



PERU

Keeping families together and protecting children

Context

Peru has a population of 32 million people and almost a third are children. Around 7 out of 10 children between the ages of 9 and 17 years have experienced some form of violence. About 6,500 children are growing up in orphanages and between 3,000 and 4,000 adolescents come into conflict with the law, many of whom are placed in detention facilities.

Despite these alarming numbers, less than 1% of Peru's budget goes towards preventing and protecting children from violence, exploitation and abuse. With insufficient resources, there is a chronic shortage of social workers and they have limited capacity to support families and detect early signs of violence and neglect.

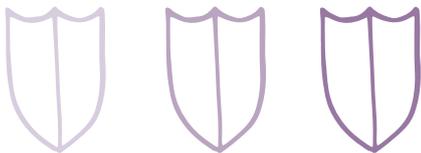
Our solution

In 2020, the Government of Peru, with UNICEF's support, started developing guidance for social workers to manage cases of children affected by violence, abuse and neglect.

Over the next five years, 120,000 families will get the support they need to care for their children and Peru will have a strengthened social service system to support families.

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UNICEF key actions



- Support training of 2,000 social workers to provide specialised child protection services
- Design and implement guidance for social workers, police and legal aid to support children affected by violence, abuse and neglect, as well as adolescents who are in conflict with the law
- Provide 120,000 families with information on positive parenting skills
- Raise awareness on how to detect and report cases of violence, abuse and neglect against children

Story from the field

"I grew up in a family with limited means. My father used to beat both my mother and me. The violence became a part of my daily life. When I was 10, I was placed in an orphanage. I rarely saw my family and felt very alone. I used to hang out with a group of boys and we started stealing things in the street. At 16, I was caught by the police.

After I was sentenced, a case worker came to work with me. She helped me reconnect with my mother and arranged for me to go live at my uncle's house so that I could start my technical training. **They all encouraged me to keep moving forward. One day, I want to be an engineer.**"
- David, 17 years, Lima



Financing examples

50,000 €

For 1 year, 90 low-income families providing kinship care for children receive a monthly minimum food basket (46€)

385,000 €

2,000 social workers trained to deliver specialised child protection services

425,000 €

5,000 adolescents receive access to community-based socio-educational measures

600,000 €

80% of the 6,500 children in orphanages placed in family-based care

850,000 €

120,000 families at risk of abandoning children provided with social service support



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