

Youth from four countries join against climate change

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Web Sites

- <http://manosperu.org/>
- <http://fairtradeperu.com>
- <http://kuzka.podbean.com>

Joseph Tobiason - YAV

By just numbers, it was quite a trip. 70 people. 4 countries. Upwards of 30 hrs of travel. 16 presentations. 4 days. 1 fair. 1 strong environmental future.

The III International Youth Congress on Water and the Environment was held on January 13-16 in Sucre, Bolivia. During the four days of the conference, representatives from Peru, Bolivia, the United States and one from German joined to discuss their experience in environmental related issues and their goals of how to seek a more just and secure future. The event was held in conjunction between the Red Uniendo Manos Peru and the Red UMA Vida of Bolivia.

From Peru, representatives from the partners of the Red Uniendo Manos presented on their involvement in projects such as La Oroya, MOCICC, water rights in Huancayo, and the dry forest in Carabayllo.

The whole experience was very empowering to see the different ways that youth from so many regions (both national and international) are striving to make a safer and greener future. All meals were filled with discussions of what was being done and how climate change is affecting real people in real ways. It was

inspiring to see where the future can go.

On the third day, the congress moved into the center of the city of Sucre to hold a fair to share with the general population what is being done to protect the planet. Then, on the final day, the congress voted to form a new, permanent network of the participating organizations in order to facilitate a continued conversation that will keep all informed and hopefully lead to a stronger future.



Photo: Joseph Tobiason

All smiles: the Peruvian delegation to the III International Conference on Water and the Environment

Dug out of the mud, hope is still found

Jorge Travezano - Bridge of Hope

In this global context where the precedence of egoism and individualism reign, where values are lost and material aspects prevail, there does still exist a few contexts where there is hope and where we can have a just world full of solidarity.



This was evidenced by recent natural events, around the world, most recently in Haiti and Chile. It is wonderful that so many people stepped up to help and collaborate, but the difficulty is that so much of this help is unorganized chaos.

Today, I want to share with you a small experience of the artisans of Bridge of Hope. As many of you know, the city of Huancavelica was also affected by climate related events. The strong rains have greatly affected a few of the communities of the region. In this case, the community of Santa

Barbara, where the 40 members of the artisan group *El Mururio* work, many of them had their homes affected by landslides and 4 lost their homes all together. When they found out about this, some of the artisans in Lima reacted immediately and initiated a campaign for clothes and household needs to give to the community. This was done by people who have little to give to those who were even more in need, leaning on and strengthening the solidarity and brotherhood that exists between the groups. We can say that Fair Trade is dedicated to the promotion of economic activities, but also to promote positive activities between all who are involved in the process.

These actions give us hope that we can build a world where all humans are truly valued.

For more information on the Bridge of Hope program, see <http://fairtradeperu.com>

Still working: members of El Mucurio continue to knit Photo: Joseph Tobiason

Real human connections made at 14,000 feet

Dale Wade - Visitor from USA

We are back to our daily routines living and working on Cape Cod where we are worlds apart from the experiences and the lives of the people we touched for the short time we spent in Peru.

The days that we were there were eye opening. The sight of terrible poverty and a yet hope radiated from the people we met. To see the positive energy emanating from a group of spinners and knitters in Santa Barbara who were producing items for the world market and beginning to see the results of their efforts within their community was a very strong introduction the work being done. To meet and to listen

to presentations by *ATYPACQ Juventud* who were so obviously focused on the trials of their world, pollution, water issues, poverty, government, gave me hope for Peru and the world as a whole.

Visiting the pueblo of Huananay was an experience I will never forget. The warmth and hospitality of the people was overwhelming. They seemed to have so little and yet, they gave so much. The day we all worked on the mountain planting tree saplings was a human connection rarely experienced. With no language communication, we used only hand gestures, eyes and hearts and the work got done. I would have enjoyed more time with them. I will never forget two young boys Danny and Jorge and a wonderful woman, Marcella with whom I worked. At the market the artisans of Huayanay set up for us. To think I met the person who fashioned them and to have photos of the hands, the faces and the looms that created them brings a depth of connection far beyond any items I have ever purchased.

It is all too easy to fall into our personal routines and forget and I hope I never do.



Rosa: a woman from Huayanay plays with her baby alpaca, named Rosa

Photo: Joseph Tobiason



Jaime Huertado speaks about La Oroya at the environmental fair in Sucre, Bolivia



A little girl is excited about her new information at the environmental fair in Sucre, Bolivia



Woman spins wool in Huayanay, Peru

All three Photos: Joseph Tobiason

Doe Run partners with Swiss company Glencore, but a better future is in doubt

Nelson Figueroa - Dia del Pueblo

Birds of a feather flock together: Doe Run and Glencore join up.

A couple days ago, on March 3, 2010, the American company, Doe Run, announced with great fanfare in a statement that struck a deal with Glencore mining who will grant a line of credit of \$ 100 million to restart operations the La Oroya Metallurgical Complex. It also said that Glencore will provide part of the investment required by the Program of Environmental Management and Mitigation (PAMA) in Doe Run.

Glencore International is an industrial conglomerate based in Switzerland and is one of the biggest companies in the world for raw materials. It possesses mining, refineries, ports, railways, etc. around the world and it has a long list of worldwide offices and businesses in over 50 countries, which has

the monopoly of such minerals as lead, zinc, silver, tin, gold, aluminum.

In Peru, the Glencore operates through Peru Bar - Glencore Corcona, Cocachacra, with its concentration plant and its mines "Juanita", "Graciela," "Cecilia ". Glencore in Peru has also mines in Yscaycruz, Yauliyacu and "Rosa". In recent years, mining has caused problems and tensions with lay offs, union leaders, obstruct collective bargaining and try to settlements.

Swiss public television reported, in 2006, that Glencore was accused of corruption and serious human rights violations by activity of its subsidiary in Colombia to evict indigenous communities from their lands and paramilitary use. In Bolivia, Glencore bought six mines and a smelter complex in 2005, but President Evo Morales nationalized the metallurgical company in 2007. In the world of Glencore is the largest marketer of coal, a dirty fuel that contributes to global warming and climate change.

Glencore was founded in 1974 by the American-Swiss-Israeli Marc Rich. Much of his fortune was made in violation of U.S. embargo Iran in 1979. He was sentenced to 325 years in prison for tax evasion, illegal oil trafficking and dealing with the enemy, but

was later pardoned by President Clinton for his extensive campaign contributions. He was locked up before he escaped from the U.S. and took refuge in Switzerland. In Europe, he continues to amass fortunes with more fraud, smuggling and illicit operations.

This is not the change we want to happen to La Oroya.



Photo: Joseph Tobiason

Doe Run Smelter in La Oroya, Peru

Meet the Sarahs

Name: Sarah Terpstra
Nickname: Sarah Alta ("Tall Sarah")
Age: 22
Degree: Major: Chemical

Physics *Minor:* Philosophy
University: Maryville College in Maryville, Tennessee
YAV Placement: working with Paz y Esperanza in Moyobamba
Favorite part about peru: The relaxed atmosphere about nearly everything. Nothing is rushed, everyone takes their time, and life is truly enjoyed.



Sarah Terpstra

Biggest of cultural confusion: Nothing ever starts on time in Peru and I have had to learn some patience to understand that a meeting that is supposed to start at 9:30 might not actually start until 10:45, and that's perfectly alright.

Quote: "...but I have a new love for that glittering instrument, the human soul. It is a lovely and unique thing in the universe. It is always attacked and never destroyed - because 'Thou mayest.'" - John Steinbeck, *East of Eden*

Name: Sarah Chancellor
Nickname: Sarah "Baja" (short)
Age: 23
Degree: Psychology

University: Oklahoma State University (Go Cowboys!)
YAV Placement: The Rehabilitation Department at Paz y Esperanza in Huanuco (I help out the psychologists in the emotional recovery from domestic and sexual abuse).

Favoite part about peru: The food! ¡Aji de Gallina es mi favorita! and the weather, in Huanuco it is usually always sunny and warm!

Biggest of cultural confusion: Most of the time Peruvians don't smile in pictures. I'm a very bubbly person and smile a lot in pictures or otherwise, so when I take pictures with Peruvians I'm usually the only one smiling and look kinda goofy doing so.

Quote: "Be the Change you Wish to See in the World" - Ghandi (It's cliché, but I have it on a pair of Toms shoes and it reminds me that to change the world I have to first start with myself)



Sarah Chancellor

What I have learned Tie-Dye for everyone

Sarah Terpstra - YAV

Even though I am nearing the six month mark of my time in Peru, I am just now settling into my new home in Moyobamba. Although my experience in Peru hasn't been easy, I could actually be considered one of the luckiest of the Peru YAVs.

I started out living in Huancavelica, a beautiful town in the Andes Mountains and the capital of the poorest Peruvian province. I worked with the organization ATIYPAQ and lived with Haydé, her husband Joel, and their four children (José, Mirella, Marcos, and Fiorella) welcomed me as "Aunt Sarah" into their family.

My time in Huancavelica was invaluable and precious. I learned about the struggles of the farmers in *el campo*, the constant fight against poverty and in favor of just and fair trade, and the work of ATIYPAQ trying to bring environmentally sustainable practices to the surrounding communities. I also learned much about myself too. I learned that I become very frustrated when I cannot express myself verbally. I learned I never appreciated how lucky I was living so close to my family. And finally, I learned that I am a passionate individual and I must pursue a career, a life, which utilizes and fosters that passion.

Sarah Chancellor- YAV

As a veteran church camp counselor and avid fan of bright colors, thus I love Tie-Dye t-shirts. So my coworkers and I decided to make them at our own camp that Paz y Esperanza hosts every summer for the children and adolescents who have been victims of abuse. So I got my parents to buy some tie-dye materials and bring them up with them when they visited. I spent a month translating and making colored instruction sheets so that hopefully the campers would have at least a chance of understanding how to make these crazy shirts. I helped in all about 60 Peruvian campers experience the joy that is making tie-dye.

It was difficult for me to explain the instructions that are necessary for their t-shirts. A few were a little confused as to how this all worked or why we were even making these shirts. Over and over again I repeated that these shirts were "for them - to keep," that "no you did not need to use the entire bottles of red and blue dye make purple", and that "you can even use Ace detergent and the dye will stay on your shirt no matter how many times you wash it". I think that the kids really had a lot of fun making their shirts.

In the end, all my preparations, headaches, and dye stained fingers, were all worth it as each camper opened up their shirts and shouted, "Mira!" (look) and excitedly showed everyone their personal, wearable, work of art.

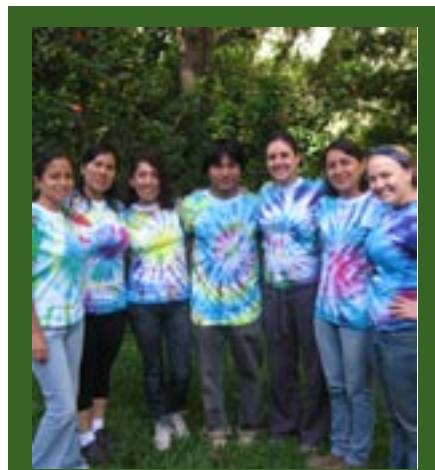


Photo: Sarah Chancellor
 Paz y Esperanza workers at the camp