

“WATERS OF CCOTATAKI” PROJECT (CCOTATAQUI WACHAY UNU)

MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

To create permanent sources of water on the lands of the Ccotataki community at a capacity that provides all the water that is needed, especially when there is no rain, to be able to produce healthier, nourishing food for the inhabitants and grass for the animals for the entire year.

OTHER OBJECTIVES

1. Support the courage and hope of the residents of Ccotataki so that through their talents and innate abilities they assume the leadership to develop economically, culturally and ecologically. The improvements in these three levels will allow the community to have a long-term sustainable development that will benefit their descendants.
2. Young people are leaving the community to seek work in the cities. This project can create conditions for them to enjoy living in their land and have work that allows them to support themselves and their families without living in material poverty.
3. Once the development of water sources solve the basic problems of sustaining the lives of the inhabitants, and the struggle for survival is not the only occupation, new possibilities open. It will be possible to dedicate themselves to other projects, such as agricultural, economic, health, cultural, environmental, artistic, and social endeavors. These projects will be able to promote the flourishing of the community, after having suffered 500 years of continuous deterioration of their living conditions.

4. Due to its location in the heights of the Sacred Valley of the Incas, the community of Ccotataki has the capacity to be an example for other rural communities that surround it. Once the main objectives of this internal growth have been achieved, the community will be able to share its experience and knowledge with other communities that wish to embark on the same path towards a future that is economically, culturally, and ecologically sustainable.

5. Take advantage of the technological advances of the modern world, avoiding the loss of the values and customs of the original culture of the Andean people. The people of Ccotataki are direct descendants of wise Inca and Pre-Inca people whose science and way of life are in harmony with Mother Earth. These ways will be reactivated and will remain alive in Ccotataki.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project will be developed in four phases. The beginning of Phase 1 will start in April 2019, with the planned completion of all phases by the end of 2022.

Phase 1

This first phase consists of the creation of two lagoons in the upper part of the community lands in an area called Pakusuna. It includes the implementation of an aqueduct of 1.5 kilometers to bring water to the most extensive and fertile fields of the community.

This first phase also looks at the creation of two large greenhouses that will allow for the cultivation of vegetables in the coldest times of the year.

In addition, in this first phase there will begin a series of training programs for community members, related to project management, community organization for project development and finances,

administration, environmental protection, and the design of plans for healthy and productive reception of visitors. These programs will be carried out with the support of other organizations that have extensive experience working in communities of the Sacred Valley.

This first phase also includes the extraction of eucalyptus trees that use a large amount of water, especially in areas with potential for water harvesting. Some areas near the reservoirs will be reforested with up to 1000 native trees, named Chachacomas, that will be donated by the Písaq municipality . The purpose of this reforestation is to avoid landslides in these areas.

Phase 2

Phase 2 consists of the creation of a third larger lagoon under the Pantipallana mountain, whose location can easily be fed by existing springs that will serve to irrigate a neighboring cultivation field with very special characteristics. One is its natural beauty – it is protected from wind. This area has been used for generations to produce varieties of dry potatoes, which are long lasting foods, such as moraya and chuño.

Phase 3

The lands of Ccotataki are very rich in natural springs, and up to thirty of them have been identified so far. This third phase consists of cleaning and improving the conditions of the springs, as well as creating containment structures for many of them. These will be placed in strategic areas where it will be possible to channel their waters for irrigation of crops and pastures for alpacas, vicuñas, llamas and sheep.

Phase 4

In the center of the town of Ccotataki, where there is a school for children, the communal center and several houses, there used to be a lagoon fed by groundwater. Some years ago this lagoon was drained with the intention of creating a soccer field to promote the sport in the community. Over time the members of the community have agreed that

draining this lagoon was a mistake that needs to be repaired. They have decided that the lagoon should be reactivated which is possible thanks to the spring that still lives below the soccer field. Phase four will focus on developing this area by reviving the lagoon and creating gardens of native plants and trees around it. This project of water development and embellishment of the town center includes creating structures around the lagoon to receive visitors who can appreciate the weavings, traditional foods, and different artistic expressions that are unique to this community. This last phase of the project will give greater impetus to develop cultural and tourist programs and relationships with other communities and beyond. These programs will result in important increased economic benefits

Phase 1 Budget

Reservoirs and Aqueduct 1.5 km in length

3 tons of sand	\$300
500 gallons of fuel for excavator	\$2,125
60 bags of cement	\$267
20 rolls, 2" hose for water canal	\$2,909
Faucets and misc. for water canal	\$782
Geo-membrane for small reservoir	\$1,900
Excavator rental, 80 hours of work	\$3,600
Paid labor	\$1,830

Building of 2 Greenhouses of 28 x 8 meters

8 water tanks for rain water collection	\$2,400
Gutters	\$200
4 rolls of plastic for green houses	\$1,842
Drip system	\$186

30 bags of cement	\$87
Screen mesh	\$200
Paid labor	\$1,220

Administrative and miscellaneous expenses

Project manager	\$500
Administrator	\$500
Miscellaneous and incidentals	\$3,800

GRAND TOTAL	\$24,648
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Note: The amount paid for labor in this budget corresponds to 50% of the real value. The community will contribute the addition of some local materials that they have in their land and the other 50% of the cost of labor.

Technical supervisors of the project, Steve Reichert and Maclaine Sorden from the USA, are kindly donating their time and work. We are separately raising funds for their travel expenses.

Arkan Lushwala, Marilyn Baeza and members of the Arawaka community are also donating their time and work to this project.