

Supporting Peru in transitioning to a circular economy

NIRAS will support the Peruvian Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Production in moving away from unsustainable patterns of production and consumption by generating enabling technical, institutional, and regulatory conditions.



A collaborative approach between sectors is applied throughout the project.
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It is increasingly evident that the linear model of production and consumption based on using, disposing, and relying excessively on an intensive flow of raw materials is unsustainable. In response, the circular economy (CE) presents itself as an economic model inspired by the cyclical processes of nature, where no nutrient is wasted but instead remains in perpetual "healthy" (i.e. not contaminated) cycles for productive, restorative, or regenerative purposes.

In recent years, different Latin American countries have made efforts within both the public and private sectors to disseminate and adopt the CE approach in their particular contexts. In the case of Peru, progressive and continuous steps aimed at generating policies and promoting frameworks for the transition to a CE have been made. The Ministry of the Environment (MINAM) leads the process with the participation of other sectors – such as the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) and the Ministry of Production (PRODUCE) – demonstrating intersectoral articulation and support for the shift away from unsustainable consumption and production patterns.

These efforts have led to the approval of a National Competitiveness and Productivity Plan (PNCP in Spanish), which includes an objective to promote environmental sustainability in economic activities by promoting CE in the markets. It also includes a policy measure which develops a strategy for CE and Clean Production Agreements in the industry, fishing and aquaculture, and agriculture sectors. In compliance with the PNCP, in February 2020, the Ministry of Production approved the CE roadmap in the industry sector, which represents the first of the three CE roadmaps to be developed under the PNCP. By July 2025, CE roadmaps for the fisheries and aquaculture and agriculture sectors, as well as the subscription of Clean Production Agreements in the same sector, are to be presented.

At this point on the advanced path, and in the context of a health and economic crisis, it is important to continue creating the necessary conditions for this transition and to explore the opportunities that CE can bring for post-COVID-19 economic recovery. It is therefore critical to ensure that the actors involved plan and apply the CE approach in their processes to the conditions already generated and with a long-term systemic vision.

The role of NIRAS

Under these transitional circumstances, the EU has been supporting and accompanying Peru's efforts for its transition to a CE through the exchange of experiences, cooperation, and by arranging high-level events. As part of this process, NIRAS has been contracted to support transition efforts. The NIRAS team will work under the coordination of MINAM and coordinate closely with the EU Delegation (EUD) in Peru in order to ensure complementarity and coherence with policy as well as other cooperation programmes and EU efforts, such as the European Green Deal.

Building upon its extensive experience in supporting governments in the creation of policies and actions related to environmental issues, climate change, green economy, and CE issues, NIRAS will assist MINAM in guiding and leading the CE transition, based on the Ministry's workplan for 2020–2021. Support will furthermore be given to the institutions responsible for the implementation of the CE roadmap in the industry sector, as well as in developing and validating roadmaps in agriculture as well as fisheries and aquaculture. In addition, NIRAS will underpin MINAM's efforts to propose regulatory innovation related to CE. Throughout the project, we will support and encourage dialogue between all relevant actors in accordance with the provisions of the Peruvian Pact for a CE, so that it works as a collaborative, multi-

Client

The European Union Delegation to Peru, the European Commission, Directorate-General for International Partnerships

Location

Peru

Contract value

€ 426,000

Duration

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Waste management is an important step in the path towards a circular economy.
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The Circular Model

Principles, values and business models of the circular economy (CE) are applied as a framework for decision-making and the development of proposals, paving the way for a new economic model that leads to social, environmental and economic benefits. One of the principles within CE is to intentionally 'design out' waste and pollution.

The CE model has gained traction globally. In 2015, the EU launched an ambitious plan to stimulate the design of sustainable products, services, and business models to minimise waste with a focus on resource-intensive sectors such as textiles, construction, electronics, and plastics. The progressive implementation of the CE model in the EU has increased competitiveness and generated employment, new business opportunities, investments and development towards an economy that reduces carbon emissions, and ensures efficient use of resources.

sectoral and multi-actor platform that promotes knowledge, capacities, and the implementation of concrete actions to accelerate the transition to a CE. NIRAS will also work to stimulate debate on issues of ecological transition and knowledge management within CE, including designing and organising the 3rd and 4th International Forum of CE Peru-EU, as well as setting up and managing a virtual platform that allows knowledge management and sharing of information on CE.

Services provided by NIRAS:

- Collection of inputs through meetings, publications, databases, generation of primary information, collection of secondary information, among others through the use and application of properly designed instruments to obtain representative samples;
- Systematisation and processing of information obtained through statistical or qualitative analysis, as required, and oriented to the expected results to facilitate analysis and interpretation;
- Preparation of proposals and recommendations for cross-cutting issues through technical and participatory approaches. The activities and recommendations are developed in a critical, innovative, and synthetic way, based on the evidence generated in the previous processes; and
- Validation of proposals, products, and recommendations with priority sectors and actors to ensure their functionality.

#6
Clean
water

#7
Affordable and
clean energy

#8
Decent work and
economic growth

#9
Industry, innovation
and infrastructure

#15
Life
on land

#11
Sustainable cities
and communities