young people, who are representatives of organizations in Lima and Ica. As a result of this dialogue, a statement was elaborated and sent to the Secretariat of the Framework Convention of the United Nations on Climate Change (<https://unfccc.int/documents/182152>), for use in the political phase of the official Talanoa Dialogue.

To date, the project has generated replicas in more than 6 regions of Peru and advised three countries in Latin America (Paraguay, Mexico, and Argentina) with the methodology of the Talanoa Youth Dialogue. Also, it has remained in constant virtual training related to climate negotiations, increase in ambition for climate action, and the Talanoa Dialogue.

To make this national statement, our team has managed and held meetings with organizations, youth groups, and young people from different regions of Peru. In these meetings, the context of climate change and the Talanoa dialogue has been explained, encouraging them to carry out one of those activities in their locality and fill out a virtual file, answering the three questions of the Talanoa dialogue.

The participating regions of this pronouncement are Ayacucho, Apurímac, Cajamarca, Cusco, La Libertad, Lima, Moquegua, Pasco, Ucayali, Puno and Tacna. The participating organizations are: Young Peruvian Leaders, Colectivo Juvenil frente al Cambio Climático, Ecopra, Asociación sin fines de lucro Bolicheli, IMSOS Ambiental, Organización Reguladora de la Calidad Ambiental - ORCAA, Ecológicamente Q`UMIR, Gestión Gubernamental Sostenible S.R.L., Red Universitaria Ambiental Perú nodo UNU - Ucayali, Red Universitaria Ambiental Perú nodo UNJBG - Tacna, Red Universitaria Ambiental Perú nodo UNA - Puno, Econnection Natural Socio Ambiental, Red

Interquorum Apurímac, y REDJA - Jóvenes por un Medio Ambiente con Justicia.

We thank each of the participants for sharing their feelings and knowledge about the environmental and climatic situation of Peru. Likewise, we thank all the members of the project that have given their time and dedication to make this statement.

WHERE ARE WE?

There are several problems in many regions of the country, for example, pollution by mining, water scarcity, bad management by some local and regional governments, wide polluting vehicle fleet, plastic pollution, and others. This has contributed directly and indirectly to the main problem that is facing the planet: climate change. A problem that is everyone's responsibility, which includes local and regional governments, private sector and society.

We are in a society with little awareness of our role in the environment, this is because of the little environmental culture and interest in sustainable development. Thus, climate change and its effects on our lives have not yet been taken seriously. Although there are initiatives from different groups, there is still a lack of effective articulation of these one and more training on environmental issues. All this lack of knowledge is evidenced in the violation of different resources and areas, for example, the pollution of lakes (Lake Titicaca in the Puno region) and rivers.

We are aware that the geography in each department is different, which sometimes the process of communication between groups (either by distance, rugged geography, or not coverage signals) is difficult. In addition, some cultural differences can also restrict an adequate articulation. Within some of the customs of each town, the damage of the environment is unconsciously incurred; for example, in some agricultural practices, the burning of pastures can trigger catastrophes such as forest fires. On the other hand, the fact of having a variety of geographies, there are regions where the State can invest in renewable energy, for example, in solar energy. Despite this potential, only a part of the private sector has invested in it and the lack of a vision of regional and local governments in promoting these opportunities.

Some of our authorities do not know much about environmental issues, less about climate change. Society feels the absence of leadership to carry out the accurate policies to fight climate change. In addition, a point that hinders action is the lack of efficient articulation of different institutions and organizations that work on environmental issues. All these ones clearly show the lack of public policies about environmental issues and the absence of support of relevant institutions in proposing laws that benefit the environment and to achieve little by little to sustainable development.

Corruption in different regions of Peru has not allowed the efficient use of resources, consequently, good environmental management is impossible. Some institutions have been discredited by this problem. The lack of ethics and moral values induce anti-ecological actions and other activities that affect the welfare of society. In many regions of Peru, a population already feel the effects of climate change, and little by little people begin to experience critical situations. They report the reduction of the production of food, water scarcity, and the greater frequency and intensity of natural disasters. Furthermore, some residents, such as the Puno region, are aware that in the face of an increase in global temperature would severely affect Lake Titicaca, which is key for many activities.

However, not everything is bad in Peru, the government through the Ministry of the Environment (MINAM) is generating spaces for citizen participation, which is gradually raising awareness about climate change. Some active actors are also the universities, which through their research, allow us to understand better the reality of our country and how climate change is affecting. On the other hand, volunteers from different environmental programs and projects are doing an arduous work informing the society on these issues.

WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

A country where sustainable development has been achieved, complying the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the Agenda 2030 and a balanced integral process has been achieved. A country where articulation of institutions, justice, respect, and action are present in each space of its territory. Where there is no pollution, a quality environment, and the use of resources is done in an equitable manner without compromising future generations. Poverty has disappeared and there is no trace of malnutrition.

Economic growth does not deplete natural resources excessively because has found the balance between development and environmental preservation. The principle of sustainability is a fundamental pillar for any policy, plan, and action of the Government.

Research and innovation have a fundamental role in the development of the country, in which innovation is the meaning of efficiency. Innovation projects have been developed in sanitation, use of agro-industrial waste, responsible industry, a technology that is not single-use, and ecological and natural alternatives to plastic products. Ecological projects are promoted, good practices have been implemented in different regions and are a reality at the national level.

Renewable energies, the development of technologies in agriculture with the efficient use of water, and the development of applied biotechnology in the bioalcohol industry is a reality implemented in each space of the country. Water, an indispensable resource, is managed efficiently. Contaminated water bodies have been recovered, and cases like Lake Titicaca are

examples worldwide for its management and care. The air quality is optimal in each region of the country and we can breathe pure air in areas where before the levels exceeded the standards of environmental quality. There is the excellent management of solid waste, home compost is prepared, and proper municipal management is given. It transcends the relevance of sustainable and technological agriculture. Ancestral knowledge is valued, respecting life and especially water.

We are an empowered society, environmentally responsible citizens, and authorities with capacities and knowledge about the environmental reality of the country. The citizens actively participate in the environmental affairs of their localities, we have an environmental culture strengthened with a fundamental basis in the practice of values.

Environmental education takes place in spaces of formal and non-formal education, for students and adults. Young people assume a leading role, leading spaces of participation where voice and vote are recognized for decision making. The society, the communities, the State and the private sector are allies and work towards a solution of socio-environmental problems. Society has learned to coexist with our planet.

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

To arrive at what was described in the previous answer, all the actors involved (society civil society, the State, the private sector) must participate and take action as each one contributes in different ways, whether doing environmental volunteering, organizing academic events related to climate change open to the public, spreading information on climate change, strengthening the regulatory and environmental policy framework, implementing more sustainable production methods, among others. The necessary joint actions where the multiplier effect is the crucial axis to ensure that sustainability is considered a lifestyle in our country.

Peru should invest more in environmental education and research, giving special emphasis to mitigation actions and adaptation to climate change. It should sensitize the communities in general, but especially those most vulnerable to change the climate, to achieve leadership and a high level of environmental culture that motivates action climate at the local, regional and national levels. In addition, encourage environmental leadership in the children and young people driving platforms to achieve this goal and supporting them so that participate in projects on environmental and climate matters. Alliances that contribute to sustainable development must be strengthened, making entities that see the environmental issue and other sectors (related to health, economy, agriculture, production, etc.), whether governmental or non-governmental, join and work articulately to generate a greater reach. Internationally and national level, we must comply with

the Paris Agreement and ratify and implement the Escazú, to achieve a sustainable balance in the use of our natural resources guaranteeing a high rate of citizen participation.

Implement sustainable government management that includes public policies more effective ways to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change, making policies have an impact on all the sectors involved. That companies and Institutions implement the Sustainability Reports to promote compliance with the SDGs and that the strengthening of the regulatory framework be continued, approving laws such as the Law on the regulation of single-use plastic and others that promote the conservation of environment (such as Lake Titicaca), the circular economy and the transition towards sources of renewable energy.

Finally, effectively address the problems of water resources and solid waste. We must apply good Integrated Solid Waste Management and demand from the State a greater dissemination on this subject since many Peruvians are not aware of this environmental Issues. With regard to the water issue, we also need to apply a Good Integrated Water Resources Management, solutions based on nature for the conservation of water sources are a good example.

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