



OCTOBER 2023

Dear all,

A little later than promised, here's our update on the process of transferring Por Eso! to another organization in order to scale up in Peru and make Por Eso! less dependent on Simone's leadership. The last few months have been quite overwhelming.

### **Transfer not successful**

With the detailed transfer document under our belts, we approached numerous organizations. There is no shortage of interest, but unfortunately, up until now we aren't convinced that there is an organization among the candidates that can fulfill our ambitions. We have therefore made the decision to stop this active search. This has consequences while it also opens certain other doors.

### **2023: Success out in the field**

With minimal effort in the field and a small team, we are achieving good results in 2023. As many as 83 schools now run a school vegetable garden, the vast majority of these with great success! Our method has proven itself, has truly been adopted by the communities and new schools are copying it without too much effort from us. Our method is ready to grow but we're still lacking the larger-scale organization to do this on our behalf. A solid organization with a large network in Peru. Keeping Por Eso! in its current form has become an unnecessary luxury. And we mean this positively because schools and families are starting things for themselves. With this result in mind, we have made the difficult decision to gradually wind down Por Eso! operations and have our team end their work on January 1, 2024. At the same time, we are already exploring other options.

### **2024: Winding down and DIY**

The role of being a 'motivator' in the field that we played for so many years will cease to exist. We are working toward an exit in 2024 and are aiming for a soft landing.

For existing and new schools, communities and municipalities, this means that from 2024 onward, the initiative will have to come from themselves 100%. In case they need materials for the vegetable garden projects, our warehouse door will stay ajar for a few more months.

We are giving more time to the potential transfer organizations that appeared interested but haven't been able to convince us yet. In addition, a number of new options have come our way. It is still too early to go into detail about these. For all options, we firmly hold onto our conditions that the initiative must come from them.

At the same time, we are using the first months of 2024 to explore how best to 'digitalize' our methodology. All teaching/instruction materials collected in a complete (partly digital) package. Imagine an app, printouts, video, etc., to leave our legacy behind so even more schools can get started. Hopefully all across Peru!

We are proud to say goodbye in the field. We will host a big event on December 1<sup>st</sup> in the municipality of Calca, where it all began, which schools and families will attend.

### **Donors, contributors**

We deeply thank all of you who have supported Por Eso! for so long, allowing us to accomplish so much. As we are winding down operations it does not feel right to appeal to you any longer. We're asking you to stop donating and hope you will support another wonderful initiative, because we

know better than anyone how nice it is to be able to count on loyal (financial) support from all over the world.

These have been busy months. There's disappointment about the transfer not working out, but our pride about how carefully we have always guided Por Eso! through this complex world of development cooperation has also increased. And we are hopeful. Hopeful about passing on our legacy by condensing the teaching material into a nice practical package, and perhaps we'll still find an interesting cooperation partner.

In 2024, Simone will start slowly rolling back her involvement, bringing in help where needed to transfer and complete everything to the best of our knowledge. We'll continue to keep you informed about the latest developments.

Please don't hesitate to email us with any questions and or ideas.

On behalf of the board of Por Eso!

Regards, Simone