Proyecto Q'ewar Cusco, Perú

Women from Peru find new ways to present their unique handycraft in the worldwide market



The Q'ewar Project



In the Andes of Peru, south of Cusco, there is a little village called Andahuaylillas, 3100 meters above sea level. Here, Lucy Terrazas and Julio Herrera founded a small project for women. Their aim was to stop the emigration into the slums of the big cities and to take the women into responsibility in the long term.

Together with some women from the lowest social level they began to produce fabric dolls made of natural material in order to sell them. More women joined and new jobs arouse, for example: child caring, cleaning wool, carding, spinning, coloring, knitting and weaving(partly as homework). On Saturdays a tailor teaches other women new and traditional working technics.

New rooms were built for workshops, music and therapies, an oven to bake bread; further on toilets, shower and washing rooms, a Kindergarten, an all day nursery and a shelter for women who suffered from violence in their families. A organic garden for vegetables also came into existence. In 2012 about 100 peopleworked for the project, 47 women worked there daily.

Thanks to the great success of the project and the good integration in the village and neighborhood it was possible to install further workshops in a little village called Titomayo. The place was connected by roads and electricity so that the women didn't have to walk so far every day.

According to the careful planning the place became a center of communication and development. Many things improved: The kids weren't left alone any longer but schooled and well nourished. The mothers got a salary, developed more self-confidence as successful handicraft workers and took over responsibility for the community.

The Q'ewar project organized further studies, regular medical checks, festivities and excursions which enhanced health, hygienic, nutrition and education. So it became well known far beyond the village.



Girls, all numbers available: tall 38 cm or small 24 cm



Boys, all numbers available: tall 38 cm or small 24 cm



Ragdolls: 26cm 15cm 10cm Babies: 38cm 24cm 15cm



Dollhouse family: 14cm 10cm 6cm

Dwarf: 8cm

Girl with braid: 10cm

Management

Lucy Terrazas, born in Cusco 1954, studied law and worked in tourism. Until 2010 she was in the county council of Andahuaylillas. She speaks the native language Quechua and cares for the women of Q`ewar and their work.

Julio Herrera, born in Lima 1953, was a teacher of art and geometry at the Waldorf School in Lima. Later on he held lectures in sculpture at the academy of art in Cusco.



Lucy Terrazas and Julio Herrera.

2004 the Q'ewar project was rewarded by the "Centro de la Mujer Peruana Flora Tristan" in Lima.

2010 it was registered as a NGO in Cusco. The state government gave permission for a primary school for 60 children and lately for a continuative school. They are still looking for sponsors to cover the costs of the land and the buildings.

Please support this extraordinary social initiative by buying dolls!



Employee of the Q'ewarprojekt.

Ordering and support of the foundation in Switzerland: www.qewar.ch

or directly at:
Heidi Schmid
Schwalbenstr.129
8623 Wetzikon,
Tel: +41 44 930 58 82
puppen@qewar.ch

PC- KontoProjektQewar IBAN CH 15 0900 0000 8749 0369 5

Further information, photos and videos: www.qewar.com

Sponsoring with tax deduction: "aracia, Fonds für Entwicklungszusammenarbeit" PC 40-963-0 Stichwort Qewar/Peru IBAN CH13 0839 2000 0000 2488 0



Working mothers Children are being looked after.