Yachay Wasi ‘Simin’  
The Voice of Yachay Wasi

RUNASIMI (Quechua) is the Inka language still spoken by the descendants of this ancient civilization. The Inka empire was called TAWANTINSUYU (the Four Quarters) and extended from modern Colombia thru Tierra del Fuego. The Four Quarters are: NorthEast: Antisuyu, SouthEast: Qollasuyu, SouthWest: Kuntisuyu and NorthWest: Chinchaysuyu. Yachay Wasi means House of Learning in Quechua.

WATER FOR LIFE  
TREES FOR LIFE

In 2008, Yachay Wasi started its Campaign of planting a Million Native Trees in the Circuit of Four Lakes at an altitude of 3,600 meters (11,800 ft) in the Peruvian Andes.

This is a beautiful area located in the provinces of Acomayo and Canas in the department of Cuzco, Peru. The lakes are Lagunas Acopia, Pomacanchi, Mosqollacta (Asnacocha) and Pampamarca. In February 2008, Yachay Wasi completed Phase 1 of its Water & Sanitation project entitled RECOVERY OF THE CIRCUIT OF FOUR LAKES. (see Newsletter Winter 2007 / 2008)

FIRST STAGE:

During the rainy season in January-February 2009, the First Stage of the Campaign was implemented: planting 6,000 native trees around the lake of Acopia and the villages of Acopia and Santo Domingo. Families of these communities joined officers of Yachay Wasi in planting activities. 25 saplings were given to each family. Saplings planted were high altitude trees native of the Andes: Chachacomo, Qolle, Queñas.

Most of the funding for this First Stage came from the public with donations of $ 1.00 per tree. The SECOND STAGE will take place in January 2010.

Victor Pacsi Mamani, Q’ero, performs ceremony to the Apus

(Continued on Page 5)

SACRED SITES:

BIODIVERSITY and ANDEAN SPIRITUALITY

A Conference organized by Yachay Wasi in Acopia, Dept of Cuzco, Peru - 5 thru 11 April 2009

An International Conference on Sacred Sites, planned by Yachay Wasi to be held in Cuzco, Peru with participation from UNESCO and Secretariat of Convention on Biodiversity, did not receive the necessary funding.

It was rescued in December 2008 by the Ford Foundation with a small grant enabling this event to take place after all as a Local Conference in the Andean village of Acopia.

Two hours drive from Cuzco, Acopia is located in the Peruvian Andes at a higher altitude (3,600 meters - 11,800 feet) than the ancient capital of the Inkas.

This conference aimed to reinforce the importance of Indigenous Sacred sites, symbolic representations of the harmony of spirituality and biodiversity, and their relevance to today’s society dilemmas such as climate change and loss of biodiversity. (Cont. on pg 4)
Yachay Wasi represents from Cuzco, Peru traveled to NYC to observe the 7th (May 2008) and 8th (May 2009) sessions of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII); President Luis Delgado Hurtado, Youth leader Sandra Ramos Delgado, Biologist Monica Perez Venuezela (2008) and Anthropologist Yndira Aguirre Valdeyglesias (2009).

In April 2009, following Yachay Wasi Conference on Sacred Sites (see pgs 1 & 4), Luis Delgado Hurtado and Marie-Danielle Samuel, Yachay Wasi Vice President & Main Rep. to UN, met at the US Embassy in Lima with Public Affairs Officer Linda Gonzales and Senior Cultural Affairs Specialist Borie Velez. This meeting has been recently followed by various meetings in Cuzco between these US officials and Yachay Wasi to establish future collaboration in environmental and cultural activities.

**In New York:**
In 2008, Yachay Wasi status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations was reclassified to Special status. It had been accredited in 2001 to Roster status.
Yachay Wasi “RECOVERY OF THE CIRCUIT OF FOUR LAKES”, a Water and Sanitation project in Peru Andes, was selected as Best Practice in Sustainable Development by the ECOSOC NGO Section and was featured with a display table during the Hi-Level segment of ECOSOC Substantive Session in July 2008. The completion of the First Phase of this project was featured with a presentation and information desk on 12 May 2008 during the 16th session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in May 2008 (see pg 7). During this event, Yachay Wasi Campaign of Planting a Million Trees in the Peruvian Andes was launched. (see pgs 1 & 5)
Subsequently, Yachay Wasi became a Planting Partner of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Billion Trees Campaign and joined UNEP Climate Change Network.

On 25 May 2009, Yachay Wasi presented a side event during the Eighth Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at UN Hqrs in NYC. It was hosted by UNEP NY Office. It featured highlights and photos of the Conference “SACRED SITES: Biodiversity and Andean Spirituality” held in the Andean village of Acopia, Peru in April 2009 (see pgs 1 & 4). Speakers were Jim Sniffen (UNEP) and from Cuzco: Yndira Aguirre Valdeyglesias, Sandra Ramos Delgado and Luis Delgado Hurtado.

In May 2009, Yachay Wasi membership in the Mountain Partnership was approved. (pg 7)

On 4 October 2009, Yachay Wasi manned a booth in the environmental festival ECOFEST held this time in Central Park for its 21st Anniversary. Yachay Wasi has participated since the 90’s when it was held first in Riverside Park, then Lincoln Center, fund raising with handmade crafts from Peru. These jewelry pieces are also for sale on ebay. Yachay Wasi is an ebay Giving Works member. www.stores.ebay.com/inka-legacy

**In Paris:**
In October 2008, Luis Delgado Hurtado and Marie-Danielle Samuel traveled to Paris, France to attend UNESCO Executive Board meeting at UNESCO Hqrs. Main purpose was to try to obtain a concrete response regarding UNESCO participation in Yachay Wasi 2009 Conference in Peru (see pages 1 & 4). In a joint session, they met with lead officers from the Culture Sector, the Natural Sciences sector and World Heritage. Although officers from the Natural Sciences Sector and World Heritage were approved by UNESCO Assistant Director General for Culture to be speakers, necessary funding for their travel did not materialize.

Yachay Wasi newsletter has not been published since the Winter 2007/2008 issue because of lack of funds and manpower.
In May 2001, Peru took the initiative of including the Qhapaq Ñan on the Tentative List of UNESCO World Heritage. In March 2002, during the first meeting on World Heritage Periodic Reporting, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru drafted the document “Pre-Hispanic Andean roads and the routes of Tawantisuyo” (the Inca Empire) which summarized their proposals for further advancing the initiative.

Qhapaq Ñan was the backbone of the Inca Empire’s political and economic power. An estimated 6,000 kilometers long, it linked up a coordinated network of roads and infrastructure constructed over more than 2,000 years of pre-Inca Andean culture. The Main axis of the route, also known as the Royal Road runs along the peaks of the Andes. In addition to this backbone over the highest peaks, other roads also run in a north-south direction along the Pacific coast. Between the two, other similar roads, like transverse corridors, link up the Coast, the Amazon and the Andean high plateau. The Inca road network connected the centres of power with warm valleys, deserts and forests in the most distant corner of the Empire. The Incas of Cuzco achieved this unique infrastructure with a unitary character in less than a century, making it functionally coherent and establishing additional centres for commerce, exchange, production and worship, adapting production sectors to topography and climate, in each ecological area to be found along the Road. The Road also expressed these peoples’ harmonious relation with and their adaptation to the complex Andean natural setting. Today, the cultural landscapes of Qhapaq Ñan form an exceptional backdrop on which living Andean cultures continue to convey a universal message: the human ability to turn one of the harshest geographical contexts of the American continent into an environment for life. Qhapaq Ñan was also a communication route which permitted the dissemination of regional cultures and the appropriation of shared cultural values. The road expressed the Incas harmonious relations with and adaptation to the complex Andean environment.

The decision of the inclusion of Qhapaq Ñan in UNESCO World Heritage List is scheduled for 2011. Recently, the 9th International expert meeting at UNESCO Hqrs in Paris, France from 19-21 November 2007 examined progress reports on the nomination of the Main Andean Road for its inclusion in the World Heritage List. One of the objectives was to sign an official agreement to start the implementation of the international management plan of the Qhapaq Ñan. Participants included national committees of the process of nomination from the Andean Republics of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. (Reference UNESCO) http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=35382&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

**Machu Picchu artifacts belong in Peru**

In papers filed in a federal court 8 January 2010, Yale University (USA) argued that a lawsuit by the government of Peru over ownership of ancient Inca artifacts should be dismissed in Connecticut court as too much time has passed since Yale acquired the artifacts. Peru responded that, under Peruvian law, claims like this one are not subject to such restrictions. (Yale Daily News – 1/12/10).

This is an ongoing saga which began in 2003: “Peru wants Yale University to give back Machu Picchu relics” (Associated Press, Lima, March 6, 2003) & YY newsletters Summer 2003, Fall 2005, Winter 2007/08

In 2002, Yale’s Peabody Museum of Natural History received a $ 75,250 grant from the Connecticut Humanities Council to help support its exhibit “Machu Picchu: unveiling the Mystery of the Incas” (Yale Bulletin, April 12, 2002). Exhibit opened in January 2003.

In September 2007, the Los Angeles Times announced “Yale agrees to give up more than 300 pieces, but the scope of the accord is unclear”. A deal was reached by Peru with Yale University to return some of the thousands of artifacts carted away by Hiram Bingham III, the historian and explorer who stumbled upon the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu almost a century ago. No doubt Yale would like to profit from the upcoming 2011 centennial commemorations!!!

Yale ignores UNESCO 1970 Convention at the basis of various cultural properties restitution which have taken place in the world: From Italy’s return of 12,000 pre-Columbian objects to Ecuador in1983 to Getty Museum (USA) restitution of 40 archaeological items to Italy in 2007.

**EXHIBIT in New York City:**

“Highway of An Empire: The Great Inca Road,” an exhibition of more than 50 striking photographs featuring the 25,000 miles of roads and trails that the Incas built six centuries ago in South America, opened Saturday, October 17, 2009 at the American Museum of Natural History. On view in the IMAX Corridor on the second floor through September 2010, the exhibition explores the roads that crisscrossed the Incan realm, radiating out from Cuzco, the Inca capital tucked in the mountains of modern-day Peru.

**UNESCO NEW LEADERSHIP**

The 35th session of UNESCO’s General Conference (6-23 October 2009) was marked by the election of its new Director-General. Mrs Irina Gueorguieva BOKOVA from Bulgaria was elected for four years. She is the first woman and the first representative of Eastern Europe to be named to the post.

She was Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria to France and Monaco and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO from 2005 to 2009. She also served as Bulgaria’s representative to the United Nations and as her country’s Secretary of State for European integration and Foreign Minister.

She replaces Mr. Koichiro Matsuura of Japan who served a six-year and 4-year terms as Director-General of UNESCO since 1999.
The views of Andean Indigenous representatives on this subject, including traditional ways of life, protection of biodiversity and reforestation, sustainable tourism, etc... were recorded and shared in a report which was sent to participants and various international organizations and UN bodies such as UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Commission on Sustainable Development, Secretariat of the Convention on Biodiversity and UN agencies such as UNESCO and UNEP.

Event was well attended by gender based representatives from the communities of Acopia district: Acopia, Santo Domingo (Ayallacta), Miski Uno, Huayrachapi, Patacancha and remote High Andes Indigenous communities such as Q’ero, San Pedro, Pomacanchi, Tactabamba, Ollantaytambo, Chechacupe, San Salvador, Raqchi, Pitumarca, Huanca, San Jeronimo, Huaqoto who had been invited and funded to travel to Acopia.

As international travel was not funded, only a handful of international delegates participated: the Indigenous World Association sent one representative Mr. Petuuche Gilbert (Acoma), New Mexico, USA; Mr. Jerzy Koopman and Mr. Gilles Havik came from the Netherlands; Ms. Jeanne Compitello and Ms. Marie-Danielle Samuel, VP & Main Rep. to UN for Yachay Wasi, traveled from USA.

Mr. Vital Geri Layme, Mayor of Acopia and Mrs. Dorotea Condori, Governor of the District of Acopia, opened the conference on Sunday 5 April. A traditional ceremony, dedicating the Conference thru coca leaves to the Apus (Mountain spirits), was performed by Mr. Victor Pacsi Mamani and Mr. Marcelino Huaman CCapa from the remote Q’ero community. During the following days, after a presentation on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by Mr. Luis Delgado Hurtado, President of Yachay Wasi, working groups deliberated on the main topics of the Conference: Sacred sites, Biodiversity, Andean spirituality.

The event also included a children's drawing contest, cultural competitions and local farm products display and prize competition. Additionally, native trees were planted near the Lake of Acopia, as part of Yachay Wasi Million Native Trees in the Peru Andes Campaign.

Languages were Quechua and Spanish and lively interaction in the working groups took place. Event was recorded by a local film crew and photographs were taken by Ms. Sandra Ramos Delgado, Yachay Wasi. DVD can be seen on Yachay Wasi website www.yachaywasi-ngo.org/SS2009.htm

At the end of the Conference, many Indigenous representatives asked that future similar events be held in their respective villages.

Following this April Conference, on 22 May 2009, a presentation, as a side event of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues 8th Session at UN Hqrs (18 - 29 May 2009), was sponsored by Yachay Wasi & the Indigenous World Association and was hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) NY Office.
The first 6,000 native trees were planted near Lake Acopia during the rainy season months of January-February 2009 under the leadership of Yachay Wasi President Luis Delgado Hurtado. Families from the communities of Acopia and Santo Domingo (Province of Acomayo) received 25 saplings each which they planted. A training session had been given earlier by local biologist Carla Zuzunaga Palomino.

Lake Acopia is located in a beautiful area in the Peruvian Andes known as the Circuit of Four Lakes at an altitude of 3,600 meters (11,800 feet). The trees selected Chachacomo, Queuña, Qolle are native of the High Andes and can withstand up to 5,000 meters. They are small trees reaching 10 meters (33 feet) at maturity.

Yachay Wasi is a planting partner of the Billion Trees Campaign of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) which reached its 7 Billion Trees goal on 21 September 2009. Yachay Wasi in Cuzco received a Certificate from UNEP Hqrs in Kenya for being part of this victory.

http://www.unep.org/billiontreecampaign/CampaignNews/Yachay_Wasi.asp

In 2008, Yachay Wasi joined UNEP Climate Neutral Network and, as one of the first 100 participants, received a Commemorative Trophy from UNEP main office in Kenya.


In March 2009, USA newspaper Indian Country Today, published an interview with Luis Delgado Hurtado in “Planting one million trees for life in Peru - Incan descendants clean up Mother Earth”

Photo at left is featured in article at: http://www.indiancountrytoday.com/global/40849657.html

2008: the Thirtieth anniversary of the Longest Walk of 1978 was commemorated. The Longest Walk 2: An Indigenous Spiritual Walk For Survival from Alcatraz to D.C. by Aislyn Colgan (>indybay.org) Tuesday Jan 29th, 2008

In 1978 thousands participated in a historical march across the country to shed light on the condition of Native America and to halt the assault by the Federal Government on Native sovereignty. Today many of the struggles continue; from the fight for religious freedom, to resisting the removal of Indigenous people from their land and the protection of sacred sites. Many of the original walkers and the next generation of Native activists have organized a walk to commemorate the victories of the past and unite around the struggles of today.

"The Longest Walk is an Indian spiritual walk, a historical walk; and it is a walk for educational awareness to the American and the world communities about the concerns of American Indian people." - 1978 Longest Walk Manifesto - End Quote.

In February 1978, Native American Elders called for a Walk across Turtle Island (North America) from Alcatraz to Washington, DC to obtain recognition for American Indian religions outlawed since the 1890’s. Thousands responded. When the Walk arrived in Washington DC in mid-July, President Jimmy Carter was in Germany. The German people told him: "You should be in Washington welcoming American Indians ... "

Later, President Carter recognized American Indian religions by a decree dated August 12, 1978. Two of Yachay Wasi co-founders, Eliane Lacroix-Hopson and her daughter Marie-Danielle Samuel traveled to Wash, DC in July to participate in the event. At a March 1978 rally at Union Square in New York City, they were first informed of the spiritual urgency of this Longest Walk by late Chief Bill Wahpepah. They then attended press events such as the one with Muhammad Ali at the Statue of Liberty island. They followed up in the Fall by organizing a Longest Walk photo exhibit (photo right) by Gianfranco Gorgoni, Contact Press Images, and discussions with Walk leaders at the NYC Bahai’s Center. During these various events, they met Lakota leader Bill Means who created dur-ing this eventful year1978 the first indigenous NGO with ECOSOC status at the United Nations: the International Indian treaty Council.

The 1978 image of the teepee on the White house lawn was renewed during the November 5, 2009 White House Tribal Summit called for by President Obama. Leaders from the 564 federally recognized tribes in the United States met with President Obama and numerous Cabinet secretaries at this White House Tribal Nations Conference.

They discussed broken treaty obligations and tribal sovereignty, along with issues of economic development and natural resources, environment, public safety, housing, education and health.

This conference was the first such meeting since President Clinton hosted one 15 years ago. President Obama delivered the opening and closing remarks and hosted one session, while six Cabinet secretaries and several other top administration officials participated.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar called the conference a step toward fulfilling Obama’s promise to uphold a nation-to-nation relationship with the tribes and open a ”new chapter of change.”

Prominent American Indian appointments in the Obama administration include Interior Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk, White House Senior Policy Adviser for Native American Affairs Kimberly Teehee, White House Associate Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Jodi Gillette, and Indian Health Service Director Yvette Roubideaux.

USA: A Church Apology on NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY

The day after Thanksgiving has been named Native American Heritage Day by the current US administration (H. J. Res. 40: Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009).

“Healing Turtle Island – an event of cultural reconciliation between the Collegiate Church and the Lenape”

On Friday 27 November 2009 at 11 am, a ceremony took place at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in lower Manhattan. The event site had historical significance, as it is near where the first Collegiate Church was raised in Fort Amsterdam. It is New York’s oldest church and was formerly known as the First Dutch Reformed Church.

And, just across State Street The Netherlands Monument stands as a reminder of the greatest misunderstanding by the Dutch of Native Americans: Peter Minuit’s so-called “purchase” of Manhattan in 1626 for 60 guilders’ worth of dry goods. The Lenape, having no concept of private ownership of land, likely believed that Minuit was not purchasing the island but instead thanking them for the aid they had given the Dutch settlers when they first started arriving here.

The ceremony brought Lenape tribe members together with congregants of the Collegiate Church.

“I had to dig deep in my heart and ask, can I truly forgive?” said Lenape Elder Carmen Mekosato Ketcher, her voice shaking. “Yes, we forgive you” she added. “But don’t forget, we are alive and well”. (NY Daily News - 11/28/2009)

Australia offers an Apology to Aborigines

On February 12, 2008, then new Prime Minister Kevin Rudd introduced a motion in the Australian national parliament, apologizing for past mistreatment of the country’s Aboriginal population. Excerpts of this apology:

"Today we honour the Indigenous peoples of this land, the oldest continuing cultures in human history. We reflect on their past mistreatment. The time has now come for the nation to turn a new page in Australia’s history by righting the wrongs of the past and so moving forward with confidence to the future. We apologise for the laws and policies of successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians. We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, their communities and their country. For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.” (CNN.com 2/12/2008)

On February 13, 2008, PM Kevin Rudd read the apology to the Aborigines and the “Stolen Generations” of children taken from their families. The words “SORRY THE FIRST STEP” were written, as an Aboriginal answer to this apology, with candles on the lawn of Parliament.

The apology places Australia among a handful of nations that have offered official apologies to oppressed minorities, including Canada’s 1996 apology to its native peoples, South Africa’s 1992 expression of regret for apartheid and the U.S. Congress’ 1988 law apologizing to Japanese-Americans for their internment during World War II.

Aborigines lived mostly as hunter-gatherers for tens of thousands of years before British colonial settlers landed at what is now Sydney in 1788. Today, there are about 450,000 Aborigines in Australia’s population of 21 million. They are the country’s poorest group, with the highest rates of jailing, unemployment and illiteracy. Their life expectancy is 17 years shorter than other Australians.

Australia previous leadership led by PM John Howard was defeated in November 2007. Australia was one of the four countries who voted against the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples adopted by the UN General Assembly on 13 September 2007. On April 3, 2009, a statement of formal support from the Australian Government for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was made in Canberra. (Ref:NYTimes, 2/13/2008; AP-ABCNews)
SUPPORT THE WORK OF YACHAY WASI

□ $ ___________  Campaign of Planting Native Trees in the Circuit of Four Lakes
  $ 1.00 per Tree

□ $______ extra donation toward Yachay Wasi general operations

NAME________________________ DATE____________________
ADDRESS______________________________________________________________________________
E-mail Address: ___________________________________________

Please, make checks payable to YACHAY WASI, INC. - Yachay Wasi, Inc. is a non-profit organization
Tax deductible to the extent of the law - Yachay Wasi, Inc.- 708 W.192nd St. #6B New York, NY 10040

------------------------

Water project featured at UN Headquarters
Yachay Wasi had a presentation on the completed First Phase of its water and sanitation project “Recovery of the Circuit of Four Lakes” in Peru Andes during the 2-weeks 16th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) at UN Hqrs in May 2008. This environmental project was registered in 2005 as a Partnership for Sustainable Development with UN CSD: Yachay Wasi is the lead partner with other partners: Rotary International in Australia, USA and Peru, Indigenous associations and local communities of Acopia, Pozoyllacta in the Province of Acomayo, Dept of Cuzco, Peru. Rotary funded the First Phase of the project.

Speakers were, from Cuzco, Peru: Luis Delgado Hurtado, president of Yachay Wasi (photo ctr), Monica Valenzuela Perez, Biologist and Sandra Ramos Delgado, Youth leader and member of Yachay Wasi (photo left). Spanish/English translation by Professor Deborah Gonzalez, member of Yachay Wasi (photo right).

Yachay Wasi also manned an Information Desk on that same day at UN Hqrs in New York City.

Luis Delgado Hurtado with Counsellor Guillermo Guillen, Peru Permanent Mission

On their return from Peru in mid April 2009, Yachay Wasi officers were surprised with a DHL Express GO GREEN package from UNEP in Kenya. It contained a commemorative trophy sent to the first 100 participants of the Climate Neutral Network (CN.Net), an initiative led by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) to promote global action and involvement in moving towards low carbon economies and societies.

On that day, Yachay Wasi launched its Campaign of planting A Million Native Trees in the Peruvian Andes.

Environmental Award and Trophy for Yachay Wasi
The Peace Bell in the United Nations is rung every year at the time of the Equinox, which was this year on Friday 20 March 2009 at 7:44 am EDT. Yachay Wasi was presented with the International Earth Day Award by the Earth Society Foundation, in recognition of its “outstanding contribution as a dedicated Earth Trustee”.

The environmental projects which Yachay Wasi is implementing in the Peruvian Andes were cited. The Earth Society Foundation was established by John McConnell and Margaret Mead to foster worldwide participation in the peaceful care of the Earth and the annual celebration of Earth Day on the Equinox, March 20-21.On March 20, 1971, Earth Day was celebrated at the United Nations in New York City. UN Secretary-General U Thant addressed the gathering and rang the Peace Bell. The 2009 event was sponsored by UNESCO.

On their return from Peru in mid April 2009, Yachay Wasi officers were surprised with a DHL Express GO GREEN package from UNEP in Kenya. It contained a commemorative trophy sent to the first 100 participants of the Climate Neutral Network (CN.Net), an initiative led by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) to promote global action and involvement in moving towards low carbon economies and societies.

Yachay Wasi, a small Indigenous NGO based in Cuzco, Peru and in New York City, USA has undertaken a Campaign of planting a Million native trees in the Peruvian Andes as a way to offset Climate change. This campaign is an outgrowth of a Water and Sanitation project implemented in the beautiful Circuit of Four Lakes in the Department of Cuzco, Peru.

http://www.climateneutral.unep.org/cnn_members.aspx?m=439

MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP

In May 2009, Yachay Wasi became a member of the Mountain Partnership.

The Mountain Partnership is a voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments around the world. Launched at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002, the Mountain Partnership taps the wealth and diversity of resources, information, knowledge, and expertise of its members to support positive change in mountain areas.

http://www.mountainpartnership.org/members/members_en.asp

On 11 December 2009, the International Mountain Day was commemorated with the theme of “Disaster Risk Management in Mountains”. The UN General Assembly designated the Day in 2003. The Mountain Partnership Secretariat is hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in Rome, Italy.
All year around - $15.00 per person, per night

**BED AND BREAKFAST IN CUZCO, PERU**

5 minutes walk from Plaza de Armas

Excursions in and around Cuzco available, including Saksaywaman, Tippon
Also Acopia and its Circuit of Four Lakes and the Sacred Valley of the Inkas: Ollantaytambo, Machu Picchu, Pisac, Chincheros...

Email: yachaywasi@nyc.rr.com
NYC phone: 212-567-6447
Cuzco phone: (51)(84) 315815

A service of Mono Adventures in collaboration with Yachay Wasi