

# Extraction, inequalities and territories in Bolivia

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# Outline

- Extractive industries and territorial inequalities
- Institutional transitions to equity?
- Hydrocarbons and the challenges of new inequalities: Tarija and Bolivia
- Conclusions

# Extractive industry and territorial inequalities

## *Inequalities between territories*

- Geological difference and differences in territorial dynamics
- Fiscal arrangements and geographic inequalities in redistribution
- Territories of extraction and places of accumulation

## *Inequalities within territories*

- New inequalities of power lead to new inequalities
  - in access to resources
  - in labor markets
  - in service provision markets
  - of access to community development
  - Inequalities of exposure to environment change and risk

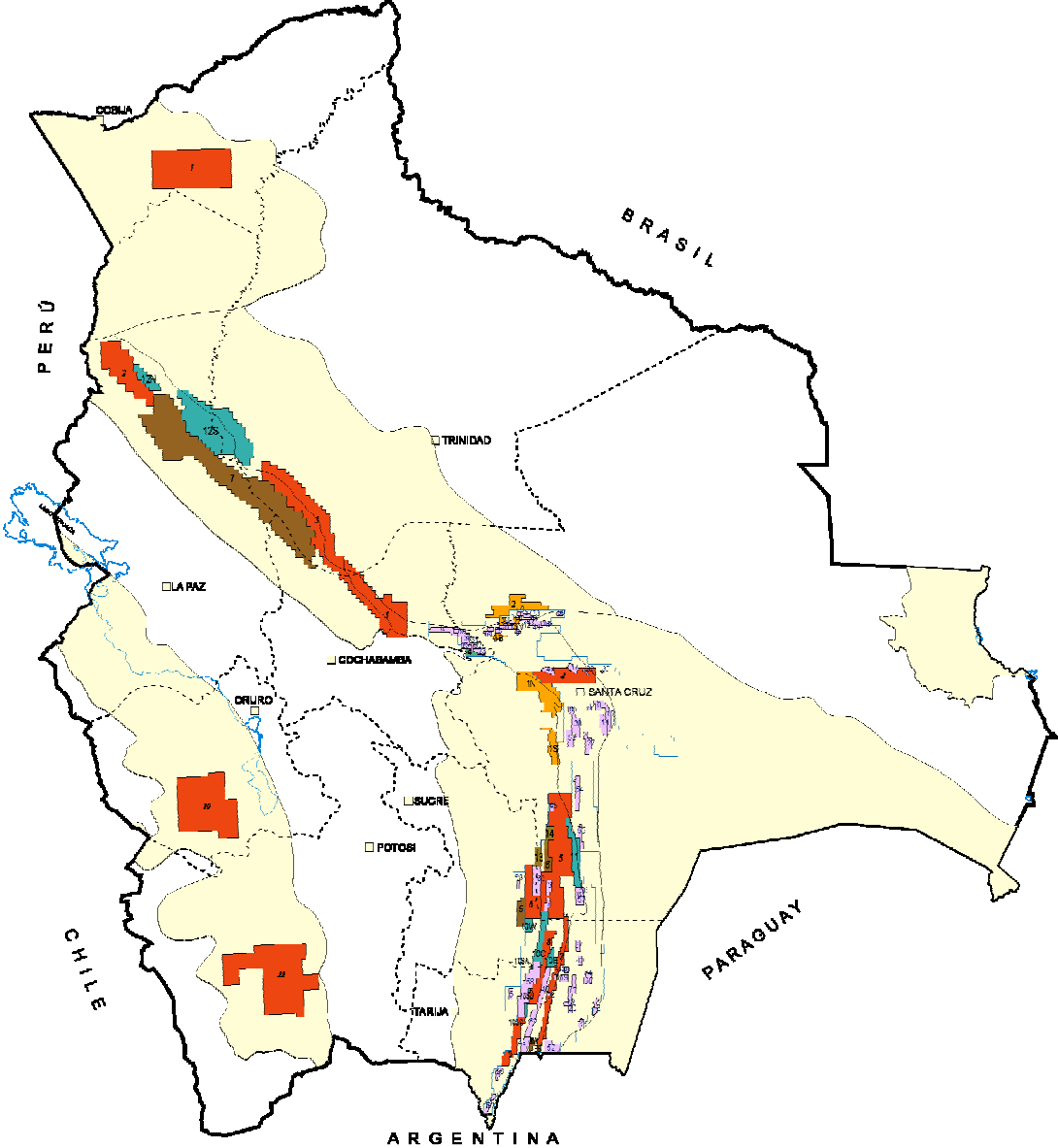
# Institutional transitions to equity

- Inequality as outcome, inequity as cause?
- Sources of equity enhancing institutional change?
  - Social protest and mobilization
  - Policy networks
  - Political economies of growth dynamics

Hydrocarbons and the challenges  
of new inequalities:  
Tarija and Bolivia



**Cuadro N° 1: ÁREAS DE OPERACIÓN, ÁREAS RESERVADAS PARA YPFB Y ÁREAS LIBRES**



**AREAS DE EXPLORACION  
SUBANDINO SUR  
EN ZONA TRADICIONAL**

Bloque 9 IÑAU

Bloque 13 TIACIA

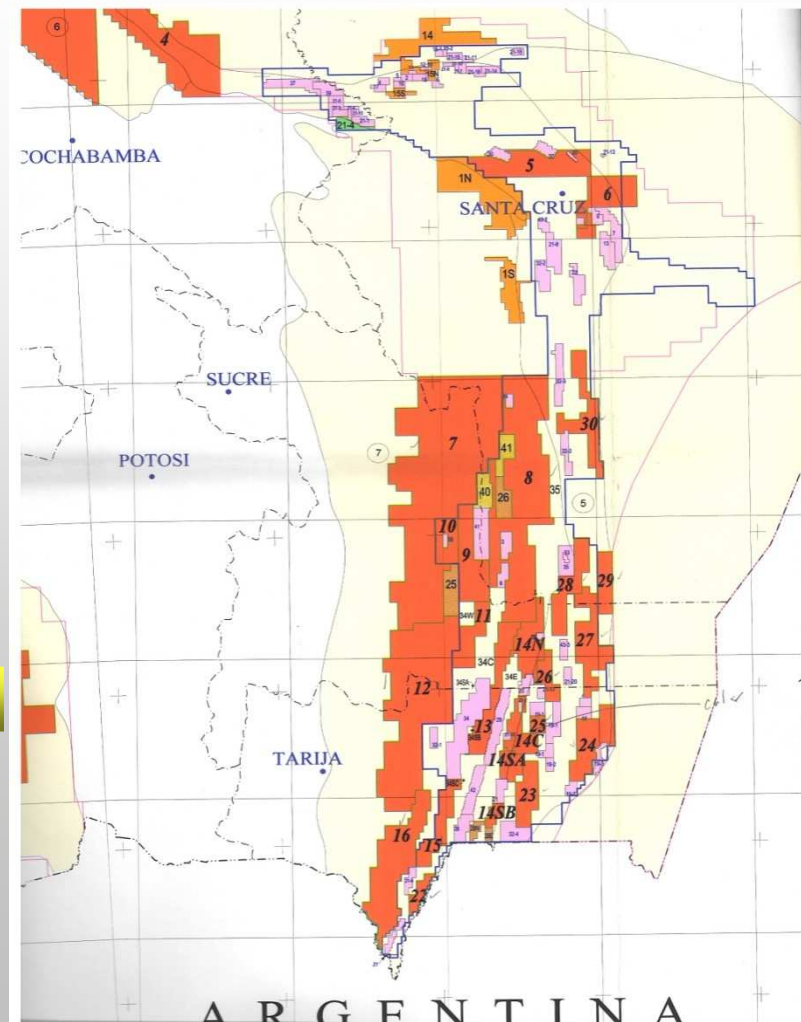
Bloque 14 "N" AGUARAGUE NORTE

Bloque 14 "C" AGUARAGUE CENTRO

Bloque 14 "S A" AGUARAGUE SUR A

Bloque 14 "S B" AGUARAGUE SUR B

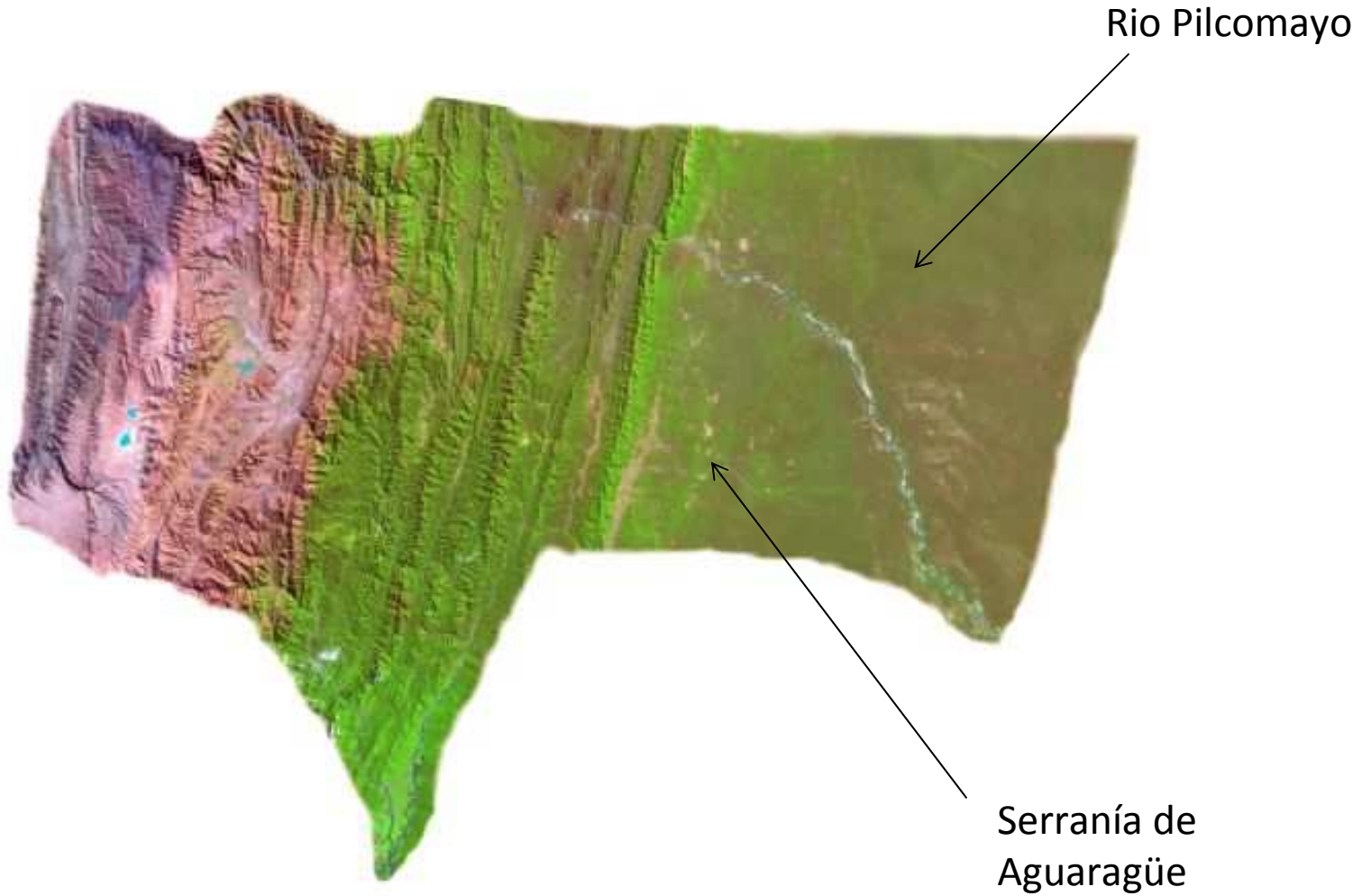
Bloque 15 IÑIGUAZU





- “Desequilibrios”:
  - Tarija accounts for 35% of Bolivian departmental public investment
  - Government in 2008 redirects funds to national social programs
- Tensions around territorial inequalities
  - department-centre conflicts
  - inter-departmental conflicts
  - intra-departmental conflicts

# Department of Tarija



- Overlapping geographies of gas and territory
  - Weenhayek, Taipete, Guarani
- TCO Weenhayek
  - Gas exploration in 80s: imposed
  - TCO, 1993
  - Weenhayek Federation : ORCAWETA
  - Pending TCO claims: claims fail in presence of hydrocarbons
  - Increasing resistance: British Gas offers “Indigenous Development Plan”

# Inequalities of intervention

- Indigenous Dev Plan
  - BG selects communities
- IDP – structures relationships
  - Extraction/territory
  - British Gas / Weenhayek
  - Among Weenhayek
- Issues among Weenhayek:
  - Transparency in negotiations (BG bilateralises negotiations)
  - Socio-spatial inequality in distribution of benefits
  - Dissatisfaction with impact/amount
- Effects:
  - Internal conflicts
  - Rival leaderships
  - ORCAWETA weakened?
- A territory in which “structured inequities” become the “central political fact in the landscape”

# Conclusions

- Inequalities in power:
  - Central government-territory
  - Government-company
  - Company-community
- Geographical inequalities
  - Among departments within Bolivia
  - Among provinces within Tarija
  - Among groups within the Weenhayek

- Institutional pathways to equity?
  - Territorial dynamics undermine capacity for collective action
    - State-society
    - Across and within social groups
  - Undermines public sphere – the space for the debate on what is “fair”
  - Short-circuits institutional pathways to equity
  - Undermines institutional routes out of the resource curse