



MINISTERIO PÚBLICO  
FISCALÍA DE LA NACIÓN

**PROGRAMA «RESTORATIVE JUVENILE  
JUSTICE»  
MINISTERIO PÚBLICO – FISCALÍA DE LA NACIÓN  
Linkages between Formal and Informal  
Systems and Synergies between them  
PERÚ**

*Dra. Rita Figueroa Vásquez  
Fiscal Superior de Familia de Lima  
Coordinadora Nacional  
Programa Justicia Juvenil Restaurativa*



MINISTERIO PÚBLICO  
FISCALÍA DE LA NACIÓN

## LINKAGES BETWEEN FORMAL E INFORMAL SYSTEMS

- Peace Judges: In Peru, in some places where there is no formal justice system (police, prosecutor and judge), there are local peace judges. They are recognized by the community as a person with life experience and knowledge.
- The peace judges can decide about conflicts that affect the community. In the practice they know about juvenile in conflict the law, family conflicts and community conflicts. The tradition and culture influence in their decisions.
- They only intervene for minor cases, looking for a solution (agreement) between the victim and his/her offender, promoting the peace community.
- For serious cases, they must inform the formal system.
- Currently, the Public Ministry is training the Peace Judges on the best way to apply the traditions and culture of conflict resolution without attempting Human Rights.



MINISTERIO PÚBLICO  
FISCALÍA DE LA NACIÓN

# SYNERGIES BETWEEN FORMAL SYSTEM AND PUBLIC AND CIVIL ORGANIZATIONS

- In Peru, Restorative Justice is promoted by Public Ministry (General Attorney)
- The General Attorney has signed agreement with Terre des hommes (NGO) for technical assistance and support, to work the restorative approach in all of the districts where RJ program is implemented. RJ is known in Peru thanks to this organization.
- In the intervention areas the Public Ministry has a “Coordinator” who is responsible to identify different local authorities, as well as civil organizations that can give any support to the victim and offender. For example: churches, associations, hospitals, schools, NGO, etc
- The idea is to create a network to refer cases and obtain information about the services delivered to the victims and offenders.

The role of the coordinator is to facilitate the prosecutor’s work providing information, contacts, and identifying key contacts.

The prosecutor has personal contact with these civil entities in order to legitimate the network.

## SYNERGIES BETWEEN FORMAL SYSTEM AND PUBLIC AND CIVIL ORGANIZATIONS

- The Coordinator and the Prosecutor organize periodically meetings with the public and civil authorities, as well as representative of entities that constitute the network to make agreements between everybody through a formal act.
- Some trainings on restorative justice are organized by Public Ministry to the representatives of the network in order to teach the restorative paradigm and apply it effectively.
- The network also contributes to get real “data” about the victim and offender cases.
- The “data” is analyzed by the “Criminal Observatory of the Public Ministry”. This is the most official data from Peru accessible through internet.
- The “data” allows to take decision about policies. For examples, to increase the number of prosecutors in determined districts of intervention, or to make information and communication campaign to the communities.

## SYNERGIES BETWEEN FORMAL SYSTEM AND PUBLIC AND CIVIL ORGANIZATIONS

- The Coordinator organizes periodically meeting between civil and public authorities to interchange experiences and best practices of the cases attended.
- The meeting serves to correct mistakes, to maintain motivation of the operators, to identify lessons learned and the best practices.
- The network legitimates the prosecutor's work in the community.
- The linkage between informal and formal system increase the presence and action of the State in the communities, and strengthen the prosecutor authority.
- For the Peruvian Public Ministry to work with and for adolescents are considered important opportunities, and the opportunity can't be missed.