

## REGIONAL REPORT – PERÚ – FEBRUARY 2009



## Project Management News – Peruvian Update

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**NEW CHALLENGES FOR THE SAME PROBLEMS**

Mainly due to the global financial crisis, Peruvian agribusiness and exports industries had a strong slow down during the latest months. Many cities in which total employment was achieved some years ago are currently again underemployed. The Government reacted slowly having an “anti-crisis plan”, but apparently the poor definition of this plan caused the resignation of the Ministry of Economy and Finance. The new Minister encouraged some measurements for a “controlled” public investment and some measurements to “maintain the economic activity”. But again, the absence of an explicit explanation of what the vision of the country is, is still keeping low the confidence of the population and the industries on the future of the country.

As reported many times before at PMForum.com, the problems in Peru are not related to the scarcity of natural and economical resources, neither to the absence of human resources, but to the absence of an appropriate management culture. Probably, one of the most important challenges nowadays in Peru, is the urgency of speeding up the learning curve to make the private sector, public sector and social agents work together to build up a country vision. The absence of a vision is, in my opinion, much worse than not having financial resources, but the Peruvian press is probably asking the wrong questions to the political leaders. Instead of asking if there is enough money to avoid “consequences” of the crisis, we may ask if there is more clarity to know (if we would have all the necessary financing) what to do with the money to impact the condition of the citizens, especially those most vulnerable. From the project management point of view, it is probably mostly scope and quality - the couple of issues to pay attention to.

Specifically in Lima, most of the Municipal infrastructure projects are being rescheduled in order to get to the planned deadlines, probably due to the proximity of municipal elections year. Within the rest of the country, the impact of exports reduction begun to be noticeable for the

recently growing small business in the highlands, even when some of the small business are being reoriented to self-consumption or local consumption.

About the institutional news, the PMI Lima Chapter delayed the elections process and is calling for elections on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Later in August 2009 the PMI Latin American Congress is going to be held in Peru, an event which is calling the attention of many project management agents in all Latin America. We hope this time the project management community can relate the new challenges of the economical and social environment to the practice of project management.

### About the Author



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