




A Mano  
Manaba



**On April 16, 2016**  
**a catastrophic 7.8 earthquake caused 650**  
**deaths and left more than 600,000 people**  
**homeless in Ecuador.**





A photograph of a woman with glasses and a red shirt sitting on a wooden log, reading a book to a group of children. The children are gathered around her, some looking at the book. In the background, a white boat with a blue stripe is beached. A man in a green shirt is leaning over the side of the boat. A grey donkey with a red collar is standing in the foreground. The scene is set on a sandy beach with palm trees and thatched-roof buildings in the background.

When there was no electricity, running water, schools or medical services, we packed our pet donkey with colorful books and “played Library” on the beach with the children of Don Juan.







Two years later *Fundación A mano manaba* is a non-profit organization that offers educational programs in Don Juan, a tiny fishing village in northern Manabí, Ecuador.








The Children's Library sits within a beautiful bamboo building in the center of the village.










We provide remedial reading programs, homework assistance, teacher training, arts and crafts workshops, adult education, taekwondo and self-defense training for girls and women.









A photograph of three children sitting at a wooden table, smiling and playing with a colorful puzzle. The puzzle features a cartoon character and various shapes. The child on the left is a young boy in a light blue shirt. The child in the middle is a girl in a red and white striped shirt. The child on the right is a girl in a red sleeveless top. The background shows a wooden floor, a black trash can, and a doorway leading outside. A dog is lying on the floor behind the children.

Our main focus is on young girls. We believe that girls age 10-12 are the motor of a needed change in local gender dynamics that will unsettle the patriarchal domination that burdens women and children in this community.





International and national volunteers support us  
in areas such as science, technology or sports.





We are thrilled and very proud to share with you  
our latest achievement:







Now, that our pet donkey falls short  
for the task.







We need a Library bus to reach remote villages with the programs that have proved successful in Don Juan.



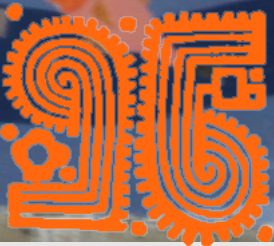




Under the institutional umbrella of Randi Randi, an associated NGO, we are now a vetted organization in Global Giving, a prestigious crowdfunding platform.







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