

2023

PROJECT REPORT

RIVER AND ECOSYSTEM AWARENESS, PERU



SAVING RIVERS AND LAKES ORG.

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Children in Huánuco caring for their school garden, learning how composting and recycling help protect local rivers.

Learning Through Action

In 2023, Saving Rivers and Lakes implemented an educational project in the Huánuco region of Peru to promote the protection and recovery of local river ecosystems. The initiative focused on teaching children, teachers, and families how environmental care begins with small, everyday actions.

Through creative, hands-on learning, students discovered the direct connection between the health of their rivers — the Huallaga and Higueras — and the well-being of their communities. They explored how waste, plastic, and unsustainable practices affect their surroundings, and how recycling, composting, and responsible water use can help restore balance.

By rooting environmental education in local culture and everyday experience, the project turned awareness into tangible action and helped a new generation see that protecting nature also means protecting their future.

Our Goals

The project focused on three clear goals:

- Raise awareness about river and ecosystem protection.
- Strengthen environmental education in schools through workshops and creative materials.
- Promote community participation and shared responsibility for nature.

What We Did

SRL collaborated with four schools — Tomaykichwa, La Esperanza, Hermilio Valdizán, and El Amauta — to create interactive learning spaces. Workshops on recycling, composting, and sustainable gardening taught students how to care for the environment in practical ways.

Teachers and students co-designed storytelling materials linking science with local culture, while families built eco-school gardens to grow food and learn sustainable practices together.



Our Impact

- Environmental education became part of everyday learning.
- Eco-gardens and composting systems were created in schools.
- The project connected students, parents, and local authorities through shared environmental goals.
- Families adopted sustainable habits that continue beyond the project.

What We Learned

Education is one of the most powerful tools for environmental change. When students are encouraged to learn by doing — planting, composting, cleaning, creating — the lessons last. By connecting environmental education to real-life experience, this project proved that schools can be catalysts for broader cultural and ecological transformation.

The experience also showed that collaboration matters. When teachers, parents, and local governments work together, environmental awareness moves beyond the classroom and becomes a shared responsibility.

Sustaining the Impact

The project left more than gardens — it left a network of engaged teachers, empowered students, and committed families. The eco-gardens continue to grow, serving as living symbols of what collective learning and action can achieve.

Through simple, meaningful steps, the people of Huánuco are building a future where rivers flow cleaner, communities live healthier, and every seed planted is a promise to care for the planet.