To date, the U.S. Government has allocated more than $20 million in new resources to assist Peru in its emergency response to COVID-19. The aid continues a strong history of investing in Peru’s health care systems and long-term development, mainly through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Ongoing U.S. Government-funded programs and partners are also adapting activities to respond to this unprecedented crisis. Over the last 20 years, U.S. assistance to Peru totals more than $3.5 billion, including $265 million in the health sector. Emergency assistance comes from USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, the Department of Defense
Humanitarian Assistance Program, and the Department of State’s Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance.

NEW ACTIVITIES AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE - COVID 19 SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT

Partners: Americares, World Food Programme, Save the Children, Socios en Salud, ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency), and RET International
Total USAID/Washington (BHA) Investment: $7 million - Duration: July 2020 – January 2021

Six new grants through the USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance will provide humanitarian assistance aimed at alleviating the impacts of COVID-19 in those communities most affected by the pandemic. This assistance helps alleviate strain on Peru’s overburdened health system through disease surveillance and clinical case management, as well as access for primary care and mental health services for vulnerable populations through community based support, mobile medical clinics and medical teleconsultations. Activities also afford protective services to children and victims of gender-based violence. Finally, interventions will help reduce COVID-19 infection through the provision of basic hygiene supplies and clean water, and support for public health, hygiene and risk reduction communications campaigns. Target communities are those in seven regions where insecurity, limited health services and poverty combine to accelerate risk for COVID-19 transmission.

ALLIANCE WITH PARTNERS IN HEALTH

Partner: Socios En Salud, local affiliate of Partners In Health
Total USAID Investment: $2.9 million - Duration: April 2020 – April 2021

This Alliance supports aggressive contact tracing, community mobilization, and systematic screening and isolation to prevent community spread of COVID-19. The Alliance administers COVID-19 tests (with private funds) for the most vulnerable patients, provide medical teleconsultations, and activate a community health worker network to safely reach families in need of clinical and social support. The Alliance is also improving oxygen generation capabilities, severe case management capacity, and infection prevention and control in health facilities prioritized by Peru’s Ministry of Health. The investment mobilizes private contributions, including over $1 million from Boston-based Partners In Health.

ALLIANCE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN THE PERUVIAN AMAZON

Partners: CEDRO (Peruvian NGO) and Rainforest Foundation (U.S.-based NGO and sub-partner)
Total USAID Investment: $3 million - Duration: May 2020 – May 2022

This Alliance helps mitigate the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable populations, particularly in indigenous communities and other vulnerable areas in the Amazon. Leveraging local private partners, the activity mobilizes community health promoters, deploys a risk communication and community engagement strategy, and expands community-based psychosocial services. The Alliance also addresses economic recovery by providing business development assistance to micro-, small- and medium-sized entrepreneurs and expanding access to credit for business expansion.
COVID-19 SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING
Partners: International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UN Fund for Children (UNICEF)
Total State/Population, Refugees and Migration Bureau Investment: $415,000 IOM / $130,000 UNICEF
These funds support COVID-19 related needs for refugees, migrant, and host communities, expanding the ongoing work of international organizations with a longtime partnership in Peru.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE VENEZUELANs
Partner: Acción Contra el Hambre
Total USAID Investment: $250,000 - Duration: May - June 2020
This short-term project helped mitigate the economic impacts of the COVID-19 quarantine on Venezuelan migrants and refugees in Lima. The grant boosted household budgets through access to basic household items, and provided health information. Through an extensive volunteer network, the project assisted 4,200 Venezuelan families and nearly 16,800 people in one month.

SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL ADVICE
SENIOR ADVISOR TO MINISTRY OF HEALTH
Peru’s Ministry of Health requested the support of USAID’s Senior Health Advisor to provide infectious disease expertise, technical advice and specialized analytical support to shape Peru’s national response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Jaime Chang, a physician and 22-year senior health specialist with USAID, assumed this role at the end of March 2020 to support Peru’s formulation of public health guidelines during the current crisis.

TRANSPARENT PUBLIC INVESTMENT ACTIVITY
Partner: Chemonics International - Duration: January 2020 – January 2024
This ongoing USAID project supports government partners, private sector actors and civil society to reduce corruption by strengthening internal controls and oversight in public procurement. Responding to a Ministry of Health request to facilitate urgent health procurements, the project embedded a short-term technical expert to accelerate procurements for urgently needed COVID-19 medications, oxygen systems, and protective supplies and equipment. The expert facilitated $132 million in essential purchases for medical facilities and health care workers to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. The assistance also provided recommendations to the Ministry to address procurement challenges, shore up staffing shortages, and streamline protocols for emergency public health purchasing.

SUPPORT TO MINISTRY OF EDUCATION - “APRENDI DO EN CASA”
Partners: Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS)
Leveraging existing citizen engagement and forest conservation activities, USAID is providing civics and environmental education content for to Peru’s national “Learn at Home” online education program, while schools remain closed during the pandemic. IDEA has produced videos and teachers guides for secondary students on democratic values, political reforms, and the importance of civic engagement in a democracy. The USFS developed biodiversity related material for fifth and sixth graders on the use and conservation of native medicinal plants, the importance of trees in the city, threatened Peruvian wildlife, and the relationship between forests and water. Videos reach students nationwide.
DIRECT ASSISTANCE

PORTABLE VENTILATORS
USAID Investment: $3.2 million
On June 23, 2020, the U.S. Government delivered 17 pallets with 250 ventilators to the Government of Peru, for Ministry of Health distribution to 28 public hospitals in Lima and the regions of Áncash, Arequipa, Cusco, Ica, La Libertad, Lambayeque, Lima, Piura, and Tumbes. The ventilator donation, for patients requiring intensive oxygen support, increased Peru’s ventilator capacity by 19 percent.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) AND FIELD HOSPITALS
DOD Humanitarian Assistance Program Investment: $730,000
Through the Department of Defense Humanitarian Assistance Program, Peru will receive two field hospitals for use in areas hardest hit by COVID-19, as well as PPE donations for Cayetano Heredia and María Auxiliadora Hospitals in Lima and Regional Hospitals in Piura, Lambayeque and Loreto.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) AND TEST KITS
U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit 6 (NAMRU-6)
NAMRU-6 has assisted the Peruvian Naval Hospital in Callao to monitor healthcare workers on the front lines and performed COVID-19 testing for at-risk members of the Callao fire department after an outbreak among firefighters. NAMRU-6 donated rapid test kits to the military and health department in Iquitos and PPE and laboratory materials to the Peruvian National Institute of Health. NAMRU has also assisted the Peruvian Army and Ministry of Health in evaluating COVID-19 treatments and testing.

TEST KITS
The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) made an international donation of test kits to countries worldwide, including two tranches of 2,000 test kits for Peru, valued at $200,000.

ONGOING USAID ACTIVITIES WITH COVID-19 INITIATIVES

CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT FOR TRANSPARENCY
Partner: Asociación Civil Transparencia - Duration: April 2018 - October 2021
With USAID technical and financial support, leading Peruvian civil organization Transparencia has helped Peru’s Office of the Prime Minister to develop a smartphone app and web platform for citizens to denounce public sector corruption. This platform quickly added a special module to report potential misuse of public funds distributed for the COVID emergency at national, regional and municipal level. With $70 million in cash transfers distributed to vulnerable populations from the pandemic, chances for graft have increased, making the app more important to avert misuse of public resources.

AMAZONIAN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND SUSTAINABILITY
Partner: Center for Amazonian Scientific Innovation (CINCIA) - Duration: March 2016 - February 2021
This activity combats environmental degradation and improves human well-being in the Amazonian region of Madre de Dios, among the most biodiverse and environmentally threatened areas in Peru.

With the advance of COVID-19, CINCIA with Peru’s Native Federation of the Madre de Dios River and Tributaries (FENAMAD) developed a local radio campaign in indigenous languages – Machiguenga, Yine and Harakmbut – to promote healthy practices in indigenous communities.
COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN PERU
Partner: Capital Humano y Social Alternativo (CHS) - Duration: July 2014 - June 2020

During Peru’s COVID-19 state of emergency, leading anti-trafficking civil organization CHS is implementing a short-term social media communication campaign to prevent human trafficking, sexual exploitation of children, and other forms of gender-based violence. The campaign has reached more than 900,000 people. As cases of gender-based violence have increased during Peru’s quarantine period, the campaign also provides telephone consultations and advice to potential victims of violence.

INTEGRATED ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
Multiple Programs/Partners: DEVIDA Multiyear Plan; Alliance For Digital and Financial Services; Peru Cacao Alliance; Coffee Alliance for Excellence (CAFE) – September 2017 - December 2022

The COVID-19 crisis affects remote farming communities uniquely. USAID partners with the Government of Peru to help farmers end coca cultivation and begin licit livelihoods. During the pandemic, USAID has adapted activities to increase farm families’ understanding of health safety measures and secure livelihoods during harvest seasons. Farmer alliances promote hygiene campaigns and health protocols to help improve biosecurity when transferring agricultural goods to market. Other activities provide farmers one-on-one technical advice by phone to maintain crops and incomes. Partners share information through mobile app-based groups, webinars, radio theater, and online advertising to reduce and avert cases of gender-based violence. Target regions include, but are not limited to, Huanuco, San Martin and Ucayali.