

# Water Security for resilient cities in Peru

## PROAGUA

### Context

Water resources in Peru are very unevenly distributed. Most people live in fast-growing cities located in areas with low or no rainfall. Water demand and pollution are increasing sharply, while climate change and more frequent extreme weather events, such as "El Niño" and "La Niña" exacerbate water risks. Economic activities, such as agriculture for example, account for over 90% of available water, are highly vulnerable to water scarcity and compete with domestic water demand.

To improve adaptability, it is essential to leverage, share, and replicate good practice examples that have already been successfully implemented by several water utilities in Peru.

### Objective

The Peruvian water sector aligns its policies, strategies, planning and investments with the requirements for water security.

### Approach

PROAGUA supports seven objectives of Peru's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for adaptation and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 6, in addition to 11 and 13 of the 2030 Agenda.

Title	Water security for climate-resilient cities in Peru (PROAGUA)
Country	Peru
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and co-financed by Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO
Lead executing agency	Ministry of Housing, Construction, Water and Sanitation (MVCS)
Duration	2023 to 2028

The project builds on the achievements of its predecessor project and works along the following thematic lines:

#### 1. Development of long-term scenario-based planning.

For urban water management, the project promotes an approach focused on service quality and long-term water supply security, rather than just, as is currently the case, on access to services. To achieve this, it relies on the development and implementation of sectoral management and planning instruments that incorporate water security to develop long-term scenarios to assess how climate change could impact the balance between water supply and demand for population use.

**2. Sharing and scaling good practices.** The project helps water utilities that have already adopted effective climate change adaption strategies to share these good practices with other companies across the country; for example, is the early warning systems for floods and drought.



Photo 1: Successful example of reuse of treated wastewater in Ica.

Photo 2: Population with greater security of water supply.



Photo 3: 2024 graduation of the technical career "Management of drinking water and wastewater networks", with a dual approach.

Photo 4: Control Center in Piura.

**3. Engaging the private sector.** The project also supports the development of business models with the private sector to replicate proven practices, such as the reuse of treated wastewater in agriculture.

**4. Training and education.** PROAGUA supports the training of technical and operational staff. It advises public institutions on dual training (German model) and introduces a continuing education programme in cooperation with the Association of Swiss Wastewater and Water Protection Professionals (VSA).

## Expected impact

1. Over one million people in urban areas of Peru with greater security in water supply.
2. The water and sanitation sector has a financial plan with prioritized projects to strengthen water security.
3. More than two million euros contributed by Peruvian government institutions and/or the private sector are invested for water security.
4. The reuse of treated wastewater in agriculture and irrigation of parks and gardens is increased.
5. The gender-sensitive vocational training system for technical and operational staff of the country's water utilities is being implemented.
6. More than eight water utilities plan considering adaptation and mitigation to climate change.

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