

Glaciers are *melting,* responsibility grows.



For the *people* in Huaraz and global climate justice.

How it all started

The Peruvian Andean farmer and mountain guide Saúl Luciano Lliuya is suing the energy company RWE. Due to climate change in the Andes, a glacial lake above the city of Huaraz has grown considerably. This increases the risk of large blocks of ice breaking from the glaciers and falling into the lake. A flood wave would have devastating consequences for the inhabitants of Huaraz and would affect about 50,000 people in the lower parts of the city, including Saúl Luciano Lliuya and his family.

The energy company RWE is one of the biggest CO₂ emitters in Europe. The company is responsible for about 0,5% of all global greenhouse gas emissions since the beginning of industrialisation. Saúl Luciano Lliuya is demanding that the company pays for about 0.5% of the protection measures needed at the glacier lake.

The lawsuit has already made legal history by entering the evidentiary phase: For the first time, a major CO₂ emitter could be held accountable for climate damage.

Saúl Luciano Lliuya is not alone. He represents a growing number of people worldwide who, in the face of inadequate political and corporate responses to the climate crisis, are turning to the courts to demand climate justice.

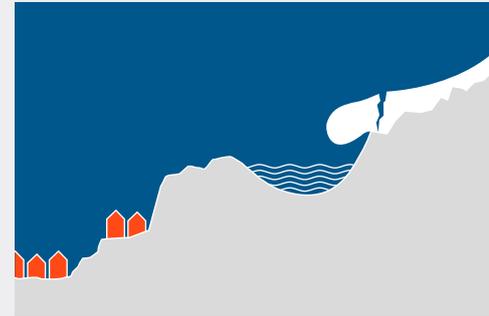


„The big polluters must finally face their responsibility. This is about our protection and justice.“

Saúl Luciano Lliuya

Goals of the climate case:

1. help the plaintiff and the people of Huaraz to reduce the risk of a destructive flood wave
2. hold polluters such as RWE accountable & encourage them to adopt less damaging business models.
3. bring about political national and international solutions for the protection of people affected by climate change.



Exemplary illustration: The imminent danger of the glacier breaking off. Thousands of people in Huaraz would be affected by a flood wave.



Video: A very impressive 6-minute film about the case can be found here: www.climatecase.org/en/rwe_case_video

On the *way* to global climate justice

What has happened so far

2015 **24.11.2015:** Saúl Luciano Lliuya files the lawsuit, which is classified as a „case of fundamental importance“ by the Essen Regional Court in December.

2016 **June 2016:** In its defence, RWE denies its own responsibility for climate damage in the Andes and denies the flood risk.

24.11.2016: The first oral hearing takes place amid great national and international interest - the decision is postponed.

2017 **26.01.2017:** After the dismissive judgement in the first instance (Essen Regional Court, 15.12.2016), Saúl Luciano Lliuya appeals to the Higher Regional Court of Hamm.

13.11.2017: The oral hearing of Saúl Luciano Lliuya's appeal takes place at the same time as the Climate Change Conference in Bonn.

The Higher Regional Court of Hamm clearly states that big emitters like RWE are responsible for people in poorer countries who are affected by climate change. Saúl Luciano Lliuya's lawsuit now enters the next phase.

30.11.2017: The Higher Regional Court of Hamm decides to enter into the evidence phase and thus writes legal history. Extensive assessments are to be expected.

2018 **25.02.2018 and 14.03.2018:** The Higher Regional Court of Hamm clearly rejects two counter-arguments by RWE's lawyers against the decision to take evidence and once again states that **corporations can be held accountable for climate change.**

September 2018: The court chooses two experts. Two evidentiary questions will be examined during the evidentiary phase.

Question 1: Is there a serious threat of damage to the plaintiff's property?

Question 2: To what extent have climate change and the CO₂ emissions released by RWE contributed to this threat?

2021 **Februar 2021:** A groundbreaking study by scientists from Oxford and University of Washington uses climate models to show that about 95% of the glacier melt at Lake Palcacocha above the plaintiff's property is due to man-made climate change.

2022 **Sommer 2022:** Court visit in Huaraz.



Interview of Saúl Luciano Lliuya and his lawyer Roda Verheyen before the Higher Regional Court of Hamm (2017).



The glacier lake Palcacocha is currently equipped with a provisional pumping system, which is not sufficient to prevent a dangerous flood wave.

Together for the people of Huaraz and global climate justice

Solidarise. Raise awareness. Mobilise.

Show your support for Saúl Luciano Lliuya and the people in Huaraz and step up for global climate justice. Raise awareness of the connection between fossil energy production in Germany and the climate consequences for vulnerable people worldwide.

Please donate: As the legal proceedings are still in the process of taking evidence, the legal dispute now calls for further donations for lawyers' and court costs as well as for necessary assessments.



„I am happy of having stepped up and it is overwhelming for me how much interest and support I have received in my country and worldwide. This

gives me strength to continue. Climate change affects all countries in the world. That's why we have fight for justice.“

Saúl Luciano Lliuya

Donation account

Stiftung Zukunftsfähigkeit

Keyword „HUARAZ“

GLS Gemeinschaftsbank eG

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Online donation:

climatecase.org/en/donate

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More information

Videos, court documents, press releases etc.
can be found here:

rwe.climatecase.org



Germanwatch has been working for a long time on the topic of global climate justice and supports Saúl Luciano Lliuya ideally and concretely with advice, expertise, networking and public relations.



The Germanwatch-affiliated Foundation Stiftung Zukunftsfähigkeit supports Saúl Luciano Lliuya with donations and promotes the work of Germanwatch in this context. The Stiftung Zukunftsfähigkeit welcomes donations to support the lawsuit. For the Peruvian mountain guide, the lawsuit against RWE is a great challenge. He would not be able to pay the court and lawyer fees alone.