



The three weeks of the mission were divided more or less equally between our three regions of intervention: the Sierra (Andes), the Selva (Amazon) and the Costa (Pacific Coast). Due to the heavy rain that fell for seven long hours in the Atalaya region of the Amazon, we had to cancel our visit to Lagarto Millar.

Here is some information about our visit.

By André Franche and Luc Franche

In the Andes: on August 13, we are in Huaroccopampa to inaugurate the water system with two representatives of the

Fondation Père-Ménard: Miriam Castro and Pierre Farah-Lajoie. The catchment of five springs was realized to supply the 80 families of the village.

During this inauguration, we have a thought for Jeanne-d'Arc Fortin, a retired teacher whose bequest in her will made it possible to finance a part of the project.

As always, we visit several communities in which there are completed projects, projects in progress or to come. The follow-up of the projects is essential to consolidate the role of the water committees. Indeed, some committees have

difficulties in enforcing the by-laws, among others, to require the payment of the monthly water fee. It is therefore important to re-explain this step.



Huaroccopampa: Miriam Castro, Pierre Farah-Lajoie, Diana Mendoza (committee president) and Agliberto Martinez (provincial mayor)



Huaroccopampa: the first water catchment structure

In Amazonia: we start with our traditional visit to the university center Nopoki. We meet the new director Jovita Vasquez, one of the first graduates of the center. The following days we sail for hours on the Ucayali River to the next two villages to inaugurate the recently completed solar-powered drinking water projects.

• Santa Luz de Marañiquari is located 30 minutes walk from the river bank. A group from the Asheninka native community proudly wearing traditional clothing, including bows and arrows, comes to meet us. The ceremony is very lively and picturesque. Here, the drinking water system is inaugurated in memory of Doctor Ginette Thibault.



• Shenontiari is located at 2 hours and a half walk from the shore. Fortunately for us, Samuel, the maestro, and Angel, the social manager, had the excellent idea of

transferring their motorcycles to give us a motocross experience. The realization of this project is a real feat because of the enormous difficulties encountered

to bring the materials to the village. In addition, it took a lot of patience and determination to complete this project started in 2019.



Arrival to Shenontiari



Clean water for each family

On the Pacific Coast: the return from Atalaya to Lima is done by plane via Pucallpa. The next morning we boarded a flight to Chiclayo. At our arrival, the new water committee (JASS) of La Ramada welcomes us warmly. The president proudly and enthusiastically informs us of their recent activities and achievements. This committee has taken over the administration and maintenance of the community center built in the 90's with the support of our friend Chantal Desfossés.

The following days, we visit two even more remote communities: Chulit and Tolón. The water source is located lower than the villages. The government does not intervene because it does not install a pumping system.

On Friday, August 26, we arrive to Barranca where Verónica, the social representative, has programmed several meetings and visits.

On Sunday, we are in Las Minas to participate in the inauguration of the expansion of the water system, including a new reservoir. This project is inaugurated in memory of Léo Brossard, a mining engineer who had entirely financed the original project in 2003 with a donation of shares from a Canadian mining company.

The next day, we go to the Jardines de Recuerdo for a religious ceremony in memory of our engineer William Cerron Aguirre who died of Covid-19 in February 2021.

To finish our visit, on August 30, feast of Saint Rose of Lima, we go to Ricardo Palma, near Lima, to examine the possibility of improving the drinking water service of this district. The project carried out in 1990 under the auspices of the Fondation Père-Ménard and Club 2/3 is currently experiencing serious difficulties following the erroneous intervention of a mayor with electoral aims in the early 2000s.

At dawn on the 31st, we are at the Lima-Callao airport to begin our return to Montreal via Mexico City.

In conclusion, we would say that it is really very satisfying to see how access to water makes the life of the poor more



Las Minas: the new reservoir

beautiful and dignified. The gratitude of the Peruvians we meet is IMMENSE. We think, among others, of a grandmother from Las Minas who, after having thanked André for several minutes, went to Luc to tell him all her gratitude.

We thank you for your precious involvement that makes this possible.



This grandmother, Lucila Rios, wanted to express her gratitude to Luc



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