



Photo: Alfred Ruffner

# COUNTERING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE PERUVIAN AMAZON

Peru is a source, transit, and destination country for victims of sex trafficking and forced labor. In Peru, traffickers submit victims to forced labor in illegal mining and logging operations and in service jobs in nearby makeshift camps. Traffickers compel victims through deceptive recruitment, debt-based coercion, and violence. Child victims are trafficked for sexual exploitation in Cusco, Lima, and the Peruvian Amazon. Trafficking also occurs in such industries as agriculture, informal manufacturing, street vending, narcotics production, and domestic service.

In July 2021 the Peruvian government formally adopted the National Policy Against Human Trafficking to better prevent, prosecute, and sanction trafficking (Política Nacional Frente a la Trata de Personas y sus Formas de Explotación).

USAID's countering traffic in persons (C-TIP) activity informs vulnerable populations about patterns of exploitation, improves Peruvian public institutions' ability to combat trafficking, and ensures victims can access needed services. This activity also addresses child, early, and forced marriage (CEFM), as well as other forms of gender-based violence (GBV).

## HOW DOES THE ACTIVITY WORK?

**Informing anti-trafficking policy.** An interagency commission against human trafficking led by the Ministry of Interior and composed of 12 additional government agencies coordinates the Peruvian government's anti-trafficking policy. USAID's C-TIP activity, which is implemented by local partner Capital Humano y Social Alternativo (CHS Alternativo), enables robust civil society participation in the interagency commission. The activity also conducts analysis of the government's progress in implementing anti-trafficking policy.

**Strengthening the Peruvian Government's ability to combat trafficking and other GBV.** This USAID activity provides technical assistance to the interagency commission and the individual agencies within the commission. Training for justice-sector actors and shelter care providers improves prosecution of gender-based violence and victim-support services. Support to regional and municipal governments in hotspot areas helps them plan projects that expand C-TIP efforts and improve victim support.

**Public awareness and outreach.** The activity works to empower community leaders and community-level nonprofit organizations to join local governments to combat trafficking, CEFM, and other forms of GBV. It works to transform attitudes and inform vulnerable populations about risks and how to access services.

## RESULTS ACHIEVED

- CHS Alternativo's Center for Legal and Psychosocial Attention provided services for 787 trafficking in persons (TIP) victims from January 2021 to June 2024.
- CHS Alternativo published its eighth biennial report analyzing the Government of Peru's performance implementing its National Policy Against Human Trafficking.
- Priority regions of Cuzco, Loreto, Madre de Dios, and metropolitan Lima incorporated anti-trafficking objectives in their action plans.
- CHS Alternativo signed out a sub award with the local organization Red to develop and implement activities for monitoring and advocating for implementation of National Policy Contour Human Trafficking.
- Training enabled 542 judges, public attorneys, and prosecutors to improve prosecution of human trafficking and other gender-based violence crimes. Ninety-one shelter-care providers participated in training to improve their victim-support skills, and 1884 community leaders from Cusco, Puno, Madre de Dios, and Loreto participated in training on human trafficking; gender-based violence; and child, early, and forced marriage.
- Local governments in priority regions submitted successful funding applications for national funds totaling \$3.6 million for services to support victims of trafficking and other forms of gender-based violence

- A six-week campaign with Radio Programas del Perú (RPP) reached 6.5 million people raising awareness nationwide about human trafficking and channels to report crimes.

## **PROJECT INFORMATION**

**IMPLEMENTER:** Capital Humano y Social Alternativo (CHS Alternativo)

**PROJECT DURATION:** January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2025

**USAID FUNDING:** \$3,000,000

**LOCATION:** Cusco, Lima, Loreto, and Madre de Dios. Also Puno and Arequipa trafficking corridors.

**COORDINATOR:** Martin Castro

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** (51-1) 618-1486

**EMAIL:** mcastro@usaid.gov