



AIDIA PERU



Quick facts:

Potential population impact:

Up to 400,000

Number of languages:

One Geographic area:
Apurimac region of Peru

Timeline: 2012-2022



Focus:

- Leadership development
- Bible translation
- Literacy
- Scripture engagement
- Weekly radio and TV Scripture programs in the Quechua language
- Teacher training for Sunday schools
- Some social services



Goals:

- Complete the translation of the Old Testament by the year 2022
- Encourage Scripture use

Snapshot:

AIDIA, the “Interdenominational Association for the Holistic Development of Apurímac,” works with communities high up in the Andes mountains. AIDIA staff are translating the entire Bible into Eastern Apurímac Quechua. They consistently meet and sometimes exceed, their translation objectives. The translation of the New Testament was completed in 2012 and the team is expecting to complete the Old Testament and revise the New Testament by the year 2022.

AIDIA also promotes Scripture use in Quechua-speaking churches and communities through courses and workshops that teach mother tongue literacy and lessons on effectively applying God’s Word.

The Challenge:

Quechua people do not have access to the Bible in their mother tongue. Many pastors and leaders were trained to teach in Spanish and sometimes translate into Quechua on the fly—leaving Apurímac Quechua speakers in the dark or with inaccurate translations.

Poverty and illiteracy are common. 97 per cent of the population is illiterate in their mother tongue, and 66 per cent is impoverished. The Apurímac region is one of Peru’s poorest provinces and many Quechua people face discrimination.

The Plan:

Translate the Bible and Scripture resources. Many of the pastors constantly ask to have the entire Bible translated so they can preach even better. About three quarters of the Old Testament has been translated, but they need help finishing the job!

Share the gospel via translated audio-visual media:

The goal is to eliminate barriers to the Good News. Thousands of written, audio and video materials are being distributed. Three local FM radio stations are transmitting AIDIA's radio programs. A live TV program also airs for four hours a week. These broadcasts reach thousands.

Teach literacy: Literacy prepares the soil of the heart for the Bible's impact. Margarita, a 38-year-old mother of two, says: "When they spoke to me about the Bible I didn't listen.... Thankfully, the believers visited me in my house and they spoke the Word of God to me in Quechua....I took part in the literacy classes in order to learn the lessons from the Bible. I accepted Jesus as my saviour. I thank God for the teachers of the program in Quechua, and for AIDIA."

Equip local Christian leaders

Workshops on Reading with Understanding, Biblical themes, and on family life (marriage, family violence, teaching children, Woman in the Bible, etc.) equip pastors and Christian leaders to be more effective in their ministries.

Sunday school teacher training

When AIDIA began training children's teachers in churches, only one in 10 churches had a Sunday school class. Now having a children's program is standard practice in many communities. AIDIA trains and equips Sunday school teachers.

One worker explains, "**We tell them that the children will be the future of the church. The church, without children, is a dead church.**"

The Impact:

Churches are planted and leaders are strengthened. Hundreds of churches have been planted or strengthened and dozens of Quechua leaders have been trained. For example, AIDIA held a training course for leaders entitled, "Planting Churches in Quechua Communities." As a result, 17 new churches were formed in the region!

Pastors and laymen have also received training, by the hundreds, on the Bible and related themes. Valverde, a pastor, says, "Since I was analyzing the Word of God in the translation [process], I was able to preach really well, so that people could really understand. And because of that, the church started to grow." [pull quote]

People are becoming literate—and more involved in their churches. Thousands have been taught to read and write in their heart language. As a result, newly-literate Quechua people are becoming leaders in their congregations.

The Bible is being translated, expanding the local church.

The church spread rapidly once the translated New Testament was published. New Testaments have been distributed. Quechua people are leading worship, singing praises, reading the New Testament aloud and preaching in their mother tongue!

People are coming to Christ. Aracely, for instance, was given a booklet to read based on the gospel of John. She studied it a little at a time. Her children and husband began reading it, too. The whole family is now following Christ and attending church.

"We understand that our life in this world makes sense when Christ is in us," says Aracely, adding that she is hungry to learn more from God's Word. **Your prayer and financial gifts can help fuel this powerful, holistic ministry.**



Your financial gifts and prayer can help bring the Bible to thousands of people in South America who have never heard the Good News.



...so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:11 (NIV)

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