Peru's approach to integrated assessment of climate change

P. Lagos

Instituto Geofísico del Perú, Lima, PERU (plagos@geo.igp.gob.pe / Fax: +51 1 317 2327)

This paper describes the strategy for selecting the study areas and for achieving the collaboration of natural and social scientists, stakeholders, decision-makers and other societal groups, to perform the integrated assessment of vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in the coastal and mountainous ecosystems region of Perú. The general objective is to propose adaptation measure to reduce the negative impact of climate change in the most vulnerable communities of Peru.

The study begins selecting two regions, as priority pilot areas. The first region selected was the Piura river basin, located in the northern coast of Peru, a region with high vulnerability to the impacts of El Niño events. Considering that mountains are an important source of water, agricultural products and biological diversity and further, considering that rapid changes in the mountain ecosystems has been recently observed, the second region selected was the Mantaro river basin, located in the central Peruvian Andes. Results of an effort to forecast extreme climate events that is modulated by global warming and be used for mitigation of the negative impacts, are briefly included.