

NEWSLETTER

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Ajay Banga visited Peru as the first country on his world tour

The president of the World Bank (WB) supervised the investment and development projects that the multilateral organization is carrying out in Peru. Our country is in the eyes of the man who will direct the destiny of the WB for the next five years, and as we can see, he has placed special emphasis on the work being done in favor of the most vulnerable people.



04

08

REPORT

The World Bank's new direction in the Ajay era

04

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INTERVIEW

Quality care in the ALEGRA center in Comas

08

The expansion and refurbishment works have an impact on the attention provided to the hundreds of users who come to the ALEGRA Comas center in search of free legal assistance.

CONTENT

The World Bank's new direction in the Ajay era

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World Bank President, 63-year-old Ajay Banga wants to design a new roadmap for the international institution.



Minister of Justice, Daniel Maurate, receives at the Mega ALEGRA in Lima Centro, the president of the World Bank who arrived accompanied by his wife.

As one of his first measures, he announced a new debt pause option for countries hit by natural disasters, "so countries can focus on what matters when a crisis hits and stop worrying about bills that will come with that crisis," Ajay said during the Summit on a New Global Financial Pact that took place in Paris.

According to information published by the Mexican newspaper "El Economista", the president of the World Bank specified that in Peru

and Jamaica already have insurance to help development projects.

Peru: guarantee access to free legal assistance

Ajay Banga arrived in Peru as the first country on his world tour. His agenda began with a meeting at the Government Palace with President Dina Boluarte. Accompanied by the president of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Ilan Goldfajn, they also analyzed, in

a meeting with the Minister of Economy, the projects that both institutions are executing in Peru. The World Bank has a broad portfolio in our country that includes health, water supply, transportation, justice and other projects.

In terms of justice, the World Bank, through the Eje No Penal Program, supports the ALEGRA and Mega ALEGRA centers of the Ministry of Justice. These centers provide free legal advice to vulnerable people, who

may not otherwise be able to afford a lawyer and therefore their right to access the justice system would be violated. Ajay Banga visited the Mega ALEGRA center in Lima Centro to learn about the positive impact it has on people's lives.

"What would have happened to me if I had not filed that lawsuit, if I had not dared to demand alimony. I think it would have been fatal because we would live with the minimum", commented Magaly López, a user of the ALEGRA centers.

The public defender, Mirna Quintana Zapata, was the free lawyer for the ALEGRA center that sponsored Magaly López and obtained alimony for her 2-year-old daughter. The youngest has anemia and epilepsy. His father only wanted to provide support of 100 soles per month.

"Currently, a medicine that my girl needs for epilepsy costs 350 soles and lasts 30 days. When she convulses, she loses neurons and that helps," explained Magaly López.

Thanks to the intervention of the Mega ALEGRA in Lima Centro, Magaly obtained a 40% alimony for her daughter, as well as a 50% seizure of the parent's social benefits.



Magaly López, a user of the ALEGRA centers who obtained child support for her daughter.

According to the Case Tracking System of the General Directorate of Public Defense of the MINJUSDH, in 2022 more than 127,000 consultations were attended in 45 ALEGRA and Mega ALEGRA centers nationwide and 32,400 sponsorships were offered. The most required subjects in Legal Assistance were alimony, execution of conciliation act, affiliation and alimony, increase in alimony, alimony derived from violence against women, among others.

Table 1- Most required subjects in Legal Assistance

SUBJECT	CASES
Alimony	10,178
Execution of conciliation act	1,918
Filiation and alimony	1,292
Increase in alimony	1,183
Alimony derived from violence against women	934
Tenure	829
Tenure derivative of violence against women	343

45 ALEGRA centers nationwide period January-December 2022

While the most recurring crimes in Defense of Victims were: failure to provide alimony, physical aggressions against women or members of the family group, psychological aggressions against women and members of the family group, domestic violence-psychological violence, sexual violence of minors, among others.

Table 2- Most recurring crimes in Defense of Victims

CRIME	CASES
Failure to provide alimony	3,766
Physical aggressions against women or members of the family group	1,540
Psychological aggressions against women or members of the family group	1,177
Family violence - psychological violence	789
Sexual rape of a minor	612
Family violence - physical violence	545
Domestic violence	524

45 ALEGRA centers nationwide period January-December 2022

The visit of the president of the World Bank, Ajay Banga, made it possible to make visible the problem and the need to access justice in Peru in a timely manner. As well as the enormous benefits that the alliance formed between the Peruvian state and the World Bank is achieving, identify opportunities and maximize the efforts that the Eje No Penal Program has been deploying to improve the ALEGRA centers nationwide, with the goal of inaugurating more centers this 2023, including the first ALEGRA center with an intercultural approach in Ucayali.

A week after Ajay's visit and his commitment to continue supporting Peru, as a country that he assists technically and financially, the lead lawyer of the World Bank's Legal Department for Europe, Central Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, Adam Shayne also came on a work mission to learn about the advanced work with the ALEGRA centers. The World Bank official also held a meeting with the president of the Constitutional Court, Francisco Morales, in the framework of the implementation of the electronic judicial file in that institution.

QUALITY ASSISTANCE AT THE ALEGRA CENTER OF COMAS



INTERVIEW:

Julio Raúl Navarro Mendivil
District Director of Public Defense and Access to Justice of Lima Norte

Julio Raúl Navarro Mendivil, is a lawyer and has a Master's Degree in Public Management. For 11 years, he has been in charge of the District Directorate of Public Defense and Access to Justice of Lima Norte, in whose jurisdiction the ALEGRA center of Comas is located, which has been completely refurbished by the Eje No Penal Program of the World Bank.

What is the impact of the refurbishment of the ALEGRA center of Comas on the assistance provided to the user public?

The expansion and conditioning works carried out at the ALEGRA center of Comas located in the CEDIF Año Nuevo, undoub-

tedly have an impact on the attention provided to the hundreds of users who come to it in search of legal assistance. The user who is saddened by problems, economic situation, finds from the beginning, a comfortable place during the stay and attention that will receive from the public de-



The refurbishment works at the ALEGRA Comas center have an impact on the attention provided to users who receive free legal assistance.



The improvement works lasted 45 days. The public defenders now have an appropriate environment.





Now our Public Defense and Extrajudicial Conciliation services of the Ministry of Justice have larger and more comfortable offices, state-of-the-art computer equipment, and the latest technology.



fenders and extrajudicial conciliator of the Ministry of Justice who in turn also have now a best place where they will develop their functions.

What is the difference you see with the changes made?

Now our Public Defense and Extrajudicial Conciliation services of the Ministry of Justice have larger and more comfortable offices, latest computer equipment in which a security system is implemented, new furni-

ture, and all of this is in favor of the users who come to the ALEGRA Center of Comas finding better access areas, including an elevator for people with motor disabilities and a play area for the children of the mothers who visit us.

All thanks to the works that were carried out within the framework of the project "Improvement of Free Legal Advice Services (ALEGRA)", which is carried out thanks to the technical and financial support of the World Bank.



The new ALEGRA center in Comas now has an elevator and access ramps for people with disabilities.



“ Every case we take on is important. Our public defenders provide professionalism, service and quality care. ”



What is the influx of cases in the ALEGRA center of Comas that you lead and from which areas do they come for assistance?

Most of them attend users with limited economic resources and/or in a situation of vulnerability. The assistance provided by our defenders and conciliator is mainly in cases of alimony, visiting arrangements, tenure, parentage, supports and safeguards. Rights violations are also

addressed in cases of violence against women and other members of the family group. Most of our users of the ALEGRA center live in the district of Comas.

Any particular case that you would like to mention that has been successfully resolved thanks to the intervention of public defenders?

All the cases we take on are important, not only do our public defenders pro-

vide professionalism and dedication to service, but also quality assistance. All this in favor of people with limited economic resources and in a situation of vulnerability.

We have also seen media cases, unfortunately related to violence against women (femicides, violations, kidnapping of minors, etc.) that have occurred in Lima Norte. It should be noted that our defenders work in one of the judicial districts with

the largest population and, therefore, with the greatest procedural burden. Comas is a populous district.

From your experience, what are the things that satisfy you most about the service provided by the public defenders at the ALEGRA center of Comas?

The vocation of service and professionalism of each one of the public defenders is what satisfies me. Also, the recognition that, as a result of the ful-

fillment of their functions, they receive from the Judiciary and the Public Ministry of Lima Norte. But the most satisfactory thing is the fulfillment of the duty with each case resolved in favor of our users.

We support the legal labor definition of all the Public Defense servers of the Ministry of Justice, the hiring of more public defenders, conciliators, experts, social workers, administrative assistant personnel and the implementation of more centers.



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