



The University of Manchester

**“Conflicts over the countryside: Civil society and the political ecology of rural development in the Andean region”.**

**Introduction of a Research Programme**

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**IDPM – University of Manchester**  
(SLAS Annual Conference, Newcastle 2007)

# The new mining *boom* in context

## *Neoliberal policies and mining as a funding national strategy*

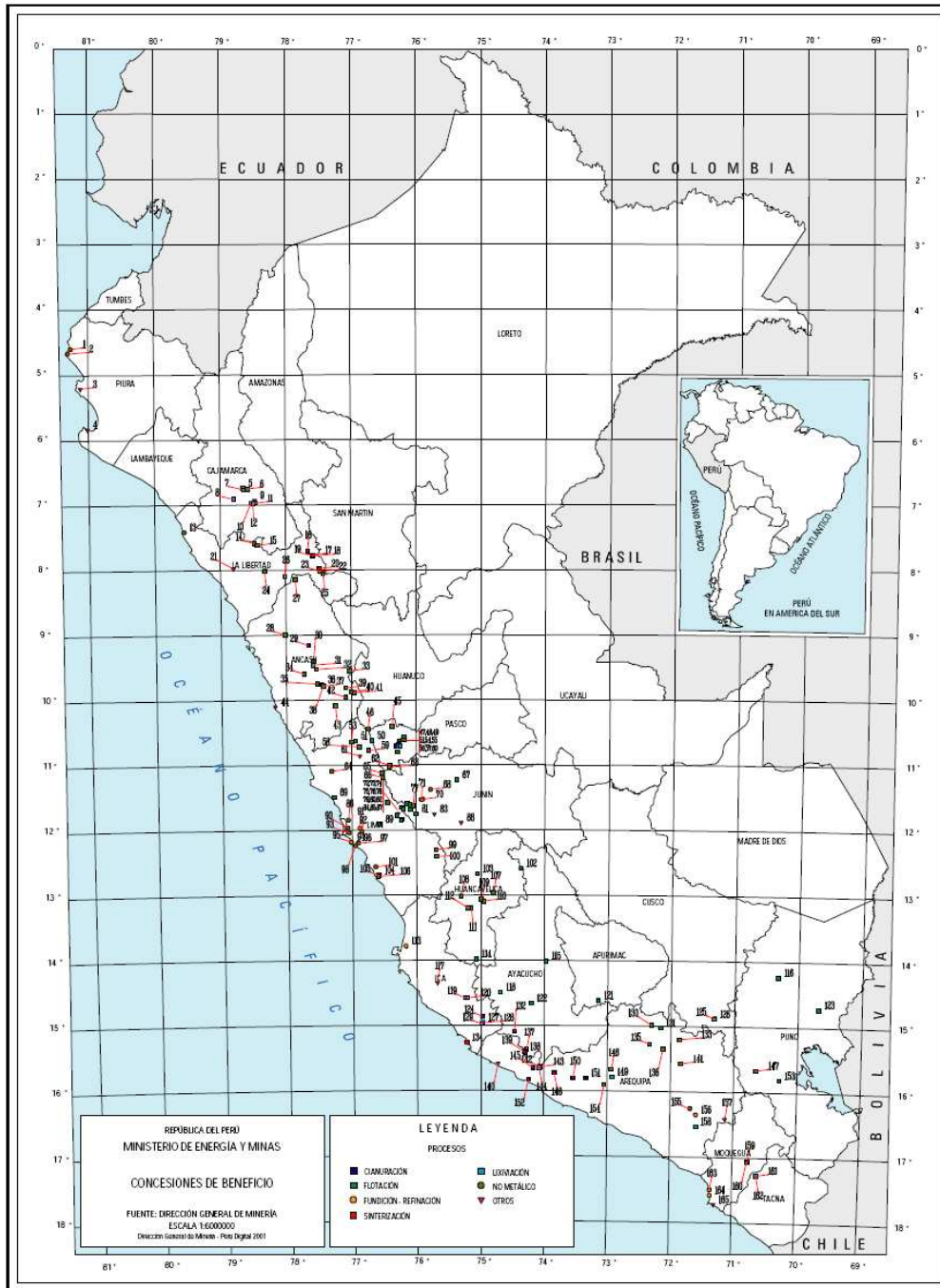
- Peru, Ecuador y Bolivia grew consistently at the high average rates of 4.66 %, 4.16 % and 3.11 %
- poverty – and in particular, rural poverty – has also shown no significant improvement
- Peru (virtuous cycle); Ecuador lopsided development (Ranis & Stewart)
- Much of economic growth has been based on the extraction and export of minerals and hydrocarbons

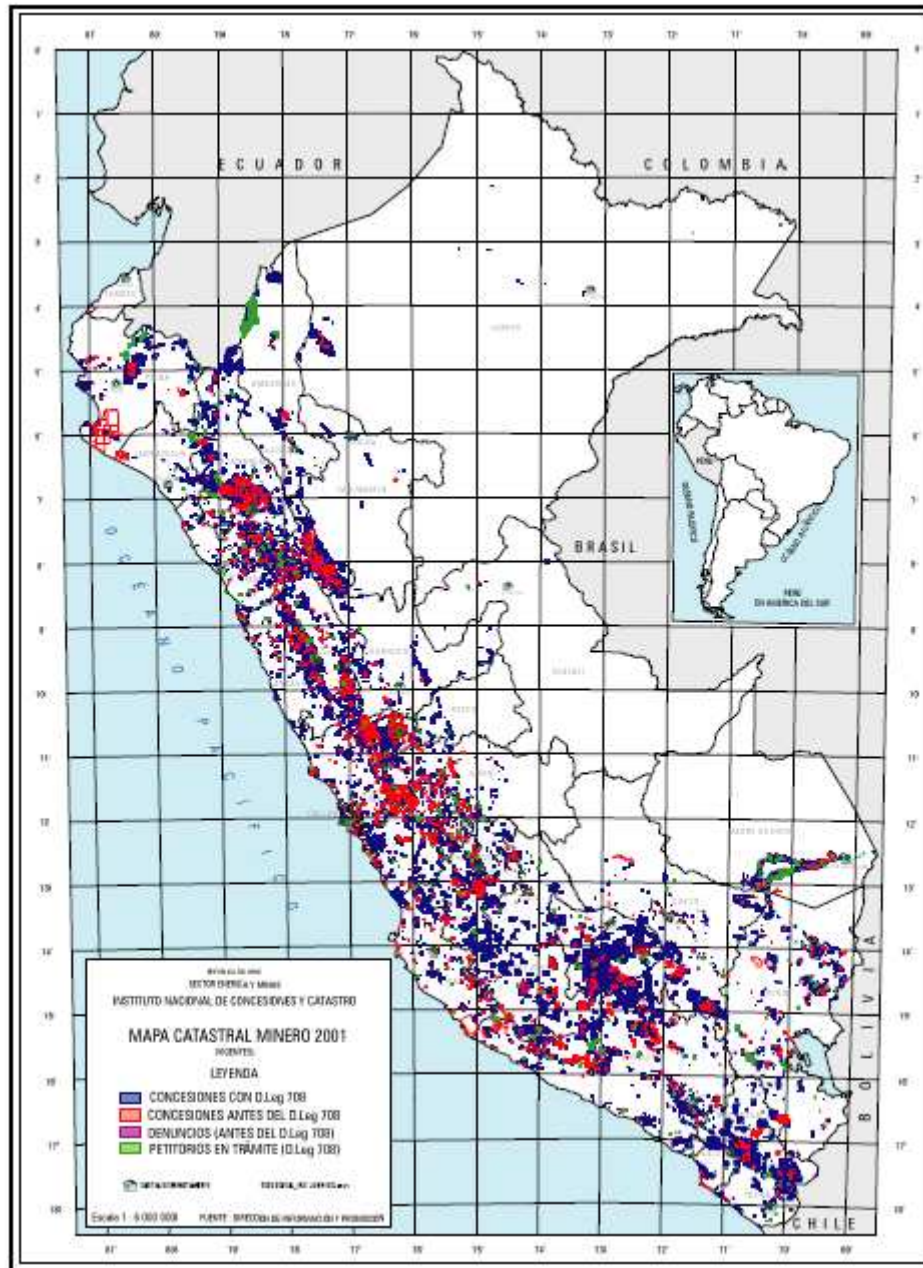
# Policies for attracting and facilitating the entrance of TNCs

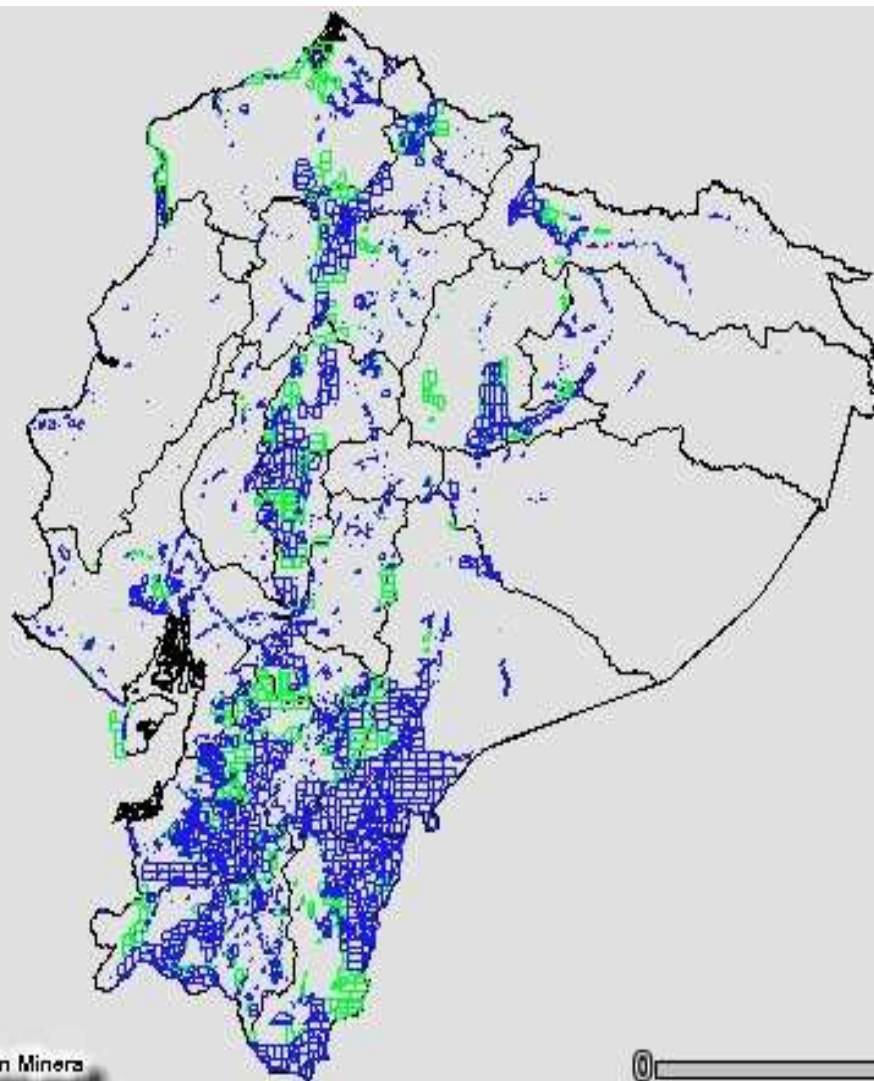
- equal treatment as for national investors
- removal of all barriers to profits repatriation
- no fiscal obligations other than a cannon
- long-term fiscal stability
- facilities to inputs and technology imports
- ratification of international agreements on private investments

Table 1: FDI in Peru and Ecuador 1989-1999

Country	Average annual growth of Total FDI		FDI in Primary Sectors (percentage of GDP)	
	Average FDI/GDP 1989-1993	Average FDI/GDP 1994-1998	Average 1990-95	Average 1996-99
Peru	84.73	-11.23	0.3	0.3
Ecuador	55.60	11.81	1.9	3.1
Andean countries	30.38	14.49	1.0	2.1
Latin America & the Caribbean	18.11	21.96	0.9	1.3







Unidad de Soportes de los Sistemas de Información Minera

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# *Why it provokes conflicts*

- the dynamics of neoliberalism have threatened the viability of much small and medium farm agriculture
- social conflicts increasingly polarized, recurrent and violent
- challenge the ability of rural people to control patterns of change in their lived environments.
- conflicts are as much struggles over whose rights and voices count most in political economic decision making as they are arguments over the effects of different types of development.



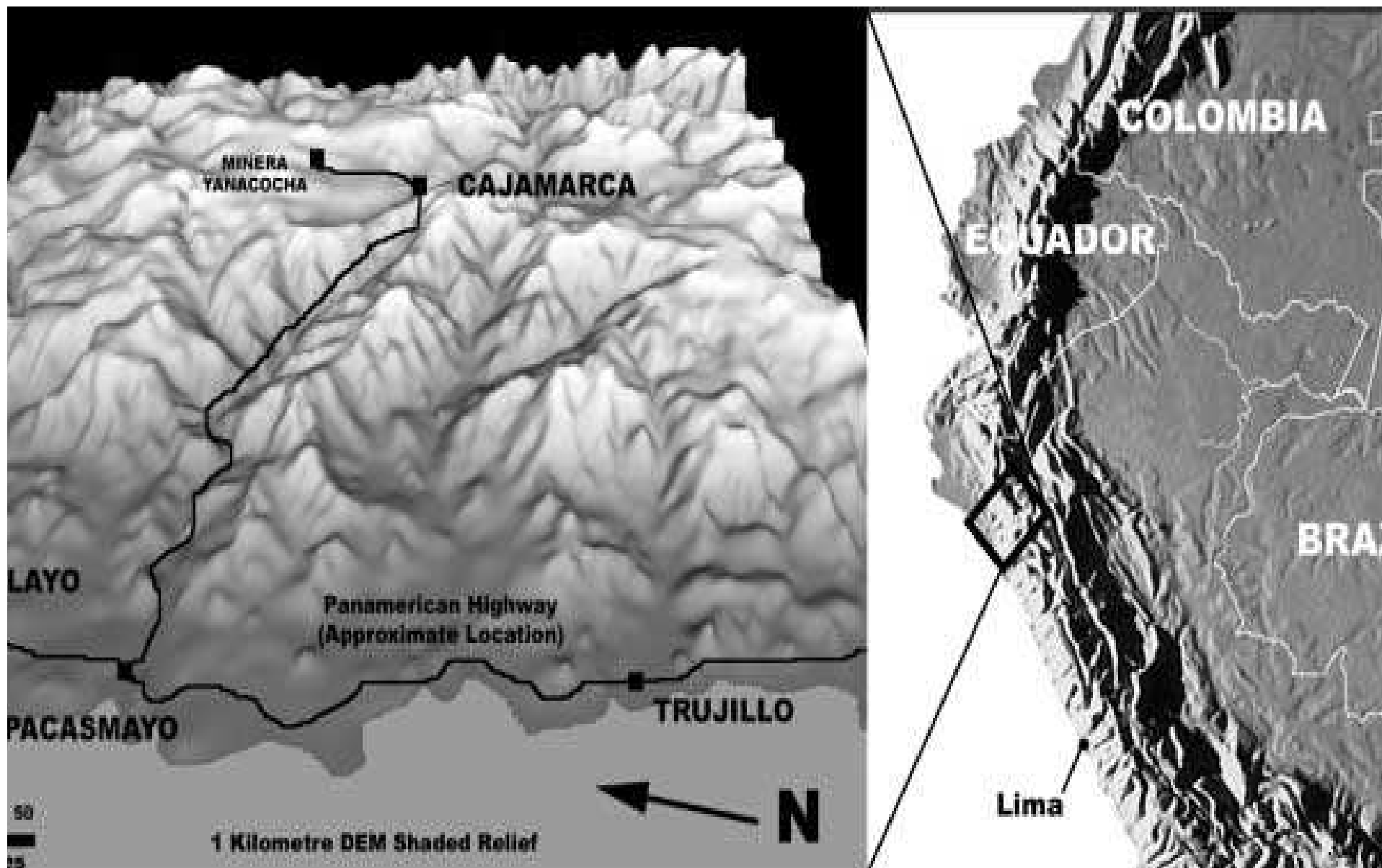
# Mining and social conflicts: Case studies

From:

- *Minería, movimientos sociales y respuestas campesinas: una ecología política de transformaciones territoriales*, A. Bebbington (ed) (2007), Escuela de Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo, Universidad de Manchester y Centro Peruano de Estudios Sociales, Lima: IEP
- *Mining and development in Peru: With Special Reference to the Rio Blanco project, Piura*, Bebbington A., M. Connarty, W. Coxshall, H. O'Shaughnessy, M. Williams (2007) Peru Support Group.
- [www.manchester.ac.uk/sed/research/andes](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/sed/research/andes)

# *The Cajamarca-Yanacocha case*

- Newmont Mining Corporation 51.35% ,  
Compañía de Minas Buenaventura  
43.65%, IFC 5%
- biggest gold mine in Latin America and the  
5th largest in the world.
- 10000 hectares in the Cajamarca region
- land acquired from *campesino*  
households through imperfect and hardly  
transparent mechanisms



# But also brought resources...(Bury 2007)

Table 1: Minera Yanachocha economic impacts in Cajamarca  
(thousands of US\$ dollars)

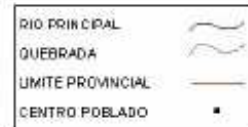
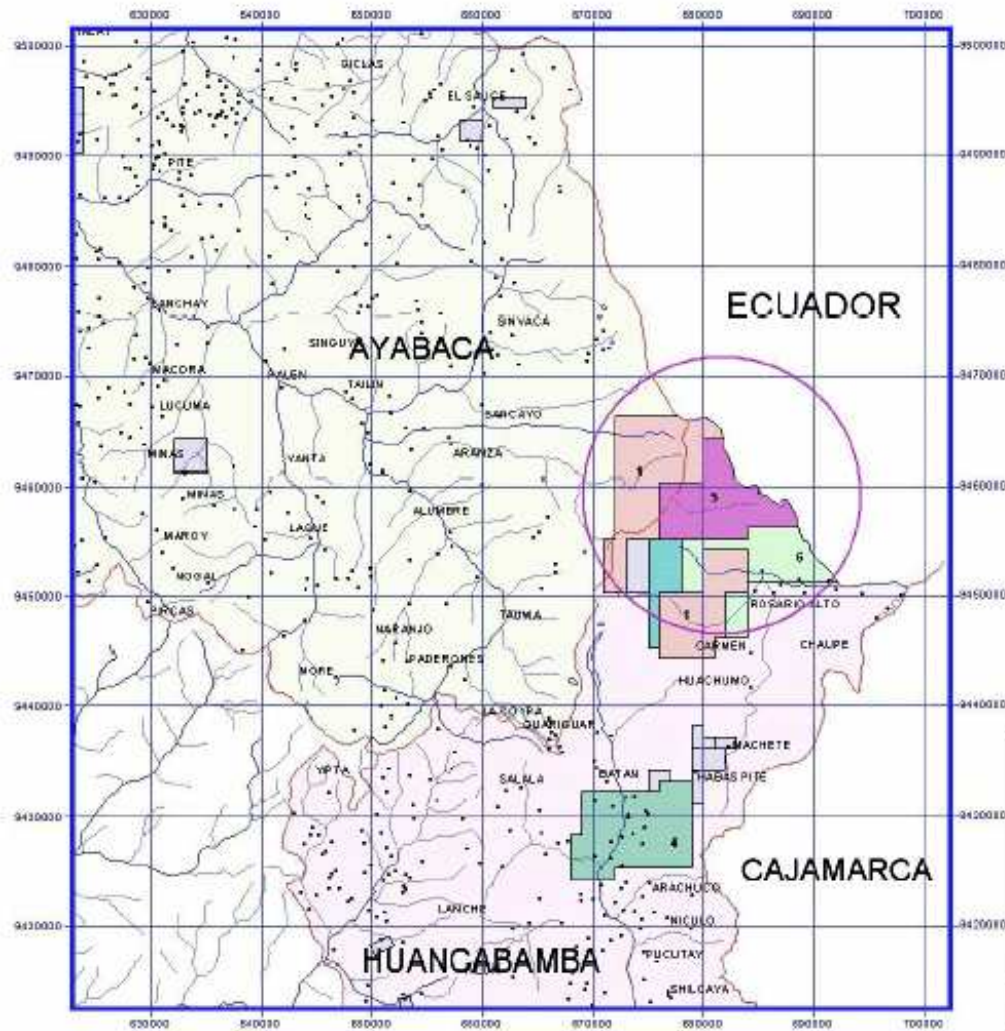
Actividades de la mina	Subtotals	Total investments
Investments in mining instalations (1992-2000)		85,542
Exploration (1992-2000)		770,158
Employment		153,573
Expenses in goods and services		1,720,497
Goods and services from Cajamarca (1993-2000)	127,248	
Goods and services purchased in national and international markets (1992-2000)	1,593,249	
Rural development programmes (1993-2000)		11,898
Total		2,741,668

# And has environmental impacts

- open-pit mining and lixiviation with cyanide
- Change of vegetation patterns
- Deviation of the course of waters
- Plans for expansion into Cerro Quillish
  
- The conflict moved from rural to urban areas
- Surge of local NGOs
- *Sensibilizacion*, awareness, establishment of international contacts
- Active rural GROs, but at the end divided
- Internationally: an emblematic case
- *Mesas de concertacion*: failure and stand-by

## *The Piura-Majaz (Rio Blanco) case*

- copper deposit
- project includes between 400 and 1000 Ha. of lands belonging to two *campesino* communities
- concession in 2001 to Monterrico Metals plc. (a London based company)
- open-pit mine dry-filtered storage of tailings and waste on-site
- Initial EIA approved by MEM rejected by CC



- 01. EML ERNST ERWIN RUPPERT YAÑEZ
- 02. MANUEL ENRIQUE MARIN SUAREZ
- 03. ELMER ENRIQUE MARIN PASARA
- 04. LUIS VARGAS BARBIERI
- 05. MINERA MAJAZ S.A.
- 06. OSCAR ARTEMIO AÑAÑOS RAYGADA
- 07. MAXIMO ALEXZANDROVICH CRUZ C.
- 08. NEWMONT PERU S.R.L.
- 09. JUAN ALEJANDRO LEON PARRA
- 10. OTROS



**MAPA DE CONCESIONES MINERAS**  
**EMPRESA MINERA MAJAZ S.A.**  
 PROV. HUANCABAMBA Y AYABACA

Fecha : Febrero del 2006	Ubicación : Departamento de Piura
Escala : 1 : 500,000	Fuente : I.N.A.C.C

# Conflict

- Reaction and mobilization against Minera Majaz (2002)
- Capital leadership of GROs
- Marches and confrontation with police
- Failure of negotiation commissions
- *Multi-province front (Front for the Sustainable Development of the Northern Frontier of Peru)*
- Stand-by process



# *The Cotacachi-Intag case (Ecuador)*

- Important copper reserves
- Ascendant Copper Corporation (Canadian company based in Colorado)
- After more than 20 years of initiated the exploration phase, no mine yet.

# Factors

- strong – at some points violent – movement of opposition
- Church/NGOs/private entrepreneur: environmental education
- Strong connections with international NGOs
- High visibility from the beginning
- Alternatives of local development strategies

# Our research agenda on political ecology in the Andes

**TCD Andes** is a collaborative enterprise with non-governmental and social organizations from Latin America, Europe and North America

- space for research networking (RIMISP, CEPES and PRISMA)
- collaboration with non-governmental and social organizations supporting them in analysis and debate of rural development policies and processes
- ESRC funding

# TCD Andes

## Aims:

to produce knowledge on the political ecology of social conflicts in the rural area, the factors driving the geography of NGOs and social movements as they relate to these conflicts, the relationships between civil society and political economy under conditions of neoliberalism, the implications for the future of rural environments and societies and the emergence of diverse development alternatives across space

# *Research questions*

- To what extent and under what conditions do civil society actors challenge and contribute to the geographies of neo-liberal development?
- Under what conditions are civil society actors able to change the terms of national and local debate on the types of rural economy that ought to be promoted in the region?
- What factors drive the geography of civil society?
- What are the relations (of cause and effect) between this geography and the geographies of neoliberalization?

# *Methodological approach*

- *Qualitative field based research* as a means of analyzing the emergence, strategies and interactions between civil society, government and business actors in each of the regions to be studied
- *Quantitative analysis* of existing data sets on the regional economies of the regions to be studied.
- Combining these two data sets, the research will trace the extent to which forms of negotiation and civil society intervention have effects in regional economic dynamics.