

Situation of Women in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) in Peru

According to the available data, there has been an increase in female enrolment in universities in recent years, and this has corresponded to increased participation in areas related to STI. If we look at the registered researchers in CONCYTEC's database the percentage of women in STI has increased in the last years from 30.92% to 45% ([CONCYTEC - Georenacyt, 2021](#)). However, if we look at the total number of registered researchers with higher level of qualification (Carlos Monge classification), women represent 27% of this group. Even in Academia women are mainly found in administrative roles, teaching at a junior level or as research assistants while STI leading roles remain male-dominated. Other gaps in the STI ecosystem is that most researchers are located in Lima capital city and they are between 40-59 years old.

British Council's Women and Girls in STEM programme

The British Council is the United Kingdom's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. The British Council has worked in Gender Equality for over 20 years. Our commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and our role as a cultural relations agency means that we work to address gender equality meaningfully; this is core to our approach. Based on our business strengths, we seek to achieve the following broad outcomes: Increased awareness and agency of women and girls; fairer access to resources and opportunities; a supportive legal and policy environment; changes in attitudes, beliefs and practices and discriminatory social norms; dialogue, collaboration and collective action. Our regional programme in the Americas has three pillars: Inspiration, Performance and Recognition.

Since 2018, the British Council Women and Girls in STEM programme in Peru has aimed to alleviate social and economic inequalities towards women and girls by giving them tools to increase their knowledge and capabilities, as well as strengthening their sense of entitlement, self-esteem and self-belief. In 2019, in partnership with the Committee ProWomen in STI of CONCYTEC (National Council of Science, Technology and Innovation), we began our technical assistance and strengthening of professionals and decision makers for the promotion of practices and policies that reduce inequities in the STI ecosystem. In 2020, we started implementing the project "Fostering Inclusivity in the STI Ecosystem" which aims to strengthen capacities of women scientists and researchers; this was also extended to researchers in vulnerable Peruvian regions in line with the priorities and policies of the country. In 2020, the priorities we worked on were: Communication of Science; Mentoring Training for Women Researchers; and Strengthening Capacities for the Dynamisation of STI Territorial Ecosystems. In order to foster international connections with the UK and experience exchange, we invited **Newton Paulet** Women grantees who know the Peruvian STI ecosystem and are passionate about reducing inequities in STI. Thank you to **Rebecca Jarman, Tiina Sarkinen, Zully Puyen, Rossi Taboada**, and **Doreen Montag** for your work in Peru and for continuously looking for spaces of collaboration and synergies! (For more information about these wonderful women scientists and researchers, see the table below)

British Council's Gender Summit LAC 2021 takes place on 7-18 June 2021 and one of our ambitions is to share knowledge and policy experience of different countries in developing national frameworks to advance more equal representation of women and men across scientific fields and in decision-making and leadership roles in science and research. [Find out more and book your place.](#)

Newton-Paulet Fund Women in Peru

Their research and contribution to the British Council's cultural and knowledge exchange to foster inclusive STI ecosystems



Rebecca Jarman – 2020 British Council's Mentoring training for women researchers
Newton-Paulet Fund 2017 RLTG 360287104

Project: "Viscous Cities: Landslides and Urbanization in Contemporary Andean Cultures". Click [here](#) to access her 2020 podcast in which she interviews three witnesses to the Yungay earthquake (1970) who tell their story in chronicles and teach us about living after a catastrophe.

Rebecca is Associate Professor of Latin American Studies at the University of Leeds, she is also Director of International Activities, ECR Representative of the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies. For more information on Rebecca's work click [here](#).



Tiina Sarkinen – 2020 British Council's Mentoring training for women researchers
Newton-Paulet Fund 2018 IL LATAM 418235692

Project: "Increasing Knowledge of dry and mountain ecosystems across Peru". Through this project the team aimed to increase knowledge and appreciation of dry and montane ecosystem diversity across Peru, as they regulate water provision, pollination, and soil stabilisation. To know more about the project, click here: [video 1](#), [video 2](#). Tiina is a Biodiversity researcher in the Tropical Diversity section at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. For more information on Tiina's work click [here](#).



Zully Puyen – 2020 British Council's Mentoring training for women researchers
Newton-Paulet Fund 2017 RLWK 360558269/ 2018 IL 414591184

Project: "Genomic epidemiology of drug-resistant tuberculosis in Peru" Introduce the whole genome sequencing (WGS) for control of tuberculosis (TB) at a programmatic level in Peru. To know more about the project, click [here](#). Zully is researcher in the Tuberculosis unit at the National Health Institute (INS acronym in Spanish). For more information on Zully's work click [here](#).



Rossi Taboada – 2020 British Council's Communication of Science webinar
Newton-Paulet Fund 2017-RLTG9-360471282

Project: "Water governance in mountainous regions: drivers and adaptive responses to global change". It is about the recovery of the sowing and harvesting of water in Peru. It presents this experience as a sample of the construction of possibilities for global problems, based on the reevaluation of ancestral cultural practices, which lead to public policies and national projects. The following are Rossi's latest publications based on this project: [Publication 1](#), [Publication 2](#), [2020 Peru Innovation week](#)



Doreen Montag – 2020 British Council's Communication of Science webinar and
2020 British Council's Mentoring training for women researchers
Newton-Paulet Fund 2018 MR/S024654/1

Project: "A prospective multicenter birth cohort study of iron adaptive homeostasis, growth and development in three Peruvian regions" This project aims to understand the complexity of environmental, social, and nutritional factors altering mechanisms of adaptive iron homeostasis in infants during the Anthropocene. To know more about the project, click [here](#). For more information on Doreen's work click [here](#).
[2020 Peru Innovation Week](#).