

The Q'ero Community

CALL TO ACTION!

The existence of the Last Living Descendants of the Inca Empire – the Q'ero Nation – declared a **LIVING CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE PERUVIAN NATION** is in danger of extinction!



We can't thank you enough!
Q'ero Community

The Q'ero Nation

The Last Inka Ayllu



The people of the **Q'ero Nation**, recognized worldwide in the present day for their knowledge of the natural and spiritual world, and for the preservation of their ancestral customs and traditions, lived hidden far away from civilization for over 500 years. The resiliency of the Q'ero people allowed them to survive in the extreme conditions of the high Andes at approximately 15,000 feet above sea level. They were able to grow and trade for much of what they needed until recent years. Climate change, population growth, and technological developments have impacted the Q'ero Nation's ability to continue cultivating a sustainable existence. Thus, as the Q'ero wisdom has assisted many worldwide visitors in their health and healing, the Q'ero people now looks to their global brothers and sisters to help them maintain their way of life, so that the Q'ero Nation can continue to be a resource for humanity.



FACTS



Location:
Mountains of the High Andes,
Cusco Region.

Seasons: **Cusco - Perú**
November - April | Rainy;
May - October | Dry

Elevation: **Climate:**
min. 2,500 meters Relatively cold all year round
max. 5,050 meters

Q'ero Nation declared a Living
Cultural Heritage in 2007



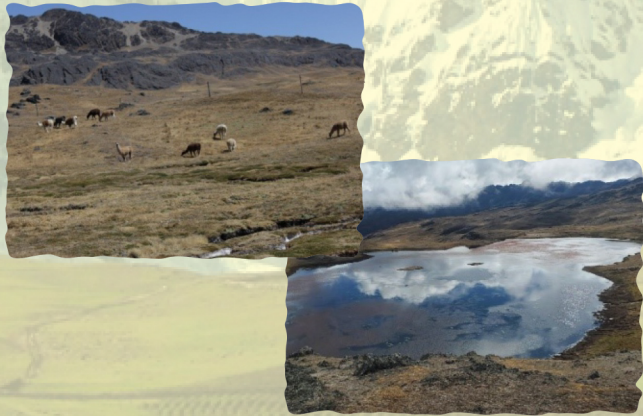
Needs of the Q'ero Community

Water Storage & Irrigation Systems

Problem: Climate changes have caused increased water scarcity and drought. So, during the dry season, many alpaca and other animals die of dehydration and starvation, negatively impacting the community's main food and income source. This loss threatens the community's survival.

Solution: Building several water storage ponds and irrigation canals from the ponds to provide water for the animals and irrigate the grass areas that feed the animals.

Cost: Working with a local water expert, the cost has been determined to be approximately, \$150,000 USD.



Greenhouse Construction

Problem: The lack of food diversity is impacting the health of the community. Very few food plants can be grown at such an extremely cold climate and high altitude. Moreover, the few foods, such as potatoes, that can be grown are not as nutritious because the consistent regrowing of the same crop has depleted the soils of its nutrients.

Solution: Build greenhouses for growing different food products, such as, strawberries, tomatoes, spinach, carrots, and onions, to diversify the types of foods available for the community, and sell at their local markets for an additional source of income, the food products that are not consumed.

Cost: \$7,878.25 per greenhouse. Therefore, 1 greenhouse per 22 families is a total cost of \$173,321.50



Alpaca Health and Q'ero Textile Products:

Problem: Traditional textile crafts and fashion products are the main source of income for the community. These are dependent upon the health of the alpaca. To improve the quality of the crafts and fashion products the community needs support with the following:

1. Farm Animal Plan for Improved Alpaca Health and Wellbeing.
2. Training for improving wool shearing techniques
3. Better tools for wool shearing
4. Branding for traditional crafts and fashion products
5. Marketing of Q'ero Textile Products
6. Business Administration Training for Managing Craft Products.

Solution(s): The Q'ero community is seeking the following:

- 1 & 2. Experts in these areas to come work with the community first-hand, and/or invite and sponsor members of the Q'ero community to their locations to learn the needed knowledge.
3. Experts that can provide sponsored training as well as donations for shearing tools.
- 4, 5, & 6. Business experts with a social conscience interested in helping a subsistent community develop economic capacities that will allow them to preserve and evolve their culture and tradition.

Cost: Interested experts will be responsible for the travel and donation of their time and materials to the Q'ero community. The Q'ero community welcomes donations of all sizes to establish an account that will help offset the costs of volunteers and needed tools.

