

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE	PREPÁRATE PARA LA VIDA (GET READY FOR LIFE)
REGION/COUNTRY	THE AMERICAS/Peru
PROJECT DURATION	September 30, 2006– September 29, 2010
FISCAL YEAR & FUNDING LEVEL	FY 2006: USD 5,090,000
PROBLEM TO BE ADDRESSED	<p>It is estimated that the urban informal sector in Peru provides employment to more than one half of the economically active population, yet conditions in this sector can include urban poverty, child labor, and the exploitation of children to the detriment of their education. The number of children engaged in urban informal work in Peru is unknown, but given the size of the country's informal sector, it is likely that many children are involved. In urban and surrounding areas, they shine shoes, wash and guard cars, perform at traffic light intersections, and sell goods on public transportation and in markets. Children are also involved in crime, including petty theft, and drug trafficking. Some children and youth are trafficked internally along commercial routes, where some fall victim to prostitution and other forms of commercial sexual exploitation. Child laborers are exposed to high emotional and physical risks, and violence. Poor school quality, combined with social conditions such as family breakdown, domestic violence, early parenthood, and crime may deter school attendance or lead to dropout, notwithstanding that the minimum age of work in Peru is 15 years, and the General Education Law establishes free and compulsory public education through secondary school.</p>
TARGETS	<p>The project targets 5,250 children ages 11 to 15 years for withdrawal and 5,250 children for prevention from exploitive child labor who will be provided with educational programs to enable them to progress towards completion of secondary school or vocational certification and improved employability and/or entrepreneurship skills. The project focuses on the worst forms of child labor (WFCL), particularly informal urban work in Lima, Callao, Trujillo, and Iquitos, in sectors including children working as street and market vendors, micro-drug traffickers, other dangerous informal sector work, and sexually exploited children in prostitution.</p>
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<p>Development Goal: To improve access to and quality of education as a means to combat child labor in Peru.</p>

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Purpose:

Increased enrollment, retention, completion and quality of educational programs for at-risk Peruvian children ages 11 to 15 years in the poorest districts of Lima, Callao, Trujillo, and Iquitos.

Project Objectives:

- Raise awareness on impact of hazardous or exploitive labor on the rights of children to access education;
 - Access children working in hazardous and exploitive conditions, and register and support them with education to ensure they are fully withdrawn from the worst forms or conditional worst forms of child labor;
 - Improve the quality of teaching and learning in formal school; and
 - Increase the capacity among regional and municipal governments and civil society institutions to develop local incentive programs using National Public Investment System (SNIP) funds for poor families to send their children to school and institutionalize the project strategy.
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- Conduct awareness raising with targeted messages to parents, community members, children and youth, and other key stakeholders; hold seminars with employers associations and chambers of commerce to develop ethical codes of conduct regarding legal work practices for children; and implement widespread media campaigns and dissemination of data;
 - Develop identification and withdrawal program for working children that includes registration and enrollment in educational programs, development of life skills curricula, direct educational services, registration of some children into shelters, radio-catch-up programs, mentoring and support leading to full withdrawal;
 - Devise and institute a program for improving quality in non-Fe y Alegría public schools, and provide direct educational benefits in Fe y Alegría public schools to reduce absenteeism and improve the quality of teaching and learning;
 - Create and operate an information system to monitor children's working and educational status; and
 - Develop public-private sector partnerships.
 - As of December 31, 2010, 5,633 children were

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

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GRANTEE	withdrawn and 6,224 children were prevented from exploitive child labor as a result of the project. International Youth Foundation
IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS	CEDRO, Fe y Alegría- Peru, Capital Humano y Social Alternativo (CHS A).
CONTACT INFORMATION	Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking (OCFT) (202) 693-4843