



“Water comes to the village, and with it, joy.”



A member of the Shipibo-Konibo community, the first one at left, proudly carried this sign during the inauguration of the new drinking water system on August 9. The reservoir columns were painted with the colors and patterns of this community's culture. This project in Shahuaya, on the Ucayali River, was carried out under a tripartite agreement between the community, Alas de Esperanza, and the Municipality of Tahuania.



The columns of the reservoir painted with motifs and colors from the Shipibo-Konibo culture.

committee, was delighted to show us around the facilities. The new water system was inaugurated in memory of **Cécile Lambert**, former president of the Boucher-Lambert Foundation.

Many people from the neighboring village of Nuevo Horizonte attended the ceremony. Here again, a young mother leads the group and presents her community's request to Elizabeth Arias, coordinator of Alas de Esperanza Perú.

Mercedes Inuma, chair of the water committee, expressed her deep gratitude to all those who supported their hard work from afar. The project was inaugurated in memory of **Robert Bouchard**, a loyal donor who recently passed away.

A few days later, we were in Ceylan on the Urubamba River, where the agreement was signed with the Municipality of Sepahua. We first visited the water collection structure site, located 2 km from the village in the middle of the rainforest. Mardonía Huaman, a young mother and chair of the



Mercedes Inuma



Ceylan: the water collection structure.

Over the next few days, we sail down the Unini River to visit two truly remote and forgotten communities, Corintoni and Divina Montaña. The water shortage is obvious there. This project and Fernando Stahl's project will begin in September.

The last rainy season was very difficult for the communities of the



Mayor J-H Salcedo, Mardonia Huaman, and another committee

Amazon. The villages were flooded for weeks and crops and harvests were destroyed. Despite everything, the water systems we built continued to provide clean water to these indigenous people.

Projects revisited: During the three weeks we spent in the Amazon, the Andes, and on the coast, Pierre Cadoret,



Pierre Cadoret: on the way to Antallaqta, we pass the peak of Abra Ritipata at 4,900 m.



Our Peruvian team returned to Nueva Esperanza to install a water inlet at the nursery school and build an eco-friendly toilet for the children.



Edith, a high school student, eloquently pleaded the case for access to water for her community of Nuevo Horizonte.

Vice President, and I revisited more than twenty projects completed in recent years. Miriam Castro, Executive Director of the Père-Ménard Foundation, accompanied us during the last week on the Pacific coast. The purpose of these visits is to verify that the water systems are being properly maintained and to provide logistical support or reinforcement to new committee members. Several villages have asked us for an *ampliación* (expansion) because their populations are growing rapidly. Access to water encourages young people to stay in their villages and start families there.



Meeting with the Sunilla water committee

You and the two teams at Les Ailes de l'Espérance, here and in Peru, will continue to provide a solution to remote communities, won't we?

André Franche
Executive Director



On August 23, we inaugurated the second reservoir (right) in Rio Seco



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