

*Rain, rain, let the sun shine again
And give Cusco its twinkle back*

Anika

Newsletter 6, March 2010

Dear contributors, family and friends,

A number of natural disasters have shaken up Peru the last few months. In January the provinces Cusco and Apurimac were affected by heavy rain falls and these caused the Vilcanota river to flow over. Due to the fact that Cusco's railway was devastated by the water, several thousands of tourists were stuck in the city of Aguas Calientes, close to Machu Picchu ruins. Fortunately everyone has been evacuated. More severe is the extensive structural damage caused in the 'Holy Valley', where both houses and roads totally disappeared. The flood caused more than 20.000 victims and possibly this number increases because of the continuing of rain. It had considerable effects on Cusco's economy; farmlands were destroyed, tourism declined significantly and therefore approximately 1400 people lost their jobs. The only thing we can do is think positively; wait for the sun and the tourists to come. In the mean time we continued both our activities and projects in February after a long holiday break.



Inmenszo in Cusco

Students and mentor

As promised in our last newsletter we will present the results attained by our students in the year 2009. We have mentored youngsters from 15 to 26 years who applied for a scholarships because of their disadvantaged economical and social positions. Of this group of young adults 18 are at secondary school and 5 have just graduated. Of this latter group, 2 have enrolled for a study and the other 3 are still orientating themselves. 3 students do a Bachelor in Tourism, which they will finalize this year. 1 student started to work in a restaurant after finishing his study to be a cook. 2 girls study for being nurse and Grimalda just started her 3rd semester to be clinical lab assistant. Harry learns medicines. Gumercindo continues his study in Furniture design. Apolinar graduated from Webdesign and has started working at an American clinic. Alfredo and Silvana have their restaurant in Cusco, like Tomas and Alejandro have in Ollantaytambo. Both Juan and Ricardo found a job in a hotel and Sadam works in a company that rents motors. Unfortunately 5 of our young adults have stopped the program. All in all beautiful and satisfactory results.



Last year December we said goodbye to Inmenszo's coordinator who supervised the youngsters. Maria Lucia was 62 years old and the work, which she always did enthusiastically, took quite some energy from her. Time had come to take a rest and therefore we organized a farewell party for her at Christmas evening. Ever since the 1st of March we found a new coordinator who has started with great eagerness.

Travel to Wayqecha

In December we made our yearly excursion with a group of students. This year we went near to the Peruvian rainforest where anthropologists and biologists laid the foundation of the research center Wayqecha. After a long and difficult trip, with unpaved roads, we arrived in the densely forested part of Peru where the jungle starts. That particular day the biologists told us about the trees, plants and animals living there. They explained how flora and fauna are maintained and

about their researches to preserve the Peruvian rainforest. Our students learned a lot and wrote extensive reports about their visit.



Cultural Study Center Yachay Wasi

Since the 1st of April we have started, together with Inca Educa, a new project. It is a cultural study center, called Yachay Wasi, which literally means 'home to learn'. The year 2010 will be the try-out of this project. The study center has the capacity to accommodate 80 to 100 students to assist them with Mathematics and Spanish. Generally, young Peruvians have difficulties with both subjects. These subject matters are compulsory and additionally workshops in theater, radio, painting and drawing are given. The center possesses a library and a computer room. We are intensely promoting Yachay Wasi at schools and are searching for more teachers and study material. We look forward to tell you the first results and experiences in our next newsletter.

Inmenszo in the Netherlands

At the 30th of December 2009 a new action started; Bakery Bas Bakes Bread for Inmenszo. At the Piazza Center in Gorinchem the delicious Andes bun was sold full of vitamins and oats. It contains 4 different types of wheat including quinoa from Peru's Andes. It makes the bread healthy and also very tasty. This particular day all revenues were handed over to Inmenszo and its children. The story does not end though. Because of Bas' heart of gold, the bun will be sold throughout the year. This not only means that everyone is able to taste this delicious bread, but also that Bakery Bas will continue to support Inmenszo. Thus, when shopping at Koningin Wilhelminastraat 75 or Piazza Center 10, buy the special Andes bread, full of flavor. Thank you in advance!

The city of Gorinchem and its support

The city of Gorinchem, together with COS Zuid-Holland, (regional advice and knowledge center for international cooperation) organized in January a meeting for everyone who is linked to development work. We have presented ourselves to the alderman, the city councilors and other people invited to express our thoughts about the millennium goals and the city's possible contribution to these. For further information look at www.gorinchem.nl and click at the button millennium goals.



Last update of Inmenszo

For the people who know about our experiences with the Peruvian immigration office; I have good news! In November 2009 I received my permit to live and work in Peru. From now on I am allowed to be manager of Inmenszo and may legally continue my activities. Of course, as far as possible in a rather corrupt country. But, we meet our obligations, that is a fact.

Finally

Like always we want to point out that we are very pleased and grateful with you, our contributor. We want to thank you for your support which makes our activities and projects possible. Natural disasters, economical crisis's, more than ever we are dependent on your donations. We hope to make the world a better place where everyone gets the chance to develop and have the same rights. We count on you!

Good luck with all you affairs, wherever on this planet!
Gorinchem or Cusco, Lima or Amsterdam, the sun shines for everyone!

Love, Anika

Tip: when organizing your company's party, meeting or reception, please think about Inmenszo. Do you want to initiate a campaign together with us? Please mail us at info@inmenszo.com or call our secretary at 0031-6 5353 5095.

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