Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM) of Copper in Southern Peru (Apurímac, Huancavelica and Ica)

- **Miners**
  - Underground mines, 30 workers (mostly men).
  - Women separate copper rocks and size them for processing.
  - Some of them create communal companies to manage natural resources.
  - Charge between 5% and 10% to the miners for the mineral extracted in Huancavelica and Apurímac.
  - Each campaign lasts 30 days, for which men receive 900USD and women 700USD.

- **Comunidades campesinas (Local communities)**
  - They are intermediaries between the miners and the concentrator plants that provide the service.
  - Facilitate the admission of copper ore into the concentration plants.
  - The miner pays 10% of the mineral value to the collectors.

- **Acopiadores (Middlemen or collectors)**
  - Transportation by trucks.
  - Charges depend on tonnage and distance.
  - Values in USD per ton (from mine to concentrator plant):
    - Ica: 8 USD
    - Apurímac and Huancavelica: between 80 and 100 USD
  - Miners perceive these rates as high (up to 60% of the investment).

- **Transporters**
  - Facilitate the admission of copper ore into the concentrator plants.
  - The miner pays 10% of the mineral value to the collectors.

- **Concentration plants**
  - Process the minerals for the miners.
  - Ore concentration takes about one month (the shortage of plant capacity leads to long waiting periods).
  - They keep the slag which likely contains gold and other metals.

- **Facturador (Invoicer)**
  - Issues an invoice under their name so that the concentrate can be sold.
  - The miners are not part of the formal sale.
  - Charges the miner between 25% and 30% of the total value.

- **Traders**
  - Buy the copper concentrate from the miners.
  - Limited information regarding their clients (ultimate customer).

**What to do?**
1. Adapt Peruvian legislation to properly address copper ASM.
2. Promote the formalization of copper ASM, considering the CRAFT approach based on the OECD due diligence criteria.
3. Strengthen the relationship between copper ASM and the medium- and large-scale mining companies.
4. Collaborate with national and global value chain efforts related to a "just energy transition."

**According to official government data (2022), artisanal copper mining does not exist, and small-scale mining is only equivalent to 0.2% of national copper production.**

**Artisanal copper production has been reported only in the years 2008 to 2010.**

Artisanal copper mining is carried out mostly by the indigenous, Quechua-speaking population.

- 200,000 people are dedicated to ASM in Peru. Approx. 100,000 of them mine copper (50,000 combine gold and copper, and 50,000 mine purely copper).