



Amantani

2021 MONITORING REPORT



REFLECTIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



A new challenge, a new beginning.

It's been 6 months since our last report in which we thanked every one of you for trusting us and continuing to support Amantani through our different platforms. Despite the increasing challenges due to COVID-19, it is thanks to your support that we've been able to continue our programmes. Although the past few months have been difficult, I am pleased to share some excellent news from the first six months of the year.

To date, 11 young people from

the Scholarships Programme have completed their studies, 3 young people have received their degrees and over 80 young people continued with their studies during the pandemic. This is a reflection of the young people's incredible strength and teamwork and their families unwavering commitment and support.

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Similarly, the Ethical Trade Project has continued to provide invaluable financial support to the artisans through our direct network of supporters and retail partners as well as the production of a new product currently available on our social media platforms.

In our Meet My World project, the young people continue to work hard to share their stories and reality with the rest of the world, however, this has proven to be particularly difficult given the increasing digital divide and connectivity issues they face in their communities. Despite these challenges, they continue to encourage us to find new ways for them to access the internet and continue to stay engaged with the project.

Financially, we are looking to the future with a great deal of optimism. As we use this time to invest our resources into growing our programmes, we are also looking ahead to extending our outreach to address educational inequalities in other parts of Peru.

I would like to take this time, once again, to thank our amazing team. I have no doubt that its because of your hard work and commitment to Amantani's values, that we've

been able to accomplish so many goals this year already.

I would also like to thank each and every one of you. As I've said before, it would be impossible for us to carry out our work without your trust and support every step of the way. Even though we have all been required to socially distance, it has been during this time that we have felt you closer to us than ever.

Rodrigo Bustos
Executive Director



PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES



TRANSITIONS PROJECT



This year, we continued supporting the young people with the use of their laptops and readjusted our strategy to fit their needs.

We decided to create a virtual space called “**Technology Wednesdays**” to interact with the young people in real-time and answer their questions regarding apps, photo editing and video creation, the use of the ‘cloud’, virtual banks, and other educational software. In each session, we welcome an average of **12 young people**, who work alongside their tutors and peers as they interact via videocall and further develop their social skills. .

The most outstanding numbers of our first six months of the year:



200 hours of virtual tutoring focused on supporting the young people both academically and psychosocially.



20 hours of virtual group meetings to discuss challenging situations the young people may be going through and plan strategies to support them as needed.



2 Student Council meetings.



115 virtual and in-person meetings with Study Coordinators from different universities, institutes and technical centres, to monitor the young people’s academic development.



The Campus was loaned more than 5 times to the community of Ccorca for different recreational and health-related purposes.



20 virtual and in-person meetings with the student’s parents, who continue to actively participate in their children’s education.



SPOTLIGHT



Yerson

Yerson successfully completed his dissertation in April and was awarded his certificate. This was one of his biggest dreams. Yerson studied International **Business Management** at the **Instituto Khipu** and finished his studies in early 2020. During the pandemic, he was invited to work at the Andean Wings Boutique Hotel. Shortly after, he was able to conclude his studies and officially graduate.

Mentors

The challenges that COVID-19 imposed this year, pushed us to find new ways to strengthen the team's connection to the young people. As a result, four young people, who either had been or currently are participants of the Scholarships Programme, were hired as Mentors. These young people have strong leadership and empathy skills and now support the project by acting as a strong link between their peers and the team. Their unique perspectives, valuable insights, recommendations and constructive criticism is what the team needs in order to keep improving and continue supporting the young people in the best way possible.

The hiring process involved the team and the young people, many of whom took part in interviewing the candidates. We are excited to announce that Héctor Raúl Amache, Marleni Quispe, Ruth Karina Bocangelino and Abelardo Huillca are the new mentors. The young people now work part-time at Amantani whilst they continue finishing their studies.



Marleni

Marleni's journey at Amantani started many years ago, in the Boarding Houses. She later studied **Education** and specialised in **Natural Sciences** at **UNSAAC**. This year, in June, she graduated and was awarded her degree. Marleni is now one of the talented Mentors who support the team with her unique and valuable insights.



ETHICAL TRADE

After a very challenging year for the Ethical Trade Project, the artisans and the team have demonstrated their strength and conviction by moving forward with more determination than ever. With the re-opening of shops in the United Kingdom, we were able to continue selling bracelets, whilst selling online in Peru.

Exploring these new sales channels pushed us to take an important step and develop a second product: **'Bag Tags'**. We are currently selling the **6 unique designs** in Peru online and hope to be selling them in some stores in the United Kingdom sometime soon as well. We have also added a QR code to our products so that people can learn more about the artisans.



During the second half of the year, we will continue working on finding more points of sales and establishing new commercial partners so that we can increase our support to the **46 artisans** of Amantani.



BOARDING HOUSES MONITORING PROGRAMME

The team continues to work alongside secondary schools and government institutions. During the first half of the year, Amantani participated in the following activities:



Presentation and coordination meetings with the new directors of Ccorca and Huanquite.



We provided students with **200 booklets** containing information prepared by the teachers in order to support remote studying.



We supported parents from communities where young people are still in secondary schools and are facing challenges due to remote learning.



We supervised the Ministry of Education's initiative of providing some families with tablets to support remote learning during the pandemic.



We supported specific students in severe cases of neglect and malnourishment. These cases were also referred to the DEMUNA of Ccorca (a local protection agency for children and teenagers).



Meeting with the parents of the participants of the Scholarships Programme from Huanquite, to keep them up to date with their sons' and daughters' education.

“The children and young people of the programme are continuing with their education remotely despite the obstacles they face when trying to keep up with this new way of learning. Nonetheless, it's still rewarding to feel their trust towards us and witness their dedication.”

**Tania Farfán,
Programme Coordinator**



MEET MY WORLD

This year, the **28 young participants** of the Meet My World Project actively engaged in 6 participatory exercises designed to explore different subjects related to their day-to-day lives. The exploration required a personal self-reflection as the participants were asked to identify significant people, places and objects. We will soon be publishing the results of these activities on our website and social media accounts.

In the month of July, the young people also participated in an exercise titled **"Reporters"**, which allowed them to develop a more critical vision towards the elections process. As a result, the young people reflected and made profound analysis regarding their own experiences with these elections in the communities of Ccorca and Huanquite.

We have also been working with a few young people to develop a small, individual collection of their photos.



Photos taken by Abelardo, MMW participant.



TEAM INVOLVEMENT IN EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES

Loan of the Campus

- A local orphanage project used the Campus to host different outdoor activities for their participants in the months of January and February.
- Amantani participated in conversations with the Municipality of Ccorca in the month of June to elaborate a contingency plan and offer **3 safe spaces** in case students begin attending in-person lessons on a part-time basis.
- As part of the economic reactivation and the re-opening of tourism in Cusco in June, Amantani loaned the Campus to welcome certain authorities to the district.



Webinar with the Universidad Complutense de Madrid

The Universidad Complutense de Madrid and GrupoLab invited Sara Mitchell and Thilo Böck to talk about “Resilience and social work with groups.” For the first time ever, they were joined by two of our new Mentors, Ruth Karina and Héctor Raúl. Both of them demonstrated self-confidence and wonderful speaking skills. It was truly enriching to hear their insights and perspectives.

Conference at Juan Tomas Tuyro Tupac Inca Technical Centre

Eduardo, who leads our Psychosocial Support Area, gave a conference for **20 people** on “**Stress Prevention and Management**” at the **Juan Tomas Tuyro Tupac Inca Technical Centre**. The conference was addressed to teachers with the aim of providing tools that would allow them to better handle stress and also pass on this information to their students.

Conference at the International Symposium of the International Association of Social Work with Groups

Thilo Böck, former Director of the Transitions Project and now External Consultant of Amantani, took part in the Symposium of the Asociación Internacional de Trabajo Social con Grupos (**International Association of Social Work with Groups.**) In this conversation, they discussed racism and social work with groups, reviewing some of Amantani's work and using it as examples of best practice.

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www.amantani.org.uk



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