



*amantani*

# MONITORING REPORT

JAN 1 - JUL 31 2017

It has been a busy first half of the year at Amantani, and we wanted to give you a very brief snapshot of our work during this period. Each month we monitor various outputs in order to give us a clear picture of each of our projects, and to ensure we are on track with the plans that we set at the start of the year. These then form part of a wider impact evaluation at the end of the year. For now, please enjoy our mid-year Monitoring Report.

# ACCESS TO EDUCATION

From harsh geographical conditions to a lack of well-trained staff and decent infrastructure, children across rural Cusco are often left with limited options to attend school or forced to abandon their education all together. Alongside their parents, we work to enable children and young people to cultivate the core academic capabilities, resilience and social skills they need to take advantage of the opportunities before them.

It is important to mention that, since 15th June the teachers from schools across the country have been on strike, in the demand of better working conditions. This means that state schools have been closed for two months. Despite our best efforts to ensure the continuity and smooth running of our programmes, they have been heavily affected by the changes and uncertainty generated by the strike. However, we are glad to report that - despite the strike continuing in other parts of the country - the teachers in Ccorca returned to work on 14th August. Between now and the end of the year, local schools will recuperate learning hours over the weekends.



*"Amantani's teachers have responded valiently to the strike, finding opportunities within the crisis by working additional hours to maximise the extra-time in the mornings, ensuring that the children do not fall behind in their studies."*

Rodrigo, Vice-Director of Access to Education

## BOARDING HOUSES

Through our Boarding Houses, we support children who previously walked up to eight hours a day to get to and from school. Staying with us four nights a week, children spend time strengthening their academic attainment and developing practical skills.

### KEY ACTIVITIES:

- 62 children took part in the Boarding House programme, including 9 new children.\*

### Psychological Support

- 73% of children have undergone a psychological diagnostic.
- 64 individual sessions with the Amantani psychologist.
- 251 individual tutoring sessions (average of 4 per child).
- 70 outreach visits to the children's families.
- 3 parent training workshops, in which parents learnt about tolerance and understanding within the home.
- 92 hours of personal development workshops, focussing on stress-management, trust and self-confidence.

### Education

- 133hrs of Libro Abierto (Open Book) workshops, through which children continue to develop a passion for reading.
- 282hrs of communication classes, enabling children to revisit fundamental reading comprehension & writing skills.
- 522hrs of maths classes - a number significantly boosted by the extra time made available by the teachers' strike.
- 122hrs of computer skills training in the Boarding Houses' ICT suite.
- 115hrs of practical skills workshops including cooking, photography and music.

\*We have reduced the total number of children coming into the Boarding Houses to ensure we are able to fully meet the children's individual needs.



*“Through spending time in the Libro Abierto workshops, Julio Alberto improved his attitude and behaviour. He now enjoys reading so much that he even spends time choosing stories and reading to his younger sister that has recently joined the Boarding Houses.”*

Marleni, Libro Abierto Coordinator

## ICT ACADEMY

On the back of the incredible support from the audience at our Meet My World London event in September 2016, we have been able to extend the reach of our ICT Academy to the local secondary school, as well as three primary schools from across Ccorca.

### KEY ACTIVITIES:

- 444 children from four local schools have taken part in 467 hours of ICT learning.
- Through individual and group work, children are now able to identify and use the basic functions of a computer.
- They have also begun working with core programmes such as Excel, Word and Paint, which also allows them to practice editing and typing skills.
- 57 computers across Ccorca were repaired and set up with new software.
- Internet has been installed in the secondary school.

*“It has been incredible to see the changes in the children from the first grade of the primary schools. When they first arrived at the start of the school year, many of them had never seen a computer before. After several months of hard work, the children are now confidently using basic computer functions and programmes.”*

Elizabeth, ICT Academy Teacher



## HOLIDAY COURSES

In January and February, the Boarding Houses opened their doors to 95 children from surrounding communities who are not part of the regular Boarding House student body.

### KEY ACTIVITIES:

- 270 hours of ICT, Maths, Literacy and Personal Development workshops.
- As a result, 95 children strengthened their maths and literacy skills and scored 6% higher in their ICT evaluations.
- Children also developed their confidence and self-esteem through group work during the personal development workshops.
- Additional handicraft workshops included bracelet making, arts & crafts and knitting.

# ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT

The Amantani Transitions Project has been developed in response to a growing need for transitional support for young school leavers in Ccorca. When Amantani began working in Ccorca in 2008, there were only 35 students in the local secondary school. Just two young people graduated from the secondary school that year and no one from the district was in higher education. Since then – and in part thanks to Amantani’s support - Ccorca’s education system has undergone significant changes. There are now 221 pupils in the local secondary school, and 40 young people will graduate in 2017.

During 2016, we worked with the young people and their parents, across several planning workshops and focus groups to develop the Transitions Project which is divided into two principal programmes, the Pathways into Employment Programme and the Leavers Programme. In January 2017 we launched the first phase of the project and have been hugely encouraged by the immediate results from the programme, which speak for themselves.



*“We just saw Lucho as he came out of his work at the Atemporal hotel. He told us that they have commended him for his responsibility and determination. When I asked him how he had learnt to be so responsible he told us it was from the tutors in the Boarding Houses. Well done to the Boarding Houses team for your effort and dedication - it has fallen on fertile ground. Lucho is flourishing as part of the Leavers Project thanks to the solid foundation that he has.”*

Thilo, Director of Access to Employment

## PATHWAYS INTO EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

As young people enter their final grade of secondary school, we work with them over the course of 15 intensive residential weekends, enabling them to prepare for life after school.

### KEY ACTIVITIES:

- 24 young people have attended four residential weekends.

#### Education

- 20hrs of Maths and Literacy classes.
- 10hrs of ICT Training.
- 5 professionals visited the young people and delivered specialised workshops in various themes from entrepreneurship and art, to agriculture and plumbing.
- Participants have taken vocational orientation tests.
- Young people have completed their first CV and have begun the process of creating life plans to identify their future goals.

#### Psychological Support

- 20hrs of personal development workshops.
- 10 young people have undergone a psychological diagnostic evaluation.
- 1 planning meeting was held with the young people's parents.
- 9 outreach visits to the children's families.

Additionally, five 2016 Ccorca graduates who are currently taking part in the Leavers Programme, have been supporting staff over the course of these weekends and have been a first-hand inspiration to many young people who are hoping to follow in their footsteps.



## LEAVERS PROGRAMME

With just one extra year of formal education, an individual's earning capacity can be increased by 10%; a figure which can even reach 20% for women (UNESCO). As young people leave school, we accompany them in accessing high quality training opportunities and formal employment experience.

### KEY ACTIVITIES:

#### Education

- 14 young people have enrolled in higher education institutes, on courses such as Systems Engineering, Teaching, Gastronomy and Textile Design.
- 9 young people took part in 264 hours of academic training, to prepare for the Beca 18 government scholarship exams.
- 6 young people passed the first stage of the Beca 18 government scholarship exam and Veronica passed the second stage to become the first person from Ccorca to enter the scholarship programme.
- 1 young person has graduated from secondary school.
- 1 young person passed their Heavy Machinery driving test.

#### Work Experience

- 9 young people have taken part in paid internships in local hotels, designers and NGOs in Cusco.
- 1 young person is formally employed in Atemporal, a boutique hotel in Lima.

#### Wellbeing Support

- Young people have checked into the Youth Hub 488 times, where they have studied, used the available computers and received 110hrs of mentoring support.
- Young people have taken part in 48hrs of personal development workshops and group activities.

**VERONICA** joined our Boarding Houses in 2011. Since graduating from secondary school in December 2015, she has worked hard to achieve her dream of becoming a nursery school teacher. In the first few months after leaving school she began her first internship at Ccorca's local nursery helping the head teacher and learning the ropes of her dream profession. She then joined the Leavers Programme in January 2017. Having worked tirelessly in our Beca 18 academy to prepare for her government scholarship exam, she went on to become the first young woman from Ccorca to access the full Beca 18 scholarship. Veronica has now started her course and is well on her way to making her dreams come true. She will also be a key ambassador of the Leavers Programme and we are sure she will inspire many more young people from rural communities to follow in her footsteps.



*"Sandra has been an outstanding intern. She is able to learn quickly and her attitude is excellent. I'm glad there are projects where they encourage young people to be responsible and I hope she continues on this path."*

Isabel Luna, designer in Cusco

## ETHICAL TRADE

As part of Amantani's sustainability initiatives, women from across Ccorca create beautiful handwoven bracelets, enabling them to foster their financial independence. This year, we have purchased over 6,800 bracelets that are currently being sold in over 40 shops in Peru and the UK, creating a reliable source of income for the women as well as contributing to Amantani's financial sustainability.



"Thanks to this project we are able to work from home and have a regular source of income".

Raimunda

"I am able to pay for our children to get to school."

Nicolasa



"We have learned to be more punctual and organised."

Betsy



"I focus more on details and make sure to hand in a good quality product."

Jovita



"I buy supplies for me and my baby boy."

Magali

