

2025

The AWA Project Annual Report



Table of Contents

Welcome & Our Commitment to Transparency	03
Letter from the Executive Director	04
Organizational Overview	05
The Year 2025 in Numbers	07
Pillar 1 — Advocacy and Representation	08
Pillar 2 — Empowering Community Through Action	10
Pillar 3 — Democratizing Access to Water Information	13
Partnerships and Collaborations	14
Financial Overview	15
Outlook 2026	16

Welcome

Welcome to The AWA Project's second Annual Report.

This report captures the milestones, challenges, and growth of our organization throughout 2025. From grassroots initiatives to global platforms, this document provides a glimpse into the people, programs, and partnerships that drive our mission forward. Whether you are a long-time supporter or new to AWA, we hope this report gives you meaningful insight into our work, our impact, and our vision for the future.

Our Commitment to Transparency

All data and narratives presented have been compiled based on internal records, team inputs, and available analytics as of December 2025. Some engagement figures and program evaluations may be approximate. As we continue to grow, we are also working to implement more structured monitoring and evaluation practices for future reporting.

This year, we are proud to take a step forward on financial transparency. As a non-profit organization in the early stages of developing a sustainable financial structure, our 2025 focus was on operational and institutional strengthening which helped us building the professional foundation required to receive funding and continue scaling our impact. A summary of our investments is included in the Financial Overview section of this report.

Our Commitment to Accessibility

We have made every effort, within our current resources, to make this report as accessible as possible. This includes using left-aligned text and providing alternative text for all images. However, we recognize that accessibility needs vary, and we are committed to continuous improvement.

If you require a more accessible version of this report or have specific accessibility needs, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Strategy & Growth team at growth@theawaproject.org. We will do our best to provide a version that meets your individual requirements.

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends, Partners, and Supporters,

2025 marks a defining milestone for The AWA Project: **five years of impact**. This year, we moved from local action to international influence, rooted in a single truth: while our work alone reaches a few, our work together reaches many. **2025 was truly the Year of Collaboration.**

Beyond our external growth, we focused on “Institutional Readiness.” As an organization in the early stages of developing a sustainable financial structure, we spent this year building the professional foundation (digital, legal, and strategic) required to scale our mission. This included the implementation of our first Strategic Advisory Board of private-sector leaders to ensure our long-term viability.

Our impact was amplified through unique partnerships. Locally, we joined FONDEMAR to launch our first research project on youth perceptions of water scarcity in Ica, Peru. Globally, we bridged the South-to-South gap with South Asian Young Women in Water (SAYWiW), connecting youth leaders across continents. We also recognized that sustainable leadership requires personal resilience. Through our work with the Mental Health Youth Alliance, we provided essential tools to help our changemakers navigate climate anxiety.

From the Ministerial Water Summit to the UN Youth Delegates’ “Diálogo Juvenil Perú,” we ensured that youth voices from the Global South were at the center of the policy debate. Representing our journey in the book *“Beyond Borders”* and receiving the IE University Alumni Epic Award served as a reminder that our community-centered model is resonating on a global stage.

These achievements belong to our incredible volunteers. You are the heart of AWA. As we look toward 2026, we do so with a renewed focus on radical action. We have built the foundation; now, it is time to scale.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Together, we are not just talking about the future of water: we are building it.

In solidarity,

Andrea Cáceres

Founder & Executive Director

The AWA Project

Organizational Overview

Mission: Connecting Water Change-Makers for Collaboration and Empowerment

Our mission is to establish a global network of water change-makers who transcend boundaries and strive to connect experiences and perspectives around water. We believe in the power of collaboration and the importance of fostering inclusive dialogue. By empowering young people and providing them with the tools to actively participate in shaping water policies, addressing challenges, and finding innovative solutions, we aim to create a movement of individuals dedicated to ensuring water justice for all.

Vision: Building a World of Equality Between People and Water

At The AWA Project, we envision a future where every individual's rights and needs regarding access to clean, safe, and sustainable water are equally valued and fulfilled. Water is a fundamental resource that should be shared equitably and managed responsibly for the benefit of all. We are committed to creating a world where water becomes a symbol of equality and unity.

Sustainable Development Goals

Aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we actively contribute to SDG 6, ensuring universal access to clean water and sanitation. We also address SDG 4 by fostering water education and equipping youth with the knowledge and tools to tackle water challenges in their communities. We work towards SDG 13, taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts on water resources. Additionally, we support SDG 17 by strengthening global partnerships for sustainable development.



How We Work: Our Strategic Pillars

Our approach is grounded in three core pillars that guide our work and shape how we measure impact. While each initiative we undertake often spans across all of them, we have assigned each activity to the pillar that best represents its primary focus. Advocacy, community action, and access to information are deeply interconnected — it is at their intersection that our impact is most powerful.

Advocacy and Representation

Elevating youth voices, especially from Indigenous and underrepresented communities, in national and international water governance forums.

Empowering Community Through Action

Supporting local, youth-led initiatives to tackle water challenges directly through practical, participatory, and sustainable projects.

Democratizing Access to Water Information

Sharing stories, research, and digital content to increase global awareness and make water knowledge accessible to all.

Diversity as a Strategic Foundation

At The AWA Project, diversity is the engine of our innovation. In 2025, our team reached a new milestone in global representation, growing from 16 to **26 dedicated volunteers representing 14 different nationalities** — including Peru, Mexico, Canada, Uganda, Nigeria, Kenya, Bulgaria, Germany, China, Brazil, Japan, Spain, Cuba, and Guyana.

In 2025, we also established our first **Strategic Advisory Board**, a consultative body of private-sector leaders that bridges the gap between grassroots passion and institutional excellence. Their executive mentorship has been instrumental in supporting our teams in achieving our internal objectives and building the foundation for long-term impact.

We believe lasting change requires that all voices are heard, valued, and empowered. For us, water justice is inseparable from social justice, which is why we create inclusive spaces where diverse perspectives shape our programs and decisions.

The Year 2025 in Numbers

A snapshot of what we achieved together in a year of deepened impact and collaboration.

3

WORKSHOPS DELIVERED

With Team Bertho and the Mental Health Youth Alliance



4

PODCAST EPISODES LAUNCHED

Water Voices Around the World”
+34% plays per episode vs 2024



8

ACTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

From grassroots collaborations to the United Nations



10

BLOG ENTRIES POSTED

+150% vs 2024
with audiences in 44 countries



26

VOLUNTEERS

Representing 14 nationalities across four continents



Advocacy and Representation

Elevating youth voices in global water conversations

In 2025, AWA significantly increased its presence in national, regional, and international policy spaces. Through speaking engagements, panel accreditations, and high-level conference participation, the team ensured that youth voices, especially those from the Global South, were represented in conversations that shape water governance. A key outcome of this work was securing special accreditation for the UN 2026 Water Conference, positioning AWA as the only youth-led organization registered in Peru to participate in that global stage.

6

Speaking & panel engagements

1

UN 2026 special accreditation

2

Formal UN consultation submissions

01. Ministerial Water Summit LAC — Lima, Peru

AWA participated as a delegation in the Ministerial Water Summit for Latin America and the Caribbean, one of the most significant regional platforms for water policy in 2025. The team engaged directly with ministers, technical experts, and youth leaders, reinforcing AWA's position as a credible voice for youth-inclusive water governance in the region.

02. UN Youth Dialogue Perú (Diálogo Juvenil) — Virtual

AWA was invited to lead the environment panel as part of the International United Nations Youth Talks anniversary. The session guided a structured discussion on youth priorities in water and climate policy, reflecting AWA's growing influence as a facilitator of meaningful, youth-led policy dialogue.

03. ENAVOL National Volunteering Conference — Lima, Peru

AWA was invited to speak at ENAVOL, Peru's national conference on volunteering. This participation helped position the organization within the national civil society ecosystem and opened new avenues for volunteer engagement and institutional partnerships.



Advocacy and Representation

Elevating youth voices in global water conversations

04. Kectil Conference LATAM 2025 — Lima, Peru

AWA's trajectory was recognized with an invitation to speak at the first Kectil conference in Latin America, an event focused on youth leadership and social impact. This invitation reflected the organization's growing regional reputation and strengthened ties with the Kectil network.

05. Climate Café — Por Mi Parque, Lima, Peru

AWA participated in the Climate Café organized by Por Mi Parque, an event focused on NDC reductions and progress toward the 2030 Agenda. AWA contributed to the international alliances and cooperation block, connecting local climate action with global policy frameworks.

06. UN 2026 Water Conference — Special Accreditation (UAE)

One of the most significant milestones of 2025 was securing special accreditation for the UN 2026 Water Conference. AWA successfully submitted two full responses to the call for consultations on conference topic priorities, establishing the organization as an active contributor to the global water agenda ahead of this landmark event.

In addition to these engagements, the Public Affairs team sustained exploratory conversations with SUNASS (Peru's water audit authority) and Kubernain (an international consultancy), both of which approached AWA as a result of its growing visibility and a further signal of the organization's credibility in water governance spaces.



Empowering Community Through Action

Supporting local change through youth-led, hands-on projects

2025 was a defining year for AWA's community work. The Projects & Impact team shifted toward structured, partner-led initiatives as we delivered workshops, toolkits, and on-site research in collaboration with aligned organizations. Each project was designed to generate both direct impact and transferable learnings, reflecting a more mature approach to project design and evaluation.

3

Projects delivered with partners

15+

Toolkit session attendees

40+

Workshop signups (MHYA)

Team Bertho — Water Project Management Toolkit

WHAT WE DID

In collaboration with Team Bertho, we developed a 10-page toolkit on project management skills for social impact projects in the water sector. Drawing on AWA's internal knowledge and supplementary research, the toolkit was designed to be accessible and practical for youth with little prior project experience. The first session involved presenting the toolkit to Team Bertho's volunteers in a structured, interactive format.

WHAT HAPPENED

The toolkit presentation attracted over 15 attendees who engaged actively with the content, asking questions and exploring how the tools could be applied in their own communities. The session demonstrated strong interest from youth in structured, practical water advocacy resources — a gap AWA is well-positioned to address.

WHAT WE LEARNED

A planned follow-up session, where participants would present projects using the toolkit as a guide, could not take place due to timing constraints and organizational misalignments with our partner. This experience highlighted the importance of establishing clearer milestones and accountability structures at the outset of collaborative projects. An internal reflection document has been produced to inform future partnerships.



Empowering Community Through Action

Supporting local change through youth-led, hands-on projects

Mental Health Youth Alliance — Climate Anxiety Workshop

WHAT WE DID

In collaboration with the Mental Health Youth Alliance (MHYA), AWA organized and hosted a virtual workshop on climate anxiety, a growing and underaddressed concern among young people working in environmental spaces. The workshop introduced participants to what climate anxiety is, how common it is among youth, and practical tools and exercises for managing it.

WHAT HAPPENED

The workshop generated strong interest, with over 40 individuals signing up. Attendance on the day was around 28% of registrations, meaning approximately 11–12 people participated. For those who attended, the session offered meaningful exposure to mental health tools in a climate context which resonates deeply with AWA's volunteer base and broader community.

WHAT WE LEARNED

The gap between sign-ups and attendance revealed an important insight about conversion rates for virtual events: a 25–30% conversion is common, but requires planning for higher initial sign-up targets to meet meaningful attendance goals. Future similar events will set registration targets of at least 100–150 to ensure a well-attended session. An impact report capturing these learnings is currently in progress.

Register now at : <https://forms.gle/kGH3TNVeDTzpam9>

Workshop

COPING WITH CLIMATE ANXIETY: TOOLS FOR NAVIGATING UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE WATER CRISIS

 **Friday, July 25th, 2025.**

 **5 PM (CET)**

 **Online**

FACILITATOR
from **The AWA Project**



Andrea Yacavilca
Projects Coordinator
Leads planning and implementation of community-focused initiatives

SPEAKERS
from **Mental Health Youth Alliance**



Victor Hamann
Leads partnership and outreach, focusing on youth-centered mental health services in humanitarian settings



Daiana M. Kejwan
Psychologist
Supports partnership building, policy, and funding as a humanitarian advisor

ORGANIZERS






Empowering Community Through Action

Supporting local change through youth-led, hands-on projects

FONDEMAR — On-Site Youth Research in Marcona, Ica • Flagship Project

WHAT WE DID

In partnership with FONDEMAR, AWA conducted its first on-site research project focused on youth perceptions of water scarcity and management in Marcona, Ica — a coastal region of southern Peru facing significant water distribution challenges. The research involved co-designing a survey with FONDEMAR, travelling to the community, and collecting both quantitative and qualitative data directly from young residents. Participants were not only asked about their water-access experiences, but were also invited into a conversation about potential solutions, making the process participatory from the start.

WHAT HAPPENED

The data collection phase was completed successfully in Q4 2025. The project yielded both measurable data on water access issues among local youth and rich qualitative insights into community perspectives on governance and change. It also marked AWA's first sustained on-site field presence, deepening the team's understanding of community-level water realities.

WHAT WE LEARNED

Conducting field research requires significant logistical preparation and community trust-building, both of which were strengthened through the FONDEMAR partnership. The project reinforced that co-designing research tools with local partners produces more relevant and credible data. The team is currently processing findings and drafting a detailed report, which will be used to develop policy briefs and presentations for relevant stakeholders in the region. These outputs are expected to open doors at conferences and forums in 2026.



Democratizing Access to Water Information

Sharing knowledge and stories to drive awareness and dialogue

In 2025, AWA's communications and knowledge-sharing work underwent a meaningful shift — from ad hoc output to a more structured, mission-driven content ecosystem. By establishing clearer editorial processes and strengthening collaboration between the Projects & Impact and Communications teams, AWA significantly increased both the volume and quality of its content output, while expanding its global reach.

10

Blog posts (+150% vs 2024)

4

Podcast episodes (+34% plays)

44

Countries in audience

Podcast: Water Voices Around the World

The podcast continued to grow in 2025, with four new episodes published. The team invested in systematizing the production process: building on existing guest leads, improving the invitation workflow, and involving volunteers more directly in identifying relevant speakers. This groundwork resulted in an average of 31 plays per episode, representing a 34% increase compared to 2024 and reflecting a growing, loyal listenership.

The AWA Project Blog

A restructured editorial process was a major driver of growth for the blog in 2025. By establishing a clear submission and review timeline, the Communications team gained the lead time needed to produce recap posts, schedule social media content, and publish consistently. The result was 10 blog posts published during the year which marks a 150% increase over 2024, covering topics at the intersection of water, human rights, climate, and social equity.

Social Media and Digital Presence

Instagram remained AWA's primary communications channel in 2025, with approximately 30–40 posts published throughout the year, spanning educational storytelling, campaign and awareness visuals, and team and partner highlights. LinkedIn was used for organizational updates, partnership announcements, and milestone moments, with approximately 20–30 posts published. By the end of 2025, AWA's digital content was reaching audiences in 44 countries, with steady organic growth on Instagram and 558 website visits during the year. From mid-2025 onward, the priority was to stabilize and professionalize the digital presence while improving consistency, aligning storytelling with AWA's mission, and laying the groundwork for stronger cross-team collaboration heading into 2026.

Partnerships and Collaborations

Collaboration was at the heart of AWA's impact in 2025

Rather than working in isolation, AWA deepened its model of collaboration through co-creation of knowledge, delivering joint programs, and expanding its network of aligned organizations across Latin America, South Asia, and beyond.

Partner	Type	Key collaboration in 2025
FONDEMAR	<i>Formal agreement</i>	Co-designed and executed on-site youth research on water management in Marcona, Ica. Strengthened ties through shared field visits and the Kectil conference.
Team Bertho	<i>Collaboration project</i>	Developed a water-focused project management toolkit for youth. Delivered two storytelling and capacity-building workshops for Team Bertho volunteers.
SAYWiW	<i>Formal agreement</i>	Strengthened South-to-South collaboration through a joint workshop on water inequalities, connecting youth leaders across Latin America and South Asia.
GHRD	<i>Formal agreement</i>	Knowledge transfer partnership focused on youth participation in climate justice. AWA members gained access to the upcoming New Generations United Nations Conference.
Mental Health Youth Alliance	<i>Collaborative event</i>	Co-organized a virtual climate anxiety workshop for youth, combining MHYA's mental health expertise with AWA's water and climate focus.
Kectil Group	<i>Collaborative event</i>	AWA was invited as a speaker at the first Kectil LATAM conference, recognizing the organization's trajectory in youth water leadership.
Por Mi Parque	<i>Collaborative event</i>	AWA participated in the Climate Café, contributing to the international alliances and cooperation block on NDC reductions and the 2030 Agenda.
World Bank YWP Network	<i>Ongoing collaboration</i>	Developed a webinar sharing AWA's leadership experiences, positioning the organization as a reference for youth-led water advocacy.
United Nations	<i>Special accreditation</i>	Secured special accreditation for the UN 2026 Water Conference and submitted two formal responses to the conference's consultation process.
Global Youth Movement for Water	<i>Network membership</i>	Ongoing participation in the global youth water movement, contributing AWA's perspective to the broader international network.

Financial Overview

As a non-profit organization in the early stages of developing a sustainable financial structure, we are committed to growing our transparency with every annual report. In 2025, our focus was on operational and institutional strengthening, investing in the infrastructure needed to deliver programs, manage partnerships, and position AWA for long-term growth.

I. Program Services	Direct Mission Implementation	USD
Field Operations	Marcona Research & Logistics	\$166
Community Impact	Ihuanco Engagement & Outreach	\$107
Digital Advocacy	Awareness & Social Media Growth	\$40
Total Program Investment		\$313
II. Institutional Strengthening	Operational Readiness	USD
Digital Infrastructure	Enterprise Workspace & Global Web Hosting	\$406
Creative Systems	Design Infrastructure & Content Tools	\$22
Corporate Governance	Legal Compliance & Registry Maintenance	\$20
Total Strengthening Investment		\$448
Total Investment 2025		\$761

All financial data has been translated from Peruvian Soles (PEN) to United States Dollars (USD) using the weighted average rate for the 2025 fiscal year of 1 USD = 3.75 PEN. All figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

A significant share of AWA's operational capacity is sustained through in-kind contributions from our volunteer team — 26 individuals who collectively contributed expertise in project design, communications, public affairs, and research. These contributions are not reflected in the figures above but represent the true engine of our work.

Looking ahead, AWA is actively developing funding strategies, including grant applications, institutional partnerships, and sustainable revenue models, to support our programs and long-term vision. We aim to provide more comprehensive financial reporting in future editions of this report as our systems and funding models continue to evolve.

Outlook 2026

In 2026, AWA's mandate is clear: we are moving from vision to **radical implementation**. After a year of strengthening our foundation, we are no longer just planning. We are executing. Our focus is to bridge the gap between global promises and local impact, scaling the proven models that already work for our communities.

The 2026 UN Water Conference as our North Star

The 2026 UN Water Conference serves as the strategic anchor for the year. AWA is proud to be the only youth-led organization registered in Peru to have secured special accreditation for this global stage. This distinction underscores our role as a critical bridge between Global South youth and international policy. Our goal is to arrive not just as participants, but as a leading voice for water justice.

Projects & Impact

The team will build on the strong work done in 2025, with a focus on leveraging internal knowledge and program assets toward sustainability by identifying toolkits, research outputs, and program models that could be developed into offerings for partner organizations. Alongside this, the FONDEMAR policy brief will be completed and shared with key stakeholders in Marcona, opening doors for further research and advocacy engagement.

Communications

The 2026 communications strategy will shift from building consistency to achieving measurable, mission-aligned growth. By expanding into short-form video on Instagram, developing clearer KPIs for digital engagement, and deepening collaboration with the Projects & Impact team the program work is regularly translated into compelling public-facing content.

Public Affairs

The Public Affairs team will continue expanding AWA's presence in youth-led and multi-stakeholder spaces. Besides securing speaking opportunities beyond Peru, pursuing new strategic partnerships, conducting a systematic stakeholder mapping exercise we are aiming to deepen our relationships with the partners engaged through 2025.

With the foundation built in 2025 and the 2026 UN Water Conference on the horizon, AWA enters the year with clarity, momentum, and a deep commitment to the communities at the center of our mission.

THANK YOU!

Thank you for being part of The AWA Project's journey. Whether you joined us as a volunteer, partner, supporter, or follower, your belief in our mission fuels everything we do.

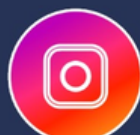
As we look to the future, we remain committed to building a world where water is a source of justice, dignity, and connection. We are excited to grow together and we hope you will stay with us for what is ahead.



Website



LinkedIn



Instagram



Spotify



Blog