

Peru

Delivering Eco-efficiency in Peru's Public Sectors

Public entities in Peru have strengthened their eco-efficiency practices with the coordinated application of various measures and the development of a culture of environmental management that seeks to produce goods and services with fewer resources and less environmental impacts.

"This set of practices has saved more than USD 19 million since the approval of eco-efficiency measures by the Peruvian government in 2009," said Roxana Díaz, the ecoefficiency management advisor of the Ministry of the Environment (MINAM), which is in charge of a special program to improve co-efficiency.

Between 2017 and 2018, this program, the Eco-efficient Public Institutions (EcoIP) initiative, was rolled out by MINAM, with support from the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), to 41 institutions seeking to improve their environmental and economic performance in terms of the development of their activities.

The objective of EcoIP is to provide technical assistance to public institutions by developing the capacity of the eco-efficiency managers in the General Administration Office

of each institution, so that they can undertake practices that improve the use of water, energy, paper, fuel, and solid waste.

"The EcoIP initiative is based on a diagnostic exercise undertaken in 2015 that revealed opportunities for the optimal application of Peruvian regulations for eco-efficiency," said GGGI Peru Country Representative in Peru, Aaron Drayer.

GGGI's initial assistance to MINAM was in support of the fulfillment of Goal 57 of the **Competitiveness Agenda 2014-2018** by the Ministry of Economy and Finance, which established that 30% of public institutions implement eco-efficiency programs in order to reduce their natural resource consumption.

"It is a very interesting initiative, considering that one in 10 workers are public servants in Peru and that the public sector is one of the largest consumers of natural resources," noted Drayer. *"This initiative allows visibility for public sector practices and the thousands of people involved in this effort to improve their performance."*

Peru has a framework of **eco-efficiency measures for the public sector** that are aimed at improved environmental management of public resources to promote sustainable development.



GGGI in Peru: Reducing the consumption of natural resources through eco-efficiency programs

MINAM, with the collaboration of GGGI through EcoIP, has sought to strengthen the existing institutional framework, equip public servants with skills to sustain the new process, and instill a culture for the efficient use of water, energy, fuel, paper, and solid waste management.

Within the framework of EcoIP, MINAM describes an eco-efficient public institution as one that provides a quality public service by efficiently using its resources, reducing its environmental impacts, and maintaining adequate conditions for personnel. It is an entity that achieves a balance between its environmental management and the economic profitability of the institution.

GGGI supported the initial implementation of EcoIP by helping the MINAM team identify critical project needs, such as the involvement of senior management, the allocation of personnel, budget, and time.

EcoIP has seen positive results over the past two years, including the development of capacities in public servants from different sectors, including ministries, universities, and autonomous entities.

Success has been such that, in 2018, EcoIP was scaled up to a regional level, starting with the Regional Government of San Martín, initiating the decentralization phase that will continue in 2019 in other provinces.



GGGI in Peru: Strengthening eco-efficiency in public institutions to promote sustainable development

“My assessment of the process is positive. We have built a replicable program and improved capacities, achieving the target of 50% of the public institutions involved in achieving the goal of being recognized as eco-efficient entities,” said Díaz.

The data to date confirms that the methodology is replicable and mitigates the challenge of high rotation among public servants. It also helps enhance the reach of the program, thanks to the model established with the first 41 public entities of the more than 2,000 existing in the country.

From this standardized methodology, consumption is reported annually as a baseline. This information is collected through a virtual platform of the MINAM, where all public institutions report the consumption of their resources, allowing the identification of measures that may correct inappropriate practices.

One successful example of the EcoIP rollout is in the National Agricultural University of La Molina, where the university’s Office for Environmental Management (OGA) has led the dissemination of an eco-efficient culture that includes auditing and management of solid waste among teachers, students, and administrative workers. The OGA has installed 32 eco-efficient areas and 10 waste segregation stations for appropriate waste disposal.

“It was necessary to train the staff regarding the proper use of eco-efficient disposal sites as well as substituting paper for digital documents and the reduction of water and electric power consumption,” explained environmental engineer Carlos Llanos, who directs the OGA.

The OGA has expressed its satisfaction to be part of EcoIP, with actions—such as site visits, the development of appropriate signage, and positive internal competitions—having involved 20% of the offices to promote sustainable development on campus.