



**Save the  
Children**



# Tackling the climate and inequality crisis for children

## Peru Data Snapshot



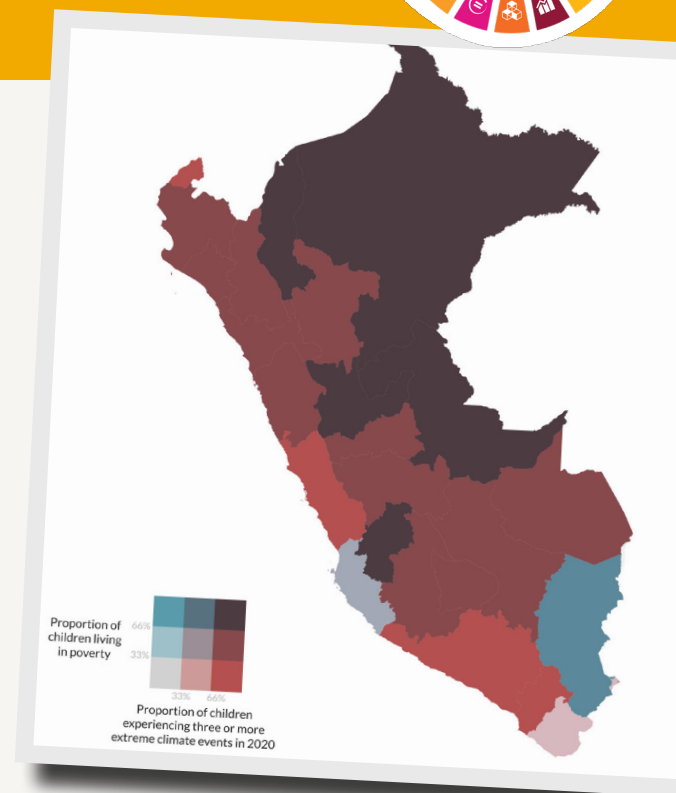
### Introduction

In the last decade, Peru has achieved significant regulatory progress in terms of adaptation, mitigation, and response to climate change. In most of the instruments and management spaces addressing this issue, childhood is recognized as a population group with special vulnerability, although there are very limited concrete initiatives that promote their real participation in key instances such as the National Commission on Climate Change.

Although Peru has generally increased public investment in

children, there are still challenges such as ensuring the protection of children, ensuring their educational continuity and adequate nutrition in emergency contexts. A special concern in Peru should be Venezuelan migrant and refugee children, whose vulnerability to disasters is even greater.

The children themselves, whose voices are present in this mural, also note that authorities are not doing enough to protect their present and ensure their future.



PP

The most developed countries pollute more than third world countries because they have technology, and instead of using renewable energy sources, they prefer to use things like oil and other types of gases, which when used in these machines, release greenhouse gases.

WQ, a child from Trujillo.

**Children living  
in poverty:**

**45%**



**Children affected  
by climate risk:**

**73%**



**Children affected by  
both poverty and climate:**

**33% (3 million)**

# 1

## Are Peru's climate policies sufficiently ambitious & focused on children?

In 2018, Peru became the first country in South America to issue a climate change law (Law No. 30754, regulated the following year by Supreme Decree No. 013-2019-MINAM). There are other important instruments, such as the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change and the update of the National Strategy against Climate Change to 2050, which the Ministry of Environment is developing.

In the Peruvian context, it is essential that climate policies include actions considering variables such as poverty, inequality, and the impact of climate change on key issues such as food availability. In 2021, according to the National Institute of Statistics and Informatics, around 1.4 million Peruvians were in poverty. In Peru, 51% of the population is in a situation of moderate or severe food insecurity.

Is the NDC child-sensitive?	Not Child Sensitive
Does the NDC identify children as a vulnerable group?	No
Is the NDC rights-based (human rights and intergenerational justice)?	No
Are Peru's climate policies sufficiently ambitious?	
NO: Rated Insufficient by <a href="https://climateactiontracker.org">climateactiontracker.org</a>	

In 2020, Peru submitted a revision of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). They committed to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by 30% without relying on international funding, in a Business As Usual (BAU) scenario. The conditional target is to reduce GHGs by 40% by 2030, representing

a 10% increase in ambition compared to Peru's first NDC submitted in 2015. Unfortunately, Peru's NDCs do not develop or take into account the priorities of children and adolescents. Unlike other countries that present their NDCs with relevant actions in different fields of climate action, Peru presented only one figure.



I have felt hunger and it is not good because neither water nor food should be denied to anyone because it is a right

# 2

## Is Peru investing in children and ensuring no child is left behind?

Investing in childhood contributes to breaking the cycle of poverty for families, communities, and countries. Therefore, prioritizing and efficiently allocating public spending is key. The budget allocated to children and adolescents between 2016 and 2020 increased by 32%. During 2020, regional governments executed 95% of the public spending allocated to children and adolescents, the national government executed 90%, and local governments 52%.

Despite the figures, according to the analysis of public spending on girls, boys, and adolescents prepared by UNICEF, the distribution of such execution is uneven and does not necessarily prioritize unmet and urgent demands for children. Thus, the two prioritized rights in public spending are development (61%) and survival (38%). However, the budget for rights such as protection, access to justice, being heard, among others, does not have significant execution. In addition, according to the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the budget allocation is high in budget programs of lesser impact such as transportation, sanitation, and infrastructure. It is necessary to ensure that investment is not higher, but better distributed and executed".

	Is progress inclusive?	Are all groups on track to meet the SDG target?
Stunting (SDG2)	✗	✗ No groups
Under-five mortality (SDG 3)	✓	✓ All groups
Out-of-school, primary (SDG 4)	✓	✓ Only some groups
Child marriage (SDG 5)	✗	✗ No groups

SPENDING ON SOCIAL SECTORS (% GDP)	
Health	Education
6.5%	5.2%

### ARE THE POOREST HOUSEHOLDS PRIORITISED IN PUBLIC SPENDING?

**YES:** Government spending on education, direct transfers (benefits), and health in Peru was pro-poor, i.e. the population living in poverty received a disproportionally larger share of spending.

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## Is Peru doing enough to protect and support children affected by crisis?

Through the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations, Peru has the Special Protection Units (UPE), whose staff is responsible for conducting risk assessments in situations of risk for children and adolescents, including disaster scenarios. Based on publicly available information, it can be said that the UPEs have not implemented specific measures to address the protection needs of children exposed to risks during the heavy rains and floods that affect northern Peru between December and April each year. So far in 2023, these rains have already affected more than 25,000 children and adolescents. This lack of attention is partly due to limited staff and budget. Protection in emergency contexts associated with climate is almost always reactive.

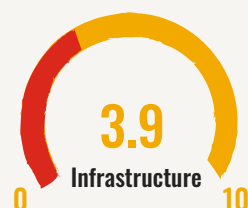


### DATA ON LEVEL OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

**Inform** Index - lack of coping capacity (0 is best score, 10 worst)



**Institutional capacity** includes Disaster Risk Reduction and Governance



**Infrastructure** includes communication, physical infrastructure, access to health systems

#### DOES PERU HAVE CHILD-SENSITIVE CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLANS?

Does the NDC have child-sensitive adaptation commitments for:

	<b>Health</b>	No
	<b>Food Security and Nutrition</b>	No
	<b>Education</b>	No
	<b>Social Protection</b>	No

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## Are children's rights to be heard and participate in decision making upheld?

Peru's Framework Law on Climate Change recognizes childhood as a population in a particularly vulnerable situation and includes them in the construction of climate policies, but does not identify specific spaces or opportunities for their participation. Additionally, the law does not explicitly recognize children and adolescents as "rights holders," a normative but fundamental limitation that does not contribute to promoting their participation, as they are still assigned a passive role. The regulation of the law, an instrument that develops the application guidelines of this norm, also does not propose concrete activities.

CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN CLIMATE POLICY MAKING	
NDC process was overall inclusive and participatory	Yes
NDC recognises children as drivers of change	No

**Civic space** Civic space refers to the environment that enables civil society to enjoy freedoms of association, peaceful assembly, and expression; it requires respect in policy, law, and practice to protect these fundamental rights. An open and pluralistic civic space is a prerequisite condition for making development and peace sustainable.

CIVICUS Measure of civic space.	Repressed
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# Is Peru receiving sufficient support to tackle the climate & inequality crisis?

International cooperation agencies have historically supported various environmental and climate initiatives in Peru, either through public entities such as the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, or subnational governments, as well as through projects executed by civil society. According to a study by the NGO “Derecho, Ambiente y Recursos Naturales”(DAR), much of this funding comes from countries such as the United States and Germany. Financing is usually channeled through agencies or institutions such as the IDB, CAF, JICA, UNDP, GIZ, USAID, GEF, KFW, the European Union, the Swiss Government, the Canadian Government, and the Norwegian Government.

Between 2016 to 2020, high-income countries committed to provide only \$0.82 per person per year in adaptation finance from 2016 to 2020 to Peru.

This paled in comparison to the estimated \$12.30 per person per year that Latin America and the Caribbean needs for adaptation by 2020.



## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS



- Strengthen the participation of children in the National Commission on Climate Change, considering that the Advisory Council of Girls, Boys and Adolescents (CCONNA) is a member, but without the right to vote.
- Include a childhood and adolescence approach in the migration service of the National Strategy on Climate Change by 2050.
- Ensure that adaptation and response plans to climate emergencies include the voices and priorities of children and adolescents.
- Raise awareness of the voices and needs of children and adolescents on environmental and climate issues.
- Create safe and intergenerational spaces that facilitate dialogue between children, adolescents, and authorities involved in climate change adaptation and response.
- Reinforce the different participation spaces for children and adolescents in the State regarding the environment and climate change.



It makes me sad to see how climate change affects us

Amy, teenage migrant



Children and teenagers can't keep studying because of the unsettled state

America, teenage migrant



Will human rights be respected or remain on paper?

Maybelith, Afro-Peruvian girl



Climate change will harm us environmentally, especially children and teenagers who are the most vulnerable, affecting the poorest in particular

Ximena, working teenager.



It has become difficult to access good food because everything is so expensive; you can't even afford to eat fruit or chicken

Treicy, working teenager



We are already dead, we have no hope

Tania and Marcia



School is not just for studying: if it is affected, so is the place where we recreate

Xiomara, teenager from CCONNA



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