

Grassroots women's initiatives after the Peru earthquake

The supporting work in this time made by the grassroots women from Peru is related to:

1.- **The first step of work:** With the organization of the women in community kitchens . A woman from United Women For A Better Community, member of Groots International is doing thanks the supporting given by The Evangelic Church in Peru. This woman named Epifania Inocente supported as volunteer and started the implementation of communal kitchens to benefit the affected rural areas in The Ica department at The South of Peru.

Epifania said that she started this work as volunteer first visiting the rural areas trying to get the information of the needs from the affected women. She said that as volunteer she gave to the people clothes and water. Epifania said that he women claimed for the supporting of their children with food but because the population got rice for cooking and other nourishments for cooking and they lost their kitchens. The women wanted to get kitchens for preparing the food.

Epifania told about these needs to the Evangelic Church and got the supporting. She started to buy the first kitchen and pots etc. The women start to cried when they got the kitchen and felt happy to start cooking. After this first experience now the Church decided to support the implementation of the communal kitchens in other 12 different rural areas. Tomorrow Epifania and other women will go to the affected area given more supporting for the implementation of 12 communal kitchens in the rural areas.

The other woman from United Women For A Better Community went to the affected area named San Clemente and gave to the women and children food and water. She went with a group of volunteers of a market in Lima where she is working selling fruits.

2.- **About the working plan -Mapping.-** The group of United Women For A Better Community made a working plan in order to start a mapping in the area to get information of the most important requirements of the affected people like housing, lack of communal kitchens etc. The need of financial supporting is important to execute this working plan. The United Women together with the group of Bancos Comunales both members of Groots International are going to have a meeting on Monday with the NGO named LUNDU which work with a group of African people living in the affected area.

After this meeting the grassroots women will know and will get more clarification about to start this first step of work. Otherwise the grassroots women will try to get some other supporting to start and act in a short time. Now the only information the grassroots women are getting from Epifania, who is going continuously to the affected area.

3.- **About the step of Reconstruction.-** After this step of supporting is finished and with the information of the mapping. The next step is going to start with the Reconstruction of the cities (urban and rural areas). The expertise of both organizations: The Bancos Comunales and United Women For A better Community

require to present their working plan in order to start an intervention in the affected area.

The advantage of this work of the grassroots women is that they have made an important work in the city of Lima and have experience in seismic and resistant construction programs. There is also important to mention that United Women For A Better Community was supported by Groots International with a Prevention Program which now these 12 women is able to start. The experts in seismic and resistant programs advice is that the people require to be trained in order to start housing construction programs taking into account the concrete bricks.

The expertise of the grassroots women require to be visible in this moment and we are going to claim for supporting to the donors and the government to be include in their plans. The expertise of the grassroots women in seismic and resistant programmes in prone areas require to be replied in the affected areas of Lima and The South of Peru.

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