

WorldGranny

*toekomst voor
generaties*



WorldGranny Annual Report 2017



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WorldGranny Foundation Annual Report 2017

Since 2004, WorldGranny is the Dutch non-profit organization dedicated to the quality of life of older people worldwide. With a total turnover of almost 7 million euros, we have been able to support ten thousands of older people and their (grand)children in small scale projects in Africa, Asia and Latin-America between 2004 and 2016. Through multiannual partnerships with HelpAge International and the Transition in the East Alliance (TEA), WorldGranny has achieved a stronger civil society, and improved healthcare and more financial inclusion for older people. With many partners and friends we have lobbied at the highest levels. We have approached the Dutch government, the European Commission and the United Nations (UN), to highlight the importance of global aging in international cooperation, foreign policies like emergency assistance and human rights. Older people are becoming more and more visible as a social category. Since 2009, WorldGranny has had ECOSOC advisory status at the UN. In the (inter)national media, we have been able to elaborate on the multiple effects of declining birthrate and rising longevity in developing regions.

In 2017 we wrote a substantive report on the activities WorldGranny had undertaken in the last 12 years. We noticed the meaningful progress towards achieving the main Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and addressed the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which sets the vision for the next 15 years of global action. These Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include the unfinished business of the MDGs but address a wider, truly global agenda.

Certainly, in many HIV/Aids-ridden areas, there is still a lot of this so called unfinished business. The Dutch Grannies2Grannies group continues to support local NGOs, especially in Uganda, where new houses are being built for grandmothers who support their orphaned grandchildren. Taking all this into account, WorldGranny decided to continue working on the SDG and aging agenda as WorldGranny Social Enterprise. The activities of the WorldGranny Foundation, which faced challenges with respect to fundraising, will be geared towards emergency assistance and incidental project support. A strategic decision was made to no longer actively fundraise, but support projects with the existing funds and recently made donations.

In 2017 we assessed the 3 years support to the knitting groups in Peru. Pauline Meurs and Caroline van Dullemen visited Peru and its outskirts, conducted a survey amongst the participants of the knitting groups and realized a stakeholder analysis. Also, WorldGranny decided to partner up with the Ugandan NGO URICT that create an enabling environment for 50 grannies in Kamuli Eastern Uganda and implement the so called Pink Butterfly Project.

1. ByWorldGranny

Under the label ByWorldGranny, for over three years, WorldGranny brought together older women in knitting-groups with a shared responsibility for making products. The production is done by knitting groups in Peru. By undertaking joint activities, the senoras strengthen their contact and reduce their isolation. With the compensation they receive for the production, the participants supplement their old age income.

1.2. Professionalizing the knitting groups

WorldGranny previously supported projects from the Peruvian partner CASPAM aimed at improving the quality of life of the older people by promoting an active, healthy, productive and social lifestyle. In this follow-up phase, CASPAM was contacted again to connect them with the granny groups living in the same area - Villa Maria de Triunfo.

The señoras gathered in weekly knitting groups and have been taught in the knitting of interior products. These products have been designed by professional designers.

In the pilot phase (2014 – 2016) we learned about:

- the types of materials that were suitable. The orders we knitted for Yumeko, the bed throws, were large and heavy. Some ladies complained they found them difficult to handle.
- more ways to reach out to and select the senoras who were interested and had capacities, in particular by contacting friends and acquaintances and older women's health groups.

- the establishment of a cooperation (foundation) under the name of: Sumak Maki - Golden Hands in the local Quechua language. The board consisted of a chair, a secretary and a treasurer, all chosen by the members.
- the need for working with a coordinator, the psychologist Janet Salas. At first one of the older group members themselves, Celia Gutierrez, coordinated the group. But after a year she let us know she could not do this coordinating work and knit at the same time. Salas was a psychologist and far more equipped to handle the process of group formation. So she started end of 2015 to support the group in their knitting work as well as their social activities.
- the necessity of expanding the knitting capacity, in order to reduce costs. Therefore, we reached out to Care Peru. <http://www.care.org.pe/>

This global development organization (NGO), has been working with knitting groups already. The office in Lima had received a grant from the H & M foundation to further develop female entrepreneurship. They had contact with a number of groups that could, after some training, take assignments from Dutch and Belgian clients. With Care, a MoU was signed earlier (early 2015) on cooperation with respect to knitting groups.

The follow-up phase (2016 – 2017) was intended to further professionalize the work of the groups and to make the whole process more effective and efficient. We deliberately kept the number of European customers limited so that we could intensify the contact and the learnings.



Designer Chloé Mattieu (mid front) visiting the señoras from the knitting group Sumak Maki.

We addressed three areas for improvement:

1. quality of the knitwork,
2. administrative processes with respect to book keeping and to transport and
3. ICT (especially for the improving communication).

1. An extensive search for a quality controller guided by the following criteria: experience with hand knitting, ability to read patterns as well as develop patterns out of simple drawings, familiar with European standards, living in the vicinity and prepared to assist on a weekly basis. Our Peruvian colleague Karina Sandoval found an older, experienced lady, who have been working with knitting groups before in Canada. Helen Hamann was an experienced designer of knitted clothing, fashion and interior items. <http://helenhamann.net>

Helen visited the weekly groups to enable them to improve the quality of the products by establishing working routines (introducing swatches) and regular controls before approving the products that could be exported to the demanding European market.

As a result, the quality of the work improved significantly. The ladies said they had learned a lot. Though in the survey (below) many of them mentioned to find it hard to knit exactly according the pattern.

2. With respect to the administrative process, trainings were followed by the coordinator and ladies of the board of Sumak Maki. Also, the exporting process, which is very labour intensive, was practised and guided by DHL. Janet Salas also participated in a workshop of PromPeru on exporting.

As a result, the bookkeeping went much better and the relationship with the SUNAT (Superintendencia Nacional de Administración Tributaria – income taxation) improved. The paperwork necessary for the transport was still tiresome, but since more ladies were familiar, the burden could be shared.

3. To improve the communication between the members, WorldGranny and improve the work processes, we introduced Trello. We also provided some tablets which were supposed to be user friendly. The training on Trello appeared to be not very fruitful. But as a result, the use of Whatsapp became very popular. The need for intensify communication, managing the workflow as well as exchanging pictures of the work, could also be done by Whatsapp (groups).

1.3. Sumak Maki & stakeholders

In the pilot phase and the follow up, we collaborated with Chloé Mattieu, a young Belgian knitting fashion designer, to design products that could be knitted by grannies. Furthermore, we produced for the Rabobank and for a Dutch swim suit company founded by Ilena Ingwersen.

In terms of quality, Sumak Maki, under the guidance of Helen Hamann, was able to produce high quality work for Mattieu's label ByKloe. <http://bykloe.com>

The assignments for Care showed a different picture. A large assignment for making 800 knitted Christmas-tree balls (Christmas 2015) had been finalized totally perfect. In 2016r, we decided to provide a somewhat more difficult assignment, namely knitting bathing suits. This assignment totally

failed. Wrong measurements, bad knit work, the suits were unsellable. We discussed with Care what went wrong. Apparently, the assignment was too large, the patterns too difficult, no check on quality. We agreed that Helen Hamann fixed the bathing suits at Care's expenses.

1.4. Field visit & survey

In January 2017, Pauline Meurs, the chair of the board of WorldGranny and founder Caroline van Dullemen made a field visit to the groups in Peru. They spoke extensively with Janes Salas Villavincencio, psychologist and coordinator of Sumak Maki, the knitting group with which WorldGranny has the most intensive relationship. They also visited Helen Hamann, the professional knitter and producer who has conducted quality control for the groups since early 2016.



Psychologist & coordinator Janet Salas (left) in conversation with WorldGranny chair Pauline Meurs.

Together with a part of the members of Sumak Maki, they talked about the group experiences, WorldGranny and the future. To get a better idea of the impact of the knitting group, a survey was conducted. The exact results can be found in the annex.



Caroline van Dullemen visited a second group of knitters in Carabayllo, in the outskirts of Lima. Valeria Berdejo, a young lawyer (third person from the left), who, together with her two colleagues participated in *OEDSS-Organización de Estudios y Desarrollo de la Seguridad Social* coordinated this group of knitters.



Meurs en Van Dullemen also visited companies. Together with Janet Salas they visited Peruvian companies that produced handknitted products, such as *Royal Knit*, *La Republica del Tejido* and *Peruvian Traditions*. These encounters were organised by the Peruvian Trade cie. in the Netherlands and meant in particular to investigate if more cooperation between and knitting groups and the companies was possible.





Furthermore, Pauline Meurs, Caroline van Dullemen and Janet Salas met Luis Descalzi and his wife Magda, the founders of CASPAM, to discuss the position of older women in Peru, the older people's organisations and the social policy of the (new) Peruvian government.

During a visit to the Comisión de Promoción del Perú, Juan Carlos Aleman informed them about the various logistical options with respect to exporting. With his colleague, they exchanged thoughts about the possibilities for the knitting groups to participate in Peru Moda, the big annual fashion show that is organised by PromPeru.

1.5. Results of the survey

The groups have developed well in the last period in terms of social cohesion and participation. Especially Sumak Maki has grown into a stronger, better organized group with more members and more clear coordination than a year ago.

We have seen from the survey we took from Sumak Maki that the women derive a lot from the group (Annex 1).

- They feel that their lives have changed since they participated.
- They feel part of a larger entity.
- We therefore believe there is a chance they can continue to work independently of WorldGranny, or in close collaboration with other organizations or groups. These meetings and discussions led to a clear understanding of the size and quality of the project and its possible sustainability in the context of existing competition.
- Over 66 percent of women say they have gone well since they joined the knitting group.
- All participants are very pleased with the coordination. However, three-quarters believe that the quality control does not add much.
- Almost half of women find the (financial) compensation not sufficient in relation to their efforts.
- Over 90 percent finds the relationship with WorldGranny very important because they cannot figure which organization would pay them for their knitting.

We found that the group members are very satisfied with their joint activities. We also found that quality of the work is not yet optimal (quality material, dimensions, tension, weight), mainly in the groups that are coordinated by the NGO Care. Helen Hamann could play a role in training these groups.

Cooperation between the coordinator and quality controller of Sumak Maki is improving. Processes (logistics, storage, transport) still need to improve and we see that the dependence of WorldGranny is still high. Through the field visit, we also investigated the possibilities of working within an entire Peruvian context. These possibilities are considerable, resulting in a more direct relationship between customer, designer, producer and broader groups. This seems to us to be the right direction to further strengthen and develop the groups. The decision was made to support the knitting groups financially until July of 2017.

2. URICT – Pink Butterfly Project

During the second half of 2017, URICT reached out to WorldGranny for support to create an enabling environment for the grandmothers that looked after their orphaned HIV/AIDS affected grandchildren. They titled their endeavour: The Pink Butterfly Project, A ray of hope to Grandmothers. After detailed research and baseline studies, at the beginning of 2017 URICT, embarked on designing a comprehensive project which was intended to empower and create an enabling environment for grannies looking after their Orphaned HIV/AIDS affected grandchildren. As a growing organization, URICT has suffered some challenges especially with ability to fundraise, since we still have a small funding base but all in all the impact is visible on the ground, which encourages us to even better.

One of the ladies URICT supports is Futuma Mukanza aged 85 years. She lost all her five children to HIV/AIDS. She was left with 16 grandchildren. She was selected as one of the beneficiaries of the project together with other 50 grandmothers taking care of orphaned children. She was pleased to have been selected to benefit from the project and was happy to learn that at least URICT has waived her abandon of providing for the orphans.

URICT provided her with food supplements such as sugar and milk that made her remember the golden days when her children would provide such to her. She had lost hope of ever tasting such food, which had made her malnourished and weak. On a weekly basis, a nurse visits her to assess her health and to which she is proud of. She is now economically taking farming seriously.

2.1. Highlights

This project was developed as a response to dramatic increase in the number of children living without their parents due to HIV/AIDS epidemic in Kamuli. Many of the children targeted by the project are orphans taking care of their fellow children, while others are under the care of needy

grandmothers with a burden of poverty and related challenges. To address the challenges faced by grandmothers and their orphaned grandchildren, the project has managed to do the following;

- i. Provision of School requirements to 25 orphans under the care of their grandmothers, through Educational Support Program which includes provision of books and materials. This has enabled the orphans to attend School, which could have been impossible without URICT's immediate interventions with support from WorldGranny. It should be noted that, although government of Uganda caters partly for school fees for all children in primary schools, parents are expected to meet other needs such as school uniform, exercise books, pencils and mid day meals. Most orphaned children are unable to meet the above, which excludes them from accessing education.
- ii. Addressing the impact of HIV/AIDS. The project has equipped orphans & grannies with skills to manage HIV related challenges through awareness creation and sensitisation. URICT has worked with 50 households headed by grandmothers and equipped them with information on prevention and care of HIV/AIDS, provided counselling and guidance support, as well as referring them to other service providers for professional assistance like ARVs.
- iii. Economic empowerment (food security) through provision of agricultural incentives to grandmothers. Grandmothers have been empowered to become active members within their communities through revival of their skills and experience. URICT provided grandmothers with agricultural equipment such as hand hoes, and seeds that enabled them to increase on household food, as well as providing them with information on market. On the other hand URICT has provided food supplement to needy and weak grandmothers unable to engage in agriculture related activities.
- iv. Sanitation & Hygiene. A number of sessions have been held with individual household on how to improve on their sanitation and hygiene. In addition each household has been provided with soap, basins, mosquito nets, and jerry cans. This in turn has contributed to reduction in sickness amongst the targeted households. URICT has observed that the sanitation and hygiene in households targeted by the project have improved at least each of the households with a pit latrine and with registered decrease in incidences of preventable diseases.



2.2. Objectives

On the eve of the Project kick-off URICT set out to implement the 12 months Pink Butterfly

Project with the following Objectives:

- Promoted Self Esteem for 25 Orphans directly affected by HIV/AIDS.
- 25 Orphans are proudly attending Classes in Schools.
- 25 are with all the basic Scholastic Materials to ease their learning process at School.
- Awareness on HIV/AIDS among the targeted the School Communities were Orphans attend.
- The Kamuli Community mainly Grannies and Orphans are accessing the nearest Hospital in 8 -20KM for Health services
- 50 Grannies are supplied with supplements of food on a monthly basis.
- 50 Grannies are trained in HIV/AIDS Care, Prevention, Mitigation and Support.
- 50 Grannies are supplied with Seeds and Garden Tools in a bid to secure food security in their homes. (Agriculture incentives)
- Counselling and guidance 100 Orphans
- Referral of the targets for ARVs.
- Supported Grannies access Markets for their local produce of agriculture.
- Provided Mosquito Nets to 190 Orphans & 80+ Grannies to prevent tropical malaria fever.
- Organized 24 out-reach to encourage the community to call upon the local villagers and local leaders support the grannies burdened to provide for their grandchildren.
- Sensitization on alternative economic resource access/activities grannies.
- Promotion of vocational education and life skills among Orphaned Children.

URICT planned and implemented the promotion and development of self esteem among 25 orphans. The 25 are in different Schools in Kamuli were organized into small groups in their respective schools. In these different groups they were trained in life skill planning, living for a purpose. They were supported to respect their lives and care for them. This activity went further to help them develop different skills in sports and games. The teachers in these Schools where the children go to, were also trained and supported to respect the orphans with all their shortfalls. The different schools were also trained and supported in handling the orphans.

A total of 25 orphans were the direct beneficiaries, 12 Teachers were also directly reached and secondary beneficiaries and the general schools were also thirdly reached through the on & off program in order to effectively create an impact of self esteem on the directly targeted orphans URICT started assessing the immediate impact of this activity and the following was found out;

- That the performance of the 25 orphans in classes had started increasing. This was realized through School Term monthly Reports and Performance Reports from the teachers and the schools. This can only be attributed to the SELF ESTEEM activity. Because fear, worries, bullying, abuses etc always affect the performance of the children in class. The orphans have got a lot of problems right from their homes to the school. They are always referred to as a social disgrace by their fellow children at school.
- Children at Schools started loving the orphans, this love came with a lot of respect and attachment to one another in the children. Also the teachers supplemented the activity by

encouraging further the orphans and other children in School, hence having an immediate impact on the performance of the children in these different schools.

- Talent Development in Sports & Games: The Orphans have also started engaging themselves in the different School Programs for example sports and games. When the orphans talents in sports and games are realized, chances are high that they will become useful people in society.
- Teachers respecting the orphans: It has also been noted that the teachers have come to learn how to handle these special cares of orphans in School.
- Creation of peer educators in the schools: These schools have moved an extra mile to create Peer Educators clubs in these Schools. Pupils/students help each other to copy with the psycho- emotional challenges they face in the large community.
- 25 Orphans are proudly attending Classes in different Schools in Kamuli. The Project set targets at its onset, this involved supporting the Orphans who can't afford to pay school fees or any school dues contributions - note that the Government of Uganda also contributes to the Primary & Secondary Education Program by paying the basic school fees for all school going age Children. However because of a big number the government can't afford paying for meals and other related direct school expenses. At the same time the standard of education in these public schools have totally gone down due to poor salary payments of teachers.



2.3. Assessing the immediate impact of the activity.

Its not easy to measure the immediate impact of the activity. Its' clear to URICT and her PBP project that within the next 2 years, 50% of the 15 Primary Orphans will be graduating to Senior Secondary Level or Vocational School Level, while 75% of the 10 Orphans in Senior Secondary Level will be graduating to University or Tertiary Institution Level. However interlinking with the self esteem activity chances are high that these orphans will perform so well in Schools and hence become useful citizens in Uganda and the world at large.

Interrelated with this, URICT supported the 25 Orphans with all sorts of Scholastic Materials these range from books, pens/pencils, colours etc, School Uniforms, Shoes/Stocks, School Bags, calculators etc to MTC Sets & Text books. As a consequence, the love for going to school among these orphans

has increased because of the ease in going to School and having all the requirements to study comfortably. This has also helped them to improve on their performance at school. Its clear that the future of these orphans is becoming brighter since they are attaining education which will properly help them to bargain at the job Market at the right time.

As a way of making her impact sustainable in different communities, URICT set out to reach to 12 Schools where the orphans go in order to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. 8 Senior Secondary Schools were targeted and 4 Primary Schools. The issue of care, prevention and mitigation were over emphasized. The importance of this activity is priceless, its creating a sense of awareness among the School Communities, now the School understand that it's a social problem which every one should get involved in to fight.

Also, to support the grandmothers and their grandchildren, there is need to ease the accessibility to the nearest Health Centers. This is realized by a bicycle ambulance to be transporting the orphans & thier grandparents to the Hospital. In 2 months time, the bicycle ambulance has transported 56 patients to the nearest Hospital in Kamuli Township. Had it not been these bicycle ambulance, chances are high that the lives of these 146 patients could have been left on line. So access to health services has been attain above even our imagination

Finally, 50 Grannies are supplied with supplements of food on a monthly basis. PBP supplies, Sugar, Milk, Soya Flour, Millet, Flour, Rice, Cooking Oil etc. In so doing their health and that of the Orphans has improved. Giving the Grannies, food supplies today and not being in position to give them tomorrow isn't a sustainable approach. Therefore, PBP supplied seeds/crops for planting and farm garden tools to the Grannies depending on rainy seasons. Grannies are yet to have the 1st harvests in May/June 2018, hence reducing on the PBP program costs of the monthly food supplies to the Grannies. However the prolonged dry season, which has threatened the long waited total food security among the grannies.

The Grannies often have an HIV/AIDS patient they are looking after in their Home. This means they need immediate basic education on HIV/AIDS in order to properly care and look after the sick (HIV/AIDS) PBP trained all the Grannies in HIV/AIDS; they are now well equipped with knowledge and skills on how to look after the patients of HIV/AIDS. This activity was conducted in Busota Kamuli and surrounding areas. It was well attended by all sorts of people. It was done in an outreach manner.

"I am very grateful to URICT for the support they have given me for the last three years when my parents died. Upon the death of my parents, my uncle who was left to take care of me, sold all the property left by my father and ran away. I was left homeless with no care. Even when URICT picked me up, I did not trust them, but with time, I realised that they were friendly and supportive. I had lost hope that I would go back to school after spending a year out of school. While staying at my granny's house, since URICT helped me reconnect with my granny. I was encouraged to go back to school. I will be sitting for my final Primary leaving exams at the end of the year. My dream is to become a teacher.

URICT, through Rape Hurts Foundation have been following on the case to ensure that I recover the property my uncle stole and grabbed when my parents died. I need justice to be served” says Christopher Nsubuga 14 years old.

2.4. Other activities & visit

URICT worked in partnership with Rape Hurts Foundation; participants with HIV/AIDS are referred to the Rape Hurts Foundation and can be prescribed ARVS – HIV/AIDS drugs. This was done in order for to help them access ARVs as a treatment for HIV/AIDS in a secure and safe environment. A total of 18 clients have accessed the ARVS.

It’s not only HIV/AIDS which is claiming many lives of Africans but Malaria is doing the same. So the project is training grannies and their grandchildren on the proper use of Mosquito nets. Other activities included 24 out-reach to encourage the community to be supportive and help the grannies; sensitization on alternative economic resource access/activities to more grannies; URICT participated in the in World AIDS’s day.

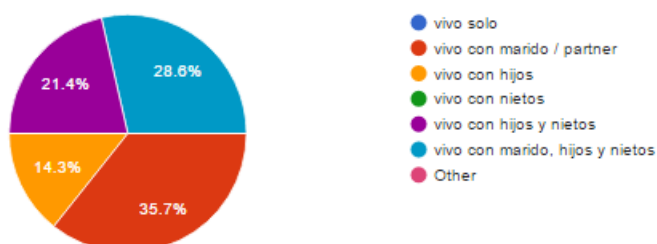
URICT also hosted WorldGranny Visitors who were led by Jessie Gordon who came to see URICT’s work 1st hand in early Feb/2018. Much as there has been some on-going small time activity internal evaluation, URICT deems it fit to carry out a detailed and external evaluation of her activities at the end of the project.



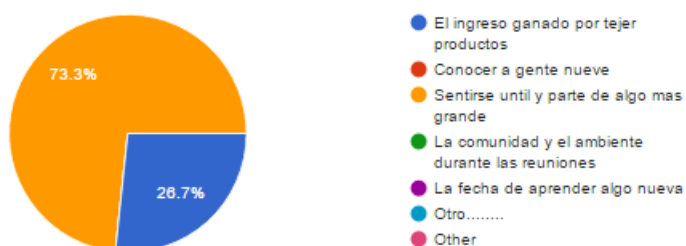
3. WorldGranny Financial report

ANNEX

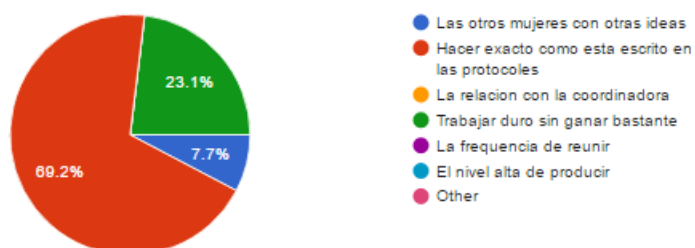
5. Situacion a casa (14 responses)



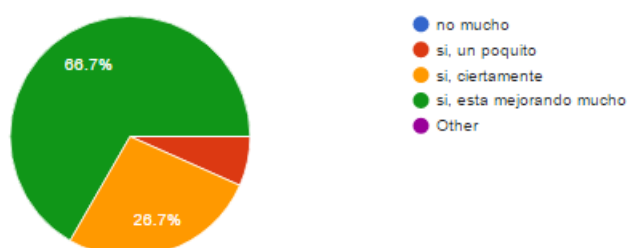
6. Que es lo que es más importante para participar en el grupo? (15 responses)



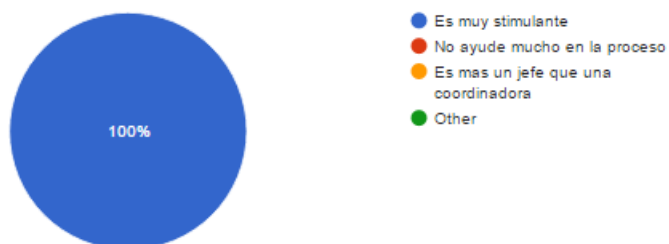
7. Que es el mas dificil en participar en el grupo? (13 responses)



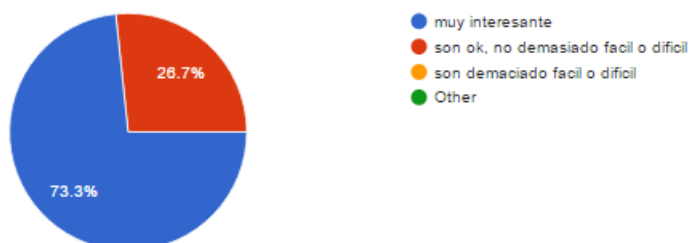
8. Tiene la idea que su via esta amejorada por la participacion al grupo? (15 responses)



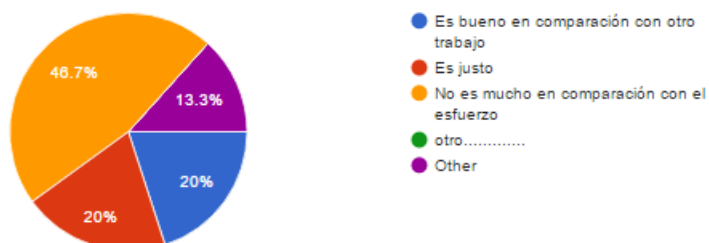
9. Como vale la coordinacion ? (14 responses)



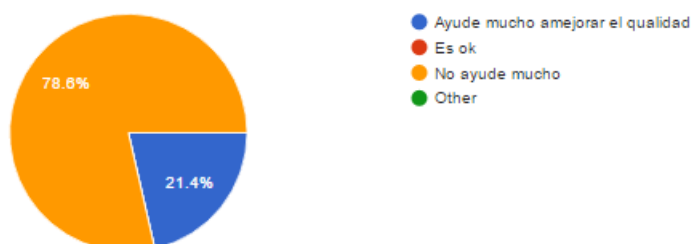
10. Como vale los productos de tejer? (15 responses)



11. Como vale el pago? (15 responses)

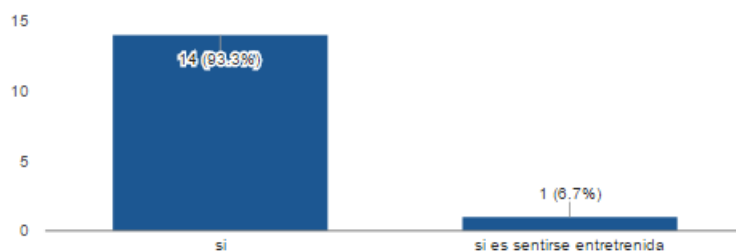


12. Como vale el control de calidad? (14 responses)



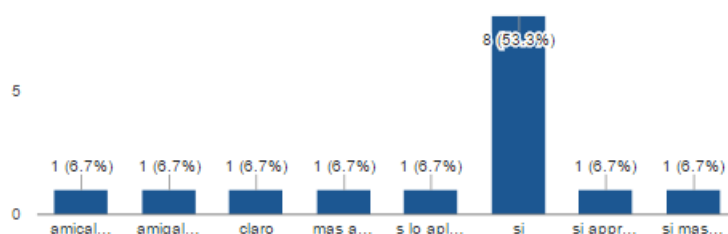
13. Le recomendaría a un amigo que también participara en un grupo de tejer?

(15 responses)



14. Ha cambiado despues participar en este grupo de tejer?

(15 responses)



15. Es importante la relación con WorldGranny?

(15 responses)

